

# A Bell for Adano

By John Hersey

W.N.U. FEATURES

THE STORY THUS FAR: The American troops arrived in Adano, with Major Joppolo, the Amgot officer in charge. Sergeant Borth was in charge of security. The Major was determined to hold the confidence of the people and to replace their bell stolen by the Nazis. Despite orders issued by General Marvin, barring carts from the city, Joppolo recalled the order, to permit food and water to enter the city. Lord Runcin, high British official on the Amgot, approved of Joppolo's plans. The Major found out that the American generosity was responsible for a troublesome black market. To stop this condition he placed a ceiling on all prices. He also barred troops from the city.

## CHAPTER XVII

The Lieutenant said: "Sure he was. It's easy to see he was. And if General Marvin ever lays eyes on this information copy, it'll be just too bad for the Major."

"Yes, sir," said the Technical Sergeant, to be on the safe side.

Lieutenant Butters said: "Here, you file these, I'll take care of the information copy."

"Yes, sir," the Technical Sergeant said, taking the copies.

The Lieutenant said: "That Marvin trimmed me down once for something I didn't do. I never have liked him. I don't know this Major, but I think it would be a shame if he caught a trimming just for this."

"Yes, sir," the Technical Sergeant said. Then he frowned and added: "You aren't going to get me in trouble, are you, sir, like when that letter to Colonel Norris from the P.R.O. got 'lost'?"

"No, don't worry," the Lieutenant said.

But the Technical Sergeant did worry for several days, until he got up the courage to ask the Lieutenant: "Sir, what did you ever do about that information copy I didn't throw it away, did you? Colonel Norris is liable to ask me about it."

"I wish I had thrown it away," Lieutenant Butters said. "I didn't have the guts. I put it in the courier pouch for Algiers. You know how much stuff we've been losing on that run. I thought maybe—"

The Technical Sergeant, relieved of his worry, smiled and said: "It might get lost accidentally on purpose?"

Mayor Nasta had just come out from his daily repentance before Sergeant Borth. He walked across the way to the broad sidewalk in front of the Palazzo. Every day knots of people gathered on that sidewalk, some just to pass the time of day, some to air their perennial complaints, some to get in touch with the town's mean little lawyers, whose office was that sidewalk.

Mayor Nasta walked up to one such knot. There were about ten people, and he found that they were discussing the war.

He waited for his chance, and said: "I got some news from the interior yesterday afternoon."

Mercurio Salvatore the crier was so far gone in boldness that he said: "We have no desire for news from the one who is no longer Mayor."

Mayor Nasta remembered the time when he would have put the crier in jail for a whole year for saying something like that, but now he said: "This news came from the son of your friend Afronti, the noisy cartman. The boy deserted on the first day of the invasion and he is now here. Perhaps you know him. He is an honest boy."

The Mayor's poison was beginning to take hold. "If that is the case," said the lazy Fatta, who was to be found on this stretch of sidewalk every morning, "if that is the case, what did he say that was so interesting?"

"He said that our friends the Germans are mounting a counter-attack."

"There is nothing new in that," said Father Pensovocchio. "They have counterattacked before. They counterattacked near Vicinamare and it did them no good. They were thrown back. They will be thrown back again."

"Not this time," said Mayor Nasta. "This time they will employ five fresh divisions. They have the crack 29th Panzers and the Pilsener Division. These are good troops. This time they will not be thrown back. They intend to push the Americans into the sea."

The lazy Fatta, who had no sense about the news, said: "When will this attack come? I think I will go to the hills."

Mayor Nasta looked very important, as he used to in the old days. "I should not tell you this," he said, "but the attack will begin on the morning of the twenty-third, at four o'clock in the morning. You can expect the Americans to be pushed into the sea between the twenty-fifth and the twenty-eighth."

The impressionable ones were beginning to believe him. Laura Sofia, the unmarried one, who stood about on this sidewalk in the belief that she might catch a husband that way, said: "The twenty-third, that is next Wednesday."

But Mercurio Salvatore, who had been treated well by the Americans, refused to believe that they were leaving. "I do not believe it," he said. "The Americans will stop the attack." Even the crier was now willing to believe that there was

going to be an attack. All he would not believe was that the Germans would succeed.

Mayor Nasta said: "The Americans will not stop it. The Americans may be friendly, but they are not good fighters."

Margherita, the formidable wife of Craxi, said with a threatening look: "Liar!"

But Mayor Nasta said: "This is not my opinion. This is the opinion of the son of Afronti, the noisy cartman. You know the boy. You know that he is honest. He says that the Americans are timid in battle. He says that our own troops could even beat the Americans."

Mercurio Salvatore, the crier, was reduced to saying: "I do not believe it."

Mayor Nasta said: "It is true. This boy fought in Tunisia. He says that at the place called El Guettar the Americans did not press their attack, he says that they behaved like frightened men and were defeated. The British can fight, perhaps, but not the Americans."

The formidable Margherita said: "It is a dirty lie," but there was no anger in her voice, it was nearly drained of conviction.

This man Nasta was a very persuasive man. He had persuaded himself into office, and he had persuaded the people into fear of him, and now it was easy for him to persuade them to mistrust the Americans.

Mayor Nasta said: "The son of Afronti told me that in the interior



This man Nasta was a very persuasive man.

the Americans behaved themselves very badly. They were generous to us along the coast because they had to have a beachhead, but in the interior they have been different. Negro troops have raped seven Italian girls. There has been much looting."

The lazy Fatta said: "I hear that the Americans looted the beautiful house of Quattrocchi right here in Adano. They did much damage."

Mayor Nasta said: "Yes, that is true, I talked with Quattrocchi yesterday."

The formidable Margherita said: "What happened?" This was something close to home, and she considered anything that happened in Adano more or less her personal property, to use as gossip.

Mayor Nasta said: "The American vandals destroyed four hundred and seventy thousand lira worth of stuff in Quattrocchi's house. Heirlooms, paintings, sculpture, glassware. They said that Italian art is degenerate; they did all this because they wish to impose American ideas of art on Italy. That is what Quattrocchi told me the American Major had told him."

Mercurio Salvatore, the crier, said: "That I will not believe. The Mister Major is our friend." The crier was annoyed enough to say this in very nearly his crying voice. He spoke loudly enough to be heard inside the Palazzo.

"Quiet," Mayor Nasta said. "He will hear you and punish you."

"Why should he punish me?" Mercurio cried. "I am defending him."

"He is unpredictable," Mayor Nasta whispered. "You will see. I must be going now," he said, bowing to the circle, as if the fact that it was beginning to grow embarrassed him. "Good day," he said, "do not forget the twenty-third."

Each day when he came out from his repentance before Sergeant Borth, Mayor Nasta would go across to the sidewalk in front of the Palazzo, and he would approach a different group, and he would tell them pretty much the same thing.

Sergeant Borth allowed this to go on for several days, because Sergeant Borth was a careful worker. He waited until he was sure of all his facts. He had his informers trap Mayor Nasta into new exaggera-

tions and accusations. He made sure that the son of Afronti the noisy cartman had not deserted. He checked with Intelligence at IX Corps to make sure that the Germans were not expected to counter-attack on the twenty-third. He even went so far as to check with Captain Purvis.

When he was ready, Sergeant Borth went to Major Joppolo. "Major," he said, "we've got to put Nasta away."

The Major said: "What's he done?"

"He's been planting rumors against us. I hate to admit it, but he's done it very systematically and very skillfully."

"What kinds of rumors?" "Oh, all kinds. He has quite a few people thinking that the Germans are going to put on a major counterattack next week. He even has some of them believing that you haven't been doing right by certain young ladies in this town."

Major Joppolo blushed. "That isn't true," he said.

"I know," Borth said. "I checked into it. But they tell me the Mister Major could make time if he wanted to."

"Cut it out," the Major said.

"That's what they tell me," Borth said. "They say these particular girls don't smell of fish, but their old man knows a good fish when he sees it."

"Cut the kidding," the Major said, and that echo was in his voice. He changed the subject quickly. "When are you going to arrest Nasta?"

"In the morning, when he comes in for his daily worship."

"Okay," the Major said. "Let's keep him in the prisoners of war cage for a few days, and not send him to Africa till we've questioned him a bit. I'm sort of glad to have him put away."

The next morning Mayor Nasta was somewhat surprised to see, besides Sergeant Borth in his office, two other men wearing brassards marked M.P. He said, as suavely as ever: "Good morning, Mister Sergeant."

"And what crime would Mayor Nasta like to repent this morning?" Borth asked.

"Is it not the Mister Sergeant's turn to pick a crime?" the Mayor asked.

"Perhaps it is, perhaps it is. Well, let's see. This morning I think Mayor Nasta will repent the crime of not having made good use of his freedom. He will repent the crime of having talked against the Americans."

Mayor Nasta turned pale. Borth stood up.

"He will repent the crime of having invented false rumors, of having told the gullible people here in Adano that the Germans were planning a counterattack for next week."

Mayor Nasta turned his head and looked at the door. Borth motioned to the M.P.'s to step into it, and they did.

"He will also repent having said slanderous and false things about Major Joppolo. Also he will be very sorry that he lied about the son of the cartman Afronti."

Mayor Nasta was white as a sheet. "Lies! They are lies!" he said.

Borth said: "Mayor Nasta is excitable this morning. And he had grown so calm about his repentances. Why is he excitable this morning?"

Mayor Nasta was excitable because he knew he was caught. "Lies," he shouted. "My enemies have been lying against me."

Borth said: "Is this a lie? Is it a lie that you said yesterday morning, before fifteen people on the sidewalk in front of the Palazzo: 'The Americans are such cowards that they had to be pushed from their transports into landing barges when they came here.' Is it a lie that you said . . ." And Sergeant Borth repeated word for word ten sentences that Nasta had said, as informers reported them. Sergeant Borth had a very good memory, and he enjoyed deflating this man, and he made a very terrifying show of it for Mayor Nasta.

Then Borth said to the two M.P.'s in English: "Take him away, boys. He's getting noisy."

The M.P.'s took Nasta by both arms. Borth said: "I'm going to miss your daily visits, Mayor Nasta. I hope you will come to see me when you get out, I mean if you get out."

Mayor Nasta said stubbornly: "You will be sorry."

The M.P.'s took Nasta away to the prisoner of war cage.

Mayor Nasta did not make a very good start in the cage. The Americans had a forty-year-old, Italian-speaking Top Sergeant in charge of the guard. The first time Mayor Nasta saw the Top Sergeant walking in the enclosure, he rushed up to him and said: "This is a mistake. I should not have been imprisoned. It was all a mistake."

"Is that so?" the Top Sergeant said in a slow, Brooklynese Italian. "You are another mistake? We have several mistakes here. All mistakes here must clean the latrine. You are our newest mistake, so you will have the privilege of cleaning the latrine this week."

(TO BE CONTINUED)

## SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS

### Gay Jumper That's Snug-Waisted



Pattern No. 1274 is designed for sizes 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 years. Size 4, jumper, requires 1 1/2 yards of 36 or 39-inch material; blouse, 1 1/2 yards; 1 1/2 yards ribbon for lacing.

Due to an unusually large demand and current war conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers.

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERN DEPT. 149 New Montgomery St. San Francisco, Calif. Enclose 25 cents in coins for each pattern desired.

Pattern No. .... Size .... Name ..... Address .....

### MAKE ICE CREAM

At home - Any flavor - Delicious - Smooth - No ice crystals - No cooking - No whipping - No scorched flavor - Easy - Inexpensive - 20 recipes in each 124 pkg. Please send this ad for free full-size sample offer, or buy from your grocer.

## LONDONDERRY

Brand Homemade Ice Cream

### STABILIZER

LONDONDERRY - 815 HOWARD, SAN FRANCISCO 3, CALIF.

A FAVORITE costume in every little girl's wardrobe is the gay jumper that combines so nicely with pretty blouses or soft harmonizing sweaters. The style shown has a snug waist, ribbon-laced, and the popular full cut skirt.

## Household Hints

Old Turkish towels make fine fillers for portholders.

Rinse milky dishes in clear cold water before washing them in warm soapy water.

To soften up hard, lumpy brown sugar, put it in a brown paper bag, which has been sprinkled with water, and place for 10 minutes in a 250-degree oven.

Lace gloves will have more body when laundered if lightly starched. Press carefully with a warm iron.

Check on your movements in sweeping. How many unnecessary ones? Eliminate them. Make a clean sweep in one spot before moving on to the next and be sure you get every inch within reach.

## DOROTHY LAMOUR

star of "Riding High," a Paramount picture, is one of the many well-groomed, well-informed Hollywood stars who use Calox Tooth Powder.

### CALOX TOOTH POWDER

Save Used Fats for The Fighting Front

## Everybody Loves Them!

# Kellogg's CORN FLAKES

"The Grains Are Great Foods" — K.K. Kellogg

Kellogg's Corn Flakes bring you nearly all the protective food elements of the whole grain declared essential to human nutrition.

## LIGHTER MOMENTS with fresh Eveready Batteries

Dated

"It's a little gift for the Sergeant. I thought he'd get a big kick out of it"

AT LAST - you can buy all the fresh, dated "Eveready" flashlight batteries you need! Your dealer has them now, in the size that fits your flashlight.

Naturally, they're still on the job with the Armed Forces and essential war industries - but there are plenty for civilian use, as well.

So be sure and ask for fresh, dated "Eveready" flashlight batteries. The famous date-line proves that you get a fresh, full-power battery every time... your very best assurance of dependable service and long battery life.

## EVEREADY FLASHLIGHT BATTERIES

The word "Eveready" is a registered trade mark of National Carbon Company, Inc.

## CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

Persons now engaged in essential industry will not apply without statement of availability from their local United States Employment Service.

### HELP WANTED—MEN, WOMEN

SALESPERSONS AGENTS CREW MGRS. Sell History of World War II. Gold mine for hustlers. Write DISTRIBUTORS, Drawer 949, Portland 7, Oregon.

### BUSINESS & INVEST. OPPOR.

FOR SALE—\$2500. REALTY SHOP. Well established and going strong in La Grande, Oregon. Call or write T. VAN BIBBER, Phone 577, Le Grande, Oregon.

FOR SALE—Tools, parts and equipment and lease on garage and house. Plenty of work for 2 to 3 men. A good location for now and after the war. On highway 99; logging and farming country. Price \$3,000. 00. Will take good late car. H. H. ANTONIO, Lones Repair, Glendale, Oregon.

### RESORT OPPORTUNITY

2 hours N. E. of Seattle. 450 scenic timbered acres with 20 acre private front and 2500 ft. river frontage. Also year around trout stream. Marvelous fishing, hunting, riding, etc. Price \$2,000. Write F. HENRICKSEN, Anacortes, Wash.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Just Out—History World War II. Huge volume popular price, authentic text, section on Roosevelt official photographs. Write Distributors, Drawer 949, Portland 7, Ore.

### REAL ESTATE—HOUSES

LARGE 2-STORY RESIDENCE on 150-foot square block near high school; fine view overlooking Columbia river; city water, lights, fruit trees, garden and shrubbery; chicken house and garage. Price reasonable. Owner, MISS EMMA ANDERSON, Box 673, Rainier, Oregon.

### RABBITS & SKINS

LIVE rabbits 4-6 lbs. 24c. Want rabbit skins, poultry, veal, all meats, paying good prices. Ruby & Co., 935 S. W. Front, Portland, Oregon.

### HELP WANTED

#### WOMEN WANTED

Stenographer's permanent post-war position. Vacation with pay, sick benefits; pleasant working conditions. Write Mr. Galer, I. F. Laucks, Inc., 911 Western Avenue, Seattle 4, Wa.

ARE you interested in learning the dairy business? Inside jobs now open. Steady employment year around. See Mr. Boice or Mr. Blum, Carnation Co., 400 - 5th Ave. N., Seattle, Wash. Ref. req.

TIE MILL—Sawyer—Millsright, Off Bearer, and log cutoff man, at top wage scale, 48-hour week. Steady, full time work. Write Jamieson & Costello, 3141 Arcade Bldg., Seattle, Wash. 146, or phone 71 J.

GET your postwar job now: your chance to get an essential job in an established industry, experience unnecessary. Auth. ref. req. Write Mr. Galer at I. F. Laucks, Inc., 911 Western Avenue, Seattle 4, Wa.

TEACHERS urgently needed for high school and grade work for 1945-46 school term. Washington Teachers Agency, 3141 Arcade Bldg., Seattle, Wash.

MACHINISTS - JOURNEYMEN AND TURBINE OPERATORS (D. J. AND) SWING SHIFT - FACTORY MOTOR CAR CO. - N. W. 14th & Everett, Portland, Oregon.

TWO MAIDS, one ward, one general. \$85.00 per month room, board & laundry. T. B. Pavilion, Troutdale, Oregon. Tel. Gresham 5235.

Two practical nurses \$125.00 per month room, board & laundry. T. B. Pavilion, Troutdale, Oregon. Tel. Gresham 5235.

ONE Janitor, and on orderly. \$85.00 per month room, board & laundry. T. B. Pavilion, Troutdale, Oregon. Tel. Gresham 5235.

WESTMORE Teachers' Agency, 1405 Old Nat'l Bank Bldg. Free registration. All vacancies sent by school officials. Spokane, Washington.

TO SELL—C & D Dresses - Lingerie & Hosiery. Set Free, good money, part or full time. Box 1261, Portland, Oregon.

### FOR SALE

415 A. best irrigated farm lands of free water right. About 5000 a. priv. grazing ground incl. 2000 a. several m. ft. of merchantable timber. Sawmill now starting with contract of \$2.50 stumpage, running water in every 80 a. of farm. Good creeks and springs on every 100 a. Grazing ground. Taylor grazing permits for 230 head cattle, 1000 or more Hereford stock cattle for sale. 3 farms with elec. in all. 2 are modern. Includes all farm machinery, hay bunks, mowers, rakes, tractors, wagons, work horses, saddle horses, etc. On paved hwy. 1 to 2 mi. from town. Good schools, churches. May be bought as a unit. A perfect cattle setup in best valley in Ore. This property has been bringing in from \$50,000 to \$60,000 in cash the past several yrs. Priced right with terms. Due to ill health must sell. Owner, Oscar Burnside, Baker Co., Richland, Ore.

LARGE stock new and used auto parts. Coast Auto Wrecking, 2120 Pacific Ave., Tacoma, Washington.

FOR SALE—Battery and electrical service business, fixtures, equipment and stock, complete; everything, except hand tools, to step in and carry on with splendid business; has catalogues, manuals and contracts on 12 leading lines. Is operated by owner and one helper. Owner selling on account ill health in family. Price \$3000, half cash, and balance terms. Location, Pasco, Wash. Write P. O. Box 607, Pasco, Wash.

ON ACCOUNT of illness will sell my second-hand yard, seven miles out of Kennewick, near Richland Y. close to Du Pont and Umatilla Dam and River raising projects. Take trade and balance cash. H. J. Tipton, Route 2, Kennewick, Wash.

RUMBLE combine, 154-t. cut. Cheney reel, Calkins shoe, stiff hitch; has been kept inside; could be put in good shape with very little repair. G. E. Nordby, Waterville, Wash. Price \$300.00.

FOR SALE—River-bottom farm nearly 35 acres, two-thirds cleared and in crops. House and cabin outbuildings. Stocked and equipped. \$4700 cash. M. E. Dilley, Forks, Washington.

HOTEL, twenty-room, for sale; completely furnished; clear title; live Montana city on Alaska Highway. Sure postwar money-maker. Box 565, Shelby, Montana.

550 A. FARM, grain, alfalfa, stock, equipment, buildings, water, good soil, fenced, 16 mi. west of Dufur, \$3500 will handle. Balance good terms. Write Mrs. V. E. Gibson, Rt. 1, Dufur, Or.

FOR SALE—Small, well-equipped and stocked Garage doing good business in prosperous community. Also rooming house with four lots, all on highway. Both located in Lyons, Oregon. Contact owner, EVERETT G. Day, at 2325 Chester St., Eureka, California.