

# The Broom's Editor Raises Dust of Lies

(Editor's note—Scores of verminous little sheets, each with a few thousand readers, are gnawing away at the faith and unity of our people, whispering defeat and clamoring about "freedom of the press." Their common policy—"made in Germany"—is to turn Americans against one another, and to split America from the United Nations. This is the fourth article of a series about these papers.)

By Dillard Stokes

Post Staff Writer

"Who is behind this plot?" is the retort of C. Leon de Aryan to a current investigation directed toward canceling his American citizenship.

De Aryan is a tall, lean man, with deep lines in his face, a grim slit of a mouth and intense, deep-set eyes. He owns and edits The Broom in San Diego, Calif.

Before the attack at Pearl Harbor, The Broom was one of the clamorous chorus of little papers that shrieked against aid to England.

The franked speeches of isolationist Congressmen went out postage free from San Diego to The Broom's mailing list.

Like others of the vermin press, The Broom has been patriotic, since December 7. Like the others, The Broom has discovered great value in the Bill of Rights, too.

"The meetings held by Robert Noble have been declared fully within the law by none else than Attorney General Biddle," declared The Broom with satisfaction after Biddle blocked prosecution of Noble for sedition. (Noble went on holding meetings and is now being prosecuted for sedition on the Attorney General's direct order.)

For the Japanese, The Broom suggests an excuse, saying:

"The Emperor is sacred and inviolable"—is Article 3 of the Japanese constitution; which explains why the Japs started shooting when President Roosevelt approached the Emperor directly over the heads of his government negotiators.

Under the heading, "England's Cleanup in Abyssinia," The Broom declared that the British government bought "all Italian properties in Abyssinia" for ten million dollars. This deal was made possible, said The Broom, "out of lend-lease largess."

To the cause of good discipline in the Army, The Broom contributes an article about "the mistake of assuming experts are in a better position to determine whether a long list of laboratory products for the alleged prevention of disease are necessary or whether draftees and enlisted soldiers who have attained physical perfection without the use of these products are entitled to be consulted about what forms of medical treatment they shall submit to."

From the Galilean, suspended magazine issued by William Dudley Pelley—Silver Shirter jailed on a sedition charge—The Broom reprinted an article celebrating Pelley's release on bail pending appeal of a fraud sentence.

Editor de Aryan explained his attendance at Bund meetings by saying he went as a reporter. He explained his frequent anti-Jewish editorials as resentment over Jewish action against him.

When confronted by the citizenship investigation, de Aryan obtained, and printed, letters attesting his sincerity from many officials in his community. Almost all said they disapproved his views, which they called "extreme" and "fanatical."

Once a gang boss in construction work in Mesopotamia and India, de Aryan says he was "dishonorably discharged from the United States Army," but hints that this was not to his discredit.

He sends The Broom through the United States mail at the low second class rate.