

from the PISAN CANTOS:

Pétain defended Verdun while Blum
was defending a bidet

...

the yidd is a stimulant, and the goyim are cattle
in gt/proportion and go to saleable slaughter
with the maximum of docility

...

and the goyim are undoubtedly in great numbers cattle
whereas a jew will receive information

February 20 1946 - BOLLINGEN PRIZE is given to PISAN CANTOS by Committee appointed by LIBRARY OF CONGRESS - Committee consists of: Conrad Aiken, W. H. Auden, Louis Bogan, Katherine Garrison Chapin, T. S. Eliot, Paul Green, Robert Lowell, Katherine Anne Porter, Karl Shapiro, Allen Tate, Willard Thorp and Robert Penn Warren, Also Leonie Adams, Poetry Consultant.

The fellows are aware that objections may be made to awarding a prize to a man situated as is Mr. Pound... To permit other considerations than that of poetic achievement to sway the decision would destroy the significance of the award and would in principle deny the validity of that objective perception of value on which civilized society must rest.

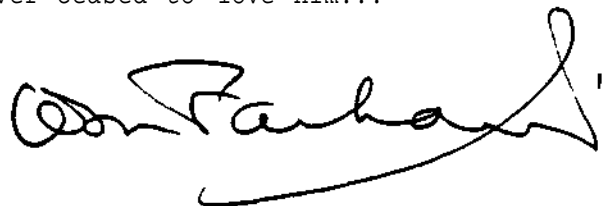
GEORGE ORWELL: ... His broadcasts were disgusting. I remember at least one in which he approved the massacre of the East European Jews and "warned" the American Jews that their turn was coming presently ...

KARL SHAPIRO: I voted against Pound in the balloting for the Bollingen Prize. My first and more crucial reason was that I am a Jew and cannot honor antisemites. My second reason I stated in a report which was circulated among the Fellows: "I voted against Pound in the belief that the poet's political and moral philosophy ultimately vitiates his poetry and lowers its standards as literary work."

LOUIS ZUKOFSKY: I never felt the least trace of anti-semitism in his presence. Nothing he ever said to me made me feel the embarrassment I always have for the "Goy" in whom a residue of antagonism to "Jew" remains...

T. S. ELIOT: His great contribution to the work of other poets is his insistence upon the immensity of the amount of conscious labor to be performed by the poet; and his invaluable suggestions for the kind of training the poet should give himself - study of form, metric and vocabulary in the poetry of divers literature, and study of good prose.

WILLIAM CARLOS WILLIAMS: I could never take him as a steady diet. Never. He was often brilliant, but an ass. But I never ceased to love him...



AP News 2-13-46: POUND'S MIND "UNSOUND / Verdict Saves Writer from Standing Trial
Dr. Wendell Muncie, psychiatrist of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, said that Pound as unable to pursue a coherent line of reasoning on any subject and "is unable to give a logical statement of any phase of his case"

At sanity hearing in Washington, 4 court-appointed psychiatrists testify unanimously that Pound is mentally unfit. Medical report states:

At the present time he exhibits extremely poor judgment as to his situation, its seriousness and the manner in which the charges are to be met. He insists that his broadcasts were not treasonable, but that all of his radio activities have stemmed from his self appointed mission to "save the Constitution". He is abnormally grandiose, is expansive and exuberant in his manner, exhibiting pressure of speech, discursiveness, and distracibility.

In our opinion, with advancing years his personality, for many years abnormal, has undergone further distortion to the extent that he is now suffering from a paranoid state which renders him mentally unfit to advise properly with counsel or to participate intelligently and reasonably in his own defense. He is, in other words, insane and mentally unfit for trial, and is in need of care in a mental hospital.

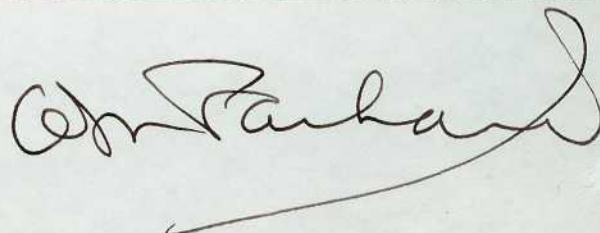
Some believed the insanity verdict of the court was a convenient "out" for the authorities. Hugh Kenner writing in POETRY magazine 11-52, claimed

It has prevented the ideas expressed in the broadcasts from being inspected.

Pound's economic theories, the flow of his radio talks and his CANTOS, originate from Social Credit plan of Major C. H. Douglas and the doctrine of "free money" of Silvio Gesell. Gesell wished to eliminate non-labor incomes such as interest and rent; he proposed "shrinking money" (Schwundgeld) which would weekly lose 0.1 percent of its face value, under a purchasing power control. Thus such money could not be withheld from the market, and it would cease to draw primary interest and become, free.

William Butler Yeats on Pound's CANTOS:

... nervous obsession, nightmare, stammering confusion; he is an economist, poet, politician, raging at malignants with inexplicable characters and motives, grotesque figures out of a child's book of beasts...



Excerpts from Ezra Pound's Radio Broadcasts / short wave from Rome
19.41-1943, under Mussolini government during World War II

ANNOUNCER: Rome Radio ... It is understood that (Ezra Pound) will not be asked to say anything whatsoever that goes against his conscience, or anything incompatible with his duties as a citizen of the U.S.A.

- Pound: 1-29-42 ... The United States has been for months, and illegally at war through what I consider to be the criminal acts of a President whose mental condition was not, so far as I could see, all that could or should be desired of a man in so responsible a position or office ...
- 2-26-42 ... After twenty years of Judaic propaganda, Lenin and Trotsky stuff, crowding American history out of the schools, wild inferiority hate against Europe, dear old Delano comes out with a mixed bag in which two-thirds of the program is Fascist with, of course, the essential part missing ...
- 4-16-42 ... For the United States to be making war on Italy and on Europe is just plain nonsense, and every native-born American of American stock knows that it is plain downright damn nonsense. And for this state of things Franklin Roosevelt is more than any other one man responsible ...
- 5-26-42 ... Every hour that you go on with this war is an hour lost to you and your children ...
- 6-28-42 ... You are not going to win this war. None of our best minds ever thought you could win it. You have never had a chance in this war ...
- 7-22-91 ... Well, you have been fed on lies, for 20 years you have been fed on lies, and I don't say maybe, And Mr. Squirmy and Mr. Slime are still feeding it to you right over the BBC radio, and every one of the Jew radios of Schenectady, New York and Boston - and Boston was once an American city; that was when it was about the size of Rapallo ...
- 4-27-43 I don't think there is any American law that permits you to shoot Nicholas Butler. It's a pity, but so it is no ex post facto laws are to be dreamed of. Not that Frankfurter or any other damn Jew cares a hoot for law, or for the American Constitution.

At War's end, Ezra Pound presents himself to American Army in Italy and says: "I understand you're looking for me," Army takes him into detention (DTC, Disciplinary Training Center) spread over a broad field a few miles north of Pisa, Barbed-wire stockade to house convicted rapists, murderers, deserters, traitors who had been members of U.S. Armed Forces. Acetylene torches build special tiger cage to hold Ezra Pound, All DTC personnel ordered to stay clear of Pound, no one is allowed to speak to him. He is permitted books and writing materials, does daily exercises in tiger cage, Pound claims he will never be brought to trial in Washington as he "had too much on several people in Washington,"

They thought I was a dangerous wild man and were scared of me, I had a guard night and day and when they built a cage out of iron mats from airplane runways and put me in the cage for the merriment of all, they posted a guard outside. Soldiers used to come up to the cage and look at me. Some of them brought me food. Old Ez was a prize exhibit...

