

# ANTICA



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# Italy's New Demographic Policy

By Salvatore Cicala

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**N**O ONE, it can now be said, disputes the existence in Italy of a new State with a new and original social policy and, consequently, with a new demographic policy.

The most dissimilar facts and provisions which might seem, as they have seemed, animated by different and contradictory principles, are being bound together in a logical and political coherence which with the passing of the years acquires deeper consideration and harmonization.

Indeed bold and dangerous appeared to some people the limitation of the Italian exodus and the subsequent abolition of the Commissariat of Emigration. However, better protection of Italians abroad and the necessity of an increment of Italian stock, at home, were inaugurated.

No incoherence can be seen in these diverse measures constituting a strong and original affirmation of a new policy regarding population. If, at first, all these things appeared to have no harmony, when considered in the light of the Fascist doctrine from which they emanate and in relation to the true international situation, it is easily seen how wise and beneficial they are for the better destinies of our people. The Fascist doctrine on the point has been revealed, in its original character, by the words and provisions of its greatest exponent, Premier Mussolini, in an article which has become

famous, "Il Numero Come Forza" (Numbers make strength).

This Mussolinian thought which has given a name to the

*In connection with the accompanying article, it is interesting to note the demographic development of the great Italian cities during the past year. According to the Italian Central Institute of Statistics, the population increases are as follows:*

*Milan, from 947,061 to 964,979;  
Naples, from 962,197 to 974,657;  
Rome, from 878,553 to 914,631;  
Genoa, from 614,280 to 623,196;  
Turin, from 575,076 to 591,316;  
Palermo, from 440,740 to 447,335;  
Catania, from 279,259 to 281,500;  
Florence, from 313,118 to 316,806;  
Venice, from 256,319 to 258,381;  
Trieste, from 247,143 to 251,480;  
Bologna, from 241,097 to 245,036;  
Taranto, from 118,792 to 121,937.*

Fascist doctrine on population, in its internal application, can be set down as a reply and an open dissension to the thought expressed many years ago by Malthus, the noted English philosopher and economist.

The contrast in the expression of these two thinkers can be shown to be more apparent and relative than real and absolute. The theory of Malthus, in an epoch in which liberal politics held sway and all States were inclined toward it as being the better and more perfect, resolved itself into two conclusions which have been generally accepted as definite judgments furnished by scientific study of population. Malthus turning to men, in practical language admonished: "Do not marry unless you have means of subsistence for yourself, your wife and your un-

born children," figuring on the basis of six children to the average couple. Turning to rulers and governments, on the theory that generations have the tendency to increase in geometrical progression, more so than space and food which augment in arithmetical progression, he likewise admonished: "Do not encourage increase in population."

Disaster for the improvident man, disaster and increasing misery for the peoples and governments forgetful of such dictates.

And though it can be answered that the natural destructive forces are in themselves sufficient to offset a geometrical increase of population which has not even been confirmed by the history of the races, while on the other hand there are numerous examples of parallel increase in population and means of subsistence, it is certain that the significance of his doctrine becomes more serious and cogent in those countries where political indifference dominates and thereby leaves the citizen to his own wanderings of the instincts without supervision of the government. This is how the contrast between the Malthusian and the Fascist doctrine is more apparent than real.

In Italy, we do not forget that it may be easier to create a life than to produce bread, easier to perform a marriage than to reclaim land and easier

still to obtain quantity than quality. No longer does the State disinterest itself of the individual and of the Nation. And since no State can exist unless a Nation also exists and a Nation has no historical or political significance unless composed of strong, fecund and numerous citizens, not in the natural sense only but also in the civil and social, our State or Government is to take care not only of increasing population but also of the corresponding means of subsistence and greater progress and development of the old and new Italian population. Such an end is to be attained by eliminating the destructive forces or, at any rate, by diminishing and arresting their prevalence (think of the destructive effect of wars, epidemics and industrial disasters), and by strengthening and spreading the forces of conservation, a greater diffusion of hygienic and therapeutic principles and by the imposing system of laws safeguarding the material and moral development of the people in their increasing numbers.

We are not dealing then, with an indistinct return to a demographic policy of other times and men. The spirit has changed, the doctrine has changed, the times have changed, and above all the means with which it is sought to avoid such evils as can be foreseen, have changed.

Caesar and Augustus took measures against the weakening of the population, allotted prizes and compensation to prolific couples, prohibited to women who remained voluntarily unmarried all luxuries, even the use of the litter, and excluded unmarried men from public life. Augustus even established some penalties, some valuable prizes and by word and deed condemned the trans-

gressors. "You are not men," said Augustus in a celebrated speech, "because no sign of virility is apparent in you. Much less can I call you Romans because on your part, you strive to destroy the Republic. Shall I call you, then, murderers, since you deprive the State of those citizens which you might bring into being? Shall I call you impious, since you permit the images and the names of the greater, to perish? Shall I call you traitors, since you seek to afflict the Republic and to deprive it of its inhabitants? But all these names would not suffice to express what you really are in fact. If you wish me well, then, abandon such a state, and if you have called me "Father" not in adulation but to honor me, betake a wife, create children, I will then partake of the benefit which you will thus bring to your fatherland and will render myself in this way, worthy of this great

name."

Today we are doing better and more. Italy is preeminently an agricultural country and its population therefore is affected to a great degree by the state of agriculture. In preference to the others, the agricultural industry is protected by greater credit facilities through proper organizations, by widespread reclamation, by irrigation, by electrifying transporting facilities, and by the diffusion of scientific methods, through the organizations of agricultural schools and experimental stations. This last is taken care of by the new organizations called "Cattedre di Agricoltura."

By means of a form of cooperation between employer and employee, the world conflict, thought to be eternal, between capital and labor, is sought to be reconciled. A "Labor Charter" has been established the provisions of which, in

#### Italy's growing population

1700	16,477,000	1858	24,861,000
1800	18,125,000	1862	25,017,000
1816	18,383,000	1872	26,801,154
1825	19,727,000	1882	28,459,628
1933	21,212,000	1901	32,475,253
1838	21,976,000	1911	34,671,377
1844	22,937,000	1921	38,769,798
1848	23,618,000	1926	40,409,000
1852	24,348,000	1928	41,168,000

Italians abroad, 1928: 9,300,000

#### Italy's Birth Rate

1881-1885	38.0 per 000
1896-1900	34.0 " "
1911-1914	31.7 " "
1922	30.2 " "
1928	26.0 " "

#### Birth rate by regions in 1928

Liguria	16.5 per 000
Piedmont	17.6 " "
Basilicata	36.4 " "
Apuliae	33.4 " "
Calabrie	32.5 " "
Campania	32.4 " "
Ahruzzi	31.8 " "
Other Regions	28 to 30 " "

their practical application, announce to the world the originality and the nobility of Italian thought.

True social legislation which in other States proceeds with slow rhythm or has merely nominal progress, is completed and enriched by the most extensive forms of social insurance including compensation for workers, providential institutions for the protection of maternity and infancy (mostly supported by the tax on bachelors), the "Opera Nazionale Balilla," the useful and far-sighted recreational organization of the "Dopolavoro," the more stringent regulation and control of prostitution, the lightening of the fiscal burden, the revalorization of religious and moral values and the limitation upon public incontinence and bad customs which were produced by the material and moral breakdown which followed the war. In this sense, the Fascist doctrine and practice are not inconsistent with the ideas expressed by Malthus, since with the increase of population, the necessary means are also increased; all this emanating from a State no longer aloof and indifferent to the thriving or withering of the population.

Public incontinence and bad customs which, because of their spiritual and moral character, the great Filangieri considered as the most potent obstacles to population (to these add other obstacles like the small number of landowners, many very large landowners, the exorbi-

tant inalienable riches of the ecclesiastics, excessive tributes and excessively onerous military system), have been greatly affected by the recent accord between Church and State which cannot but be considered a great historical act of political harmony. And like unto the Man who said "Crescite and multiplicamini," the statesman can serenely repeat and proclaim in a natural and moral society made more harmonious and fecund: "He is not a man who is not a father."

To be sure no social regime has been or ever will be perfect. However, we must let time decide, in the meanwhile cooperating with men of good will.

Following this new policy, other provisions must be sought and the inconsistent ones promptly discarded. The conditions and future of the man who works and creates must be safeguarded by other forms of state insurance, especially in regard to the protection of the child till he reaches maturity age.

Without going any further, the members of the Fascist Party could be exhorted to fall in line with this Fascist doctrine forming, if necessary, special institutions for mutual cooperation among the members of the syndicate to include workers, married men and fathers. The worker feels the need of someone with whom to share his life, and with whom to continue it, through children. The more children a man has, the more is he spurred to produce and work for the well-be-

ing of himself and the nation. Increment in population may be undesirable in countries where institutions and government are lagging behind, natural resources left to their spontaneous production, destructive forces not delayed. He who is honestly a father, complying thus with natural and civil laws, not only gives a home to his wife and family, but, by cooperating in the development of population, benefits himself and the Nation. And then, the more numerous the population, the more alert its rulers and the more evolved the times, the better can some shortcomings and incongruities be eliminated; wealth can be more evenly distributed and the new social edifice be more strongly built spreading well being and perpetuating the traditions and the power of our race. The harmony of all this could not be greater when we realize that in modern society, as in the natural order, physical infecundity produces civil and political sterility of cities and nations. Where, instead, there is fecundity and there is no lack of means, of protective laws, of far-sighted statesmen and proper regulations, to desire increment in population is not in contrast with science itself, for, desiring not numbers and quantity but numbers and quality means a desire for work, laboriousness, a more honest life, greater rigor in customs and respect for tradition, tending all to the bright future of a Nation which could lead both in physical power and in civil dominion.

# The Brilliant Career of General Francis B. Spinola

By Giovanni Schiavo

WHEN the history of the Americans of Italian descent who have played an important part in the developing of the United States is written, a prominent place must certainly be carved out for General Francis B. Spinola.

A member of the Brooklyn City Council in 1843, at a time when there were perhaps not more than a hundred Italians in the whole State of New York, a member of the staff of General Sickles during the Civil War, a member of Congress for three consecutive terms, General Spinola offers to the student of Italian immigration into the United States a glaring example of the possibilities of the Italian people in this country when not hampered by race prejudices or race consciousness.

Francis B. Spinola was born at Stony Brook, Long Island, on March 19, 1821. His father, as he was wont to assert, was an Italian; his mother was the daughter of an officer who served through the Revolutionary War. From his father he inherited the vivacity and versatility of the Italians as well as a strong devotion to his country; from his mother, who had Irish and English blood in her veins, the wit, sturdiness, persistency and loyalty characteristic of these races.

He received his early education at the Quaker Hill Academy in Dutchess County, New York, where he remained for five years. In 1836, at the age of fifteen, he settled in New York, engaging in business and at the same time dabbling in politics. At twenty-two he was elected a member of the Common Council of the City of Brooklyn, an office which he held for five years. Later he was elected to the Board of Supervisors of Kings County, where he served for three years.

From then on his career was a remarkable one. In 1853 he was elected to the New York Assembly, continuing for four years and serving on important committees. In 1857 he was elected to the State Senate, where he remained for four years.

An unflinching Democrat, he was a member of the Democratic National Convention which met in Charlestown, S. C., and later in Baltimore, Md., in 1860. His support of Douglas, it is said, contributed much to the latter's nomination to the Presidency.

The victory of Lincoln over Douglas was a great disappointment to him. A strong opponent, as he was of the Republican party, he neglected no opportunity to show his hostility to the new administration. However, once the

future of his country was at stake he was no longer a Democrat; he no longer opposed the Republican Party. The interest of America prevailed over party politics.

To quote from Congressman Curtis' eulogy in the House of Representatives, on the occasion of General Spinola's death:

"When the flag was struck at Sumter and the President issued his proclamation of April 15, 1861, calling for 75,000 men to uphold the Constitution, maintain the laws, and preserve the Federal Union, the Legislature of New York was about completing its labors for final adjournment. Governor Morgan sent a message to the Legislature advising the immediate enactment of measures to enable the State of New York to fill her quota under this call.

"The bill for enrolling volunteers was introduced into the Assembly, briefly discussed, and passed by an overwhelming majority the same afternoon. Great interest was felt in the action of the Senate, which met in the evening session, to consider the military bill. Soon after the bill had been reported from the committee having it in charge, Senator Francis B. Spinola took the floor; expectation ran high. It was not only a question of what would be the res-

ponse of New York to the President's requisition for more than one sixth of the men called for, but the character of the response as indicated by this first act of the legislature, which would express the sentiment of the people of the Empire State respecting a vigorous prosecution of the war for the Union.

**S**ENATOR Spinola was a strong man, a leader and organizer in his party, known to be stubbornly opposed to the Federal Administration. His refusal to support this measure would indicate opposition to a vigorous prosecution of the war, or a divided sentiment among the masses of the great cities, whose voices at that time had not yet been heard. He could speak for them perhaps better than any man on that floor. He said:

"War in any shape is a calamity, but more so when it assumes the shape of arraying brother against brother; but this is not the time for bandying words. War is upon us. The American flag for the first time has been torn down, and it remains for us to say whether it shall be allowed to trail or again wave in triumph. The Republicans by failing to agree upon a fair compromise, have brought this war upon us; but now that it is here, the Democrats are ready to fight the battles and fight as long as necessary. I believe that unless the request that has come from Washington is promptly responded to, the President and his Cabinet will not occupy their positions in Washington on the Fourth of July. From this time on you will not hear me say anything about *my party*, but hereafter it will be *my country*." And taking the

Stars and Stripes from his desk, he waved it in the Senate Chamber, shouting:

"This is my flag, which I will follow and defend."

"The merchants, the bankers, the professional men in the great cities, and the masses of the people throughout the State, had come forward and declared their determination to support the administration in its efforts to preserve the Federal Union. These words of Senator Spinola, more than the utterance of any other great man in the Senate, gave assurance that the masses in the great cities were devoted to the Union and ready to enlist for its defense. With a wisdom and foresight possessed by few, he urged the raising of large levies and the making of prompt, vigorous preparations for active hostilities. The legislature adjourned the following day, and he returned to Brooklyn and gave his influence and exertions to the raising of troops for the Union Army."

Senator Spinola's support to the Cause, however, did not end with his assistance as a legislator and a civilian. In 1863 President Lincoln appointed him a brigadier-general of the volunteers "for meritorious conduct in recruiting and organizing a brigade of four regiments and accompanying them to the field", an appointment which by some people was considered as unusual, as often during the civil war political pressure was brought to bear on appointments to high military positions.

General Spinola soon distinguished himself on the battlefield. Although he never had any previous military training, he so deported him-

self in active hostilities as to win commendation from experienced soldiers such as General Prince, General Ward, and Major-General William H. French.

**H**IS chief military contribution was made at the battle of Wapping Heights, in which he led his brigade in a bayonet charge, conquering the enemy position. In that battle he was wounded twice.

Soon after the war General Spinola devoted himself to business pursuits in New York, but still played an active part in local and national politics. In 1886 he was elected to Congress, a member of which he remained until death overtook him in 1892.

Contemporaries thought very highly both of his character and personality. A very eloquent speaker, he was able to command the attention of his audiences, even under trying circumstances. In Congress he was respected for his loyalty to his party and unsurpassed patriotism. In every day life he was esteemed for his honesty and frankness.

A man of the people, he was faithful to his people. An enemy of monopolies and trusts, he would not let his attachment to the masses ignore the rights of the few.

When he died in 1892, his death was solemnly commemorated by his fellow legislators in Congress, both the House of Representatives and the Senate adjourning for the occasion. He was buried in Brooklyn.

General Spinola's life should be pointed out as an example to climbing young Italians in politics and as one more proof of their contribution to the upbuilding of the Republic.

# Penitentiary Problems

By Giuseppe Gregoraci

Professor of Penal Law at the University of Rome

THESE are merely observations upon penitentiary problems made during my interesting trip to the United States, from which I have just returned.

Sing Sing Prison in New York is too well known for me to comment upon it further. My attention here will be directed to the San Quentin Prison of California instead. The section of the country is beautiful. One would seem to be, not in a penitentiary, but in a village strewn with villas and in a countryside with five thousand persons comfortably lodged.

Its extension of many acres is enclosed, but it seems to be a symbolical enclosure only, for the latter consists of a low fence made by wiring attached to wooden stakes, which extend over three sides of the sloping land, while the fourth side is washed by the bay. It is an isolated place but cheerful and pleasing to the sight, like one of the promontories of the beautiful Ligurian coast, for California, in its gorgeous shorelines, reminds one of the most picturesque rivieras of my country.

All around, at intervals, like wooden castles, there rise up tall platforms on which guards keep watch with guns under their arms ready to stop any possible escaping fugitives. A large iron gate, such as we see at the entrance to our villas, leads into the penitentiary enclosure and the buildings are distributed around a large cen-

tral space which is adorned with flowers while flowers also decorate the vases in the windows of the buildings. Behind

*Mr. Giuseppe Gregoraci, professor of Penal Law at the University of Rome, is one of the most noted speakers and lawyers of Italy today. At present he is on the Commission formed by the Ministry of Justice to examine the workings of the new Italian penal code. This article, of special interest because of the recent prison outbreaks here, was written expressly for "Atlantica," and is the result of a trip through the San Quentin Prison in California, and is interesting since it shows the impression of our penal system rendered on one versed in that of another country.*

those windows are the prisoners, or rather the inhabitants of this beautiful village.

WHILE waiting to enter the prison I see many of the prisoners working in this garden and others returning in column formation, free from all bonds or fetters and led by one of their number, from the work they have been performing in the adjoining fields. I receive the impression of being in an inhabited country place on a day of heavy traffic.

This impression is quickly effaced and the cold truth that this is a place of grief and pain is substituted in all its horror, when the custodian points out to me two of the prisoners not far from the entrance. It is their noon hour rest and they are playing ball with a lively skilful interest, absorbed in

their pastime and thinking of nothing else. Yet these two men have been condemned to death and the gubernatorial pardon has been refused them. While waiting to be executed, they are playing ball.

Warden James B. Holohan leads me in my visit and is profuse in his information to enable me to study the matter better. He experiences some satisfaction in my visit, for I am the first Italian who has come here to study the administration of the prison. A prison warden is an important person, not only because of his duties as head guard for the prisoners, but also as a judge, he being a member of the commission which places a definite period upon a sentence which the judge has given with a minimum and a maximum.

THE important thing in the San Quentin prison lies precisely in this, to decide upon the moment when the prisoner is to be freed and to prescribe the rules and conditions attendant upon such release. The Judge decides in which prison the condemned must be confined, and the San Quentin prison receives first offenders, while the recidivists (confirmed criminals) are routed to the Folsom Prison.

Mr. Holohan explained how this system leads to more just results than would otherwise be obtained. The judgments rendered by the various judges in such a mass of cases are not uniform and are too harsh in

some cases and too lenient in other similar cases. Here in the prison the punishment can better be apportioned and, as far as possible, a more equal justice is thus obtained. Before anything else, the prisoner is submitted to a thorough medical and psychological examination.

As the absolute rule in the prison is that each should perform some sort of work, only those are excused who are incapacitated or who must receive medical attention. Special care is given to teeth diseases which are believed to affect the whole system.

Another fundamental principle current here is that each prisoner must be re-educated and this is obtained by two means, work and instruction both supplemented by recreation. The file kept for each prisoner contains the most complete information: age, social condition, religion, grade of study completed, names of relatives, previous criminal record, etc.

THE prison turns out daily 17,000 burlap bags which are produced from raw material brought here in enormous quantities. It undergoes here all its transformations—spinning, weaving and sewing. The inmates receive no compensation because the State makes no profit on the bags, selling them to the industries which buy them.

Consider the races and the religions of the prisoners. The population of San Quentin, like that of California, is composed of whites, negroes, Chinese, Japanese, Indians, Javanese, in addition to the Italians, French and Russians, plus the Americans themselves. Each is allowed to practice his own religion. Each is given every opportunity to further educate himself.

When I refer to education I

do not mean merely primary education, which is already possessed except in rare instances, but that of a more advanced character. This is taken care of by the University of San Francisco, whose courses are followed by many of the convicts. The library of the prison comprises more than 12,000 volumes. I have witnessed the crowds between the hours of five and six, after work, when the inmates rush in to borrow books. One would be inclined to believe they went there to receive a gift, or are on line for a free lunch.

THE cells have plenty of light and air. Not more than two prisoners are placed in each and they are arranged like our railroad wagon-lits. In each there is a washstand with hot and cold water, a sanitary toilet, electric light, two benches and a table.

The dining hall is built to accommodate three thousand persons and the marble topped tables have all the necessary appurtenances in a clean and orderly fashion. The food is abundant and wholesome and good spirits are fostered during the meals by a little orchestra which many of our better restaurants would envy.

During the recreation hour all sorts of sports are practiced in the spacious yards. Physically, they all are well taken care of. The body receives regular exercise and hygiene, and frequent baths are the order.

To many, all this will seem an exaggeration, but one must understand the setting. Then the treatment will cause no surprise, for in the United States the standard of living is high from the hygienic and the economic point of view. It is not desired that the prison should dishearten the prisoner, but that it should educate him for society and find him im-

proved in every respect, rather than hardened or discouraged in his social attributes. Only recently it was announced that Sing-Sing Prison was to equip every cell with a radio. It is thought that in this way rehabilitation will become more rapid and complete.

I DO not wish to pass over without mentioning the women's section. It housed in all 108 women at the time I was there. It is hardly imaginable that a boarding school would treat its students better than these women are treated. Even after considering the American psychology, which treats women with exaggerated chivalry in some aspects of their social life, I was hard put to find an explanation for it.

There is not only cleanliness, which from my previous descriptions, should be taken for granted, but also the most cheerful-looking white enameled furniture in each cell of the prison. And the prisoners complete this beautification with rugs, silk bed coverings and cushions. On one of the beds I saw a doll, softly reclining, rendering the room more attractive.

These women work as dress-makers and embroiderers in large halls, but the greater number is employed in making the forty-eight-starred flag. They have a piano at their disposal to play, and with which to accompany their singing. At their dinner they are smiling, gay and noisy in the dining hall, which is better furnished than many in some of our hotels. Smilingly, one of the women inmates told me she would regain her liberty in seven years. . . .

AS I have indicated, this penitentiary system is important inasmuch as it completes and supplements the work of the judge by fixing a



determinate period for the sentence given for an indeterminate period. The office attending to this important duty is composed of five wardens comprising the parole office, which has the surveillance of those who are released on parole.

**I**T is true that they are all administrative officers, but they are in a position to judge with the criteria of strict justice, having at their disposal the most varied and most complete information. I took the trouble to examine the files of some prisoners recommended for earlier release. It contained not only a complete record of the trial, but also the recommendation of the judge to which were added all the reports of his behaviour in prison. The statistics showed as many as 1392 paroled or conditionally released convicts.

Most of these releases are well corroborated in practice when the convict is paroled, and this can be more easily understood when we consider that work is provided for the

paroled prisoner as well as for his family, if necessary. Before regaining liberty at the termination of the prison sentence fixed within the period of latitude allowed by the judge, the prisoners may be placed to work in the fields. A list in my possession shows as many as 635 assigned to outdoor work, and it is significant that these are guarded by some one chosen from among themselves.

Jail breakers are not inexistent, but they are few in number because, for each escaped prisoner, two hundred dollars is imposed as a penalty on the whole number, and because it brings punishment upon those set to guard them.

Those who work in the open are usually credited with two dollars each day, half of which goes toward their own maintenance and the remaining half to constitute a fund which is turned over to him the day of his release. As a matter of fact, the additional aid of a few dollars and a new suit of clothes is given to all prisoners before they leave the prison.

I detained my exist yet a little longer, for I wanted to see the death cell, where, since 1893, 144 prisoners have been executed. The system was explained to me.

From the cell, down a stairway of thirteen steps, on a Friday (for this is the only day set aside for executions) the condemned man arrives on the fatal platform, and while his hands and feet are being tied, a noose is quickly passed around his neck, followed by a black hood.

Three executioners then grasp three separate strings. Only one of the strings is connected with the mechanism which springs the trap, and no one knows which string this is. The three are pulled simultaneously, the trap is sprung, the noose tightens, the body dangles, and each of the three executioners is spared the certain and awful knowledge that he has taken a life.

With these thoughts within me, I turned my steps toward the exit gate of the San Quentin prison.



ATTILIO PICCIRILLI

# The Sculptor Attilio Piccirilli

By Dominick Lamonica

ART may be called a crystallization and perpetuation of more or less transitory states of beauty, deep emotions, acute visions. If viewed in this light, it may also be said that of all the plastic arts none is more enduring, more long-lived, than sculpture. Sculpture is of the very stuff of the eternal mountains.

A sculptor comes more evidently nearer to creation than a painter or a poet. His work, besides expressing something he sees, either within him or without, is actual, material, tangible. It has form not only in the visual senses of the spectator, but in actual reality. It embodies a vision, in the full sense of the verb.

For more than forty years Attilio Piccirilli has been practicing the art of sculpture in this country. To him, probably, reflections like the above are nothing new. One would expect that after almost half a century of chiseling, hewing, and carving, he would be content to rest upon his laurels, and leave the artistic creation and controversy of the present to younger and possibly more fiery souls. But no, at sixty-three he still molds clay with caressing, competent fingers. Discussions on art still rouse him to express his opinions on the subject. He will not be

left out of the main current.

"You ask me what I think of art today. That is rather a difficult question to answer off-hand. Certainly this can be said: we live too fast today. Not enough time is given to the creation and the enjoyment of artistic works. Most artists today are not willing to spend the time and effort on a work while it ripens, matures, and takes on definite form in their minds. They are content in a large part, to go from one to another; few are willing to carry out conceptions of a larger, more grandiose character. They are little."

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ATTILIO PICCIRILLI, one could almost guess from the above, is of the old, solidly-worthy school. His vision is turned backward to the times of the old Italian masters, real titans of art. Turning from that glorious scene to what is about us now, it is hardly to be wondered that he is pessimistic concerning the quality of modern art work. Curiously, too, his favorite recreation consists of reading the Bible.

"Trends? I hardly think they are worth paying attention to. Art should not interpret—art should challenge the times. The worth of a work of

art should consist in its merit, and nothing else. Unfortunately, there are few people who can recognize art when they see it. Their interests and sensitivities have usually been dulled. Hence it arises that they readily adopt mass opinions and criticisms, in almost all cases mimicking other critics.

"It might be excusable if these critics, somehow, could be infallible and judge beyond any other criticism, but is that possible? We expect our critics to do the impossible, and of course they fall woefully short of the mark. I am not criticizing conditions in America alone; it is just as bad, and perhaps worse, in Europe."

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WITH a weary gesture, he slowly brushed his iron-gray hair back from his slightly lined forehead. Patient, with the smallest trace of scepticism, he seemed to wonder what there could be in himself that might interest me. I wanted to know what he thought was his best achievement. Would it be the enduring pile of hewn stone gracing the Columbus Circle entrance to Central Park, the Maine Memorial Monument, dedicated to the lives of those American



"UN SOGNO DI PRIMAVERA"

sailors who died when the battleship Maine was blown up in Santiago harbor? Would it be the smooth-textured, virginal figure of the "Fragilina," now reposing in the sanctity of the Metropolitan Museum of Art? Would it be "Una Vergine," the \$1000 prize winner for the best sculpture of the year at the Grand Central Galleries? Or would it be some minor, more obscure work to which sentiment had attached him?

Whatever it was, he could not, or would not say. To him, the last work of an artist is always the best. Not only has the artist profited by past mistakes, but he has grown in scope and stature, there is more of his being in each succeeding work, and if he is an artist, it will be thus a better and greater work.

"I know critics think otherwise, but it was my opinion you asked for, was it not? When an artist is young, he sees many, many things not discernible to the layman. He sees too many, in fact, and he sees them with a sharpness that troubles him. With age and mellowing, these sharp points wear off, and he can see them in a more hazy, vague perspective, in a calmer, more meaningful view. This, I

think, is the golden age of an artist."

IT IS not surprising that he thinks ill of the plethora of art schools in this country. They make for many esthetes, but few genuine artists.

"I think the best way to train any artist is simply the way an artisan is taught the rudiments of his trade. You know, in the shops of the old Renaissance masters, for example, young artists would apprentice themselves to a master, work for him, and in return they would pick up the fundamentals of the art, the use of the artist's tools, elementary perspective and other phases of any artist's first education. And they would learn in the best possible way, by actually doing. Then, when and if they felt they could do creative work of their own, they went off and did so."

It might be well to add at this point that Piccirilli has already carried out this theory as far as it is practical today. It is embodied in the Leonardo da Vinci Art School, housed, through the courtesy of Dr. William Guthrie, Rector of St. Mark's-in-the-Bouwerie, in St. Mark's Chapel, in the lower East Side. Here, some two hundred students, almost all in their 'teens, and of foreign birth or extraction, take courses in sculpture, drawing, painting, wood-carving, embroidery design, architecture, fashion design, wrought-iron work, etc.

THE School, the culmination of the vision of Attilio Piccirilli and eleven other Italian artists, was opened in January 1924, after exhaustive preliminary work on their part. They saw it as something in which as much as possible, the old, tried methods should prevail, and not simply in one art, but in many. It was to be a self-

contained, self-sustaining hive, a Shop (more than a School) of the Arts and Crafts. The twelve artists behind this movement were Attilio Piccirilli, its President; Onorio Ruotolo, its Director; Michele Falanga; Giovanni Caggiano; Fernando Ciavatti; Gaetano Piazza; Cesare Stea; Cesare Sodero; Filippo Marchello; Vincenzo Primavera; Aldo Lazzarini; and G. and A. Mungo.

THEY are a busy, eager, happy lot, these young art students who congregate nightly in the old Church to absorb themselves in their work. To them, it is more than work and study, it is recreation and joy after the day's work. There is little in common between their daily occupations (practically all of them work during the day) and their evening soul-release in art. Bricklayers, machinists, garage-workers, clerks, students—all mingle in a common cause every evening, and when it is time to go, they are loath to leave, and usually stay a little longer. This does not sound very much like a school!



"MATER AMOROSA"

**A**TILIO PICCIRILLI is famous not only for the exquisite forms he has created in marble, but also for his famous Bronx workshop where he and his five brothers, sculptors all, execute into stone and marble the models of other artists and sculptors. It is a huge thing, this workshop, with eerie ghosts of statues and half-formed shapes in marble and granite standing about in the powdery light. Some workmen move rapid pneumatic chisels over the surface of the stone, others measure with delicate instruments. Some others gather up tools dulled by use and bring them to the blacksmith, busy at a glowing furnace, for re-heating and re-sharpening. The carving is done with drills set in tubes and driven by air pressure mechanism fitted to an electric motor. These are the modern pencils with which the Italian workmen in the shop write their stories. And tremendous stories some of them are.

There has been, besides the



"FRAGILINA"

THE PARIAH  
sometimes called *The Outcast*, is one of Piccirilli's masterpieces



aforementioned Maine Monument, which took ten years to construct, the Firemen's Monument on Riverside Drive. The designs for both of these two monuments were submitted under seal. No judge knew the name of the designer and selection was made on an absolute basis of merit.

The modelling of the marble adornment of the Henry C. Frick mansion on Fifth Avenue, one of the most magnificent homes in America, is the work of Piccirilli. Throughout the city of New York the park statuary shows ever-recurring examples of their work. They have monuments in Albany, San Francisco, Cleveland, and New Orleans, besides New York. At present they are engaged among other things, in constructing the decorative sculpture for the new Rockefeller Church on Riverside Drive and 120th Street.

**B**UT this constructing of statues from plaster models (given him by outside artists in some cases), this fulfilling of other sculptor's dreams, is not Attilio Piccirilli's chief artistic interest. It is his own creative work, naturally, that absorbs him more keenly.

His "Fragilina," the life-size figure of a young girl re-

cently acquired by the Metropolitan Museum for its permanent collection; "The Flower of the Alps," a lithe young girl bent and swaying like a reed in a wind; the "Outcast," a man hunched on the ground with his arms about his knees and his head bent, concealing his face as though he is ashamed, the picture of utter forlornness; the "Boy of the Piave," which was done here at an expense of \$100,000 and presented to the Italian Government; these and many others to him mean far more than the larger but more prosaic work.

For his original sculpture, Attilio Piccirilli has received gold medals in France, Italy, South America and the United States. He has won bronze and silver medals and recognition from all the more important museums in this country, and especially in expositions, where his work was in competition with that of many of his colleagues.

As an evidence of his activity, it may be mentioned that, besides his workshop, his individual creations, and his presidency of the Leonardo da Vinci Art School, he has been, since 1909, an associate of the National Academy of Design

and of the New York Architectural League since 1902.

**A**TTILIO PICCIRILLI was born, bred and bound to the chisel. With his five brothers Ferruccio, Furio, Horatio, Masaniello and Jetulio, in Italy, he worked in the workshop of his father, a sculptor, and studied the technique of sculpture from its theoretical side in the University of Massa Carrara. He also studied at the Accademia di San Luca in Rome. With the Carrara quarries, containing

their exquisite, justly-famous marbles, near his home, Attilio grew up in the best possible environment for a sculptor.

**T**HEN his father took his six sons and his art to America in 1888 and established himself in the Bronx. Said Daniel Chester French, sculptor of the "Lincoln" which the Piccirilli brothers realized into full-bodied marble for him:

"I remember these six men when they were boys, when they came from Italy in 1888

with their father, Signor Giuseppe Piccirilli. He was then utterly unknown to the artists of New York but he built up his marble-cutting business with amazing speed. The brothers are still working in the same Piccirilli homestead in the Bronx, which was built by their father during their first years in America. Today they have no rivals in their field."

**A**ND though this statement was made in 1925, it is just as true of the present day.



"THE PARIAH"

# Anatomic Tradition and the Old Italian Universities

By James V. Ricci, M. D.

**I**N a measure, in a great measure, the Physician is international. Perhaps in the aggregate of details, in the multitudinous activities which constitute our daily curriculum, that fact may be lost sight of, and his merciful contributions pass unnoticed and unsung. But such is the noble tradition of our science. This pure spirit of internationalism, which, forsooth, is too often foreign to great statesmen, is immutable even with the humblest physician. The thinker, the philosopher, dreams, evolves, preaches the ideal of universal peace; but it is only a dream, a sermon, an abstract concept, a verbal fabric. The physician, on the other hand, lives it, abides by it, executes it—silently, unpretentiously—nay, reverently.

**I**T was this very spirit of internationalism which prevailed in Italy during those so-called Dark Ages that made possible the gradual development of the first medical school in Europe. Tradition has it that Italians, Jews, Arabians, and Greeks constituted the teaching staffs of that early loosely-knit medical centre. And I venture to say that it was the Jew who acted as sort of intellectual liaison between that decaying Arabian medical cult, with which he was fully familiar, and that new spon-

taneous outburst of Italian culture, which he keenly appreciated and properly evaluated. At all events, it was Cophon the Young (1100 A. D. circa), a Jewish physician on the teaching staff of the medical school of Salerno, who wrote the first text book on Anatomy in Christian Europe. It was based solely on animal dissections—for, as the author states (and in this respect, he had the authority of Galen behind him), the internal organs of this animal bear a close resemblance to those of man. A similar type of text of the Salernitan school was the "Anatomia" of Ricardo Salernitano, and the anonymous "Demonstratio Anatomica." We must remember that human dissections at this period under discussion were interdicted, proscribed both by law and, what is more, by sentiment. And to the very end of the 12th Century, the knowledge of anatomy was limited to the occasional animal dissection. In this century, we may recall the decree issued by the Church at the second Lateran Council (1139), whereby the monks were discouraged from practising medicine, since they "were neglecting the sacred object of their own profession and holding out the delusive hope of health in exchange for ungodly lucre." This adverse view was even more accentu-

ated at the Council of Tours, which occurred twenty-four years later (1163), whereat that famous edict was issued, the essence of which was that the Church abhorred the shedding of blood. Such an attitude on the part of the highest spiritual authorities, apart from undermining surgery, interfered with the development of the knowledge of anatomy. As for surgery—it lost caste; and the surgeon, wherever he was apprehended by the wrathful relatives of a deceased upon whom his surgery had failed, lost his life. The effectiveness of this attitude reached its culmination when the celebrated medical school of Montpellier in France abolished its surgical courses and prohibited its graduates from meddling with the art.

**O**UT of respect for and in commendation of the later beneficent papal influences on the development of medicine, we must admit that there were sufficient extenuating circumstances to justify their earlier adverse conduct. We must realize that all Europe, with the possible exception of Italy, was in a state of semi-barbarism; and among practitioners there were countless itinerant and irresponsible individuals who, through their ignorance and superstition, did irreparable harm to the community.

It was this utter demoralization of medicine that the earlier Ecclesiastics were compelled to deal with vigorously and forcefully. Roman pontiffs as a group, longed for a better type of practitioner than the Christians offered; and some of them did not hesitate to employ talented Jewish doctors in time of need. As a matter of fact, in spite of the *Decretum Gratiani*, excluding Jews from practising among Christians, Bishop Bruno of Treves was attended in his last illness by the learned Joshus, while Moses of Liege had an extensive practice among the Church officials of Belgium. But let us return to our subject.

In the subsequent, or 13th century, even animal dissections were abandoned, superseded by mere bookish knowledge and trite sterile lectures—and this, for the most part, plagiarized from the translated text of the Arabian authors. The leading authorities in Anatomy in this century were Ricardus Anglicus (1250), physician to Gregory IX, and Henri de Mondeville, teacher at Montpellier and follower of Lanfranchi of Milan. The later, apart from being one of the first to utilize anatomic illustrations and descriptions as a preface to his text on surgery, supported vigorously the principle of avoiding suppuration by cleanliness in wounds, as originally suggested by Hippocrates, and re-introduced by Ugo Borgognoni of Lucca and his son Teodorico. These anatomic drawings are extremely diagrammatic and crude.

SUCH indeed was the deplorable state of knowledge of human anatomy at the dawn of the 14th Century—and this was approximately fourteen hundred years since the heyday of the famous neo-platonic

Medical school of Alexandria, where the three great Alexandrian anatomists, Herophilus (of the torcular Herophilus fame) who described the hyoid bone, the prostate gland, the structures of the eye; Erasistratus who described the trachea, the auricles, and the chordae tendinae; and Rufus of Ephesus, who wrote a text on Anatomy, noting the capsule of the crystalline lens and the oviduct of the genital structure; where all of whom did resort to the occasional human dissection—such indeed was the deplorable state of knowledge of human anatomy at the dawn of the 14th century, when Mondino da Leuzzi, holding the chair of medicine at the University of Bologna, resorted to his first human dissection.

IF WE but momentarily reflect upon the nature of the obstacle which at this time stood in the way of a revival of this practice—the deep-seated prejudice on the part of the community at large and the powerful opposition of the ecclesiastical authorities, who honestly and sincerely believed it to be a desecration of the human body—if we but momentarily reflect upon the nature of this obstacle, we will all the more easily appreciate the daring and the courage displayed by Mondino when in January of 1315, he dared to dissect the cadaver of a virgin and that of a multipara. And to the lasting glory of Mondino's two assistants, let us mention the names of Ottone Agenio Lustrulano and of Alessandra Giuliani of Periceto.

The revival of this precedent was indeed far-reaching. Human dissecting became part and parcel of the medical course in every Italian University—and of these, there were eleven in all, in contrast

to the four in France: one at Bologna, at Padua, Pisa, Pavia, Perugia, Ferrara, Piacenza, Rome, Naples, Messina, and Palermo. Italy soon gained the ascendancy and became the medical centre of Europe. Students flocked to her universities from all corners; it is stated that for decades the foreign element of the student body at Padua eclipsed the Italians in numbers. The celebrated French surgeon, De Chauliac, learned his anatomy from Mondino's pupil and successor, Nicolo Bertuccio at Bologna. The learned English humanist Thomas Linacre, physician to Henry VII and Henry VIII, and founder of the medical lectures at Oxford and Cambridge, was himself a medical graduate of Padua. The celebrated Vesalius, of German parentage, though of Flemish birth, was six years prosector at the University of Padua before he published his epochal "*De Fabrica Humani Corporis*." The Bavarian Georg Wirsung discovered the pancreatic ducts in Vesling's dissecting room, also at the University of Padua; and Harvey learned about the valves of the veins from Hieronimo Fabrizio, his teacher in anatomy, likewise at Padua. On the other hand, Italian physicians and anatomists were given professorial chairs at the universities in Central Europe and in France. We find that the genial and amiable Florentine physician Guido Guidi, also known as Vidius (hence the Vidian nerve) was invited by Francis I, King of France, to organize a medical department at the College de France. Galeazzo di Santa Sofia, prosector at Padua, was given the chair in Anatomy at the University of Vienna in 1404, and greatly to his horror and amazement, he found that thirteen years had

elapsed since the last human dissection.

**I**N ITALY, at least, the point of view had changed; human dissecting was no longer objectionable to the civil authorities, and the Church looked on benevolently. As a matter of fact, the broadminded theologians at the University of Salamanca, in reply to a query of Charles V, relative to the sinful act of dissecting, stated that in-so-far as the dissection of the human cadaver was useful, it was permissible for Christians of the Catholic faith to perform them. Gentile da Foligno, one of the ablest teachers at the University of Padua in the days of the celebrated lecturer in medicine, Pietro d'Abano, gave a public dissection as early as 1341. In the same decade, necropsies were held at Siena. Public dissections were decreed by the Senate of the Republic of Venice in 1368. In Italy, dissections were no longer limited to medical instructive purposes. Judicial post-mortems were not infrequently resorted to, and the first inspection was conducted in a case of suspected poisoning of Guglielmo da Varignana, the Bolognese physician in 1302, while in Florence, courses in dissection were given to art students. We find in the dissecting room of Santo Spirito and Santo Maria Nuova, Andrea del Castagno, often called the Donatello of painting, because of his skill in myologic detail; we find Domenico Veneziano, Baldonetti, Andrea Verrocchio and the famous Pollajuolo, of whom it is said that he flayed an entire cadaver to better acquaint himself with the human musculature. Doubtless some of us may recall Marco Agrate's strange masterpiece in black marble at Milan, representing Saint Bar-

tholomew carrying on one arm the folded skin removed from his body.

An evidence of this extraordinary period of enlightenment in Italy was the same view of the officials and the populace towards human dissection, and the liberal supply of dissecting material for the universities, beginning with the middle of the 14th Century. This is all the more amazing and astounding when we realize that here in America, as late as the 19th Century, serious outbursts against human dissection were perpetrated. In New York City, during the month of April, 1788, a mob made a determined attack against the laboratory of the Hospital Society, burning the structure and destroying the anatomical collection. The physicians were forced to seek refuge in a neighboring jail, and even this was in danger of destruction until the militia was summoned to quell the disturbances. This burst of violence was in response to the exaggerated tales of a little boy who was frightened away from the window of the dissecting room as the good-humored Doctor Richard Bayle waved the arm of a cadaver at him.

**T**HE earlier dissections were indeed picturesque. They were called the *Anathomies*. Thomas Raynalde, an English physician of the 16th Century, stated in his preface to the text on "The Byrthe of Man-kynde," which was the first book on Obstetrics published in the English language and an actual translation of *Röslin Rosegarten*, that he had attended the *Anathomies* at Padua. The earlier dissections were indeed picturesque. The subject was usually selected from among the prisoners; the unfortunate individual was rewarded by the celebration of

special religious rites in his behalf; and spiritual indulgences were granted in order to atone for the iniquities and the indignities to which his body was about to be subjected. When the spiritual phase of the preparation was completed, the prisoner was strangled by the executioner and the body was handed over to the authorities of the University. Invitations were then sent to the civil officials and a few prominent citizens of the inner circle, and before this motley group of spectators, the papal dispensations, granting permission for the dissection, were read aloud. As part of the preliminaries, oftentimes before the cadaver was brought into the view of the audience, the head was severed from the body out of deference to the prejudice of the Church which abhorred exposing the brain, since it was the seat of the soul! An oration was then delivered, and the physicians present participated in the chorus. When these formalities were disposed of, the actual dissection began—in a decidedly perfunctory manner. The physician in charge stood well aloof of the body, usually sitting on the *cathedra*, holding Galen's Text in one hand and a baton in the other, as he pointed to the various structures and organs under discussion. The actual dissection was conducted by a menial, a servant—not infrequently a barber surgeon—and the dissection was nothing more than a mere exposure of the various organs, molesting the body as little as possible, owing to a profound (religious) respect for the dead. Only in this way are we able to explain that amazing dualism of the pre-Vesalian anatomists, who, although they participated in these dissections, remained irreconcilable Galenists. The demonstration usually



occupied the better part of two days, at the end of which the students and physicians who had participated therein, indulged in a round of pleasure, of banqueting, feasting, and attending theatricals. The ceremony came to an official end when the body was given a full course Christian burial.

THE anatomic tradition of the old Italian universities which began with Mondino in 1315 and carries us temporarily to the pre-Vesalian period, the middle of the 16th Century, was ably sustained by a number of eminent Italian anatomists,—by Gabriele Zerbi of Verona, professor of Medicine, Logic, and Philosophy in the University of Padua. He wrote the first modern treatise on Anatomy worthy of the name, and discovered the muscles of the stomach and the puncta lachrymalia. That tradition was ably sustained by Alessandro Benedetti, his successor, who founded the first anatomic amphitheatre at Padua and discovered a medium for the preservation of specimens which he himself had dissected. That tradition was ably sustained by Alessandro Achillini of Bologna, who wrote an excellent text on Anatomy and discovered the incus, the malleus and the labyrinth. It was hardly possible for his earlier predecessor Mondino, to observe these structures, for when Mondino approached the temporal bone, he stated that he would have known much more about it, were he permitted to boil it. But that was sinful! That tradition in Anatomy was ably sustained by Berengario da Carpi, anatomist at Pavia and Bologna. It is reported that he dissected over one hundred cadavers;—truly a large number for one individual when we realize that at about

this time the University of Paris was limited to four dissections a year. On the authority of his younger contemporary, Benvenuto Cellini, we are informed that Berengario was also an excellent physician and a skillful draughtsman. He is of particular interest to me, as a gynecologist, of particular interest to Doctor Bissell—Doctor Dougal Bissell, the outstanding vaginal plastic surgeon of the age, and worthy exponent of that great American school of gynecology founded by Marion Sims. Berengario da Carpi stated that he himself, conjointly with his uncle, operated on two occasions for the repair of a complete uterine prolapse. That anatomic tradition was ably sustained by the most eminent of those pre-Vesalian anatomists, Marc Antonio Della Torre. He enlisted the service of the celebrated artist, da Vinci, to draw life-size sketches of his dissections for a comprehensive treatise on Anatomy. Unfortunately, he died; had he lived, judging by what remains, his *magnum opus* would have proven a formidable rival to the text of Vesalius which appeared fifty years later.

LET us swing rapidly to the dawn of the 16th Century. Let us, for the sake of orientation and elucidation, even at the expense of repetition, recall that in the preceding century, there was an influx into Italy of thousands of Greek scholars who had fled before the victorious armies of the Turks as Constantinople fell in 1456. They brought with them to the hospitable shores of Italy, copies of the originals of the classics of antiquity, including, naturally, the works of Hippocrates and of Galen, and the text of those famous Byzantine medical compilers who kept the flame

of medicine burning in an otherwise sterile period. Chief among them were Oribasius, physician-in-ordinary to Julian the Apostate, Aetius of Armina, Royal Physician to Justinian the First, the famous and original thinker Alexander of Tralles, who was the first to introduce rhubarb and to suggest the use of colchicum for the treatment of gout, and the celebrated Paul of Aegina whose compilations are a repository of all the Greek, Roman, and Alexandrian period. Let us recall that eight years before the close of that century, America had been discovered, and quite in a different way the changing order was equally well served by the discovery of gun powder, which brought to an end the feudal period and created a powerful bourgeois class out of which sprang that galaxy of eminent physicians in the succeeding generations. And a culmination of these fortuitous events was the introduction of the printing press and the discovery of cheaply made paper. With this rich legacy transcending, the dawn of the 16th Century bursts, and towering supremely, stands the magnificent figure of the greatest scientist and artist of the Italian Renaissance, Leonardo da Vinci!

WHEN the storm had abated, it was apparent to the Italian anatomists of the 16th Century that all was not well with anatomy. Vesalius had dared to cross swords with Galen, but he had refrained from questioning that phase of Anatomy infringing upon Christian dogma. Vesalius was not prepared to relish the role of a martyr; the example of the celebrated Spaniard, Miguel Servetus, heretic and theologian, who was burned at the stake by the kind efforts

of Calvin "for the sake of honest thinking," was still fresh in his mind. At all events, it was apparent to the Italian anatomists of the 16th Century that all was not well with Anatomy. Admirable as was Vesalius' text on human Anatomy, it was obviously deficient in certain particulars and details—insufficient descriptions of certain structures and organs, and a total lack of descriptions of many others. And this became the rich field of activity, the fruitful field of endeavor of that brilliant group of youthful 16th Century Italian Anatomists, the sum total of whose discoveries and descriptions practically constitutes our present day text books on Anatomy.

**WE SAY** youthful. Gabriele Fallopio was made Professor of Anatomy at the University of Ferrara at the age of twenty-four. And as an example of the magnitude of the work he accomplished, let us quote the number of structures he discovered and described: the chorda tympani, the semi-circular canals, the sphenoid sinus, the trigeminal, the auditory and the glosso-pharangeal nerves, the female organs of generation; and he named the vagina and placenta. Of equal eminence is the celebrated Bartolomeo Eustachio, Professor of Anatomy at the Collegio della Sapienza at Rome. He discovered the Eustachian tube, the thoracic duct, the supra-renals, he noted the origin of the optic nerve; described the cochlea, the abducens, the muscles of the neck and larynx, and wrote an excellent treatise on the teeth. Eustachio completed a superb set of anatomic plates conjointly with his relative, the

artist Pini. These plates were never published during his lifetime. One hundred and sixty-two years later, they were found in the Vatican Library, and were presented by Pope Clement XI to his personal physician Lancisi, who, at the suggestion of Morgagni, had them published. There is the youthful Matteo Realdo Colombo, a pupil of Vesalius and his successor at Padua, whose discoveries are manifold and whose descriptions are gems of clarity. There is Giulio Cesare Aranzio of Bologna, who described the foetus, the fundus, and the placenta in the various stages of development. There is the youthful Costanzo Varolio whose name is imperishably connected with that part of the brain known to us as the Pons Varolii. There is the celebrated Hieronimo Fabrizio ab Aquapendente, pupil of Fallopio, and his successor in Anatomy and Surgery at Padua, where he remained in a teaching capacity for thirty-six years. Von Haller calls him one of the glories of Italian Medicine. He touched upon and added to almost every phase of human anatomy; he introduced the study of comparative anatomy; his anatomical demonstrations became so popular and so famous that he built at his own expense a larger amphitheatre where Morgagni in later years did his epochal work. And when his fame had become European and his classes had increased enormously, the Senate of the Republic of Venice, which exercised a governing control of the University of Padua, built him a more spacious theatre on the walls of which stood the inscription "To the honor of

Hieronimo Fabrizio from the Senate of the Serenissima." His greatest and most fruitful contribution was the discovery of the valves of the veins (previously but vaguely noted by Erasistratus, Estienne, and Cannani) at a time when Harvey was taking a post-graduate course in Anatomy at Padua. There is the famous Sicilian physician, Ingrassia, Professor of Anatomy at Naples and later at Palermo, who cultivated osteology assiduously, and to him belongs the honor of having discovered the third of those auditory ossicles, the stapes. There is Andrea Cesalpino at the University of Pisa, who reasoned by logic and observation—although he gave no experimental proof—the systematic and the pulmonary circulation. And as we approach the end of the century, we meet with Gasparo Aselli, anatomist at Pavia, who discovered the lacteals.

**I**F we pry, if we peer into the succeeding centuries—and space scarcely permits even the briefest and most cursory survey—it would be almost a sacrilege for us to omit the names of Bellini, of Pacchioni, of Botalli, of Cotugno, of Corti, of Valsalva; it would be almost a sacrilege not to mention the names of that magnificent triumvirate, that trilogy in Anatomy: Marcello Malpighi, Giovan Battista Morgagni, and Antonio Scarpa!

Concluding, if we but scan the centuries and note the heart-rending struggles associated with the advances of our science, we must grant that the contribution to human anatomy of those old Italian Universities is the first great triumph of modern medicine!

# The Colonial Writings of Gaslini

By Vito Morghese

THE assertion has often been made that no colonial literature exists in Italy, and that those who wish to read a description of a twilight in Africa or hear the rhythm of a caravan song have to resort to foreign writers.

The time has come to do away with this legend. We, too, have writers who have experienced and described colonial life, who have felt and answered the mysterious call of Africa in the fresh, adventurous years of youth, and have translated into literature what their poetic souls dictated.

It is quite true that just as Italy was the last of the great powers to found a colonial empire, so Italian colonial literature was the last to appear on the scene. But the growing impulse of youthful enthusiasm and the inspiration of Fascism have produced in Italy a school of writers who can today offer us a colonial literature worthy of the resurrected imperial spirit of the Italian people.

Mario dei Gaslini is the leader of this school. He is the first and foremost Italian colonial writer, the recipient of the Italian government prize for his novel "Little Bedouin Love," already translated into several foreign languages.

His work is the love story of a small, weak and gentle being: Natish, a nomad maiden, who does not know where she was born or what fate awaits her, because fate is in the hands of Allah, and all that is to come is written in the Book.

She is the bride of Mahmoud, a strong and daring warrior and a fiery horseman, spirited like his horse, whose mane is

adorned with date flowers. When Mahmoud rides by, he arouses the admiration of all the women of the tribe. Natish is happy because she loves him, and while awaiting his return with Bu Meida's caravan, she grinds barley and sings the songs that her simple soul suggests to her burning lips:

"Oh Camel-driver! The caravan goes away, but the thought returns to the encampment to see that no one else enters to spend the night."

But in the depths of the desert her Mahmoud becomes infatuated with the daughter of the wealthy caravan leader who responds to his advances. He abandons the caravan to live with lovely Alinar his mad sin of love under the canopy of stars and dreams.

"Allah should halt the day to make this night as eternal as truth." But at the first glow of dawn, after bringing back to the bivouac lovely Alinar who has promised to become his bride, he flees to escape the sure vengeance of the camel-drivers.

Little Natish, with the sensitiveness and fatalism of her race, foresees a misfortune and anxiously awaits the return of the caravan because a sad dream has perturbed her rest. She feels herself small and alone, and she is afraid. "Her happiness was attached to a thread stretched out between two souls at a great distance; a thread which fate could break or stretch still further."

She decides to turn to the government for aid. On the way, she meets a wrinkled beggar, and asks him in which direction she should go.

"Woman, if you go toward

the sun you meet the oasis; if you turn your back to the sun you find the shadow. If you seek someone, do not seek. If you have lost something, think that you may find it again, but first think whether it is not better to have lost it. Close your eyes. Turn around three times. And sing.

To her faithful Faviret at last she says: "I give you my house. If someone inquires, say that I am dead, and that you are the owner. If some day I return, then you will reopen the doors of this sanctuary of love, I shall again sing to you the song of the weary grinding-wheel."

At the roar of the cannon, after evening prayers, Natish joins the caravan that slowly goes off into the unknown.

\* \* \*

In this work, replete with simple and beautiful imagery, the author has profused all his long experience of Arab life and ways. His style is clear and readable. His analysis of Arab psychology is masterly. He succeeds, as no one has succeeded before, in bringing out the contrast between the volitive, rebellious mentality of the individual and the fatalism of the race.

While on the one hand the author makes his characters live and think as pure exponents of the Islamic mind, on the other he observes their life and thoughts with his ardent Latin soul, depicting with glowing strokes the nostalgia of the desert, the throbbing of the sands and the stars, the dazzling gleam of the mirage. His is that rarest of combinations the soul of a realist and of an artist.

# Voice Culture Today

By Dr. P. M. Marafioti

WHILE the elevation of vocal art to a higher standard is entirely dependent upon the addition of a new conception and method of singing, this in turn cannot be attained without a voice culture ready to meet the demands it entails. A voice culture of such standard, though, not only does not exist, but it is *precisely its deficiency* that is responsible for the increasing inferiority of the present vocal field.

This contention may seem overdrawn when considered in relation to the few good teachers who give a praiseworthy account of themselves, but if the reader is willing to delve with us with an unprejudiced mind in the teaching field in general, he will find no difficulty in realizing for himself that our statement is true.

Here is a brief survey of the prevailing methods, in which we leave out of discussion the teaching of personal impressions or secrets which have no legitimate ground for recognition.

THERE are three schools universally spoken of as leading the field of singing; the Italian, marketed as the "Bel Canto School," the German, dubbed by some as the "scientific," and the French, which we would call the "academic." Basing our deductions upon the singing of their exponents, the singers, we will point out their merits and their particular

shortcomings, taking the liberty, though, of expressing our opinion with the same free and impartial spirit which has

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*Dr. Marafioti has written two books on voice "Caruso's Method of Voice Production," endorsed by Caruso himself, and "The New Vocal Art." Another book, "The Universal Vocal Method," has just been finished.*

guided us in their careful analysis and study.

It is obvious that our conclusions reflect upon the generality of singers who represent the actual state of the singing field, the few good ones being blessed exceptions.

In the Italian school there are two classes, the *typical bel-canto singers* of the old style, and the modern, which could be classified as the *realistic* singers.

As regards the first, we will limit ourselves here only to the analysis of their singing, without digging into the intrinsic merits and demerits of bel canto itself. About it we have previously written at large, raising spirited discussions in favor of and against our ideas, and we will have to come back to the subject later, in reference

to its standing to modern music and taste.

Most of the singers of bel canto are Italians, although methods and studios bearing the mark of this school are conspicuously boasted of the world over. In their singing—artificial and based mostly on technic—even at their best they are far from doing justice to the traditional glory of so famous a school. They can hardly call to mind faint memories of the *real bel canto champions*, who, although slaves to technic, most often remained simple and sincere and with enough genuine sentiment to make one disregard the unavoidable conventionalities intrinsic to the style of the average music of their time.

NOWADAYS, in fact, ostentation and artificiality have become the normal means of expression of our gifted Italian bel canto singers. Instead of treasuring the natural beauty of their voices and exploiting it with the simplicity and spontaneous sentiment suited to the melodic music of the bel canto repertoire, they prefer to plunge themselves into lachrymose lamentations, interpolated with fireworks and stunts of trivial genre. And, to make it more distressing, they are not even technically ready, their attempts at florid passages being strikingly amateurish and full of flaws; therefore, even those who are not bad, never afford real pleasure. On the

other hand, in music of interpretive character they are entirely unsuited and deficient, their singing becoming absolutely uninteresting when not a cause for distress as an offence to good taste.

**A** LONG with the bel canto exponents, there are the realistic or dramatic singers, as they are usually called, who have struggled in the last half century for artistic recognition. With few exceptions, however, they have also failed, for lack of education and artistic understanding.

An outgrowth of the music of dramatic character which, after the attempts of Spontini and Meyerbeer, came into prominence with Verdi, and the more contemporary composers, Mascagni, Leoncavallo, and Puccini, in the effort to display an impressive interpretation of their operas these singers gave vent to their emotions without any mental control and restraint. In most instances, in fact, their singing degenerated into clamorous outbursts not in keeping with the spirit of the text nor with the essence of the music whose character, although intensely emotional, often mingled fire with charm, beauty with delicate sentiment.

**F**ROM the ranks of these singers occasionally a few great artists successfully emerged by virtue of natural intuition and serious work. Names such as the late Masini, Stagno, Victor Maurel (Italian by adoption) Caruso, and among women, Bellincioni, Eva Tetrizzini, and a few others, in fact, deserve to be recalled with great pride by Italians. The majority, nevertheless, failed to grasp the conception of an intellectual and truthful art, excitement and violence being exploited in place of true feeling and artistic expression, to the extent that it did not

take long for singing to degenerate into the grotesque exaggerations of today in which the amount of energy wasted to accomplish nothing but mercilessly deform beautiful voices and display mad taste is amazing.

It seems that these singers see nothing more effective than the shouting of the "romanza" and "duetto d'amore" in which, convulsed with emotion, they try to show the depth of their feelings and the greatness of their art, while in effect most of them feel nothing but the horror of the coming high C or B flat, which stand as the greatest asset of their singing, and whose failure spells irremediable disaster.

**I**T is a pity, however, that the mental equipment affording discrimination and a sense of proportion is so lacking in these singers, for were their voices simply exploited, with genuine sentiment and some skill, they could easily attain all effects, which effort and exaggeration always hinder.

In conclusion, then, the mannerism and deficient technic of the bel canto singers, on the one side, and the exaggerations of the over-emotional ones, on the other, have made of the present Italian singing an incongruous display of banalities ill-suited to a true vocal art.

Now, is the Italian teaching field aware of these appalling shortcomings which are the actual causes of the ruthless decadence in the singing of the *gifted sons of the Land of Song*? We sincerely doubt it.

In reference to the German school, the opinion we are going to express, we hope, will be serenely approached after the free and independent criticism we have made of the voice culture and singers of the country that gave us birth and which we profoundly love. At any rate, we surely cannot be attacked as prejudiced or partial.

The German school of singing claims scientific standing, but a close analysis easily reveals that such a claim is far from true, at least as regards the principles governing *correct or natural singing*.

The outstanding feature of German school is efficiency based on effort. Its training is characterized mostly by strenuous muscular manoeuvres of the vocal organs which completely overrule their normal function. While the energy wasted is the greatest, the results are by no means the best.

**T**HE vocal mechanism of the German singers, in fact, closely matches that of a steam engine operated at high pressure because of strain of the organs, particularly those of the breathing apparatus. While it lends the impression that something colossal is going to come out of their throats, yet, in spite of the elaborated process, they fall terribly short of their endeavor.

It is a rare event, in fact, to hear a German voice with the softness, warmth, and beauty which resonance affords forcing having become a kind of second nature in their singing—particularly after the advent of Wagner, although the genius of Bayreuth is not in the least responsible for such a fault.

Just the opposite; he bitterly condemned German singers because in rendering his music they betrayed his principle of *delivering significant words instead of boisterous sounds*.

Germans should know, at any rate, that strain of the vocal organs cannot be endured for long, no matter how strong their physical resistance may be. We have heard many German voices—some of rare beauty, in fact—which disappeared in the span of a few years, effort having brought about the fatal end of their career.

A few words about the French school.

The shortcomings of physical nature in the singing of the French are not as conspicuous as in the Germans, but quite evident also. The voice production of the French in general, although not terribly misplaced and forceful, has faults, such as a certain tension of the organs of speech—especially of the tongue—and a tightness which establishes a handicap to freedom and resonance; also a nasal intonation that affects the natural quality and beauty of the voice.

THE tightening of the organs of speech, dependent perhaps upon certain characteristics of the French language, creates a decided vocal disadvantage, especially when compared with the free, soft utterance and mouth intonation of the Italians, dependent also upon their language, which relies on a complete relaxation of the vocal organs. In the French voice production, in fact, the tonal character of the voice is overshadowed by the marked accent and articulation of the words, to the extent that the voice loses much of the softness and velvet which give it the melodious singing quality.

The product of the French school—the more up-to-date singer and actor—has the outstanding merit, however, of taking remarkable care of his diction and interpretation. Unlike the Italian, he emphasizes declamation and his words, taking care of all effects and nuances inherent to their meaning, this asset ranking him as more modern and at the level of a vocal art of intellectual character. Yet often he exaggerates this remarkable quality to the extent of making the tonal character of the voice almost nil; just the opposite of

the Italian who, decidedly addicted to tone, often neglects the contents of the word. As a consequence, in his singing the pitch is often out of the precise focus, which does not mean that he sings flat like the German who attacks the tone at a lower level, gradually raising his voice to the right pitch, but he hovers around an indefinite pitch, a *côté du tone* (as they say in French) instead of on the tone.

The outstanding fault of the majority of French singers, however, is that they are academic and affected. They bend freely toward mannerism of a typical French flavor their search for intentional effects, they sacrifice spontaneity and natural expression and cling to conventionalities and affectations which destroy simplicity and sincerity. They *make* their singing; they prefer to be academic interpreters rather than inspired singers; in other words, they cling, and with marked intention, to the precepts of the conservatory, regardless of the danger of killing their sense of freedom and the spontaneity that true art demands.

AS a result of their decided conventionalities and of their peculiar nasal intonation, to hear one French singer is to hear most of them. Of course, one may get the same reaction from Italians or Germans or other nationalities, but it is far from being as marked as with the French.

And now, what about the Americans?

There is not as yet a recognized American school of singing, therefore the American singers, compelled as they are to follow the European schools, fall victims to the one they choose for their training: often to all of them because, in their restless search for the right one, they wander from

one to another, only to find themselves in the end at a complete loss.

There is a characteristic and basic shortcoming in regard to the American singers which is irrespective of the influence of any school, and that is a marked deficiency of freedom in voice production, a fault rooted in their speaking voice which becomes very highly magnified in singing. The reason is that their voices, focused mostly in their throats, are produced with terrific tightness.

IT seems that Americans delight in *chewing their words*, making them often as unintelligible as possible. They are afraid to open their mouths and give themselves the chance of letting their voices go; they prefer to hold them imprisoned in a sort of sounding box created by the contraction and stiffening of their vocal organs and this habit creates an interference which becomes almost insurmountable in singing.

Summing up, these being the universal conditions of the vocal field at present, the conclusion to which we are driven is that fundamentally the schools in vogue, for one reason or another, are leading singing away from the path of *natural voice production*, and *true vocal art*. While among the Italians the exponents of *bel canto* cherish *banalities*, and the dramatic singers, the over-emotionals, delight in sensational outbursts, the Germans, the *diaphragmatics*, idolize breathing gymnastics and muscular manoeuvres and the French, the *academics*, rejoice in conventionalities and affectations. All of them in different ways, and to different degrees, deprive the art of song of its natural beauty, its simplicity and its truthful expression.

# A Commercial Short Story

With Balance Sheet Relating to the Affairs of,  
G. D. V. and Co., Ltd.

By Guido da Verona  
Illustrations by Sinopico

**T**OMORROW I will be thirty-three years old. Whoever does not believe it is free to add on a year or two if he so desires.

Upon the auspicious occasion of my birthday, I have thought it well to prepare a statement of my past life, and of the way I have employed my time in the first thirty-three years of my sojourn among men, in this beautiful world of ours, of which I have not yet tired.

The account closes in an unbalanced state with liabilities exceeding assets; but since I control the majority of shares, I can allow myself the luxury of conducting the affairs of my Company as I see fit, without being responsible to a Board of Directors. What is a Board of Directors, anyway? It is something I have never been able to understand.

Putting aside idle chatter, gentlemen of the Board of Directors, we come to concrete facts, that is to say, statistics.

Thirty-three years, messrs. shareholders, are equivalent to 12,045 days. We must add 8 days for the 8 leap years intervening in that space of time, which brings the sum of my lifetime to 12,053 days. Multiplying this not inconsiderable sum by the usual 24 hours into which our days are sub-divided, shows—and I feel sure that no shareholder will deny this—that I have lived a total of 289,272 hours.

Let us see, messrs, share-

holders, how these 289,272 hours were spent.

*Guido da Verona is one of the most popular writers of fiction in Italy today. His stories are always entertaining, especially those dealing with Italians of the upper strata. His popularity was at its height during and immediately after the War. "Life Begins Tomorrow" and "Mimi Bruette" by da Verona, have been translated into English. The following story, even in translation, shows something of the light humorous touch that characterizes him, and originally written in 1919.*

In my first year, that is, in my first 8,700 hours of life (the year of my birth was not a leap year) I occupied myself above all with sucking milk. For the next six years (among them a leap year) that is 52,584 hours, I was intrusted to the not always instructive care of numerous instructors, some of whom, especially a certain Suzanne, were rather dear to me, and I showed them all the gallantry I was capable of at that time.

Summing up: 8,760 hours of sucking milk, plus 52,584 hours of instructors, make a total of

61,344 hours, including the leap year.

Then I went to school, and I remained in schools, including the University, till my 21st year. I have therefore studied 14 years. I am sorry to confess, however, that after having studied for 14 years, I was to spend the rest of my life in forgetting what had been taught me. In these 14 years, there were 3 leap years. Therefore we have 5,113 days, or 122,712 hours, for that period.

From my 21st to my 33rd year I have busied myself with a variety of things. Omitting detailed specifications, I would like to call the attention of messrs. the shareholders to the fact that 12 years, with 4 intervening leap years, are equal to 4,384 days, or 105,216 hours.

Summing up:  
Hours of milk-sucking and instruction ..... 61,344  
Hours of study ..... 122,712  
Hours of various occupations ..... 105,216  
Total number of hours .. 289,272  
(Subject to possible error or omission)

Up to this point our account is perfect: the total number of hours agrees with that of the sum of the various occupations, and the esteemed Board can readily see, without putting it to a motion, that there is not a single hour lost or gained in this account of a 33-year old management.

But unfortunately accounts are drawn up to fool the public, and my frankness obliges



me not to hide the real state of the matter, so that all my shareholders may see the pre-eminent necessity of providing without delay for a new outlay of capital.

In short, messrs. shareholders, I have slept, in my life a good 78,223.97 hours. The number may appear to be too large, and you may accuse me of having slept overlong, but I will reply, with that sincerity that infuses all my relations, that I have slept only as long as was necessary, not a quarter of an hour more, or a quarter of an hour less. And in fact if you sub-divide my 78,223.97 hours of sleep by my 12,053 days of life, you will have an average corresponding to 6 hours, 49 minutes, and 9 seconds per night, which seems to me to be below the usual average of a wise man's sleep, especially when you consider that the average is somewhat raised by the long slumbers of babyhood and childhood, by the siestas of summer days, and by the infinite number of times that I took a nap while reading the very interesting books of some of my friends.

At the table I have spent a total of 18,200.03 hours, including under this heading those hours spent in sucking milk. It is not much, whatever it may seem to you, esteemed shareholders. A man must eat, and it is well that he does not eat too hurriedly, so that his stomach will not have to overwork itself.

I have travelled 876,432 km. in automobiles driven by others. The average speed of these rides was 48.66 km. per hour; therefore I have spent 15,422.22 hours of my life in automobiles. The hourly average of 48.66 km. may seem lacking in brilliance to some, but it must be remembered that the fantastic speeds

unfortunately, I chose the pro-reached by flying aces themselves are kept up only for a few hundred hours at best in their lives; for the rest of their lives they are content to travel at a normal pace.

Reading, from my 21st to my 33rd year, has claimed from me an average of 1.48 hours a day, including, with the reading of books, the reading of newspapers, correspondence, placards, signs, directions, addresses, names of streets, railroad timetables, etc., etc., as well as love letters, which are read two or three times. Thus; 12 years, with 4 leap years included, are equal to 4,384 days; at 1.48 hours per day, my total reading reaches the sum of 6,488.32 hours.

These figures may give me the appearance of being an ignorant fellow, since it seems I have spent more than twice as much time in automobiles as I have in reading. An error in interpretation, my dear sirs. First of all I beg you to note that in the total of 6,488.32 hours of reading there is not included those of the 14 years of useless studying, and secondly, I would call your attention to the fact that Dante Alighieri himself must have spent walking on foot, or perhaps in a carriage, at least twice as much time as he devoted to reading. And it is not my fault, esteemed gentlemen of the Board of Directors, if during the times of Dante Alighieri, the house of Fiat had not yet begun to manufacture automobiles.

Summing up:

Sleeping .....	78,223.97
Eating .....	18,200.03
Auto riding .....	15,422.22
Reading .....	6,488.32
Total .....	118,334.54

(Subject to possible error or omission.)

Writing has naturally absorbed more of my time than I have devoted to reading, since,



fession of letters, which is certainly the most useless of all callings chosen by men. I must add here and that in the term "reading" I have not included the inevitable reading of my own letters or my books. Thus, writing has held me at the desk for a total of 111,974 hours and 33 minutes, considering which figure no one should be greatly surprised if I myself, like all my revered colleagues, should have had the fortune to give to Italy a certain number of masterpieces. Whoever continues to empty, one after another, infinite bottles of ink, can do no less, (unless he has not the intention) than put into the world, eventually, a masterpiece.

It must be added that in these 111,874.33 hours of writing there are included the hours of school and those dedicated to simple correspondence. It staggers me to think of how much I must have spent in postage stamps. I hesitate to waste time in calculating it, but with a certain sadness I tell myself that if I had never written to anyone I would be a rich man by this time. The Post Office, when one stops to consider it, may be that which throws the accounts of many respectable persons into confusion; it may even be indirectly responsible for a number of suicides.

I have spent two hours a



month in the barber's; and in this respect the Board can justifiably praise me for economy, for I give my hair a combing once every 15 days, and I shave myself regularly every morning with a magnificent Gillette. If one remembers that up to the age of 18½ I did not have to shave myself, the hours spent at the barber's add up to the slight figure of 2 hours a month for 14½ years, and to one hour a month for 18½ years—that is, a total of 570 hours.

Now let us sum up a bit, without adding too many superfluous and minute items:

Hours spent on trains ... 6,924.66  
 " " " ships ... 2,988.17  
 " " " bicycles . 1,114.09  
 " " " horseback 1,816.24  
 " " " camels

and other animals .. 416.48

Total for these various means of locomotion 13,259.48 hours.

I had forgotten elevators. In elevators, and other systems of vertical transit . . . 198.11 hours (which is much less than the time spent on camels). But is the elevator a means of locomotion? Most certainly it is. But then I have also forgotten airplanes, motorcycles, and carriages. I have travelled rather infrequently in airplanes—a total of 92 hours, 47 minutes; which is a little less than that of one of our famous aviators. To motorcycles I have given even less time because, after having tried it one time for a good 22 minutes on a hard and insecure seat, I wanted to have nothing more to do with it. Carriages claim exactly 872 hours—about twice the time spent on camels. In general, I doubt whether I could say I preferred the trot of carriage-horses to the pace of camels; however, if it were possible to travel on camels in the city, and in carriages in the desert, it would be ideal. Thus, to summarize, I have spent a total of 14,332.44 hours in locomotion.

In my bath and in sweet and salt water generally: 832 hours, 55 minutes; again double the time spent on camels. Before cashiers' wick-



ets in banks: 128 hours, 19 minutes—too little, I think. Before tax-collectors' wickets: 1,011.11 hours. Smoking cigarettes, that is, without reading or otherwise employing the time: 611.33 hours, still a larger total than that spent on camels. While in the hands of surgeons, doctors and dentists: 284.16 hours. In general, obviously, I am a man of sane constitution, thank heaven, for my hours of degeneracy, in the span of 33 years, total only 1211.84; about triple those spent in camel-riding.

Dancing has fascinated me, and I have danced in all 2,744.05 hours, pointing out, incidentally, that I began to dance with real feeling only from the time the American dances invaded Europe. These are the only hours, of the 289,272 of my life, that I do not regret.

Gambling has been more exacting, not to mention that it has been more calamitous. At the green cloth I have passed a good 12,407.82 hours, a third of it in Italy and the remainder in other countries. Calculating that I paid on the average, for a 100 lire "pot" an hour (which is doubtless much less than the actual sum) I must have spent therefore 1,240,782 lire in "pot money." Calculating further that in general, the "pot money" is hardly a 20th of what is actually lost in gambling, my losses must

have been at least 24,815,640 lire, plus 10%, or 2,481,564 lire, in tips to the croupiers, plus 2%, or 496,312.80 lire, for general expenses, plus at least 20%, or 4,963,128 lire, for money lent without hope of return to women and friends—in all, a total of losses sustained in gambling mounting up to 33,997,426.80 lire.

If I were to add to this sum that which I have spent in postage stamps, it would be enough to give me goose-flesh.

Summing up:  
 Hours already accounted for 244,641.31  
 Hours of sweet and salt water ..... 832.55  
 Hours at bank tellers' windows ..... 128.19  
 Hours at tax-collectors' windows ..... 1,011.11  
 Hours of contemplative smoking ..... 611.33  
 Hours in the hands of various doctors, etc. .... 284.16  
 Hours (supplementary) of degeneracy ..... 1,211.84  
 Hours of dancing ..... 2,744.05  
 Hours of gambling ..... 12,407.82  
 Total ..... 263,872.36  
 (Subject to possible error or omission)

Being not too pious a person, and since religious functions occur at hours that are anything but convenient for me, I go to church only when I find myself particularly melancholy, either for spiritual or financial reasons. However, I like churches when they are having organ concerts, and I like them much more when they are totally or almost totally deserted; for example, at dawn or at twilight on spring or autumn days. In addition, I go to church every time a friend marries or dies. In all, my church hours have been 879.36. Not very many, but the good Lord will remember that I have been very busy up to my 33rd year. I will make up for it by going more often in my later years, when I too, like all uneasy minds, will feel the need of purging myself of my sins.

Lectures and poetry recitals have mortgaged all of 26 hours of my time; certainly they were the basest ones I have

ever experienced in my life. I have spent 3,466.29 hours in the theatre, thus divided: Opera, 1,144 hours (about triple the time spent on camels); Drama, 511.02 hours (almost twice the time spent on camels); Music halls and Revues, 1,811.27 hours, where I enjoyed myself to make up for all that which bored me at the theatre or at the opera.

I HAD forgotten the cinema, which I have begun to attend only in the past few years, and where my hours of attendance total 288.

In horse-racing and other sporting spectacles I have always shown great interest, to the extent of 7,012.99 hours. Arguing with my editors and relations took 1,623 hours; with my critics, 787.44; on literature in general, 66 (but before my 20th year). The rest of my time I have employed in the service of my country, that is, one year as a volunteer in the cavalry, and 3½ years of war, although I do not include a six-months' leave because of gastro-enteritis. Thus, for military service (not including the hours already noted under simultaneous actions, such as sleeping, smoking, etc.) I spent 11,276.53 hours.

Summing up:

Hours previously accounted for .....	263,872.36
Hours in church .....	879.36
Hours in the theatre ..	3,466.29
Hours in the cinema ..	288.00
Racing and other sports	7,012.99
For editors, critics, and literati .....	2,476.44
Military service .....	11,276.53
Total hours .....	289,271.57
General summary of 33 years' consumption of time:	
Total hours of life ...	289,272.00
Hours employed as in above accounts .....	289,271.57
Balance .....	000,000.43

In thus closing the account I find only a difference of .43 of an hour. I had forgotten that I spent this time in shoot-

revolvers on my own account (that is, outside of military service) killing only 42 people, because the 43rd only died after three years, of Spanish influenza.

Thus, in general recapitulation:

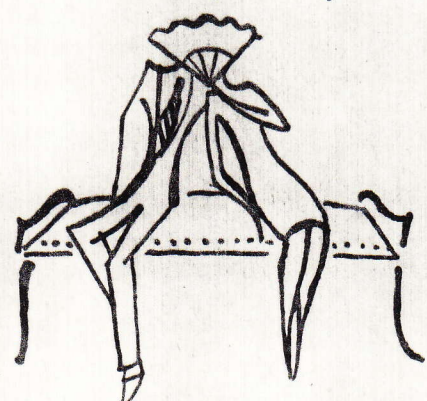
Hours as of statement above .....	289,271.57
Hours spent in shooting civilians .....	000,000.43
Total .....	289,272.00
Hours of life .....	289,272.00
Account settled .....	000,000.00

With this, my dear stockholders, I believe I have demonstrated to you that the deficit anticipated by you, and announced by me at the beginning of this statement of accounts, is less than my alarming promises and the false voice of the purse would have led you to suppose, since in fact the account seems to be perfectly balanced. You will want me to explain by what right I solicit additional capital (ie., hours) from you.

Well, my dear sirs, I would not be loyal to my Company, if, with the deftness I possess in the manipulation of figures, I were to hide even an iota of the truth.

The statement which I have just had the honor to present to you, and to illustrate for you in its most minute particulars, would be exact, if I had never had anything to do with women.

In short, I have lived 33 years, that is to say, for an accumulated total of 289,272 hours; and have spent 289,272 hours in exactly the way it has



been my duty to specify for you.

But the women, my dear sirs? Where, in this statement, are the infinite number of hours I spent in pursuing, courting, in speaking amou- rously, with the women of all shades that I encountered in the five continents? And where, my dear sirs, are the long hours, still more infinite, which I, after these preambles, like all of you, admit I have spent blissfully in their per- fumed arms?

Precisely this, my dear sirs, is what represents the liabili- ties of my life: the hours spent with women.

Must I, my dear sirs, take my courage in my two hands, and tell you how many there were?

Including everything—that is, preparations, approaches, accostings, sighs, flirtings, con- fessions, first kisses, languid caresses, gifts, letters, tele- phone calls, before coming to the sweet culminating phase— were, gentlemen, 93,020.69 hours.

MODESTY forbids my tell- ing you exactly how they were distributed. But when I think of how I have been able to give to camels only 416.48 hours of my life, while I have given women 93,020.69—al- though I began courting my first beloved at the age of 5, perhaps because my first nurses had nothing attractive about them—I must realize that my guilt is great, and greater the sacrifice I ask of you in requesting you to make good this deficit, which represents a good 93,020.69 hours of life; . . .

But you can still consider yourself fortunate, my dear sirs, that, with all this squan- dering, it is not necessary for me to ask you to take care of any offspring.

# BOOKS AND AUTHORS

*THE ROAD TO PLENTY*, by William Trufant and Waddill Catchings. (Polak Foundation for Economic Research, Newton, Mass.)

THE unpardonable sin, these authors agree, is the bearing of evils that might be avoided. Of the unpardonable sins, that of hardtimes and its miserly train of unemployment, starvation, sickness, and the inevitable loss of self-respect, is the most disgraceful to our boasted civilization.

To state their theme in a sentence: Why must this world, which has overthrown despotism, which has given birth to free nations, and which has apparently reached the apex of mechanical perfection;—why must this world suffer from “*over-production*” when millions are suffering from “*under-consumption*.”

On a westward bound train, between a number of wise men from the east, this dilemma is threshed out in a manner as to grip the attention of all who are interested in the welfare of humanity.

The solution is: Keep the flow of money such that business remains uniform. This is to be the work of the government, since it is our greatest consumer. When the hand writing on the wall shows that the consumer's dollars are not sufficient to handle the volume of production,—that is, when money is scarce and he quits buying, the government is to supply the deficiency by appropriating money to make loans, to pay debts, and to build public works,—such as inland har-

bors, national highways, and public building.

The task of informing the government as to the actual economic conditions, and by consequence of informing it when to undertake public expenditure to counteract the shortage, would be the task of a Federal Board. This Board should be composed of business men capable of appraising business conditions accurately. Hence in serving the public they would also be conserving their own interest.

*YOUR MONEY'S WORTH. A Study in the Waste of the Consumer's Dollar*, by Stuart Chase and F. J. Schlink. The MacMillan Company, New York, N. Y.

WHY DO you drive up beside a filling station painted red rather than to the one painted green? Do you really believe that the epidemical sale of a certain soap is due to the assertion that it gives the user that schoolgirl complexion? Are you puzzled as to which one of the thousand dollar cars to buy, that are advertised in ten thousand dollar language?

The problem, and a hundred of others like these with which the modern genie of the business world, the advertiser, bewilders the consumer are discussed with a view of indicating the path out of Wonderland. “We are,” say the authors, “all Alices in a wonderland of conflicting claims, bright promises, fancy packages, and almost impenetrable ignorance.” For cases like this the only remedy is education.

The chord most played upon is the appeal to the consumers vanity. When platinum, for example sold for only ten dollars an ounce, its sales turnover were nil. The producers got together, and, on the principle that people live simply to impress other people, raised the price to \$100 an ounce. As a result the sales jumped over night. Mrs. Smith pays \$300 for a piece of platinum jewelry, having actually only a dollar's worth of platinum, because Mrs. Jones cannot afford it.

The authors hope that in the light of these facts, we shall, like Abe Martin, insist on getting more of what we pay for than for the service connected with it.

*MID-CHANNEL*, by Ludwig Lewisohn. Harper & Brothers, New York, N. Y. \$3.50.

LEWISOHN has reached a stage, perhaps preponderately more mental than spiritual, which is readily recognized by all who have read Tolstoi's *Confession*.

Just as Tolstoi, in his search for the rock of ages to which he might cling, joined the Greek Orthodox Church, so Lewisohn has re-identified himself with his folk, the Jews. And just as Tolstoi, in limiting his activities to a sect, failed to find the *Weltanschauung*, the larger view of life; so in all probabilities Lewisohn, if he keeps growing, will discover that, in re-allying himself with his nationality, he is barring out the larger unity,—

mankind whose country is the world. Consequently, to all intellectuals who have come to look upon Lewisohn as a leader, this book comes as a disappointment.

It is a disappointment because Lewisohn's formula for happiness, tho perhaps applicable in individual cases, is certainly not in the generality of cases. If permanent satisfaction, as Lewisohn argues, comes only to one who lives with the "stream of tradition that is native to one's blood and heart;" how, the query arises, is the latest evolutionary product, the American, in whose veins course the mingled bloods of Italian, English, German, Irish, Russian, etc.,—how is such a one to determine the *religio*, that is, the larger binding whole to which he belongs.

*THE ITALIAN COLONIES—GEOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC DATA (LE COLONIE ITALIANE)* edited by the Italian Department of the Colonies. *Sindacato Italiano Arti Grafiche.*

A HIGHLY readable and profusely illustrated publication, whose propaganda character is indicated by its elegant form and extremely low price. The information contained in it is such that it possesses, to a large degree, an encyclopedic value. It has, furthermore, the advantage of setting forth authoritatively for the first time, statistics on the population of the Italian colonies, their territorial extent, railroads, watercourses and economic possibilities. The last chapter is devoted to the Italian possessions in the Aegean Sea and is of equal interest with the others by virtue of the hitherto unpublished statistics that it contains.

The official character of the work does not preclude its compilers from setting forth, with remarkable sincerity, the

pessimistic as well as the optimistic aspects of the Italian colonial structure, and the searcher after the truth can be reasonably sure of finding it in this volume.

*RHYTHMS (Ritmi)* by Luigi Valli, Appima Publishing House

FROM the collected verses of the distinguished Italian poet, Luigi Valli, emanates a tranquil vision of men and things refined through a sense of goodness and through a profound comprehension of life—a life which is interpreted as an active and generating force and one which is almost always in intimate contrast and the antithesis of the immobile forces of wisdom. Such is the impression gained from the rich legend "*Re Pensoso*" (King Thought), from the conversation between the poet and love in the lyric "*Il Poeta Morto*" (The Dead Poet), and from the "*Vitae Il Saggio*" (Life and the Sage).

Profound visions of reality are outlined, at times, on the clear-cut sky of fantasy; such is almost always the case in all the lyrics included under the title "*Volo Italico*" (Italianate Flight).

Valli, in the themes of his poems, greatly reminds one of Giovanni Pascoli. His originality is most marked in the presentation of myths, semi-realistic myths which find a complete response in his experiences and in his own internal world.

*MUSICAL TRAVELS THROUGH EUROPE (Viaggio Musicale in Europa).* By Adriano Lualdi. Publisher, Alpes, Milan, Italy.

THE pages of this book afford all lovers of music an opportunity to follow the modern European movement in this particular field. When we close the book we see be-

fore our eyes the musical panorama of Europe with so much distinction that one is moved to meditation. During his pilgrimage Lualdi has been able to enjoy the most varied types of music and has come upon a number of bizarre curiosities. In Berlin he attended experiments made with a device the purpose of which was alleged to be the simplification of the study of musical instruments. The name of the device is the "aerophone," invented by Prof. Leo Theremin of the Leningrad Physico-Technical Institute. He also attended the performance of an opera by Paul Hindemith the total three acts of which proved to be shorter than Strauss' *Salome*. The orchestra was made up of six violins, two violas, one cello, one double bass and a battery of all sorts of drum instruments!

But he was compensated for all this with a "Trittico Botticelliano" by Respighi composed expressly at the request of Mrs. Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, an American who has made it a practice to travel extensively for the purpose of organizing chamber music festivals. Mrs. E. Sprague Coolidge in 1918 had a sort of music colony built in the Berkshire hills on a property owned by her son and there she has since been giving yearly concerts attended by at least one hundred guests. The performers have been among the best American artists.

In Vienna Lualdi's interest was aroused by the building in which Beethoven composed his *Fidelio* and the house of Schubert. It is in this same city that the author had the joy of noticing that Italian music is on the preferred list of the *Opera Theatre*—an institution receiving a subsidy of 5,200,000 francs yearly from the government.

*THE BOOK OF ITALY (ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VICTORY) (IL LIBRO D'ITALIA)* edited by the Fascist Institute of Culture. Ravegnati Publishing House, Milan.

**T**HE introduction to this work, written by Hon. Dino Alfieri, states that the volume is an organic synthesis of what the Italian Nation has accomplished in the ten years that have elapsed since the close of the world war, and dedicates it to those who have fallen for the Fatherland.

The body of the volume is a symposium composed of the writings of some of the most outstanding men of new Italy. The first part, "Fatherland and State," is the work of Volpe, Corradini, D'Andrea and Antona-Traversi. "The Government," is the contribution of Appiani; "The Family of Cavazzoni;" "The Corporations," of Bottai. Among the many other chapters that compose this interesting book is one on the army, contributed by Ferreti, Cavallero, Sirianni and Balbo.

*WHAT IS RIGHT WITH MARRIAGE.* By Robert C. Binkley and Frances Williams Binkley. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$2.50.

**A**N OUTLINE of Domestic Theory" is the subtitle of this book, and it has the merit of being fair, unprejudiced and comprehensive.

"What, then, is the standard whereby marriage is to be measured?" the authors ask. "Keyserling writes as if it were character development; Hamilton plans his research as if it were 'sexual reactive value'; the sociologists turn out their text books in the seeming conviction that marriage is to be measured by its contribution to human welfare. Is there then no standard of excellence intrinsic to marriage itself? The present essay purposes to explore the ground in search of such a standard."

The personal element of marriage is in this work disentangled from the various institutional aspects with which it is too often concerned. Domestic fact and domestic theory run here side by side. The problems that the authors present are problems of everyday life. To quote their own words:

"Is eternal and undying love a psychological possibility or a probability? Does conjugal faithfulness normally turn out to be a pleasing habit or an irksome restriction? Which is to be held more sacred, love or marriage, if the two do not coincide?" And after summarizing them they give the reader excellent material with which to frame answers."

*THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF AVIATION. (LA NAVIGAZIONE AEREA DAL PUNTO DI VISTA ECONOMICO)* by Dr. Carlos Rocca. Hoepli Publishing House, Milan.

**T**HIS work is a doctoral dissertation, amplified and published at the suggestion of the faculty of the Bocconi Commercial School of Milan, and preceded by an introduction by Prof. Filippo Trajani, an authority on transportation problems. The book is concerned with the possibility of establishing air lines on a paying basis, and the author's thesis is that the airplane can be made into an advantageous transportation industry.

*NOTES ON MILITARY HISTORY (APPUNTI DI STORIA MILITARE)* by Col. Nicolo' Giacchi. Tipografia Regionale, Rome.

**T**HIS is the second edition of Col. Giacchi's popular volume. The fact that the author is the Chief of the Historical Bureau of the Italian Army and that his style is synthetic, simple and complete to the utmost degree lends especial interest to the work. In a series of lectures, the author

reviews military history from the days of Persia and Greece, to our own times, outlining the military characteristics of each period, and the most salient facts of history in the light of military principles.

*THE DOCTRINE OF NAVAL WARFARE IN THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD WAR (LA DOTTRINA DELLA GUERRA MARITTIMA NELLA LUCE DEL CONFLITTO MONDIBILE)* by Otto Gross. Societa' Anonima Poligrafica, Rome.

**A** TRANSLATION from the German of the author of "The History of Naval Warfare in the North Sea," by Captain Wladimiro Pini. The author's primary point of view is that the importance of sea power in warfare is unchanged, and that control of the seas remains today, if not the only element of victory, at least the most important. The author's assertions are based exclusively upon rigorously ascertained facts, drawn especially from the history of the world war. The preface is written by Admiral Von Tirpitz, who again asserts the principle of Germany's naval power which he outlined before and during the war.

*SPARK PLUGS*—by Adolfo-Choidi, Hoepli Publishing House, Milan.

**T**HIS is an interesting and practical manual of the customary Hoepli type, distinguished by simplicity and clearness of exposition, practical aims and the absence of pedantry.

The spark plug is the nervous system of the gasoline motor, and to know its nature and functions is the duty of all motorists and airplane pilots, as a slight defect in its functioning may be the sole cause of most serious accidents.

In the present volume the theory of the spark plug is completely described. After a general summary of the more elementary principles of elec-

tricity, the author discusses the various systems of ignition, particularly for airplane motors.

*RASPUTIN.* By Ivan Nazhivin. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. \$5.

THIS is a novel, but no ordinary one, about the background of the Russian revolution. It is a novel of the old style, at least so far as length is concerned, for it covers fully 750 pages, and while the outlining of the characters is not always as full and clear as it might be, it presents the best picture of Russian life immediately before and after the revolution that has yet come to us.

The author, who knows his Russia intimately, presents to us at the outset a picture of a Russian village, Lopukhinka, which he nicknames "Rastastehikha," or "Tumbledown Village." The word conveys not only decay and falling apart but that he who will may help himself to the debris. The idea he conveys is that all of Russia was in that condition. One after another begin to emerge the characters, and their surroundings and their family life: the peasant-proprietor, the provincial intellectual, the provincial governor, the cunning landed nobleman depositing money in England for fear of trouble at home; the rural school, with its drunken trustee and stupid or equally drunken schoolmasters; the Duma member of the region and the Duma member's wife, both of whom are proved by subsequent events to have been in the pay of the Okhrana, or secret political police. And, like a black thread woven through this tapestry, is the evil spirit of Rasputin. That sinister figure, as depicted by Nazhivin, brings us no knowledge of himself that is particularly new; yet it would

be difficult to imagine a character more truly the personification of evil than was that very vital Siberian peasant. Rasputin at the palace; Rasputin in his own rooms surrounded by throngs of worshiping women; Rasputin in the taiga, in his home in the primeval forest of Siberia; Rasputin making a night of it; and, finally, Rasputin meeting his end in Prince Yussupoff's palace.

The picture of Russia dur-

ing the war, the outpouring of millions of souls, the return of the crippled and wounded and the suffering at home, all this is new in fiction. And through it all, through all the suffering and misery and loyalty, the author contrives to show the head of rebellion and revolt rising and growing inevitably, ineluctably. For the misery, the stupidity, the mismanagement and the negligence were grown too oppressive to be borne by human beings.

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## BOOKS RECEIVED

Books received are acknowledged in this department, in return for the courtesy of the sender. Selections will be made for review in the interests of our readers, and as space permits.

*The Romance of the Machine*, by Michael Pupin. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

*Pope or Mussolini*, by John Hearly. New York: The Macauley Company.

*Paganini of Genoa*, by Lillian Day. New York: The Macauley Company.

*Savonarola*, by Piero Misciattelli. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

*Byron*, by Andre Maurois. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

*An Audit of America*, by Edward Eyre Hunt. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co.

*Our Changing Human Nature*, by Samuel D. Schmalhausen. New York: The Macauley Company.

*The Mystics of Siena*, by Piero

Misciattelli. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

*No Enemy*, by Ford Madox Ford. New York: The Macauley Company.

*Escape*, by Francesco Nitti. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

*Life and Myself*, by Giovanni Papini (translated from the Italian by Dorothy Emmrich.) New York: Brentano's.

*Prospettive Economiche, 1930*, by Giorgio Mortara. Milan: University of Milan.

*Il Figlio della Notte and Other Stories*, by Ferenc Molnar. Rome: Casa Editrice Optima.

*Sonetti di Guerra*, by Pio Costantini. Rome: Casa Editrice Optima.

*Sul Monte*, by Giovanni Gandolfi. Rome: Casa Editrice Optima.

*Zagreus*, by Nino Burrascano. Illustrated. Preface by Luigi Valli. Rome: Casa Editrice Optima.

*Dead Towns and Living Men*, by C. Leonard Woolley. Illustrated. New York: Oxford University Press.

# The Month in Drama

By Joseph Magliozzi

OF EACH theatrical season it is said that there is a climax, a period when the new plays offered the theatre-goer are of a higher calibre than the previous offerings. Even in retrospect, such periods stand out and deserve comment, if not praise.

If there is any high point in the Broadway drama of the present season, it is the present period, just a few weeks before Easter. Nothing before this has equalled in sheer dramatic importance the unanimously-praised chef d'oeuvre of Marc Connelly—"The Green Pastures"; no such titan of the stage, as George Bernard Shaw, with his American production of "The Apple Cart," has put his latest opus on view this season; no other dramatist has surpassed the grim realism, the stark horror, of John Wexley's account of life and revolt in a death-house, as the audiences who are gripped nightly by his "The Last Mile" can testify.

Even the normal fare of theatre-goer seeking dramatic nourishment is more sustaining, more appetizing, and served with just that extra portion of variety that makes for satisfaction. For this variety during the past few weeks, we have had the foreign and stylized art of Mei Lan Fang, with its ancient tradition, and its incense-like air of the Orient. For dessert, what better than the light comedy "Topaze," adapted from the French? You

have the assertion of the Play-of-the-Month organization—which selected "Topaze," "The Green Pastures" and "The Last Mile" as the month's leading plays—that it has quality.

Add to this the brilliant revival of Sheridan's classic, "The Rivals" with Mrs. Fiske, and a galaxy of supporting stars, at the Erlanger's; Hope Williams and Donald Ogden Stewart in the latter's play "Rebound" (which is in the style of Philip Barry's sophisticated formula as exemplified in last season's success, "Holiday"), and you have a well-rounded menu of theatrical fare for the past month or so. It is almost enough for an entire season.



MEI LAN FANG

The outstanding event of the theatre this season, of course, has been "The Green Pastures," which opened late in February at the Mansfield. Marc Connelly no doubt got his idea—but no more than that—from Roark Bradford's book "Old Man Adam an' His Chillinun." Into his dramatization of the southern negro's imaginative picture of Biblical history and the Lord, the author has infused an air of pure, holy reverence, in spite of the fact that his materials—the Lord as an old, benevolent colored preacher, in a frock coat and a white tie, and other characterizations that would be humorous in any other play—are hardly reverent in themselves.

In the program, Mr. Connelly writes:

"'The Green Pastures' is an attempt to present certain aspects of a living religion in the terms of its believers. The religion is that of thousands of negroes in the deep South. With terrific spiritual hunger and the greatest humility these untutored black Christians, many of whom cannot even read the book which is the treasure-house of their faith, have adapted the contents of the Bible to the consistencies of their everyday lives."

The whole history of man in its religious aspects is thus presented in the way these humble negroes have pictured it—the Garden of Eden, the Flood, Egypt, Babylon, etc.—and a tremendous humility and

reverence is impressed on the audience. With lighting and settings by Robert Edmond Jones, with Richard B. Harrison as the Lord (the cast is entirely composed of negroes), and with Hall Johnson's negro choir chanting the magnificent negro spirituals which intensify the effect of primitive emotion, "The Green Pastures" is a work of art that should be long remembered.

"The Last Mile" is unique in that it is the first full-length play ever written by its youthful author, John Wexley, and the number of first plays that are produced and succeed is infinitely small. Its drama is one of tension, exciting and powerful, and intensely realistic. The action takes place in a prison death-house, where some men are awaiting their turn for the fatal chair. One of them, who has previously been given plenty of food and cigarettes (like a prize porker before its killing) to satisfy his every wish, is then led across the cells of the other six men condemned to die. The lights darken, signifying that the drain on the current is maximum, then go up again—the law has taken its course. Then the others revolt, and there is plenty of action, with machine guns, sirens, and hostages brought into play.

The author is still working in Leo Bulgakov's troupe as the locksmith in "At the Bottom," and so far the lucrative offers from Hollywood that follow every dramatic success have failed to lure him away.

Early in March the Theatre Guild produced "The Apple Cart" by the enigmatic play-boy-thinker, Shaw. His 40th play in 40 years, it has already been a success in England, and it has also played in Warsaw and Berlin, where, inevitably, it has stirred comment. In reply to the more caustic of

JAMES T.  
POWERS  
in the revival  
of Sheridan's  
classic, "The  
Rivals."



these reviews, Shaw wrote:

"'The Apple Cart' is a warning to all those who still dream the old dreams, and listen to the old speeches."

The play itself deals with the politics of an England of the future, where King Magnus (played by Tom Powers) justifies philosophically and strategically his kingly existence to a Parliament that would dethrone him. It is an unusual mixture of pure burlesque and profound thought, and one is never sure where one leaves off and the other begins. Certainly, however, the play offers enough mental stimulation to anyone who might complain of a dearth of that commodity in this season's drama. One expects that from Shaw, one of the greatest dramatists of the present century.

The coming of Mei Lan-Fang to the 49th Street Theatre in late February was widely heralded. He himself had no doubt wondered whether our Western minds would appreciate his art, or, failing that,

be interested in its color, and its pictorial beauty. In China, of course, where 270,000 admirers know him as the "Great King of Actors," this would be no problem at all.

Frankly, to an Occidental mind like ours, the full significance of the performances of China's greatest actor is not apparent. The Chinese theatre is an ancient and disciplined institution, with centuries of traditions behind it. It is too alien an art, too far removed from our experience, for us to appreciate anything but its abstract essence of art. Every move, however slight, of head or hand, finger or foot, is dictated by strict convention, and is significant.

From his repertoire of some 400 plays, Mei Lan-Fang presented among others, "The Suspected Slipper," "The End of the 'Tiger' General," and "The King's Parting with His Favorite," the latter, oldest of the selections, having been written two centuries before Christ.



# TRAVEL NOTES

## Programme of the Italian Interuniversity Institute

THE Italian Interuniversity Institute has organized this year courses for foreigners and Italians on Italian culture and Italian language. The Institute was founded in 1923 with the object of developing and spreading, particularly among foreigners, the knowledge of Italian national culture as far as language, literature, history, science, art and Italian thought is concerned.

*Milan.*—At Milan the course will last from March 30th to April 20th. It will be completed by lessons on Italian language and by lectures given by Gabriele d'Annunzio, by H. E. Turati and by Father Agostino Gemelli, Rector of the Holy Heart University at Milan. Students will be accompanied to interesting excursions in the neighborhood, to enjoy the beauty of the scenery of the lakes and the interesting industrial plants.

*Sardinia.*—The courses in Sardinia (April 6th to the 20th) are intended to teach in a short, though complete selection of lectures, the interesting details of the monuments of Sardinia, of its history, of its ancient and modern artistic and cultural life. The courses are mainly of a demonstrative and touring character.

*Rome.*—At Rome there will be a Spring and a Summer

course, from April 27th to May 18th and from July 7th to August 30th respectively. Owing to its history, its pronunciation of the language, its modern life and its climate, Rome offers most ideal opportunity for study and is therefore the principal centre of lessons for foreigners and for Italians. The Spring course coincides most desirably with the Roman Spring and with the Holy Week, which have never failed to draw large numbers of foreigners. The Summer course will be devoted particularly to Americans and will take place at the head quarters and under the patronage of the Italy-America Association in Rome.

*Faenza.*—The course that will be held at Faenza from June 29th to July 31st is of particular interest: the lessons are devoted to the art of pottery. It will offer foreigners the opportunity of learning the details of this sovereign form of art, which was highly developed in Italy throughout the past centuries.

*Perugia.*—The subjects treated at Perugia (July-October) will be on advanced Italian literature, on history of art, on Italian institutions, etc. During the term there will be special lectures, concerts and excursions organized for students.

*Varese.*—Foreign and Italian medical men will have opportunity of following at the Istituto di Cultura Medica at Varese a course of lectures which will be held from July

10th to the 30th. Varese is in the Lake district, near Milan, on a luxuriant hill, surrounded by mountains, woods and lakes; it is close to industrial centres and to two University towns. Post-graduates and students may thus pass their vacation in an ideal and healthy resort.

*Siena.*—At Siena, in the centre of Italy, the course will start on July 13th and will last up to August 31st. There will be practical and theoretical lessons for foreigners on Italian language, literature and art and a series of advanced lectures. Students will be able to enjoy also an exhibition of art and will visit monuments and museums. There will be, moreover, excursions and concerts and a course of conversation at the Foreign Club.

*Florence.*—Also at Florence, where the first course for foreigners started as early as 23 years ago, students are offered the opportunity of attending lectures from July 11th to August 28th. The fame of the beauty of this city and the world-wide renown of its precious art galleries, its ancient and modern libraries and above all the glorious harmony of the spoken language will draw to the capital of Tuscany a great many foreign scholars.

*Venice.*—The courses at Venice will last from late Summer to early Autumn, namely from August 31st to September 28th, when the mild nights will lure visitors to enjoy the full charm of the Lagoon. Dur-

ing this term the famous historical regatta will take place on the Canal Grande and there will be many other sporting meetings, challenges and traditional feasts, which will render the period of study very delightful in all respects. Above all there will be at that time in Venice the XVIII International Art Exhibition which is each year a great attraction for foreigners. This peculiar city, free from all noise typical of all other modern cities, will offer a highly interesting programme of study, based particularly upon art subjects. The National Government will offer to all students of the Interuniversity Institute special railway reductions.

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### The Celebration in Honour of Virgil

ON October 15th, 1930, Mantua will celebrate the great Latin poet Virgil with the following programme: Meeting of national and foreign Virgilian scholars: congress of the Dante Alighieri Society; inauguration of the Virgilian forest; distribution of an artistic edition of all Virgil's works (edited by Prof. Giuseppe Albini), of a volume of studies on Virgil and of a history of the poet's birth-place, all presented by the Virgilian Academy to officials and learned scholars, who will be specially invited to a formal and solemn assembly.

In the "Palazzo del Te" there will be an interesting agricultural show and in the "Palazzo Ducale" a hall will be dedicated to Virgil, where there will be a display of Virgilian relics.

This programme is subject to changes and will be considerably extended.

### The Jubilee of the Pope

ON account of the extension of the Jubilee of the Pope up to June 30th, the present year promises to be a busy touring year as 1929 was. The reason of the extension of the Jubilee is the following: as it happened for the Holy Jubilee Year 1925, Pope XI has expressed the desire of granting indulgences to pilgrims who wished to remember His 50th Jubilee by undergoing certain religious practices or by making offerings. Accordingly, this period of special indulgence should have ended on December 31st 1929. But to meet the wish of many believers, the Jubilee has been extended up to June 30th of this year. The great flow of pilgrims to Rome in 1929 was brought about principally by the desire of obtaining indulgences, hence there is no doubt that this year too, large parties of visitors will continue to arrive. As a matter of fact large parties of pilgrims from Germany, France, and Spain have already notified their arrival. We wish to remind that the Italian State Railways offer special reductions up to June 30th viz. 30% for parties of at least 25 members and 50% for parties of at least 51 members. These reductions hold good also for the visit of the sanctuaries of Padua, Loreto, As-

sisi, Montecassino and Valle di Pompei, either before or after having visited Rome.

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### Important Excavations at Paestum

WONDERFUL success has crowned the efforts of unearthing the ancient city of Paestum. The ancient walls of the most important monuments of old Poseidonia will soon be set free. As soon as the ancient city will be completely discovered, it will be surrounded by a road from which visitors will be able to enjoy a panoramic view of the ruins. The road leads also to a tower of the Middle Ages, whence the view upon the ancient town is quite impressive.

A modern asphalt road will soon lead from Salerno to Paestum.

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### Foreigners' University in Perugia

WE have been notified that the courses of study at the Foreigners' University at Perugia will last from July to October. The Royal University for Foreigners was founded with the object of divulging



Paestum—famous for its roses and Greek temples

more thorough understanding of Italian thought and life, past and present. There will be advanced lectures on Italian Institutions, Italian literature, History of Art, Italian and Etruscan Antiquities. All courses will be held by Professors of other Italian Universities and by other well known politicians, artists, scientists and writers.

At the same time there will be regular courses on Italian language, literature, history, history of art in Italy. These will be held in three sections: elementary, intermediate and advanced. On completion of the exams of the intermediate course students will receive a certificate of knowledge of Italian language and after the advanced examination a certificate qualifying foreigners to teach Italian abroad.

Students are admitted to courses without needing qualifications or certificates of former studies and all are entitled to the special facilities afforded for the stay at Perugia and to the reductions of the railway fares and on the visa.

Perugia boasts of having been selected by the Government as seat of the Royal Italian University for Foreigners. It is an ideal place for study during the summer and autumn. The quiet and the beauty of the scenery is particularly suited for meditation. On the other hand its monuments, which testify the advanced stages of civilization of Etruscans and Romans, the

romance of the Middle Ages, the noble art of the Renaissance, are undying sources of delight and study and lead the spirit up to the re-juvenated modern Italy.

The Direction of the University for Foreigners has published (in Italian, English, French and German) a syllabus containing details of the course, of the stay and regulations concerning the reductions and facilities for the journey. Application for the syllabus can be made through the Secretary of the University.

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### The Greek Theatre at Syracuse

THE Italian National Institute of Ancient Drama has organized for this year performances of the following works: Euripides' *Iphigene in Aulis* (April 26th-30th and May 3rd, 10th) and Aeschylus' *Agamemnon* (April 27th and May 1st, 4th, 8th). During the period of the classical plays, the National Institute of Classical Drama will organize also other artistic shows and entertainments, concerts, classical dances, satyric dances in the huge natural grottoes called "Latomei dei Capuccini" and folk songs, local art exhibitions, courses of lectures on classical stage and on archaeology of the theatre, archaeological excursions to Syracuse and surrounding, and

many other folkloristic festivals.

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### Italian Art at Burlington House Exhibition

THE Italian Art Exhibition in London has drawn the attention of the whole world. It has stirred once more the admiration of all lovers of beautiful and genial treasures, the masterpiece of Italian artists. The exhibition could not fail to be generally approved, and one thing is certain, it has awakened pleasant souvenirs in many people who had already seen some of the pictures and statues in Italy and has increased in others the longing to visit the lovely land which has fostered for centuries those wonderful treasures.

Many Italian cities have contributed to enrich the London Exhibition: Venetia with charming Venice foremost, Tuscany, the cradle-land of art with Florence, Pisa, Siena, then Bologna, Ferrara, Milan, Brescia, Turin, Rome. All have sent their Raphaels and their Fasaccio or Correggio, and Reni.

The works of art sent from Italy, displayed along with those lent by the London collections, give a wonderful insight into the versatile artistic production of Italian genius; it is a feat created for the benefit of the whole world.

# Business and Financial Review

By Adrian Weinberg

**W**IDESPREAD unemployment and drastic declines in commodity prices have been the principal features of the industrial and commercial situation during February and early March.

About three million persons are out of work in the United States today, almost twice the number of jobless at this time last year. This, however, is not an excessively large number, when one considers the stock market panic that took place last Autumn and the business slump that has existed ever since. Undue attention was called to the number of unemployed by the Communist riots of March 6. As business gets back on its feet again with the coming of spring, the situation will undoubtedly improve.

**M**UCH more serious from the economic viewpoint, is the drop in raw commodity prices which has been going on over the past few months, and which has assumed really alarming proportions in this country during the last few weeks. Wheat and cotton have led the decline, but coffee, sugar, wool, rubber, silver, corn, oats and many other products have followed close behind. Many countries of the world find their purchasing power seriously curtailed by inability to get satisfactory prices for their crops. Wheat in the United States fell below a dollar a bushel on February 25, with a subsequent partial revival effected by the Federal Farm Board only with the greatest difficulty. Cotton has been sinking to new lows daily.

The present plight of the commodity markets, stated simply, is no more than a direct working out of the inexorable law of supply and demand. Unusually abundant harvests of the principal crops have met reduced rather than increased consumption requirements. As prices have dropped, buyers have been inclined to delay their purchases in the expectation of even lower levels. Exports have fallen away, stocks have piled up, and generally glutted market conditions have been reflected only naturally in radically depressed prices.

Attempts to artificially stabilize price levels in various countries have thus far all miserably failed. It has always been so when natural economic laws have been tampered with. The Stevenson Plan for controlling the export of rubber from British plantations, which went into effect in 1922, was withdrawn in November, 1928, because it was found to be doing more harm than good. A similar experiment in Brazil, undertaken in 1924 by the Coffee Institute to secure better prices for the country's principal product, so stimulated production in rival countries, that today coffee is selling for almost one-half of what it brought at this time last year.

Of course, the most prominent venture along this line is the current endeavor of the Federal Farm Board in the United States to bolster up the prices of wheat and cotton, along with the supplementary activity of the Wheat Pool in Canada.

The commodity situation has had a distinctly retarding influence upon the revival of general business. Just as the effects of the stock market slump were wearing off, this new price unsettlement came along, to disturb confidence and engender fear. No new major reaction has developed from it, but buying of raw materials has remained hesitant and the big recovery expected has been distinctly delayed.

**S**TEEL production has suffered a let-down for the past three weeks, when it normally should be increasing. The building industry, as a result of continued scarce mortgage money, goes on at inordinately low ebb. Carloadings reported each week are far below the levels averaged since 1922. And automobile sales have recently been encountering such buyers' resistance, that many manufacturers are hesitating to put through their expansion programs.

This is the gloomy side of the picture. On the other hand, it must be frankly recognized that business today is distinctly better than it was at the low levels reached last December. The bottom of the decline is undoubtedly past, and the secondary reaction now being experienced ought shortly to be dispelled. Spring is almost here, the time customary for expansion of business. The low rate of operations prevailing today is all the more reason for expecting an early, even if somewhat moderate, recovery.

The banks of issue throughout the world have certainly been doing their share to help the business situation along. Money rates here and abroad have been steadily continuing their rapid declines from the high levels of last autumn, when funds were nowhere safe from the powerful attraction of the New York Stock Exchange. On January 31, the Bank of France reduced its rate from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 per cent, the lowest figure seen in that country since before the war. On February 5 the Reichsbank rate was lowered from  $6\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 per cent, with a further reduction a month later, on March 7, to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

The Bank of England and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York have recently made it a practise to lower their rediscount rates on the same day, as if by previous agreement. This they did on February 6, when the London rate was dropped from 5 to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, and the New York figure declined from  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 per cent. When, however, on March 6 the Bank of England further lowered its rate to 4 per cent, the New York institution failed to take similar action. Fears that credit was to become no cheaper in New York were allayed a week later when, on March 13, the local Reserve Bank stepped again into line with a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent figure for its rediscount rate.

Italy is one of the few countries in Europe which still maintains a high rate. The 7 per cent figure there is probably due to the quotation of the Italian lire close to the gold export point. The lire reached its high for the year on February 26 at \$0.0524- $\frac{3}{16}$ , subsequently declining to \$0.0523  $\frac{7}{16}$  on March 12. The par of exchange is well above either of these figures at \$0.0526.

The weakness of the lira is directly attributable to Italy's unfavorable balance of trade, in which imports of merchandise greatly exceed exports. This situation is gradually being righted, however, as was shown by the February foreign trade report, giving the adverse balance as 524,000,000 lire, against 773,000,000 lire in the same month of last year. In recognition of this fact, the Mussolini Government officially removed on March 12 the last restrictions on the movement of capital into or out of the country. Italians resident in the United States who have savings in Italy can now withdraw them, if they so choose, and bring them to this country. The step was expected by bankers as a logical sequence to the stabilization of the currency in 1927. It set the lire entirely on its own feet for the first time since the war.

\* \* \*

**S**PECIAL interest attaches itself to the activities of two individuals who have figured prominently in the news recently for diametrically opposite reasons. While Amedeo Peter Giannini is retiring from the great bank holding company which he built up over the past thirty years, Count Giuseppe Volpi di Misurati is starting his career afresh, so to speak, as the head of an important new public utility holding company which, like Giannini's enterprise, is international in its scope.

The chairman of the Board of directors of the Transamerica Corporation resigned on February 8 to become chairman of the executive committee until June 30, when he will give up his business bothers entirely for the pleasures of his California flower garden. The organization which he

thus abandons is the largest holding company in the world, a billion dollar corporation controlling the Bank of America and the Bancamerica-Blair Corporation in New York, the Bank of America and the Bank of Italy in California, and the Banca d'America e d'Italia in Milan. All of these great financial interests he has handed over with one magnificent gesture to the guidance of Elisha Walker, to get whom he had to buy out Blair & Company, one of Wall Street's oldest firms.

**T**HE former Italian Minister of Finance, on the other hand, is starting something new. He has been elected president and chairman of the board of directors of the European Electric Corporation, Ltd., which will spend \$26,000,000 gathering stock interests in public utility companies throughout Europe. Prominent American and Swiss, as well as Italian financial interests are backing the new company.

Its directorate includes, among others, Vittorio Cini and Achile Gaggia, both of the Adriatic Electric Company; Leopold Volpi, cousin of the Count and general manager of the Europel utility group; Giuseppe Toeplitz, managing director of the Banca Commerciale Italiana, Milan, and president of Meridionale Electric; Giovanni Fummi, director of Fiat and of the Pirelli Company; Prince Mario Ruspoli di Poggio Suasa, former Ambassador; and Count Alfredo Dentico di Frasso, member of the Italian Parliament and president of the Lloyd Triestino. One of the principal investments of the European Electric Corporation, Ltd., will be in the Adriatic Electric Company, which Count Volpi and some of his associates founded in 1904.

# Italian Activities in the Eyes of Others

## PREMIER MUSSOLINI AS A FARMER

From the Minneapolis Tribune

**B**ENITO MUSSOLINI, Italian premier, is not widely known as a farmer. Yet he is the owner of and directs the policies of a good-sized farm in Italy. He has also something of a record as one able to make two blades of grain grow where one grew before.

The effect of his agricultural policies is being felt in the northwest, where it is an important factor in the fixing of the price of durum wheat, used in Italy and formerly imported in large quantities from this and other countries for the manufacture of macaroni.

He is not unmindful of the advantages of a tariff and he has raised a tariff wall of 74 cents a bushel against all importations of wheat. In Italy it does double duty. It gives the Italian wheat grower both protection from outside competition and a virtual bonus for his effort.

Speaking the other day to a great gathering of farmers in the Argentine theater in Rome he urged them to produce such a bumper crop next year that "the Italian people will be free from the bondage of foreign bread."

"Next year," said Il Duce, "will be the anniversary of Virgil, the poet of the empire and of the fields. We agriculturists must celebrate it in a Fascist manner, through work."

Then he distributed \$85,000 in prizes to the 50 winners of this year's "battle for grain," which produced a record output of 250,000,000 bushels, and expressed his belief that next year Italy will eliminate all agricultural imports.

Il Duce some time ago made a home market pledge to his constituents, reinforced it with a tariff and a bonus, dramatized it in a "battle for grain" and as a result of his labors finds Italy now producing nine-tenths of the grain the country consumes.

Italy has a farm problem the reverse of that of the United States so far as grain is concerned. Mussolini's solution of it is working out and withdrawing another country from the world's export market.

Every country withdrawn from the world export grain market by domestic production sufficient to meet its needs creates a corresponding surplus problem for countries producing on an export basis.

It will be well for the northwest farmer to remember that next spring when he plants his grain acreage. And probably alfalfa is as good a crop as any to sow on acres that Italy will not need next year when it seems quite probable

*ATLANTICA in this issue begins a department devoted to the reprinting of some editorials in the American press, commenting on Italian and Italian-American affairs in a constructive way. This short compilation is not intended to be a consensus of opinion concerning such matters, but a presentation of points of view of a particular interest to those interested in things Italian.*

it will have solved the problem of "bondage to foreign bread."

## ITALIAN ADAPTABILITY

From the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

**O**F THE nearly twelve thousand new citizens absorbed into the body politic by the naturalization process last month over one-sixth, or 2,231 were Italians.

The Italian immigrant seems to take naturally to our political system. Whether for business or other reasons, or because of fixed intention to reside permanently in the United States instead of acquiring a competence here and returning to his native land as formerly, the Italian leads other nationals that are large contributors to our alien population in owning allegiance to the land where he makes his living.

He makes a good citizen, and, as a rule, an active participant in the privileges of citizenship which too many of the native-born neglect to exercise. His children take advantage of our educational opportunities; his grandchildren cannot be distinguished, except by their names, from the descendants of citizens born under the American flag. He is a notable exemplar of the efficiency of the melting pot.

## AMERICAN CULTURE

From the Elmira (N. Y.) Telegram

**D**R. FRANCO BRUNO AVERARDI, an Italian scholar visiting this country, says Americans have been misrepresented. He had the surprise of his life when he was invited to address a club of business men in a big industrial city.

"What do you suppose they asked me to lecture about?" he says. "They did not ask for a lecture on Italian economic conditions or Fascism or the conflict between the Vatican and the Italian state. They wanted me to talk about the influence of Italy in English and American poetry."

America, he maintains, has a high level of culture, and our Americans are more interested in literature, art and philosophy than in business and politics.

This is true, anyway, of more Americans than foreign visitors usually discover or admit.

## POPE MARKS EIGHTH YEAR OF REIGN

From the Paterson (N. J.) Press-Guardian

**J**UST eight years ago today a thin column of white smoke was wafted upward from one of the chimneys in the Vatican Palace. To the waiting crowd outside it signified that the College of Cardinals in secret meeting had elected a successor to the late Pope Benedict XV.

Shortly thereafter Cardinal Vanutelli, dean of the Senate of the Catholic Church, appeared on the balcony above St. Peter's Central Gates and announced in Latin:

"I announce to you a great joy! We have a Pope, his Eminence Achille Ratti, upon whom the name has been imposed of Pius XI." The rest of his history-making declaration was lost in the cheers.

The reign of Pope Pius XI has been a most important one in ecclesiastical history. Today sees Pius XI restored as a temporal ruler, thanks to the Lateran treaties signed on February 11, 1929. Those who received his first benediction, breaking precedent as it did, were heard to murmur, "This is a new Pope with new ways and he promises to bring about a new state of things."

That phophecy has been fulfilled.

## FREE CLASSES AT GENOA

From the New Orleans Times Picayune

**P**REMIER MUSSOLINI'S endeavor to tie in his nation commercially and socially with South America has resulted in certain efforts that we in the United States might well imitate. Our U. S. department of commerce has just issued a report telling of the establishment, "by Royal Italian decree," of a new and important course at the University of Genoa. This is a chair of Italo-Latin American commercial and economic relations, open without cost to all Italians or foreigners who desire to study theoretical and practical matters regarding commerce between Italy and the South American republics. The invitation to foreigners, we may imagine, is intended to let in chiefly nationals from those South American lands who would wish to perfect themselves in business technique as practiced in the great commercial centers of Italy, foremost among

Italy has largely been driven to the Far South in her commercial relations by our United States tariff walls and by the severe limitation we have placed on immigration, for although Mussolini is not desirous of giving free reign to emigration that might take from Italy many young, ambitious and capable citizens, still he recognizes that at present Italian birth rate is such that there must be an outlet for a surplus of people. And since this surplus cannot find admission to North America it must do so further south.

We have said that our United States might well emulate the University of Genoa idea and see to it that those of our own people so desiring might have free tuition in some of our universities of strategic location, in preparation to carry onward and upward our own commercial relations with Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the rest of the prosperous and expanding South American nations. We know of no other line of study just now that is of greater promise in the business world, for unless every sign fails commerce between our land and the entire South American continent is destined to expand rapidly and to supply openings at attractive emolument to men who have established a language and business contact with the several southern republics. To be sure there are a good many scholarships available for aspiring students, but no generally free classes, we believe, have been thrown open to all, such as Mussolini has ordered at the famous Ligurian seaport, birthplace of one Christopher Columbus.

#### ITALY'S RICH UNCLE

*From the Baltimore Evening Sun*

**T**HE Italian delegation to the Naval Disarmament Conference at London yesterday provided the fireworks by demanding two battleships of 35,000 tons each. These two battleships would cost Italy something like \$80,000,000, but just at the moment, as everyone knows, Italy is in financial straits. Her battleships, therefore, are paper battleships, designed not so much for fighting as for providing a gesture that may possibly persuade France to reduce her demands. If Italy honestly expects to build two battleships, many may ask where the money is to come from.

A thought, however, suddenly occurs. In at least one financial venture Italy has been eminently successful. It may be recalled that she settled her war debt with the United States and immediately received a loan from us which, in effect, gave her back a dollar for every nickel she put up. That, in itself, suggests a willingness on the part of Americans to lend money to Italy. Unless the American attitude has altered, Italy might employ her former methods and

by sending us \$4,000,000 get her \$80,000,000 in return. So perhaps, after all, she may have enough money for her battleships. Experience has shown that it is difficult for this country to refuse Italy money when she needs it.

#### FUTURIST LITERATURE

*From the Christian Science Monitor*

**F**UTURIST literature may not appeal to everyone, but in Fascist Italy, at any rate, it has received official patronage and recognition, since the literary merits of its leader, Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, have been awarded by his nomination as member of the Italian Academy. Signor Marinetti's latest literary effort appeared as an introductory message in the official program of the Pageant of Costumes, held in Rome during the royal wedding week. It reads in part:

Italy, beautiful woman who hast issued from the warm blue bath of the Mediterranean, thou art clad in the clinging many-colored materials of the provinces, dyed by the African sun, who dips his rays in three pools of artistic fire: Etna, Vesuvius, Stromboli. Head-dress of Marconi's sparks, earrings of dawn cloudlets, silver ornaments of rivers, heavy brocades of wheat straw and poppies. . . Italy, thou floating galley of Europe, immense ship, thou wast built of cypress dripping with blue of the sky, rugged trunks of olive, laughing Palermo carts and gloomy Sardinian cactus. Thy hull ballasted with Sicilian pride has the gliding grace of a Sienese hill. Thy flag is woven of Alpine snow, Milanese meadows and Neapolitan coral. The whirring wheels of thy engines in the swift Lombard plain assure thee an Italian victory over time and space, thy slaves.

#### ITALY'S POSITION

*From the Cincinnati Enquirer*

**I**TALY has been regarded as something of a stumbling block in the way of President Hoover's reduction of armament program. But the very recent pronouncement made by the Italian Foreign Minister shows to the world that his Government is ready and willing to go all the way with President Hoover in his great program of constructive idealism in the matter of a reduction of naval world disarmament.

Minister Grandi unequivocally asserts that Premier Mussolini, provided that other countries are in agreement, is ready proportionately to reduce her naval armament and that the Italian delegates will so declare at the London Conference, now so near at hand.

The Italian Minister, recognizing the importance and difficulties of the disarm-

ament problem, yet regards its solution as not only possible, but probable, to be arrived at by the experts who will be in attendance at the London Conference. He disclaims any thought of pessimism and looks to the accomplishment of a rational success by the representatives of the five interested Powers.

It particularly is gratifying that Signor Grandi speaks in terms of such high praise of the American President and his works in the interest of all peoples, and that he admits similarity of view with the American Government in this respect. He is specific, emphatic and admiring in his tribute to President Hoover. No man speaks for Italy without the consent and approval of Benito Mussolini. So it may be accepted that Italy, at London, not only will not stand in the way of armament reduction, but will prove herself a valuable assistance in the reduction of naval armaments to the extent of any minimum agreed to and adopted by other countries.

#### SECRETARY STIMSON'S TRIBUTE TO FASCISM

*From the Newark Ledger*

**S**ECRETARY OF STATE STIMSON in a report which he has submitted to President Hoover, acquits the Fascisti League of North America of all the charges preferred against that organization by Marcus Duffield and others, who, with distorted vision, attempted to convict good, loyal citizens of this republic of treasonable plotting against the United States government under whose flag many thousands of them fought in the World War.

The Newark Ledger, basing its comments upon actual knowledge of the aims and purposes of Fascism gained in Italy by one of its editors, was the first to spring to the defense of the Italian race, which has contributed so wonderfully to the progress of the world in art, literature, music, science and industry, and so patriotically here, as adopted citizens, to the glory and grandeur of the United States.

Secretary Stimson in a few plain words not only refuted slanders circulated against our fellow-citizens of Italian birth but added his testimony, as the result of thorough investigation, that the followers of Fascism here were ever pledged to loyal allegiance to Old Glory.

The Fascist organization in this country has been disbanded, but not before it presented convincing evidence that its members, supporting the program formulated by Mussolini for the government and development of Italy—a program which is making that country one of the world's great, prosperous powers—are among the most loyal adopted citizens we have welcomed to this Land of the Free.

# The Italians in the United States

**T**HE clamorous publicity with which some Italian crimes have been magnified of late in the daily press may lead uninformed readers to believe that somehow and somewhere there must be something wrong with the Italians in the United States.

Without delving here into the causes that lie at the root of deplorable activities on the part of individuals of Italian blood one is safe in asserting that an overwhelming majority of such crimes is the outgrowth of the maladjustments to environmental conditions.

On the other hand for every Italian who may evince disregard for the law, there are thousands who can be regarded as worthy members of society.

With this issue *ATLANTICA* introduces to its readers a monthly section devoted to Italian activities in the United States. Facts speak so well for themselves, that one need not be a trained sociologist to notice the steady, even advance of Italians in all fields of endeavor.

The only qualification required in the interpretation of these facts is a knowledge of the conditions surrounding Italian immigration and settlement in the United States.

Readers are invited to send in items of real worth for possible use in these columns. Photographs will also be welcome.

## Public Life

Dr. Charles W. Caccamise, of Rochester, N. Y., was appointed Medical Examiner of the Rochester Bureau of Workmen's Compensation in the State Labor Department, effective March 15. He takes the place of Mr. Charles I. Maggio, who resumed his private practice after a farewell banquet tendered him by his associates.

Mr. Vincent Brogna, of Orient Heights, has been named by Mayor Curley of Boston as a member of the Overseers of the Public Welfare. The Board dispenses with more than \$1,000,000 annually. Mr. Brogna, a lawyer for more than 20 years, has served several terms in the House of Representatives and was formerly Assistant District Attorney for Suffolk County.

Mr. Charles J. Margiotti, of Punxsutawney, Pa. has been appointed Special Deputy Attorney to help District Attorney John S. Powers of Newcastle, Pa., in special prosecutions.

Mayor Kline, of Pittsburgh, Pa., has appointed three Italians, Messrs. Sunseri, Carapellucci, and Massarelli, for the "Better Traffic Committee" of that city.

It has been announced that Joseph A. Mercurio, of Syracuse, N. Y., has been appointed by the President of the State Tax Commission, Thomas A. Lynch, to the office of Examiner for motor combustible liquids, in the State Tax Department.

Mr. Matteo Milazzo, of Syracuse, N. Y., was recently appointed Assistant Corporation Counsel of that city.

Lieutenant Joseph Linarducci, who has charge of the Homicide Bureau in Hudson County, has marked his 13th year in the prosecutor's office. He was made a lieutenant in 1924 and placed in charge of all murder cases in 1925.

Mr. Pennisi Spina, an officer in the Italian navy during the War, has been appointed Consul General for the Republic of Bolivia in Connecticut.

Mr. Charles E. Leonardi, of Boston, has been appointed to the position of Assistant Corporation Counsel of the City of Boston by Mayor Curley. He fills the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Vittorio Orlandini. The office carries with it a yearly salary of \$3500.

The Board of Trustees of Flower Medical College has promoted Dr. Andrea Saccone to the post of Assistant Professor of Pathology. Dr. Saccone had been Instructor of Pathology in Flower, which has been recently been allocated to Class A among medical colleges, for four years.

Starting to work when he was 12, Mr. W. Charles Poletti has been store clerk, truckman, farmer, and salesman—and was graduated from Harvard with a *summa cum laude* in political economy. He was awarded the Eleonora Duse scholarship and studied Roman and international law in Italy. Now, after having taken a degree from the Harvard Law School, Mr. Poletti is connected with a New York law firm.

Assemblyman Joseph W. Marini, of Cliffside Park, N. J., has been appointed first assistant prosecutor in Bergen County. Mr. Marini has resigned as assemblyman in order to start on his new duties immediately.

Mr. Francis Marro, who for many years has been Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney for the County of New York, has been promoted by District Attorney Crain to the position of "full" Assistant District Attorney, with a salary of \$7,500 annually. Mr. Marro has been in law for 19 years, 13 of them in public life. He specializes in murder cases. He says: "Italians in this country are very progressive. They are employed in all branches of the National Government and today they can be seen as leaders in all walks of life. There's always room in this world for a good man."

The town of Campbell, Ohio, has re-elected, to the position of Mayor, Mr. Giuseppe E. Julius, born in Pacentro (Aquila), and to the post of Treasurer, Mr. Giovanni Rossi, born in Civitella

Alfedena, in the same province of Abruzzi.

Mr. Julius, who is 35 years old, became an orphan in his 15th year and had to abandon his studies at Duquesne University (though he subsequently continued them). Mr. Rossi came to the United States in 1902, and has been for eight years head of the City Trust and Savings Bank of Campbell.

It was through the efforts of Mr. Adriano Bonelli, a Philadelphia lawyer, that the Department of Labor at Washington issued recently an important decision relative to the interpretation of the law of March 2, 1907, known as the Empatriation Act.

The new consul for Baltimore, Mr. Antonio Logoluso, was formerly consul at Cleveland, and vice-consul at Boston.

Dr. John S. Papa has been appointed by the mayor of New Haven as one of the Medical Board for the State Institutions of Charity and Correction. Dr. Papa is a graduate of Tufts College and Tufts Medical School.

Mr. Michael Fiaschetti, formerly head of the Italian Squad of the New York Police Department, and now at the head of a detective agency which bears his name, has been promoted to the position of Captain in the United States Army. The promotion came directly from President Hoover. Mr. Fiaschetti's new book, "You Gotta Be Rough!" which relates some of his adventures in pursuing criminals, has caused much comment.

The Board of Selectmen of Watertown, Conn., has appointed Mr. Anthony Julian to the position of Legal Counsel for the city. Born in Introdacqua, province of Aquila, Italy, he came here as a boy, after some Italian schooling. He has received a B. A. from Boston College and a "Bachelor of Laws" from the Harvard Law School.

Governor Allen has appointed as a member of the Massachusetts Bay Colony Tercentenary Commission Mr.



John Cifrino, one of the most popular Italians in Boston. Mr. Cifrino is the founder of the Uphams Corner Market, one of the world's largest; president of the United Markets, Inc., vice-president of the Home for Italian Children, director of the Banca Commerciale Italiana Trust Co. of Boston, and director of the First National Bank of Medford.

Mr. Cesare Scavarda is Chief of Police of the city of Flint, Michigan. He was born at Bessemer, Mich., of Italian parents, served in the War, and has been a Police Captain at Lansing, in the same state.

The Italian-Americans of Stockton, Cal., have organized the "Italian-American Franchise of the United States of America." Mr. Peter L. Sala is the President.

Mr. Michelangelo Musmanno, of Pittsburgh, Pa., has been promoted from Lieutenant to Captain in the United States Army. The appointment was issued from the office of the President of the United States. All three of Mr. Musmanno's brothers, besides himself, served in the War.

At the request of Mayor Carrier, and with the approval of the Administrative Council of the city, Mr. Giuseppe A. Padula has been appointed a member of the Public Health Commission of Fitchburg, Mass.

A record crowd was present at the testimonial banquet tendered to Mayor Andrew A. Casassa, of Revere, Massachusetts.

Mayor Angelo M. Paonessa, of New Britain, Conn., has been praised by both the Democratic and Republican Councilmen of the city for his last two years as a Mayor. Mr. Paonessa will retire this month.

## Social and Political Institutions

In Detroit the Independent Political Club launched its career last month. President Sciumeca and Secretary Miceli received encouragement from many Detroitians prominent in public life.

The Monroe County Branch of the Columbian Republican League gave its annual dinner-dance last month in Rochester. Edward Corsi is President of the League.

Mr. Peter Roncone, of Rochester, N. Y., was recently re-elected as President of the Federation of Italian Societies in that city.

The 21st anniversary of the founding of the Societa Faetana of Bridgeport, Conn., was celebrated last month.

Dr. Giuseppe Castruccio, Italian Consul in Chicago, was the man selected by the Chicago Women's Club last February to speak before a select gathering on the 121st anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. He was warmly received.

A group of prominent Italians and Americans of Hudson County, N. J.,

have decided to establish a chapter of the Italian Historical Society in their county. It will be the purpose of the chapter to inaugurate a program of educational activities in Hudson County in accordance with the general program of the Society. It will take its place beside the existing chapters of the Society in Brooklyn, the Bronx, Newark, Buffalo, and Chicago. Dr. S. Caridi is the chairman of the Organization Committee. He says:

"The promoters of the Hudson County Chapter feel that the moment is particularly opportune for the launching of such a chapter. The unfriendliness in some American circles toward the Italian people which has found expression in recent untruthful magazine and newspaper articles, and in the propaganda of such agitators as Senator Heflin and others, has created a bad public atmosphere in America for Italo-Americans. At the same time, the recent scandals involving Italian bankers and judges, and the widespread publicity, has undermined the esteem of other Americans for Italo-American citizens. This situation is especially unjust since the great majority of Italians in this country are God-fearing, law-abiding, industrious American citizens whose careers are a pride and credit to the race which gave them birth.

"The Italian people should not meet these attacks and innuendos in a supine spirit. The logic of the moment demands that they forget their differences and establish a positive and aggressive organization in each Italo-American community for the honoring and rehabilitation of the Italian name in American public opinion. Such an organization already exists in the national field in the Italian Historical Society."

Count Ernesto Russo, of Milan, a member of the Lions Club in Italy, was the guest of honor at a dinner and dance given last month by the Lions Club of Wilmington, Del., at the Hotel Dupont. Count Russo, who has but recently come to this country, addressed the American gathering in their own language, and received a warm reception.

"La Stampa Unita" of Rochester is campaigning for a scholarship fund of \$20,000 to be raised by Rochester Italians for the purpose of endowing six scholarships a year for deserving students at Rochester of Italian extraction. The Italian Women's Civic Club of that city raised enough a few years ago to maintain a scholarship fund for one student a year.

The Italian Women's Club of Chicago held a lecture and banquet at the Palmer House at which Dr. Bruno Roselli, head of the Italian Department at Vassar College, spoke on "The United States of Europe."

A banquet in honor of Anthony F. Mayo, Deputy Sheriff of Kings County, New York, was held recently at the Michael Laura Club in Brooklyn.

Under the auspices of the Council on Adult Education for the Foreign Born, the Italian Civic League of Harlem has been formed. At the head of the organization is Mr. Edward Corsi.

The Brooklyn branch of the Italian Historical Society held a banquet and ball last month at the Hotel Bossert. Among the speakers there were Professor Juvenal Marchisio, Dr. G. Previtali, Hon. Anthony Palma, Dr. A. Lo Faro, and Rev. Testa.

The Cross of the Crown of Italy was recently conferred on six Italians of Chicago by Dr. Giuseppe Castruccio, Consul General, at a banquet held under the auspices of the Italian Chamber of Commerce. Those honored were Dr. Italo Volini, Edoardo Fiori, Vittorio Trevisan, Frank Lagorio, Luigi Giambastiani, and Luigi Valletto.

The Unico Club, which would "in time become the dominating force of Italianism in America" has been organized by a number of prominent Italo-Americans of Trenton, N. J. "The idea, in brief, would be to organize in a great national brotherhood all the Italian professional and business men in America so they might assume the direction of the destiny of the Italians in this country in arts, in the sciences and in finance." Most of the prominent Italian-Americans in this country have voiced their support of the movement.

Before the young Italian-Americans of the Bowdoin Club of Boston, Mr. Stephen D. Bacigalupo, Assistant Attorney General of Massachusetts, spoke last month on the benefits of organization.

Mr. Louis C. Locatelli, of West Medford, Mass., was last month unanimously elected Exalted Ruler of the Somerville Lodge of Elks. Mr. Locatelli has been an active member of the lodge for 20 years, and is also a member of the Medford Kiwanis Club.

The history of the art of healing was given in an interesting manner by Dr. Samuel Sica at a luncheon meeting last month of the Italian Business and Professional Men's Club of Trenton, N. J.

The Italian Auxiliary, Inc., directed by Mons. Formica, last year aided 30,103 immigrants, and lodged 4,233.

Dr. James V. Ricci delivered a speech before the International Medical Club of New York on March 15, on "The Anatomic Tradition and the Old Italian Universities."

The New York Physicians' Art Club held its fourth annual Art Exhibit at the Academy of Medicine during February and March. Dr. Charles Carlino was represented by two paintings in oils. It was the first time that an Italian doctor was represented at such an exhibit, and his works, "The Medical Student" and "Resting in the Studio," attracted considerable attention, especially in view of the fact that he is one of the youngest members of the club. He is now interning at Gouverneur Hospital.

Dr. A. Scaturro has been appointed chairman of the Medical Board of the Italian Hospital of New York City.

Mme. Franco Bruno Averardi, who, before her marriage to the Italian Professor, was Miss Clara Orlando, daughter of Italy's former Prime Min-

ister, has been warmly acclaimed among aristocratic female circles in Syracuse, N. Y.

The Italian National Rifle Society, at whose head is Count A. Facchetti Guiglia, has published its annual statement, indicating that its resources at the end of 1929 amounted to \$67,960.45.

Judge Giovanni Freschi spoke recently at a "Conference on Immigration Policy" held in the Manger Hotel in New York, on Italy's demographic and emigration policy.

## Fine Arts

The Italy America Society at Washington, D. C., heard a talk by Mr. Charles F. Fairman, curator of art at the capitol for 21 years. Speaking on the work of the Italian artists in the capitol, Mr. Fairman told something of Brumidi, Franzoni, Castigino, Tresico, Trentanovi and other great Italians represented either by murals or fine sculptured pieces.

It has been announced that Mr. Pietro Mascagni, the famous Italian composer of "Cavalleria Rusticana," has decided to compose a work for the "talkies."

Dr. Franco Bruno Averardi, Professor of German Literature at the University of Florence, gave a talk last month before the Philadelphia Art Alliance on "Famous Italian Women of the Renaissance." Dr. Averardi was formerly a statesman, having represented Italy at the League of Nations and at the Washington Disarmament Conference.

In Steubenville, Ohio, Professor Manchinelli's orchestra is giving a series of concerts, some of them over the radio. The orchestra is made up of more than 60 pieces, and all the players are under 20 years of age.

Dr. P. Mario Marafioti, whose article appears elsewhere in this issue of *Atlantica*, and who is one of the most prominent voice instructors in this country, is at present in Hollywood, applying his system of voice training to the new art of the "talkie."

"Renaissance Art," one of the paintings by Luigi Lucioni shown at the Ferargil Galleries of New York, has been acquired by the noted collector Richard R. Braxey.

The "Leonardo da Vinci Art School," at the head of which is the famous sculptor Attilio Piccirilli, gave an exhibition of the work of its students in New York last month.

In the presentation of "Gianduiotta in Collegio," by the St. Ann's Junior Dramatic Club, which is part of Providence's Little Theatre group, there were outstanding: Paul Manganelli, Helen Iacchei, Henry Capuano, and Daniel Passarelli.

The City Art Museum of Pittsburgh, Pa., is holding an exposition of the works of foreign painters; 253 canvasses by 64 painters. Some of the Italians represented are: Raffaele de Grada, Cipriano Oppon, Alessandro Pomi, Fe-

lice Carena, Giorgio Morandi, and Baccio Bacci. Mr. Carena won a first prize.

Madame Emilia Ippolito, music teacher of Boston, has again won a prize for assembling, coaching, directing and bringing to the annual International Music and Song Festival, a prize winning chorus. Her proteges competed against eight nations, and were awarded first prize in the A division.

A new Italian theatre, the "Palace," under the direction of Mr. Giuseppe Vicedomini, has been opened in Chicago. Its inauguration was attended by many Italian and city notables.

Miss Aurora Ragaini, Italian pianist, made her first public appearance in New York at the Town Hall last month.



"THE LAST APPEAL"

by Pietro Montana, exhibited at the Exposition of the Architectural League of New York

The Greenwich House Workshops, an art school founded by Vittoria Salvatore in New York City, is for Italian youngsters of from 7 to 20 years of age.

An Italian-American musical comedy actress has been enthusiastically acclaimed in Bridgeport, Conn. She is Miss Ann Corio, of New Haven.

The New American Theatre, under the direction of Messrs. George Salvatore and Joseph La Gattuta, presented a play at the Macdougall St. Playhouse in New York last month. The name of the production was "Thomas Paine." Their next production will be in September.

Dr. Carlotta N. Golini was elected president of the newly formed Italian Musical Society of Providence, R. I.

Mr. Giorgio Polacco, General Musical Director of the Chicago Civic Opera Company, is said to know more than 200 operas by heart. Born in Venice, where he learned to play the piano and violin, he has had a long and distinguished career. He is also a member of the Chicago Board of Trade.

The Boston Society of Architecture prize has been conferred on Mr. Alfredo J. Panepinto, of Philadelphia, a student in the Graduate School of Architecture at Harvard University. From among 110 contestants, he was chosen unanimously by the jury, consisting of members of the faculties of M. I. T.

and the University, and the Boston Society. Mr. Panepinto is a graduate in civil engineering of Villanova College, and was the only Pennsylvanian to win a tuition scholarship to the Graduate School of Architecture at Harvard.

Mr. Cesare Maccari, an Italian artist, is holding an exposition of 24 of his paintings on American subjects, in Jersey City, N. J.

Mr. Bernardo De Pace, the "Kreisler of the Mandolin" is now touring the United States in vaudeville.

The contract for the modelling of the decorative sculptures for the new Sterling Memorial Library of Yale University has been awarded to Mr. Cralles Barattelli, a graduate of the School of Art of the same institution.

The painting "Autumn Mantle" exhibited in the Marshall Field galleries of Chicago, the work of Mr. Vincent Cariani of Indianapolis, has been awarded a prize of \$200.

An exhibition of the works of Mr. Rinardo Cuneo, Italian-American painter of San Francisco, was opened last month at the Beaux Arts Galleries of that city.

A movement is afoot to establish a Baltimore Italian Opera Company. It is being backed by the tenor Romeo Bianconi of that city.

The Fine Arts Orchestra and Quartet gave a concert in New York last month before an audience of 9000 in the 106th Regiment Armory. The Orchestra is composed entirely of Italian musicians and is directed by Maestro Francis P. Loubet.

The San Carlo Grand Opera Company of New York, under the directorship of Mr. Fortunato Gallo, will produce shortly a series of talking films, the first of which is "I Paolucci," to open on Broadway soon. In the cast are the tenor Bertini, Miss Alba Novella and the baritone Valle.

Miss Livia Maracci, who won accolades as "Miss Italy" last year, is now starring in New York in the musical success, the "International Review." Mr. Giuseppe Randalli, lyric tenor, is also in the cast.

Under the direction of Dr. Dominick Vittorini, the Circolo Italiano of the University of Pennsylvania presented Dario Niccodemi's celebrated production, "La Maestrina," a comedy in three acts, at Moose Hall, Philadelphia, a short time ago.

"The Town Crier," a new humorous weekly, has chosen Mr. Emidio Angelo, a noted Philadelphia artist, as its art editor.

Miss Pamela Bianco, of New York, an illustrator, was the recipient of one of the fellowship grants recently made by the John S. Guddenheim Memorial Foundation. The award, \$2,500, is to be used to carry on creative work abroad.

The Duse Art Theatre group of Philadelphia added another success to its record when it recently presented Luigi Pirandello's dramatic production, "Henry IV" at the Plays and Players Club of that city.

under the direction of Mr. Antonio Ferrara, has begun a summer season of operatic performances for Italians at the Bronx Opera House, New York City.

The busts of five prominent Americans were recently modelled at Washington, D. C. by the sculptor Edgardo Simone, who has been widely acclaimed on the merit of his work. His fame is already established in Rome, where he has received three decorations for his work. In this country, many museums, among them the United States National Museum at Washington, have purchased his works.

The Italian film colony at Hollywood is making rapid progress. Count Catelli is becoming popular there, and the Italian actress, Countess Rina De Liguoro, has been signed up for the forthcoming M-G-M talking film, "Mme. Satan."

Mr. Alfred Verrico has resigned as general director of the Italtone Film Productions in Hollywood and has joined the new organization, "Excelsior Film Productions," a member of which is Mr. Cesare M. Origo, member of the Italian nobility and internationally known.

One of the major events of the United States musical season was the arrival in this country last month of the internationally famous Italian composer Ildebrando Pizzetti. The premiere of his "Rondo Veneziano" was played by Arturo Toscanini, conductor of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. Mr. Pizzetti also played for the first time a new sonata before the Italy America Society at Casa Italiana. Born in Parma, Italy, Ildebrando Pizzetti is director of the Milan Conservatory, and a friend of d'Annunzio, with whom he has collaborated on three operas. His most famous opera, "Fra Gherardo," was produced by the Metropolitan Opera House last year and will undoubtedly be revived. Mr. Pizzetti has no fears for the death of opera, and is sure it will survive him. Some of his opinions as a musical critic are embodied in three books he has written on the subject.

Mr. Gaetano Cecere, of New York, was awarded the James Miller Prize for the best composition at the Exhibition of Sculpture held at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. His entry consisted of an ornamental group of a Boy and a Faun.

## Business, Professions, Finance

Mr. Henry Girola of the Italian National Building and Loan Association has announced that Mr. Charles F. Malerbi of San Francisco has been appointed cashier in the San Francisco branch of the Association.

Mr. Luigi Criscuolo, of Merrill, Lynch & Co., investment brokers of New York City, gave an address before the Philadelphia Association of Security Salesmen at the Drake Hotel in Philadelphia on Feb. 14. The subject

of his speech was "Chain Store Securities Past and Future."

One of the two airplanes acquired by Police Commissioner Whalen for his new aerial police force was a Savoia-Marchetti, selected at the Port Washington factory of the company as best suited to the needs of this new arm of the law.

The Italian Pharmaceutical Association of the State of New York, composed of over 2,000 members, held its annual banquet and ball at the Biltmore Hotel in New York City early in March.

The Association of Restaurateurs of the Province of Quebec is maintaining a steady campaign to obtain from the Provincial Governor the permission to serve wines and beers with their menus on Sundays and holidays, in addition to weekdays. The Association was founded by Mr. Michele Boerio. He and Mr. Ernesto Aloisi have been interviewing the President of the Liquor Commission of the Province of Quebec on this question.

From the Pacific Coast comes the news that Mr. Luigi Valperga, of Los Angeles, has been chosen President of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in that city. He is also Director of the Italian Department at the International Branch in Los Angeles of the Bank of Italy.

After ten years of unremitting banking activity, Mr. Virgil Giannini, the younger son of the famous A. P. Giannini, has been appointed Vice-President of the Bankitaly Co. of America, one of the major subsidiaries of the Transamerica Corporation.

His older brother, Mr. L. M. Giannini, had already assumed the position of President of the Transamerica Corporation. Mr. Elisha Walker, the new chairman of the Board of Directors of the corporation, has affirmed his intention of adhering to the plans of his predecessor, Mr. A. P. Giannini, the



The  
composer  
Ildebrando  
Pizzetti

founder of the colossal financial institution, which is the largest holding company in the world, a billion-dollar corporation.

The Board of Directors of the Calitalo Investment Corporation, which controls six state and national banks and two insurance companies, for the purpose of attending especially to the needs of agriculture, has elected to its membership Mr. Firmo Garetti, of Forvestville, California. Mr. Garetti is one of the pioneers in the Sonoma County section of the State, where he has been living for over 40 years. He can remember having bought the land he now owns for \$10 an acre.

Mr. Albert Gareis has been appointed head of the Federal Hill (R. I.) branch of the Industrial Trust Company. Mr. Gareis has been in America since 1905, coming here from Trieste. His great-grandmother was sister of Napoleon and Queen of Naples, while his great-grandfather, on his mother's side, was an officer in the Papal Guard.

The Italians of St. Louis are rightfully proud of the Italian Fraternal Building and Investment Co., of that city, whose property has been valued at \$175,000. The Board of Directors recently elected the following officers: A. Canzoneri, President; Dr. H. S. Ghio, Vice-President; Jos. Genoni, 2nd Vice-President; Jos. Devoti, Treasurer; Victor F. Zerega, Secretary; and George Pieri, Manager. According to their annual report, nearly \$4,000 was earned by the Italian Fraternal Building in 1929.

The young Italian-American, Peter Marengo, Jr., of Katten and Marengo, famous local merchants, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Stockton (Cal.) Merchants Association.

The E & F Construction Co., an Italian firm of Bridgeport, Conn., has received a commission to erect the new

State Sanatorium at Shelton. The State Tuberculosis Commission placed great importance and urgency on this work, which is to be completed within four months at a cost of more than \$100,000. The head partners of the firm are Messrs. Epifanio & Frassinelli.

The Italian Investment Corporation, of Sacramento, Cal., has announced the acquisition of the Contra Costa Building and Loan Association. Mr. Henry Girola is the president of the Italian Investment Corporation.

The net profits for the year 1929 of the Italo Petroleum Corporation, it was recently disclosed, amounted to \$660,793. Its offices are in San Francisco.

Mr. Vincent E. Sorrentino, of Providence, R. I., has been selected as one of the three permanent directors of the Providence Community Fund.

A huge 81-passenger seaplane manufactured by the American Aeronautical Corporation under license of the Savoia-Marchetti Company of Italy, was recently christened by Enea Bossi, President of the corporation, at Port Washington, L. I. It is the first of its type ever constructed in America. Five other similar ships, to be known as the S-55, will be constructed by the corporation.

Dr. Ferdinand Bartecchi, specialist in infants' diseases, has been appointed Medical Inspector for the schools of Scranton, Pa.

## Education

Dr. Mario Soldati has begun his course at Casa Italiana on the History of Italian Art from 1750 to 1850. Continuing every Friday at 4 P.M., it deals with the following artists—Canaletto, Bellotto, Guardi, Longhi, Tiepolo, Piranesi, Appiani, Canova, Hayez, and D'Azeglio.

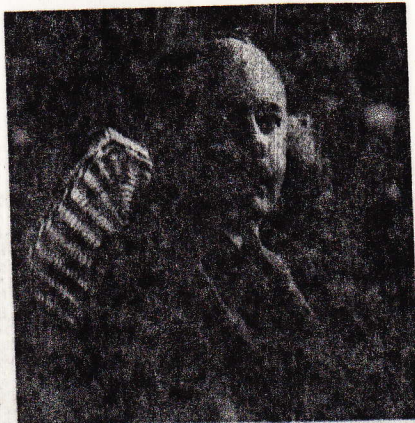
The honor of delivering the Lowell Lectures this year was conferred on an Italian scholar, Professor George La Piana, of Harvard University, whose course of six lectures was given to commemorate the 15th Centennial of St. Augustine's death, August 28, A.D. 430.

Dr. Ornello Simone, Vice Consul at Newark, N. J., lectured before the Italian Club of New Jersey College in New Brunswick on the "Origin and Development of the Italian language." He advocated unity in the language of Italy as essential to the real unity of Italy.

There are more children of Italian nationality in the lower public schools of New Haven, Conn., than those of any other race, even American. In the city's 63 public schools, 52 different nationalities are represented, the principal ones being: Italian 12,007; American, 10,672; Russian 3,474; Polish, 1,375. The Dante School alone has about 1,200 Italian pupils.

Miss Norma Sangiuliano of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., has been appointed assist-

ant to Professor Saroyer Falk, instructor of dramaturgy at the University of Syracuse, N. Y. As a student in the Institute of Dramatic and Eloquent Art, Miss Sangiuliano was the stage director for Bayard Veiller's "The 13th Chair." She is the niece of Mr. Amadeo Obici, president of the Planters' Nut and Chocolate Co., and so-called "Peanut King."



AMEDEO OBICI, THE "PEANUT KING"

The Hon. Thomas Todarelli, Assistant United States District Attorney, spoke at Casa Italiana recently on "Demonstration on Drugs and Instruments Used by Narcotic Addicts."

The Italian Book Show held in Los Angeles was a material as well as a moral success. More than 20,000 copies of Italian books have been sold for about \$27,000.

Mr. Antonio Giarusso was the winner of the first prize in an oratorical contest held among the sophomores of Syracuse University. The contest was conducted under the auspices of the Department of Fine Arts. Mr. Giarusso is also an excellent violinist, having frequently played over Station WSYR.

Professor Noreda A. Rotunno, of the Agricultural College of Syracuse University, in view of the recent radical changes in the weather, has made a study of their effects on trees in the County of Onondaga.

Mr. Louis M. Polichino, of Dallas, Texas, is perhaps the first Italian to have his name on the "Honor Roll" of the University of Texas. Less than a tenth of the candidates for this privilege are selected.

The Permanent Italian Book Exhibition, which represents in this country all the Italian publishers, with offices at 15 W. 50th Street, New York City, announces the establishment of a bureau of information for anything pertaining to Italian books and culture. The latest Italian publications to reach the book exhibition are "Sant Agostino" by Giovanni Papin, and "Lazzaro," a play by Luigi Pirandello.

Mr. Emilio Pozzo, of San Francisco, has donated \$200 worth of Italian books to the University of Southern California. The books were selected by the Italian Women's Club, and were warmly welcomed by Professor Her-

bert D. Augustin, head of the Italian language department.

A first year student at Harvard College, Andrew J. Torrielli, has won a tuition scholarship amounting to \$475.

Dr. Elia Gianturco, guest professor at the University of California is conducting a course in modern Italian culture.

Mr. Peter A. Bertocci, of Somerville, Mass., was one of the three alumni of Boston College selected for the Buck Foundation scholarship in liberal arts.

The Italian Senator Luigi Luiggi has arrived in New York to represent Italian engineers at the forthcoming gathering of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Another recent arrival in this country is Professor Corrado Gini, President of the Italian Institute of Statistics. Professor Gini has been requested to hold a series of lectures on sociologic and demographic questions at Toronto, Canada, and a special course in Statistics at the University of Minneapolis. Last year Professor Gini was at Chicago, where he represented Italy at the International Demographic Congress, explaining Italy's demographic campaign.

The Italian Intercollegiate Association held a meeting in March at which Mr. Mangiafico, Professor of Italian at the Brooklyn Branch of Columbia University, lectured on the influence of Spain in Sicily.

Through the efforts of Professor Leonardo Covello, Chairman of the Italian Department of De Witt Clinton High School of New York City, the Teachers' Club of New York held an "Italian night" at the Hotel Brevoort for teachers of Italian throughout the city. Among those who spoke were Professor Prezzolini.

After the successful experiment of last year, the Summer School of Italian Studies, unique of its kind in America, will be open again at Smith College, Northampton, from June 30th to August 8th. All prospective students are required to sign a pledge that they will use only Italian as a means of communication while in the school. Smith College, which boasts of the largest Italian Department in America (almost 400 students), has a library of several thousand volumes in Italian.

Professor Giuseppe Prezzolini, famous Italian author, critic and journalist, is conducting two courses at Columbia University this spring, on Italian literature and life.

## Sports

Some of the names that have been used by the newspapers to call Primo Carnera, the giant Italian heavyweight who is becoming more and more formidable, are: The Killer, the Caveman, the Abysmal Brute, the Neanderthal Type, Tarzan of the Apes, the Ambling Alp, the Man-Mountain, the Man with

about 800 prominent followers of the aristocratic sport were gathered. The Italian Ambassador, Giacomo de Martino, Consul Gen. Grazi, and other authorities were present. The champion pitted himself against some skilled opponents, among them the Italian-American Joseph Levis of Boston.

The initial event of the outdoor bicycle racing season of the Unione Sportiva Italiana, a 15-mile scratch race, was won by Tony Saetta of Brooklyn, who outrode 58 other cyclists.

### Miscellaneous

Professor Giuseppe Caronia, eminent Italian scientist, brought here from Rome as the A. P. Giannini research professor at the University of California, has been announced as the discoverer of a germ which is said to cause measles, as well as a serum for the prevention and cure of the disease.

Though few people are cognizant of the fact, we have a Mussolini in this country. Dominick Mussolini, cousin

and boyhood playmate of Italy's tator, works in the Carnegie Steel M at \$4.50 a day. He is an American citizen now and has been in this country 24 years. Dominick has sought honor because of his kinship. "H what your cousin in Italy can do," has pointed out. His interests a work, church, and home, and he is student of the Bible. He thinks Mussolini will come to America some day. If he comes to Pittsburgh, Dominick may take a day off to go and see him.

An Italian, a life-guard at Coney Island, has rescued more people from drowning than any other person. Mr. Raffaele Buonocore, from Castellamare di Stabia (Napoli) has saved more than 300 lives during his 22 years as a life guard, and has received nine medals for acts of heroism.

"L'Italia Limited" of Montreal has published the first edition of its "Guide to the Italians in Canada," a volume of 112 pages.

Mr. Nazareno Cardino has won the world's macaroni-eating championship of the world in Chicago. In 180 minutes, Cadarino ate 1,137 feet of spaghetti.

The new building of the Garibaldina of Los Angeles was inaugurated on March 30th. The Building Committee was composed of Messrs. Drino, Campanella, Baudino, Crosetti, Castorina, Pittaluga, Lotito, Santilli, and Savino.

Mr. Anthony M. Turano has written an article for the April issue of the American Mercury on "Insanity and the Law." Mr. Turano was born at Cosenza, Italy, in 1894, and brought to America in 1905. He was admitted to the Nevada bar in 1915 and is now practicing in Reno.

The memory of Captain Giuseppe Lametti, volunteer in the United States Army in the War of 1812, was honored in New York recently. In the presence of many notables of the city, a bronze plaque was placed at his resting place in the cemetery of St. Patrick's Cathedral, where his remains have been since 1818.

This year for the first time, Italy will have participants in the annual automobile races held at Indianapolis. Her two cars, designed and constructed by the ace Alfieri Maserati, will be piloted by B. Borzacchini and Ernesto Maserati, brother of Alfieri. It will be recalled that recently a Maserati car, piloted by Borzacchini, broke the world's 10-kilometer record at Cremona with a speed of 246 kilometers per hour.

It is no news by this time that the winners of the 48th international six-day bicycle race recently held in Madison Square Garden were Gaetano Belloni and Gerard Debaets.

Tony Lazzeri, the popular New York second-baseman, was the leading hitter of the Yankees last year with a batting average of .354 in 147 games, to finish in a tie with Jimmy Foxx of the Athletics.

In one of his characteristic finishes, Gene Sarazen, by winning the Agua Caliente Golf Tournament recently, also won the sum of \$10,000, the largest prize ever offered in tournament play.

Patsy Pesculli, of New York, winner in the 135-pound class in the Golden Glove boxing tournament held in New York, recently knocked out a Chicago opponent in the third round to assume the intercity amateur championship.

Reports from the Cincinnati Reds baseball training camp state that Tony Cuccinello, Italian recruit second baseman, is hitting the ball with vigor. Cuccinello was with the Reds for a short period last season.

The world's fencing champion, Signor Nedo Nadi, before leaving for Italy last month, appeared for the last time



"St. Francis preaching to the birds" by Filippo Sgarlata, who arrived in New York recently to prepare an exhibition of his sculptures