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FOR AMERICAN ITALIANS

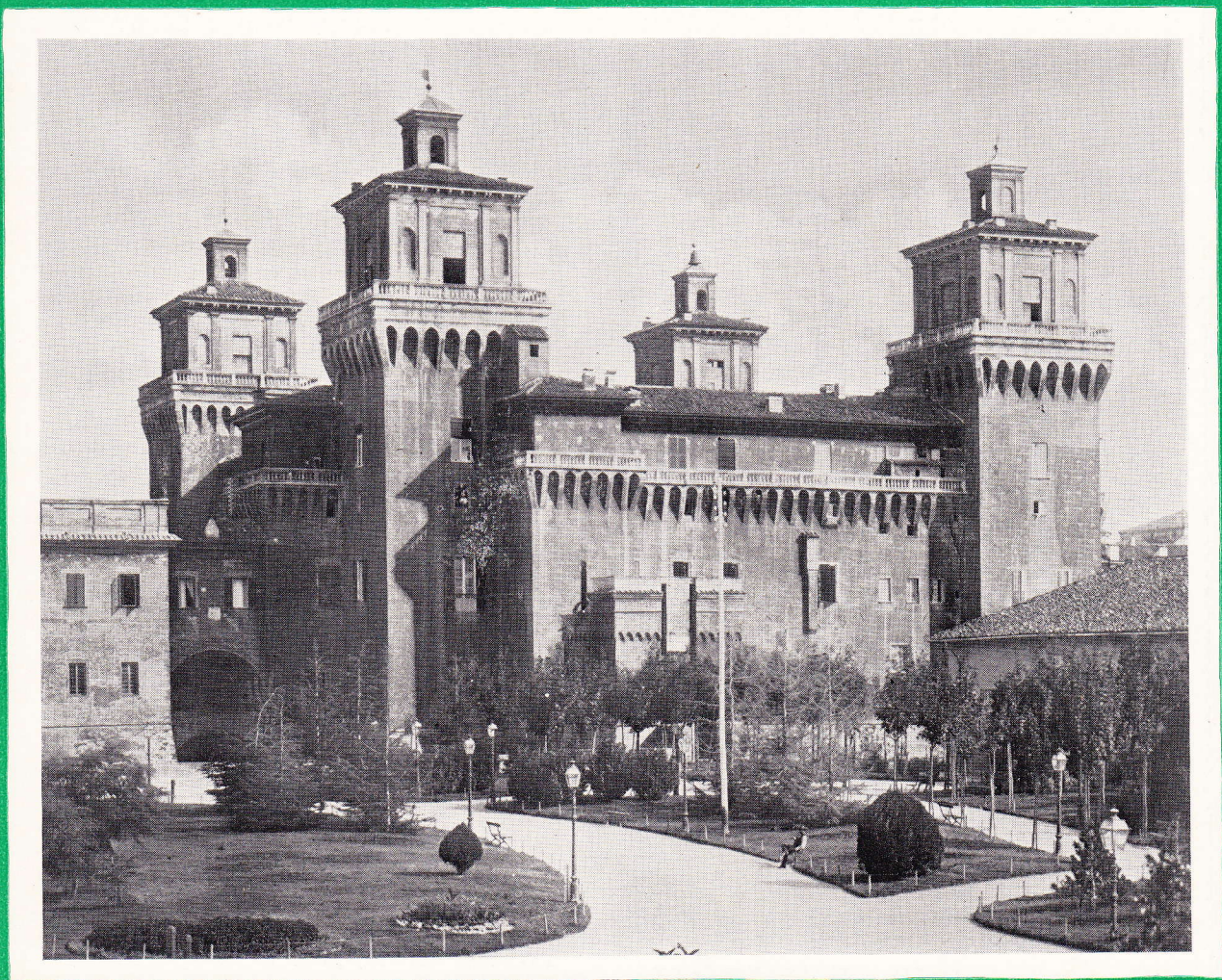
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THE WORLD DEPRESSION — By Vittorio Emanuele Orlando
Ellis Island Today — From Student to Dean — Lombroso and Freud

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"I have been a reader of Atlantica for some time and I have been pleasantly surprised at the articles therein contained, particularly those referring to the Italian pioneers who have done so much to develop this great country. The common impression is that the Italian race has but recently come to the United States as immigrants. Atlantica makes me feel proud of being of Italian birth because of the great work done by the early settlers in different parts of this country.

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"I take this opportunity to write you my endorsement of approval of Atlantica, the purpose of which is to put before the American people, and especially the rising generation of young Italians, the advancement of the Italian people in America, and especially of the things they are doing to promote the welfare of this country. This is to counteract the daily newspaper articles of the crimes that are being committed by the few, and which are being featured in these newspapers. I most heartily recommend to my Italian friends in Waterbury that they promote this good cause subscribing for and supporting Atlantica in its endeavor to carry out this idea."

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ATLANTICA'S OBSERVATORY

IN THE WAY OF RECOVERY

IT is no news that Italy regards reparations and war debts as obstacles in the way of world economic recovery, but this doctrine was backed officially last month when the Grand Council of Fascism came out unequivocally in favor of renunciation of reparations and cancellation of war debts. After a detailed discussion of the entire international situation, the council, which is the government's official advisory body, issued a statement to the press listing five recommendations, with reparations and debts leading the list.

The principal recommendations were as follows:

1. Settlement of the question of reparations and war debts.
2. Removal of the shackles on international trade.
3. Solution of the economic difficulties of the Danubian and Balkan countries.
4. Revision of the peace treaties.
5. An end to too frequent international conferences.

The first three points are rather obvious, and have been discussed at some length for a long time. Revision of the peace treaties would tend to remove that fear and distrust of each other that now animates European international relations for the most part. And the last recommendation, never suggested before, is based on the fact that all too frequently these international conferences, in spite of their cost and elaborate preparation, result in nothing, and instill false hopes in the people.

Two other highly important matters, not included among the Council's recommendations, were supplied by Mussolini himself in an interview shortly thereafter with the former managing editor of the "New York Times", F. T. Birchall: disarmament and the

control and proper distribution of gold.

All in all, it comes back to what has so often been said and reiterated concerning the world depression, that its causes are not so much purely economic as they are political and moral. Economic moves have been made a-plenty, but it is a few political adjustments that will set the world straight on the road to recovery.



The Man Who Dared to Put Up His Umbrella, Too.

—From "Punch"

TARIFF BARGAINING

IT is high time for the United States to consider its tariff walls, which, directly and indirectly, have led to the throttling of international trade, and thereby to the unemployment of millions. While it is too much to hope that these walls will be lowered or abolished for some time, America might, with profit, study the example of England.

Recently this stronghold of free trade imposed a 10% tariff on many of its imports. Now it is considered likely that this tariff will be raised in many cases, but

this will be done only in an attempt to "bargain" her way into a favorable position in international trade. She will make special concessions in tariff rates to countries which, in return, will do the same with her. Though this is by no means a new idea, the entry of England into the ranks of its proponents will tend to give it added emphasis, and may well prove the way out of the maze of towering tariff walls.

What will the United States do about it? Will she stand calmly by and see her markets further reduced? It seems obvious that if she does not enter into the spirit of the matter, it will be the other countries that stand to gain. On the other hand, if America finally sees the light, it will mean a great stride forward in the razing of those tariff barriers against which economists have inveighed for decades.

\$29,000,000,000

THE isolationist policy of the United States has been well publicized in recent years. No entangling alliances for us! We must keep out of that messy situation over in Europe, and that equally messy situation over in China.

Yet how can this country possibly keep its hands and its thoughts off the other countries when, at the beginning of the year 1932, according to a recent copyrighted NANA story, the United States had at stake in foreign lands the staggering sum of \$29,000,000,000 (including \$11,000,000,000 in war debts)? Obviously, it is idle to expect a country which stands to lose 29 billions not to take an interest in its investments. Why, then, can't its political interest keep pace with its economic ties, as is only logical?

All the more surprising is America's transformation since the

war into the world's creditor when one recalls that before the war she was a debtor nation to the extent of about 5 billion dollars. She has done, in other words, in a decade and a half, what it took Great Britain almost a century to do. But she did it without much regard for economic fundamentals, and now some of her investments are in default—about \$1,500,000,000 of them.

Echoing the spirit now prevalent in American financial circles, the article concludes on a warning note: "Unless something is done speedily about adjusting the present economic difficulties, defaults are bound to increase in number. If Germany should be obliged to resort to the method adopted by many Latin-American nations and so far by one European country, the United States would find herself holding default foreign bonds to the amount of close to \$4,500,000,000, on which the annual loss would amount to about \$300,000,000, or materially more than is scheduled to be paid to the United States on account of political debts due her. By insisting on the latter, America may receive neither."

Aesop said the same thing thousands of years ago, but in different terms and words. If we remember correctly, Aesop recounted the fable of the dog, with a luscious bone between his teeth, standing on a log over a stream. Looking down, he saw in the water another dog, strangely like himself, with another bone. He simply had to have the second bone, too, so he jumped. Result: a sadder but wiser dog.

Let us hope the United States will be wiser without being sadder.

MARINETTI DEFINES ITALY

AN indication of the spirit now prevailing in Italy under the impetus of the Fascist regime can be gathered from an article by Filippo Marinetti, Italian Futurist and Fascist, published not long ago in "Der Querschnitt" of Berlin, in which he says, among other things:

"The word Italy must mean more than the word genius. It must mean more than the word

intelligence. It must mean more than culture or statistics. The word Italy must weight heavier than the word truth."



Spring Song—1932

—From the N. Y. Herald-Tribune

ANOTHER AWARD FOR MARCONI

GUGLIELMO MARCONI received in Rome not long ago the John Scott award, made by the city of Philadelphia last year, for his invention of the wireless telegraph.

John W. Garrett, United States Ambassador to Italy, presented the 6-inch engraved bronze medal to the inventor at the American Embassy in the presence of many notables, including members of the Royal Italian Academy, of which Senator Marconi is president. A check for \$1000 accompanied the award.

TALKS WITH MUSSOLINI

THE name of Emil Ludwig in these times is almost synonymous with popularized biography, and with reason. Herr Ludwig's studies of Bismarck, Napoleon, Rembrandt and many others have achieved considerable fame as well as popular acclaim. However, it is quite safe to say that no one of his previous books aroused such interest before publication as the one he has an-

nounced he will write shortly, to be called "Talks with Mussolini."

Though Ludwig is not an ardent supporter of Fascism, he certainly does admire his subject, and he will try to make his book, not a biography in the ordinary sense of the word, but the most genuine expression possible of "the psychology of a man of action." The book, of course, will be translated into many languages, and we predict, and quite safely, that it will immediately jump into the best-seller class upon publication in this country.

—AND NOT GALILEO?

SIR James Jeans, British astrophysicist, is one of the most eminent of modern scientists, and his advocacy of the theory of an expanding or exploding universe has caused wide comment in recent years. However, when he stated in a recent radio broadcast that Copernicus, Newton, Darwin and Einstein, and the discoveries of electricity and of the expanding universe were the six outstanding landmarks of science during the last 6000 years, there were many who thought he had committed a grave sin of omission.

It was Dr. Robert A. Millikan, Nobel Prize winner, and one of the world's great scientists himself, who last year in an address declared that science's most essential contribution to intellectual civilization has been the application of the scientific method, that method of approach first employed by Galileo Galilei 300 years ago, and which Professor Whitehead, famous English philosopher, has called "the most intimate change in outlook which the human race had yet encountered."

"It is not too much to say," said Dr. Millikan at that time, "that Galileo started modern physical science on the course which has extended unbroken through our own day . . . It is easy to trace the pedigree of practically every modern industrial or scientific device back to the new knowledge which has come from the application of Galileo's method, and, indeed, from his own experimental researches."

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ATLANTICA

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The Cover This Month

THIS is the famous Castello Estense of Ferrara, an imposing edifice, with its four great corner towers, and still surrounded by a wide medieval moat with bridges.

It was originally constructed in 1385 by the architect Bartolino Ploti of Novara, but its features were completely changed in 1554 by the addition of the top story, and again in 1570, when its towers were completed.

The castle, besides having been the residence of the historic d'Este family, which held sway over Ferrara until 1598, is also celebrated for having had imprisoned within its walls Parisina, wife of Niccolo' III, and her lover Ugo, natural son of Niccolo', both of whom were first confined and later killed in one of the towers in 1481.

At the time of its splendor the interior of the castle was decorated by some of the best-known masters of the Ferrarese school. Little by little, however, their works were destroyed, and today the only truly important art works remaining are on the ceilings of the antechamber and in the "Salone dell'Aurora", painted by Dosso Dossi and his pupils.

La Nostra Copertina

RAPPRESENTA il Castello Estense, a Ferrara, imponente edificio, con le sue quattro torri, circondato da un'ampio fossato.

Esso fu originariamente costruito nel 1385 dall'architetto Bartolino Ploti, di Novara, ma il suo aspetto fu completamente modificato nel 1570 con l'aggiunta del piano superiore. Le grandi torri furon completate solo nel 1570.

Il castello e' celebre oltre che per essere stato residenza della storica famiglia d'Este che ebbe il dominio di Ferrara fino al 1598, anche per la prigionia che in esso patirono Parisina, moglie di Niccolo' III ed il suo amante Ugo, figlio naturale di Niccolo' che furon confinati e poi uccisi in una delle torri (1481).

Nei tempi del suo splendore l'interno del castello fu decorato dai migliori maestri della scuola Ferrarese; le loro opere andarono pero' in gran parte distrutte ed oggi non restan di veramente importanti che i soffitti dell'antechambera ed il "Salone dell'Aurora" dipinto da Dosso Dossi e dai suoi scolari.

TOPICS OF THE MONTH

By Rosario Ingarciola

PROFESSOR PITKIN: "AUTHORITY" ON GARIBALDI

THE surest way in these benighted States to attract public notice is to say or do sensational or paradoxical things. Oddly enough, none seems to know this better than a certain type of College Professor quite prominent in our day. Indeed, there are some Professors who are past masters in this art of bamboozling their gullible public; and the pity of it is—that they get away with it. Take, for example, Prof. Walter B. Pitkin of Columbia University.

A few years ago he published a book which enjoyed a somewhat ephemeral notoriety mainly because of an infamous attack upon the memory of President Wilson. But the book sold. Now he has written another book entitled "A Short Introduction to the History of Human Stupidity". The very title betrays the sensational character of the work. No doubt the book will become a good seller.

To begin with, the learned Professor finds that "stupidity appears almost universal"—which is rather astounding, for the statement would almost include the Professor himself. Then he adds that even "geniuses display it"—and now there is no doubt that he is certainly included in the stupid category, for Prof. Pitkin is unquestionably a genius.

Speaking of Garibaldi, the redoubtable Pitkin says that he was a gangster, "a simple fighter without a single brain cell usable for anything but brawls and slaughter"—a stupid fellow who sought glory in battling for liberty, "although the old fool never knew what that was". Of Italy he makes the illuminating observation that today she is "gripped by the same gangster-glory and its self-glorifying gangsters" and further that she is, "relatively measured, lower than ever before in her history".

Walt Whitman was an "extraordinary humbug", while the boy who aspires to the White House is a fool: "boys competent to serve as President of the United States are

either too clever to be trapped into such a fatal misadventure or else too modest to take such a career seriously".

Now, all this poppycock appears smart and doubtless helps to sell the book. But is it worthy of a man to whom an institution like Columbia University has entrusted the education of its students? Why is this possible in these United States? In Europe a man who writes such bunkum would be laughed out of College and perhaps placed under observation to determine if he possesses "a single brain cell usable for anything" except for anile imbecilities.

As for Garibaldi and Italy, we shall ignore his silly slurs. We shall only answer the clever pedagogue with a well-known Italian proverb, although we fear that for this great luminary of Columbia University a proverb is nothing more than the accumulated stupidity of the ages:

Ragli d'asino non vanno al cielo.

PICKING OUR JUDGES

THE Bar Association of the City of New York approved a resolution recently calling for the appointment of Judges of the Court of Appeals and of Justices of the Supreme Court by the Governor, with the consent and advice of the

Senate, instead of the present method of election.

That the suggestion is sound and deserves general commendation should be apparent to every intelligent person who has followed recent disclosures and developments involving our Judiciary. Under our present system the voters have no control in the selection of judges. Their only recourse, of doubtful efficacy, is to vote for candidates selected for them by the political bosses.

It is interesting to recall that in this State from 1812 to 1846 judges were appointed by the Governor. This must have been due to the fact that at that time we were still under the influence of English judicial methods. In 1873 an attempt was made to return to the appointive system, but as the party leaders had already experienced the delightful advantages of the elective system, the proposal was beaten in a constitutional convention.

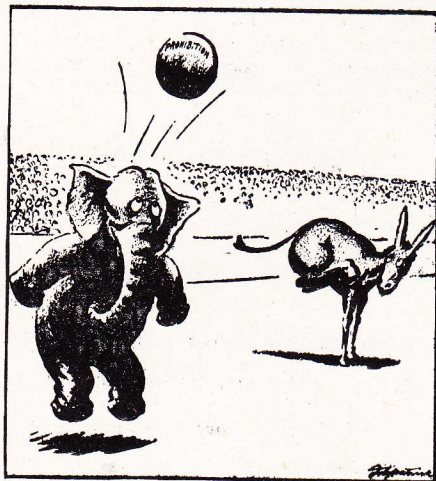
Perhaps we have a lot to learn from continental Europe when it comes to choosing our judges. Where, for example, would a thirty-one-year-old inexperienced lawyer be made a Justice of the Supreme Court except in an American city which is under the political fist of that young man's father? This happened in Brooklyn recently and the electorate, having had nothing to say in the selection of the candidate, voted him into office.

The proposal of the Bar Association is by no means perfect, nor is it immune from possible abuses. Yet it is the best so far advanced and should receive the hearty support of all public-spirited citizens.

DOWN WITH THE IMMIGRANT!

THERE is an organization in this country known as the Daughters of the American Revolution. I have never been able to learn who these estimable ladies are and what they stand for. But the fault, I confess, must be all mine. I do know this, however, that once in a while they meet and pass some very interesting resolutions.

A few days ago they met in Washington and passed a resolution to empower the President to order all unemployed aliens to leave the United States in unemployment crises. The resolution also urged



The Old Political Soccer Game

—From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch

(Continued on Page 129)



A Wise Economist Asks a Question

—John T. McCutcheon in the *Chicago Tribune*
(This cartoon won the Pulitzer Prize for 1932)

The World Depression

As Seen from New York

By

H. E. Vittorio Emanuele Orlando

Former Premier of Italy

THE Conference of Major Industries, held last Fall in New York, to which I was courteously invited, had an importance and a significance which I believe transcended the limits of ordinary news. It made me see at first hand the different way in which American congresses proceed, as compared with those in Europe. First of all, as to their greater simplicity and dispatch: European congresses are prolonged for one or two weeks, whereas the Conference lasted but 24 hours, at least officially; naturally, the conversations among those gathered began earlier and continued afterward. European congresses have fixed and inflexible subjects, to be discussed and voted upon, but in America the subjects matter is indicated simply thus: to provide the occasion for an "exchange of ideas." In the evening there is a Friendship Dinner, and that is all. It cannot be denied that this is the system used by people for whom time is money; and the results, due to their greater intensity and rapidity, are not, I believe, inferior to more complicated and longer ones.

Among my impressions, the first and most immediate was the lively sense of concern I found

evident everywhere, about the depression. This state of mind, of course, did not assume outward form: the cold demeanor and the tenacious and resolute calm, the traditional Yankee characteristics, were not upset even then. But, in comparing the European frame of mind with the American concerning the same distressing problem, I would say that the latter are much more seriously aware of the responsibility of the times, and especially regarding the tasks it imposes. They are patients who think of curing themselves: they call in the doctor and put themselves on a diet. In Europe, it seems, we prefer to abandon ourselves to destiny, and the more the disease is aggravated the more the urge to enjoy ourselves, during the time that remains . . .

The external impression, nevertheless, received in New York does not immediately show perturbation, and much less restlessness. True, one meets in the streets of the great city the lines of unemployed waiting for the daily distribution of rations, while other unemployed, on street corners sell apples. Yet these people do not have the air of suffering, nor of misery; on the contrary, they retain their composure and

dignity even in the care of their clothes, and certainly they have nothing in common with beggars.

To these optimistic impressions, my conversations with the Wall Street experts brought forth answers that called attention brusquely to the gravity of the situation. In any event, the American depression is not to be judged only by the great cities of the East, which are relatively not as hard hit. The West, I was told, was in a much more serious condition.

MORE insistently, however, did the conversations of the Wall Street men turn to the industrial depression. The head of one very important firm told me of having received already his orders for a whole semester. "Well," he continued, "the productive capacity of my plant is such that these orders will last but 15 days!"

As for the values of stocks, I was shocked to learn of the drop in a stock which is cited as a market leader: United States Steel. In 1929 the stock was quoted at 262; in October 1931 it was worth but 62, and in spite of all efforts and provisions made and hopes aroused, it has drop-

ped still lower, until at present it is below 50!

YET among all the signs of the crisis, the most bewildering and the most significant is perhaps this: after having multiplied production and reduced costs of production to an incredible extent, and after having blocked the introduction of foreign goods by almost prohibitive tariffs, the admission had to be made that last summer the United States had bought more from Europe than she has sold to her! It is understood that this phenomenon was only a passing one, but the impression had remained deeply fixed in the minds of those financiers and industrial leaders. Added to this was another and more threatening one to the effect that the United States, which during the War and afterward had created for itself a fantastic quantity of credit with the entire world and more particularly with Europe, saw considerable amounts of its gold leave for Europe in payment . . . of its debts! This phenomenon of a creditor facing sacrifices in order to pay its debtors is not the effect of sorcery or magic, but derives simply from the different kinds of the reciprocal credits. Those which, accruing to the United States, derive from the War or from the great post-war loans to European industries or countries, are all long-term ones. Of course there are considerable American short-term credits, but they are for the most part in Germany and are, therefore, "frozen," by virtue of the Hoover moratorium.

While, therefore, Wall Street could make use of only a small part of its colossal investments abroad, it found itself owing enormous sums for short-term loans contracted in Europe at the time of the speculation fever. At that time interest charges at Paris or London were about 4%, whereas by employing the money in stock operations at New York it was possible to bring this income to 10 and even 12 and 15%! It was thus that the liquid mass of European money was attracted to that vortex: now it is being withdrawn, and for this reason gold has had to be taken out of the

Federal Reserve vaults and earmarked for European capitals, especially Paris.

This was probably the moment of greatest anxiety; the public's lack of faith had already given rise to the troublesome phenomenon of "hoarding," necessitating a new issue of currency on the part of the Federal Reserve Bank. The very security of the dollar might have been put in danger, not, of course, for itself, but as the effect of a panic. And it was under these conditions that the Conference of Major Industries took place. And there arrived M. Laval, and, later, Signor Grandi

Thus the immediate sensation was had that never before had an economic crisis been more immediately tied up with the political situation. Furthermore, politics has been obliged, for the time being, to subordinate itself to the economic and financial situation.

HAVING examined previously the signs of the depression, as presented in New York, let us now examine the causes, always from the same point of view.

First of all, in considering the strength of that country's resources, one cannot be very optimistic. It constitutes a world self-sufficient in itself, having almost no need of anything else, but of which the other countries do stand in need. This is already well-known; less appreciated probably is what I would call the human addition or contribution to this wealth. We European tend, perhaps through unconscious envy, to deny or minimize the value of this contribution, whence it is often said or printed (the United States does not at present have a good press in Europe, at least in general) that it is a matter of a fortunate people, whom nature has endowed in such copious abundance as to make them rich and powerful independently of any efforts on their part. Such a judgment is certainly unjust; on the contrary, what most profoundly impressed me during my visit was the continuous, tenacious and formidable effort used, an effort of intelligent organization.

I really believe that no people in the world work as strenuously

as the American people; no life is lived with an intensity so wearing, which never concedes a moment of ease or rest in the incessant struggle for a better well-being, for a continuous elevation towards prosperity. And it would be myopic or unfair to attribute all this to mere greed for material enjoyments, or to an idolatrous cult of the God Dollar, when it is a case of people who do not enjoy but suffer, and who have made of Stocks, an intense realizer of goods, a philosophy in itself. Obviously it is not the philosophy of we Latins, who, though we have contributed inestimably to human progress, consider as one of its forces and one of its happinesses that power of creative imagination that is capable of detaching itself from empirical reality and taking refuge in a world of ideas, of fantasy, and, if desired, of dreams. But let us not for this reason deny that even Stocks may be considered as an end in themselves and transform themselves into a passion on the part of a people which asserts its strength in the form of undisputed dominion in the economic field.

But, indeed, this consideration serves to make more precise our point of view as to the present crisis in the United States. In an absolute sense, one cannot be pessimistic over the future of a country which unites with such a wealth of natural resources such human energy of will and tenacity; from this aspect it is a matter of a crisis of fewer riches, but never of a threat of poverty. Yet in a relative sense, that is, exactly in relation to a colossal, formidable design of economic domination of the world, I believe that the present crisis marks its failure, and that this failure is a definite one, at least so long as its means of execution are not radically changed. I am, in other words, of an opinion opposed to that which animates the recent publication of a French writer who combines the qualities of both economist and man of politics, M. Charles Pomaret: a book whose title sums up all the worries of the author: "L'Amérique à la conquête de l'Europe" (Paris, Colin, 1931).

ACCORDING to this writer, Europe is now under the influence of, and will soon be dependent upon the United States, due to an imperialism which, though it is commercial, is no less dangerous than political imperialism. Naturally, this author tends to consider the present crisis as a passing weakness, which will only impel the American people with increased energy to seek markets which they need outside of their own territory and even in Europe, thereby suffocating the latter's industry and commerce, impoverishing and subjecting it.

To this conception, I oppose, instead, the conviction already expressed above, that the present crisis signifies the failure of that system which had produced its first effects, over which the French writer is so profoundly concerned. Certainly, American activity of the last 15 years (although its origins go still further back) has been developed irresistibly along these two lines: the multiplying of production to a climatic state; and the multiplying of consumption so as to make possible the absorption of that mastodontic production. Concerning the first, the rationalization of production had multiplied the output of machines as well as the output of men, perfecting the technique to a prodigious extent. As for the second, the efforts were no less amazing. Here one encounters Henry Ford's famous doctrine whereby high wages should be desired by the producers no less than by the workers themselves, since the latter thereby were transformed into more extensive consumers and thus helped immeasurably in the multiplication of production.

Europe thus has been assailed fiercely on all sides; not only has every penetration of the two Americas on her part been contested, not only has the century-old European supremacy in the other continents of the old world been shaken and partly destroyed, but, to cap it all, in the European markets themselves American competition is becoming more and more threatening and prevalent. But with the extension of mass ownership implicit in corporations issuing stocks, their inherent dangers also multiplied. Those

triumphs contained within themselves, inevitably, the germs of the present crisis.

IN the meanwhile, to manage this conquest of European markets. American finance was obliged to take part in European politics. Everybody remembers the fierce reaction of public opinion in America after the vicissitudes of the war and the peace, in the sense of excluding any political relation whatever with Europe, a reaction which culminated in the refusal to ratify those very treaties in the formation of such a decisive influence had been exerted by the United States' representatives, President Wilson.

This decision, however, already had, since its origin, its weak point: the existence of the war debts, the payment of which the public opinion of the country did not, and does not, intend to renounce. Yet, according to a law of economic psychology, the creditor cannot show a lack of interest in the fate of his debtor! All the more was this complication of politics with finance of conquering other outlets for exuberant production, American finance consented, even sought, to find other employment for its capital in Europe. It was begun by offering loans to European governments for the stabilization of the various monetary systems, for the purely economic reason, that is, that in the competition of international exchanges, the country with a depreciated currency is in a favorable position: it is well known that inflation resolves itself into a form of industrial protection. Moreover, American loans were promptly offered for the succor of the most important. European industries, already oppressed by the crisis, so as to assume control. The United States was thus the creditor as to the war loans, creditor as to the post-war loans, creditor as to her loans to European industries, and creditor as to the balance of trade.

And now we come to the most characteristic factors of the present depression, especially from the point of view of the United States. Her program of intensification of production impels her to the conquest of world mar-

kets and to closing herself up, at the same time, within an insurmountable wall of prohibitive protectionism. Moreover, the necessity of subduing markets, together with the necessity of employing over-abundant capital, makes her the creditor of the entire world, in fantastic amounts.

Now this policy comes up against certain insuperable obstacles. First of all, how is it possible to sell always without ever buying? Secondly, how is it possible for American credits abroad to be paid other than with goods? The pretense of carrying out programs so untenable among themselves was bound to bring about, and did bring about, a disaster.

There was the English example highly instructive. That economic supremacy which the United States claims for itself (and I will not contest the fact that it now has the power) was formerly England's, though under different conditions and with an opposite policy. For about a century London was the regulator of world finance; the City, a great exporter of capital, had credits in all the countries of the world. But England was a free trade country! (Far from repelling foreign production, it welcomed and opened the way for it. Italy was her debtor, but she paid with her fruits, her sulphur, and other products of her work. Argentina was her debtor, but she paid with her grain, her wool, her meats. How can we pay the United States if she does not want to receive our goods, nor our labor?)

IN one of my conversations with eminent Wall Street men the question of the payment of the war debts came up. "Suppose," I said, "that the United States of Europe had been formed and that I, at the present moment, had come among you as its delegate plenipotentiary. Well then, I would say to you: 'I know I am your debtor and I have come to pay you. Tell me how you want to be paid.'"

And I listed, one after another, all the items of European production. But with each product mentioned and offered the reply was that America had plenty of

Ellis Island To-day

Being the first of a series of two articles on the Island and American immigration.

By Dominick Lamonica



The administration building, seen from the Ellis Island ferryboat

—Photographs for this article by courtesy of the Red Book Magazine

ANYONE who has ever been on Ellis Island has seen the great main entrance to the administration building. With its high windows and broad path leading up to it from the ferry landing, it is an imposing entrance, literally the gateway to America.

As we face it, there is, on the right, a small, inconspicuous door, half-hidden by stone abutments, and not nearly as impressive. Yet the great entrance is now being walled up, the space to be taken up by a huge file room to contain the vast accumulation of papers and records left in the wake of a tide of immigration that has seen some twenty million immigrants enter the United States by the very door that is being closed up. The little door to one side will henceforth be used for that purpose.

Symbolic indeed is the change. The startling fact to be borne in mind is that not only has the tide diminished to a mere trickle, but that for every immigrant entering the United States, four are being deported. Just as busy as ever is Ellis Island, but whereas in years gone by it was the way in, now it is the way out. For example, on the day the writer visited it, the Island contained, aside from the 500 or so employees, 483 souls. Of these, 87 (63 men and 24 women) were immigrants, while the rest, 396, were deportees.

The importance of Ellis Island in the nation's life can be gathered from the fact that more than 77 per cent of the white population of New York City is either for-

eign-born or first-generation native. It is thus with more than ordinary interest that the foreign-born, and foreign-born Italians in particular, have been following the activities of Edward Corsi, Commissioner of Immigration of the Port of New York, since he began his new duties last January. An immigrant himself, and the youngest Commissioner ever to have served at the Island, Mr. Corsi is also unique in that his appointment by President Hoover constitutes the first case of an Italian's appointment to public office being ratified by the Senate.

ELLIS ISLAND, once known as Gull Island, was ceded by New York State in 1808 to the Federal Government, which intended to use it as a fortified defense for New York City, as Governor's Island is now. After serving as a storehouse for munitions for a time, in 1855 it came to be known as Oyster Island, where New Yorkers would spend quiet Sunday afternoons away from what, even in those days, must have been the din of the city. Later its name changed once again to its present one, after its original owner.

When the Federal Government, in 1890, took over the function of immigration control and supervision, New York State had been using Castle Garden (now the Aquarium) for the purpose, but this was changed to the Barge Office nearby. It was in 1892 that Ellis Island first became used for the examination and detention of immigrants, till, in the summer of

1897, a fire destroyed the wooden buildings. Back to the Barge Office came the immigration station, but finally, in 1899, the Island resumed its function in the new and larger fireproof quarters built by West Point engineers. And it was none too early, for the wave of immigration was beginning to reach its height. During the Fall of 1907, for example, the year in which the record number of 1,123,842 immigrants passed through its doors, they were coming through at the rate of about 5000 a week, and the yearly average for the decade from 1904 to 1914 was no less than 872,235. Though the number has been greatly reduced, Ellis Island still is the gateway for 90 per cent of all immigrants coming to America, and its upkeep costs the United States some three million yearly.

UPON entering it, the first thing that strikes the visitor is the huge recreation room, where immigrants who are temporarily being held pass the time, anywhere from twenty minutes to a week or more, while their papers are being straightened out. Usually, waiting is brought about by discrepancies in the immigrant's papers, or the possibility that he may become a public charge. Arranged in the manner of an auditorium, this great hall has a raised dais at one end, with an organ behind it, and a balcony passageway, running around the entire circumference of the hall, at about the third story in height. This passageway has many doors opening out upon it,

containing the sleeping rooms for the waiting immigrants, each one with about eight or ten beds.

But it is the recreation room itself which is most interesting. The older folk sit about, talking among themselves or with acquaintances recently made (if they happen to speak the same language), reading newspapers, playing cards, munching at t'd-bits, going through their smaller belongings (their trunks are all kept together in a storage room), or minding the children which, regardless of their country of origin, are ever engaged in working off their excess energy in ways common to children the world over. This huddled group of Poles is discussing something one has read in the Polish newspaper open before him. Those two Nordic women from the fjords of Norway are knitting placidly and steadily. Over in one corner an Italian barber is making good use of his time by doing some expert hair-cutting for a fellow immigrant, while nearby a buxom German "frau" is distributing some fruit to her eager children. Those two swarthy Greeks may be discussing the concert held in the Hall the day before, or the movies shown occasionally. That elderly French woman, all alone, is looking out the window at the colossal spectacle of downtown Manhattan, wondering if this will be the nearest she will ever get to those fabulous towers of granite and steel. Truly, this room can be said to be the most cosmopolitan one in the United States.

HERE is a cheerful little room, on another floor. Regular class-room desks at one end, and flowers, pictures and games at the other, proclaim it to be Ellis Island's combined kindergarten and school for the immigrant's children. For an hour a day or so during their stay at the Island, the children gather here under the care of a capable young teacher. And not far from it is the nursery, where the babies must be bathed every day.

The dining room, where the immigrant has his three square meals a day at Uncle Sam's expense (though not for long) is vast, airy and sunny. No New York cafeteria is more efficient or cleaner, and hundreds are fed at the long tables simultaneously.



Passing the time playing cards

Even a special kitchen is provided for Kosher products, and there is an air of good fellowship and cheer among its employees (as, for that matter, it is also prevalent pretty generally throughout) that belies the stern and possibly forbidding exterior of the building.

Incidentally, many welfare associations maintain representatives on the Island who perform the myriad small social services, which, taken together, are of incalculable benefit for the inhabitants. Organizations like the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A., the Italian Welfare League, the Salvation Army, the D. A. R., etc. merit the thanks of the Government for carrying out an invaluable program which it otherwise would have to bear itself.

BUT how about the deportees? Stricter immigration laws, discovery of false entries, physical or mental defects or criminal records, have made for a number of them four times larger than that of immigrants. Though they are segregated, otherwise their treatment is more or less like that accorded to the others. They, too, have detention rooms, three



The dining-room in action

large ones, where they sit, talk, smoke, play cards, gaze out the windows, walk out on the screened porch, or go outdoors under supervision for an invigorating hour of baseball, soccer, walking or the sun. For them, however, there is no hope. They are simply waiting for their papers to be prepared before they are shipped back to their home countries at Uncle Sam's expense. Much stricter is their supervision, and guards are at every passageway. These men, once they have left the United States, can never come back again, and the thought must be a depressing one. At any rate, they take their lot philosophically.

And now we can see what the innovations introduced by the new Commissioner of Immigration are. Mr. Corsi, unlike most of his predecessors in office, who usually came from a world far removed from that of the immigrant, thereby unavoidably giving rise to a certain wall of coldness, knows the immigrant and his problems because he was an immigrant himself, and passed some 30 years ago through the very routine which he now supervises. Moreover, his work at settlement houses has been among immigrants, and it is almost the case of one friendly immigrant helping out another to get by inevitable governmental red tape when he takes a case in hand. More and more attention and help for the immigrant is the new Commissioner's intention.

THIS point he brought out in a recent speech, one of the many he has been making which are bringing home to American citizens the purpose he has in mind. "We have abandoned our foreign-born to their own fate, with dire consequences not only to themselves but to their adopted country," he said. "Let us not blame this on the immigrant. Rather, let us blame ourselves. Not only did we fail to extend to the newcomer a helping and welcoming hand, but we permitted him to crowd dangerously in foreign quarters and in conditions of a deplorable nature."

Fortunately, this mistake of past decades, when the huge numbers of the immigrants precluded much individual attention, is slowly but surely being rectified, as much by time as by legislation or social effort.

From Student to Dean:

Dr. MARIO E. COSENZA

By Catherine R. Santelli

Secretary, Italian Teacher's Ass'n.

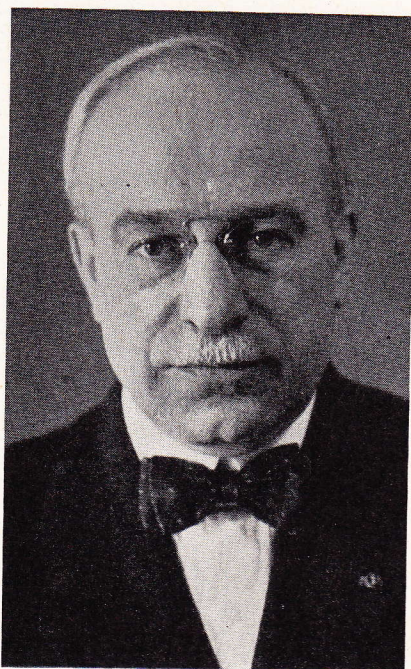
SINCE time immemorial, it has been a pleasant custom for human beings to set apart certain personalities and look up to them for leadership. However, it is, indeed, a rare occasion when people of Italian origin have deigned to praise their own. Certain persons deliberately seek praise; some do not look for it but deserve it because of their untiring and beneficial work which they perform for the good of all. Such a man is Dr. Mario E. Cosenza.

It was, therefore, a rare privilege for the Italian Teachers' Association to tender a testimonial luncheon to Dr. Mario Emilio Cosenza, president of the Association, and Dean of Brooklyn College, on Saturday, April 9, 1932, at the Hotel Biltmore. With the Honorable John J. Freschi acting as toastmaster, the speakers included: His Excellency Nobile Giacomo De Martino, Italian Ambassador; Dr. Stephen S. Duggan, Director of the Institute of International Education; and Dr. William S. Boylan, President of Brooklyn College.

Dr. Mario E. Cosenza attended Public School 14 in Manhattan. To use the words of Dr. Stephen S. Duggan, who was principal of the school at that time, Mario was not only the most intelligent in his class; but he was a boy who possessed an unusual sense of responsibility. These qualities endured and, at college, we find him at the head of his class. Not only was he outstanding as a student; but he was active in athletics, dramatics, debating and other extra-curricular activities. He was admired and respected by his fellow students, who eagerly sought and valued his friendship. While still a student at the College of the City of New York, he

was often asked to substitute for an absent instructor. Young Mr. Cosenza was a very able teacher.

After his graduation from College in 1901, Dr. Cosenza became



The new Dean of Brooklyn College

an instructor of classical languages at the College of the City of New York. It was not long before his outstanding scholarship was recognized by the offer of a fellowship for study in Italy at the American School for Classical Studies in Rome, which he gladly accepted. So exceptional a scholar did he prove to be that he was allowed the privilege of pursuing his studies in other cities of Italy, too.

Upon his return from Italy Dr. Cosenza continued his studies at Columbia University, where he received his doctorate in 1906. During this period several of his literary works appeared. He con-

tributed a number of Latin texts and also translations of Latin texts which were an inspiration to Latin students. His many works include also the well known "Francesco Petrarca and the Revolution of Cola di Rienzo."

In 1917 the College of the City of New York, recognizing Dr. Cosenza's important contribution to his chosen field, promoted him to associate professor. So great was the influence of his personality and brilliant mind that the College decided to promote him again and, two years later, he was made director of the famous preparatory division at Townsend Harris Hall. Here he came in contact with men of an age when the guidance of an older man can do a great deal towards helping them shape their destinies.

While director of Townsend Harris Hall, Dr. Cosenza became extremely interested in the life of Townsend Harris, for whom the school had been named. His interested once aroused, his mind, trained in research, immediately set to work and after several years of study devoted to personal documents, letters and other writings which had once belonged to Townsend Harris, Dr. Cosenza became not only the best biographer of Townsend Harris but, also, one of the foremost American authorities in relations between the United States and Japan.

Townsend Harris had been the first American Consul General and Minister to Japan and Dr. Cosenza was the first to present to the world a true portrayal of the "pioneering but quiet and unheralded diplomatic work of Townsend Harris in Japan." The result of this herculean task appeared in a meaty, interesting

volume entitled, "The Complete Journal of Townsend Harris."

In 1926, when Brooklyn College was established, there was need of men of experience, understanding and executive ability, Dr. Cosenza was made head of the Department of Classical Languages. A few years later, his steady hand seized the rudder of the new ship, floundering in dangerous waters, and brought it safely to port. The ideals and policies of Brooklyn College were largely shaped by Dr. Cosenza, who became the Dean of Men on February 1, 1932.

These scholarly activities have not prevented Dr. Cosenza from taking an active part in various organizations. Our hearts swell with pride when we mention that he is the first scholar of Italian descent to be elected to the august position of president of the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. He is also an important member of the Italy-America Society.

For the past ten years he has been president of the Italian Teachers' Association whose policy he has molded. His untiring efforts, his loyal support, his undivided interest have made the

Italian Teachers' Association the most outstanding of its kind. It has grown, from a mere handful, to a well organized, energetic society with an active membership of over two hundred teachers.

As president of the Italian Teachers' Association, he has been an inexhaustible mine of inspiration to scores of teachers and hundreds of boys and girls in the public schools of New York City. Once, when he was addressing a group of 1000 students in one of our school assemblies I remember his saying, "Do not be satisfied to do the easy thing that anyone can do. Choose something hard so that you will accomplish something worthwhile." Five years later a student of mine present at that assembly came back to visit the school and he told me that he had never forgotten those words spoken sincerely by a man whom he has admired ever since.

Dr. Cosenza's interest in spreading the language of his ancestors has been purely educational and cultural, and never once has he swerved from his purpose. Even the Italian government has appreciated Dr. Cosenza's scholar-

ly position and has made public recognition of it on several occasions. A few years ago he received the decoration of "Comendatore dell'Ordine della Corona d'Italia." On April 9, 1932, Ambassador De Martino, acting for the Italian government, presented Dr. Cosenza with a medal of "Benemerenzza per la diffusione della lingua e della cultura italiana."

Dr. Cosenza is a tall, handsome, well built man with a dignified, noble bearing. His manner is friendly and unassuming, his sense of humor precious and his smile contagious. He has a sympathetic, understanding heart which endears him to all who know him. As a husband and father, he is blessed with a beautiful, brilliant wife and three lovely daughters as charming as the "tre grazie." I am tempted to quote what Dr. William S. Boylan, President of Brooklyn College, said of Dr. Cosenza at the luncheon. He said that he knew an old Italian proverb which read, "Molto fumo, poco arrosto," but that Dr. Cosenza had reversed the old saying to read, "Poco fumo, molto arrosto."

THE NEW TOURIST

By Matthew M. Melchiorre

Of recent years a marked change has been noticed in the type of persons who walk up the gangplank Europe-bound. Very few are the ones who travel across the ocean merely to impress friends at home not so fortunate. Today we find the palatial steamers being taken over, to a large extent, by the group known as "student-tourist". These are the professors and their young men and women students who travel to Europe not to sit in sidewalk cafes and idle away the days, but to round out the education which they give and receive in the classrooms — a trip which they look upon as a need both spiritual and professional.

And to this type of voyageurs the steamship companies are making overtures in the way of drastic reductions in rates. Last

summer the companies were not as keenly aware of this group as they are today, and reduced rates, but only on their first-class accommodations. This cut did not bring in the desired results, and last month the lines went through another rate-cutting experience, this time applying it to all classes. With all this, the announcement made by one line that payment for the passage could be extended over a period of time is also expected to help bring the navigation lines back on a paying basis.

Many students who formerly spent their summer vacation "around the home" because of limited funds now look forward to an ocean trip and a visit to the cultural spots in Europe. This class of tourists goes to Europe with a definiteness of mind. It makes up its itinerary weeks be-

fore the actual trip, for the length of the tour is short and many places must be visited before the return home. Individually these tourists will not spend money in huge quantities, but collectively the sum will amount to a respectable figure.

Intermingled with the student-tourists are many professional people who see in a trip to Europe an inspirational help to their work. Artists and musicians travel to breathe in the air where their work was created. Authors visit spots made immortal by the "masters".

It is this intellectual class of tourists that now commands the efforts of the lines where once it was looked upon with askance while the wealthier travelers were being catered to. With economic changes has come a change in the persons of wealth. They have become fewer while the opposite group has become larger. Last

year 100,000 of this group traveled to Europe, and with the present slash in rates the intellectual-tourist group is expected to near 200,000 at the end of the year.

To take care of the numbers which will visit Italy this year Mussolini has appointed a Minister of Tourism. A few years back, before the intellectual trav-

elers made their numbers felt, European visitors were interested only in the shops along the boulevards, the theatres and music halls of Paris and London, and the like.

With the change, the new visitors are interested mainly in the cultural side of Europe. Italy with its ancient "show places" will be visited by thousands, and

it is the work of the Minister of Tourism to facilitate everything pertaining to Italy's welcome.

Not only does Italy want the tourist to visit its historic spots but it wants them to see the Italy which has emerged from the chaos of the post-war desolation to take its place with the leading nations of the world.

The Founder of San Francisco University:

FATHER ANTONIO MARASCHI

By Edoardo Marolla

"The history of the building of the Southwest gives us many illustrious Italian names. They were mainly members of the Society of Jesus, fearless and religious men who left their homes in Italy to answer the crying need for priests in the new world. A large part of the profane, as well as the religious history of this part of our country is made up of the lives of these soldiers of Christ. It is an established historical fact that the civilization of the Southwest was due almost entirely to the efforts of the missionaries. It was they who opened up the highways of commerce, who aided agriculture, and above all, who used their gentle influence with the Indians and made it possible for white families to settle there and live in peace. Although nearly all of the original missionaries were Spaniards, and to them must be given credit for the opening of the country, it is certain, that without the aid of the Italians who came at a time when political upheavals in Mexico and the mother country lessened the labors of the original missionaries, most of their work would have been of little

value to the America of today. It was the timely influx of Italian Jesuits that saved the labors of the Spaniards for future generations. Among the greatest of this band can be placed Father Gio-



Father Maraschi, S. J.

vanni Nobili, for many years a missionary to the Indians and founder of the University of Santa Clara." A colleague of Father Nobili to whom history must surely give an equally honorable place was Father Antonio Maraschi, founder of what is today one of California's oldest and most honored centers of learning, the University of San Francisco.

Little is known of the early life of Father Maraschi beyond the facts that he was born in Italy in 1820 and came to America when a young man.

When the Jesuits of the Province of Torino accepted the mission of California it was but natural that they should choose for the work men who were already in this country and who had acquired a knowledge of the language. Father Maraschi, who at that time was teaching at Loyola College in Baltimore, was ordered by his Provincial to proceed to the Southwest. Together with another Italian, Father Carlo Messea, who had previously taught chemistry at the University of St. Louis—that renowned institution founded under the auspices of Bishop Giuseppe Rosati—

Father Maraschi set sail on Oct. 8, 1854 for the new mission territory from New York via the Isthmus of Panama. The journey was made in company with the rough goldseekers who were then flocking westward, and San Francisco was not reached until Nov. 1, the day of the Feast of All Saints.

Father Maraschi's first duty in San Francisco was to act as assistant pastor in St. Francis Church in Vallejo street. From November until January his name is of frequent occurrence in the baptismal and marriage registers. His second assignment was as assistant to Father Maginnis of St. Patrick's Church, to which he was transferred in the early part of 1855.

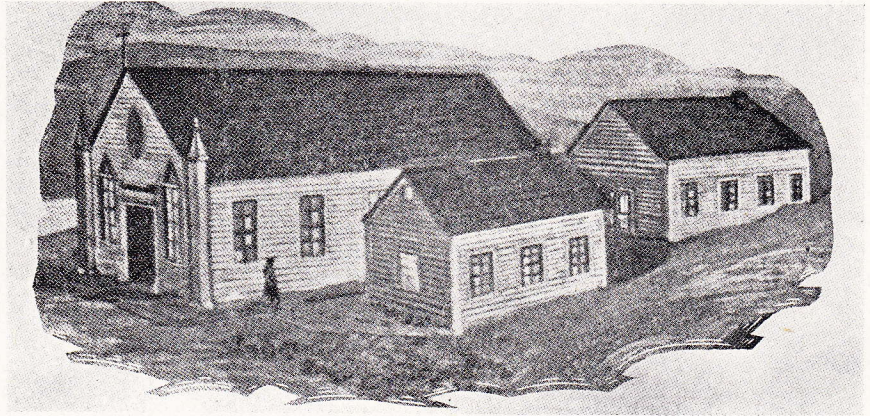
The effects of the days of '49 was already to see in the bustling port of San Francisco and far-sighted men realized that here a great city was some day to grow. Scarcely had the first miner arrived when the Jesuits, following the instructions laid down by their holy founder centuries before, immediately took measures to insure the educational and cultural as well as the religious progress of the future metropolis. In 1851 Father Nobili with \$150 laid the foundation of the present university of Santa Clara, at Santa Clara, a short distance from the main city. But this was not enough for the never-tiring sons of Loyola, and four years later Father Maraschi set about the building of his institution. At that time the western boundary of San Francisco was formed by Kearney and Third streets, beyond which was a sandy waste. When Father Maraschi applied to Bishop Alemany, O. P., for permission to build a Church and college, His Grace readily acquiesced and when the Father asked him to designate the site, the Bishop waved his hand toward the sand waste and answered "anywhere out there." Believing that the city would grow in that direction, Father Maraschi chose a spot known as St. Anne's Valley, where the Emporium building stands today.

Borrowing \$11,500, the Italian purchased the land and erected three small frame buildings which he called St. Ignatius Church and

college. The institution was dedicated on July 15, 1855.

Brother Albert Weyringer, who was stationed at the Church the following years, gives us an account of the location: "We lived," he writes, "in a hole surrounded by sand hills. Towards the city, which was some distance to the

climber. How it will add to the beauty of the Church, I thought, if I train it along the wall and arch it over the door and windows. Carefully, then, not to injure its tender roots, I dug it out of the soft sand; and bore it home in the pride of original discovery. I planted it by the



The Original College of San Francisco.

east, and from which we were cut off by barriers of sand, there was but one house, and that the shanty of a milkman on the adjoining lot. Westward there was the Lincoln School, but during my residence in St. Ignatius the buildings were unoccupied. Behind us rose a sand hill which sloped again towards Mission Street, and served as neutral territory between our college and a public school which had been built there. This neutral ground, however, was often invaded from the school mentioned, for a Jesuit in cap and cassock was a rare object of curiosity to the children of those days in San Francisco; and, perched on the hilltop, they surveyed the scene below, making Fr. Maraschi the butt of many remarks, much to the mortification of their teacher, who could not repress their rudeness.

"The residence was small and poor, and the accommodations so scant that, for a time, Fathers Accolti and Maraschi used only a mattress which he rolled up by day and spread on the floor by night; his part of the furniture was easily housed."

Then Brother Weyringer adds a touch of humor to his drab description: "One day, in rambling over the hills, I came upon a pretty plant whose species was unknown to me. It was of a glossy green and seemed by nature a

Sacristy door. I knew that Father Maraschi would see it. I knew, at least, I thought I knew, that he would commend my diligence. I waited for his approbation. Waited? Well, yes, I am still waiting for that. He saw the plant? Surely. Its beauty? He did. Had he no taste for pretty flowers? Well, not exactly for such as the present object of my care; for the plant of the glossy leaves was the common poison oak, and it was soon at a safe distance withering in the sun."

Until 1859 the school was known as an "academy" and had an average attendance of about sixty-five with some six professors. Not an impressive number according to present day standards but it must be remembered that at that time San Francisco was an out of the way place which was just then undergoing a severe financial depression. This depression forced the closure of the well supported San Francisco College, and although it also affected Father Maraschi's school, the Italian Jesuit, through his self-sacrifice and long suffering for the cause of Catholic education, was able not only to continue with the work but actually to purchase numerous scientific articles for his own college from the defunct institution. It was necessary to double the original

debt, but nevertheless the institution steadily progressed, and in 1859 it was granted a charter by the California Legislature, empowering it "to confer degrees with such literary honors as are granted in any university in the United States." On June 23, Father Maraschi placed the charter on public record.

By 1889 the scope and enrollment of the school had increased to such proportions that it was moved into a group of commodious and imposing buildings in Hayes Valley. The institution flourished with the growth of the Southwest and in 1905 it celebrated its Golden Jubilee. Scarcely a year later earthquake and fire destroyed almost completely the work of fifty years, but with the same spirit as that displayed by its founder in 1855, the authorities took up its rebuilding, and its educational work continued as before. On October 20, 1930 the Diamond Jubilee was completed and the humble academy founded by Father Maraschi seventy-five years before assumed the title of the University of San Francisco. Its enrollment approaches the one thousand mark and it is a pleasure to note that Italian names form almost ten percent of the registration list.

Concerning the last years of his life, Miss Lina C. Zachert, assistant librarian of the University, writes: "Father Maraschi lived to a ripe old age. Thirty-seven more years were to pass before he closed his eyes in death. He was to see the meagre dwelling of two rooms and a kitchen and a garrett expand into the residence on Van Ness Avenue and the little Church of seventy-five by thirty-five feet, accomodating less than four hundred persons, grow

into the beautiful church on Hayes Street. Many of those years were filled with duties as treasurer in some way or other, with debts paid and new debts contracted, with sales of old property and purchases of new. In fact, it was money derived from his purchase of land near Richmond that made possible some of the College advances witnessed in the last five years. This task of treasurer was work enough for one man, but to it he added the task of the classroom, the weariness of the confessional and the repeated rounds of sickcalls. He assumed as particularly his own the privilege of attending the dying at night. He could not use a bed, he pleaded, and because he was sitting up and dressed there was no need to disturb others. In his latter years Brother Harrick and he fared forth on these ministries of mercy whose number is known to God alone.

"It is said that he worked miracles, and people with all sorts of afflictions came to him for relief. The strange thing is that he never denied the alleviation anyone received. Any priest could do what he did, he said; it was bound up by Christ with the Priesthood and the Sacraments and the sacramentals. Here is a case in point, attested by a man well on in years, and who had been told by the girl's mother. The daughter, a child of twelve, was sorely afflicted with St. Vitus' Dance. The mother brought the girl to Father Maraschi, and after that visit all attacks disappeared. The girl's father at the time was in Washington, D. C. As soon as he returned to St. Francisco the whole family entered the Church." After seventy-seven years of labor in the

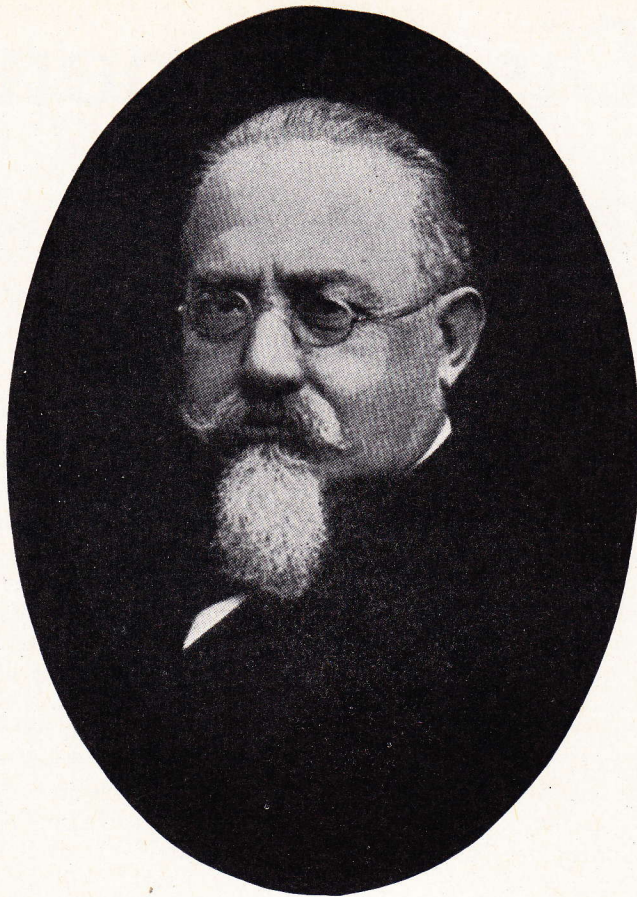
cause of religion and education Father Maraschi died in 1897. Concerning his end, Miss Zachert writes, "With such rumors of sanctity it is not surprising, then, that when the casket containing all that was human of the aged and honored priest passed from the church, there were those in the crowd who pressed forward to touch the coffin with handkerchief or prayer book or beads.

"Father Maraschi awaits the resurrection amid his brethren in the Jesuit Plot at Santa Clara, California."

In closing this narrative of the saintly Jesuit of whom every Italo-American can be justly proud, the words of the Most Reverend Edward J. Hanna, D. D., Archbishop of San Francisco, spoken on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebration of the University, are particularly fitting: "They have builded well and formed generations of enlightened noble-minded Christian men. Their success in the past is an assurance of still greater success in the ages yet to come. And on this day, glorious for the sons of St. Ignatius, for our great metropolis, for our California, whilst thanking the good God for His blessing during all these years on the labor of these Pioneers of Education and their worthy successors, I invoke from the Father of Light and the God of all Consolation still greater blessing on them and on the youth entrusted to their care that these young men may be formed into true Christians, lovers of their God and of their country; honorable citizens, leaders in the fight for the true and the right and after years of service to their Church and their country brought to their just reward through the ages of eternity."

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Cesare

Lombroso

(1836-1909)

LOMBROSO AND FREUD

UNDER this title Dr. C. Legiardi-Laura, a former associate of Cesare Lombroso, the founder of the Italian School of Criminal Anthropology, publishes an article in the February issue of "Medical Life." The author begins by stating that Lombroso's great achievement is that he made the problem of the individual criminal a branch of psychiatry and psychiatry a branch of the natural sciences.

The reader will appreciate what the above statement means if he knows that, up to Lombroso's times, psychiatry was not really a science in the modern meaning of the word. Why, in Germany, insanity was still considered a moral disease, almost a sin! In France Esquirol and Pinal had begun a reaction against those views, but we owe to Lombroso the credit for introducing positive methods in the study of insanity. He devoted fifty years of successful effort to the problem of studying the insane with ordinary clinical methods, beginning with the use of the scale, which Sanctorius Sanctorius in the 17th Century

had introduced in the study of the junctions of the human body! And since Lombroso's School was at first called, insultingly, the school of the balance (!), Lombroso accepted the challenge and, proudly, called his own school the "Psychiatry of the Balance"!

He introduced all positive methods in the study of the insane, including the criminal born, whom he considered as insane.

With the cooperation of a numerous and glorious following (the names of Enrico Ferri, Garofalo, Ottolenghi, Sighele, Carrara and many others are familiar to the students of criminology) he built a marvelous edifice of science, a new branch of knowledge.

The influence of Lombroso, outside of criminology, in the field of general culture, was enormous: Anatole France, Emile Zola, even Tolstoi, felt the influence of his theories on justice, on crime, on genius.

In all Europe, the Universities opened official teaching of criminal anthropology: in Belgium a new School of Anthro-Soci-

ology was born and contributed some brilliant work to the study of the philosophy of history.

LOMBROSO proved that there is a group of incorrigible criminals whose anti-social tendencies are due to profound alteration of the personality, an organic hereditary degeneration which is manifested with a regression, with an arrest of development associated with epilepsy.

The criminal born is an epileptic with or without convulsions, always with degenerative atavistic characteristics; he acts as a savage in the midst of our civilization; he has no moral sense; he is not amenable to education; he is incorrigible.

According to Lombroso, forty per cent of the criminals are born criminals, and Dr. Legiardi-Laura puts the question: How about the other sixty per cent?

He finds an answer to this in the modern theories of the new psychology, especially in Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis. Freud completes Lombroso. But Freud is not interested in biological facts, or hereditary factors, or characteristics of the body.

Lombroso found that the body of the criminal born, as well as his mind, has atavistic characteristics, namely, characteristics inherited from the ancestors. Freud finds that in the mind of every man of today there are unconscious stratifications of the past; a savage or a child is hidden in every man, normal or abnormal. Freud discovered the unconscious processes of the mind as a general fact, which Lombroso had observed as an abnormal product of degeneration.

Dr. Legiardi-Laura, who was formerly an associate of Lombroso and a member of the editorial staff of the "Archivio di Antropologia Criminale e Psichiatria", founded by the great Italian master, is devoting a great deal of work to show the relation of Lombroso's theories with Darwin on one side and the new psychology on the other. A book on this interesting subject by Dr. Legiardi-Laura is about to be published in this country, and has already been announced in a recent issue of "Archivio", now continued by the Italian school founded by Lombroso.

The Disarmament Conference

As Seen by the Italian Press

OVER in Geneva delegates of fifty-odd nations are doing their best to come to some sort of agreement concerning limitation or reduction of armaments. The proceedings are long and involved, but the following story, related by the Spanish delegate, Senor Salvador de Madariaga, illustrates quite simply the difficulties and the aims of the individual nations.

In his genial way Senor de Madariaga told the story at a recent session of how the animals met to discuss disarmament. The lion, it seems, looked the eagle in the eye and said, "We must abolish talons."

The eagle looked him full in the eye and said, with equal significance, "We must abolish claws."

Whereupon the bear put forward his idea, "Let's abolish everything except universal embraces."

AS the conference stands at present it seems to be divided between two methods and objectives. The French plan, as expounded by M. Tardieu, is to have tanks, heavy artillery, gas and all heavy armaments on land, at sea, and in the air under the control and at the disposal of the League of Nations, while the American plan, proposed by Hugh S. Gibson and backed to the hilt by Italy (which later offered a plan still more sweeping in its ob-

jectives) would ban tanks, heavy artillery and gas altogether as weapons of war. Though the American plan seems more likely of adoption than the French proposal of a form of international police (to which it is positive that an isolationist American Congress would never allow the United States to adhere), a compromise conception is most likely to emerge, and in fact, by having agreed to hold other conferences after the present one, the Geneva Conference has left the door open for just such a compromise, in the event of inability to agree at present.

It must be remarked in passing that probably the most popular figure at Geneva since the start

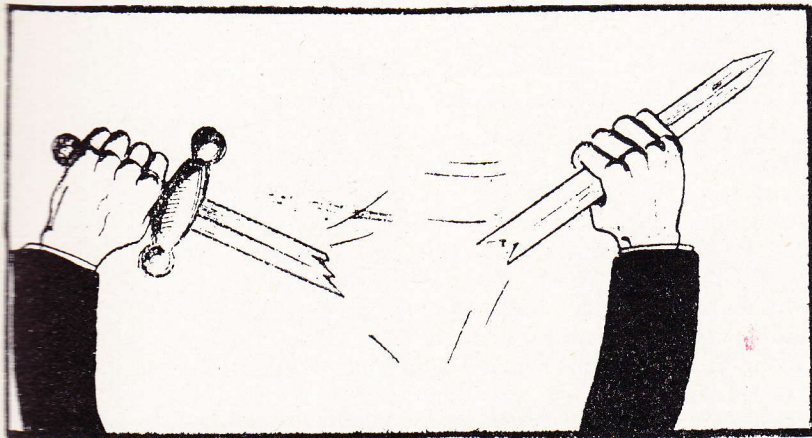
of the conference has been Dino Grandi, the bearded young Italian Foreign Minister. After his speech at the opening, according to Robert Davis in the "Paris Herald", "everyone caught his breath: 'That's the best speech of the conference, so far.' It mirrored young Italy at its superlative best." Later in the conference, in agreeing with and going far beyond the American plan, his speech drew wide comment. He proposed that all heavy land artillery and tanks, all capital ships, submarines and aircraft carriers, all military dirigibles and bombing planes and all weapons of chemical warfare be scrapped and an agreement signed never to manufacture them again, and he asked for revision of the laws of civil aviation and control of war and contention. Here was no quibbling. Here was actual and undeniable disarmament being proposed, to the surprise of the other delegates.

Certainly it cannot be argued that Italy's desire for world peace is any whit lesser than that of any other nation. Yet France still insists that it will not talk of disarmament until the question of security has been disposed of, apparently having overlooked the fact that security for her means a lack of security for her neighbors.



Disarmament—"After you!"

—From a Cartoon by Daumier



The Grandi Method: "Ecco!"

"**B**UT," comments Italo Falbo in "Il Progresso" of New York, "can't we call a guarantee of security those American proposals, which we may well call the Italo-American proposals, since they were preceded by Grandi's communications last February?"

"These proposals aim at removing from the hands of future aggressors the most potent and most efficacious arms used in breaking through frontiers. Without great cannons, bombing planes, tanks, and poison gas, a warlike offensive would have to turn to the milder weapons of assault, which would be useless against modern fortified frontiers.

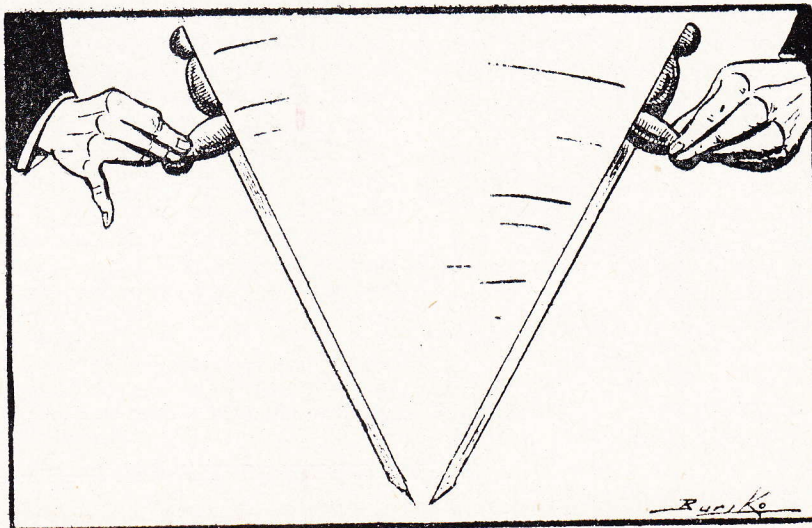
"Since France has technically the best-defended frontiers in the world (millions and millions have been spent to strengthen them), there should no longer be in Paris the fever of fear against any possible aggressive return of the Germans.

"Thus, with the Italo-American proposals two ends would be arrived at contemporaneously: radical economies in military expenses, and greater security for the States that have no aggressive intentions and are on the defensive."

Writing in the "Giornale d'Italia" of Rome, Virginio Gayda is of about the same opinion, for he defines the two stands thus: "... one has stated as a premise for disarmament the well-known principle of security, adding to it that of the formation of an armed international force, under the dependence of the League of Nations, to give executive power to its decisions; while the other, which leads directly to the sub-

stantial objectives of the Conference — limitation and reduction of armaments — refuses to be diverted by one-sided security and Utopianistic international armed forces, and, insisting on the necessity of serious efforts toward disarmament, indicates the first of the concrete problems to be resolved as that of the qualitative limitation of armaments.

"The first position is held by France, backed by Belgium, the three countries of the Little Entente, and Poland, while the second finds ranged alongside of each other with more than one point of contact and affinity Italy, Great Britain, the United States, Germany and Soviet Russia, or, in other words, the majority of the great powers. The second position, which can be defined as realistic and workmanlike, was fixed, it will be remembered, by Grandi's speech, the immediate worldwide echo of



The Tardieu Method: "Voilà!"

which, followed by approval from all sides and countries, proves that it is allied with the ideas of the greater part of the world."

THE "Corriere della Sera" of Milan, which occupies in Italy roughly the same position here accorded to the "New York Times," calls attention to the difficulties confronting the conference. "Hardly had the delegates come into contact with the material to be treated, than they were aware of its difficulties. The technical commissions had before them a mirror of the armament situation which all the participating States furnished. The data requested had to be obtained with a uniformity of criteria and methods, so as to lend itself to basic comparisons and conclusions, but from a summary examination it quickly appeared that the figures communicated spoke a language differing from State to State."

As an example of this difficulty, the editorial takes up army effectives. "Here are two States with the same total force at present of say a daily average of 100,000 men. One of them has, all year round, 100,000 men under arms, but no classes under recall; the other has only 80,000, but for one month it recalls for instruction another 240,000 which, distributed over twelve months, is equal to 20,000 per month in addition to the 80,000, making a total of 100,000 a year). These two States have the same

annual number of effectives, and yet it cannot be said that their military preparation is the same." Then, perhaps, reserves could be regulated. "But standardizing the reserves for all countries would be inadmissible, for the number recalled for instruction are dependent on financial, economic and social contingencies, differing from one State to another, and even from year to year within the same State."

After having indicated these and other difficulties, the editorial advises the Conference not to engulf itself too deeply in purely technical details, and to bring the reduction of armaments into a simpler and more practical field, such as the abolition or diminution of fixed types of armaments. It concludes by saying that "if it is desired to save the Conference, it must go by a smoother route, adopting more expeditious methods than those followed by the Preparatory Commission, which became mired in an infinity of procedural problems, by attempting to strike at military preparations in all its activities, and never succeeding in agreeing on the application of any system whatsoever of disarmament."

THIS discussion of the difficulties confronting disarmament conference delegates is also carried on in an editorial article in "La Stampa" of Turin by General Giovanni Marietti, although he confines it almost entirely to the one phase of submarines. "The prediction," he begins, "made some time ago by someone at that time called a pessimist, that the Disarmament Conference would last six months, threatens to become largely an optimistic one, considering what has been done to date. This is not to say that but little has been done in an absolute sense, but it is small when one considers the ground already covered with that which is still to be traversed, es-

pecially keeping in mind the interruptions caused by holidays, summer heat, political elections and eventual ministerial crises."

Getting down to the question of submarines, he recalls that "the existence of the submarine was first attacked at Washington in 1922 by Great Britain and the United States, but it was defended by Japan, France and Italy; its abolition was proposed anew at London in 1930 and refused by France and Japan". But now, the author adds, there are more than five nations reckoning with the problem.

As to the inhumanity of the submarine: "The aversion to the submarine", he explains, "comes from the use made of it during the World War. But (as Matsu-deira, the Japanese delegate, points out) what is to be condemned is the method, not the weapon; if surface craft were to adopt that method, and they could, they also would become inhuman. To this, however, it may be objected that the method derives from the characteristic fragility of the weapon which, to be efficacious, must act insidiously and treacherously; that, in any event, the submarine will never have the means, like surface craft, of saving the victims."

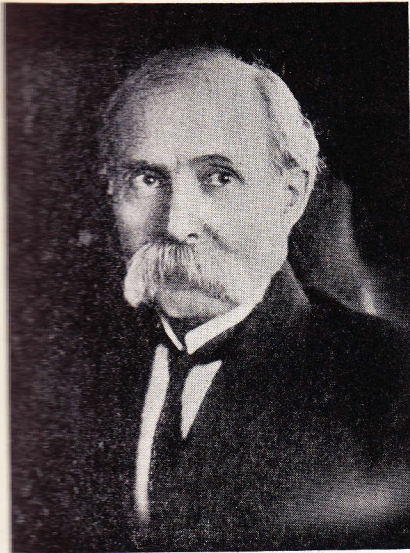
COMING to Italy's reasons for abolishing submarines, Gen. Marietti says: "Italy ties up the abolition of the submarines with the simultaneous abolition of other craft. It is the application in the naval field of the general principle of the suppression of armaments that are primarily offensive. Furthermore, it means to Italy, if I am not mistaken, this: the submarine would be useful to me for the defense of my coast and of my ports; I will sacrifice it, but on condition that the others sacrifice with me their heavy battleships."

"The problem," he concludes, "is much more a political one

than it is technical, like those which are at the bottom of the most serious and important world questions . . . For us today it is sufficient and satisfying to note that the Italian delegation has spoken the language of logic."

The French insistence on security, of course, has proven a stumbling block for more than one disarmament agreement, and "Il Legionario" of Rome is one of the Italian newspapers which cannot see the question through French eyes. "Forgetting for the time being," it says editorially, "whether disarmament should precede security or vice versa, M. Grandi has stated that the facts show that without disarmament there cannot be security. Proof of this assertion is to be found in the military expenditures of the last few years. 'In 1925,' he said, 'the countries spent 17,485,000,000 gold lire for armaments; in 1926, 17,785,000,000; in 1927, 19,385,000,000; in 1929, 20,535,000,000; and in 1930, 20,535,000,000. These figures are more eloquent than any reasoning. They tell us that in the course of the last few years our military expenditures have increased by more than three billion gold lire. I must furthermore call your attention to the fact that this armament race has been developed particularly at the same time that we have created the juridical instruments of security, the Treaty of Locarno, the Kellogg-Briand Pact outlawing war, and the General Act of Arbitration. This seems to me to signify clearly that the strengthening of security cannot in itself check the armament race, nor destroy the system of armed peace. This desired peace is obtained only by facing directly the problem of disarmament.'

"This is the truth. What needs to be strengthened is not security through armaments, since armaments provoke more armaments, but justice. Here is the core of the problem."



The late Commissioner General of Immigration

Beneath a mackerel sky, softly radiating the warmth of spring sunshine, and casting over all the charm of the Sierras, Governor Rolph recently unveiled the Caminetti Memorial Plaque, a handsome bronze tablet which is to be placed over the classroom bearing his name at the Preston School of Industry, situated at Ione, California.

"I am happy to have been asked to assist at the dedication of this plaque," said Governor Rolph,—"happy because I knew Anthony Caminetti well and know that his works and achievements merit recognition. It is fitting that this plaque should be dedicated to his memory, as it will mark forever the school which, through his efforts, was realized. Also, it is fitting that this tablet should mark a classroom, as Anthony Caminetti gave many years of his life toward the advancement of education, his bills having established State-supported high schools and junior colleges.

"If I had many hours at my command I would gladly reminisce on a few of my old friend's achievements, but that is impossible, so I will content myself with enumerating the Debris Bill, the Chinese Exclusion Bill, the Education Bills, the Caminetti Curriculum, and his valiant fight against the Funding Bills.

"Anthony Caminetti was a fine man, of pleasant temperament, given to helping his fellow coun-

Anthony Caminetti

Who Made California History

By Evelyn Bacigalupi

The following was written especially for Atlantica by the Hon. Angelo Rossi, Mayor of San Francisco, to the memory of Anthony Caminetti:

In the days of my youth, which centered around the historic gold city of Volcano, in Amador County, California, one of the most vivid figures was Anthony Caminetti, in whom all the people of the countryside reposed deep and lasting confidence.

This rugged Italian-American citizen surmounted and overcame problems that would have tried the souls of many not endowed with his unfaltering trust in Good and his determined, rugged character. He easily overcame all prejudices and malice usually held for people of his background and nationality.

Nearly all who knew him, when a boy, have passed on many years ago. We, of a later generation, who saw him and admired him during his years of maturity, often think of him and the fine example of clean-living he presented.

Our family consulted Anthony Caminetti when in need of legal advice and he guided us in the distribution of my father's estate, when I was a boy not yet in my teens.

I remember well when Mr. Caminetti went to Congress from the Mother Lode counties. This was in 1890, and as a California-born boy, I recall the great satisfaction we felt that he was the first nativeborn Californian so honored by the citizens of his own district.

Anthony Caminetti stands out as the most distinguished of Amador's sons, and the most lovable figure in what we considered a veritable metropolis, the little mining city of Jackson.

In life, a great, fearless and diligent worker: in death, a happy, dauntless spirit—such was Anthony Caminetti.

—ANGELO ROSSI

trymen and the poor. He was an honest man, a grand man to pay tribute to."

This brief excerpt apprises one of the magnitude of Anthony Caminetti's personality, one which will never be forgotten and one which will always be cherished, as are those of Bryan and Wilson, his bosom friends.

Anthony Caminetti belongs not only to his native county of Amador, which he served as District Attorney when only twenty-one, nor to the State of California, which he served as Assemblyman and Senator, but also he belonged to the nation and to the world. The former he served as Congressman and later, under President Wilson, as Commissioner General of Immigration, the latter as statesman and world diplomat, devoting his life to friendly relations among the countries of the world and especially, between his country, Italy, and the United States.

Perhaps it will be remembered that at the period of Anthony Caminetti's rise, Italian were looked upon as visitors from foreign shores, even as undesirables. Thanks to this worthy statesman Italians became recognized. He was the first of his nationality to hold a seat in Congress. So ably did he fill this position that the nation saw fit to elevate others of his country to high positions. So greatly were his efforts appreciated by Italy and the Italians that Ambassador Nathan from Italy said, from the depths of his heart, "You must come to Rome. We will welcome you there warmly, for we of Italy love you and what you have done for our people."

It is not often that a man is prominent in the minds of his friends ten years after his passing, but so it is with Anthony Caminetti. The hundreds of high schools and junior colleges in the State of California, the Alpine Highway, the Preston Reformatory, these and many more, all stand as tributes to his memory in his native State. The National Immigration Bureau and the friendship facilitating the amalgamation of Italians and Americans keep his flame of national glory continually burning in the hearts of the people.

In order to attain his place of prominence and trust Anthony Caminetti had to work diligently. He was not favored with wealthy parents and a carefully planned education. Instead, he was born of humble, poor, Italian folk and had to work his way even through the grammar grades and high school. He also made his own way through the University of California, from which he took his degree in law.

His life reads like that of a story book character, but behind it all we see preparation, hard work, and the diligent overcoming of obstacles in order to attain even his smallest victories.

At the age of twenty-one Caminetti was elected District Attorney of Amador County in which position he served for two terms. In 1882 he was elected to the State Assembly, where he represented his district for two years. From 1886 until 1888 he served in the State Senate. In that year he was a Democratic



Governor Rolph of California dedicating the Caminetti Memorial Plaque.

presidential elector. The year 1890 finds him elected to Congress, where he served for two terms. From 1896 until 1900 he again represented his district at the Assembly. Again, in 1906, we find him in the State Senate. In 1908 he received the complimentary vote for United States Senator. From 1907 until 1910 he again served in the State Senate. President Wilson, in 1913, appointed him Commissioner General of Immigration in which position he remained until 1921, when he retired to private life.

We must remember that California is a Republican state. If Anthony Caminetti, a Democrat, reached these heights, it is easy to imagine what he would have attained had he been a Republican. Always, even at the height of his career, he was a man of the people. He was ever the staunch friend of the foreigner and it was for them that he worked. It is said by the people of his native town of Jackson, Cali-

fornia, "A more honest man never lived". This, I think, is one of the highest tributes which can be paid a man.

The successful life of Anthony Caminetti is only the reflection of a brilliant mind and loving heart. A man of this type really needs no monuments. His loving memory is graven to the farthest depths in the hearts not only of those who knew and loved him, but also, in the hearts of the children and grandchildren of these friends who day in and day out witness achievements of this loving Italian.

And so, we of the United States, who are interested in the welfare of the Italian people who are making their homes on our shores, are happy to know that the Governor of the great State of California was "happy to assist at the dedication of this plaque," for, in so doing, we realize that he was recognizing the great deeds and work of the Italian people.

A WOMAN'S CULTURAL CLUB IN ROME

By Alice Seelye Rossi

Among the various cultural institutions in Rome, the Roman Lyceum holds a very prominent place.

This club for women founded some twenty years ago and existing also in other cities of Italy, while being an autonomous institution, is none the less affiliated to the Lyceum clubs in the different European Capitals.

Hence, a wide international bond unites the members of this institution, whose principal aim is to provide a centre of culture for women, enabling them to assert themselves, according to inclination, along literary, artistic, scientific and humanitarian lines, as well as to meet prominent people in the different fields of learning and social service.

The clubs directed and administered by a Council or staff of 25 members, of Italian nationality—elected every three years—comprises several different sections, i. e., art and archaeology, literature, music as well as of science, international relations, education and social work, each section having its own president and secretary.

The club adopts various methods to promote intellectual intercourse and social activities, lectures on varied topics, concerts that attract distinguished au-

(Continued on Page 144)

The Letters

A SHORT STORY

By Orio Vergani

HE was listening attentively. The sick woman's husband, every five or six hours, in the intervals between the doctor's visits, would call him up to keep him informed as to the course of the sickness: the variations in temperature, her sleep, the number of her pulse-beats. He was telling him, now, of this strange delirium which had seized her as soon as they had left her alone, thinking her asleep. She had left her bed, run down the corridor in her bare feet, opened the exit, and there, in a faint, she had fallen. The doctor could not understand how this unforeseen delirium was possible. He gave some explanation or other for it, to assure the man whose small panting voice was beating upon the mouthpiece of the telephone. He assured him he would not fail to pass by, before evening. The voice urged: "If I haven't come back, if I am still at the office, please, doctor, wait for me, if you can: or explain to the maid just what it means. Perhaps, later, I will disturb you, if you don't mind, by calling you up..."

"Very well, all right. But you Professor, you must be calm, do you understand?"

* * *

He made his afternoon visits. A new patient, two on the way to recovery, one in a serious condition, one who had nothing the matter with him. Toward six he arrived at the Professor's house. He went upstairs to the third floor. The Professor was not there. The maid explained that evidently he must have been delayed at school, for the summer examinations were being held. The patient was resting.

SHE was a woman still young. The sickness had, in a few days, emaciated her. The matrimonial bed seemed too big for

her alone. She stayed to one side of it, with a mute obstinacy, as though on that side there were life, and on the other, death. From the light in her eyes, the doctor

Concerning Orio Vergani's latest book: "Domenica al mare", from which the following short story is taken, Mr. Arthur Livingston recently wrote in the New York Herald Tribune "Books": "... there is atmosphere and life and poetry in all that, the fruit of Vergani's extraordinary finesse in observation of detail. How one can get suspense and interest into such nothings is to me a mystery. But Vergani does it."

Vergani, now one of the editors of the "Corriere della Sera" of Milan, for which he writes under the nom-de-plume of "Polonio", was born in that city 33 years ago. He was formerly editor of the "Messaggero della Domenica", of the "Idea Nazionale", and of the "Tribuna". The founder and director of the magazine "La Terza Pagina", he is also interested in the theatre, having written two plays: "Un vigliacco" and "Il cammino sulle acque". Besides these, he has written "L'acqua alla gola", a book of short stories, "Fantocci del Carosello immobile", "Soste del capogiro", "Asso piglio tutto", "Il povero negro", and "Il Mediterraneo".

understood that the fever must have been heightened. Her resistance to the sickness appeared already to have reached its limits. She was in a serious condition, more so than in the morning, but he did not show his own worry. In silence he waited while taking her temperature. It was the close of a warm day and, tired, he had but small desire to talk. He glanced on the bureau at the chart on which, every two hours, her temperature was taken down. "Fine, fine."

"I am burning up, Doctor..."

"Don't be surprised at that, madame. These are the warmest days in June. But the fever is stationary. That's already a good sign."

They became silent. The sick woman looked fixedly at the doctor, and, occasionally, as though to withdraw herself into one of her thoughts, she closed her eyes.

"Take care that you don't displace the thermometer."

"I won't, Doctor."

Then, suddenly, she turned to maid, standing quietly near the door.

"Maria, go outside. I want to remain alone with the doctor for a short while."

She drew a deep breath. She seemed to want to excuse herself.

"It's so hard for me to breathe..."

"Don't speak, madame; conserve your energy."

"No, Doctor. I must ask you something."

"Please do. So long as you don't ask to get up," he replied smilingly.

"No. I know I can't get up. This morning, when you had gone, I tried..."

"I know. They told me."

"What did they tell you?"

"They spoke of a delirium. But that could not have been possible. So you disobeyed me, like a baby. But, madame," he added with a smile, "my medical work has never specialized in babies. Unless it's about to begin now."

"What did they tell you?"

"That you ran down the corridor to the door, and there you fell. It might have done you much harm."

"I must ask you a favor, Doctor."

"Yes, madame?"

THE patient was silent a moment. Then she said: "I am in a serious condition, isn't that so? No, don't answer me. You would only say no. You are a good man, it is your duty, and it should give me courage. But I know I am very badly off. My mother, too, died of this same

sickness. Don't tell me anything." Again she was silent. She looked at the door, as though afraid someone might be listening. Then she continued, in a voice still more subdued than before. "You can't deny me a favor. I am speaking to you as I would to a father confessor. But this I could not tell a priest. Look. There, in the other room, in my little writing desk, there is something. . . I can't ask this favor of anybody. As you know, we are new in this city. I have no friends. You must do me this favor before my husband returns. Open the drawer. At the bottom, Doctor. . . Don't look at me like that. . ."

"Calm yourself, madame. I'm not looking in any way at all."

"At the bottom, there is an envelope, full of letters. Take it away, take it away and burn it. I don't want them to remain here if I should die. Will you do me this favor?"

...The doctor did not speak for a moment. His silence the sick woman took to mean his consent. She rang for the maid.

"Show the Doctor into the other room. He wants to write something."

They went to the end of the corridor, where the doctor told the maid to return to the patient's roof. He entered; he found, at the bottom of the drawer in the writing desk, the letters. He put the envelope in his pocket, turned back, looked at the thermometer, and ordered some injections for the patient. He avoided the glance of the sick woman, and she kept silent. A bell rang: her husband was arriving. While the maid went to open the door, the sick woman asked, in one breath:

"Did you find them?"

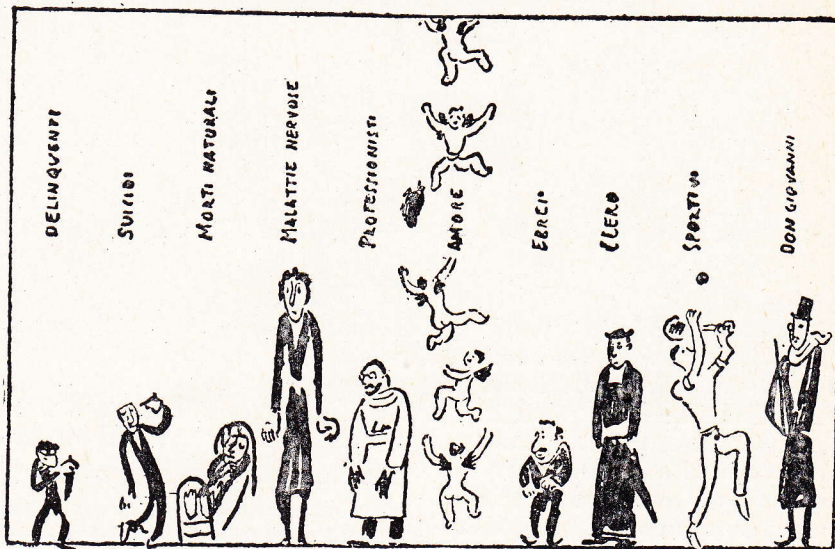
"Yes," and he pointed to his jacket pocket.

The patient extended her hand, as though to caress the letters through the material of the doctor's jacket. The latter drew back.

"Pardon me, Doctor, pardon me. . . Another thing. Perhaps I will never see them again. But don't burn them, unless I die. . . Thanks."

The husband came in, pale, with a forced smile which he could hardly keep up. For a few minutes they remained together near the patient's bed.

"You're tired, aren't you, dear?"



Proporitions of Themes in the Italian Novel. From left to right: crime, suicide, death scenes, neurasthenia, medicine, love, Jews, clergy, sport, Don Juan.

—From Bompiani's "Almanacco"

Those examinations, with this warm weather. . . and your insupportable colleagues, those pedants. . . The Professor of Greek who falls asleep. . . even today, no doubt. . ."

* * *

EIGHT years. He counted them, in his memory. Eight years had passed, in the life of the doctor. Eight years of visits, here and there throughout the city. Thousands of patients, hundreds and hundreds of dead, night calls, calls in the rain, calls in the snow: nocturnal rooms where people died by the tenuous light of a night lamp. . .

He no longer knew where to go. He seemed to have lost himself. He felt old, alone, abandoned. Inside his pocket, his hand gripped the letters. Then he released them, as though with a shudder. He raised his eyes to the third floor of the house; saw the light in the window; murmured: "And I was to save her?" Save even her, like who knows how many others, even her who, up till the very end, was betraying, hiding, finding an accomplice. He saw himself of a morning long ago, in a house that had been his, eight years before, three days after his wife's funeral, when the air coming in through the windows that had been wide open for three days had not yet routed the smell of wreaths and wax; he saw himself before a little writing desk which contained her papers, housekeeping accounts, dress-

makers' bills, pictures cut out from the magazines. The drawer would not budge at first, as though, from the interior, a hand, her hand, were holding it back. There was an obstacle of some sort, a groove perhaps, or perhaps the wood was damp. He had pulled at it with some force. No, it was not a defect in the furniture. It was a packet of letters, hidden between the drawer and its bottom: a man's handwriting. His wife had not found someone, a complacent doctor, a "gentleman", to destroy those letters. Perhaps she had not thought she would die; and death had arrived anyhow.

God had punished her, he had thought. But no. God had nothing whatever to do with those things. An open window had been enough, a current of air on an evening, like this one, in June. If the window had been closed, she would have continued living, she would have continued hiding letters in her little writing desk. He would have known nothing; he would have continued to believe himself happy. Emma today would have been forty years old, just as, in eight years, the patient on the third floor would also be forty years old; and no one would have punished her, and no one would have killed her.

EVEN the patient on the third floor, who could have punished her? Perhaps she had taken cold some afternoon, at her lover's house, while her husband

was at his examinations, beside the professor of Greek who had difficulty with his digestion. What idea of vendetta could the poor Professor have had? He also thought himself happy, and now he was suffering, and was trying to smile, so as not to break out crying by the bed of his sick wife of the dear emaciated arms that had embraced another, that had extended themselves to caress for one last time those letters, begging him not to burn them if she lived. He thought he was happy, that professor. He would think so all his life, even if his wife had died, for he could not reprove her for anything more than having left him alone in the world.

He saw the gold of his fountain pen shining in his pocket. He thought of his prescriptions. With a cold smile, he thought of a wrong prescription, a carelessly prepared prescription. Would he not have done well? Would it not have been just? Mistakes are so often made. That way, she would never come to him some day a month from now, to recover her letters, to begin again. For the husband, too, would it not be fortunate? Without his knowing it, would it not mean giving him happiness? All his life he would speak of his good, faithful, beautiful wife, who died in a saintly way. For these letters even he, the doctor would have a drawer in his study, with the others. And these new letters would say to the old ones: "See? After eight years, he has done justice. . . ."

He walked. An automobile was about to cross his path. The driver showered him with maledictions. But he went his way unconcerned, smiling, surely, as though he were following someone, whereas he did not even know where he was going. When he reached his house it was night-fall. He groped for the light in his white office. From his bunch of keys he selected one, and opened a drawer. Inside it he threw the packet of letters. He remained there a long time, looking at a bottle labeled with a skull and crossbones, signifying poison.

The maid entered. She said that the professor, at about ten o'clock had telephoned.

"The fever?"

"I took it: 101. The pulse was 112."

"If he calls again tell him I'm not in. That I will drop around tomorrow morning, at eight."

* * *

HE passed, in his first round, before the Church of San Giacomo. He had not slept all night, re-reading the letters, the old letters addressed to his wife. The Church of San Giacomo he had not entered since the day of the funeral. He had not gone to confession for many years, and now he had wanted to. But the priest was busy. He could not wait; it was late. He looked at the center of the nave, where, on the catafalque, there had been, eight years ago, the coffin. He recalled the place where he had stood, crying, during the absolution. Going out, he took an automobile, and went to the patient's house. The latter did not ask him anything. The doctor wanted a consultation. "The case is not a desperate one," he told the husband, "but what two eyes can see, four eyes can see better." And he threw himself into the task of saving her with a will. He forgot nothing; he visited her three times a day; he returned, at night, to make the injection himself. He stayed awake beside her till dawn during the night of the crisis, obstinate, silent, never once looking her in the eye. When she was cured he disappeared, excusing himself by saying he was very busy. He recommended that when the woman was well enough to get up, she take an X-ray, to see if there were any cicatrized traces of lesions.

The woman herself came to his office. She waited half an hour in the waiting room. She showed him the photograph, the plate on which, as on a gray cloud, there was designed the small basket of the thorax. The doctor looked at it for some time. Where, madame, were your beautiful shoulders, your smooth round neck, your breast, which now, after the illness, certainly would flourish anew? But he did not say anything. He found that everything was going well, that the recovery was perfect. "I can tell you now, madame, that it has been a miracle."

THEY were silent. The woman replaced the plate in its envelope. She seemed to be seeking, in it, for words with which to begin.

"There is a secret, between us, doctor. . . ."

"True, madame. A secret of yours. But first I must tell you one of mine. Are you surprised?" And he opened the drawer of his desk. He showed her the two packets, almost equal in size.

"You see? There are two. Not yours only. There are these too, eight years older, of my wife. But no one took them away, and my wife died, and I found them. No one saved my happiness, no one was concerned with my illusion. Why didn't she burn them? Why didn't she destroy them? Why didn't she tell someone to find them, tear them up, burn them? No. They remained at the bottom of a drawer, so that I would find them, so that my life would be destroyed. She was not in time, Emma, to lie. She did not tell anyone: "Take them away. . . ."

A tear glistened on the glasses which the myopic doctor had over his eyes.

"They are alike, madame. Love letters in both packets. I have not read yours, naturally. The ribbon, you see, is unbroken. But I can imagine it: I know. They are alike. Emma could have told someone to take them away. I would never have known."

He took the yellowed packet from the drawer.

"You take them away, madame. Take them away. Burn them. Yours, these, I will burn myself. Here, take them."

There was supplication in his look. The woman took the yellowed packet and put it in her bag. The doctor went over to the gas burner he used for sterilizing. He removed the ribbon from the second packet.

"Not now, doctor. When I have gone. . . ."

He heard her walking down the corridor, and closing the door of the stairs after her. He said "Later", and tied the ribbon again. He dried his eyes, dried his glasses, and opened the door to the waiting room. To one of the patients he said: "Come in".

Books In Review

MISS ROLLINS IN LOVE. By Garibaldi M. Lapolla. 372 pages. New York: The Vanguard Press \$2.

When "The Fire in the Flesh" by Garibaldi M. Lapolla came out a year ago, the publishers, not without reason, called him "the distinguished author of a distinguished first novel." Impartial critics rated it as a good first novel, and Italian-Americans were grateful to him for having made a significant contribution to a field in which they have not advanced in proportion to other activities, and both eagerly looked forward to his next novel. Now we have it: "Miss Rollins in Love."

Though the central character, a blonde young school-teacher who suffers because she holds her natural emotions in check more than most others of her class, is not Italian, it was inevitable that Mr. Lapolla should portray an Italian-American, and this he does in the person of Donato Contini, a Pierres-like youth with a talent for sculpture, who attends the high school in which Miss Rollins teaches. Of a sensitive and artistic nature, Donato has many opportunities to go wrong in the immigrant neighborhood in which he lives, but he avoids them all, is "discovered" by an arty group, becomes wise to the ways of life, has a few "affairs", develops his art, and marries an heiress.

More interesting and more plausible is the author's delineation of Miss Rollins. Like many other young teachers, she feels that life is passing her by, and at the death of her mother and the departure of her invalid brother, she determines to see what there is in the tenet of "Voluptas Est Summum Bonum" (Pleasure is the greatest good). First with Stephen, who desires her physically, then with Crabbing (an excellently drawn character) also a teacher, who would like to have her "pool their resources", then with Mortimer, to whom, in a moment of semi-intoxication, she almost gives herself, and finally, with Donato, she seeks love, but finds it only with the latter, who, in turn, is sad, for he loves another.

Inevitably, the question of comparison between Mr. Lapolla's first and second novels arises. Though it must be confessed that the story, qua story, of Miss Rollins and Donato is not as interesting at that of the turbulent characters in "The Fire in the Flesh", the author again shows a knowledge of character that binds the action together and gives the book solidity and depth. Particularly, as in his first novel, does Mr. Lapolla reveal a deftness in the portrayal of minor characters, such as Crabbing, Miss Batten, Mrs. Nilins, Mortimer, Stephen, and Donato's father.

In summation, it might be said that, though Mr. Lapolla is familiar with the

life of both the schools and Italian-America, it is in the picturization of the latter that he excels, and thus "Miss Rollins in Love", though a fine and understanding novel, does not quite come up to the standard set by "The Fire in the Flesh".



Garibaldi M. Lapolla

Author of "Miss Rollins in Love"

An elementary school principal in Brooklyn, Mr. Lapolla was born in Rapolla, Italy, in 1888, and came as a child with his parents to America, where he went through the schools, and obtained his degree from Columbia. Besides his two novels, he has also collaborated with Mark Van Doren in editing a recent anthology: "The World's Best Poems".

THE TERROR IN EUROPE. By H. Hessel Tiltman. 413 pages. Illustrated. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co. \$3.75.

Under this lurid title, and a still more lurid jacket cover, the author has prepared a so-called exposure of political conditions in certain European countries—Soviet Russia, Italy, Poland, Hungary, Jugoslavia, Rumania and Lithuania—which do not have the blessing of parliamentary government. Russia and Italy, naturally, comprise the bulk of the book, and an indication of the detached and judicial nature of the book—to be more precise, the lack of it—is afforded by some of the chapter headings under "Italy": Italy in Chains—Fascism's Blackest Crimes—Prisoners of Fascism, etc.

There is no civilized country in the world today that can boast of purity in its modern legislative and judicial history. Certainly the United States, with its Mooney-Billings case, its Sacco-Vanzetti shame, its squelching of striking miners, and its over-zealous curtailment of constitutional rights for those suspected as Communists (to mention but a few instances) is no exception. And no fundamental change in the life of a country that takes place within a few years can help but run against the grain of a minority. The isolated instances of drastic measures taken by the Fascist Government in Italy to suppress opposition have precedents innumerable in history. Even today Great Britain in India, for example, is not entirely spotless.

As for the old, old accusation that Fascism has deprived Italians of liberty the best answer, outside of Mussolini's own speeches on the subject, is a report recently issued on "Fascist Rule in Italy" by the Foreign Policy Association, an organization, it will be admitted, with more prestige than Mr. Tiltman. Its conclusion states:

"The Fascists claim that parliamentary government was not an indigenous product, had never taken root in Italy, and had become completely impotent during the post-war years. They believe that a highly centralized government is alone capable of regulating the economic life of a country like Italy, poor in natural resources, and of insuring a just distribution of material goods among a rapidly growing population. The Fascists do not deny the suppression of individual liberty, but contend that they have introduced higher ethical values into Italian life by imposing on all groups of the population a discipline dictated by national, as contrasted with personal, interests. They assert that, as a result of this discipline, the Italian people have applied themselves with a new energy to the task of production, and that Italy's prestige among nations has thereby been restored and enhanced. Finally, they claim that the government, having re-established internal peace and order, has effected a series of important reforms directed at the development of the country's resources."

Though the author, in writing what it must be admitted is sensational (and, therefore, interesting) reading, claims to have used authorities on both sides of the question, it seems, in the case of Italy, that he quotes Fascist sources on matters of well-known fact, and anti-Fascist sources on matters that smack suspiciously of opinion, thereby achieving a balance that is dubious.

The work involved in gathering the instances of violence recorded in the book (together with some rather rare photographs) must have been considerable, and Mr. Tiltman is to be given credit for having performed a laborious though one-sided job. Having shown how violence is used in countries under dictatorships, we now await a much more interesting volume, which we hope Mr. Tiltman will also undertake. It should be entitled: "The Terror in Modern Democracies".

ALL MY YOUTH. By *Fredericka Blankner*. 86 pages. New York: Brentano's. \$2.

More than a volume of tender, lilted and sincere poetry, which it undoubtedly is, "All My Youth" captures within its covers in limpid and charming words the art, the lore, above all the appeal of Italy, and presents itself in homage to that wonderful land which inspired it. The cycle of poems "Italia", especially, have an austere and classic, yet wonderfully human, touch about them that endears them to all who, like the author, are in love with Italy.

Quotations are imperative in reviewing this book, for example the little poem dedicated to Botticelli's "Annunciation".

*The breath of lilies and the hush of wings:
The holy stillness of sweet early things:
All art is fair, but here is art that sings!*

Or the poem "Renaissance":

*Through year on year I have filled and filled
my mind with beauty:
Must it all be spilled one day in earth and
seep away?
Perhaps a fairer-formed more perfect flower
May spring above me that I knew Greek art;
Perhaps the blades of grass above
will sing more ardently
That I had Italy within my heart.*

And this, with its sweet nostalgia:

*I was happy in a far land
Where Beauty walks with the brightness
of the primal stars in heaven.*

*And now a note of melody that tells me of it
Can make my heart break.*

An American girl who won a Fellowship to the Royal University of Rome, met outstanding Italian personalities while there, and came back with a Doctorate of Letters from that university, Miss Blankner at present divides her activities by teaching Italian literature at Vassar, lecturing throughout the United States on things Italian, and writing for leading periodicals both here and abroad. Many of the poems in "All My Youth" have previously appeared in outstanding American magazines and anthologies. The volume is being published simultaneously in Italy by Campitelli, of Rome and Foligno.

SOCIETY, ITS STRUCTURE AND CHANGES. By *R. M. MacIver, Lieber Professor of Political Philosophy and Sociology, Columbia University.* Ray Long & Richard R. Smith, Inc., New York. 1931.

It is indeed encouraging to open a modern sociological treatise and discover that it actually comprehends the field of Sociology in all its phases; that it is comparatively objective; and that it does not belong to the flood of socioecological studies with which the various departments of Sociology in our larger Universities seem to have become obsessed. Although not so palpably a pure summary of the many opposing points of view represented by

individual sociologists and schools, historical and current, its comprehensiveness inevitably brings to mind Sorokin's "Contemporary Sociology", as well as Todd's "Theories of Social Progress", the latter because of the satisfactory manner in which varying theories are appropriately pigeon-holed and later harmonised. It is so easy,



Fredericka Blankner
Author of "All My Youth"

particularly in Sociology, to become lost in the labyrinth of social theories or to prematurely adopt one to the unjust exclusion of the others.

Society is reviewed from pre-literate man to the present, through the seemingly endless variety of social changes which have taken place since the first man automatically composed the first "society", to the complicated structure, consisting of groups, neighborhoods, institutions, etc., from which the modern sociologist derives his intricate vocabulary. Few indeed are the authors who are neglected in this book, and insignificant the aspect of sociology which is not mentioned, explained or criticised. Then too, Professor MacIver contributes considerable original thought, particularly with regard to modern political movements which have caused social changes of vast importance, and it is to his treatment, direct and implied, of these newer movements, that criticism could be most easily, if not correctly, applied.

The book has already been adopted as a textbook in several colleges and universities and though typically of and for the classroom and containing little that is new for the student of sociology who already has a fair background in the subject, certain parts of it, specifically, as stated above, the treatment of social changes which have occurred within the last two decades or so, might well be read with profit by all who have the interest and patience to peruse its 546 strictly scientific pages to the end.

E. T. G.

CREEPS BY NIGHT: Chills and Thrills. Selected by *Dashiell Hammett*. 225 pages. New York: The John Day Co. \$2.50.

The omnibus idea in book publishing has had a considerable vogue of late—

due probably to the necessity of giving added value in these times of depression—and in this volume, Mr. Hammett, himself a well-known mystery story writer (*The Glass Key; The Maltese Falcon; etc.*) has applied it to horror stories.

Twenty stories guaranteed to send chills down the reader's spine are here included, most of them by well-known writers, such as William Faulkner, Andre Maurois, Irvin S. Cobb, W. B. Seabrook, Stephen Vincent Benet, Conrad Aiken, etc.

"A Rose For Emily" by William Faulkner, which leads the others, is probably the most incredible. An austere spinster inhabits, alone, a house to which no other human being has had entree, and at her death, when neighboring citizens break open a door that has been locked for years, they are met with a sight never to be forgotten: the moldy, dusty figure of a man in a bridal bed, and, on the adjoining pillow, a "long strand of iron-gray hair", belonging to the spinster!

The fantastic account of a young woman who feels uneasy when she dreams constantly about a certain house she has never seen is told by Andre Maurois in "The House". Years afterward, in travelling, she sees the house, approaches it, and discovers with amazement that her ghost has been haunting it!

THE AMERICAN YEAR BOOK: A Record of Events and Progress, Year 1930. Editor, *Albert Bushnell Hart; Associate Editor, William M. Schuyler.* Edited with the cooperation of a supervisory board representing national societies. New York: The American Year Book Corporation. \$7.50.

This annual historical summary in contemporary terms of the United States, recording the significant events in practically every field of human endeavor, is fast becoming more and more indispensable, as its volumes accumulate. Though it does not feature statistics, it does not neglect them, for, in their own place, they are necessary to this account of the year 1931, told as concisely and as selectively as the efforts of forty-six national learned societies, assisted by some 200 contributors, the whole edited by two nationally recognized historians, can make it.

An indication of the scope of the work is to be had in the fact that this year's volume of over 800 pages contains some 600,000 words, reference to any part of which is rendered easy by a comprehensive alphabetical index, which alone is 27 pages in length.

That the book can be used to advantage by student, professional man, historian, journalist, economist, business man, social worker, engineer and scientist is attested to by its contents. These are divided into seven great main divisions, the first of which treats of the United States in domestic and international politics. Other divisions include "American Government", "Governmental Functions", "Economics and Business", "Social Conditions and Aims", "Science—Principles and Application", and "The Humanities".

SPORTS

A NEW YORK SERIES

THE World Series on a five-cent fare is seen in the offing as the 1932 baseball campaign swings into the long drawn-out battle. It has been nine years since the two New York teams met to decide the championship of the world, and in all likelihood, the spell will be broken in the fall when predictors see the Giants and Yankees crossing bats in the baseball classic.

Both these teams have been strengthened by rookies who have the ability to fit in a major league berth. Yankee Coach Joe McCarthy points with pride to his new infield duo of Frank Crosetti and Jack Saltzgaver. The Italian shortstop and third-baseman has won the praise of students of the game by his deportment in the field. He is fast, covers much ground, and his throwing arm leaves little to be desired. Crosetti is a chop-hitter and does not, as a rule, hit the ball for long distances. But every so often he connects for long drives. Saltzgaver, while not as brilliant a player as the California Italo-American, promises to develop into a capable second-baseman.

These recruits are expected to fit in with the veterans Ruth, Gehrig, Chapman, etc., to keep the Philadelphia team from winning its fourth consecutive pennant. The Athletics will try for the American League bunting with practically the same team that won the past three years. Connie Mack is again depending upon the Big Three — Grove, Earnshaw and Walberg—to pitch the team to the first place standing. A slight accident to one of these hurlers will mean disaster. That possibility, coupled with the law of averages and team decomposition, is likely to keep the club from achieving what no American League team has done—win four consecutive pennants.

The poor season start of the Giants does not mean much in a campaign of 154 games. The erratic ball handling in the first three contests when the McGraw-

men made 15 errors for a record of some sort will be missing as the season rolls on. In Len Koenécke McGraw has one of the finest recruit outfielders of many a year. Jim Mooney, pitcher, who reported towards the end of last season, is expected to prove a mainstay on the pitching staff. Hal Schumacher is another hurler



Frank Crosetti
Making good at third base for
the Yankees

expected to do big things for the New York Giants, witness his first victory — a two-hit game against the Braves.

The team is a formidable outfit. Even last year it was considered the most powerful team in its league, but its spiritless play belied this. Nineteen-thirty-two is expected to see the Giants rouse themselves and show enough fight to beat out the Champion Cardinals for the National League pennant.

The Cardinals made no beneficial trades during the past winter. Instead they lost Burleigh Grimes. The veteran spitballer won seventeen games for St. Louis last season and the club is left without recompense for these victories. Gabby Street is relying upon his young pitchers—Carlton,

Dean and Starr — to come through, but if they flop the hurling staff will be notably weak.

We pick the other clubs to finish as follows:

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Third—Washington: One of the league's best defensive teams. Fairly powerful on the offense with six .300 hitters.

Fourth—Cleveland: Infield is the weak spot.

Fifth—St. Louis: Enough to lead the second division.

Sixth—Boston: Weak at the bat.

Seventh—Detroit: The batting punch is lacking.

Eighth—Chicago: A remote possibility that the White Sox will finish higher.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Third—Chicago: The hurling staff is expected to keep the Cubs in third place.

Fourth—Brooklyn: An improved team. Especially with the addition of Tony Cuccinello in the infield and Hack Wilson in the outfield.

Fifth—Pittsburgh: A wonderful outfield and that is about all.

Sixth—Cincinnati: Trades have improved the Reds. The addition of Ernie Lombardi, Wally Gilbert, Babe Herman, and Chick Hafey is expected to make this team ever dangerous.

Seventh—Boston: Nothing much here.

Eighth—Philadelphia: Not a good pitcher in sight.

ITALIAN SPEED-BOAT

CONTE Rossi di Montelera of Torino, Italy, has virtually decided to bring his speed-boat, Torino, to the United States this summer to compete in the National Sweepstakes at Red Bank, N. J., in August, and in the Potomac free-for-all during the President's Cup regatta at Washington this summer.

If he goes through with his plans, Count Rossi's speed-boat will have the distinction of being the first foreign craft in either of these events. The Torino is a single-engined hydroplane whose 1 000 horsepower engine has driven her almost ninety miles an hour.

GENE SARAZEN "DUE"

GOLF followers look upon Gene Sarazen to come through in the national open this year, a tournament which he won in 1922. The play will take place on the Fresh Meadow Country Club links in Long Island,

(Continued on Page 130)

MUSIC

By Margherita Tirindelli

THE METROPOLITAN OPERA SEASON IN RETROSPECT

A glance over the Metropolitan Opera's statistics brings out the fact that despite the cry of depression the season offered a wealth of interest. This, even though there are some very obvious reasons why the plight of this institution is not as happy as it should be considering its standing. Today the American public is demanding it, and especially is this true



Giulio Gatti-Casazza

of the New York public. Having been in a position to pay for anything and everything it has desired, it has come to care for the best; this it is not surprising that it should rebel at having to put forth its perfectly good money for productions that do not always come up to the best artistic standards. This condition is due, especially, to the fact that the artistic roster carries many names of secondary talent. The public does not stop to take into account the reasons for this fact; it merely considers its own interests with the net result that it will not patronize productions where high prices are asked for poor talent. Unfortunately, the great luminaries of the artistic list are not sufficient nowadays to blot out the irritation caused by poor talent. Not that these luminaries are less attractive in themselves, but because the American public has reached an artistic appreciation level such that it enjoys a production as a whole.

Returning to the subject of the number of productions at the Metropolitan this year, we find that there is a total

of 166, with forty-eight different titles. Of these, twenty-four were given in Italian, ten in French, thirteen in German and one in English. Of course Verdi and Wagner led the list.

There were six novelties: Schwanda, Donna Juanita, La Notte di Zoraima, Simon Boccanegra, Lakme and Sonnambula. Montemezzi's *Notte di Zoraima* was not successful, despite the magnificent singing of Rosa Ponselle, which again proves the writer's previous statement that the American public has learned to judge a performance by its all-around merits, musical and artistic. Simon Boccanegra was a masterstroke; other than giving Tибbett a chance to display his dramatic powers, it brought very definitely to the fore the young Italian-American baritone, Claudio Frigerio. This young man has many possibilities which his well-wishers sincerely hope he will develop; but they will require a very definite line of study, an intelligent outlook and a broadening and strengthening of character. Perhaps the most magnificent example of beautiful singing was displayed this year in *Sonnambula* by Gigli and Pons. It can honestly be said that the art of bel cato re-lived in its glory each time this opera was sung, both artists having the ability to enact the Bellini passages with enviable suavity and beauty of voice.

The Italian operas performed were (Verdi) *Aida* 7, *Traviata* 5, *Rigoletto* 5, *Il Trovatore* 4, *La Forza del Destino* 4, *Simon Boccanegra* 6; (Puccini) *Tosca* 3, *Madame Butterfly* 3, *Boheme* 4, *Girl of the Golden West* 2; (Donizetti) *Elisir d'Amore* 3, *Lucia* 4; (Leoncavallo) *Pagliacci* 6; (Masca-



Maestro Vincenzo Bellezza



Claudio Frigerio

gni) *Cavalleria* 3; (Leoni) *L'Oracolo* 4; (Rossini) *Barbiere* 2, *Guglielmo Tell* 2; (Giordano) *Andrea Chenier* 1; (Ponchielli) *Gioconda* 3; (Montemezzi) *Notte di Zoraima* 4; (Bellini) *Norma* 2, *Sonnambula* 3.

GENERAL MUSIC NEWS HERE AND ABROAD

Gino Marinuzzi's three-act opera, *Palla dei Mozzi*, was given its premiere at La Scala in Milan on April 5.

The Juilliard School of Music gave Malipiero's opera, *The False Harlequin*, its American premiere on April 28.

A recent performance in London of Busoni's violin concerto has greatly revived the interest of the English in this masterpiece almost forgotten among them.

Great enthusiasm reigned at the production, for the first time, of Mascagni's *Pinotta* at San Remo. The work is said to contain many beautiful lyric passages and prophets state that soon it will be heard beyond the Italian borders.

Alfredo Casella's first opera, *La Donna Serpente*, had tremendous success when produced at the Teatro Reale in Rome. The work is based on a fable by Carlo Gozzi, of the eighteenth century.

Toscanini has been announced as opening and closing the Philharmonic Symphony concerts for the coming season, the season to open October 3. The Maestro's return to New York for the conducting of the benefit concert for musicians, on April 27, was received with unrestrained enthusiasm from both his colleagues and devoted public.

TRAVEL NOTES

THE most important international exhibition of modern art in the world, which takes place every two years in Venice, Italy, was opened this year on April 28th and will last until November 4th. Works of the greatest modern artists of all Nations are exhibited, and fourteen nations have their own pavilions. Foremost among the nations exhibiting are the United States, Great Britain, France, Russia, Austria, Japan, Spain, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Poland, Hungary and Italy.

A brilliant series of night festivals, concerts, and lectures have been arranged for the duration of the exhibit, which is the eighth to be held in Venice. More than six million people have visited the seven previous Venetian Biennial International Art Exhibitions and a record attendance is expected for this year. Reduced rail fares from all points in Italy to Venice are in effect during the period of the exhibition.

As part of the program, the Second Biennial International Music Festival is also being held this year, and advance reports indicate that the worldwide success attained by the first festival in 1930 will be surpassed. Celebrated composers have been invited to send new compositions to the committee, and the best works will be played by an orchestra of selected musicians under the direction of world-renowned conductors, among whom will be Stravinsky, Montoux, de Sabata and Willy Ferrero. There will also be concerts of old as well as modern orchestra, choral and chamber music.

Paintings and sculpture of American artists have already been shipped over, with more expected, and Mr. Martin Birnbaum, who now lives in Venice, has been appointed director of the exhibition for the United States. Mr. George D. Pratt, art patron and philanthropist and a member of the board of trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, has agreed to finance the American show, housed in a pavilion recently built by the Grand Central Galleries. The American show is divided into four main sections, one devoted to the works of the late George W. Bellows, another for the works of Arthur Davies, a third given over entirely to the art of the American Indian, assembled by John Sloan, and a fourth gallery containing the works of contemporary American painters.

It is expected that the King of Italy and Premier Mussolini will attend the opening of the American exhibition, after a pageant on the famous Grand Canal.

LIVING costs in Italy are among the lowest in Europe, according to figures issued by the U. S. Dept. of Commerce. With 1931 taken as 100, the index of the cost of living in Italy was 117 as against 120 for Great Britain, 125 for Norway and 133 for Germany.

Reduction in living costs has made it possible for hotels in Italy to reduce their rates accordingly, and, on an average, 1932 rates are about 15 to 20 per cent below those in effect in 1929.

A ROAD bed completely paved with a mosaic of fresh cut flowers is the spectacle offered the tourist who visits Genzano, Italy, on May 26th this year when the festival of the "Infiorata" will be held.

Genzano is a small town on one of the hills outside of Rome, which for centuries has been visited by Popes and kings to attend this famous festival. The Via Livia, which starts at a fountain in the square and leads up hill to the steps of the church, is completely covered with an intricate mosaic pattern developed in flowers of many colors.

WORK on the new railroad station which is to be built in Florence, Italy, has been started and the Italian Government announces that when completed, it will be one of the finest in Italy. Last year the new station at Milan, the largest in Europe, was completed, and the stations at Turin, Venice and Naples were modernized.

AN automobile road to the government observatory which overlooks the crater of Mt. Etna, in Sicily, the largest volcano in Europe and one of the greatest in the world, has been begun by the Italian government and when completed promises to be one of the most exciting drives in all Europe.

Up to the present, excursions to the summit of Mt. Etna had to be made either on foot or by mule-back from the town of Nicolosi, and usually the round trip would take twenty-four hours. With the new road, the ascension will be possible in a few hours motor drive from Catania.

The new road will take one to the Canton Outpost which is about 5600 ft. above the sea level, and but a short distance from the summit, which is nearly 9,000 ft. high. From the top of Mt. Etna one views a marvelous panorama of undulating plains and colorful seas, while at one's foot one looks

down into the turbulent crater of the volcano.

THE hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the world-renowned blue grotto of the Island of Capri, near Naples, Italy, will be celebrated this spring with an elaborate water pageant, song festival and water sports with the King and Queen of Italy attending the inaugural events.

Many legends have been circulated about this cavern, into which the sea penetrates through an aperture four feet high, and where the sun's rays entering through the water, fill the cavern with a magical blue light. It has probably been in existence since the Roman era, but the first record of its rediscovery dates back to May 16, 1822.

AN explanation of the ever increasing popularity of motoring in Italy probably lies in the announcement recently issued by the Italian Government that \$160,000,000 has been spent during the past three years in building new roads and improving old ones. As many as 55,000 workers have been employed at one time on road work. Italy now has more than 6,000 miles of improved motor highways and many new roads to regions hitherto inaccessible.

FOREIGNERS bringing their cars into Italy now obtain auto licenses and driving licenses as soon as they land, without any of the intricate formalities heretofore required.

The Italian Government has passed a ruling authorizing the Italian Tourist Information Office in New York at 745 Fifth Avenue, and the representatives of the Royal Italian Automobile Club, to issue applications for motor and driving licenses and to take the necessary steps so that the applicant, upon his arrival in Italy, will find his Italian permits awaiting him.

THE six Italian steamship companies which are in the Adriatic Aegean Seas service have been merged into one large company, the "Adriaca". Among the improved services announced by the new company are a daily schedule between Ancona and Zara, and between Bari and Durazzo in Albania. More frequent sailings will also be established between Brindisi and the island of Rhodes, and between Brindisi and Piraeus (Greece).

The head office of the "Adriaca" will be in Venice, with branch offices at Zara, Ancona, Brindisi, Fiume, Durazzo and Rhodes.

TOPICS OF THE MONTH

(Continued from Page 104)

legislation to reduce all immigration quotas. Not long ago the same estimable ladies stated publicly that it was a great shame for American children to be "rubbing elbows with the children of immigrants."

When one reflects that under the national origins provision of the Act of 1929 all immigration under the quota is limited to 153,000 annually, the suggestion of further reduction assumes the proportions of a huge joke. As if this were not enough, the D. A. R. now comes forth and demands the deportation of all jobless aliens.

In 1789 there were in this country a little more than three million whites, all immigrants and descendants of immigrants. The great Irish migration to these shores began in 1820 and forty years later the Germans began to come in great numbers. The real Italian influx started in 1890 and continued until about 1920. The story of the gigantic progress of America is the story of a century of immigration represented by these dates: 1820-1920. These immigrants have made America what she is today.

In 1924 Albert Johnson—by the way, who remembers him now?—proposed his famous Bill which President Coolidge readily signed. Further restrictions were made in 1929 which President Hoover readily approved. What is going to happen next? The D. A. R. has answered the question—and the sad part of it is that some fool Congressman will probably echo the patriotic asinities of the D. A. R. and some day we may see them enacted into laws.

IT'S TIME TO WAKE UP

OVER in Brooklyn, on primary Day last month, the voters of the Nineteenth Assembly District decided to have a new Democratic Leader.

Mr. Jerome G. Ambro, a young man of ability and great energy, who has been a member of the State Assembly for seven consecutive terms, ran against the regular candidate of the organization, an old-time politician who had been Leader of the District for nearly 25 years.

Ambro won a smashing victory and is now the Leader.

The significance of this local political incident lies in the fact that the Nineteenth Assembly District has an overwhelming Italian population. For years the voters have clamored for representation—and they finally have got it. The same thing happened not long ago in a New York District where the great majority of Italian-American voters elected Alderman Marinelli as Leader.

It is about time that the young Italian-American should obtain political recognition commensurate with the voting strength of the Italian people. We have in this State 1,500,000 Italians, a large number of whom are voters. These people demand recognition—and they will get it. Ambro and Marinelli have shown the way. There are numerous Districts where an Italian-American leader would be a real asset to the community.

Let the young Italians in these Districts wake up and go to it!

THE HIGH COST OF NATURALIZATION

THE other day I read a letter written by an alien addressed to one of our metropolitan papers in which the writer complained against the naturalization regulations now in effect. In truth, there is much to be said against the present rules governing the naturalization of aliens.

Aside from the fact that the process is cumbersome and frequently a cause of great inconvenience for all the parties concerned, the excessive, almost prohibitive, cost now involved, makes it well-nigh inaccessible to most of the applicants, particularly in these times of economic distress.

From that letter I quote the following passage which states the case very concisely:

"The larger fees now asked are a deterrent, and a substantial reduction would not only be in order but would in every respect be eminently desirable. There is, as a matter of fact, no good reason why the United States should demand payment for this privilege—which should not be bought and paid for."

We are all agreed that American

citizenship is a priceless right, but when a poor man has to pay some \$20 to obtain it, what becomes of the right? It becomes a luxury which only a few can afford. This is utterly contrary to the spirit of equality and justice which forms the basis of American citizenship.

The whole process of conferring this privilege ought to be simplified and made less costly.

MR. TAFT DISTURBS THE PEACE

AT a dinner held recently in the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City Mr. Lorado Taft, the well-known sculptor, had the audacity to make the following remarks:

"As a nation we have little accumulative wisdom and slight appreciation of the gifts of the ages. Our life is casual without background. Our homes seem to be on casters like our furniture, ever moving, ever changing. Our recreations are hectic at forty or fifty miles an hour; our music is jazz; our drama the movies; our literature the strident daily. In the other arts we are practically immune."

Mr. Taft spoke the truth, of course, but precisely for this reason one wonders how he escaped lapidation. There are truths which people don't like to hear and much less like to believe. Decidedly, Mr. Taft is not a prophet in his own country.

It will be a long time before the American people will realize the import of certain spiritual truths: this, for example, taken from the Koran: *If thou hast two loaves of bread, go sell one and buy thyself a flower; for the Soul too must be fed.*

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The World Depression

(Continued from Page 107)

it, and that, for her, the question was to export more of it, and not to import it from abroad. Then the offer was made to pay with man-power, labor, in the manner of the feudal "corvees", but the reply was that even of that commodity America not only had no need, but an over-abundance, as is attested to by the laws which, in practice, restrict immigration. In conclusion, I said that if I really had been sent by a debtor Europe, I would have had a brief drawn up of the refusal, which was opposed to my offer of payment, with the consequence of being freed from it!

To be frank, I must say that my way of looking at the problem found, in Wall Street, listeners well disposed. I had the personal impression that the greatest resistance to the cancellation of the war debts comes from the more purely political quarters, whereas financial circles are disposed to a more tolerant view. It is sought to conciliate the two tendencies, in the sense of subordinating the so-called political debt to the commercial debt, so that the latter shall have precedence.

My point of view is dissociated from such distinctions. All debts should be paid, whatever be their origin; but for all debts the creditor should not put the debtor in a position that makes payment impossible. There is an ancient motto in law: "ad impossibile nemo tenetur." I said and I re-

peat: the balance between debts and credits, in the international field, can come about only through an exchange of co-respective materials: goods or labor. The pretended exceptions to this rule are but fallacious appearances.

Sports

(Continued from Page 126)

which is Gene's home club. That and the fact that Sarazen is just about due to win a national title again (the last time he won one was in 1923) makes him a favorite.

While national titles have been evading Sarazen for the past nine years, he has earned the title of being one of the greatest money players of the day. His steady play, round after round, has brought the former caddy on the top or close to it in every tournament which finds him a player.

BAT—PETROLLE AGAIN

THE Petrolle-Battalino battle of last month which so aroused the boxing fraternity is scheduled to be repeated in Chicago shortly. Whether the battlers repeat the bloody encounter which they indulged in previously is a matter for conjecture. The Bat will be a much wiser fighter when he steps into the ring again against Petrolle. We do not expect him to carry the battle with the reckless abandon he displayed in the Madison Square Garden.

DEMPSEY vs. CARNERA?

IT seems definite that Jack Dempsey will meet Primo Carnera this summer. Here is an opponent that will gladden Dempsey's heart. If Carnera lasts six rounds with the old Mauler the former will certainly surprise most everyone. Carnera sadly lack the deadly punch that is needed to stop the former champion, and just outpointing him will not help Carnera's case much.

His recent bout with the old and decrepit George Cook makes Carnera look worse than ever. Not only did the much lighter Cook stay the distance with Primo, but he showed a complete disregard for the Italian's weight and height superiorities by mixing willingly.

If Carnera just managed to outpoint the weak-hitting Cook, who is Dempsey's inferior in boxing skill, what does he expect to do against the hard-punching Jack Dempsey?

M. A. M.

"UNIVERSALITA' ROMANA"

Continuando nella sua opera di diffusione dell'Idea Fascista all'estero "Universalità Romana" la rivista diretta dal Prof. Carlo Emilio Ferri pubblica nel suo ultimo numero il testo inglese del discorso del compianto Arnaldo Mussolini sul Risparmio. Il discorso è proceduto da una breve commossa ed acuta introduzione del Senatore Giuseppe De Capitani d'Arzago, Presidente della Cassa di Milano e dell'Unione Internazionale delle Casse di Risparmio.

Pure notevole è un articolo in inglese del Ministro Plenipotenziario Alberto Pirelli sulla situazione economica e uno del direttore della Rivista G. E. Ferri sulla progettata costituzione di una Unione Internazionale Fascista.

La direzione della Rivista è a Milano Via Giuseppe Verdi 16.

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THE PRESS

Taking as its cue the recent appointment by President Hoover of Judge Benjamin Cardozo to the Supreme Court of the United States "La Notizia" of Boston, an Italian daily edited by G. N. Longarini, said editorially not long ago, after having approved of the nomination, that "We all know that almost all appointments are motivated by political reasons which are easily evidenced in the plans of strategy resorted to by political parties before and after their political campaigns."

Pointing out that the majority of the American citizenry are not homogeneous, but made up largely of racial groups, and that these groups are sought after when they offer prospects for the success of a campaign, the editorial continued:

"If there is one racial group in the United States of America whose citizens have not received the proper acknowledgement by the leading political parties, and whose citizens have not obtained recognition proportionate to their numerical strength by politicians, it is certainly the Italian group. There is no reason why this group should still be ignored. We have an enormous power which has greatly increased in the last decade as evidenced by the report of the United States Commissioner of Naturalization, showing that among the aliens admitted to citizenship during that period, the Italians have outnumbered by far all other groups. What we need now is good and sound leadership; progressive leaders who are capable of doing some constructive work in banding together the tremendous voting power of our Italo-Americans so that we may be able to show a solid front, and thus obtain the proper recognition by the political party leaders.

"Let us hope that the nomination of Judge Benjamin Cardozo will serve to awaken some of our leaders to the realization that the Italo-Americans are being unjustly ignored, and that it is time for them to start some constructive work with energy and aggressiveness."

Another editorial of similar nature appeared on March 19th in "La Gazzetta di Massachusetts", a Boston Italian weekly edited by James V. Donnaruma, in which it saw an indication, in the selection of Dr. Joseph Santosuosso by the Roosevelt forces and Atty. Vincent Brogna by the Smith group, that the Italian-American vote in that State, at least, was becoming recognized as a power.

"Today," it declared, "the naturalized men and women of Italian birth and their families constitute a powerful factor in Massachusetts. Numerically they are strong enough to hold the balance of power in any election prov-

ided that their strength is exercised with a semblance of unity.

"It is no more than they deserve that they have been recognized. Too often, in past years, Italo-Americans have been regarded as men and women whose votes in elections were important, but who were not important enough to be formally recognized in the apportionment of offices."

With a warning against internal division among the Italians, it continues:

"Unfortunately Italo-American voters have not a disposition to resist the entreaties and the conniving of candidates for political offices who are skilled in accomplishing what is known as 'splitting the vote.'"

"There is a spiritual crisis within the American economic crisis, and that crisis has more remote origins", begins an editorial by Dr. D. Rosafi in the Italian daily of Philadelphia, "L'Opinione."

"It is the crisis of the old rural, provincial and puritan American facing the more cosmopolitan, international and spiritually more adult America. Before this new America, young, robust and rebellious, the old puritan America raised as its last bulwark of defense the paradoxical 18th Amendment. Thus it is that over the restless and tumultuous life of this young people there hovers a shadow and a specter."

Following a comparison between the old and new spirit of America, the editorial continues:

"The hypocrisy with which public and private life in America is so often charged is the sad result of spent traditions and new realities which are afraid of the threatening shadow of the Puritan Fathers. The people become drunk in order to stun themselves and not to be able to hear the reproving words of this puritan specter. . . .

"America is marching toward her liberty.

"And so it is: this is no depression for America, but a transformation and a change."

"L'Italia" of San Francisco, the Italian daily edited by Gr. Uff. Ettore Patrizi, in approving of the plan revealed by ex-Gov. Smith at the Jefferson Day dinner, and applauding its clarity and outspokenness, concluded:

"But will he be listened to? Will his party understand what a marvelous page it could write in world history by carrying out a program such as Smith has in his mind and in his heart?"

"We have our grave doubts, for the party seems too divided, too anxious for power, and too diversified in its views, or, to put it better, its interests."

Under the heading "Provincialism", Alexander Bevilacqua, writing editorially last month in his weekly "The It-

alian Echo" of Providence, R. I., inveighed against "the inability of people to rise above their immediate surroundings", thereby handicapping social progress. Pointing out that the members of Congress pull in opposite directions because they place their community ahead of their country, he continued:

"Those who depend on votes for power keep the fires of provincialism burning by exaggerating the claim of 'our community first'. These are office seekers and office holders without civic conscience who are merely serving their own ends in rousing the public against fictitious abuses. Much of the agitation can therefore be discounted, but oftentimes it causes damage to the social structure and retards the logical carrying out of civic programs.

"Real patriotism is an emotion that should lift one out of the petty considerations of one's neighborhood. Interest in one's neighborhood is a laudable thing, but to carry it so far as to embarrass other neighborhoods degrades what should be a reasonable altruism. It has been set forth many times that the nation is as superior to the State as the State is to the City or Town. Loyalty to the nation as a whole comes first."

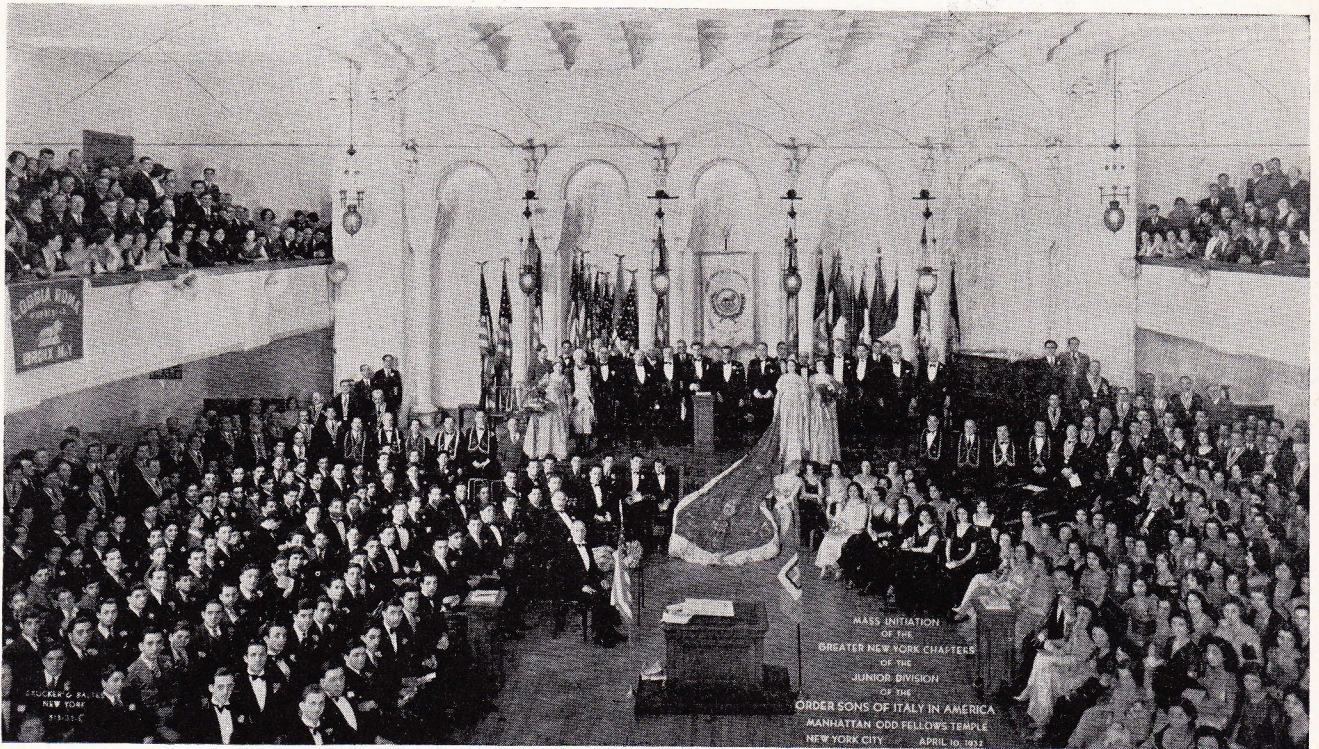
SOCIETIES

A huge mass initiation of some 1500 new junior members in 12 Junior Lodges of the Order Sons of Italy took place last month. Among those present were the Honorary Grand Venerable, Justice John J. Freschi, Gr. Uff. Generoso Pope, and the editors of the three Pope newspapers in New York: Italo Carlo Falbo of the "Progresso", Paolo Parisi of the "Corriere", and F. De Rogatis of the "Bollettino".

Seldom has so imposing a sight been seen as the gathering of this great number of young Italo-Americans, eager to carry on, in their own Lodges, the work begun by the Order itself, under the able leadership of Atty. Stefano Miele who initiated this movement, which cannot but be far-reaching in its effects.

The Circolo Dei Giovani of Bridgeport, Conn., held its annual ball on April 15th at the Ritz Ballroom in that city, with Roberto Piccirillo as chairman of the committee in charge.

The 25th anniversary of the founding of the Independent Order Sons of Italy will be celebrated on May 15th with a reception and dance at the Central Opera House in New York, to be attended by representatives of all its lodges, as well as the Italian Consul General in New York, Comm. Emanuele Grazi.



At a meeting recently of the Men's Advisory Board of the Italian Welfare League of New York, under the chairmanship of Justice J. J. Freschi, plans were laid for a bridge party to be held May 4th aboard the "Conte Biancamano" of the Lloyd Sabauda Line. Mrs. Siro Fusi is chairman of the committee in charge of the affair.

The Massachusetts Grand Lodge of the Order Sons of Italy held its annual Grand Ball last month in Boston. A feature of the affair was the drawing for prizes, giving the winners free round trip tickets to Italy. Assistant Grand Venerable Michael A. Fredo headed the dance committee assisted by the following: Grand Venerable Vincent Brogna, Nazzareno Toscano, secretary; Joseph Gorrasi, treasurer; Frank Abbadessa, Nicholas Auciello, Stephen D. Bacigalupo, Mario Bellomo, Joseph N. Bonfiglio, Joseph J. Borgatti, Cav. Uff. Frank Ciambelli, George E. Constantino, Benedict V. De Bellis, Albert C. Ienaco, Ubaldo Guidi, Joseph M. Magaldi, Comm. Saverio R. Romano, Louis N. Salvatore and Joseph B. Silverio.

In New Haven, Conn., the Circolo Italiano, with a membership of over 300, last month celebrated the 22nd anniversary of its founding with a banquet. Its president is Carmelo Abbadessa.

Under the combined auspices of several Italian societies of Baltimore, a banquet was given last month in honor of Cav. Rev. A. D'Urgolo, rector of the Church of St. John in that city and an ex-Army officer, wounded in the War and decorated for military valor. The occasion was the conferring upon him of the Cross of Chevalier of the Crown of Italy by the Italian Con-

sul in Baltimore, Dr. Mario Carosi. Others who were present included Mayor Jackson, Congressman Palmisano, G. M. Fava, president of the Central Committee of United Italian Societies, all of whom spoke, and the toastmaster, Cav. V. Demarco. Governor Ritchie, unable to attend, sent a telegram of congratulation.

The following officers and directors were confirmed at a recent meeting of the Circolo Dante Alighieri of Philadelphia at its clubhouse, for the year 1932: Joseph De Vito, pres.; Nazzareno Monticelli, D. Monticelli and Americo V. Cortese, vice-presidents; N. Vitullo, treas.; J. Porreca, sec.; with the Board of Directors consisting of Frank Lucci, Michael M. Goglia, Dr. Anthony De Nubile, Richard N. Giannini, Albert Foglietta, Filoteo Melchiorre, Louis Scaricamazza, Vincenzo Bellino, Joseph Brancalasso, Nazario Fantini, Alfredo Tasca, Tito Lazzaro, Alfonso Caputo, Angelo Pinto and Gennaro Sciuollo.

Before members of the Unione Italiana of New Orleans, Dr. Torquato Giannini recently gave a lecture comparing the roles of Washington and Cavour in the liberation of the United States and Italy. He was preceded by the Italian Consul in New Orleans, Dr. Vitale Gallina.

To celebrate its third year of existence, the Italian-American Civic Association of Irvington, N. J. gave a banquet last month. Among the speakers were Judge Anthony Minisi, Louis Mammano, chairman of the committee, Prof. Marasco, president of the Association, Atty. Louis Miraglia, Commissioner of Schools in Irvington, Atty. Metrione, Atty. W. Azaplie, and Dr. Catania.

Italian workers of the International Institute of the Y. W. C. A., recently in convention in New York, toured Ellis Island while in the city, and heard addresses by Edward Corsi, Commissioner of Immigration, and Miss Anita Giacobbe. Those attending were Giovanna Talamini, Boston, Mass.; Filomena Mare, Bridgeport, Conn.; Palmia Seggiaro, New Haven, Conn.; Grace Billotti, Jersey City, N. J.; Maria Lancia, New York; Mrs. Malinverni, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mary Milano, Paterson, N. J.; Aurora Unti, Philadelphia, Pa.; Rosina Martella, Providence, R. I.; Frances Francalanga, Trenton, N. J.; Mrs. Anna Feguine, Reading, Pa.; Mrs. Amalia Siniavsky, Bayonne, N. J.; Espectita Abbruzzini, New Castle, Pa.; Lucy Bredice, Erie, Pa., and Anita Giuliani, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

As part of the post-Lenten season, the Italian Social Circle of Pittsburgh recently gave a novelty ball at the Hotel Schenley in that city. Mrs. A. A. Macchiaroli was social chairman, assisted by Mrs. Joseph Badali. Officers of the society are Miss Mary Morgano, pres.; Mrs. F. J. Zappala, vice-pres.; Mrs. Jas. Messina, treas.; and Miss Christine F. Caputo, sec.

The annual party of the Business Men's Association of Rochester, N. Y. was held at the Hotel Seneca in that city last month. The committee, chaired by Samuel D. Di Pasquale, includes Arthur Milanetti, D. J. Roncone, Charles Granata, Anthony Masucci, Angelo Maggio and Sam Anzalone. Mr. Rudolph Napodano is president of the Association.

"The Spirit of the New Italy" was the subject of a lecture recently delivered by Atty. P. Micolino before the Columbus Club of Union City, N. J.

PUBLIC LIFE

Under the highest of auspices, the officials, trustees and staff of the Columbus Hospital in New York last month celebrated the first anniversary of the new structure with a reception given in the new building, attended by over 300 guests and broadcast over Station WOR.

Before the ceremony, congratulatory messages were read from President Hoover, the Pope, Premier Mussolini, Cardinal Hayes and many other prominent personages by Dr. Filippo Cassola, chairman of the medical board, who presided. The speakers included Nobile Giacomo de Martino, the Italian Ambassador, who is honorary president of the hospital, Edward Corsi, Commissioner of Immigration at Ellis Island, Father F. Robotti, and Dr. Cassola, and among those present were Mother General Antonietta Della Casa, head of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, the world-wide religious order founded 50 years ago by Mother Cabrini, which owns and operates the Hospital, Comm. Emanuele Grazi, Italian Consul General in New York, Supreme Court Justice Salvatore Cotillo, Judge John J. Freschi of the Court of General Sessions, and Ercole Locatelli, president of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in New York. Miss Lola Monti Gorsey of the Ravinia Chicago Opera Company and M. Romani sang several solos and a duet, accompanied by Maestro Bottega at the piano.

Antonio Meucci, whose claim to have been the original inventor of the telephone was officially vindicated by the Italian Government in 1923, was honored at a memorial service on the 127th anniversary of his birth recently on the lawn of the Garibaldi Memorial at Rosebank, S. I. Augusto Castellano, Italian Vice Consul in New York, was the principal speaker at the gathering which numbered several hundred persons including representatives of many Italian organizations.

In 1845 Meucci settled on Staten Island and eleven years later installed his first telephone in the little house which Garibaldi shared when he was in exile in America. Meucci presented his drawings of his invention to the New York Telegraph Company in 1872, but was unable to recover them. Four years later Alexander Graham Bell demonstrated his telephone, which was said to have been built from the plans drawn by Meucci, according to the Italian Government.

"The New York Times" commenting editorially upon the memorial service said, "Sociologists will regard him (Meucci) and others like him with a kindlier eye than technical historians bent on recording exact dates. He was one of the many imaginative personalities through whom the race realized its technical aspirations."

By a majority of more than 800 votes Assemblyman J. G. Ambro recently defeated Under-Sheriff Henry Hasenflug for the Democratic State Committee post from the Nineteenth Assembly District in Brooklyn, N. Y. With the victory Ambro automatically becomes a member of the Kings

County Democratic Executive Committee and as such will be the district leader.

Comm. Romolo Angelone, Commercial Attache at the Italian Embassy in Washington, spoke on economic relations between the United States and Italy recently at a special meeting of the Italy-America Society at the Casa Italiana of Columbia University.



His Excellency, Nobile
Giacomo de Martino

For the first time in the political history of Massachusetts, an Italo-American has been selected as a delegate-at-large to go on the ballot in the presidential primary election on April 26, pledged to vote for the nomination of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Democratic Convention. Dr. Joseph Santosuosso, national head of the Foresters of America, president of the Italian Democratic Club of Massachusetts, and member of the bar, is the Italo-American to receive the recognition from Mayor Curley of Boston.

Cav. Mario Carosi, Italian Consul at Baltimore, Md., was the guest of honor recently at a dinner given by former residents of the town of Norcia in the Province of Perugia.

Atty. Antonio F. Iovino was recently appointed Assistant District Attorney by the Suffolk County, Boston, District Attorney.

The former Assistant District Attorney of New York, Ferdinando Pecora, was honored recently at a banquet given by the New Century Club of Boston.

A silver medal of valor has been sent by the Italian Government to George Serafini, Italian Vice-Consul at New York, for his part in the rescue last year of Lieut. Edmondo Di Robilant, the Italian aviator who was lost for thirteen days in the Brazilian jungle.

Dr. Giovanni Giurato, Vice-Consul at Pittsburgh, was chosen as the first speaker by radio station WJAS in in-

augurating its new program of "Pittsburgh Personalities." Recently Dr. Giurato spoke on Fascism at the Pittsburgh Y. M. C. A.

Fred A. Barbati was recently elected Commissioner of Public Works in Springfield, Mass. Mr. Barbati is president of the Dante Club, Inc., and of the Italian-American Club of that city.

Nobile Giacomo De Martino, Ambassador of Italy, entertained at dinner recently in honor of Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Ogden L. Mills. His guests included Count Laszlo Szechenyi, the Minister of Hungary, the Minister of Greece and Mme. Simopoulos, Representative and Mrs. Robert L. Bacon and the American Ambassador to Japan and Mrs. Joseph C. Grew.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Prof. G. A. Borgese, eminent Italian critic and novelist, and a professor at the University of Milan, has been very much in demand during his sojourn in this country. He has given lectures at Yale, Harvard, the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, the New School of Social Research, and many other places. Luncheons and banquets have been held in his honor, among them the dinner tendered him by the New School of Social Research, attended by leading American literary figures. Not long ago, too, he was interviewed by the New York "Herald-Tribune" concerning his impressions of America.

On the occasion of the second centenary of the birth of George Washington this year, the Casa Italiana of Columbia University will publish a volume dedicated to the Italians of Washington's time, thereby gathering together much material on Lorenzo da Ponte, Filippo Mazzei, Francesco Virgo, etc. which is now scattered. The price of the book will be \$3.

Professor Jefferson B. Fletcher, whose recent translation of Dante's "Divine Comedy" has been highly praised by discriminating critics here and abroad, was recently awarded the rank of Commendatore of the Order of the Crown of Italy by the Italian Consul General in New York, Comm. Emanuele Grazi, at the Casa Italiana.

The Italian Club of the University of Notre Dame, under the supervision of Professor Pasquale Pirchio of the University, is sponsoring a pilgrimage to take place this Summer. Some of the participants are going to attend Summer courses of study at the University of Rome; some will spend the entire time in traveling, either with one of the pre-arranged groups, or alone, if they prefer.

Professor James J. Geddes, head of the Department of Italian at Boston University, was recently awarded the rank of Cavaliere Ufficiale of the Order of the Crown of Italy by the Italian Consul General in Boston, Comm. Pio Margotti, under the auspices of the Circolo Italiano of Boston at the Women's Republican Club in that city.

Middlebury College, in Middlebury, Vermont, announces for the Summer of 1932 the inauguration of the "Casa Italiana", the purpose of which is to create, parallel with and in collaboration with the Schools of French and Spanish, an Italian center for the training of teachers of Italian. The Director of the new Casa is Dr. Gabriella Bosano, chairman of the Italian Department in Wellesley College, who received her doctorate from the University of Bologna, and was formerly Professor of Italian at Vassar College.

The study of Italian has been introduced, for the first time in the history of the institution, in the College of the Pacific at Stockton, California. Two intermediate classes are offered, and Professor Luigi G. Vannuccini, head of the Italian Department at the Stockton High School for the last six years, is in charge of the courses.

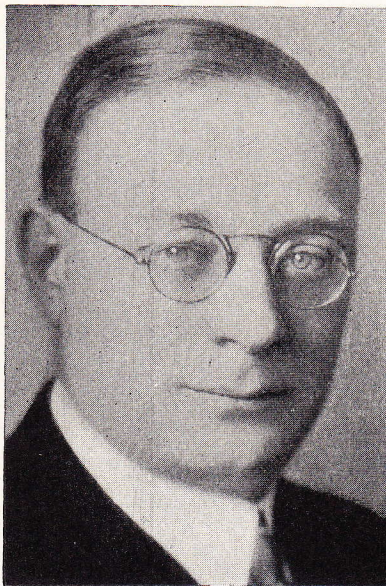
Four pupils of the Mother Cabrini Memorial High School in the Bronx, New York, which is run by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, were recently awarded medals by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. They are Eleanor Nye, Flora Compagnini, Olga de Francesco and Dorothy Parker.

The Rev. Charles L. O'Donnell, C. S. C., president of the University of Notre Dame, became a Chevalier of the Order of the Crown of Italy recently, when Dr. Giuseppe Castruccio, Italian Consul General in Chicago, presented the order to him at a banquet sponsored by the Italian Club of the University. It was given him in recognition of his services to Italian youths, and American youths of Italian blood, at the University, and for his services while attached to American forces in Italy during the war. Among those at the speakers' table were Rev. Michael Mulcaire, C. S. C., vice-president of the University, Rev. Matthew Walsh, former president, Leo Schiavone, president of the Italian Club, S. A. Bontempo, general chairman for the dinner, Prof. P. Pirchio, the Club's faculty advisor, and Prof. Victor Crecchio of the Finance Department.

Miss Norma Gallucci of Cheshire, Conn., a student at Smith College in Northampton, Mass., has won a scholarship enabling her to continue for a year her studies in Florence.

"The Contribution of the Italians to the American War of Independence" is the subject of an essay contest being conducted among Italo-American high school students in Philadelphia by the Order of Brotherly Love in that city, on the suggestion of Dr. Leopold Vaccaro. Entries must be in by Oct. 28th, and first prize will be \$100, besides which the winning essay will be published in pamphlet form. The committee's address is 1017 S. Broad St.

Beginning in September, the study of Italian at Rhode Island State University will no longer be, as it has in the past, elective, but compulsory. It will be under the supervision of Prof. Franz



Judge Felix Forte

Karbaun of the Romance Language Department, and is due largely to the efforts of Dr. Bressler, and members of the Italian Club of the University, among them Fred Colagiovanni, Albert D'Orsi, president, Edward Geremia, and Nicholas G. Migliaccio.

There was opened up last month in the auditorium of the Italian-American League in Paterson, N. J., under high auspices, the courses of the Italian-American People's Institute of Passaic County, sponsored by the Italian-American Citizen's League. Among those who spoke at the inaugural were Mayor Hinchcliffe of Paterson, Judge Peter Perretti of Passaic, A. F. Guidi, Matteo Ricco, Italian Vice-Consul, Cav. Pietro Cimino of Paterson, Prof. Alfredo Borloso, and Salvatore Viviano, Councillor of Paterson.

An artistic evening was held early this month at the Casa Italiana of Columbia University by the Crocchio Goliardico of the University, composed of Italo-American students. Besides music, comedies by Pirandello and Castelluovo were produced.



Cesare Sodero

Cav. Antonio Vena, of the Hudson County Court in New Jersey, spoke last month before students of Dickinson High School of Union City on "L'Italia ed i suoi luoghi mistici."

Pascal P. Pirone, B. S., of Mount Vernon, N. Y., a student at Cornell, recently won the Nassau Farm Bureau fellowship from the Graduate School of the University.

There was opened last month in Jamaica, L. I. the free school of Italian sponsored by the combined Italian societies of that district, at 148-64 South Street. The faculty is composed of Miss Pina Careddu, Mrs. Maria Luisa Favenza, Mrs. Gina D'Andrea, Prof. L. Beniamino, Achille Giannini, Luigi De Vito and Adolfo Lo Faro.

OCCUPATIONAL

A. P. Giannini, who regained control of Transamerica Corporation not long ago after a great battle, began a radio campaign recently through the National Broadcasting Company and Station KGO in San Francisco, to promote the commercial, industrial and agricultural resurrection of California, with a speech delivered over that station together with another by Governor Rolph. The campaign is being sponsored by the Bank of America.

The new president of the California State Automobile Association is E. B. De Golia of San Francisco, who has been with the Association for 25 years.

Imposing was the inauguration in the Bronx, N. Y., last month of the new 149th Street branch of the Banco di Napoli Trust Co., attended by some of the most eminent Italians in New York. One of those who spoke at the opening was Cav. Dr. Antonio Corigliano, executive vice-president of the Trust Co., which has the resources behind it of the Banco di Napoli, the world's oldest bank, founded in 1539. He pointed out that during the year 1931, hard as it was, the number of accounts had been doubled, although the Trust Company is of comparatively recent origin. Other speakers were Gr. Uff. Philip Torchio, president of the Board of Directors, Comm. Emanuele Grazi, Italian Consul General in New York, and Judge Salvatore Cottillo. Many telegrams of congratulation were received, among them from Judge John J. Freschi, Hon. Joseph McKee, president of the Board of Aldermen, Paul D. Cravath, Comm. Romolo Angelone, etc. Many Italians in the Bronx opened accounts in the new branch on the opening day. Cav. Alfredo Kniazzen is director of the new branch.

That Italian women have contributed as much to civilization as Italian men and by far more than women of any other race, was the assertion recently made by Judge Felix Forte of Boston in an address delivered before the Professional Women's Club in that city at the Hotel Statler. Judge Forte is a Professor of Law at Boston University Law School, a member of the Execut-

ive Committee of the Republican State Committee, and Special Justice of the Somerville District Court.

The first vice-president and director of the New York Edison Company and president and chairman of the Banco di Napoli Trust Company of New York, Philip Torchio, was recently honored for his many achievements by being made a Grand Officer of the Order of the Crown of Italy by the King of Italy. Gr. Uff. Torchio, an electrical engineer by profession, has made many contributions to the electrical field, but he has also made a name for himself as an economist and an industrialist.

Born at Vercana, Province of Como in Italy in 1868, he studied at the Royal Polytechnic Institute of Milan, and following his graduation in 1893, he came to the United States. His present affiliation with the New York Edison Company dates back to 1895, besides which he is a consulting engineer for several allied companies, past President of the New York Electrical Society, member of the National Electric Light Association, etc.

In recognition of his friendship for Italy and her people, Dean Homer Albers of the Boston University Law School was last month honored with the Cross of Chevalier of the Order of the Crown of Italy. The presentation was made by Comm. Pio Margotti, Italian Consul General in Boston. Dean Albers, who is serving his 50th year at Boston University Law School, has visited Italy many times.

The annual dinner-dance of the Italian Medical Society of Brooklyn was held last month at the Roman Forum in Brooklyn under the chairmanship of Dr. M. A. Ferragano, assisted by Drs. J. Di Noto, R. San Filippo and G. C. Brancato. The official president of the affair was Dr. Louis J. Tarmino, with Dr. Vincent G. Mazzola acting as toastmaster. Among the guests of honor present were Comm. Emanuele Grazi, Italian Consul General in New York, A. S. Carabillo, president of the Italian Pharmaceutical Ass'n. of New York State, Dr. Filippo Cassola, president of the Association of Italian Physicians in America, and Hon. Michael Ditore, Justice of the Municipal Court and president of the Roman Forum.

Also present were Prof. A. M. Miller dean of Long Island College of Medicine; Dr. Wm. Linder, president of Kings County Medical Society, and many others eminent in the medical and surgical field.

The first anniversary of the founding of the weekly "Corriere Siciliano" by Giuseppe Genovese was celebrated last month by an anniversary issue and by a program of music and dancing at the Central Opera House in New York.

Dr. Max Thoreck, director of the American Hospital in Chicago, has been awarded the Cross of Chevalier of the Order of the Crown of Italy, in recognition of his free care of and interest in the Italian needy of that city. The award was presented by Dr. Giu-



Maestro Francesco Marcacci

seppe Castruccio, Italian Consul General in Chicago.

Dr. Cesare Legiardi-Laura recently spoke before the Dante Alighieri Society of Jersey City on the subject: "From Magic to Science." He was introduced by Giuseppe Cupparo, president of the society.

The new president of the American Silk Association, elected unanimously at a recent meeting, is Cav. Uff. Paolino Gerli of E. Gerli & Co., with offices in New York, Milan and Shanghai.

FINE ARTS

The Philadelphia Grand Opera Company has engaged Cesare Sodero, the first internationally known operatic composer and conductor to enter the radio broadcasting field, to conduct all Italian operas to be presented by that company during the 1932-33 season. He has made two guest appearances with the Philadelphia company this year. He conducted "Rigoletto" and "Pagliacci" so well that Mrs. Wm. C. Hammer, general manager, invited him to join the company for next year. At present Mr. Sodero directs two NBC programs, "Through the Opera Glass" and the "NBC Artists' Service Music Program."

The Italian Teatro d'Arte closed its third season of fortnightly Italian plays on Broadway under the direction of Commendatore Giuseppe Sterni last month with "Il Canto della Vita" (The Song of Life), a drama in three acts by Pietro Barnini and Gino Ghelazzi. It was the first performance on any stage of this work, which recently won the prize offered by the Royal Academy of the Rozzi of Siena, and was offered as a gift to the moving spirit of the Teatro, Comm. Sterni, for his effort to establish a permanent Italian

art theatre in New York, an effort appreciated by discriminating lovers of Italy and good acting.

An "Italian Hall" was recently opened at the Brooklyn Museum to house a collection of Italian art begun by the late A. A. Healy.

The "Dante Alighieri" Society of New York last month held a Bellini celebration to commemorate the centenary of "La Sonnombula" by the famous composer.

The second of a series of three concerts was given last month under the baton of Guglielmo Sabati by the Italo-American Philharmonic Orchestra of Philadelphia at the New Century Club, with Riva Bercova, coloratura soprano, as soloist of the evening.

Two Italian films were produced at the Sam H. Harris Theatre in New York last month: "Zappatore", a musical romance directed by Gustavo Sereno and produced by Napoli Films, Inc.; and "Il Miracolo di Sant'Antonio", directed by Nicola F. Neroni and produced by Vitullo Films, Inc.

According to latest announcements, excerpts from the opera "Evangeline" by the Italian composer Francesco Marcacci will first be performed in Philadelphia on Tuesday evening, May 24th, in the Mitten Memorial Hall of Temple University.

To be held under auspices of the university's department of American literature, this premiere, which has been awaited expectantly for some time, will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the great American poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, on whose immortal poem the oper is based. The committee in charge is composed of the most eminent people in the musical and social life of the city, and one of the guests of honor to have been invited is the Italian Ambassador, Nobile Giacomo de Martino.

Philadelphia is the logical place for the premiere, for the original story itself ends in that city. In fact, Maestro Marcacci wrote the music for the last of the opera's four acts in the Quaker City after having visited the "almshouse" mentioned in the poem at 3rd and Spruce Streets, still occupied by the old St. Joseph's Church, said to be the first Catholic Church in the United States, in order to recreate within himself the scene and absorb its spirit. Maestro Marcacci, who is 46, studied in Rome, and first came to this country in 1923.

The Honorary President of the occasion is Dr. Charles E. Beury, President of Temple University, and the Chairman of the Committee is Dr. Thaddeus Rich, Dean of the Music School of the University.

As interpreters at the opening there will be Beniamino Gigli, tenor, in the role of Gabriel, Claudio Frigerio, baritone, as Basil, Mlle. Helen Bussinger, mezzo-soprano, Fiorenzo Tasso, tenor, and Miss Zita Rossi, soprano, in the title part of Evangeline. The composer himself, Maestro Marcacci, will conduct the premiere, and undoubtedly, with such illustrious talent on hand, the opera will be off to a good start.

ATLANTICA

in Italiano

LA DEPRESSIONE MONDIALE VISTA DA NEW YORK

Di S. E. Vittorio Emanuele Orlando

LA "Conference of Major Industries" tenuta l'anno scorso a New York, ed alla quale fui cortesemente invitato, ebbe una importanza ed una solennità che io credo sorpassino i confini dell'ordinaria cronaca. Intanto, essa mi ha fatto vedere praticamente il diverso modo con cui procedono i congressi americani in confronto di quelli europei. Primieramente, per la maggiore semplicità e rapidità; i congressi europei si prolungano per una o due settimane, a quella Conferenza bastarono 24 ore, almeno ufficialmente; come era naturale, le conversazioni fra i convenuti cominciarono prima e continuarono dopo. I congressi europei hanno temi predisposti e svariati; ogni tema ha i suoi relatori e determina discussioni, votazioni etc. etc.; in quell'altro tipo, la materia è indicata semplicemente così: per dar luogo a uno "scambio di idee". La sera ha luogo un **Friendship Dinner**; e tutto finisce qui. Non si può negare che questo sia il sistema di gente per cui il tempo è denaro; e i risultati, attraverso la maggiore densità e rapidità, non credo siano inferiori a quelli delle forme più complicate e più lunghe.

Fra le mie impressioni, la prima e più immediata era il senso di preoccupazione assai viva che, in rapporto alla crisi mondiale trovai diffuso in quegli ambienti. Beninteso, tale stato di animo non assumeva forme esterne: il sangue freddo e la calma risoluta e tenace, qualità tradizionale del Yankee, non si smentivano neanche questa volta. Ma, se io potessi qui fare un confronto con lo stato di animo europeo in rapporto al medesimo angoscioso problema, direi che fra i nordamericani sia assai più gravemente avvertita la responsabilità dell'ora che si traversa e specialmente per quanto riguarda i doveri che essa impone. Sono dei malati che pensano a curarsi: chiamano il medico e si mettono a dieta. In Europa sembra si preferisca abbandonarsi al destino; e quanto più la minaccia si aggrava, tanto meglio sia di godere, per quel tempo che resta...

L'impressione esterna, tuttavia, che si ricava a New York non rivela immediatamente perturbazione e tanto meno inquietudine. Si incontrano in verità, per le vie dell'immensa metropoli le fila dei disoccupati che aspetta-

no la distribuzione del pane o del latte; mentre altri numerosi disoccupati, ai cantoni delle strade, offrono in vendita le mele di cui la Città li provvede con l'anticipazione del lieve costo. Tuttavia, questa gente non ha l'aria di sofferenza, nè di miseria; al contrario, essi serbano compostezza e dignità anche nella stessa cura dell'abbigliamento: certamente, non hanno nulla di comune coi mendicanti.

MA a queste impressioni ottimistiche, le conversazioni con gli "experts" di Wall Street opponevano risposte che riconducevano bruscamente alla gravità della situazione.

Ad ogni modo, la crisi americana non va giudicata dalle grandi Città dell'Est relativamente ancora assai meno colpite e dove le cospicue riserve già accumulate, anche nelle classi popolari, riescono ad impedire o quanto meno ad attenuare le manifestazioni esterne del disagio. Il West, mi si diceva, versa in condizioni ben più gravi.

Ma più volentieri le conversazioni di Wall Street insistevano sulla depressione industriale. Il capo di una importantissima azienda mi diceva di avere ricevuto le ordinazioni per tutto un semestre: ebbene, mi disse, la capacità produttiva del mio impianto è tale che mi bastano 15 giorni!

Quanto ai valori di borsa, era, direi, con un senso di raccapriccio che si indicava il corso di un titolo che è citato come vedetta, cioè come quello che per il suo grande prestigio può dirsi che su di esso si modelli l'andamento del mercato: le Acciaierie unificate United States Steel. Nel 1929, il titolo era quotato 262 dollari; nei primi di ottobre 1931 valeva 61; malgrado tutti gli sforzi ed i provvedimenti presi e le speranze suscitate, esso è sceso ancora e la quotazione ultima è sotto 50! Ma fra tutti i segni della crisi, il più sbalorditivo e il più significativo è forse questo: dopo di avere moltiplicato sino al parossismo la produzione, ribassando sino all'inverosimile i costi di produzione e dopo di avere viceversa impedito la introduzione delle merci straniere con tariffe doganali quasi proibitive, nell'ultima estate si dovette constatare che, in complesso, gli Stati Uniti avevano comprato in Europa più di quanto non avevano venduto! Si ca-

pisce che il fenomeno fu affatto passeggero e la inversione si era già largamente verificata; ma l'impressione era rimasta profonda nell'animo di quei finanziari e di quei commercianti. Alla quale impressione si aggiungeva quell'altra ancor più minacciosa e cioè a dire che gli Stati Uniti i quali, durante la guerra e nel dopoguerra si erano creati una quantità fantastica di crediti verso il mondo intero e più particolarmente verso l'Europa, vedevano partire delle considerevoli masse del loro oro verso l'Europa in pagamento... di suoi debiti! Questo fenomeno di un creditore che affronta sacrifici per pagare i suoi debitori non è già l'effetto di un sortilegio o di una magia ma deriva semplicemente dalla diversa qualità dei crediti reciproci. Quelli che, a favore degli Stati Uniti, derivano dalla guerra o dai grandi prestiti a Stati o industrie europee nel dopoguerra, sono tutti a lunga, anzi a lunghissima scadenza. Vi sono certamente crediti americani considerevoli a breve scadenza, ma essi sono in gran parte verso la Germania e sono, quindi, "gelati" in virtù della nota moratoria Hoover. Mentre, dunque, Wall Street non poteva giovare che di ben poca parte dei suoi colossali investimenti all'estero, esso si trovava debitore di somme ingenti cioè per debiti a breve scadenza contratti proprio verso l'Europa nel momento della febbre della speculazione. Allora il tasso di interesse a Parigi o a Londra era appena intorno al 4 per cento; mentre impiegando il danaro nelle operazioni di borsa a New York si poteva portare quel reddito al 10 e persino al 12 e 15 per cento. Mu così che tutta la massa liquida di danaro europeo fu attratta da quel vortice: ora essa viene ritirata ed è così che l'oro è dovuto emigrare dai sotterranei della Federal Reserve Bank verso le capitali europee e più specialmente verso Parigi.

FU questo, forse il momento di maggiore ansietà; la sfiducia del pubblico aveva già dato luogo al fenomeno preoccupante delle tesorizzazioni di biglietti, per cui la Federal Bank aveva dovuto fare una nuova emissione. E, dall'altro lato, la stessa sicurezza del dollaro poteva essere messa in pericolo, non mai, beninteso, per se stessa, ma come effetto di un panico. E fu in queste condizioni che ebbe luogo la Conferenza delle Maggiori industrie. Ed arrivava il Sig. Laval e poco dopo il Sig. Grandi.

Si ebbe così l'immediata sensazione che mai una crisi economica è stata più immediatamente collegata con la situazione politica. Ed anzi, la politica è costretta, per ora a subordinarsi alla situazione economica e finanziaria.

Vedemmo nella sezione precedente i segni della crisi, quale essa si presenta a New York; esaminiamone qui le cause, sempre da quel punto di vista.

Da un primo punto di vista, ove si consideri la potenza delle risorse di quel paese, non si può esser ottimisti. Esso costituisce un mondo che può chiudersi in sé, non avendo bisogno quasi di nulla, ma di cui gli altri paesi han bisogno. Sono queste cose note; meno apprezzato è forse quello che io chiamerei l'apporto o contributo uma-

no a questa ricchezza. Noi europei siamo indotti, forse per inconsapevole invidia, a negare o sminuire il valore di tale contributo, onde spesso si sente dire o si legge (gli Stati Uniti non hanno per ora in Europa una buona stampa, almeno in generale) che si tratta di un popolo fortunato, cui la natura largi tutto ed in così copiosa abbondanza da farlo ricco e potente indipendentemente da ogni suo sforzo. Un tale giudizio è certamente ingiusto; ed invece, ciò che mi ha più profondamente impressionato in questa mia visita è stato lo sforzo continuo, tenace, formidabile, cui si assiste, sforzo di organizzazione intelligente. D'altra parte, io credo che nessun popolo al mondo lavori così duramente come il popolo americano; nessuna vita è vissuta con una intensità così logorante, che non si concede un attimo di requie nella lotta incessante per un maggiore benessere, per una continua elevazione verso la prosperità. E sarebbe miopia o meschinità l'attribuire tutto ciò a mera cupidigia di godimenti materiali, ad un culto idolatra del dio dollaro, mentre qui si tratta di gente che non gode ma soffre e che dell'azione, intensamente realizzatrice di beni, ha fatto una sua propria filosofia. Non è evidentemente la filosofia di noi latini che, pur avendo dato al progresso umano contributi inestimabili, consideriamo come una nostra forza ed una nostra felicità quella potenza di immaginazione creativa, capace di appartarsi dalla realtà empirica e di rifugiarsi in un mondo di idee, di fantasia e, se si vuole, di sogni. Ma non per questo negheremo che anche l'azione possa esser considerata come un fine a sè stessa e trasformarsi in vassione presso un popolo il quale affermi la sua apoteza in forma di incontrastato dominio nel campo economico.

MA, per l'appunto, questa considerazione serve a precisare il nostro punto di vista sulla crisi attuale degli Stati Uniti. In senso assoluto, dissi e ripeto che non è possibile essere pessimisti sull'avvenire di un paese che congiunge a tanta ricchezza di risorse naturali tante energie umane di volontà e di tenacia; sotto questo aspetto si tratterà di una crisi di minore ricchezza non mai di una minaccia di povertà. Ma, in senso relativo e cioè precisamente in rapporto ad un disegno colossale, formidabile, di dominazione economica del mondo, io credo che la crisi attuale ne segni il fallimento, e che questo fallimento sia definitivo, almeno sino a quando i metodi di attuazione radicalmente non mutino. Sono, in altri termini, proprio di una opinione opposta a quella che anima la recente pubblicazione di uno scrittore francese che congiunge ad un alto valore di economista la qualità di uomo politico, il Sig. Charles Pomaret: pubblicazione il cui titolo riassume tutte le preoccupazioni dell'Autore: "L'Amérique à la conquête de l'Europe" (Paris, Colin 1931).

Secondo questo scrittore, oramai l'Europa è sotto la influenza e sarà presto sotto la dipendenza degli Stati Uniti; si tratta di un imperialismo che per essere commerciale non è meno pericoloso degli imperialismi politici. Naturalmente, questo Autore è indotto a

considerare la crisi attuale come una debolezza del tutto passeggera, la quale in definitiva spingerà il popolo americano con accresciuta energia a cercare i mercati di cui abbisogna fuori del proprio territorio ed anche in Europa, soffocandone le industrie ed i commerci, impoverendola e soggiogandola.

A questa concezione io contrappongo, invece, la convinzione già espressa di sopra, e cioè che la crisi attuale significa il pieno fallimento di quel sistema che aveva prodotto i primi effetti, di cui lo scrittore francese così profondamente si preoccupa. Certamente la attività nordamericana di questi ultimi quindici anni (ma le origini sono anche più remote) si è sviluppata irresistibilmente in questi due sensi: moltiplicare la produzione sino al parossismo; moltiplicare i consumi in guisa da rendere possibile l'assorbimento di quella mastodontica produzione. Nel primo senso, la razionalizzazione della produzione aveva moltiplicato così il rendimento delle macchine come il rendimento dell'uomo, perfezionando la tecnica sino al prodigio. Quanto al secondo, lo sforzo non è stato meno sbalorditivo. Trova qui luogo la famosa dottrina di Ford per cui l'alto salario doveva essere desiderato dal produttore non meno che dagli operai, poichè in quel modo gli operai si tramutavano in forti consumatori e spingevano essi stessi verso la moltiplicazione della produzione. Così l'Europa fu fieramente assalita da tutti i lati; non solo le fu contestata ogni penetrazione nelle due Americhe, non solo fu scossa ed in parte distrutta la secolare supremazia europea negli altri continenti del vecchio mondo, ma finalmente, negli stessi mercati europei la concorrenza nordamericana diventò sempre più minacciosa e prevalente. Ma con l'estensione dell'azione si moltiplicavano i pericoli di essa. Quei trionfi contenevano in sè, fatalmente, i germi della crisi attuale.

INTANTO, in primo luogo, per operare questa conquista dei mercati europei, la finanza americana è stata costretta a fare della politica europea. Tutti ricordano la fiera reazione dell'opinione pubblica negli Stati Uniti dopo le vicende della guerra e della pace, nel senso di escludere ogni rapporto politico con l'Europa, reazione che culminò nel rifiuto di ratificare quei trattati, sulla cui formazione una influenza decisiva aveva avuto proprio il rappresentante degli Stati Uniti, il Presidente Wilson. Ma questa decisione aveva già sin dall'origine il suo punto debole e cioè l'esistenza dei debiti di guerra al cui pagamento l'opinione pubblica del paese non intendeva, nè intende rinunciare; — or una legge di psicologia economica vuole che il creditore non possa disinteressarsi delle sorti del suo debitore! Tanto più e tanto peggio siffatta complicazione della politica con la finanza si estese e si aggravò quando, sotto la pressione del programma di conquistare altri sbocchi alla esuberante produzione, la finanza nordamericana consentì, ad anzi desiderò, di fare altri impieghi di capitale in Europa. Si cominciò con offrire prestiti ai governi europei per la stabilizzazione delle varie monete, e

ciò per la ragione, puramente economica, che nella concorrenza degli scambi internazionali, il paese con moneta svalutata si trova in una condizione di favore: è noto che l'inflazione si risolve in una protezione industriale. Non basta: i prestiti americani si offrirono pronti al soccorso delle più importanti industrie europee già provate ed oppresse dalla crisi, in guisa da assumere il controllo. Gli Stati Uniti furono così creditori dei prestiti di guerra; creditori dei loro impieghi nelle industrie europee; creditori del saldo della bilancia commerciale.

Ed ecco porsi i fattori più caratteristici della crisi attuale, specialmente dal punto di vista degli Stati Uniti. Il loro programma di intensificazione della produzione li spinge alla conquista dei mercati mondiali ed a chiudersi, nel tempo stesso, dentro l'inaccessibile muraglia di un protezionismo proibitivo. Non basta: ma la stessa necessità di assoggettare i mercati congiungendosi a quella di impiegare l'esuberanza dei loro capitali, li induce a costituirsi creditori del mondo intero, per cifre fantastiche.

Or questa politica urta contro impossibilità isuperabili. Innanzi tutto, come è possibile di vendere sempre senza mai comprare? In secondo luogo, come è possibile che i crediti verso l'estero sian pagati altrimenti che con merci?

Il pretendere di attuare programmi fra di loro così contrastanti doveva determinare e determinò un disastro.

VI era l'esempio inglese, altamente istruttivo. Quella supremazia economica che ora gli Stati Uniti pretendono per loro (ed io non contesterò che ne abbiano ormai la potenza) l'ebbe già l'Inghilterra. Ma in quali diverse condizioni e con quale opposta politica? Per un secolo circa, Londra è stata il regolatore della finanza mondiale; la City, grande esportatrice di capitali, aveva crediti verso tutti gli Stati del mondo. Ma l'Inghilterra era libero-scambista! Ben lungi dal respingere la produzione straniera faceva appello ad essa e le schiudeva la via. L'Italia era sua debitrice; ma pagava coi suoi frutti, col suo zolfo, con alcuni prodotti del suo lavoro. L'Argentina era debitrice, ma pagava col suo grano, con la sua lana, con le sue carni. Come potremo noi pagare gli Stati Uniti se essi non vogliono riceversi le nostre merci, nè il nostro lavoro?

In uno dei miei colloqui con eminenti uomini di Wall Street fu precisamente considerata la questione del pagamento dei debiti di guerra. "Supponete, io dissi, che si siano formati gli Stati Uniti di Europa e che io, in questo momento, sia tra voi come un delegato plenipotenziario di essi. Ebbene, con tale veste, io vi dico: mi riconosco vostro debitore e vengo qui per pagarvi. Ditemi come volete essere pagati!"

Ed allora io feci sfilare tutta la produzione europea: ma per ogni merce offerta mi si rispondeva che l'America ne abbondava e che, per essa, la questione era di esportare il di più e non di importare dell'altro. Offersi allora di pagare con lavoro umano, sul tipo delle "corvees" feudali; ma mi si rispose che anche di esso l'America, non che

averne bisogno, aveva esuberanza, come attestano le leggi che in pratica, impediscono l'immigrazione. Allora io fui autorizzato a concludere dicendo che se io fossi stato davvero il mandatario dell'Europa debitrice, avrei fatto allora redigere un processo verbale del rifiuto che si opponeva alla mia offerta di pagamento con la conseguenza di esserne liberato!

Per essere sincero, debbo dire che tutto questo mio ordine di ragionamento trovava, a Wall Street, degli ascoltatori abbastanza ben disposti. Io ebbi l'impressione personale che le maggiori resistenze circa la cancellazione dei debiti di guerra provengano dagli ambienti più strettamente politici, mentre in quelli finanziari si sarebbe disposti

a maggiore larghezza. Le due tendenze cercano di conciliarsi nel senso di subordinare il debito così detto politico a quello commerciale, perchè questo sia pagato in precedenza.

Il mio punto di vista prescinde da tali distinzioni. Tutti i debiti debbono essere pagati, quale che ne sia l'origine; ma per tutti i debiti bisogna che il creditore non metta il debitore in una situazione che renda impossibile il pagamento. Vi è un motto antico quanto il diritto; **ad impossibile nemo tenetur**. Or dissi e ripeto: il saldo fra i debiti e i crediti, nel campo internazionale, non può avvenire che attraverso uno scambio di corrispettivi materiali: cose o lavoro. Le pretese eccezioni a tale regola non sono che apparenze fallaci.

ELLIS ISLAND DI OGGI

Di Domenico Lamonica

TUTTI coloro che sono stati ad Ellis Island hanno notata la grandiosità dell'ingresso principale che si erge maestoso al limite del largo spazio che lo separa dal punto d'approdo del ferry. E esso è veramente il portone d'entrata all'America.

Oggi però, per l'ingresso degli immigranti basta una piccola porta, mezzo nascosta dagli ornamenti in pietra scolpita che la circondano. La grande porta è stata murata e al di là è una lunga fila di stanze che contengono tutte le carte ed i documenti d'archivio che attestano la sorveglianza esercitata sulla marea dei venti milioni di immigranti entrati negli Stati Uniti per il portone che è stato ora chiuso. La piccola porta basterà nel futuro. Il cambio è simbolico ma la cosa che subito bisogna mettersi in mente è che, se la marea è divenuta un ruscello, oggi, per ogni immigrante entrato negli Stati Uniti, quattro ne sono deportati. Perciò vi è ad Ellis Island lo stesso lavoro di prima solo invece che per far entrare è per far uscire. Ad esempio nel giorno in cui io visitai l'isola essa conteneva, a parte dei 500 impiegati, 483 ospiti. Di questi soli 87 (63 uomini e 24 donne) erano immigranti mentre il resto, 369 erano deportati.

L'importanza di Ellis Island nella vita della Nazione può esser dimostrata dal solo fatto che il 77 per cento della popolazione bianca di New York è formata da persone nate all'estero o dalla prima generazione nata da immigrati. Ed è con grande interesse che gli stranieri e in particolare gli Italiani hanno seguito il lavoro di Edward Corsi dopo che egli, nello scorso Gennaio fu nominato dal Presidente Hoover Commissario dell'Immigrazione per il Porto di New York. Immigrante egli stesso egli è il più giovane Commissario che mai l'Isola abbia avuto, ed è anche il primo Italiano il cui incarico a coprire un Pubblico Ufficio sia stato ratificato dal Senato.

Ellis Island, in passato conosciuta come Gull Island fu, nel 1808 ceduta dallo Stato di New York al Governo Federale per servire da difesa alla Cit-

tà. In seguito servì come magazzino di munizioni e nel 1855 cominciò ad essere frequentata dai newyorkesi che desideravano passar quietamente i loro pomeriggi domenicali lontani da quello che, anche in quel tempo, doveva essere stato il frastuono della metropoli. L'Isola si chiamava allora Oyster Island e fu solo in seguito che il suo nome si mutò in quello attuale.

SOLO nel 1892, dopo che il Governo Federale ebbe istituito il servizio di controllo dell'emigrazione, Ellis Island cominciò ad essere usata per la detenzione e l'esame degli immigranti. Nel 1897 un incendio ne distrusse le baracche di legno e il servizio fu trasportato al Barge Office ove già era stato. Nel 1899 dopo che ingegneri del West Point ebbero finita la costruzione di nuovi e più grandi edifici l'Isola riprese le sue funzioni. L'immigrazione a quel tempo si avvicinava al massimo della sua fase. Nell'autunno del 1907 entrarono nell'isola 1.123.842 immigranti, con una media di 5000 per settimana. Questo numero è ora di molto sceso ma tutt'oggi l'isola raccoglie il 90 per cento di tutti gli emigranti che vengono in America e che ammonta a circa tre milioni all'anno.

Appena entrati nel palazzo dell'Amministrazione la prima cosa che colpisce il visitatore è la grande "recreation room" ove gli immigranti possono passare il tempo in attesa che le loro carte vengano esaminate, attesa che da venti minuti può prolungarsi ad una settimana o più. Questo è in genere dovuto ad irregolarità nei documenti dell'immigrante o al timore che questi possa divenire di pubblico carico. La grande sala ha l'aspetto di un uditorio, con un grande organo nel fondo ed una balconata all'intorno, sulla quale si aprono le porte dei dormitori. Ma non è la grande sala per sé stessa la cosa più interessante, bensì le persone che vi stanno raccolte. Chi siede solo, chi parla con sé stesso o con compagni recentemente conosciuti, chi legge gior-

nali o giuoca a carte o esamina il suo povero bagaglio. Altri sorvegliano i loro bambini che, senza preoccupazioni di nazionalità, giuocano tutti insieme, come tutti i bambini del mondo. Un chiassoso gruppo di polacchi discute dinanzi a un giornale; due tranquille donne, venute dai fiordi della Norvegia sonnecchiano placidamente. In un angolo un barbiere italiano fa sfoggio della sua arte tagliando espertamente i capelli ad un compagno di sventura mentre due grasse tedesche distribuiscono frutti ai loro ben paffuti figliuoli. Laggiù due Greci olivastri forse parlano del concerto udito nella sala il giorno prima. Una vecchia donna Francese, tutta sola ammira dalla vetrata il colossale spettacolo di Manhattan. Certo questa grande sala può esser chiamata la più cosmopolita di tutti gli Stati Uniti.

Vi è una più piccola camera in un altro piano, ove sono banchi da scuola, e quadri murali e fiori e giuochi.

PER circa un'ora al giorno i piccoli ospiti di Ellis Island vengono raccolti là e affidati alle cure di giovani e capaci maestre. Il refettorio, ove gli immigranti a spese dello "Zio Sam" prendono i loro tre pasti giornalieri è pure vasto, pulito, pieno di sole, e vi è nell'aria un profumo di buon cibo.

Molte società di beneficenza hanno coll'isola continui contatti. Organizzazioni come l'Y. M. C. A. e l'Y. W. C. A. l'Italian Welfare League, la Salvation Army, la D. A. R. ecc. meritano il grazie e la riconoscenza del Governo.

I deportandi vivono separati dagli immigrati ma il trattamento loro concesso è su per giù uguale. Sono a loro disposizione tre larghe stanze ove essi passeggiano, fumano, giuocano a carte ed anche possono uscire all'aperto. Per loro però non vi è speranza, essi solo attendono che le loro carte siano pronte e che un bastimento li riporti alle loro case. Essi sanno che non potranno mai rientrare negli Stati Uniti ma sembrano subire filosoficamente la loro sorte.

Vediamo ora le innovazioni introdotte dal nuovo Commissario dell'Immigrazione. Il Signor Corsi, a differenza di molti dei suoi predecessori, che venivano usualmente da un mondo lontano da quello degli immigranti conosce a fondo questi ed i loro problemi perchè fu immigrante egli stesso e sempre fra gli immigranti si svolsero le sue maggiori attività.

Egli vuole ora dare ad essi il più grande aiuto possibile e le sue stesse parole, meglio di ogni altre possono rendere il suo pensiero. "Noi abbiamo abbandonati gli stranieri al loro fato e le conseguenze di questo si ripercuotono non solo su di essi ma anche sulla loro patria adottiva. Noi non dobbiamo farne colpa agli immigrati ma a noi stessi. Non solo noi non abbiamo dato aiuto ai nuovi venuti, ma abbiamo permesso loro di crescere in quartieri stranieri ed in deplorabili condizioni."

Fortunatamente questo errore del passato dovuto anche al fatto che l'alto numero degli immigrati rendeva impossibile una maggiore attenzione individuale è stato lentamente ma sicuramente eliminato tanto dal tempo quanto dalle leggi e dai costanti sforzi della società.

DR. MARIO E. COSENZA

Di Catherine R. Santelli

Fu un raro privilegio per l'Italian Teachers Association l'offrire Sabato 9 Aprile 1932, all'Hotel Biltmore un banchetto al Dottor Mario Emilio Cosenza, Presidente della Società e decano del Brooklyn College durante il quale pronunciarono discorsi S. E. Noble Giacomo De Martino, Ambasciatore di S. M. il Re d'Italia, l'Hon. John J. Freschi, il Dott. Stephen S. Duggan, Direttore dell'Institute of International Education ed il Dott. William S. Boylan, presidente del Brooklyn College.

Il Dott. Mario E. Cosenza fu scolaro nella Public School No. 14 in Manhattan, e, per usare le parole del Dott. Stephen S. Duggan che dirigeva la Scuola a quel tempo, Mario non era soltanto il più intelligente della sua classe, ma un ragazzo dotato di non comune senso di responsabilità. Egli non perse queste qualità e noi lo troviamo al "college" primo della sua classe non solo negli studi ma in atletica e in drammatica. Egli era rispettato ed ammirato dai suoi compagni che meglio d'ogni altro sanno valutare i loro amici. Appena iscritto al College of the City of New York egli fu chiamato a sostituire un Professore assente e, graduato nel 1901 il Dott. Cosenza divenne istruttore di Lingue classiche al "college" stesso. Poco dopo gli venne offerta una borsa di studio per l'American School for Classical Studies in Roma, ove diede prova di essere così eccezionale scolaro che gli fu concesso di proseguire i suoi studi anche in altre città d'Italia.

Al suo ritorno egli proseguì i suoi corsi presso la Columbia University ove si laureò nel 1906. Durante questo periodo apparvero i suoi primi lavori letterari, specialmente di lettere latine ed il ben conosciuto "Francesco Petrarca e la rivoluzione di Cola di Rienzo".

Nel 1917 il College of The City of New York lo nominò "associate professor" e solo due anni dopo fu nominato Direttore della divisione

preparatoria al Townsend Harris Hall. Fu in quel periodo che Egli si interessò talmente alla vita di Townsend Harris da cui la scuola aveva nome che dopo non pochi anni di studio e di ricerche egli divenne non solo il miglior biografo di Townsend Harris ma anche uno dei più autorevoli conoscitori delle relazioni fra Stati Uniti e Giappone ove l'Harris fu il primo Console Americano.

Nel 1926, quando fu fondato il Brooklyn College e si sentì il bisogno dell'opera di un uomo di esperienza, cultura e capacità d'azione, il Dott. Cosenza fu posto alla testa del dipartimento di Lingue Classiche, finché nel febbraio 1931 ne divenne il Decano.

Tale complesso di attività scolastiche e tale vita di studioso non impedirono però al Dott. Cosenza di prendere attiva parte in diverse organizzazioni. Egli fu infatti il primo studente di sangue italiano ad essere eletto presidente della Società Phi Beta Kappa, ed importante posto anche egli occupa nell'Italy America Society. Da dieci anni egli è Presidente dell'Italian Teachers Association ed il suo lavoro e il suo sforzo incessante hanno fatto di questa organizzazione la più importante fra quelle della sua specie.

Mai il Dott. Cosenza cessò la sua propaganda in favore della lingua e della cultura italiane ed in pubblico riconoscimento della sua opera alcuni anni fa egli fu nominato dal Governo Italiano Commendatore dell'Ordine della Corona d'Italia. Il 9 Aprile 1932 gli fu poi consegnata, dall'Ambasciatore De Martino, la medaglia di benemerente per la diffusione della lingua e della cultura italiana.

Ed io sono in fine tentato di ripetere le parole pronunciate durante il banchetto dal Dr. William S. Boylan che disse di conoscere un proverbio italiano "molto fumo, poco arrosto", ma che il vecchio proverbio è stato rovesciato dal Dott. Cosenza in "poco fumo, molto arrosto".

PADRE ANTONIO MARASCHI

di Edoardo Marolla

GRANDE fu la parte che gli italiani, ed in special modo i padri missionari italiani, per la maggior parte appartenenti all'ordine dei Gesuiti, ebbero nella civilizzazione del Sud-West dell'America. Furono essi ad aprire al commercio le grandi vie di comunicazione, ad incoraggiare l'agricoltura e soprattutto ad esercitare la loro benefica influenza sugli indiani rendendo così possibile ai bianchi di sta-

bilirsi in quelle regioni e di vivervi in pace.

Se è vero che i primi a vivere in quelle località furono i Missionari Spagnoli, è certo che, senza l'opera degli italiani la più gran parte del loro lavoro sarebbe andata perduta per l'America di oggi. Fra i grandi nomi del primo gruppo dei Gesuiti Italiani stabilitisi nel Sud-West, oltre quello ben noto di Padre Nobili, che per molti anni fu mis-

sionario fra gli Indiani e che fondò la università di Santa Chiara, troviamo quello di Padre Antonio Maraschi, che avrà nella storia della civilizzazione Americana un posto egualmente eminente.

Poco sappiamo della gioventù di padre Maraschi se non che, nato in Italia nel 1820, venne giovanissimo in America. Egli era insegnante al Loyola College di Baltimore quando la Casa provinciale dei Gesuiti di Torino lo destinò a far parte della Missione in California. Insieme a un altro Italiano, il Padre Carlo Messea, insegnante di Chimica nell'Università di San Luigi, Padre Maraschi si imbarcò da New York l'8 Ottobre 1854 per la via dell'istmo di Panama. Dopo un lungo viaggio fatto in compagnia di cercatori d'oro arrivò a San Francisco nel giorno dei Santi.

Il primo incarico che gli venne colà affidato fu in qualità di Vice parroco nella Chiesa di San Francesco in Vallejo Street. Dal Novembre al Gennaio il suo nome è infatti assai di frequente citato nei registri di Battesimo e di Matrimonio e al principio del 1855 egli fu trasferito, con le stesse attribuzioni nella Chiesa di San Patrizio, il cui parroco era Padre Maginnis. E, fino da allora cominciò la sua opera. Non appena i primi minatori cominciarono a stabilirsi nella piccola cittadina egli, seguendo gli ammaestramenti del Santo fondatore dell'ordine prese subito misure atte ad assicurare il progresso culturale e religioso della futura Metropoli. Se Padre Nobili, nel 1851 con soli 150 dollari fondò l'Università di Santa Chiara Padre Maraschi soli quattro anni dopo iniziò la costruzione della sua istituzione.

A quel tempo il confine a West di San Francisco era segnato dalla Kearney e Third Street dietro alle quali vi era un largo terreno sabbioso. Convinto che la città si sarebbe sviluppata in quella direzione Padre Maraschi scelse un terreno conosciuto col nome di Valle S. Anna, dove oggi si eleva l'edificio Emporium. Chiesto un prestito di 11,500 dollari comprò l'appezzamento e subito eresse tre piccoli edifici che chiamò Chiesa di S. Ignazio e Collegio. La istituzione fu inaugurata il 15 Luglio 1855. Il Padre Alberto Weyringer, che vi dimorò l'anno seguente ci dà una descrizione del luogo. "Abitavamo, egli scrive, in un fosso circondato da colline di sabbia. Verso la città che si stendeva a poca distanza non vi era che una casa, cioè la capanna di un lattaio. Verso West si elevava l'edificio della scuola Lincoln nel luogo oggi occupato da Market Street, ma durante la mia permanenza a Sant'Ignazio questi edifici erano inhabitati. Dietro di noi si sollevava una collina di sabbia che dall'altro pendio raggiungeva Mission Street ed era un terreno neutro tra il nostro Collegio ed una scuola pubblica che era stata costruita in quel luogo. Questo territorio neutro era però spesso invaso dagli scolari della scuola sopraddetta perchè in quel tempo un gesuita con la sua sottana era oggetto di grande curiosità ed i ragazzi dalla cima della collina osservavano tutto quello che accadeva nel nostro Istituto e Padre Maraschi diveniva l'oggetto di molti scortesi commenti.

LA nostra abitazione era piccola e le comodità così scarse che a quel tempo Padre Accorsi e Padre Maraschi dormivano su un materasso che rotolavano durante il giorno e stendevano al suolo durante la notte."

Fino al 1859 la scuola fu conosciuta sotto il nome di Accademia e frequentata abitualmente da circa 69 studenti e 6 professori. Non era questo un numero imponente paragonato a quello dei giorni nostri ma non bisogna dimenticare che a quel tempo San Francisco era un luogo fuori mano e che attraversava un momento di depressione finanziaria che fu anche la causa della chiusura dell'Università. Anche la scuola di Padre Maraschi soffersse per questo stato di cose ma i gesuiti italiani, a prezzo di personale sacrificio e dopo lunghe sofferenze sopportate per la causa dell'educazione cattolica poterono non soltanto continuare la loro opera ma svilupparla sempre più.

Nonostante che il suo debito originale fosse raddoppiato l'istituzione continuò a progredire e nel 1859 le fu accordato dalle leggi della California il diritto di "conferire lauree con gli stessi onori letterari con le quali queste sono conferite da qualsiasi Università degli Stati Uniti".

Nel 1889 il numero degli allievi della scuola aumentò a tal punto che fu necessario trasportare il collegio nei comodi e grandiosi edifici di Hayes Valley. Da allora l'Istituto continuò a fiorire rigogliosamente di pari passo con lo svilupparsi del Sud-West e nel 1905 celebrò le sue nozze d'oro. Un anno dopo un terribile incendio distrusse quasi completamente il lavoro di 50 anni, ma, con uno sforzo degno di quello spiegato dal suo fondatore nel 1855 le autorità ripresero la sua ricostruzione. Il 20 Ottobre 1930 furono celebrate le nozze di diamanti e l'umile Accademia fondata da Padre Maraschi 75 anni prima assunse il nome di "Università di San Francisco". Il numero degli studenti iscritti si avvicina al migliaio di cui il 10 per cento formato da italiani.

Nei riguardi degli ultimi anni della vita di Padre Maraschi, la Signorina

Lina C. Zachert, assistente bibliotecaria dell'Università scrive: Padre Maraschi visse fino a tarda età; trascorsero 37 anni dalla fondazione prima che egli chiudesse gli occhi. Egli vide la modesta abitazione di due stanze e cucina espandersi nella residenza di Van Ness Ave. e la piccola Chiesa che poteva ospitare soltanto 400 persone divenire la bella chiesa di Hayes Street. Molti di questi anni furono da lui impiegati nelle funzioni di tesoriere, pagando vecchi debiti e contraendone dei nuovi, vendendo vecchie proprietà e comprandone di nuove.

INFATTI molti dei miglioramenti fatti al collegio in questi ultimi 25 anni furono possibili impiegando denaro guadagnato in speculazioni su terreni da lui iniziate. Questo suo compito di tesoriere sarebbe stato sufficiente a riempire l'intera vita di un uomo ed egli invece gran parte delle sue attività dedicò al suo ministero di sacerdote e di insegnante e sempre rispose agli appelli dei poveri e dei malati.

Dopo 77 anni interamente dedicati alla causa della religione e della educazione Padre Maraschi morì nel 1897.

Niente può ora chiuder meglio questa breve narrazione della vita del pio prete se non le parole pronunciate dal reverendo Edward J. Hanna, Arcivescovo di San Francisco in occasione delle nozze di diamanti dell'Università "... Essi hanno formate generazioni di illuminati e nobili uomini cristiani ed il loro successo nel passato ci dà assicurazione di un ancor più grande successo nell'avvenire e, in questo giorno glorioso per i figli di S. Ignazio, per la nostra Metropoli, per la California, mentre ringrazia il buon Dio per la benedizione che ha concessa a questi pionieri dell'educazione e ai loro degni successori, invoco da Lui ogni benedizione su di loro e sulla gioventù affidata alle loro cure, affinché questi giovani possano crescere come cristiani devoti al loro Dio e al loro paese, come onorati cittadini condottieri della lotta per la verità e per il diritto ed affinché dopo anni di servizio alla causa della chiesa e del loro paese essi possano ricevere il loro giusto compenso per l'eternità".

tivi nello studio dei pazzi inclidendovi il nato criminale che egli come considerava pazzo.

Con la collaborazione di numerosi e gloriosi compagni (i nomi di Enrico Ferri, di Garofalo, di Ottolenghi, di Sighele e di Carrara sono familiari agli studenti di criminologia) egli costruì un meraviglioso edificio di scienza, una nuova branca di cultura.

L'influenza del Lombroso, al di fuori della criminalologia fu enorme anche nel campo della cultura generale: Anatole France, Emile Zola sentirono l'influenza della sua teoria sulla giustizia, sul delitto, sul genio.

In tutta l'Europa le Università aprirono ufficialmente cattedre di antropologia criminale. Nel Belgio nacque una nuova scuola di antropologia che contribuì, con alcuni brillanti lavori, allo studio della filosofia della storia.

LOMBROSO provò che vi è un gruppo di criminali incorreggibili le cui tendenze anti sociali sono dovute ad una degenerazione organica ereditaria che si manifesta con una regressione e con un arresto dello sviluppo unitamente con l'epilessia.

Il nato criminale è un epilettico con o senza convulsioni; i suoi atti sono quelli di un selvaggio in mezzo alla nostra civiltà; egli non ha senso morale e non è possibile educarlo: è incorreggibile.

Secondo il Lombroso il quaranta per cento dei criminali sono nati criminali e il Dottor Legiardi-Laura pone la questione: che accade dell'altro sessanta per cento?

Egli trova una risposta a questo nelle moderne teorie della nuova psicologia, specialmente in Freud il fondatore della Psicoanalisi. Freud completa Lombroso. Ma Freud non è interessato in fatti biologici, in fattori ereditari o caratteristiche del corpo umano.

Lombroso trova che il corpo del nato criminale, così come la sua mente, ha caratteristiche ataviche.

Freud sostiene che nella mente di ogni uomo di oggi vi sono inconscie reminiscenze del passato. Un selvaggio o un bambino è celato in ogni uomo, normale od anormale. Freud ha scoperto il processo subcosciente della mente come un fatto generale mentre Lombroso lo ha osservato come un prodotto anormale di degenerazione. Il dott. Legiardi-Laura, che fu assistente di Lombroso e membro della redazione dell'"Archivio di Antropologia Criminale e Psichiatria" fondato dal grande maestro italiano ha consacrato grande lavoro alla dimostrazione delle relazioni delle teorie di Lombroso con quelle di Darwin e con la nuova psicologia.

Un libro che tratta questo interessante soggetto sarà dal dott. Legiardi-Laura presto pubblicato negli Stati Uniti e già è stato annunciato in uno degli ultimi numeri dell'"Archivio" la cui pubblicazione è ora continuata a cura della scuola italiana fondata da Lombroso.

LOMBROSO E FREUD

SOTTO questo titolo il Dottor C. Legiardi-Laura, già assistente di Cesare Lombroso, il fondatore della Scuola Italiana di Antropologia Criminale pubblica un articolo nel numero di Febbraio di "Medical Life".

L'autore comincia col riconoscere al Lombroso il merito di aver fatto del problema del criminale individuale un ramo della psichiatria e della psichiatria un ramo delle scienze naturali.

Il lettore potrà apprezzare il significato di questo se egli sa che al tempo del Lombroso la psichiatria non era realmente una scienza nell'uso moderno della parola. Così in Germania la pazzia era considerata come uno squi-

librio morale quasi come un peccato! Esquirol e Pinal in Francia iniziarono una reazione contro di questo, ma solo il Lombroso introdusse metodi positivi nello studio della pazzia. Egli durante cinquant'anni si consacrò allo studio dei pazzi, coi metodi clinici ordinari, cominciando con l'uso della bilancia che Sanctorius Sanctorius nel 600 aveva introdotta nello studio delle funzioni del corpo umano. Per questo la scuola di Lombroso fu, nei primi tempi chiamata la "Scuola della Bilancia". Ma Lombroso accettava la sfida ed egli stesso chiamava fieramente la sua scuola "Psichiatria della Bilancia"!

Egli introdusse tutti i metodi posi-

LA CONFERENZA DEL DISARMO

Vista dalla Stampa Italiana

A GINEVRA cinquanta delegati di diverse Nazioni continuano a discutere interminabilmente per arrivare ad accordarsi sulla riduzione o limitazione degli armamenti. Le diverse fasi del dibattito sono assai lunghe ed evolute ma la seguente storia raccontata dal Delegato Spagnuolo Senor Salvador de Madariaga illustra assai semplicemente le mire delle diverse nazioni. Egli raccontò in una delle recenti sessioni le pretese che avrebbero gli animati se si riunissero per discutere il disarmo. Il leone direbbe all'aquila: "Noi dobbiamo abolire gli artigli" e l'aquila al leone: "Sono le zanne che noi dobbiamo abolire". Poi anche l'orso esporrebbe la sua idea: "Aboliamo tutto eccetto l'abbraccio universale".

Al punto in cui la conferenza è ora essa sembra esser divisa fra due diversi metodi ed obbiettivi. Il piano Francese, esposto dal Signor Tardieu è di avere carri blindati, artiglieria pesante, gas e in genere tutti i pesanti armamenti in terra, mare ed aria sotto il controllo ed a disposizione della Lega delle Nazioni, mentre il piano Americano, proposto da Hugh S. Gibson vorrebbe bandire affatto i carri blindati, l'artiglieria pesante e i gas come armi di guerra. Se il piano Americano sembra più suscettibile di adozione che la proposta Francese è però possibile che, fra i due, si possa addivenire a un compromesso.

Una delle più popolari figure a Ginevra fin dall'inizio della Conferenza è certo quella del giovane Ministro italiano degli Esteri Dino Grandi. Fin dal discorso di apertura egli si mostrò in accordo col piano Americano, proponendo che le navi da guerra di più forte tonnellaggio, i sottomarini, le navi porta-aeroplani, i cannoni da campagna di grosso calibro, i carri blindati, i dirigibili militari, e gli aeroplani da bombardamento fossero distrutti e che fosse firmato un patto per non mai più ricostruirne.

Egli chiese inoltre una revisione delle leggi di guerra e un controllo dell'Aviazione Civile. La sua fu perciò una proposta di reale disarmo, cosa che sorprese le altre Nazioni, benchè non si debba per questo pensare che il desiderio che l'Italia ha di vedere la pace nel mondo sia maggiore di quelle che esse hanno.

La Francia da parte sua continua ad insistere che non si deve parlare di disarmo finchè la questione della sicurezza non sia stata regolata, dimenticando però che la sua sicurezza importa necessariamente la mancanza di sicurezza dei suoi vicini.

MA, commenta Italo Falbo su "Il Progresso" di New York non rappresenta una seria garanzia di sicurezza il complesso delle proposte americane, che potremmo chiamare italo-americane, poich'esse

furono precedute dalle comunicazioni dell'on. Grandi nel febbraio scorso?

A che cosa mirano queste proposte?

A togliere dalle mani degli aggressori di domani le armi più potenti e più efficaci per forzare le frontiere. Senza grossi cannoni, senza aeroplani da bombardamento, senza tanks blindati, senza l'aiuto di gas asfissianti l'offensiva bellica ritorna ad essere affidata ai più deboli elementi di assalto, che s'infrangono facilmente dinanzi a una frontiera modernamente armata e costantemente difesa da vigili scorte.

"Visto che la Francia ha le frontiere tecnicamente meglio difese del mondo (sono stati spese milioni e milioni per rinnovare e rafforzare le opere di resistenza) non vi dovrebbe essere più a Parigi la febbre della paura contro ogni possibile ritorno aggressivo dei tedeschi.

"Con le proposte italo-americane si raggiungono contemporaneamente due fini: grandi economie nelle spese militari, aumentata sicurezza degli Stati che non hanno intenzioni aggressive e che si mantengono sulla difensiva".

Scrivendo sul "Giornale d'Italia" di Roma, Virginio Gayda è press'a poco della stessa opinione, dato che egli così definisce le due posizioni: "... l'una che ha posto come premessa del disarmo il ben noto principio della sicurezza aggiungendovi quello della formazione di una forza armata internazionale, alle dipendenze della Società delle nazioni, per dar potere esecutivo alle sue decisioni; l'altra che tende diritta agli obbiettivi sostanziali della Conferenza — limitazione e riduzione degli armamenti — rifiuta i diversivi della sicurezza pregiudiziale e dell'utopistica forza internazionale armata, e, insistendo sulla necessità di un'azione seria per il disarmo, indica come prima serie di problemi concreti da risolvere quella di una limitazione qualitativa degli armamenti. La prima posizione è tenuta dalla Francia e affiancata dal Belgio, dai tre paesi della Piccola Intesa e dalla Polonia: la seconda posizione trova vicine con più di un punto di contatto e di affinità, l'Italia, l'Inghilterra, gli Stati Uniti e la Germania, e — sia pure con un particolare impostazione dottrinarie — la Russia dei Sovieti, ossia la maggior parte delle grandi Potenze. La seconda posizione, che si potrebbe definire realistica e fattiva, è stata fissata e precisata con una somma organica del ministro Grandi, la cui immediata eco mondiale con il vasto seguito di consensi d'ogni parte e paese prova la perfetta aderenza della sua sostanza ai bisogni più sentiti della massima parte delle nazioni".

IL "Corriere della Sera" di Milano che ha in Italia la stessa autorità che qui ha il New York Times, richiama l'attenzione sulle difficoltà che incontrano i delegati: "Appena venuti

a contatto con la materia da trattare, se n'è avvertita la difficoltà. Le Commissioni tecniche avevano innanzi a sé gli specchi della situazione dei propri armamenti che tutti gli Stati partecipanti alla Conferenza hanno dovuto fornire. I dati richiesti avrebbero dovuto essere ottenuti con uniformità di criteri e di metodi, al fine di prestarsi a fondate comparazioni e conclusioni; ma da un primo sommario esame è apparso subito che le cifre comunicate parlano un linguaggio diverso da Stato a Stato".

Come esempio di queste difficoltà lo stesso giornale cita gli effettivi delle armate: "Ecco due Stati con la stessa forza totale presente, poniamo di una media giornaliera di 100 mila militari. Uno di essi ha tutto l'anno 100 mila uomini sotto le armi e non fa richiami di classi; l'altro ne ha per tutto l'anno solo 80 mila, ma per un mese ne richiama per istruzione altri 240 mila (il che equivale ad averne, in più degli 80 mila, altri 20 mila per tutti i 12 mesi dell'anno, e cioè in totale 100 mila per tutto l'anno). Questi due Stati hanno lo stesso numero annuale di effettivi, eppure non si può dire che la loro preparazione militare sia la stessa. Ad evitare questo scoglio si potrebbero definire, si dirà, le aliquote dei richiami da consentirsi. Ma standardizzare i richiami per tutti i paesi sarebbe cosa inammissibile, perchè i richiami per istruzione sono subordinati a contingenze finanziarie, eonomiche, sociali, varie da uno Stato all'altro e anche di anno in anno per uno stesso Stato."

Dopo indicate queste ed altre difficoltà l'articolo di fondo del "Corriere della Sera", conclude dicendo: "... se si vuol salvare che la prossima sessione s'incammini per una via più piana, adottando metodi più spediti di quelli seguiti dalla Commissione preparatoria, che s'impelagò in una infinità di problemi d'ordinamento, proponendosi di colpire la preparazione militare in tutte le sue attività e non riuscendo ad accordarsi mai sull'applicazione di un qualsiasi sistema di disarmo."

La discussione intorno alle difficoltà che incontra lo svolgersi della conferenza per il disarmo è pure ampiamente trattata nella "Stampa" di Torino in un articolo sui sommergibili e le navi da guerra del Generale Giovanni Marinetti. "La previsione, egli dice, fatta due mesi fa da taluno che fu giudicato pessimista, che la Conferenza del Disarmo dovesse durare sei mesi, minaccia di diventare grandemente ottimista, se si guarda a quanto è stato fatto in un mese e mezzo. Con questo non voglio dire che sia stato fatto poco in senso assoluto, ma è troppo se si confronta la tappa percorsa con quelle da percorrere e si tien conto delle interruzioni richieste dalle feste pasquali, dai calori estivi, da elezioni politiche e da eventuali crisi ministeriali".

ENTRANDO poi nella questione dei sottomarini egli ricorda che "L'esistenza del sommergibile ebbe un primo attacco a Washington nel 1922 dall'Inghilterra e dagli Stati Uniti, ma fu difesa dal Giappone, dalla Francia e dall'Italia; ne fu di nuovo proposta l'abolizione a Londra nel 1930 e venne rifiutata da Francia e Giappone".

Riguardo alla inumanità dei sommergibili egli spiega che l'avversione ad essi "viene dall'impiego, che ne è stato fatto nella guerra mondiale. Ma — osserva il giapponese Matsudeira — è da condannare il metodo, non l'arma; se le navi di superficie adottassero quel metodo, e lo potrebbero, diverrebbero anch'esse inumane. A questo si può obiettare che il metodo deriva dalla fragilità caratteristica dell'arma che, per riuscire efficace, deve agire insidiosamente, proditoriamente; che ad ogni modo il sommergibile non avrà mai modo, come le altre navi di superficie, di raccogliere i naufraghi della nave da affondare".

E venendo infine a trattare l'interesse dell'Italia all'abolizione dei sommergibili il Generale Marinetti dice: "L'Italia lega l'abolizione dei sommergibili all'abolizione simultanea delle navi di linea. E' l'applicazione nel campo navale del principio generale della soppressione delle armi prevalentemente offensive. Di più essa significa questo, se non erro: il sommergibile mi sarebbe utile per la difesa delle mie coste e dei miei porti; lo sacrificio, ma a condizione che gli altri sacrifichino con me le grosse navi da battaglia".

"Il problema, egli conclude, è tutto qui ed è problema assai più politico che tecnico, come quello che coinvolge le più gravi ed importanti questioni mondiali. Per noi è oggi sufficiente e soddisfacente notare che la delegazione italiana ha parlato il linguaggio della logica."

Certo è che l'insistenza della Francia sulla questione della sicurezza ha messo più di un inciampo alla conclusione degli accordi e il "Legionario"

di Roma che è uno dei giornali italiani che non possono certo veder la questione attraverso gli occhi della Francia, in un articolo editoriale dice:

"Trascurando la questione dottrinale, e, cioè, se il disarmo debba procedere la sicurezza o la sicurezza il disarmo, l'on. Grandi ha constatato che "i fatti ci mostrano che senza disarmo non vi può essere sicurezza". La riprova di tale asserzione si ricava dalle spese militari degli ultimi anni. "Nel 1925 i nostri Paesi hanno speso 17.485.000.000 di lire oro; nel 1926 17.785.000.000; nel 1927 19.385.000.000; nel 1928 19.750.000.000; nel 1929 20.535.000.000; nel 1930 20.535.000.000. Queste cifre sono più eloquenti di qualunque ragionamento. Esse ci dicono che nel corso degli ultimi anni le spese militari dei nostri Paesi sono aumentate di più di tre miliardi di lire oro. Io devo inoltre richiamare la vostra attenzione sul fatto che questa corsa agli armamenti si è particolarmente molto sviluppata nel momento stesso nel quale noi creavamo gli strumenti giuridici della sicurezza, il Trattato di Locarno, il Patto di eliminazione della guerra, l'atto generale di arbitrato. Il che mi sembra significare chiaramente che il rafforzamento della sicurezza non può di per sé frenare la corsa agli armamenti, né distruggere il sistema della pace armata. Ciò non si ottiene se non affrontando direttamente il problema del disarmo".

"E' la verità. Ciò che bisogna rafforzare, non è la sicurezza mediante gli armamenti, poichè gli armamenti provocano gli armamenti, ma la giustizia. Ecco il punto".

ANTONIO CAMINETTI

Di Evelyn Bacigalupi

IL Governatore Rolph ha recentemente inaugurata nella Sierras una lapide in memoria di Antonio Caminetti, posta all'esterno della classe che porta il suo nome, nella Preston School of Industry a Ione, in California.

"Io sono felice di essere stato chiamato ad assistere all'inaugurazione di questa lapide" disse il Governatore, "felice perchè ho conosciuto Antonio Caminetti e so che il suo lavoro merita ricompensa. Ed è giusto che questa lapide sia posta sul muro dell'aula nella quale Antonio Caminetti trascorse tanti anni della sua vita. Se io avessi più tempo a mia disposizione sarei felice di parlare di più delle opere del mio vecchio amico ma essendo questo impossibile devo contentarmi di enumerare il Debris Bill, il Chinese Exclusion Bill, l'Education Bill, il Caminetti Curriculum e la battaglia da lui vigorosamente combattuta contro il Funding Bill.

"Antonio Caminetti sempre diede aiuto ai suoi compatrioti ed ai poveri ed è alla memoria di un uomo onesto e di un uomo grande cui oggi noi tributiamo onore."

Queste brevi parole danno idea della grandezza della personalità di Antonio Caminetti, personalità che non si potrà mai dimenticare e che sarà sempre amata, come lo sono quelle di Bryan e di Wilson, suoi intimi amici.

Antonio Caminetti non appartiene solo all'Amador, suo paese natio, ove egli, a soli 21 anni fu District Attorney, e neppure solo allo Stato di California ove egli fu Assemblyman e Senatore, ma appartiene a tutta la Nazione ed al Mondo. Egli servì la prima come Congressman e, sotto il Presidente Wilson come Commissario Generale per l'Immigrazione; l'ultimo come uomo di Stato e come diplomatico che consacrò la sua vita a rendere amichevoli le relazioni fra i diversi paesi del mondo e specialmente fra l'Italia, il suo paese d'origine, e gli Stati Uniti. Bisogna qui ricordare che nel periodo dell'ascesa di Antonio Caminetti gli italiani eran considerati come stranieri non desiderabili ed è in gran parte per merito di questo valoroso uomo di stato che i meriti della razza italiana furono riconosciuti in questo paese.

Egli fu il primo della sua nazionalità

ad avere posto nel Congresso, e tanto abilmente egli lo tenne che la Nazione stimò opportuno dare ad altri italiani cariche elevate.

I SUOI sforzi furono tanto apprezzati dall'Italia che l'Ambasciatore Nathan gli disse: "Tu devi venire a Roma. Noi ti accoglieremo tutti con entusiasmo perchè noi Italiani ti amiamo e amiamo quello che tu hai fatto per il nostro paese."

Non è facile che la memoria di un uomo resti, dieci anni dopo la sua morte, viva nella memoria dei suoi amici, ma questo è avvenuto per Antonio Caminetti. Le centinaia di Scuole e di Collegi dello Stato di California l'Alpine Highway, il Preston Reformatory e tante altre istituzioni rimangono come tributi alla sua memoria nella sua terra nata.

Ma per ottenere un posto così prominente Antonio Caminetti lavorò senza tregua. I suoi genitori non erano ricchi; erano umili, poveri emigrati italiani eppure, attraverso ogni difficoltà egli riuscì a compiere i suoi studi ed a laurearsi in legge all'Università di California.

A soli 21 anni Caminetti fu nominato District Attorney ad Amador County, posto che conservò per due termini.

Nel 1882 venne eletto a far parte della State Assembly ove per due anni rappresentò il suo distretto. Dal 1886 al 1888 fece parte del Senato dello Stato, e nel 1890 fu eletto al Congresso ove mantenne la carica per due termini. Dal 1896 al 1900 rappresentò nuovamente il suo distretto all'assemblea. Nel 1906 lo troviamo di nuovo al Senato dello Stato. Nel 1908 ricevette il voto complementare per Senatore degli Stati Uniti. Dal 1907 al 1909 di nuovo fece parte del Senato dello Stato finché fu, nel 1913, nominato, dal Presidente Wilson, Commissario Generale dell'Immigrazione la quale carica ricoprì fino al 1921, anno in cui si ritirò a vita privata. Dobbiamo ora ricordare che la California è uno Stato repubblicano e se Antonio Caminetti un democratico riuscì a raggiungere tali altezze è facile immaginare che cosa egli sarebbe divenuto se fosse stato un repubblicano.

Sempre, anche quando era al sommo della sua carriera, egli rimase uomo di popolo; sempre fu amico degli stranieri e dei lavoratori. Il popolo di Jackson, sua città nativa diceva parlando di lui: "Un uomo più onesto non è mai vissuto." Questo, io penso, è uno dei più alti elogi che mai siano stati tributati ad un uomo. Un uomo come lui era non ha bisogno di monumenti perchè il suo ricordo è scolpito non solo nel profondo del cuore di quelli che lo conoscevano e che lo amavano, ma anche in quello dei loro nipoti e pronipoti che ogni giorno ammirano le opere di questo grande italiano.

E noi, che portiamo interesse agli italiani che hanno costruito le loro case in queste terre siamo fieri di sapere che il Governatore del grande Stato di California era "felice di assistere allo scoprimento di quella lapide" perchè noi comprendiamo che con quelle parole egli riconosceva le opere e il lavoro del popolo italiano.

LE LETTERE

NOVELLA

di Orio Vergani

A SCOLTAVA attentamente. Il marito della malata, ogni cinque o sei ore, negli intervalli fra una visita e l'altra, gli telefonava per informarlo sul decorso del male: le variazioni di temperatura, il sonno, il numero delle pulsazioni. Lo avvertiva, ora, di questo strano delirio da cui era stata colta appena l'avevan lasciata sola un momento credendola addormentata. Si era alzata dal letto, aveva percorso, scalza, il corridoio, aveva aperto l'uscio del salottino, e lì, sfinita, era caduta. Il medico non comprendeva come fosse stato possibile questo imprevedibile delirio. Ne dette una spiegazione qualsiasi, per assicurare l'uomo di cui, affannata e stentata in uno sforzo di precisione, si udiva la voce, piccolissima, battere nel centro del microfono. Assicuro che non avrebbe mancato di passare, prima di sera. La voce raccomandava: "Se io non fossi rientrato, se fossi ancora in ufficio, la prego, dottore, di attendermi, se può: o di spiegar bene alla cameriera di cosa si tratta. Io, in caso, mi permetterei di disturbarla dopo, telefonandole..."

"Va bene, va bene. Ma lei, professore, dev'essere calmo, ha capito?"

* * *

Fece le sue visite del pomeriggio. Un ammalato nuovo, due in via di guarigione, uno aggravato, uno che non aveva nulla. Arrivò verso le sei a casa del professore. Salì al terzo piano. Il professore non c'era. La cameriera spiegò che, evidentemente, aveva dovuto trattenersi a scuola, perchè c'erano gli esami dell'estate. La malata riposava.

Era una donna ancor giovane. Il male l'aveva, in pochi giorni, smagrita. Il letto matrimoniale sembrava troppo grande, per lei sola. Si teneva da un lato, con una ostinazione muta, come se da questa ci fosse la vita, e dall'altra la morte. Alla luce degli occhi capì che la febbre doveva essere salita. La resistenza al male pareva fosse giunta già all'estremo. Era grave, anche più che al mattino. L'ascoltò ancora. Non dimostrò la propria preoccupazione. Aspettò, in silenzio, il tempo necessario per la temperatura. Era la fine di una giornata calda, e, spossato, aveva poca voglia di parlare. Guardò, sul comodò, la carta dove, ogni due ore, erano segnate le temperature. "Bene, bene".

— Brucio, dottore...

— Non se ne meravigli, signora. Sono le giornate più calde di giugno. Ma la febbre è stazionaria. E' già un buon segno.

Tacquero. La malata guardava fissamente il medico, e, ogni tanto, come per raccogliersi in un suo pensiero, chiudeva gli occhi.

— Veda di non spostare il termometro.

— Non dubiti, dottore.

Poi, si rivolse, d'un tratto, alla cameriera che stava ferma sulla porta.

— Maria, andate di là. Voglio restar sola col dottore, un momento.

Riprese fiato. Pareva volesse scusarsi. "Respiro con tanta difficoltà..."

— Non parli, signora, si risparmi tutte le energie.

— No, dottore. Devo chiederle una cosa.

— Dica. Purche' non mi chieda di alzarsi, — rispose sorridendo.

— No. So che non mi posso alzare. Stamani, quando lei è andato via, sa, ho provato.

— Lo so. Me lo hanno detto.

— Che cosa le hanno detto?

— Mi hanno parlato di un delirio. Ma non era possibile. Lei dunque mi ha disobbedito, come una bambina. Ma io, signora, — aggiunse sorridendo, — non sono mai stato un medico per i bambini... A meno che non cominci adesso.

— Cosa le hanno detto?

— Che ha percorso tutto il corridoio, fino al salottino, e lì è caduta. Poteva farle molto male.

— Le devo chiedere un favore, dottore.

— Dica, signora.

L'ammalata tacque un momento. Poi disse:

SONO molto grave, nevero? No, — mormorò, — non mi risponda. Mi direbbe di no. Lei è buono, è il suo dovere, e mi dovrebbe fare coraggio. Ma io so che sono molto grave. Anche mia madre è morta di questo male. Non mi dica nulla. — Tacque ancora. Guardò alla porta, come se temesse che qualcuno ascoltasse. Poi continuò, a voce ancora più bassa: — Lei non può negarmi un favore. Le parlo come a un confessore. Ma a un prete questo non potrei dirlo. Guardi. Di là, in salotto, nella mia piccola scrivania di maggiolino, c'è una cosa... Non posso chiedere questo favore a nessuno. Lei sa, siamo nuovi di questa città. Non ho amiche. Bisogna che lei mi faccia questo favore prima che mio marito torni. Levi il cassetto. Nel fondo, dottore... Non mi guardi così...

— Si calmi, signora. Io non guardo in nessun modo.

— Nel fondo, c'è una busta, piena di lettere. La porti via, la porti via, le bruci. Non voglio che possa restare qui, se io muoio. Mi fa questo favore?

Il medico tacque un momento. In quel silenzio parve alla malata ch'egli acconsentisse. Suonò alla cameriera.

— Accompanya il dottore in salotto. Deve scrivere.

Andarono in fondo al corridoio. Disse alla cameriera di tornare nella stanza della malata. Entrò: trovò, nel fondo della scrivania, le lettere. Ripose la busta in tasca. Tornò di là. Guardò il termometro. Ordinò qualche iniezione per sostenere il cuore. Sfuggiva lo sguardo della malata, e questa taceva. Si sentì suonare. Arrivava il marito. Mentre la donna andava ad

aprire, la malata chiese in un soffio:

— Le ha trovate?

— Sì. — E mostrò la tasca della giacca.

La malata stese la mano, come per accarezzare, attraverso la stoffa, le lettere. Il medico si scostò.

— Mi perdoni, dottore, mi perdoni... Un'altra cosa. Forse non le vedrò più. Ma non le bruci, se non muoio... Grazie.

Il marito entrò, pallido, con un sorriso che non sapeva come resistere. Rimasero insieme qualche minuto, al letto della malata.

— Sei stanco, nevero, caro? Questi esami, queste interrogazioni, con questo caldo... e i tuoi colleghi insopportabili, pedanti... Il professore di greco che si addormenta... anche oggi, nevero... *

* * *

OTTO anni. Li contò, nella memoria. Erano passati otto anni, sulla curva vita del dottore. Otto anni di visite, avanti e indietro per la città. Migliaia di malati, centinaia e centinaia di morti, chiamate notturne, con la pioggia, con la neve: camere notturne dove si moriva a una tenue luce di *veilleuse*...

Non sapeva più dove andare. Gli pareva di smarrirsi. Si sentiva vecchio, solo, abbandonato. Dentro la tasca, la mano stringeva le lettere. Poi la ritrasse, come con ribrezzo. Alzò gli occhi al terzo piano della casa. Vide il chiarore della finestra. Mormorò: "E io dovrei salvarla?" Salvare anche lei, come chissà quante altre, anche lei che, fino all'ultimo, aveva tradito, aveva nascosto, aveva trovato un complice. Si vide in una lontana mattina, in una casa che era stata la sua, otto anni prima, tre giorni dopo i funerali della moglie, quando l'aria delle finestre spalancate per tre giorni non aveva ancora fuggato l'odore delle corone e dei ceri, si vide davanti a una piccola scrivania, dove erano le carte di lei, i conti di casa, le fatture della sarta, i figurini ritagliati dalle riviste. Il cassetto non veniva fuori, come se, dall'interno, una mano di lei, lo trattenesse. C'era un intoppo, un incastro, forse il legno umido. Aveva strappato con forza. No. Non era un difetto del mobile. Era un pacco di lettere, nascosto tra il cassetto e il fondo: una calligrafia di uomo. Sua moglie non aveva trovato nessuno, un dottore compiacente, un "gentiluomo" per distruggere quelle lettere. Forse, non pensava di morire; e la morte era arrivata egualmente.

Dio l'aveva punita, aveva pensato. Ma no. Dio non c'entrava per nulla in queste cose. Era bastata una finestra aperta, una corrente d'aria, in una sera, come questa di giugno. Se la finestra fosse stata chiusa, avrebbe continuato a vivere, e a nascondere lettere nella piccola scrivania. Lui non avrebbe saputo niente, lui avrebbe continuato a credere d'esser felice. Emma avrebbe avuto oggi quarant'anni, come, fra otto anni, li avrebbe la malata del terzo piano; e nessuno l'avrebbe punita, e nessuno l'avrebbe uccisa.

Anche la malata del terzo piano, chi l'avrebbe punita? Forse aveva preso freddo un pomeriggio, in casa dell'amante, mentre il marito era agli esami, accanto al professore di greco che ave-

va la digestione difficile. Che idea di vendetta poteva avere il povero professore? Anche questi credeva di esser felice, e ora spasimava, e tentava di sorridere, per non scoppiare a piangere, accanto al letto della sua malata dalle care braccia smagrite che avevano abbracciato un altro, che si erano sporte per accarezzare un'ultima volta quelle lettere, supplicando di non bruciarle se viveva. Credeva di essere felice, il professore. Lo avrebbe creduto per tutta la vita, ormai, d'esserlo stato, anche se la moglie fosse morta, non potendole rimproverare altro che di averlo lasciato solo al mondo.

VIDE scintillare nel taschino l'oro della stilografica. Pensò alle sue ricette. Con un sorriso freddo, pensò a una ricetta sbagliata, a una prescrizione distratta. Non avrebbe fatto bene? Non sarebbe stato giusto? Si sbaglia tante volte. Così, non sarebbe più venuta, un giorno, a riprenderle le sue lettere, di lì a un mese, per ricominciare. Anche per il marito, nevvvero, sarebbe stata una fortuna. Senza che lo sapesse, non era donargli la felicità? Per tutta la vita avrebbe parlato della sua buona moglie fedele, bella, morta santamente. Per queste lettere avrebbe avuto anche lui, il dottore, un cassetto, nel suo studio, con le altre. E queste lettere nuove avrebbero detto alle vecchie: "Vedete? dopo otto anni, ha fatto giustizia..."

Camminò. Un'automobile stava per travolgerlo. Il meccanico lo caricò di maledizioni. Ma lui andava, egualmente, sorridendo, sicuro, come se seguisse qualcuno, mentre non sapeva nemmeno dove andava. Tornò a casa che era notte piena. Cercò la luce nello studio bianchissima. Cercò nel mazzo delle chiavi. Aprì un cassetto. Gettò dentro il pacco delle lettere. Rimase a lungo, a guardar l'armadietto segnato dal teschio dei veleni.

La cameriera entrò. Disse che il professore, verso le dieci, aveva telefonato.

— La febbre?

A Woman's Cultural Club In Rome

(Continued from Page 120)

diences and receptions and teas, where one meets the best in Roman society.

The Queen of Italy, who honors the club with her august patronage, takes much interest in the Roman Lyceum and favours it with a yearly visit. This year Her Majesty's visit took place in February and there was a display, for the occasion, of woolen garments and layettes, numbering several hundreds, which are annually contributed by the members of the Lyceum to the Queen as a gift for her personal charities.

— Ho segnato 39,1. Il polso 112.

— Se telefonasse ancora dite che non ci sono. Che andrò domattina, alle otto.

* * *

Passò, nel primo giro, innanzi alla chiesa di San Giacomo. Non aveva dormito per tutta la notte, rileggendo le lettere, le vecchie lettere indirizzate alla moglie. Nella chiesa di San Giacomo non era più entrato, dal giorno dei funerali. Non si confessava più da anni e avrebbe voluto farlo ora. Ma il prete era occupato. Non poteva aspettare. Era tardi. Guardò il centro della navata, dove, sul catafalco, era stata, otto anni prima, la bara. Si ricordò del punto dove era stato, in piedi, piangendo, durante l'assoluzione. Uscì. Prese un'automobile. Andò dalla malata. Questa non gli chiese nulla. Il medico volle un consulto. "Il caso non è disperato: — disse al marito — ma quel che non vedono due occhi lo vedono meglio quattro." Si gettò con accanimento a salvarla. Non trascurò nulla. La visitò tre volte al giorno. Tornò, in piena notte, per farle lui stesso le iniezioni. La vegliò sino all'alba, la notte della crisi, ostinato, muto, senza guardarla mai negli occhi. Quando fu guarita scomparve. Trovò la scusa delle grandi occupazioni. Raccomandò che quando la signora si fosse alzata, si facesse una radiografia, per constatare se c'erano tracce cicatrizzate di lesioni.

LA signora stessa venne allo studio. Fece mezz'ora di anticamera. Mostrò la fotografia, la lastra dove, come in una nube grigia, era disegnata il cestello del torace. Il medico la guardò a lungo. Dove erano, signora, le sue belle spalle, il suo collo rotondo, il suo seno che ora, dopo il male, certamente rifioriva? Ma non disse nulla. Trovò che tutto andava bene, che la guarigione era perfetta. "Posso dirle ora, signora, che è stato un miracolo".

Tacquero. La signora rimise la lastra nella busta. Pareva cercasse, là

Her Majesty Queen Elena, accompanied by the gentleman and lady in waiting, Conte Seissel d'Aix and Marchesa Leonardi di Villa Cortese, was cordially received by the President, Giannina Franciosi, and the Staff.

The Queen took much interest in the club ilfe. She examined the various garments displayed and with her customary graciousness engaged in conversation with the ladies.

After partaking of refreshments in the tea room, Her Majesty sat through a musical entertainment that had been organized, for the occasion, in which Madame Schmidt, wife of the Estonian Minister, sang folklore accompanied by Maestro Cotogni, and the pianist Vittorina Bucci held

dentro, le parole per cominciare.

— C'è un segreto, fra noi dottore...

— E' vero, signora. Un suo segreto. Ma prima devo dirgliene uno mio. Si meraviglia? — Aprì il cassetto. Mostrò i due pacchetti, quasi eguali.

— Vede? Sono due. Non ci sono solamente le sue. Anche queste, più vecchie di otto anni, di mia moglie. Ma nessuno le ha portate via, e mia moglie è morta, e io le ho trovate. Nessuno ha salvato la mia felicità, nessuno si è curato della mia illusione. Perché non le ha bruciate? Perché non le ha distrutte? Perché non ha detto a nessuno di cercarle, di stracciarle, di bruciarle? No. Sono rimaste in fondo a un cassetto, perché io le trovassi, perché la mia vita fosse distrutta. Non ha fatto a tempo a mentire, Emma. Non ha detto a nessuno "Le porti via..."

Una lagrima si era fermata contro le lenti che il dottore miope teneva appoggiate contro le occhiaie.

— Sono eguali, signora. Lettere d'amore, in tutti e due i pacchetti. Io non ho lette le sue, naturalmente. Il nastro, vede, è intatto. Ma lo immagino: lo so. Sono eguali. Poteva dire a qualcuno, Emma, di portarle via. Non avrei mai saputo.

Levò dal cassetto il pacchetto ingiallito.

— Le porti via lei, signora. Le porti via. Le bruci. Le sue, queste, le brucerò io. Ecco. Le tenga.

Aveva una supplica nello sguardo. La signora ripose nella borsetta il pacchetto ingiallito. Il medico andò alla fiammella a gas accesa per le sterilizzazioni. Sciolse il nastro del secondo pacchetto.

— Non ora, dottore. Quando sarò andata via.

Udì il passo per il corridoio, e chiudersi la porta delle scale. Disse: "Più tardi". Tornò a legare il nastro. Si asciugò le lagrime, asciugò gli occhiali, aprì la porta che dava sul salotto d'attesa. Disse a un ammalato qualunque: "Si accomodi".

the audience with her masterly interpretation of selections by Scuderi, Baiardi and Santoliquidio.

The Queen was particularly impressed by the sympathetic touch of Signora Bucci, and in expressing her admiration invited her to Villa Savoia, the royal residence, to play for the Princess Maria.

Prior to her visit, the Queen sent the Lyceum club two baskets of fruit and flowers, to be distributed among the members, and on the following day, as a token of her august appreciation, she presented the Club with a radio.

Thus, in Rome, encouraged by the personal interest of the Queen, the Italian women strive to do their share in the advancement of culture and learning, giving a valid contribution to the progressive life of the nation.

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