# ATLANTICAN-ITALIAN DIGEST



## Puritan Mind in Pagan Body (Part 2) Beniamino De Ritis

Poetry in Italy in the 20th Century Franco Ciarlantini

Columbus Day a National Holiday

Opera Meets the New Deal Evelyn M. Bacigalupi

Napoleon's Service to Italy E. Lenore Shaw

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Italians

in
North
America

Etc.

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in

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# Books and Authors

#### Conducted By CAMILLE DE BORRELLO

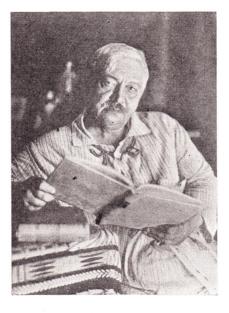
#### DO WE WANT FASCISM? By Carmen Haider. 276 pages. New York: John Day Co. \$2.00.

Among those capable in and equipped with a knowledge of the subject, and even among those who in their own limited way and simple language pronounce merits and demerits upon it, Fascism occupies a prominent place today in the field of conversation. The Italians discuss Fascism in Italy, the original movement which has proved not unworthy of the great documentation offered it. Fascism in Germany and now in Austria too undoubtedly receives the same treatment. So with other countries America, not having a Fascist regime of its own, looks across the sea at these and deliberates.

Miss Haider, in her recent book, has performed a great and important service by offering a clear and concise study of Fascist forms in Italy and Germany, and she convincingly presents her material in simple, nonstatistical content. She brings forth the essential factors which go to make up Fascism. This, in a period when it is believed by many that this country is heading toward a Fascist system, is by way of explanation, so to speak. Miss Haider writes this book for the layman.

In the early part of the book there is given a description of the rise of the Fascist state and its development in Italy and more recently in Germany, pointing out such problems and conditions which may find a parallel in this country.

The second part deals with the situation in the United States. Herein there is contained a thorough analysis of Fascist tendencies in our politics during the past few years. There is noted also the similarity of President Roosevelt's recovery program to Premier Mussolini's corporate



### SALVATORE DI GIACOMO

**S**EVENTY - THREE years after his birth in the villa at the outskirts of Naples near Santa Agata, Salvatore Di Giacomo, dialect poet, journalist. novelist. dramatist. historian

and librarian, caused the whole nation, as well as the city, to be plunged into mourning by his death.

His father, an eminent physician and surgeon, desired his son to follow his footsteps. The boy Salvatore, after having left the "liceo" (which may roughly be compared to a general college course here) was matriculated in a medical university. Unfortuately for his father's ambition, near the Anatomical Theatre of the University there was the Galleria Sant'Aniello, filled with sculptures and paintings which provided inspiration for his early writings.

At that time Martino Cafiero was editing a paper, "Il Corriere del Mattino," published in the Neapolitan dialect, and Di Giacomo, then twenty-two years old, joined his staff. From this paper he passed to the "Pungolo," which in the middle eighties was one of the most widely read and authoritative journals on politics, art and literature among the Neapolitan papers. Then, when Edoardo Scarfoglio and Matilde Serao founded the "Cortiere di Napoli," he joined them principally as a writer on books and Neapolitan life.

In the meantime he had been writing many poems, mostly in the Neapolitan dialect, some in Italian, and they revealed a fervid fantasy, a hand expert with colors, a candid spirit, an exquisite sensibility, refined — almost morbid.

In spite of the fact that his lyrical work is almost entirely in dialect, he has been known as one of the most vivid and modern of contemporary poets. One discovers in his works two characteristic qualities: on the one hand dramatic force and inspiration, and on the other inherent harmony. Sometimes these two sources of Di Giacomo's inspiration are disunited. But more often by far they merge themselves in one perfect synthesis, that

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#### COMMENTS ON THE CONTENTS

The author of *Puritan Mind in Pagan Body* is, as readers last month were apprised, a noted Italian journalist, and the New York correspondent of the important Italian daily *Corriere della Sera* of Milan. His article, of which this issue contains the second and concluding instalment, is the preface of a book on American civilization just published by Vallecchi of Florence.

Hon. Franco Ciarlantini, author of Poetry in Italy in the 20th Century, besides being one of the members of the Italian Parliament, is one of the best known of Italian literary men. Editor of Augustea, one of the more important Italian monthly magazines, he is also the author of "Incontro col Nord America," "Il Paese delle Stelle," and, lately, "Mussolini Immaginario," the first two of which books concern the Italians in this country, and are based on extensive visits. He is also President of the Federazione Nazionale Fascista Industria Editoriale, which is the association of publishers in Italy, as well as President of the Permanent Italian Book Exhibition, Inc., in New York City, which represents the Italian publishers in this country.

It was Mrs. Anthony Caminetti, Jr., who wrote Opera Meets the New Deal under her maiden name. Her husband is Superior Judge in Amador County, California, and the son of Anthony Caminetti, former Congressman and Commissioner General of Immigration under President Wilson. Mrs. Caminetti is active in politics, having been president of the Italian-American Progressive League of Northern California and vice-president of the Young Peoples Democratic Group of California during the last Presidential election. She was also the youngest delegate at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1932, and a director of the Democratic Women's Council in California.

Mrs. E. Lenore Shaw, a native San Franciscan, and now residing at Hastings-on-Hudson, is already becoming known there for her talks on Italy. A personal friend of Mussolini, she has spent many years living and traveling in Italy, and has written considerably on things Italian.

Concerning Dr. John H. Mariano, who begins a new department with this issue called *Atlantica's Forum*, the reader is advised to read the editor's note on Page 182. Another new department is that of Miss Adele Vance, a staff writer for the Bermuda News Bureau and author of syndicated articles on fashions and other matters of interest to women. Miss Vance studied at Hunter College and majored in journalism at New York University.

# PURITAN MIND IN PAGAN BODY

#### BY BENIAMINO DE RITIS

(In 2 Parts: Part 2)

THE precise motives for the exodus of the pioneers and emigrants cannot be exactly defined. At first they were religious and individual motives: later they were economic and social. To be sure, in general, "populating America" was to become in itself an act of withdrawal and of evasion on the part of some people outside of the law, or outside of the main currents. Everybody started out by bringing with them some branch of the old European tree and implanting themselves "in a wood, unmarked by any path."

At the end of the great immigration waves, when the confidence born of material conquest was highest, and when America, because of her economic triumphs, exercised a singular prestige over all the peoples of the world, there also arose a literature of desperation which, like a voice crying in the wilderness, showed that in the spiritual countryside

non foglie verdi, ma di color fosco, non rami schietti, ma nodosi e involti, non frutti v'eran ma cenere e tosco.

This is the really American literature that seems to have been born as an answer to the official optimism of prosperity at any cost, and instead has its roots in the very romanticism of the pioneers and especially in the drama of the double personality of the American; this great drama is at the basis of the American empiricism, rationalized on a mathematical basis and with an experimental method. It should be noted here that pious Christianity preferred physics and mathematics among all the sciences. Calvin thought that, considering the fragmentary nature of the divine revelation, the knowledge of created things cannot be reached through metaphysical speculation, which draws one away from God, but through empirical research, which helps man to see God in nature. It would be interesting to describe the religious denaturalization of this Protestant theology under the pressure of a primitive world that was to draw

man into the immediate materialism of physical life and economic activity.

# Puritanism and the Mania for Legislation

THE religious motives of Puritan conduct, that is, the inward control of the natural impulses and instincts, became in the new surroundings rational motives of economic conduct to serve the imperious needs of existence on the inhospitable land of an unexplored continent. The same motives, losing their mystical inspiration, served to cultivate the will to power together with the exterior rationalization of the conduct of others, when the continent, becoming populated by racial elements different from those of the primitive amalgam of religious dissenters from England, Germany and Holland, threatened to lose its Anglo-Saxon appearance. Puritanism thus became a mania for legislating and thereby asserting the moral and ethnic dominance of one group of citizens in the new country over other groups that came with new traditions and new needs to merge themselves in the great American melting pot.

This metamorphosis means that none of the traditional forms of thought and of life brought from Europe, from the first exiles through the successive



Beniamino De Ritis

tides of immigration, could resist except by the force of inertia the formidable pressure of the physical American world and the immense effort of dominating the nature of a primeval country that could never have been conquerend entirely by man without the supplementary aid of the machine.

#### **Beginnings of Self-Analysis**

BUT the conquest of the West brings about the death of the old culture before the new people has really been formed. It is a prodigious creation of space, not a masterpiece of time. A race of people is formed, united in their idolatry of material progress but diverse in the direction of their spiritual lives. Thus the problem of the double personality becomes an obsessing one and forms the basis of the pragmatism of William James. America is dedicated to the cult of experimental psychology, the results of which become apparent in legislation and customs. There arrives "behaviorism," the science of conduct and of actions, which makes tabula rasa of the inward life. "Freudianism" is welcomed as a revelation, for it offers a rational explanation of Puritanism and also a cure for that sexual obsession that is the real dynamo of the American literary genius. The theory of the psychic universe as being divided into different spheres and research into the duplicity and hypocrisies inherent in individual and social life applies itself perfectly to the inner aspect of a world that is nearest and most attentive to "the call of the wild."

Nathaniel Hawthorne, not only in his "Scarlet Letter," but also in "The Marble Faun" (which has Rome as its background and is better known in Europe as "Transformation") had already drawn a most impressive picture of the Puritan soul, anticipating Freudianism in many of his psychological divinations. The Anglo-Saxon, especially the American, is, among modern peoples, the most primitive and the nearest to nature, and also, therefore, the most closely bound to a completely formal, ritual,

<sup>\*</sup> Translated from "La Nuova Antologia" of Rome, by Dominick Lamonica.

mechanical order of inhibition and repression. What is Puritanism if not the history of a religious dissolution and decadence culminating in the utopia and tragedy of Prohibition and ending with the disruption and anguish of contemporary America?

#### Does America Lack a Soul?

**O**<sup>F</sup> AMERICA we can repeat what Bergson says of science in "Deux sources de la morale e de la religion": that it has enlarged the body of a new people, but not its spirit, so that it lacks the supplement of a soul. The quest of this supplement is the problem that is posed before the new generations, to find the nobility of the fatherland of the future.

In 1900 America is still idealist. But then there arises from the twilight of Puritan tradition a new average man, born of material happiness, who knows he can move about from one end of the continent to the other. confident he will find everywhere the same comforts, discuss the same business and world affairs, fraternize with the same Masonic lodges, the same sporting clubs, and speak to all of them the same language of bourgeois ideals and of speculative matters, the same dialect of poker and baseball. At the same time there arises another average man, a little bourgeois of proletarian and intellectual formation, who rises from the ranks of the recent immigration of mixed race and finds himself alone in a desert of multitudes, like an atom without any relationship to any living unity. He is a forgotten champion not only of the instability but especially of the solitudes of American life; Thoreau had been a farmer, Twain a Mississippi boatman, Whitman a printer, Melville a sailor and Hawthorne a customs-officer.

All of these had suffered in the same way from the bourgeois nature of their countrymen, who ignored or belittled them, but the new talent that will dominate the scene during the first quarter of the new century comes largely from the application of country newspapermen to the cult of an absolute and microscopic realism. The captains of industry, the creators of trusts, the builders of banking empires and colossal cities, who have displaced the cultured men of the old school as leaders of American life, promise and perform miracles in the ecstasy of the crescit eundo. But this is also the moment when the optimism of the mass begins to be opposed by a pessimism of the elite.

# The American Tradition of Realism

THE new literature denounces the deficiency of the soul in the growing body, with a barren technique of verbal indictments. It is a literature that seems to be, but is not, absolutely new. It resumes in another key the tradition of literary works that vary between nightmare and reality. It seems a far cry to the time when Frank Norris, a mediocre precursor of the realism of Dreiser, and who died in 1902 at the early age of 32, could only with difficulty find a publisher with courage enough to publish his "Vandover and the Beast."

It took all the experience of these years to recognize that the American tradition has always been realism, of which Edgar Allan Poe himself is a master. In fact, the dominating characteristic of Poe is his fusion of nightmare and reality, and this trait is so profoundly original, one might say almost self-born, that it would be vain to discover what literatures contributed to forming it. Among the most hallucinating imaginations, Poe always keeps one foot on the ground of reality. Imagination and logic, in him, are inseparable. He was the first to employ in matters of criminal investigation that analytic method that was later to be used to such an extent.

Poe, subjected after his death to an implacable criticism for essentially moral and religious reasons, still appears to be an indecipherable enigma, and for this reason he may be considered not only the representative but also the prophet of the inner drama of the American's world. Many attribute to him the mental state which he has described in his tales. But one cannot thus explain the clarity that is his second characteristic. Documented pathological studies would seem to show that he might have been a victim of virile impotency, as one might read between the lines of his "Berenice" and "Ligea," and he might even have been a sadist, as one might guess by reading the adventures of Arthur Gordon Pym. Popular supersition believes that Poe was an evil spirit, and even today few people dare visit the little house in the Bronx where he lived the last years of his tragic life and which today is preserved as a national monument.

#### Desperation and Solitude Beneath Gayety

LIKE Poe, Walt Whitman was another who was marked off as a

black sheep in Uncle Sam's literary fold by orthodox and Puritan criticism. Whitman, who to Europeans quickly appeared to be one of the most outstanding minds in America, offended the official chastity of all the Puritan ideals. Jack London, socialist, atheist and revolutionary during the early years of his adventurous life, really owed to the agreeable mistake of a critic who judged "The Call of the Wild" a popular and well-written novel, without suspecting its universal poetic worth, the fact that he was accepted as a traveling correspondent for the newspapers of William Randolph Hearst, king of the "yellow" press of the time, and enjoyed the favors thereby of popular Success

These men disturbed the holiday of the American, who boasted that he was by nature addicted to happiness, and at the same time forced himself to repress at any cost his inward feeling of desperation and solitude. In this guise there came into play the drama of the double personality of the American, divided always between reality and dreams. Waldo Frank, in his "Rediscovery of America," returning to the case of Poe, writes that he was a man of brilliant scientific intuition, who saw that the machine was destined to transform human behavior in a primitive and history-less world like America and finally to bring about a change in the moral and esthetic world of all humanity. Poe would seem to him to have had the genius of an alchemist, not of an artist

However, it is necessary to leave the Poe instance for a true interpretation of the American tradition, which is a combination of imagination and realism, with stupendous examples like Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter" and frequent recourse to pure, crude naturalism, like the anonymous diary of a man in 1849, the year of the legendary gold rush, discovered in one of the cabins of an abandoned mining camp in California. Nevertheless, realism was not a commercial article on the literary market till there appeared on the scene Sinclair Lewis, whose novels were a veritable revolution, since for the first time they introduced into American literature the normal man, the famous average Amrican.

#### Sinclair Lewis— "Regular Fellow"

N SINCLAIR LEWIS the Americans saw and heard for the first time a writer who was neither patho-

(Continued on Page 189)

which was held in Washington from March 26th through March 29th. Prof. Covello was invited to be present at this conference by the Honorable Daniel W. MacCormack, Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization.

Among the numerous activities Prof. Covello has undertaken for the spread of the Italian language, we note that he has started a series of radio talks over Station WOV from 4:45 to 5:00 o'clock on the general topic of "The Language of Our Fathers." These talks are to be made mostly in Italian, interspersed with talks in English. At present, Prof. Covello is speaking on the Italian language, but the task will soon be expanded into a wider educational program dealing with home and school.

Miss Annita E. Giacobbe spoke at the International House on April 9th on Modern Italian Literature. This lecture was one of a series of roundtable meetings on racial literatures that is being conducted under the auspices of the International House. Miss Giacobbe also spoke at the Englewood High School on April 18 on "Italian Culture" in a program sponsored by the Service Bureau for Education in Human Relations of Teachers College.

The Italian Department of the International Institute of Trenton, N. J. is sponsoring an educational program under the chairmanship of Dr. Joseph Panteleone. Classes in elementary and advanced Italian were arranged under its auspices this winter and so successful were they that two new classes were formed on April 20th to meet the demand. The instructor's are Mr. Erasmo Ciccolella of Pennsylvania University and Mr. Amerigo D'Agostino of Rutgers University. The classes are held in the State Teachers College. The Institute has also had classes in Italian folk dancing for girls between the ages of nine and twelve, and this group will participate in a folk festival to be held at the Institute on May 15th. The Directors of the Institute are Dr. Joseph Pantaleone, Dr. O. A. Marzulli, Mr. Robert Ianelli, Mr. Francis Caputo, Miss Margaret H. Anderson and Mr. Roland Formidoni. Prof. Leonard Covello is the Consultant of the Institute.

Dr. Rina Ciancaglini, Associate at New College, Columbia University, has recently assumed the teaching of Italian at the Italian Free School of the Dante Alighieri Society held at the Abraham Lincoln Club, which wa recently organized for young children of Italian parents. Dr. Ciancagalini realized the problems confronting her as soon as she met her group of little ones and she has



Dr. Rina Ciancaglini

adapted her teaching to the individual cases. The first class she organized has already grown into two classes, and when the parents bring their children to the school they express the desire to have an adult group in which they can speak Italian and discuss Italian culture. The school has been visited by Consul General Comm. Grossardi, Prof. Giuseppe Prezzolini, Director of the Casa Italiana, Comm. Angelo Flavio Guidi and Captain Pieroni, and all have praised Dr. Ciancaglini for the charitable work she is doing and the unselfish contributions of her time and talent to so worthy a cause.

A Free School for the Study of Italian at the Neigborhood House, Buffalo, N. Y., inaugurated on March 7th with 35 students, has doubled its membership within a month. The students have been divided into three classes under the direction of Carmelo Puleo. His assistants are Barbaro Romeo and Miss Philippina Arena. Mr. Puelo is particularly encouraged with this group because of its sustained enthusiasm and its cooperation to make the enterprise a worthwhile one.

About two hundred Italian societies

of the metropolitan area were represented at the dance held on the S. S. Rex, April 27th, under the auspices of the Casa Italiana Educational Bureau. The affair was a tremendous success both financially and socially, but more important than this was the moral aspect. This was the first occasion that these Italian Societies had joined in the common cause of education. Hitherto, their activities had been individual and confined to their local groups. It was through the efforts of Prof. Prezzolini and Prof. Leonard Covello that over four thousand people gathered on the Rex to show their active interest in the idealistic work that has been going on steadily and quietly, at the Casa Italiana, under the guidance of these two able and unselfish leaders. They have carried the Italian community a long step forward toward the cherished goal. The proceeds from the dance will be used to provide a scholarship for an American student of Italian origin.

The second soirèe of the Italian Educational Society since its inception last fall took place in the auditorium of Stuyvesant High School on Friday evening, April 20. Some seven hundred people were present at the social, which proved to be in the words of one of the distinguished guests, "one of the finest and best organized affairs of an artistic and cultural nature that I have ever attended."

After a few words of greeting by Mr. Anthony Cuffari, who acted as chairman for the evening, the Society's ensemble presented several selections followed by a violin solo by Mr. Ferrero. Maestro Sandro Benelli's Verdi Choral Society excited the admiration of the audience, to judge by the prolonged applause which greeted each rendition. The Italian folk dancers who have already earned an enviable reputation among the Italian colony of New York presented several representative dances. The curtain finally rang down on a highly amusing play by a capable cast from De Witt Clinton High School under



# The Educational Horizon

### Conducted By PETER and SYLVIA SAMMARTINO

#### The Battle Goes On

ACH month as we cull the news from various cities in the United States, we find an increasing interest in things Italian by those of Italian origin. Their activities are evidenced by the numerous drives for funds to erect Italian centers and by the efforts of their leaders to introduce the study of Italian into the public high schools. In Montreal the campaign for funds for the erection of a Casa d'Italia is still in progress and to date about fifteen thousand dollars have been subscribed. In Pittsburgh the members of the Italian colony are raising money for the "Sala Italiana". From Bridgeport and Hartford, Conn. we have news that the idea of erecting a Casa Italiana in each of the cities has met with enthusiastic approval. A drive for a larger membership in the Italian Center of Stamford, Conn. was opened at a meeting held on April 8th in Columbus Hall. In Detroit, Michigan, Consul G. Ungarelli is sponsoring the activities toward the building of a Casa d'Italia. In spite of the depression people are still willing to contribute to a cause that will promote culture. During the past few weeks we have received notices that committees have been formed to promote the teaching of Italian in the public schools of the following cities and towns: Lawrence and Wakefield, Mass.; Peekskill, N. Y.; and Philadelphia, Pa. In the state of New Jersey the enrollment of Italian-American students in Italian language classes has quadrupled in the last year. The Board of Education of New Haven has announced that Italian will now be a four year subject in all of the city's high schools. All of these facts taken together show a definite trend toward a fuller appreciation of the advantages to be derived from the study of the Italian language and its culture. More detailed accounts of the work of the leaders in this movement to spread the Italian language are given in the items that follow in these columns.

Prof. Leonard Covello, head of the Italian Department of De Witt Clinton High School and Director of the Casa Italiana Educational Bureau, attended a "Conference on Educational and Other Standards for Naturalization"

#### The Italian Teachers Association

WITHOUT any accompaniment of trumpets or waving of flags, the Italian Teachers Association, probably more than any other organization, has kept up an unceasing battle for the promulgation of the Italian language and culture throughout the United States and particularly in the New York metropolitan district. After all the banquets are over, after all the glorious speeches have been made, after all the imposing lists of patrons have been held up for public gaze, there is still the main job to be done: that of actually getting the language in the schools and of forming classes. Where most other organizations leave off, the Italian Teachers Association begins.

Many flights of stairs have been trudged by members in order to get parents interested. Parents' meetings have to be organized with the countless details of getting plays rehearsed, songs gone over and a host of other things that go into the making of a successful rally. Mind you, there is no end to all of this. As soon as one school has been taken care of, the scene shifts to another center. At the same time, the call for help may come from a city hundreds of miles away. In such cases, delegations are sent to help out the drive and to give the local workers the benefit of the wide experience of the older members of the organization.

It is a strange phenomenon, but the organization of a sound curriculum in Italian, the training of creative teachers, the using of proper textbooks, the integrations of junior high, high school and college courses are immune to fiery orations, tantalizing victuals and even the magnetic stare of glittering personalities. All this work the Association has been continuously pursuing for years until today the vanguard of Italian teachers as a group has achieved a creatively conscious position in the fulfillment of their social and cultural duties.

There are other activities of a somewhat different nature. There are monthly lectures on various aspects of Italian life and culture. Also, under the direction of Dean Cosenza, there is the most complete file of publications affecting Italy. There is a program of co-operation with parent-teacher movements, social welfare work, and adult education.

All of which does not mean that the Association does not have its more personal side. It has its dances and its luncheons. It engages in musical and theatrical soirées. Its meetings are always terminated with a social tea. In short, in the midst of the tremendous altruistic program, there is a mellow social atmosphere which maintains a delightful esprit-de-corps among its members.

All this work the Association has been doing without ever appealing for funds, financing everything out of its pocket. It maintains no paid workers of any kind. It has been fortunate in being offered the Casa Italiana as the headquarters for its activities. The Italian Government has recently taken cognizance of its work, and to those members who teach Italian, it offers a thirty percent discount on ocean fares to Italy. Its members are also eligible to apply for one of the five free trips offered by the Italian Government. It co-operates with the American Association of Teachers of Italian in awarding the ten free trips yearly for high school and college students. And among its other duties is that of awarding medals and prizes among students of Italian in the United States. It is refreshing to see the mountain of work it has done, the long period over which it has worked and the consistency of its activities.

Peter Sammartino

far as possible removed from the worship of machines and speed, and those who sing in its minor key are called by Giuseppe Antonio Borgese *crepuscolari*, which may be interpreted "decadents." Already Gozzano had written of himself:

- ".... venticinque anni, tempra sdegnosa,
- molta cultura e gusto in opere d'inchiostro;
- scarso cervello, scarsa morale, spaventosa.

chiaroveggenza; vero figlio del tempo nostro."

This same poet put his whole *curriculum vitae* in one famous line:

"Vive. Un giorno è nato. Un giorno morirà."

The youth who wrote those lines was as ill as was another, a greater genius, of another time, but while that one, in dispair, would not ask for love, believing that no one could understand his full heart; this one, Guido Gozzano, cried out his anguish that he could not love.

"Ah! If I could love! If I could love, what new songs would I sing!

My consumed soul mocks itself through its long

frozen evenings. Lovers! Have pity!

have pity on my joyous aridity that makes but chimeras!"

(To be continued)

# COLUMBUS DAY A NATIONAL HOLIDAY

WHEN President Roosevelt, on April 30th last, affixed his signature to the Joint Resolution of Congress declaring Columbus Day, October 12th, henceforth to be proclaimed a national holiday, it marked the culmination of a 28-year campaign on the part of the Italians in this country, and especially a few leaders, to have the great navigator's exploit officially recognized by the country. Largely through the tireless and unceasing efforts of Judge John J Freschi of the General Sessions Court in New York City, who is known as "the father of Columbus Day," was this brought about, assisted by the Columbus Day League and Senators Robert Wagner and Royal S. Copeland of New York, Congressman James M. Fitzpatrick of the 20th Congressional District in New York City, Gr. Uff. Generoso Pope, and former Judge Albert H. Vitale.

The campaign began, according to Judge Freschi, as far back as 1906 when the measure was first introduced in Washington. At that time Judge Freschi went to the Capitol accompanied by Antonio Zucca, Vito Contessa, Pietro Acritelli, Rofrano, and Bernardino Ciambelli and urged the measure before the com mittee. Though it was defeated, the bill was brought up again in succeeding Congresses, but its progress was interrupted by the war. Meanwhile various States were officially proclaiming Columbus Day a State holiday, beginning with Colorado in 1907, and now only 13 States do not officially celebrate the holiday.

WHILE great credit rightly goes to Judge Freschi and those who fought with him to have the great Italian discoverer's memory officially recognized, we should also remember Angelo Noce's contribution to the cause.

To quote from the first issue of Atlantica, in November 1923, when it was known as the *Rivista d'Italia e d'America*, and was published in Rome: "Yet while in Italy the people and official representatives of many nations, for the first time, celebrated the day of the discovery of the New World through the efforts of an Italian, we must not forget another Italian — a humble printer — who, with a faith more unique than rare, fought for some thirty years to have North America officially proclaim October 12th a legal holiday.

"In the United States many States, beginning with Colorado in 1907, celebrate on October 12th the dis-



Angelo Noce

covery of the great new continent by the great sailor from Genoa.

"The tenacious advocate of this great Latin holiday—Angelo Noce who also came from the same city, was brought to America by his parents at the age of three in 1850, and he lived as a proud Italian among other immigrants who had come to America from all parts of the world.

"Angelo Noce died in Denver on January 6, 1922, alone, poor and tired, yet happy and satisfied with his work and the result already obtained.

"GENOA, which always remembers Noce with nostalgic affection, should worthily honor the memory of this other son of hers, humble, but noble and generous, who worked, fought and triumphed for the ideal of having the Americans celebrate the memory of Columbus, of having universally celebrated the date of the discovery of the new continent.

"Columbus Day has been proposed as a national holiday by the entire country in a bill presented at Washington by a committee of Italians and Americans, headed by Judge John J. Freschi, one of those Italo-Americans who, though devoted sons of the land where they were born, do not for that reason renounce the language, the traditions and the native land of their fathers.

"The Italian societies of North America and the Italian press of the great and hospitable country have also made assiduous efforts for this assertion of public and official recognition for the great navigator."

The above article was written by Dr. Giovanni Perilli, who has, in a volume entitled "Colorado and the Italians of Colorado," amply documented the writings and the life of Angelo Noce.

# NAPOLEON'S SERVICE TO ITALY

#### BY E. LENORE SHAW

AS I was wandering about in the dim light of the Church of Santa Chiara at Naples, not so long ago, filled with all the reverent admiration that any devout Catholic would feel for the Madonnas and the Saints and the sad Saviour of the appealing art of past centuries, the inevitable discordant note suddenly wrecked the harmony of it all. A flight of tawdry angels done in cheap and fragile plaster in that classic environment! The gentle father explained that they replaced the bronze figures of exquisite workmanship, that had been ruthlessly appropriated by Napoleon years ago. It was an unfortunate suggestion. The relations with France, always a popular enemy in Italy, were decidedly strained at the moment, and the priest's kindly face became thoughtful with the memory of years of French unfairness and French interference.

But after all, Napoleon builded better than he knew for Italy, quite accidentally, however, for he never for a moment lost sight of his own selfish ambition. His material improvements, the new laws and vigorous administration were appreciated by Italians, and the hard experience at last revealed to them their equality with the northern races. It had been worth while, for they realized then that they were in all essentials a nation, although from the fall of the Roman Empire they had had no political unity, no independence, no organized national existence, nor did they succeed for many years to come in gaining unity.

#### Their Past Inspires Italians

OF course, democracy in France, at the beginning, was not a political reform, but the invention of a new middle class, whose interests demanded that they destroy the old order and construct a new one to meet the new economic situation. The conception of liberty, equality, hatred of tyranny, however, made a deep impression in Italy. Even the literature was affected, and aimed thereafter at national objects. But with Italians, the past has always been their inspiration, their excuse, their hope. their answer to every query and a foreign ideal, translated to Italy, is always modified by this tendency. Even Fascism and Mussolini's appeal to Italians would be more clearly understood if this fact were appreciate i.

Besides, the purely French conception of democracy was altogether out of place in Italy, and whatever may be said or thought to the contrary, Fascism is now striving to fashion Italy's own form of democracy, which is not French, nor English, nor American.

#### The Democracy of Fascism

HE old parliamentary democracy that Mussolini overthrew with his usual superlative confidence had been an utter failure. Any expression of the will of the people had been impossible, for it was not a two-party but seventeen-party system of politics. the prime minister keeping his position only as long as he was clever enough by any kind of juggling to retain the support of the necessary majority. Nothing but a dictatorship could have met the needs of the transition period that followed and now the actual democracy that Fascism is striving for rejects the wornout theory of the French Revolution (and it might be well if other enlightened democracies did the same). that the interests of citizens center around a certain region, and adapts the government to economic realities. The New Corporative Parliament represents all the economic groups of the nation. The producers rule in a real democracy. There are no political groups, but a national organization of the whole population called the Fascist Party,-an heroic departure from the democracy of the French Revolution, direct descent from which, however, will have to be acknowledged.

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Laudi the key of an ideal city, upon an embroidered cushion, as in Velasquez's famous picture Las-Lauzas. "A tout seigneur tout honneur." D'Annunzio's name is still the one that comes first of all to the mind of a foreigner when Italian literature is mentioned.

But Giovanni Pascoli is certainly also not unknown beyond Italy. And not only as famous victor in the international contests of Latin poets in Amsterdam, but also as the singer of the humble things of the earth, and of the last voyage of Ulysses, whose ear of a poet heard the songs of the frogs in the full moon of the Romagna and also the voice of Helen amid the fumes of Troy. A French critic, M. Valentin of the University of Grenoble, has not only written a volume of a thousand pages on the poet of Castelvecchio, but has also translated into French the Poemi conviviali, among which are some of the brightest jewels in Pascoli's crown.

#### Carducci, Pascoli, D'Annunzio

WITH Carducci an epoch closed. "Civil poetry," as it may be called, which entered into daily life with a moral and humanitarian purpose, which still carried echoes of the Marseillaise and bore the marks of "sans-culottism," burst forth (before expiring) in iambics that make one think of Barbier and Hugo. When Carducci, Il Leone maremmano, shook his mane and roared, it would seem that his thunderous lines must put to flight the enemy and arouse the small men of a still smaller Italy. But they stood their ground, and so the poet turned to history and sang in powerfully wrought verse Le fonti di Clitunno, L'annuale della fondazione di Roma, the glories of Cadore and of the Piemonte; "civil," political poetry you may call it, but great poetry, whose equal has been reached only by D'Annunzio in Il Libro di Maia, and in the Canzone di Garibaldi which is one of the greatest epics of our day.

After the death of Carducci Gabriele D'Annunzio stood alone as the representative Italian poet. Not all had been able to understand the songof Pascoli, neither when he sang in the *Canzoni del Re Enzo*, of the patriotic virtues that conquered at Legnano and Fossalta, nor in *I Poemi del Risorgimento* which gave him his great fame as a national poet.

In Pascoli's verse can always be found that humanitarianism that is characteristic of his period, though he gave it a vaster, more cosmic, form. Yet this very humanitarianism contains pessimism that admits no illusions of a possible amelioration; it subjects the soul of man to a slavery worse than any chains clamped on the body.

#### Little Streams But No River

•OMPARED with this dark pessimism, D'Annunzio-southern, exuberant-stands out in many-sided richness. Pascoli, as had Leopardi before him, found only in love a reason for life, (Even Carducci had sung, "Noi troppo odiamo e soffriamo, amate: la vita, è bella e santo è l'avvenir"); now D'Annunzio clamorously defends the rights of an absolute and implacable egotism. Between a poet who searches in the depths of the human soul for the meaning of life, and one on whom sensations leave as little trace as drops of water that leap from hot stone, Italian poetry loses its way. Humanitarian idealism, revolutionary or pacific, no longer suffices. The nation itself, uncertain of its course, inspires neither a poem nor a cry, wavers and is lost. Then it were better (as came about) that the great river should be broken into thousands of little streams that but murmur, like the rivulets of the Casentino in the Inferno.

\* \* \*

The moment arrives in which D'Annunzio cries:

. . . . . l'ultime vite insigni

si spengono sul suol di Dante a un tratto

- come le faci d'un festin protratto quando il ciel arde di baglior rossigni.
- Vanno lunge da noi l'aquile e i cigni,
- quei ch'ebber pronta la virtù dell'atto,
- quei ch'ebbero nel cuor il sogno intatto;

nè si vede che il seme lor ralligni. Alziamo i canti funebri sul gregge ignaro, alla potenza che ci lascia

alla bellezza che da noi s'esilia. Implacabile è il canto e la sua

legge,

epprero leva su, vinci l'ambascia, anima mia: questa è la tua vigilia."

#### After D'Annunzio, A Shadow

"LES dieux s'en vont." To the old French phrase Marinetti added a codicil, and D'Annunzio remains. And he did. What sounded like an amusing exaggeration was in reality a fact. In Italy there existed on one hand D'Annunzio and on the other the reaction against him, which was still D'Annunzio. He, in himself, was

literary Italy. From out the verbal splendor which the gods had so generously lavished upon him, he gave to the world sesquipedalian volumes of dazzling prose, impeccable lyrics and dramas in which primitive passions and decadent vices come to In his astounding books, grips. Greece and Parnassus, realism and symbolism, go hand in hand. Producing two or three works in one year, he gave the public no time to recover from one before another was upon them, and obliged the critics-those who denounced him and spit venom at him along with the rest-to follow il vate. Then, from his temporary exile in France, he produced three works in French simultaneously with two in Italian: Contemplazione della morte and the mysterious Leda senza ciano.

Of the three great poets that formed the crowning glory of Italy's genius, Carducci and Pascoli had died, and D'Annunzio had gone into a selfimposed exile. A shadow fell upon Italian poetry. Panzacchi, who had sung with classic dignity, died, and silence enveloped his works; Severino Ferrari, great friend and disciple of Carducci, died, and his works were soon no longer read; Lorenzo Stecchetti, who had enjoyed a brief fame not only for his love poems but also for an invective verse of Carduccian fire, has no more readers; Giovanni Marradi and his Garibaldian epic fell into oblivion. Echoes of Mario Rapisardi continued to be heard in his native Catania, but only his poesie religiose, remarkable for their depths of contemplation and bursts of satirical violence, remained alive.

#### Two Voices: Marinetti and the "Crepuscolari"

A POET who at a given moment took a place beside Pascoli and D'Annunzio was Adolfo de Bosis. He was the founder and animating spirit of *Le Convitto*, the most beautiful and interesting *rivista* that has ever appeared in Italy, and the great translator of the English poet Shelley. Upon Giovanni Bertacchi, eloquent poet who sang of mountains and men and heroic deeds, silence had also fallen.

Then, out of this silence which covered many, two voices begin to be heard; one sings of the machine fashioned by the genius of man, beautiful in the delicacy and power of its mechanism—the new muse of a new era—Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, the leader of the new futurist phalanx; the other voice is more quiet, it sings of the small tender things of life, as

# POETRY IN ITALY IN THE 20th CENTURY

#### BY FRANCO CIARLANTINI

TALY is a country of negation. For example, whoever studies the history of the highest point of her artistic achievement-the period of the later sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries-will clearly see the gradual lowering of tone and poverty of expression which followed a perfection perhaps never attained by any other nation in the course of the ages. But doubtless few will see that this phenomenon was a necessary and logical sequence; few will stop to think that after reaching a summit, a descent must be made before other peaks can be attained. Most will simply agree with the judgment, "the axis of art has been displaced; we can now only go on living, as best we can, on the glory of the past." Not many will understand that it is just that incomparable past with its unparalleled splendor that makes the present seem of inferior chracter; nor will many recall that Italy, though actually declining in the art of painting, was continuing nevertheless to fill the world with beauty through the works of her former great masters, and in her Neapolitan school was laying the foundation of a science-that of our modern philosophy. In the bel paese there are many who accept Lamartine's phrase: la terra dei morti.

This phenomenon of negation occurs in Italy in all places and at all times. Upon the death of any great man it is the custom to chant the miserere for the art or science which that man represented. In fact, until a short time ago, in Italy only the dead were worthwhile; to be understood, to attain importance in the eves of one's contemporaries, one had to join the band of the defunct; only so could one achieve the Olympus of the numi indigeni della Patria.

#### **Too Great a Past?**

**F**OLLOWING this passion for negation, it has been denied that an Italian theatre has ever existed; that there was ever any eighteenth century painting worthy of the name;

#### (In 2 parts: Part I)

that there is even any present day music and poetry. The reason for these negations is always the same: the too great shadow of a glorious past.

As for contemporaneous poetry, the existence of which in some quarters has been denied unequivocally, does



Gabriele D'Annunzio

the publication annually of a considerable number of volumes signify only ineffectual efforts on the part of deluded writers to galvanize into life a form of artistic energy that has completely departed from the patria of Dante, Leopardi, Parini and Foscolo?

I believe that a careful examination of the poetry of Italy today shows a continual normal development from the beginning of the century to the present time, and that poetry now presents a character full of promise.

I believe it is very evident that there has especially existed in Italy a close connection between the vicissitudes of a period and the expression of that period by its poets. If the poets of the dolce stil novo are the representatives of the chivalrous age in which woman held the highest place in the thoughts of men who were warriors and who yet knew as well how to rhyme a sonnet as to lead an attack, it is equally true that the verse of Jacopone da Todi is a poetry appropriate to a mystical epoch still glowing with the fire of St. Francis' radiant love. Dante, though immersed in the turbid darkness of the middle ages, yet lifted his head into the first rays of the Renascence, (as an Alpine peak is buried in the clouds at its foot while its summit glows in splendor) and opened the door into a new epoch: Ariosto, with his gay raillery, is the poet of a sceptical period which believed in nothing save beauty and in what would satisfy the desire for it; Parini felt and infused into his works the humanitarian and political problems of his time; Foscolo was the mouthpiece of the heroic fervor that then shook all Europe: Leopardi sang the profound despair of a day without light when even philosophy, with its tendency toward materialism, contributed only depression to creative souls with high aspirations.

#### Italian Poetrv **Historically Affected**

DERHAPS no nation has had a poetry as varying in aspect as has Italy, because no nation has had a history as deeply marked by epochs of splendor and of decadence. The character of our poetry may perhaps be best understood by following the vicissitudes of our country in the "History of Italy" by Cesare Balbo.

So, when we speak of our contemporaneous poetry, and of its development in the period that preceded the war, and in that between the armistice and today, we must see whether or not it follows this law of connection with history. We believe we can prove that it does.

At the beginning of our modern literary period arose three gigantic figures, so gigantic that, by contrast, the poetry of today seems to many people to be nothing at all .. True it is that there does not exist in Italy today a poet who can be compared to Giosue Carducci, to Giovanni Pascoli, or to Gabriele D'Annunzio.

Antonio Baldini was but symbolizing the general appreciation when he proposed to present to the poet of the the very able direction of Professor Leonard Covello.

Among the guests of honor were: Hon. Francis X. Giaccone, Hon. Edward Corsi, Doctor Fama, Professors Covello and Prezzolini and our amiable vice-consul Mr. Spinelli. The forceful words of these visitors proved unequivocally to those Italians, descendants of Italians, and their friends that they are wholeheartedly behind the movement to place the study of Italian on a par with any other language in our schools. Their firm belief that both the practical value and the cultural value of the study of Italian, particularly in New York City which can boast of a larger Italian population than Rome itself, surpasses that of any other foreign language, inspired their hearers to a greater determination to demand of the Board of Education of the City of New York the fulfilment of their prophecies.

#### The Language Schools

#### At Middlebury

T is appropriate that this department call the attention of its readers every year to the exceptional opportunities for language studies offered at the summer session of Middlebury College. If you are one of those who plan to continue the study of Italian, French or Spanish during the summer months, read the following article by Miss Maude K. Weeks, the first student to receive the Master's Degree from the Italian School of Middlebury. It may help you to plan your vacation studies.

"Summer tourists passing through the quaint old college town of Middlebury, Vt., often observe with interest an Italian flag in front of the D K E fraternity house whose grounds skirt the highway. Up the hill at the entrance to Hepburn Hall may also be seen la bandera espanola, and across the campus on the Chateau the drapeau francais flutters in the breeze. Around these three standards are grouped students from all over the United States working-and playing-together with the common aim of refreshing or augmenting their linguistic attainments; for lying in this picturesque lap of the Green Mountains is a summer language school unique in America.

"Organized nearly twenty years ago, it has developed constantly under the guidance of leaders preeminent in their special fields, and now functions under the direction of Prof. Andre Morize of Harvard University, Dr. Romera-Navarro of the University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Gabriella Bosano, Head of the Italian Department at Wellesley College.



#### Dr. Leonard Covello

"The distinctive characteristic of the school is the segregation of the students under the three nationalities and the exclusive use of the foreign language as a medium of communication during the entire summer not only in the classrooms but in the residence houses and in all amusements, —for Middlebury is as rich in diversion as in serious study, the directors maintaining that only in the intercourse of social life can passive knowledge of any language become active.

"Besides tennis, golf, and hiking, are teas, weekly dances with a masked ball in August, plays by the faculty, concerts by professional musicians (the violinist and cellist are members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra), to say nothing of bathing parties and picnics at Lake Dunmore a short distance away. Thus the hills and fields complete the formal classroom work and for this reason, perhaps, leave the stronger impression on the spirit. A student at the Casa Italiana may forget in time much of what he was taught in the aule of Old Chapel, but he will carry away life-long memories of gav musical soirees in D K E House with Signor Cantarella beating time while every one thrills to the sound of his own voice pouring forth lovely Italian melodies, and he will live again those campfire suppers at Lake Dunmore when, the repast over, all gather around Dr. Bosano while she begins in her inimitable manner "C'era una volta. . .".

"In work and in play, professors and students mingle constantly as in one big family—or more precisely three big families—so that there is always a "native-born" at hand to help one out of linguistic snags. Fortunately, however, the way becomes smooth in a surprisingly short time and by the end of the summer the student has gained a cheerful mastery of the foreign tongue, even while enjoying a delectable vacation."

#### The I. T. A.

ON Saturday, May 5th, Cav. Baldo Aquilano gave an illustrated lecture on "Venezia nell'arte e nella vita" to the members of the Italian Teachers Association and their guests. Although the weather was unseasonably warm, the auditorium of the Casa Italiana was filled and the audience listened with pleasure to a talk that far surpassed the usual run of travelogues. The lecture was rich in historical, literary and musical allusions and anecdotes. Songs inspired by the beauty of Venice were sung at various points throughout the lecture and the poems of the great poets who have immortalized the spirit of Venice were read. Dean Mario E. Cosenza, president of the Italian Teachers

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Recommended by ...... Atlantica reserves the right to limit the number of sample copies which it can send out in response to this unusually generous offer. Association, in thanking the speaker, expressed the feeling of the audience when he said that the lecture had been one of beauty and inspiration.

The Association held its annual dinner dance in conjunction with the Italian Historical Society on board the Conte di Savoia on Friday, May 11. There were present many leaders of the Italian colony and many artists of distinction.

The annual Circolo Day of the Association will be held at the Julia Richman High School.

The Dante Society recently honored Giovanni Martinelli upon the completion of his twentieth year in the Metropolitan Opera. The occasion was celebrated in the auditorium of the Casa Italiana on Sunday afternoon, April 8th, among a large gathering of prominent Italians. On behalf of the Italian Ambassador, Comm. R. Angelone presented Giovanni Martinelli with a gold medal. Leonard Leibling, director of the Musical Courier. in a short talk recalled Martinelli's most famous roles and praised the contribution he had made to the musical world. Mr. Martinelli sang several arias and also a duet with Elda Vettori which were warmly applauded.

Miss Clara Benelli, daughter of Maestro Sandro Benelli, held a piano recital for her class on May 12th at the Casa Italiana at 8:30 P. M. Miss Benelli is a graduate of the Royal Conservatory Luigi Cherubini of Florence, Italy, and has studied in Paris and New York with world renowned pianists,

#### Fellowships

THE Barnard College Board of Trustees has announced the establishment of five fellowships for foreign students to study next year at Barnard College. Each fellowship covers tuition and living expenses for the entire academic year. The students will probably be chosen from Argentina, Italy, Norway, France and another country not yet designated. The establishment of these fellowships marks a change in policy. For ten years Barnard has exchanged a fellowship with one foreign country with funds donated by the student body, but next year the funds will be supplied by the trustees. The fellowships have been created for the educational value to the college and to further cooperation among the nations of the world.

#### Awards

LOUIS R. Zocca of Woonsocket, R. I. has received a scholarship covering tuition in the graduate School of English at Brown University.

The Barnes Foundation has awarded scholarships to Nicholas J. Marsicano and Luigi Settanni in recognition of their high achievements in their art studies. The scholarships cover a course of study from May to September conducted in the art galleries of the principal cities of Italy, France, Spain, Germany, Holland, Belgium and England.

Three money prizes were awarded to the best students in Italian at Mc-Gill University on April 18th. Students of Italian origin were not eligible for the prizes, as their competition would have been unfair to the students of non-Italian origin. The prizes were awarded by the Italian Chamber of Commerce of Canada, the General Bureau of Italian Schools in Foreign Lands, and by Comm. D. A. Sebastiani, The winners were Mrs. G. B. Glassco, Mrs. F. M. Gunley and Miss J. L. Cummings. Miss A. Martino received honorable mention as the best student although unable to compete for a prize.

For the first time in the history of the University of Pittsburgh the Howard C. Kidd Scholarship has been conferred on a girl, Miss Agnes Calabrese. Miss Calabrese, a junior in the School of Commerce at the University, has maintained a high average in her studies. She has also participated in other activities, being the president of her class, chairman of the women's division of Theta Phi Alpha and a member of the Women's Debating Team.

#### Colleges

HUNTER COLLEGE has announced the results of elections of organization officers held at the Thirty-Second Street Branch during the week of April 9th. The list of elections includes the Italian Club, which elected the following officers: Catherine Pizzuro, president; Lydia Malpezzi, vice-president; Ann Derrico, treasurer; and Antoinette Labatte, secretary.

The Dante Alighieri Club of Manhattan College held an evening of poetry, music and songs on April 20th in the auditorium of the University. The students who participated did credit to the able direction of Prof. Paschal Cantatore, head of the Department of Italian Language and Literature. Among the guests of honor present were the Royal Consul at New York and Prof. Giuseppe Prezzolini, Director of the Casa Italiana.

Il Crocchio Goliardico of Columbia University presented its seventh annual play and dance at the Casa Italiana on the evening of May 18th. "Scampolo" by Dario Niccodemi was the play selected for presentation and the cast labored enthusiastically for a successful outcome. Miss Anne Grimaldi is secretary of the club.

Rev. Dr. E. Walsh, together with Prof. Gr. Uff. Torquato Giannini, presented the economic and political doctrines of Fascism to the student body of Georgetown University on April 13th. Dr. Walsh traced the development of Fascism since its conception and Prof. Giannini completed the picture with a description of the structure of the "Stato Corporativo". The speakers held their listeners in eager attention for over two hours, and at the conclusion of the evening received a rousing cheer of gratitude.

The Alpha Phi Delta Fraternity of Columbia College, Beta Chapter, held

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WRITER, young lady with literary ability, to do free-lance articles on assignment, all subjects, for periodicals. Plenty of newspaper and magazine experience. Al4 Atlantica. its "Fraternity Drag" on April 21st at the Casa Italiana. The Columbia Blue Lions provided the music for a very collegiate and very enthusiastic evening. Albert E. Gramaźio, Consul, had charge of arrangements for the dance.

The Italian Club of Brooklyn College presented "La Piccina" on May 12th at the C. C. N. Y. Auditorium, 23rd St. and Lexington Ave.

A semi-formal Easter Prom was given by the members of the Lambda Alpha Phi Fraternity of St. Thomas College on April 6th at the Hotel Jermyn in Scranton, Pa. The affair proved a happy reunion for the fraternity brothers and their friends.

The Pi Phi Alpha Sorority held its annual banquet for the various city Chapters at the Paramount Grill on April 7th. The committee in charge of the banquet was as follows: Josephine Viola, Josephine Guariglia, Marianne Imperato, Mary Natale, Edna Pellegrino, Marie Schisano, Anna Santillo, Frances Mistretta, Eleanor Aquaro.

The Washington Square Club and the Heights Club of New York University have merged into one organization and will be known as the Italian Culture Society of New York University. The purpose of the merger is to bring the clubs together both for social and financial advantages.

Miss Elaine Augsbury was elected President of the Italian Club at Barnard College in the student elections held recently.

#### **High Schools**

**T**HE Circolo of Dickinson High School of Jersey City recently heard a lecture by the noted sculptor, Archimede Giacomantonio, who spoke on the beauty of art and nature in Italy.

The Circolo, "'La Giovinezza di Dante," alumni club of Dickinson High School, presented the comedy, "Mario e Maria" by S. Lopez in the auditorium of the school on April 21st. After the play the Italian Choral Society, under the direction of Maestro Sandro Benelli, offered a group of Italian songs. The proceeds from the affair will be reserved for the Italian students of Dickinson High School who need assistance. The Italian Club of the Montclair High School presented two one-act comedies on April 20th at the Grove Street School Auditorium. The club has an active and helpful faculty adviser in Prof. Anthony Caliandro.

The Italian-American students of the five evening high schools in Pittsburgh held their annual dance on April 25th in the Knights of Columbus Hall. The gathering was especially planned to inform those interested in Italian culture that a movement was on foot to have the Italian language admitted to the day high schools as well as the evening schools, and to enlist the support of those present.

On May 1st the Horace Mann Jr. High School of San Francisco held a dinner and evening of Italian recitations in the theatre of the Casa Fugazi. The new Superintendent of Public Schools, Dr. Edwin A. Lee, was the guest of honor. The students were prepared for their recitations by Prof. Eugenio Luca, and responded excellently to his training.

Il Coro d'Italia, under the direction of Mastro Sandro Benelli, gave its first concert in the auditorium of the Washington Irving High School on the afternoon of April 15th. In spite of the short time the society had for preparation the concert was most enjoyable, both in its musical and dance numbers. Prof. Giuseppe Prezzolini and Dr. Peter Sammartino were guest speakers. Prof. Leonard Covello, the founder of the first choral society in the city, was present but unable to speak because of a throat ailment. The society was honored by the presence of Mrs. Edward Corsi.

The Italian Club of the Monroe High School in New York is planning a "Serata" to be held in June. The cast has been chosen for the play to be presented and rehearsals are now in progress. Ray Baldassare and Ernest Catenacci have written an original skit for the occasion.

#### LA NOTIZIA E IL COMMENTO Quotidiano d'informazioni internazionali Direttore : Dott. S. Maraffa Abati Roma Viale Medaglie d'Oro 80

soars on the high peaks of lyrical atmosphere. In this we can breathe and live — in most of Di Giacomo's poetry — particularly in the sonnet "Ariette and Sunette."

Some of his early sonnets, later gathered in volume form, were "Uocchie de Suonno," "Sfregio," "Comm'a' nu mare . . ," "Comm'a' nu lume". Then came "Zi Munacella," a poetic Neapolitan legend in eight delightful sonnets and then "O Funneco Verde," and "O Munasterio."

A complete collection of the works of Di Giacomo, many of which have been translated into various languages, was published by the editor Riccardo Ricciardi in several editions. The philosopher and essayist, Benedetto Croce, has pronounced Salvatore Di Giacomo a poet worthy of being liked and admired not only by the Italians but by all Europe.

Di Giacomo is most popular for his ballads. Poet of love and mercy, he is a sincere and passionate interpreter of the Neapolitan soul.

His first ballad, "Nanni"," was brought forth in 1881. Martin Cafiero, journalist and lover of beauty, finally persuaded Mario Costa to set it to music. The song was first sung in the Villa Comunale, the public gardens of Naples. It was not liked. The public jeered and whistled — it was a farce. But a month later no other song but "Nanni" was heard. The poet then wrote other poems adapted to song, another very popular one being "Marechiaro," composed by Tosti.

To the theatre Salvatore Di Giacomo has given, among other works, "Assunta Spina," judged to be the most beautiful tragedy appearing during the last twenty years of the Ottocento, and also a short work of one act, "Mese Mariano," in which the maternal love of the Neapolitan peasant's wife is pictured with delicate artistry. As was the case with "S. Francesco" and "O Voto," great success always accompanied all his theatrical works.

The many years that he spent as librarian of the Biblioteca Lucchesi Palli did much to improve historical culture. His studies of the Settecento have great literary and historical value. While there he wrote the "Cronaca del Teatro San Carlino," which is a precious contribution and an interesting study of the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries. He has also written, in his book "Luci ed Ombre Napoletane" a chapter which is a history of Neapolitan taverns, called "Antiche Taverne." From among the 17th century Sandron collection which Di Giacomo handled, he collected, from two volumes, the letters of Ferdinand the Fourth to the Duchess of Florida. The last of his books contains a study of the early Neapolitan conservatories of music, none of which are now in existence, their place having been taken by the Conservatory of San Pietro a Maiella.

Naples adored this great son of hers, who, for the past four or five years, had spent a life of solitude in his villa, with his many books as friends. In 1929 he was made a member of the Royal Academy of Italy — of which Guglielmo Marconi is president — in recognition by the Italian Government of his outstanding contributions, historical and poetical, to the literature of the Italian nation, which today mourns one of its great poets.

#### -Camille De Borrello.

state. Miss Haider, who knows her United States, shrewdly predicts the aspects which Fascism would take on in this country and the effects it would have on the various groups of the population.

The book, in its indictment of the economic aspects of Fascism, is very effective. But throughout it one finds that the author has failed to speak of Fascism from its political and psychological viewpoint. This is a great weakness, since economic factors alone would hardly lead to a movement which has existed, in Italy for example, even over a decade. A second weakness of the work is that it does not offer any constructive answer, as one might expect.

Fascism is a positive force, the historical out-growth of centuries of governmental experience—and always there have entered political and religious, beside economic factors. A social policy would hardly be complete did it not include all three.

Miss Haider directs practically no attention to its emotional elements, which no doubt have won the sympathies of many, especially the layman, who, without suffering intellectual qualms, is ready to accept authority on faith. To overlook these aspects of Fascism is to misunderstand its quasi-religious appeal, and the need of vision and fortitude, the combination of which spells Fascism. —Camille De Borrello

- ON OUR WAY. By Franklin D. Roosevelt, 300 pp. New York: The John Day Company, \$2.50.
- THE FUTURE COMES. A study of the New Deal. By Charles A. Beard and George H. E. Smith. 178 pp. New York: The Macmillan Company \$1.75.

Any document embodying the economics and principles of the New Deal must inevitably share an important place in the reading of this generation of Americans. In these not dissimilar volumes we are able to gather together those many factors of the new system which have from daily newspaper accounts assailed our sometimes puzzled understanding.

The President's book, including the major proclamations and addresses which studded his first executive year, is a clear, concise presentation of the aims of his administration, calculated to acquaint the American public with the why and wherefore of the New Deal program. As such it satisfies the requirements expected from any statement of ideas and ideals; and it gives, in addition, a worthwhile summary of the turbulent sequence of events since March 4th, 1933.

More expertly and more coldly analytical, in the manner of the historian's comment, the Beard-Smith volume, which is a by-product of a larger, two-volume work on The Idea of National Interest, offers a sounder criticism of the New Deal planning for economic and social betterment. Here, after a glance at Mr. Roosevelt's book, we feel we can settle down to a review of the administration with the perspective necessary to reasonable gauging, with none of the frenzied worship of stunning booms of statesmanship that the man in the street gets from his morning headline.

Together, they form a distinct appraisal of the first year of this, as Beard defines the era, "break with the historic past."

-J. A. Donato

CALVARIO DI GUERRA. (Diario di Prigionia da Faè di Longarone a Mauthausen). By Dr. F. Michele Daniele. Illustrated. 383 pages. Milano: Alpes, Publisher. 20 lire.

At the outbreak of the World War Dr. Daniele, who at that time was engaged in the practice of his profession in this country, returned to Italy in order to resume his position of officer in the Army Medical Corps.

After an active service of several months at the front, in 1917 he was taken prisoner by the Austrians. During his period of imprisonment he kept a detailed diary and also collected information and documents which he has now organized in book form.

It is a collection of facts—a living experience of the wretched life led by the Italian soldiers in the prison camps in Austria.

The realism of the word-pictures, which have brusque contrasts of lights and shadows, and at times deeply stir the emotions, by themselves would more than keep alive the interest of the reader, but the author, with a clear and well-connected presentation, and with timely and keen opinions, has rendered even more useful and more informative the material gathered.

The illustrations are reproductions of original photographs and frequently are a true documentation of the facts which attracted the author's attention.  $-F_{e}C_{e}$ 

THE DEFENSE OF POETRY. (Variations on the theme of Shelley). By Benedetto Croce. 31 pages. Translated by E. F. Carrit. Nw York: Oxford University Press. 40 cents.

Signor Croce has devoted considerable time to a worthwhile cause in his essay on the Defense of Poetry. He joins with Shelley and Schiller in defending poetry as a salvation of humanity. He believes that the arts, sciences, and religions have had little or no effect on moving the human conscience. Poetry, he thinks, has a certain aloofness from self-interest and material gain. It elevates us from that lowly personality which Spenser in his "Faery Queen" attaches to the Hag, who, living in the deepest and darkest woods, vomited her wickedness with every breath, to the lofty state of purity and beauty which Dante personifies in the form of Beatrice.

Signor Croce rightfully places certain delimitations on the right to classify all verse as poetry and cites Aristotle as an authority. He attributes little if any value to the phonetic titillation of words, which principle was also adhered to by the supreme poets, Homer, Sophocles, Dante and Shakespeare.

The man of poetic taste, he believes, must tread a rather narrow path in order to enjoy the delights of poetry. This delight is a compound consisting of pain, sweetness, desires, and renunciations, the zest for life, and the desire for death. Yet this delight is the perfection of form and the quintessence of beauty.

Signor Croce concludes his work by giving a practical example of the value of poetry. He takes a case in which a few people, on edge with mutually hostile passions and alienated by conflicting aims, at a common meeting are induced to put aside their grievances by the reading of a poem, reminding them of something which lay dormant within themselves, namely, their common humanity.

The essay, as a whole, is a noble attempt to defend poetry as one of the best means of eliminating wickedness and greed from humans by lifting them into the realm of purity and beauty rather than by attacking their weaknesses directly.

> Dr. H. E. Smith Brooklyn College

STORIA DELL'ARTE ITALIANA. (La Pittura del Cinquecento). By Adolfo Venturi. Illustrated. 1213 pp. Milano: Hoepli, Publishers. 155 lire.

With this newest powerful Venturian work there is not only given a summary of the history of Italian painting of the Cinquecento but it gives us a more or less individual aspect of the famous artists, among whom are Barocci, Empoli and the Carracci—their works, and the period to which each belongs.

The author's work is undoubtedly very formative and significant of the Carracci, assigning to each the merits and demerits which he has earned. Venturi also gives laudable descriptions of many paintings.

#### THE MAN OF THE RENAISSANCE. By Ralph Roeder. 540 pages. Illustrated. New York: The Viking Press. \$3.50.

The Man of the Renaissance, as pictured in this intensely interesting and amply detailed volume, is really a compound of what Mr. Roeder calls "four lawgivers": Savonarola, Machiavelli, Castiglione and Aretino. "Seek-

### BOOKS FOR EVERY LIBRARY

Modern Italy, Its Intellectual, Cultural and Financial Aspects . . . . . . \$2.00 By Tommaso Tittoni. Institute of Politics publication.

Italy at War and the Allies in the West.....\$1.50 By E. A. Powell. Illustrated.

- My Autobiography . . \$3.50 By Benito Mussolini. Illustrated. With introduction by R. W. Child.
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- Italy . . . . . . \$3.00 By C. Ricci. With 500 illustrations, 4 in color.
- Autobiography of Benvenuto Cellini . . . . . . \$1.25 Translated by John Addington Symonds. Half leather.
- Cavour . . . . . \$1.40 By Countess Martinengo Cesaresco
- Christina Rossetti . . \$1.50 By Dorothy Margaret Stuart
- Francesca Da Rimini . \$1.25 By Gabriele D'Annunzio. A drama translated by Arthur Symons. Bound in half cloth Illustrated.
- American Notes and Pictures from Italy . . . \$2.25 By Charles Dickens. Illustrated by Phiz, Cruickshank and others.

#### Picture Tales from the

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ATLANTICA BOOK SERVICE 33 W. 70th St., New York City

See instructions for ordering on top of page 200. ing successively to master life by spirit, by intelligence, by refinement, and by instinct, they found, each according to the truth of his temperament, their vital principles in religion, in patriotism, in society, and in selfsatisfaction; and between them they exhausted the alternatives."

Continues the author in his preface: "Their lives embodied the adventures of the basic ideas that men live by; and they developed them with such transparent simplicity and extreme consistency that they live on for posterity as types. The ascetic virtue of Savonarola, the expedient virtue of Machiavelli, the convivial virtue of Castiglione, the animal virtue of Aretino—what are these but the final solutions of those who fear life, those who accept it, those who succumb to it?"

Yet these are by no means the only figures drawn: on and off the stage of the period, as herein depicted, march scores of personages, briefly holding the spotlight whenever their lives touch on those of the four central characters. And characters these four certainly are to the reader, for Mr. Roeder has added to the available historical detail (which is by no means new or the product of original research) an active imagination and a keen psychological insight into his subjects, which enables him occasionally to present some extremely vivid and dramatic episodes, based on accepted fact, but expanded and colored with the breath and hues of his workmanship. Imagination alone, however, could never take the place of the closely-woven history which alternates with the dramatic sequences, so that the book, in the last analysis, is a fusing of art and scholarship.

Mr. Roeder is the author of the previously published (1930) "Savonarola," and no doubt his portrait of the fiery and impassioned monk who thundered against the iniquities of the time is the book's masterpiece. The section on Machiavelli, whose classic, "The Prince," has been required reading for all ambitious and sometimes unscrupulous rulers who agree with him that the end justifies the means, is especially absorbing, particularly the condensation and analysis of the book by which the wily Niccolo is still known.

Appended at the rear of the volume is a bibliography, a chronological table of the principal events of the period treated (1492-1532), a list of the relationships of the principal persons in the narrative, and a diagram of the Medici family tree. As a

dramatic history-biography of those turbulent and lusty days, "The Man of the Renaissance" must rank as one of finest books of the season.

-D. Lamonica

#### HEROIC LIVES. By Rafael Sabatini. 416 pages. Boston: Houghton Miff in Company. \$3.00.

As Sir Walter Scott is known as the writer of the historical romance during the 18th century, so Rafael Sabatini is known to all as the most famous contemporary writer of historical romance. Stepping aside, in this book, "Heroic Lives" he turns from fiction to fact. Herein he reveals the lives of six great characters in history, each heroic in his turn and each of whom left this world the richer for his brief passage through it. The degrees of heroism are as different as their spheres of activity, ranging from the full-blooded majesty of Richard the Lionhearted to the soulful majesty of the 'Bridegroom of Poverty', Saint Francis of Assisi. Those already familiar with previous works of Sabatini can well imagine that the characters - Lionheart (Richard the First), St. Francis of Assisi, Joan of Arc, Sir Walter Raleigh, Vice-Admiral Lord Nelson and Florence Nightingale - are treated just as vivaciously and colorfully.

As regards the author himself, English is his adopted tongue. The son of itinerant opera-singers, he was born in Italy and educated in Portugal and Switzerland. He now resides in London. The works of Mary Johnston exerted great influence on him, but he also has great admiration for Sir Walter Scott. Once a publisher, he became successful as an author when, after struggling for tweny years, his "Scaramouche" finally put him on the map. Perhaps this is the reason why he refers to it as his Columbus; it led him to the discovery of America. Camille De Borrelio

#### DISCORSI SULLA STORIA D'ITA-LIA. By Arrigo Solmi, 340 pages. Firenze: "La Nuova Italia," Publishers. 26 lire.

The discourses which the author gives us in this volume are well combined. Solmi sustains and demonstrates with an examination of the epochs singular phenomena of the Italian nation which, ever since its unification, has conserved not only character but even a unitary sentiment.

Although all this is not new to the reader of books on Italian history, the interesting manner in which the au-

thor puts forth his material is very effective.

In concluding, it is advisable to say that this book should be largely diffused among the Italians, for they will greatly profit by it in the long run.

#### WITH PADRE KINO ON THE TRAIL. By Frank C. Lockwood. 142 pages. Illustrated. Vol. 5, No. 2, Tucson, Arizona: Published by the University of Arizona. 50 cents.

The story presented here by Mr. Lockwood is offered as a biography of Father Eusebio Francisco Kino of the Jesuit Society, which Padre Kino joined on November 20, 1665. The nature and purpose of this society and its religious aims and accomplishments are interwoven throughout the whole life story of this Padre missionary. Much is made of the world's geography, the new discoveries, the opening of Northwest Mexico and what is now California. The portrayal of these geographic expeditions in graphic form furnishes interesting exposition. This picturesque country is portrayed in a romantic manner and in so doing, the cataloguing of each. incident and event gives to the reader a chronological view of certain aspects in our early history of acquisition.

The treatment of Padre Kino portrays him as a devout, humble and reverend cleric. His brilliant mind and studious attitude are demonstrated in all of his letters. Irrespective of the emphasis placed upon Father Kino as a cleric, the story sets forth a picture which shows him' to be an ambassador of no mean proportions. His accomplishments in his swift movement among alien people speak for themselves. We find the man able to accomplish under great handicap much in a material way. He builds structures and communities, he develops agriculture and plans expeditions. Truly a feat of great administrative ability; and all of this with a definite aim and purpose from which he knows no deviation. The accomplishment of all this required a man of great physical strength as well as one of much intelligence and extensive moral courage.

The structure of the story, which is spread over nine chapters, at times does not fit together in any particular form. History, Geography and Religion are mingled rather loosely. As a biography it goes far afield, yet as an interesting form of exposition the author holds one's attention. In value it is well worth reading as a picture of our processes in conquering virgin territory. It gives a decided enrichment of knowledge to the reader in respect to America from 1681 to 1711 and offers to the student an excellent supplement to the study of its history. —E. L. Smith

#### -E. L. Smith Hunter College

WRITE IT RIGHT. By Ambrose Bierce. 73 pages. New York: Charles L. Bowman & Co. \$1.00.

One of the most fascinating of petty occupations is that of correcting one's friends in the use of their daily English. For those in this class, and those who themselves need it, this "Little Blacklist of Literary Faults" is recommended.

Precision in the use of language is the main concern of the volume, so that, quoting Quintilian, the writer will write in such wise "that his reader not only may, but must, understand." Matters of taste in the use of words are also discussed by Bierce, who was himself a master of literary style.

Many are the examples in current use that the author discourages or even denounces outright, as Democracy for Democratic Party, Restive for Restless, Leave for Go away, Less for Fewer, etc. No words are wasted in pointing out the literary faults sometimes committed, and often the author's comments are witty or sarcastic, as, following "Banquet," he says: "A good enough word in its place, but its place is the dictionary. Say, dinner."

#### THE MAKING OF THE MODERN JEW. By Milton Steinberg. 317 pp. Indianapolis, Ind.: Bobbs-Merrill Co., \$2.00.

It is for those Jews who are endeavoring to become assimilated into the customs of their adopted country to the complete abandonment of Jewish ideals, character, and spiritual heritage, and to those "Gentiles who have been fascinated by the strange confusion of the Jew" and who cannot ever understand the Jew's character, that the author writes this book.

His main objective is to offer an interpretation and a rational explanation of the Jew; and to dispel myths about Jews being inherently successful in business, intelligent, dishonest, aggressive, socially crude and vulgar, and radical.

By tracing events in Jewish history the author compares present-day Jews with the medieval Jews. By an interpretation of events, he attempts to trace the consequences of their characteristics into the group life and individuality of the modern Jew.

Most of the traits with which Jews are associated can be traced back to the Medieval Era. Thus, when we think of the Jew as, shrewd, energetic and ambitious in business, we must bear in mind the author's statement:

"Medieval bishops, dukes, and church councils have no slight share in the fact that a twentieth century Jew proves to be successful in his management store. In a world which we described, the Jew had to be shrewd and aggressive if he was to live at all. Life had been made so difficult for him that it called for intense preoccupation with economic matters."

Likewise, various other characteristics, such as the strong sense of loyalty to the group and the intellectualism of the Jews, have made them reflect more earnestly about Zionism.

The author concludes by expressing his hopes in the future of Palestine as the only preservation of Jewish culture.

—Louis J. Reda

BOOKS OF GENERAL INTEREST FOR TODAY'S READERS. Compiled by Doris Hoit. Published by the American Library Association and the American Association for Adult Education in cooperation with the United States Office of Education, New York. 59 pages.

Here is an annotated list of some 900 readable books, on every conceivable subject of general interest, prepared to meet "the demand for a list of simply written, informative, and readable books suitable for use in connection with the current adult educational activities being conducted by the government and other agencies."

Whether for knowledge in particular fields, or in the pursuit of a hobby, whether for the study of literature, or for simple relaxation, this booklet is a valuable little guide.

THE STORY OF THE SFORZAS. By L. Collison-Morley. 304 pages. Illustrated. New York: E. P. Dutton & Company, Inc. \$3.75.

Mr. Lacy Collison-Morley is by no means a tyro in things Italian. His study of Giuseppe Baretti appeared as early as 1909, and since then he has written continuously, and ably, on several aspects of Italian culture and history. Former readers will recall that he is the author of "Shakespeare in Italy," "Italy After the Renaissance" "The Story of the Borgias," etc.

His latest work is a nice blend of historical narrative and character portrayal, based on a wide though not exhaustive scholarship.

To reconstruct, within the space of some three hundred pages, as the author has done with more than adequate comprehension, the history of the Sforzas, is a commendable achievement. Their story involves not only the turbulent political life of the Peninsula during the fifteenth century and the early years of sixteenth; it is in many respects a focal point of European politics as well.

The rulers of Milan were, moreover, important figures in the intellectual and artistic life of the times, especially Ludovico II Moro under whom Milan became a brilliant center of the Renaissance to which Leonardo da Vinci, Bramante and others were attracted. It is in his description of that court, in a chapter entitled,

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- **Italy on Fifty Dollars . \$1.90** By Sydney A. Clark. Illustrated 4½ inches by 6 inches. Gives advice and data indispensable to low-cost travel.

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- **Italy** . . . . . . \$2.00 By Frank Schoonmaker. Illustrated. Contains motor routes, lists of hotels and pensions, dates of fairs, advice on trains and steamers.
- An Italian Holiday . . \$1.00 By Paul Wilstach. With illustrated end papers. Tells of a zig-zag journey through Italy to many unusual out-of-the-way places as well as to cities of splendor.

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ATLANTICA BOOK SERVICE 33 W. 70th Street, New York City See instructions for ordering on top of inside front cover. "Court Life at Milan Under Ludovico and Beatrice," that the author is at his best.

In "The Story of the Sforzas" the professional historian will find little whereat to cavil, while the casual reader will find it readable and informative throughout.

> –Prof. Daniel J. Bellew Fordham University

#### **BOOKS RECEIVED**

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

- Literature of the Italian Renaissance. By Jefferson Butler Fletcher. 341 pages. New York: The Macmillan Co; \$3.00.
- Ships Without Sails. By Barbara Barclay Carter. 420 pages. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. \$2.50.
- The Racial Myth, By Paul Radin. 141 pages. New York: McGraw Hill Book Co. \$1.50.
- If You Want to Get Ahead. By Ray W. Sherman. 186 pages. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. \$3.00.
- **Do We Want Fascism?** By Carmen Haider, 276 pages. New York: John Day Co. \$2.00
- **On Our Way.** By Franklin Delano Roosevel. 300 pages. New York: John Day Co. \$2.50.
- With Padre Kino on the Trail. By Frank C. Lockwood. 142 pages. Illustrated. Vol. 5, No. 2, Tucson, Arizona: Published by the University of Arizona. 50 cents.
- **Calvario di Guerra.** (Diario di Prigionia da Faè di Longarone a Mauthausen). By Dr. F. Michele Daniele. Illustrated. 382 pages. Milano: Alpes, Publishers. 20 lire.
- The Making of the Modern Jew. By Milton Steinberg. 317 pages. Indianapolis, Ind.: Bobbs-Merrill Company. \$2.00.
- Books of General Interest for Today's Readers. Compiled by Doris Hoit.
  59 pages. New York: Published by the American Library Association

and the American Association for Adult Education in cooperation with the United States Office of Education.

- What a Stenographer Should Know. (An Essay by an Employer). By John E. Vanderbilt. Boston: Eastern Publishing Co., Publishers. \$1.00.
- Italy's Part in Winning the World War. By Col. Girard L. McEntee. With a Foreword by former Ambassador Giacomo De Martino. Illustrated with maps and official

photographs. 114 pages. Princeton University Press. \$2.00.

- Incantesimo e Magia. By A. Castiglioni. 456 pages. Milano: Mondadori, Publisher. 30 lire.
- Can We Limit War? By Hoffman Nickerson. 308 pages. New York: Fred A. Stokes Co., Publisher. \$2.75.
- Whither Latin America? By Frank Tannebaum (With an introduction by James T. Shotwell). 260 pages. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company. \$2.00.

# THINGS ITALIAN IN AMERICAN PERIODICALS

### A Bibliography of Recent Publications of Interest to Italian-Americans

MUSSOLINI MOVES AHEAD. By William E. Lingelbach. Current History, May, 1934.

The article constitutes the section on Italy in the "Month's World History." Says the author: "Three events stand out in Italian history during March—first, the election of the 29th Parliament; second, the 15th anniversary of the birth of the Fascist Party and the announcement by Mussolini of a "Sixty-Year Plan"; third, the signing of the pacts with Austria and Hungary."

#### CASTIGLIONI BIRTHDAY NUM-BER, Medical Life, April, 1934.

The complete April issue of this magazine is given over to Castiglioni "as part of a projected Castiglioni Birthday Volume, in honor of the sixtieth birthday of the distinguished Professor of the History of Medicine at the University of Padua." Dr. Castiglioni was recently in this country to deliver the Hideyo Noguchi Lectures at the Institute of History of Medicine of Johns Hopkins University, followed by an extensive lecturetour.

#### ITALY GREETS THE MODERN STYLE. By Walter Rendell Storey. The New York Times Magazine, May 13, 1934.

"Exposition at Venice Shows a Swing From the Traditional in Decorative Art," says the subtitle, referring to the Biennial International Art Exposition, just recently opened for the Summer in Venice. RED, BLACK AND BROWN. By Bruno Roselli. The Commonweal, May 4, 1934.

The colors referred to in the title have to do with shirts worn by the followers of Garibaldi, Mussolini and Hitler. The article itself is devoted largely to the psychology of shirtwearing in dictatorships.

EUROPA ORDERS CAPITAL AND LABOR. By Roger Shaw. The Review of Reviews, May, 1934.

"Italy, Germany and Russia Offer Interesting Comparisons as to How Labor Fares Under Dictators," explains the sub-title, and in the article itself we find the following: "Today European trade unionism is definitely on the decline, through the introduction of corporative States on the Italian plan."

MILAN'S AMBROSIANA: A MEC-CA FOR STUDENTS. By Phyllis W. Goodhart. The New York Times Magazine, April 22, 1934.

Both a library and a picture gallery, and second only to the Vatican among the great libraries of Italy, it contains treasures in literature and art, and in natural history and early science.

- RELATIVE DELINQUENCY OF ALIEN AND NATIVE CHIL-DREN. School and Society, March 31, 1934.
- NOTES OF A COSMOPOLITAN.
- By B. E. S. Fisher. The North American Review, April 1934.

Descriptive and travel notes on Italy.

#### ITALIAN PARLIAMENT FACES EUTHANASIA. Christian Century, April 4, 1934.

- FASCISM AND BOLSHEVISM. By L. Fischer. The Nation, April 4, 1934.
- QUESTION BOX: WHAT IS A CORRECT DEFINITION OF FASCISM, SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM? By H. L. Willett. Christian Century, March 14, 1934.
- THE FIGHT AGAINST FASCISM. The World Tomorrow, March 29, 1934.
- EDWARD CORSI: ANOTHER FINE APPOINTMENT. By E. B. Chaffee. Christian Century, March 21, 1934.
- ASCENSION DAY (Pope Assists at Pontifical High Mass). By M. L., Russell. The Commonweal, March 23, 1934.
- BREACH OF PROMISE: STILL A RACKET. By Anthony M. Turano. The American Mercury, May 1934.
- ENROLLMENT IN THE DIFFER-ENT FOREIGN LANGUAGES IN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS OF NEW YORK CITY AS OF MARCH 15, 1934. High Points Magazine, April 1934.

In which is shown that Italian is fifth among the languages taught in point of number of students, being ahead only of Hebrew, with 475, and Greek, with 91. Italian has 4,990 students enrolled, as against French with 71,793, Spanish with 37,045, Latin with 22,696, and German with 22,550.

WHAT WILL A DOLLAR BUY? By B. J. Rothschild. The Nation, March 31, 1934.

Concerning the Italian price levels from a travel viewpoint.

- EUROPE MOVES TOWARD WAR: FRANCO-ITALIAN RI-VALRIES. By J. Steel. The Nation, March 28, 1934.
- MUSSOLINI CHALLENGES EUROPE. The New Republic, March 28, 1934.
- MUSSOLINI'S 60-YEAR LOOK FORWARD. The Literary Digest, March 31, 1934. .
- A NEW TRIPLE ALLIANCE. The Nation, March 28, 1934.

Concerning the alliance among Italy, Austria and Hungary.

# OPERA MEETS THE NEW DEAL

#### (Continued from Page 168)

Gallo's company played Chicago five instead of their scheduled three weeks. San Francisco presented one of his greatest surprises . . . two solid weeks to capacity houses and he could have remained longer, for San Franciscans love Gallo and what he has done for their musical season.

#### Giving Them What They Want

GALLO'S great success as an impresario lies mainly in the fact that he knows what the people want and gives it to them. German opera for the Germans, French for the French, Italian for the Italians, and English for the English. Thus he pleases his cosmopolitan audiences.

Expense is merely a word to Gallo, a word which he neither recognizes nor considers in presenting his performances. He spares no expense—stars, chorus, ballet, costumes, scenery, and orchestra, all are the best, for in educating people to the opera he must present it to them as perfect, not mediocre. The transportation alone for the first cross-country tour of any theatrical company, that of Gallo's from Carroll's Casino to San Francisco, was sixteen thousand dollars . . . and still the impresario is making money.

The re-establishment of the Ballet is another reason for Fortune's success. This dancing interlude has recaptured the love and admiration of all opera goers. These brief, scintillating moments of perfection in the dance live eternally in the hearts of all. I recall with pleasure a brief period of eight gilded, gold and silver bodies momentarily poised, then pulsating with life in their unique interpretation of the dance, something new which had its birth in the sixteenth and seventeeth century of the Tarlton Era of the Ballet, something modern in step with our cocktail hour life.

#### **Opera Compared To Movies**

THE dollar opera has proved that people, even the frivolous, the giggly, and the ultra-sophisticated have grown tired of Movies, Movies and more Movies. They want music, singing, and the dance, and where do they find this combination better than in Opera? They love "Faust," "Carmen," "Martha," "Butterfly," "Trovatore," and "Pagliacci" because they are real, they are life. They do not distort the theory of life and put the happy ending where the tragic ending should be merely to please the audience. No, they present life as it should be and as it is, tragic or happy, as the incidents dictate. People are tired of being bluffed by synthetic life, they want the real, therefore, the rebirth of opera for the masses. People want honest music in honest musical interpretation, narrated and dressed in an honest representation of the period and Gallo gives them this.

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever," and so the opera. Puccini, Wagner, Verdi and others knew the truth of Keats' immortal statement, so they immortalized tragic and happy beauty in their ever remembered arias. Opera is a "thing of beauty," a lilting cocoon wound of the golden thread of song, a cocoon for each individual to unwind and discover song and music.

#### A Training School For Singers

CORTUNE GALLO is a friend of Youth. The San Carlo Opera Company is the country's only permanent training school and theater of presentation for young singers. Many now famous stars of the Metropolitan, the Chicago, the Philadelphia, and the Cincinnati Opera Companies had their rough edges smoothed out with the San Carlo, for in a traveling company they were assured of skillful training in many roles at the hands of the musical director, Maestro Carlo Peroni, and they had a chance to sing often before many varied types of audiences. The friendly Fortune is ready to listen to any good voice and willing to accept into his company as many as he has room for. He considers it a privilege to give the young people every encouragement he reasonably can.

The fact that three prominent universities are presenting courses in opera seems to indicate that opera is here to stay and that people want to know more about it. When all people know the history of opera, the stories of the different operas and their conceptions, and the lives of the composers, I am sure that then more people will be composing operas, operas of this, our Twentieth Century. Beginning . . .

# Atlantica's Forum

#### Conducted By JOHN H. MARIANO Member of the New York Bar

Editor's Note: Dr. John H. Mariano, who begins in this issue a new Editor's Note: Dr. John H. Mariano, who begins in this issue a new department of comment on current affairs, is now engaged in his law practice, before which time he taught economics at New York University and the College of the City of New York. The author of two books, "The Italian Contribution to American Democracy" (1922), and "The Italian Immigrant and Our Courts" (1926), he holds the degrees of A. B., A. M., Ph. D., and L. L. B. from Columbia University, and he is also president of the Americus Society, the largest group of professional and business men of Italian extrac-Society, the largest group of professional and business men of Italian extrac-tion in the Bronx, N. Y. Trained in many social service courses, Dr. Mariano was Assistant Director of Social Research at New York University in 1918, and another high honor was accorded him in 1919 when he was made a Special National Field Scout Commissioner to introduce Scoutcraft among Italo-Americans. This noted attorney, whose wife, Susan C., is also a practicing lawyer, was admitted to practice before the United State Supreme Court in 1932, a rare distinction.

#### **Relaxing The Immigration Laws**

HEARINGS are being held before the House Immigration Committee designed to remove certain restrictions which under the present restrictive clauses account for unnecessary misery and unhappiness. Five new measures are being debated, looking towards a more humanitarian, as well as a more practical solution of some queer legal anamolies.

A modification of the existing statute is being planned, permitting the Secretary of Labor, at her discretion, to allow worthy aliens to remain in the country and to acquire citizenship. Families which heretofore have been hopelessly driven apart and separated, could be kept united under such a measure.

Equally important is a bill designed to place the power of immediate expulsion of alien citizens once convicted from this country in the hands of immigration officials. The theory of this change is that crimes other than ciose of moral turpitude should permit the deportation of criminals. In addition, it is urged that political refugees be permitted to acquire citizenship.

A further proposal is that which permits the wife, husband, minor child or parents of an American citizen to enter this country, if it can be established that they could be suitably provided for and not become dependent.

All of these new measures may not be finally adopted. A discussion, however, is beneficial, and no doubt a beginning will be made aiming to remove certain of the unnecessary heartaches caused by the excessive

rigidity of the present immigration restrictions which subordinate substance to form. Doubtless the day of mass migration to this country is over and well it might be; but that is no reason for refusing to see the unfairness and lack of humanitarianism in refusing to permit such elasticity as is necessary to accomplish the results outlined above.

#### **Fusion's Future**

S Fusion at the crossroads? The death of Comptroller Cunningham in New York City brings Fusion to the polls in November. This is three years sooner than was anticipated. It brings Fusion to a sharp turn in the road.

The Comptroller is one of the triumvirate, together with the Mayor



From the N. Y. Daily News

The American Beauty Rose is Obtained by Pruning All Other Buds from the Stalk

and the President of the Board of Alderman, who in the Board of Estimate control the city's fiscal policy. In particular, the vote of the Comptroller in fiscal matters carries great weight.

At the present time the Board of Estimate is under tremendous responsibility. By a five-eighths vote-10 out of 16-it may, within certain limits, reduce salaries or inaugurate furloughs. By a three-quarters vote-12 out of 16-it may also, under certain limits, effect departmental reorganization

Retrenchment and reform are considered the order of the day in the present Board of Estimate. Certain economies have already been ordered and furloughs have begun. The budget for 1935 will be prepared and voted upon before December 30th, 1934. Thus, regardless of the November elections, Fusion will have its opportunity for both preparing and closing the 1935 budget. After that, it is all in the lap of the Gods!

#### **Columbus Day**

WITH but little public acclaim or attention, the birthday of the illustrious discoverer of this Continent is now, by the President's signature to the recent bill passed by Congress, declared to be a day of public honor and observance.

Thus Columbus Day takes its place in rank and importance with such and truly Yankee holidays as July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, etc.

One result of the bill recently enacted into law is to stress the fact that it was the genius and courage of an Italian which made possible the founding of a new nation.

Special praise is due to James M. Fitzpatrick, Congressman from the 24th Congressional District, located in the Bronx, City of New York, for his unfaltering perseverence in finally succeeding in having Congress award recognition to our first famous Italian here.

In these days of contracted immigration and current disputes concerning superiority and inferiority traits, when, as likely as not, the question of the value of the Italian immigration to our shores is questioned, this new bill comes as a salutary recognition of the value to this country of the world's most intrepid explorer.

#### **Foreign Debtors**

WHEN is a nation in default? The Johnson Act passed at Washington has left the answer to this question pretty much in the air. Attorney General Cummings is called upon to solve this puzzle. What are the transactions for which an American citizen may now be fined \$10,000 or sent to jail for five years or both? If he sells bonds, securities or other obligations of any foreign government, while said foreign government is in default in the payment of any part of its obligations to the government of the United States, then the Johnson Act is presumptively violated.

Mr. Cummings is astute. He squirmed away from the ridiculousness of the new law by giving it as his opinion that "default" is a "flexible" term.

The issue first came up when the British government used token payments. President Roosevelt stated then that he had "no personal hesitation" in saying that he would not regard the British Government as in default when he accepted its token payment.

Now, under the Johnson Act, the day of tokens is passed. The countries definitely barred as defaulters are: France, Belgium, Poland, Jugoslavia, Russia and a few others.

The Russian Ambassador has expressed his dissatisfaction with the new law. A debate is forthcoming. Mr. Borah's voice will again boom forth. But better than a debate, it would be more fitting to repeal the law because it discriminates against certain countries whose bonds are currently quoted above 150 while favoring others whose securities are rated at 15 or less.

Such a law must always cause, not only confusion, but what is more important, ill feeling.

#### Among the Books

THE RACIAL MYTH, By Paul Radin, Whittlesey House, 1934—\$1.50.

**T**HIS book has the tone of propaganda. It tells the true story of an ancient prejudice. The monster that Professor Radin fights is hydraheaded. Racialism and Nationalism are the terms he uses to designate this prejudice. Race and nationality are the terms as we know them of old.

The theme is not difficult to follow, buttressed though it is by a wealth of erudite scholarship and information reaching into many of the explored fields of knowledge.

Professor Radin's thesis is as follows: The Nordic people claim superiority over others because of a psychological compensation idyll. They came into the grouping of the world's nations last in point of time and after all the feasting and division of the spoils had been completed. Radin calls this superiority complex an introversion and he claims that this is essentially the whole force behind the German necessity to create a pedigree of greatness.

Newcomers whose historical rhythm of arrival has not synchronized with that of the rest of the world account for the urge for a carefully reconstructed theory such as is found among the German or Nordic races. Like the most ancient of peoples just emerging from savagery, the Nordic theme is an attempt to erect a pedigree of greatness. Radin contends that no nation has possibly ever done it so effectively as did the Germans in the last quarter of the 19th century.

Having described the theory upon which the Nordic notion of greatness is based, the author proceeds to show how impossible it is for the Germans to claim credit to themselves for much of this progress and achievement.

The Nordic race, he says, is a recent one. He finds that there has been little added to the sum total of the world's knowledge since 8000 B. C., excepting the use of metals, the art of writing and the machines.

He goes on to analyze the origin of these advances from the standpoint of their racial contributors. Metal working he finds to be a fundamental phase of neolithic culture found among the lake dwellers of Switzerland and Italy and credited therefore to people of the most heterogeneous physical makeup. Anthropologists definitely disagree, but the consensus seems to be that these people resemble more nearly the Mediterranean race of today. They were a race of long-heads.

Now as to the art of writing, than which no other cultural element has more revolutionized the world. The first stages of writing, the syllabic, the author finds to have been arrived at independently by a number of races of great diversity of physical type, such as the Egyptians, the Hittites, the Sumerians of Asia Minor and the people of the Indus, partly Dravidian in origin, and also among the Chinese. Here is the greatest mixture of long and broad heads, apart from other anthropological differences.

What of the Nordic race, the author asks? What were they doing all this time? At best, decapitating thistles on the shores of the Baltic Sea!

The next great revolution in human thought came with the advent of machines and the development of mechanical appliances. The preliminaries of the scientific renaissance that took definite form in Italy at the end of the 15th century are found among the Arabs and the Jews. From them came the Greek tradition of mathematics and they gave an entirely new prospective by introducing the Arabic notation and algebra. The concept of zero came from India. The combination of the three made possible the work of the Pole Copernicus, the Italian Galileo, the German Kepler, the Englishman Newton and the Frenchman Descartes. To their combination we add the compass, moveable type, rag paper and gun powder, all contributions of China. In all these achievements, two distinct races were involved, the Caucasian and the Mongolian.

Radin points out that a catalogue of these achievements leads to the trite and obvious conclusion that civilization is a monopoly of no one people.

From Italy, where the renaissance originated, came modern science and mathematics. In the 16th and part of the 17th century she remained supreme and then the sceptre passed north to Germany, England, France and Holland.

The author contends that to explain these varied contributions from varied peoples on any theory of special racial traits is utterly unintelligible. If this were so, then logically we would have to assume that the Italians were generally superior in the 15th and 16th centuries; England, France and the United States in the 19th and 20th. Since, however, the present German government contends that the German Jews were responsible for German economic prosperity in the 19th and 20th centuries, we should have to substitute German-Jews for Germans.

Race and nationality, the author contends, are the result of two forces, operative among all peoples and all races, some more definitely at one time, some more definitely at another. These are now pressing forward toward their ultimate solution and that solution itself will again test the hold these symbols possess.

In the coming struggle for world power, the leaders will have to be those countries which, through chance, possess three advantages; a past that has been completely discarded, the absence of hereditary social distinctions and a living and intimate acquaintance with members of another race. That is why he says they must be the Russians, the Americans and the Jews.

# The Art World

#### Conducted By IONE DELLA SALA



Onorio Ruotolo examining a medal of his design

#### ONORIO RUOTOLO, A MAN OF IDEALS

**B**EAUTY is dominant in the work of Onorio Ruotolo-not the accepted drawing-room prettiness of the posing Venus or smiling shepherdess type, but beauty that vibrates and tingles with the intensity of the artist's emotion; something alien to clay or stone radiates from the forms he creates. Some of his own rugged vitality has been imparted into them. Ruotolo's work rises above the petty \*symbolism of his contemporaries to peaks set by Michelangelo, Rodin and Gemito. It was this last, Gemito, who influenced the lifework of the artist to no small degree.

As a boy in Naples, he would stand for hours enraptured before the statues of this truly great man, fascinated by his well-known pieces, "L'Acquaiuolo" and "Pescatore," which filled him with admiration and awe. In time he became, not only Gemito's eager pupil, but a loved friend whose understanding brought a deep joy to the old man.

Vincenzo Gemito's genius remained

unappreciated, however, and during his old age, because of envy and malicious tongues, he was openly called insane and derided. These years of his life were spent in darkness and deep sorrow, until Ruotolo, infuriated by this humiliation, wrote a vehement article for the Italian press, openly denouncing the stupidity of society in their unappreciation of this fine mind. Il Duce, upon reading the widely discussed article, brought the master out of obscurity into the place which had long been his due. Thus Gemito's last remaining years were happy ones, due to this action on the part of his young friend.

#### **His First Disappointment**

IN 1907, at the age of 19, Onorio Ruotolo came to New York in quest of new adventures, having left the country of his birth because of political unfairness. He came, however, leaving behind him his first successes, which had already received much

praise. He came to the metropolis, fired with the belief of his master in his work, and with the confidence of youth. Here his first bitter disappointment met him. His first commission was for the erection of a fountain on the estate of a wealthy business man. With his whole-hearted enthusiasm, and his fine willing hands. he put his entire self to make this a wonderful thing. After some months he showed his patron his supreme achievement. The body of a young woman, nude and luminous, rises from an indistinct mass, with arms and face upraised to touch the fingers of a man whose back is pressed to hers. From the shapeless rock, rising like two young trees, limbs stretched towards heaven, the group embodies beauty, love and life. The man, however, refused it, saying it was unsuitable!

The familiar heartbreaks of New York are the next phase in his life. These years need no description or comment. But finally his talent was recognized and his days were kept full of the work that from the start had been life to him. Under the sensitive touch of his hands, the marble lived and spoke. He gave us such supreme pieces of modern statuary as "Helen Keller," "Dante," and the social derelict, "Doomed."

#### In His Work: Understanding and Love

HIS portraits are more than the portrayal of a face composed of a nose, an eyelid and a mouth. They delve deeper, deep into the heart of the character, and into the future. Helen Keller's poor blind face is turned lovingly towards the phantom child which rests into the tender curve of her arm; Dante is shown, not as a musing bard, but as a flesh and bone man whose face is lined with the furrows of suffering; "The Doomed" is a man sick in spirit and body who has just heard the death sentence imposed upon him by his brethren. The man's face, with horror in his eyes, is frozen into a half smile; his body droops; upon his shoulders rests the unfairness of existence. In the sculptor's conception there is no condemnation, only infinite pity, even perhaps compassion tinged with love for all these forgotten men whom man-made laws have condemned.

In all his work, one can see the human understanding and the love for all his fellow-beings which is an important reason why his work is not "empty." A mere description of his creations would sound hollow, for words must fail to transmit the emotional and spiritual qualities which they impart. He is not an artist who dabbles in clay to produce "Art for art's sake". He works to extend a message to mankind, a lovely thought along the way to the "perfect ideal," giving new hope and courage to those who may stop on the way. It is an offering of one whose life is given to that which makes life worth living.

#### His Restless Hands Are Expressive

WHEN I first saw him I was fascinated and attracted by his intensely magnetic personality. His words, his voice and the very movements of his body radiate with the unquenchable energy within him. He is the type of a man one could not imagine at rest. He seems, like the late Edison, to have no need for sleep and rest which the weak human body needs; his virile, active mind seems to supply him with the required energy. He is a man who belongs in the meadows or a forest, but never in a small, man-made apartment. His strong, restless hands, as if itching to touch clay, are as expressive as his dark eyes and his deep voice.

In his bare new quarters on the top floor of a Union Square office building, where he has just moved a month ago, he introduced me to his active, mischievous son Lucio, who was himself engrossed in molding little figures from the clay his father had given him. Just about seven, Lucio was, I could see, the masterpiece of which his father was most proud.

Upon noting the bareness of the studio, the sculptor informed me that he had destroyed all the remaining statues in the old one, which were very numerous, not wishing any traces of them to hamper him in his new work. For, man of inexhaustible energy, he has produced, perhaps, more than any other sculptor, but now, with new thoughts, he wants a fresh beginning, to surpass his old work; to set himself a new high goal.

Besides this, he is one of the founders of the Leonardo Da Vinci Art School in New York, and it is considerably due to his efforts that young Italian boys and girls, as well as many of other nationalities, have been given an opportunity to study there under the finest art teachers, and to develop their talent to a full degree.

I think the reader will get a clearer conception of him if his very own words be printed. "Happiness is not the thing accomplished, but what it sought to attain, for art is a medium granted to man that he may approach nearer to God. If mankind were only able to see the life that vibrates in a blade of grass, it would find peace."

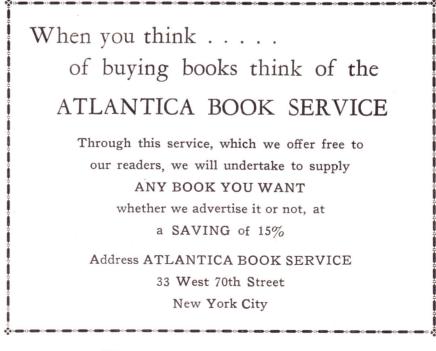
#### AMONG THE GALLERIES

A<sup>N</sup> exhibition of the work of Chev. Prof. Pasquale Farina was on view at the Cronyn and Lowndes Galleries for the first two weeks of May. Prof. Farina studied painting and sculpture at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Naples, Italy. He also received the bronze medal at the World's Fair Exhibition in Chicago last summer. His work is very original, for he devotes himself almost entirely to plant life, with an occasional interior. His paintings are rich in coloring, but for the most part low in key. There is a quaint feeling of age about his work, which seems to have been done a very long time ago. The leaf forms and the flowers are sensitively, almost meticulously drawn, and the coloring exquisite. His compositions, endowed with an old world somberness, are none the less warm and highly decorative.

HEN Mayor La Guardia's Art Show was jestingly alluded to as "the mile of American Art," and a well-known magazine published a man running along the mile so that he could see it all before closing time, we never, even remotely, thought of anything much more colossal; and now, after seeing the "five mile show" at Rockefeller Centre, we'll wisely recommend roller skates for the next time. To attempt to dissect it into the good, indifferent and bad would be a task for which I have no desire. To give my choice of the best pictures there would be impossible, for after an almost dislocated neck trying to gaze skyward, I gave up the noble effort of looking past the first story of pictures. A no-jury exhibition is a fine idea; it has its points; but when it is indiscriminate to the point of being freakish—"five miles!"—there is no rhyme or reason to it, not unless one viewed it at the rate of one room at a time—an enviable prospect!

#### RECOMMENDED READING OF THE MONTH

"A<sup>RT</sup> IN AMERICAN" by Suzanne La Follette, a new volume of the White Oak Library of W. W. Norton and Company, is a concise, well-written book, valuable to the student as well as the layman. Miss La Follette gives us not only a history of Art but art in our own America, so often ignored by other compilers. The book, furthermore, relates the development of art to the social background of the country. With none of the cut and dried characteristics of books of this type, the author has given us an important work, which not only reads like a novel, but at the same time imparts data which will be remembered because it is backed up by reason. As Walter Pach explains in the introduction: "It is the interpretation of our art by reference to the changing mentality of our country as its social and economic structure evolves."



# A Woman's Privilege

#### Conducted By ADELE VANCE

WHAT is a woman's privilege? Ask most men and they'll give the obvious and trite answer—"to change her mind." Ask the Editor of Atlantica however, and this is his reply: "To have the last word!"

The Italian-American women of today—the younger women—are just beginning to exercise their privileges —privileges which they have realized are actually their birthright.

If you're an Italian-American, that is, if you were born in America of Italian parents, you can probably remember one of your aunts (you surely have more than one) proudly exhibiting to you her greatest achievement—a beautifully embroidered placque, framed in gilt and hung conspicuously upon the bedroom wall. True, the pears and peaches it portrayed looked very realistic and were beautifully shaded. But —their greatest use was covering an ugly crack in the plastered wall!

You, as an Italian-American of today, educated in the practical American fashion, either look upon the masterpiece in silken thread with a feeling of regret for time wasted, or else wonder why the skill evidenced in the placque was not brought to the attention of the world—why, perhaps, that knowledge of harmony of color wasn't applied to interior decoration, fabrics for fashionable gowns, etc., etc.

In other words, as a daughter of Italian parents, you have an appreciation for things artistic, an imagination and a temperament which gives depth to your personality.

#### A Few of The Outstanding Ones

A<sup>S</sup> an American-born citizen, educated in American schools, you have a desire to express that appreciation and temperament in a practical manner. As part of the new generation of Italian-Americans, you believe you can compete with men, both American and of Italian extraction, in any field or profession—on an equal plane.

Some Italian-American women prominent in this country because of their successful careers, either in business, professional or social work, which clearly demonstrate their determination to step out of the confining walls which imprisoned their mothers' personalities, include:—

Miss Elizabeth Savarese, active in the welfare work of the Board of Education and a school teacher in Brooklyn.

Mrs. Lionello Perera, Chairwoman of the dance committee of the Primavera dinner-dance given on the Conte di Savoia by the Italian Historical Society every May.

Miss Ida Cassasa, Asst. Corp. Counsel of the City of New York, known for her work in the Domestic Relations Court and for other social welfare activity.

Miss Mary Frasca, one of the Secretaries to Mayor La Guardia, and active in the work of the Mulberry Street Community House.

Miss Anna Brancato, State Assemblywoman from Philadelphia.

Of course there are others, but we can't think of them offhand. If we have slipped up on some really important ones, you really ought to let us know.

#### **To Explain This Page**

**T**HE feminine members of the Italian youth of the nation have only begun to have their first few words. Their progress is going to be rapid and perpetual. Despite the Italian male's smug attitude of "always belittlin", the Italian-American girl's



temperament and industry will spur her on till she actually has the "last word".

This page, therefore, is dedicated to the pros and cons of the problems facing the ambitious Italian-American girl. If you have difficulty in getting your ideas across at home, express them on this page, where you will be assured of a sympathetic audience. If you have new ideas for the application of old Italian arts, if you would like the opinions of others on these ideas, or on the questions of feminine independence, chaperonage and its place in the present-day scheme of things, so-called Latin temperament, etc., and so on-in fact, if vou would like to discuss any subject in which you are keenly interested as an Italian-American girl and in which you would like to arouse the interest of other young girls-send in your thoughts to this page. Your letters will be published and answered on this page by other readers and by myself.

Here's the first query which prompted this plan—Read it and send in your answer. Both your letter and its reply will be published in a subsequent issue . . .

(To the Editor)—"out of a trivial conversation, there arose the age-old question—does the well-known jealous nature of Italian women interfere with their progress? I should be interested in hearing your opinions. . .".

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Conducted By JOHN A. DONATO



From the N. Y. Herald-Tribune

Five of the "New Faces" now at the Fulton: A. Penguin, Imogene Coca, James Shelton, Leonard Sillman and Nancy Hamilton, as Katherine Hepburn.

#### The Pulitzer Play

NOW that all the second guesses and quibbling have dissipated, we must confess. We might have, had our courage been a bit more durable, pointed with pride at our prognosticatory ability in the last issue. Then we were sorely tempted to declare, aver and affirm that our choice for the coveted award of \$1,000 had settled on Sidney Kingsley's "Men in White," albeit we possessed neither the astuteness nor the play-going experience to let escape even the faintest murmur of approbation, the temptation thereby subsiding.

In spite of the great disappointment we must evidently feel at our failure to "scoop" the award story, we are glad it was Mr. Kingsley's powerful picturization of the young doctor's conflicting emotions that won the prize, happier still since this was the author's first Broadway effort ever to be produced. It was necessary for the combined protestations of Columbia's School of Journalism and a conclusive poll of the university's student body to sway the Messrs. Hamilton, Eaton and Strong, these three gentlemen forming the play jury which had, previous to the aforementioned tiff, unanimously decided on the triumphant "Mary of Scotland." Much as we

are in sympathy with Maxwell Anderson for his failure to become the prize dramatist for the second successive time, we are considerably cheered by the council's overriding of the jury, since it agrees with our notion that no playwright is as good as two in a row. The business of erecting powerful drama does not, like the fabled lightning, strike the same place twice, at least not so soon, says our little "dope" book.

To recall the most vivid incidents of "Men in White" here would seem a very dull sort of post mortem to offer theatregoers. The play still forges solidly on at the Broadhurst Theatre, where it opened on September 26, 1933, seeking to prove what Sir William Osler once declared was the young physician's task: developing the faculty of isolating himself from the pursuits and pleasures peculiar to youth and, what's more, proving it in a highly artistic, as well as satisfying, way. We can exhort you to see it, however, although we know full well that you will, since we are aware of the popularity that affixes itself immediately anything, be it book, play, poem or automobile, achieves honors.

The play, may we add hastily, also won the annual Theatre Club award of \$500, which gives it a distinction not often granted to one play in the same season.

Our heartiest to Mr. Kingsley, to the Group Theatre's magnificent acting that carried the play, and to the producers, Sidney Harmon and James Ullman.

#### **Gay Nose-Thumbing**

**T**HIS is the spot where the old wheeze comes to mind, the one whereby mother used to characterize some gay young Lothario by saying, in the truculent manner of her sex: "New face, new fancy." As it concerns that delightful bit of spoofing still at the Fulton, called "New Faces," the bromide, as far as we feel, still holds.

Done with the utter disregard of youth for the feelings of their elders, it was lampooning at its zestfully sophisticated best; it was pertness, full of wagging tongues and sly winks. It had the freshness of morning dew on the first bud of spring -nay, it was Spring-feted by no doddering forty-year-olds and boasting no outstanding theatrical satellites. No famous author, no successful lyricist or song-writer gave his or her professional touch to it, yet each fresh imp poured spice with abandon into the making of the stew. Here was the gayest, most sparkling show of revusical wit that a company of unsung juveniles could possibly perpetrate. Because it dared to be very young and unprepossessing, we rather took up with the spirit of the evening and forgot (or felt disinclined) to stoop to such a sordidly usual thing as comparison. There were, in fact, no grounds for it.

Special cheers: For Leonard Sillman's breathless staging; for his conception of thisa and thata; for Imogene Coca, as engaging a lass (if you'll remember the Guild's Garrick Gaieties of a few seasons back) as these skeptical orbs have cared to see this long while; for Hildegarde Halliday and Nancy Hamilton (whose lyrical offerings tickled, to put it naively); for James Shelton's quietly pleasing voice; for Alan Handley, O. Z. Whitehead, Henry Fonda, oh, for them all!-plus two of the very entertainingest Sepians, Billie Haywood and Cliff Allen, to be introduced to Broadway (whose pictures, oddly enough, failed to appear along with the others on the program cover, or beneath the marquee). Lastly, for Mr. Dillingham and his show, which may be recommended to iron out a few of those creases that have crept into our humor from a winter's inactivity before the log fires.

#### **Enchanting Revival**

WHEN the Shuberts decided to resurrect Noel Coward's tuneful operetta, "Bitter Sweet," at the 44th Street Theatre, we were reminded of the glorious Evelyn Laye, with whom the late Ziegfeld had excited Broadway several seasons back in the first presentation of Mr. Coward's work. After seeing and hearing another Evelyn, Miss Evelyn Herbert, we feel . for on the whole it proved an ample moved to thank the Messrs. Shubert for reviving the musical romance.

Singing the role of Sari with charm and distinction before an audience that applauded boisterously, aided by the melodious voice of Allan Jones and Mr. Leonard Ceeley's triple-encore rendition of "Tokay," Miss Herbert made the evening a vast success. The stars were forced to face some five or six curtain calls before a hypnotized audience would let them wend their weary way backstage.

Though probably not as lavishly embellished as the Ziegfeld presentation, this latest edition of the sweetly sad Coward romance was sung with, we dare say it, greater sincerity and more pleasing tenderness. It was soothing to be reminded of the beautiful score and to recall the love story that was so unlike the usual cynically modern style of other Noel Coward plays.

It is with a deep feeling of sincerity that we can recommend a journey to "Bitter Sweet."

#### **Re-enter The Savoyards**

 $R_{\rm in \ the \ open \ market \ -- \ about \ a}^{\rm EVIVALS \ bringing \ what \ they \ do}$ dime a dozen - it remained for an enterprising impresario, Mr. Chartock by name, to dispel that fable by opening his Gilbert and Sullivan list with a better-than-average version of "The Mikado," which he installed at the Majestic last month. So New Yorkers, who are veteran Gilbertians, were not to be rudely deprived of their just guffaws for this season at any rate; nor were they to be unmercifully forced to seek solace with the languishing "Titwillow" on some forsaken bough in Central Park (if there are any in that pleasant area).

With a tolerable staging effect and a competent chorus to warble the familiar lines, (although it seemed to us that the audience was a trifle annoyed with the slowness of the pace, for be it known here that your Savoyard audience can recite its Gilbert with the fervor due a rosary), the opera, nevertheless, managed to satisfy. Probably it did so if for no other reason than that it provided

the old-timers with a good excuse to brush up on their memory work. In all fairness to the producer, we must admit, we don't believe anyone in the theatre could honestly, in Ko-Ko's words, declare after the performance:

"I've got to take under my wing, Tra la,

A most unattractive thing, Tra la, With a caricature of a face ... "

outlet for long-suffering devotees who had famished for lack of G & S nutrition since Winthrop Ames left off reviving.

The cast, numbering a good many of the old faithfuls, the Waterous', Herbert and Allen, William Danforth (who, in the performance of April 27th had played the Mikado role for the 3000th time, which probably constitutes some record or other), Vivian Hart as Pitti-Sing, Vera Ross as Katisha, gave its usual expert interpretation. John Cherry, playing the role of Ko-Ko which used to fall to the lot of Frank Moulan, and Rov Cropper as the lover-minstrel son of the Mikado, Nanki-Poo, together with an improved Yum-Yum (Hitzi Hoyke) whose coyness seemed wellsuited to her Nipponese role, were all more than satisfactory. Yes, the keen wit of the Savoyards is still far from being a museum piece, suitable for stuffing.

#### **About The Brontes**

**E**VEN with the "props" wind blowing in off the crest of the Playhouse's imaginary moor, the life at the Bronte parsonage in Yorkshire that Dan Totheroh depicted in his "Moor Born" carried a value more real that seeming, a value, to be sure, transcending the cash and carry rates of any flimsy whim to be found among the more idealistic presentations of the drama.

We learned, we confess unashamedly, about the Brontes for the first time; of a brother in the family, a brother who, we believe, received too much sisterly adoration, as is the case with most rotters who don't deserve it; of the wild, strange, inscrutable, moor-fast creature that was Emily; of the astute, ambitious Charlotte, and of the sweet and lovable Anne.

Mr. Totheroh's play was a sizeable biography, taking as it did for its focal point those subtle emotional sequences in the lives of the three Haworth virgins which were to produce the writings for which they became noted. It was difficult, in the dramatist's portrait, to fix the one

saddest note in the bleakness that surrounded the young women-the blind insistence of a stolid father that women-folk were merely the slaves to the well-being of a gifted brother whose genius, alas! buried itself under nothing more immortal than drink; or the specter of Death that came to cut short the noble work of Emily, whose consuming aftection for brother Branwell took its toll so tragically soon after he died.

It was well that we could look upon the makers of "Jane Eyre" and "Wuthering Heights" to get the veriest peek at three grand figures whose innermost upheavals were not sloppily thrown at us for the sake of legend. Those, in the persons of the Misses Gahagan and Starr, with fine assistance from Miss Barrett and Glenn Anders, contrived, whether their animation was at all truthful or not, to add to the general feeling of warmth in our innards, a warmth that prospered even in view of the shaken Bronte household, secure and vet answerable to the inexorable bleakness of the moor about it.

#### Of All Things ----**An Anti-War Play?**

Not as stirring in its presentation as in its book form, "Peace On Earth" was nevertheless a play of sobering influence, and which is more, it was not as much a waste of theatrical time and money as a good many others we have in mind.

So the good American audience, gathered uptown in the 44th Street temple of drama, spent its twelveminute intermissions discussing, not the play or the evils of war propaganda, but things infinitely much more world-shaking, as golf scores, tee shots, sliced drives, the price of spring clothing, and the probability, of all things, of bagging duck out of season. That was as far as they got with firearms.

When they found the time, there was Professor Pete Owens, on the stage, being inevitably drawn into a mess of trouble because he was unfortunate enough to possess a righteous sense of justice - framed for a murder which happened while he looked on with nothing even as dangerous as a hat pin about his person. The indictment that the authors (George Sklar and Albert Maltz) drew up against big business for its gourmandish hunger for war to satisfy its productive system was truly inspiring and powerful in all details.

Maurice Wells, taking the part of Owens in place of the departed Robert Keith (of "Yellow Jack"), paced himself with the restraint becoming to a sensible protester. Ethel Intropidi's Mrs. Owens was, in the few flashes we obtained of her, passable. John Boruff's characterization of the newspaper man Walter Mc-Cracken was, we're afraid, hardly forceful enough. The work of the huge company was unusually good, for such a gathering, attesting to the tireless fluency of Robert B. Sinclair's direction.

A study of the audience proved that the occasional theatre-goer is still very much averse (subconsciously) to any drama that calls for an undue stretch of the imagination; that they only suffer O'Neill because he happens to be one of the "e-s-t-s" among superlatives in play writing. (The old aping habit again).

#### **Mistaken Identity**

WhAT, from its title, sounded like an ominous melodrama of darkest hue from the good old thriller days, "The House of Remsen" at the Henry Miller, proved to be quite a commonplace story from the pen of Nicholas Soussanin, a tale of the unfortunate trials and tribulations that befell arthur Remsen beginning with the death of his pretty wife Laura. We say beginning there for the sake of chronological accuracy, although it was found that Laura was not, prior to her demise, strictly what we'd term on the up and up.

In the space of ten years, having been deceived by his wife and a Leslie Stokes, who had been engaged to Laura before Remsen came on the scene, even to the point of supporting, in addition to his legitimate child, the bastard of Stokes, Remsen has nurtured a growing antipathy for the boy Clyde. As Stokes confessed on what was supposed to be his death bed in hospital (after an auto crash which had killed Laura), Clyde was Stokes' son out of Laura.

Kicked out of college for what seemed a spurious charge of seduction by some opportunist of a shrewd female, young Clyde had become in Remsen's eyes a replica of his dastardly father (Remsen has stoically refrained from telling anyone but the usual family doctor-advisor, Mansfield). Then, after the boy has been acquitted, up bobs Stokes from nowhere (he did not die, even with Remsen's quite violent curse ringing in his semi-conscious senses) to prove that the daughter Vivienne is his real child (it's all so confusing) and that he had used the trick to test Remsen (it's more confusing). Here dawns

on Remsen his awful failure, his recognition of his bitter self that had persisted in its shabby treatment of his own son.

The part of the tragic Remsen, the man who was too trusting not to be

done wrong by, was acted in fine style by that veteran trouper, James Kirkwood. Francesca Bruning, still gunning for the fortunes of this season, was an adequate Laura and a good Vivienne combined.

### PURITAN MIND IN PAGAN BODY

#### (Continued from Page 164)

logical nor strange, but a regular fellow and one of them. Realism had been till then an artistic tradition and at the same time a popular taboo. The popular novels were, and still are, those of a purely descriptive nature concerning good people in different parts of the United States, with their differing traditions, historical novels evoking characters and events of the early pioneer days and of the Civil War, adventure stories, novels of intrigue, detective stories that serve to stimulate the imagination, an eternal variation on these themes practiced with that very special American technique that reaches its peak in the movies.

The new literature is no longer the expression of a special social and intellectual class of theologians, statesmen, learned men, and travelers. The new writers are of mixed race, and they do not come from the traditional literary centers of New York. Philadelphia and Boston, but from Chicago and Cincinnati, from the West and Middle West, and they are interpreters of a skeptical people in revolt against Puritanism, which reigns like a national state of mind, and against the Protestant Church which, threatened at its foundations by the theological and disciplinary anarchy of its many denominations, has sought to create for itself a temporal power and a tribunal of inquisition through the legalizing of Prohibition.

One could not give a more impressive picture of the religious catastrophe produced by Puritanism in its impossible attempt at repression of nature and the depersonalizing of individuality; of the Puritanism which, first theocratic, then pioneering, and finally commercial, arrives at sacrificing every principle of moral expansion to the rationalization of the material life.

#### **Babbit Exposed**

TO the chimerical optimism of the conglomerate population, which is to have its bitterest awakening with the disaster of 1929, the new literature contrasts the vision of the true being who lies dormant beneath the formalism of the traditional life and the gaiety of material happiness. It displays an industry all its own in showing the other side of the picture. A microscopic realism portrays in every minute detail the unfolding of personality in the labyrinths of the subconscious. Is it true art? No. It is matter of fact, cold reporting of human documents, which the writer seems to be looking at as from afar. No irony, no interest, but pure and barren testimony, that perhaps will pass into the archives, leaving only to Sinclair Lewis the credit for exercising a lasting influence over the times to come.

Lewis castigat ridendo mores, and therefore he loves America with all her Philistines. With him, for the first time. Americans can see themselves in true perspective, and thereby examine themselves. With him the anonymous and impersonal reign of the American middle classes enters into the field of art. The novels of Dreiser, the plays of O'Neill, the psychoanalyses of Anderson, the anecdotes of Frost, the epigraphs in the "Spoon River Anthology" of Masters, all these are works which, diametrically opposed to those of the first exiles who were absorbed in the problem of the other world, concern themselves with the question of redemption in this world.

But this defeatism is not conducive to healthy living. Perhaps a merging of soul between the average intellectual who goes back to original sources in his moral solitude, and the average man of action who struggles among the billows of the economic storm, might indicate the course of life and of the future. A great moral reform, a new social order, ought to make a living unity of the American and thus realize his inner energies.

The era of spiritual embalming and crystallization is ended, a new people is desperately seeking some integrating forces out of the chaos that the Puritan catastrophe has left at the mercy of all the instincts. The vital strength of a new people, who now form a new race, is directing itself toward new destinies. One may perceive on the far-off horizon the signs of rebirth with the light that is coming, nay, returning, from immortal Rome. (*The End*)

# Music

#### Yon's New Oratorio

"THE Triumph of St. Patrick," a new oratorio with music by Pietro Yon of 'aly, organist of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Italian text by Armando Romano, an editor of "Il Progresso" of New York, was performed for the first time in public Sunday night April 29 at Carnegie Hall in New York City in a concert given under the patronage of Cardinal Hayes for the benefit of the Catholic Charities. Ruggero Vene, an Italian conductor making his concert debut heie, directed the Cathedral Choral Society and an orchestra of Metropolitan Opera instrumentalists. Mr. Yon was the organist of the evening, and the vocal soloists included Frederick Jagel, Metropolitan Opera tenor, as St. Patrick; Santa Biondo, soprano, Millo Picco, Metropolitan baritone, and Raimondo Scala as one of the narrators, or "storici."

Cardinal Hayes occupied the center box; Mayor F. H. LaGuardia and Mrs. LaGuardia also had taken a box for the occasion. Former Governor Alfred E. Smith was a member of the honorary sponsoring committee. The oratorio was received with unusual enthusiasm and cheers and applause were bestowed upon Mr. Yon, Mr. Romano, the conductor and soloists.

Mr. Romano's text, sung in Italian, is in three parts, "The Mission," "The Return" and "The Sacred Fire." The first describes the beginning of St. Patrick's mission, his mandate from the Lord to go to Rome and prepare to convert Ireland; the second tells of his return and his surmounting of initial difficulties, and the third the conversion of King Leoghaire and the consecration of Ireland by its apostle. While mainly in Italian, Latin is employed not infrequently in liturgical and Biblical quotations.

#### Amato with the Hippodrome Opera

ONE of the best of the popular-priced opera undertakings, done with considerable artistry, is going on at the New York Hippodrome Theatre, where the Hippodrome National Opera Company, under the artistic direction of the renowned Pasquale Amato, is holding forth nightly to surprisingly large audiences. The famous baritone, who was heard in this country during 26 of his 35 years' career as a grand opera artist, is also appearing occasionally in some of the operas, including "Tosca" and "Andrea Chenier," and his performances have been greeted with thunderous applause.

Most of the standard Italian and French operas are on the company's list, and recently Mr. Amato acquired the services of two new baritones, Claudio Frigerio, formerly of the Metropolitan (who made his first appearance in "La Traviata" on May 18th) and Alfred Ghigi (who was Figaro in "The Barber of Seville" on May 14th). These two are in addition to an excellent company including Giuseppe Radaelli, Bruna Castagna, Giuseppe Interrante, Lola Monti-Gorsey, Gloria D'Angelo, Santa Biondo, Giuseppe Martino-Rossi, Nino Ruisi, Giuseppe Barsotti, Rolf Gerard and many others.

The conductors are Giuseppe Bamboshek and Alberto Baccolini. In many of the operas the Corps de Ballet, under the direction of Alexander Yakovleff, and featuring Monna Montez and Nicolas Daks, performs its incidental dances and divertissements.

#### **Rubino's New Opera Premiere**

THE world premiere of the opera "The Thread of Ariadne" (Il Filo d'Arianna"), with music by Pasquale Rubino, was presented by the Opera Concert Association, of which Comm. Tito Schipa is honorary president, at the Town Hall in New York on Sunday evening, May 6th. In the cast of the opera, which was conducted personally by the composer, were Earl Crown, Nicola Cosentino, Margherita Ringo, Margherita Le Batard, Arline Rovelle, Leonore Vanne and Pasquale Amato (violinist), the latter three appearing as soloists, in addition to a mixed chorus of 35 from the Opera Chorus Guild, and a symphonic orchestra of 50.

Mr. Rubino was born 37 years ago

in Naples and came to this country in 1924 and founded a music school. At the age of 19 he had received a degree from the Conservatory of S. Pietro a Maiella.

#### Echoes of the "Teatro Dei Piccoli"

VITTORIO PODRECCA'S "Teatro dei Piccoli," that charming and world-famous marionette company which recently had a 14-months success in this country, made its debut on May 7th at the Teatro Lirico of Milan, where they played till May 20th. On May 31st they open in London, where they will continue their programs, which are similar to those presented here, till the end of June.

It will be recalled that when they came to this country they played in New York first, then in various cities in the West till they came to the Coast, where, in Hollywood, they played a part in the moving picture "I Am Suzanne," starring Lillian Harvey. On their way back they played a return engagement in New York. It is not generally known that the company was brought over to America largely through the efforts of Mrs. Grazia Durante, a friend of Podrecca, who after many years interested the American producers.

#### Close of the Philharmonic's Season

**F**ROM a recently published old photograph in the *New York Times* we learn that one of the men who founded the Philharmonic Society of New York in 1842 was an Italian, C. Pazzaglia by name, who was the librarian of the group.

The Philharmonic, which recently brought its 30-week season to a close, was successful in raising a \$501,659 guarantee fund for the next three seasons contributed by 18,000 donors, and it brought its campaign to a formal close on April 30th with a dinner and musical program at the Waldorf-Astoria.

THE Bella Vista Pent House at 139 East 57th St. under the guidance of Gus Romano, announces it will have as guests of honor, at the premiere opening of its Terrace, on Friday, May 25, such notables as Gene Tunney, Melvyn Douglas, Helen Gahagan, Erno Rapee, Macoco, Katherine Ray, and Prince and Princess Rospigliosi. This affair promises to be a success, and will feature the radio artists, Paul South and Fran Craven, Winds of Melody.

# ATLANTICA in Italiano

# DOPOLAVORO

#### DI MARCO FRANZETTI

L "Dopolavoro" o, per esser più precisi, l'Opera Nazionale Dopolavoro, è una delle istituzioni del Regime che hanno contribuito a tramutare profondamente il volto dell'Italia dall'immediato dopoguerra ad oggi, poichè la sua azione si è svolta e si svolge tra masse foltissime di organizzati e nei campi delle più diverse attività sportive, artistiche, professionali e di assistenza.

#### Quasi Due Milioni di Dopolavoristi

Se infatti, pensate che i dopolavoristi sono oggi non meno di 1,800.000, vi accorgete subito come la quasi totalità della borghesia e del popolo che lavorano nelle officine e negli uffici, nei laboratori e nei campi, nelle aziende commerciali e nei trasporti, sia inquadrata in questa tipica organizzazione fascista, trovando in essa il modo di trascorrere serene ore di riposo e di svago. Volendo scendere ai particolari, aggiungeremo che i dopolavoristi impiegati sono circa 700 mila, mentre quelli che esercitano mestieri manuali sono 1.100.000. Del numero totale si contano 7500 dopolavoristi che risiedono nelle colonie e 20.000 che risiedono all'estero.

C'è da dir subito che il Dopolavoro è nato col Fascismo per volontà di Mussolini e, dopo aver vissuto per qualche anno alle dipendenze del Partito, venne disciplinato e reso più vitale come organismo autonomo con il compito di "promuovere la costituzione, il coordinamento e la propulsione di istituzioni atte ad elevare fisicamente, intellettualmente e moralmente i lavoratori intellettuali e manuali nelle ore libre dal lavoro."

E poichè nella legge fascista, il lavoratore da "strumento di produzione" si è tramutato in "collaboratore di produzione" tutta l'azione che mira all'assistenza del lavoratore, in tutte le sue forme, diventa un'alta manifestazione del principio di collaborazione e abbandonando il suo antico carattere di filantropia e di previdenza sociale si trasforma in un vero e proprio dovere nazionale. Di conseguenza il Fascismo non soltanto difende e valorizza il lavoro in nome della Nazione. ma difende e valorizza il riposo non più inteso come ozio, ma come un ristoro dell'energia e come un mezzo di educazione morale e fisica dell'individuo, compiuta parimenti, nell'interesse della collettività nazionale

#### Nascita dello Sport Sulle Montagne

Non staremo, qui, a ripetere quali fossero nel passato gli svaghi e il riposo di coloro che lavoravano. Per alcuni l'abbrutimento dell'osteria e del vino, per altri il caffè fumoso con tutta la fiorita delle chiacchiere e dei pettegolezzi, per altri ancora il nulla se non il cinematografo quotidiano o la scampagnata di Ferragosto.

Troppo poco e troppo pericoloso per un popolo che ha bisogno di lavorare e di progredire, perchè l'osteria e il caffè erano i centri in cui, con l'aria attossicata si respiravano le folli ideologie dei mestatori e si concepivano le pazzesche visioni di un avvenire che non arriverà mai ad essere vissuto dall'umanità.

Prima l'osteria, il caffè o il nulla, oggi l'addestramento fisico che porta la gente delle città sui campi di neve delle montagne, il treno che porta a conoscere il meraviglioso volto d'Italia. il concerto, la recita, la vita all'aria aperta sulle rive del mare, dei laghi, dei fiumi. Ponete mente, per esempio, che lo sport della neve era, sino a dieci anni fa, uno sport da signori e trovare un paio di sci in una casa significava avere a che fare con gente fornita di larghissimi mezzi. Adesso, d'inverno, ogni domenica i treni partono carichi di sciatori e le montagne si popolano di comitive. Le statistiche del Dopolavoro calcolano che, nell'invernata trascorsa, oltre 200.000 dopolavoristi hanno partecipato alle 170 manifestazioni sciatorie indette nelle diverse province, mentre nella stessa stagione 2600 dopolavoristi hanno ottenuto il brevetto di sciatore e di sciatore scelto: ossia si sono "laureati" in questo sanissimo sport invernale. E in questo conto non sono, naturalmente, inclusi coloro che, in comitiva e godendo la riduzione del 50 per cento sui viaggi in ferrovia, sono andati a sciare per loro conto o con le organizzazioni del Dopolavoro aziendali.

#### Dallo Sport alla Musica

Tutti gli sport, del resto, vengono praticati dai dopolavoristi i quali vedono coronati i loro sforzi e la loro preparazione in quell'annuale concorso ginnico-atletico che si svolge a Roma e dove le squadre di tutta Italia si cimentano in una serie di prove per conquistare i lauri della vittoria. Le cifre, anche in questo campo, sono eloquentissime. Nei 18.000 Dopolavoro, che esistono attualmente in Italia, fioriscono 6500 sezioni che praticano lo sport e 6000 che praticano l'escursionismo e tutte insieme hanno dato vita a 210.000 manifestazioni comprendenti i campionati di tiro alla fune, i campionati di corsa campestre, i tornei di bocce, i campionati di atletica leggera, di tamburello, di scherma, di nuoto, di canottaggio. E in ognuno di questi rami dello sport si è curato il progresso dei singoli poichè i migliori conseguono uno speciale brevetto, con il risultato di formare delle folte masse di sportivi che scendono effettivamente nelle piste e nei campi in generosi ed animosi cimenti.

A fianco di questa attività sportiva propriamente detta vanno ricordate le gite, le escursioni e i campeggi.

Dallo sport alla musica non è breve il passo, ma col Dopolavoro le distanze non contano, ed ecco che, vicino alle sezioni sportive ci sono 3500 bande, 800 scuole corali, 2200 società orchestrali che in un anno hanno dato, quasi, 100.000 concerti e che si sono cimentati in 15 concorsi nazionali.

#### Teatri e Filodrammatici

Poi ci sono 1350 teatri e 2200 filodrammatiche, onde, calcolando che ogni filodrammatica abbia non meno di dieci attori, si calcola che ci sono 22.000 attori dopolavoristi, i quali hanno partecipato a 44.200 recite date in un anno. Ma un'altra grande realizzazione del Dopolavoro sono stati i "Carri di Tespi" che hanno percorso l'Italia da un capo all'altro dando rappresentazioni liriche e drammatiche anche in piccoli centri, dove "teatro" è una parola pressochè priva di significato. E se al teatro aggiungete gli spettacoli cinematografici che si susseguono nelle 1200 sale di proiezione del Dopolavoro, le migliaia di apparecchi radiofonici e le migliaia di biblioteche circolanti, comprenderete come sia curata l'educazione artistica delle masse.

Non basta ancora: il Dopolavoro è attivissimo nel ridar vita alle arti popolaresche, onde si moltiplicano i raduni in costume e si celebrano le feste che sono care alla tradizione, le sagre dei prodotti della terra.

Per terminare, infine, questa veloce rassegna delle attività del Dopolavoro, ricorderemo i 1100 corsi professionali con un complesso di 32.500 lezioni e la multiforme assistenza sociale e igienico-sanitaria.

In tal modo, il Dopolavoro chiama a raccolta tutto il popolo e lo stringe in un solo vincolo di bontà, di verità e di onore nei confronti dell'Italia di Mussolini.

# FIGURINI DI MODA

#### Novella

#### DI ROSSO DI SAN SECONDO

(Dal volume "Ho Sognato il Vero Dio." A Rosso di San Secondo è stato assegnato il Premio Mussolini per la letteratura: 50 mila lire. Nato il 30 novembre 1889 a Caltanisetta, abita a Rogoredo, Como, ed è autore di romanzi, novelle, specialmente di lavori teatrali, tutti rappresentati).

O mi ricorderò sempre di lei nel tempo di ogni anno che segna il trapasso dall'estate all'autunno e che, come ora, si è appena riscaldata l'aria per l'ardore del sole dopo una prima pioggia, che un'altra ne sopravviene, ed è tutta piena d'incertezze e di rotture l'atmosfera del mondo com'è sussultante l'anima nostra. Di dietro i vetri, celermente chiusi per l'improvvisa burrasca, la vedo ancora rincasar tacchittando con la testolina curva sotto la furia dell'acqua e le braccia aperte come ali, mentre ride, ride, e imboccato il cancelletto del giardino e poi la porta di casa, si volge, sulla soglia, a scuotersi l'acqua di dosso come una colomba avanti alla buca della colombaia. Empie poi le scale della sua voce argentina chiamando per nome i suoi due bimbi, che già si sentono rumoreggiare dietro la porta con gridi d'impazienza e colpi, perchè la vecchia di casa più lenta ad accor-

rere non sopravviene ad aprire. E' presto uno scoppio gioioso sotto la volta delle scale. Per un momento, fin che l'uscio non sia richiuso, il vocio della mammina e dei figlioletti vince il fragore della burrasca. Poi s'attuisce per me che abito di sotto, e per un po' mi stringe il cuore come se al richiudersi dell'uscio fossi stato escluso da una festosa intimità che per un attimo m'era stato concesso di gustare. Avverto, più che di consueto, lo squallore della mia casa solitaria, e gli alberelli che si agitavano davanti la mia finestra mi sembrano anime in pena che chiedano aiuto. Ma mi soccorre il calpestio di sopra e indovino i giuochi dei bimbi con la mammina ritornata. Ella si è tolto il vestito di seta, largo come un kimono, fradicio di pioggia, si è tolto le scarpette lucide piccole e inzaccherate, ha indossata una vestaglia ricamata a fiori azzurri, ha calzato due graziose pantofole di velluto turchino, e per non udire i tuoni che la fanno paura ha giocato a rincorrersi per il corridoio con i bimbi: poi s'è chiusa nel suo salottino preferito accucciandosi tra le sete soffici con i suoi piccioncini e se ne stanno zitti, raccolti a far crocchiare i pasticcini freschi tra i denti mentre la pioggia cade di fuori che par ci sia già un odore d'inverno.

C<sup>OM'E'</sup> cara questa mammina! Quanta grazia in sè! Specie in questo trapasso di stagione sa sceglier così bene i suoi vestiti, e per colore e per taglio, che non v'è piega allo scollo, e non v'è particolare alla gonna che contrasti con questa sottile incertezza di cielo che ora s'imbroncia ora si indora d'ebrezza. Ed anche il suo ridere, il suo muoversi, il suo cinguettare hanno un tono tremante di sospensione, simile all'eco degli uccelli tra i rosai gocciolanti se spunta un barlume di sole al tramonto. Non so perchè questa mammina, se mi dà gioia al rientrare festosa per le scale mentre si sferra la burrasca, mi lascia anche, in fondo, un punto di malinconia tanto più incresciosa in quanto non riesco a spiegarmela. E' ogni volta come se vedessi il prezioso trillio d'una felicità pronta a frantumarsi come un cristallo, come se il nido di bambagia, sopra, fosse sospeso ad un alverello troppo pieghevole per questi acquazzoni autunnali!

Ogni pigolìo, ogni cinguettio cessa in quel nido, se vi giunge di tanto in tanto un omone, da un occhio socchiuso, con la barbetta folta e biondiccia, rosso che pare di rame e gonfio nel collo.

Per tutto il tempo che vi rimane due o tre giorni al più — pare che il nido sia disabitato, o che la mammina ed i bimbi trattengano il respiro. S'odono, a quando a quando, soltanto i passi dell'omone, che poi reparte.

Esce con lo stesso passo con il quale è entrato dal cancello, e, giunto al cantone, si volge a guardare le finestre della sua casa. Penso che sia un armatore di bastimenti, e che navighi gran parte dell'anno. Ma non ne sono certo e nemmeno son certo se la graziosa damina gli sia moglie, o soltanto gli faccia da moglie. Sento che se rifletto su queste cose crude, ora specialmente che ci son tante foglie gialle, mi gravo d'angoscia. Ma ella riesce di casa, tra le vocine dei suoi passerotti che la salutano di sopra, tenuti per la schiena al davanzale della vecchia signora che rimane con loro. Ed è un agitarsi di manine dalla strada e da sopra, finchè quell'altra bambina - che può uscir sola soltanto perchè è più grandetta - non sia scomparsa. Dove va? Perchè va? Quale avventura la inboglia a questo svolio fuor del nido che lascia i piccoli tristi? Io so per qual stringimento del cuoricino essi han gridato:

— Mammina, torna presto.

O stesso la vedo scomparire con un vago senso di paura per lei, come se devesse correr pericolo. Che cosa ne sa lei del mondo per ingolfarvisi dentro? Perchè s'affretta sulla sue gambine come verso un speccaietto che l'affascini? E saprà scorger le insidie che si celano sotto le lusinghe? ...

Ecco: nel tempo che le nuvole hanno più volte immerso nell'ombra il giardinello davanti la casa e poi l'hanno scoperto al solé, nel tempo che la piccola ha letto al fratellino la favola del Re Bricasso, lei è stata lontana, forse a giuocare un altro giuoco che tanto le piace, che tanto ingenuamente l'appassiona. E le pare a sua volta che sia una delizia di sogno, tornando, rivivere la favola del suo amore quasi con un bisogno di raccontarla con i baci ai piccini, tanto ne è teneramente presa!

Favola sì, ambigua favola, come questa sospensione d'autunno che conferisce uno stupore strano alle cose, quasi tiano al principio della vita, o alla fine: un intenso desiderio che impallidisce tra una sottile corrosione di morte! ....

Lo ricordo ogni anno, di questi giorni appunto!

Salii le scale per vedere con i miei occhi, perchè non ci volevo credere. Nel corridoio inciampai, perch'era buio dal tempo cupo che faceva: e i bimbi, chiusi in una stanza, singhiozzavano, invocavano perdutamente la mamma con gridi strazianti per il gran colpo che avevano udito.

Mi parve di morire sulla soglia della camera, quando la vidi rannicchiata sul lettuccio, con le gambine scoperte e le piccole pantofole turchine ai piedi, con una manina sul cuore e nell'altra un oggettino lucente! La veste ricamata di fiori le si era raccolta sul seno, e con la mano che le stava sul cuore se la stringeva forte quasi non volesse mostrare il suo sangue. E la pioggia picchiava, picchiava sui vetri come se nulla fosse accaduto. Le scarpette che avevano camminato erano lì davanti una sedia, v'era il suo vestitino, il cappello, i guanti, la borsa ... Tutto era ancora li, caldo del suo giuoco. E lei si era uccisa! Si era uccisa la bambola: ed ecco il giuoco bruscamente si era interrotto! ....

**R**ICORDO ogni anno di questo tempo la bambolina uccisa; ricordo che il suo musetto impassibile, un po' crucciato soltanto, mi restò impresso come il senso d'un mistero inesplicabile e semplice al tempo stesso.

Una profonda malinconia m'invade, guardando, traverso i vetri la pioggia che cade sugli alberelli e sulle foglie abbattute, ora che, passati alcuni anni, non s'ode più nel nido di sopra la mammina che si rincorre con i piccoli per il corridoio.

Giro per casa snervato; nulla m'attrae o mi da pace: soltanto, ecco, una pubblicazione di mode, che mia cugina l'altr'ieri ha dimenticato sopra un sofà. Quelle damine dal viso stupido, fissate in mossette studiate ed insignificanti dalle braccia distese o raccolte e i piedi nell'atto di muoversi o fermi secondo il nuovo vestito che voglion mostrare, mi placano un po', siccome in ognuna di esse riconoscessi la mammina che di questa stagione s'uccise quassù: misteriose anch'esse nei loro gesti stupidi e graziosi mi guardano senza sapermi dire il perchè. Perchè? Perchè?

Picchia sconsolato l'autunno alla fi-

nestra, e, nella casa silenziosa, le figurine stupite, lo domandano a me, il perchè.

# ROMA E IL MONDO

Inesauribile tema quello di Roma, in ogni tempo e in ogni luogo. Ne abbiamo una nuova testimonianza nel libro che il molto benemerito Istituto di Studi Romani, diretto con alto intelletto e dedizione quotidiana dal prof. Carlo Paluzzi Savelli, ha pubblicato in questi giorni presso i tipi di Licinio Cappelli. E' un volume, il primo di una lunga serie dedicato agli "Studi romani nel mondo." Contiene le conferenze tenute all'Istituto nell'anno accademico 1932-33 da storici, giuristi, sapienti di ogni parte del mondo.

Ecco l'americano Alberto van Buren che si occupa degli studi di archeologia romana negli Stati Uniti, il belga Maurizio Vaes dell'influenza di Roma sull'arte fiamminga. I1 boema Jensowsky ci illustra le ricerche boeme a Roma e la fondazione dell'Istituto Storico Cecoslovacco. Il francese, nonchè storico di gran fama, Girolamo Carpopino, ci descrive in molte interessanti pagine l'attività francese del dopoguerra nel campo degli studi romani. Dopo il francese viene il germanico Ludwig Curtius a raccontarci la storia del ritratto romano nella scienza tedesca dell'ultimo

decennio. Anche il lontanissimo Giappone ci fa udire la sua voce attraverso uno scritto che il prof. Toshio Muto dedica alla recezione e agli studi di diritto romano nel Giappone, articolo corredato dalla riproduzione della copertina del testo giapponese delle "Istituzioni di Giustiniano." Non meno importante è lo studio che l'in-glese A. Richmond dedica agli scavi romani dell'ultimo decennio nella "Provincia Britannica." Altrettanto interessante è lo studio che l'olandese Enrik Leopold dedica all'antica civiltà romana nel territorio dell'attuale regno dei Paesi Bassi alla luce delle scoperte recenti. La Svezia è all'estremo nord dell'Europa, ma anche di là ci giunge uno scritto di Axel Betuis sui recenti lavori di storia e topografia romana in Svezia. Finalmente l'ungherese Gyula Miskolezy traccia la storia di Roma nella storiografia ungherese. E' con questo scritto che si chiude l'importante volume.

Tutto il mondo si occupa di Roma. Quanto sono ridicoli taluni che pretenderebbero di dissociare la civiltà romana dalla storia di Roma, come se fosse possibile cancellare 30 secoli di storia e quale storia.



# The Italians in North America

#### **The Press**

**The** Italian Leader, a 16-page monthly magazine for the Italian-Americans of Wisconsin, has been started a few months ago under the entorship of incodore i. Canepa at Commerce Bldg., 4th and Wells Sts. in Milwaukee.

Said the New York Evening Journal last month, in advocating the elimination of illiteracy among immigrants here: "Yet, on the other hand, the idea of wanting to learn at least one other language besides English is an excellent one. For example, Italian, the beautiful language of Dante and Petrarch. Now there is a greater interest and a new stimulus in studying Italian."

**Domenico** Trombetta, editor of the *Grido della Stirpe*, Italian weekly of New York, has been made a correspondent of the *Giornale del Turismo*, Italian daily travel organ, which is published in various languages and is indispensable for information on Italy to tourists.

An excellent little school publication is the *Monroe Mirror*, published weekly by the students of James Monroe High School in New York. Ernest Catenacci is one of the two editors-in-chief of the newspaper, which is a charter member of the National Scholastic Press Association.

In an article concerning the Italian Club of the school, the editor recently described his visits as a circolo representative to the teas that are being given occasionally for Italo-American student groups by *Atlantica*.

Salvatore Fiore of Evander Childs High' School in New York is a member of the organization committee for establishing a New York City Regional Scholastic Press Association, to include the various city school publications.

In a recent letter to the Boston Herald, Atty. Michael A. Fredo of Boston took issue with an editorial it had printed. Mr. Fredo maintained that the restricting of immigration as advocated by the , *e. ald v.as* one of the great causes of the present depression. "Let the natural laws of supply and demand have full sway," he said, "Sooner or later we will realize that restricting immigration as we have is a colossal fallacy and a much more serious blunder than even prohibition."

La Notizia, Boston's Italian daily, has been militant in its defense of the Italian name of late. In a recent editorial it charged that Italo-Americans in its district were being discriminated against politically, and it concluded: "We have repeatedly siressed the necessity of having a strong political organization which will enable us to forcefully assert our rights and express our political needs and desires." In another editorial it took issue with the speech of a Rhode Island Congressman who, in praising Ireland's legacy, said that the Roman provinces in early history "were confidently looking to them as their deliverers from the hated Roman yoke."

More vigorous and longer in length was its editorial of May 4th, answering an assertion of H. R. Knickerbocker, International News Service correspondent, that Fascism took root in Italy because there was "a national feeling of inferiority" due to "the shame of the Italian defeat at Caporetto," whereas England "has no disgrace to wipe out." After pointing to World War history to show the defeats sustained by Great Britain, the writer, G. N. Longarini, concluded: "If Italy became Fascist because she

"If Italy became Fascist because she had to restore her national pride by wiping out the "shame' of "one defeat" in the World War, why then, may we ask, should England or any other nation be considered safe from Fascism?"

Volume 1, Number 1 of *Iride*, the magazine of the Circolo Italiano of Hunter College in New York, recently made its appearance. With Dr. Vittorio F. Ceroni as its literary advisor, it is edited by Lucy P. Ciccarone, assisted by Rosalie E. Ferrigno and Mary R. Pirro. The magazine contains 20 pages, and is in both Italian and English. On the business staff are the Misses E. Barbagli, A. Buico, M. Caruso, B. Cottone, N. Gallucci and A. Tantillo, while circulation matters are handled by the Misses E. Barbagli, A. Buico, V. Costadosi, P.



John J. Sileo

Cottone, M. Ferrara, N. Gallucci, A. Itteilag and A. Scirè.

John J. Sileo at the age of 30 is editor and publisher of one of New Jersey's finest Italo-American weeklies, the *Italian Tribune* of Newark. An Italo-American newspaperman of the newer type, his career has included work as newsboy, copy boy, advertising man, newspaper manager, newspaper owner and publisher.

Born in Newark in 1904, in his Central High School days he was well known for his basketball and baseball prowess, finding also the time to work in newspapers after school. Joining the Scheck Advertising Agency of Newark after his graduation, in 1925 he became advertising manager of the *Italian Journal*, and followed this in 1928 by becoming general manager of the *New Jersey Italo-American*.

It was in 1931 that Mr. Sileo joined forces with Fred J. Matullo, and despite the depression, proceeded to start their own newspaper, which has now become one of the most successful in Newark. The young newspaper publisher is a member of many organizations. Married in 1924 to the former Filomena Zara, he now lives with his wife and 3 children at 67 Cabinet Street, Newark.

#### Societies and Social Life

The Primavera Ball, one of the major social functions of New York Italo-American life, was held on May 11th aboard the Italian Line's de luxe liner, Conte di Savoia, under the joint auspices of the Italian Historical Society and the Italian Teachers Association. Among the distinguished guests present for the ball, entertainment and supper were the Italian Ambassador, H. E. Augusto Rosso, the Italian Consul, Comm. Antonio Grossardi, the former Consul, Emanuele Grazzi, now Minister to Guatemala, and many other leading Italo-Americans, as well as distinguished Americans of the stage and screen.

Heading the general committee for the affair was the Duca Carafa D'Andria, assisted by Comm. Rinaldo Stroppa-Quaglia, while the Ladies Committee was headed by Mrs. Francescot L. Saroli, chairman; Mrs. Luigi Podesta', treasurer. Miss Adriana Grossardi was chairman of the Junior Committee.

The officers of the Italian Historical Society, which recently moved to new quarters on the 10th floor of the RKO Building at Rockefeller Centre, are Comm. Giuseppe Previtali, chairman of the board; Dr. Giuseppe M. Mortati, president; Gr. Uff. Dr. Wm. Seaman Bainbridge, vice-president; Count Alfonso Facchetti-Guiglia, treasurer; and Dr. Howard R. Marraro, secretary.

The Italian Teachers Association is headed by Dean Mario E. Cosenza, president; Dr. Leonard Covello, vicepresident; Dr. Peter Sammartino, treasurer; and Mrs. Catherine S. Mandarino, secretary.

Early this month at the Hotel Astor in New York, with Consul General Antonio Grossardi attending, the Circoli Italiani all'Estero celebrated the 2687th anniversary of the birth of Rome with a dance. The committee for this affair of the society, of which Count Ignazio Thaon di Revel is honorary president, included G. Bonavita, U. Barbani, A. Di Giovanni, F. La Fiandra, Prof. F. De Grassi, P. Piszo, D. Puglise, A. Giannuzzi, T. Granchelli, A. Scimone, R. Avati, P. Pellegrino, G. De Santis, U. Canessa.

The annual luncheon of the Women's Italian Club of 490 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, is to be held May 24th in that city, when Mrs. Francis L. Galassi, the outgoing president, will install the officers-elect. A musical program has been arranged by Mrs. Lena McSweeney, and choral singing will be directed by Mrs. Mary Massa, while Mrs. Grace Cangiano and her committee have arranged an attractive luncheon. Under Mrs. Galassi, the club has grown in membership and prestige, having completed one of its best years and including more than 180 members.

The Democratic Junior League of Kings County, of which Miss Lillian C. Mulè is president, gave its Spring Dance on May 19th at the St. Moritz Hotel in New York for the benefit of its Welfare Fund. Miss Josephine Corsello was executive chairman in charge of the affair, together with Miss Mae McKee, vice-chairman, and Miss Mulè, ex-officio.

The Duca Fabio Carafa D'Andria recently gave a talk in Philosophy Hall of Columbia University before the students on "The Civilizations of the Mediterranean."

The Junior Auxiliary of Columbus Hospital in New York City announces that its annual Shipboard Party for the benefit of the Hospital will be held aboard the Conte di Savoia through the courtesy of the Italian Line on Thursday July 5th.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Gertrude Coates, of the Hotel Westbury, daughter of Mrs. John Hugh Young, of Los Angeles and New York, and the late Elijah Coates, to Commendatore Ercole H. Locatelli, of New York and Italy, son of Mrs. Catherine Locatelli, of Lecco, Italy, and the late E. H. Locatelli, of Milan.

Miss Coates attended St. Margaret's School, the Spencerian School in Cleveland and New York University. Commendatore Locatelli, who received his education at San Gallo University in Switzerland, is president of the Italian Chamber of Commerce here and director of Trans-America Corporation.

May 24th, the anniversary of Italy's entrance into the War, will be commemorated by an entertainment and dance aboard the Rex of the Italian Line in New York for the benefit of the Dopolavoro di Bordo, under the auspices of the Italian Consul General, Comm. Antonio Grossardi.

There has been organized in Detroit a branch of the National Association of Italian World War Veterans, at 3431 McDougall Avenue, under the following Board: Capt. Luigi Rossetti, chairman, Rutilio Buzi, Giuseppe Molinari, Italo Bosco and Gaspare Barbera. For its first function it is holding a commemoration festival on June 2nd, the proceeds of which will go for the Casa Italiana fund being subscribed to by the Italians of Detroit under the leadership of the new Italian Consul, there.

Dr. Joseph Pantaleone of Trenton has been elected president of the Federation of Italian Societies in Mercer County, N. J. Other officers elected were Dr. A. F. Moriconi, J. Castronovo, A. Ciabattoni, Mrs. S. Radice, vice-presidents; P. Peroni, secretary; Miss E. Gervasoni and V. Venanzi, asst. secretaries; A. Bella, treasurer, assisted by A. De Cesare.

Edward Corsi, director of the Emergency Home Relief Bureau of New York City's Department of Welfare, and formerly U. S. Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization at Ellis Island, last month spoke in Washington before the annual convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Describing immigration and naturalization work, and the problems of the newly-arrived immigrant, Mr. Corsi asked for a more cordial cooperation between the old and the new citizens.

Under the auspices of the Datte Alighieri Society, Gr. Uff. Torquato Giannini, noted authority on international law, who has been in this country on a mission for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, gave a talk last month in the Kiowa Club in the Bronx in commemoration of the late Senator Vittorio Scialoia, whose disciple and devoted friend Prof. Giannini was. Among those present were Consul General Antonio Grossardi, Count Facchetti-Guiglia, and Comm. Italo Falbo, president of the "Dante," who introduced the speaker.

The annual business meeting of the Italian Historical Society of Massachusetts was held on April 24th at the Hotel Vendome in Boston. Annual reports of the secretary and treasurer were read and officers elected for the coming year. Mrs. Lillian Tortorella Cook furnished a musical program.

The Society's annual banquet has been postponed to June 6th, according to Mrs. Francis L. Galassi, secretary.

In the Hotel Georgia in Toronto, Canada, last month, under the auspices of the International Club, an Italian Evening was held with J. Grimaldi acting as master of ceremonies.

**The** Società del Teatrino made its debut in New York on April 20th with a reception at the Casa Italiana of Columbia University. More than 1500 persons attended the Beefsteak Party of the La Guardia Political Club, of which the Hon. Vito Marcantonio is president, in the Bronx last month.

The annual benefit dinner and entertainment of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Columbus Hospital Extension in the Bronx, N. Y., was held on May 10th 'at the New York Athletic Club, Travers Island, Pelham Manor, N. Y. The committee in charge of the arrangements included Mrs. Joseph Alvich, chairman, Mrs. Louis Ferrara, exofficio, Mrs. Angelo Sala, chairman of the entertainment committee.

Through the efforts of this little known auxiliary the Uptown Columbus Hospital has been furnished with much-needed scientific equipment, and great assistance has been rendered to the unselfish Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart who operate the hospital. The officers of the Auxiliary include Mrs. Louis J. Ferrara, president; Mrs. A. Sala, Mrs. S. Di Palma and Mrs. R. Azzari, vice-presidents; Mrs. G. A. Carlucci, treasurer; Mrs. L. De Lorenzo, recording secretary; Mrs. F. La Gattuta, financial secretary; and Mrs. A. Petretti, historian. The Board of Directors includes Mrs. B. Pasquarelli, Mrs. J. F. Faiella, Mrs. A. J. De Pace, and Mrs. E. Agostini,

The Americus Society of 645 Tremont Avenue, the Bronx, N. Y., is on record as favoring legislation to prohibit political, civic or social organizations from using hyphenated names, which it terms un-American, as for example Greek-American Republican Club or Polish-American Political League. This gives undue emphasis, according to the Americus Soc ety, to religious or racial appeal in elections and detracts from the actual merits or demerits of the candidate, his party, and his platform.

Under the patronage of Ambassador Augusto Rosso, Consul General Antonio Grossardi and Mavor F. H. LaGuardia, the Festa of the Italian Associations of New York was held on April 27th aboard the Rex of the Italian Line for the benefit of a scholarship fund for Italo-American students, for the free schools of Italian, and for the Casa Italiana Educational Bureau.

The Roman Forum of Brooklyn, N. Y., held its second annual dinner dance on May 20th in the grand ballroom of the Hotel St. George in Brooklyn, with more than 600 persons attending.

#### Public Life

Of a total of 17 Ita'ian-American candidates for public office in the pri maries in New Jersey this month, 8 were successful in winning nominations. They are Peter A. Cavicchia (R) of the 11th District, and A. L. Montelli (R) of the 13th District, for Representative in Congress; A. J. Siracusa (R) of Atlantic County for the State Senate; and L. A. Cavinato (R) of Bergen County, J. R. Giuliano (R), Louis R. Mazzei (D), and Samuel Voltaggio (D) of Essex County, and B. A. Baronio (D) of Hudson County for the State Assembly.

Returns for other offices in various parts of the State were not, unfortunately, complete at the time of going to press.

Said Governor A. Harry Moore of New Jersey in a recent interview: "The Italians constitute one of the strongest factors of progress in New Jersey, and they are among our most loyal and most faithful citizens." Recalling his friendship with many Italians in the State, he mentiond especially Michael Scatuorchio, leader of the Italo-American Democrats in New Jersey, and his Italo-American appointments, which include S. Orlando, T. Tissio, L. Repetto, Judge Masucci, J. D'Aloia, F. Forlenza.

**Charles** J. Margiotti, outstanding Italo-American lawyer of Pittsburgh, was unsuccessful this month in his primary fight for the Republican candidacy for Governor of Pennsylvania. Mr. Margiotti, who was born in Salerno, Italy, in 1891 and was taken to this country as a child, is well-known throughout the State as a trial lawyer. His campaign manager for Eastern Pennsylvania was Atty. Adrian Bonelli, noted in immigration cases.

A movement is growing in New York State for the candidacy of Supreme Court Justice Salvatore Cotillo for Governor of New York on the Democratic slate. Announcement has already been made in some newspapers to that effect and many Cotillo-for-Governor clubs are springing up in New York City and upstate. His supporters point to his record as Assemblyman, as State Senator, as a representative of the Wilson administration in Italy during the war, and as judge of the Supreme Court of New York State.

**Congressman** James Lanzetta of the 20th District in New York City is the author of a bill presented in the House recently that would simplify and make easier the obtaining of citizenship papers on the part of aliens.

Among the Italo-Americans received by Mayor La Guardia in Brooklyn when he moved his office there temporarily to commemorate Brooklyn's 100th anniversary as a city were Deputy Fire Commissioner Francis X. Giaccone, Louis Principe Superintendent of Public Buildings in Brooklyn, Mgr. Alfonso Arcese, Mgr. Ottavio Silvestro, Magistrate Gaspar Liota, Magistrate Sylvester Sabbatino, Magistrate Michael Ditore, Dr. I. F. Sorgi, Dr. Joseph Battaglia, Dr. X. Y. Circelli, Dr. V. Mazzola, Dr. J. Scaturro, Atty. Matteo Abruzzo, Al. Pisciotta, Rosario Ingargiola, James Scileppi, Charles Masone, Domenico Cracchi, Charles Cannella, John Buongiovanni, Louis Camardella, Vito Guariglia, Frederick Del Giudice, Joseph Sartori, Stephen Barrera, Joseph Sessa, Benjamin Turrecano, Vito Piccone and Mario Persico. The former Italian Consul in New York, Comm. Emanuele Grazzi, at present Italian Minister Plenipontentiary at Guatemala, was in New York early this month on his way to Italy for a short vacation.

The Italian Democratic Committee of Pittburgh last month gave a testimonial dinner for its chairman, Frank Nerone. The vice-chairman of the Committee, Atty. Emanuele Schifano, presided at the dinner, assisted by Atty. A. Barrante, A. Casilio, L. Lappa, P. A. Verzella, A. Bove and C. Albo.

**Dr.** Carmen Ross, Superintendent of Public Schools in Doylestown, Pa. since 1905 and president of the Pennsylvania State Educational Association, has been appointed by Governor Pinchot to the presidency of Edinboro State Teachers College.

A graduate of Lafayette College of Easton and of Columbia University, Dr. Ross was a member of the Governor's commission for the study of educational finances, of the committee for the study of teaching problems in Pennsylvania, and of the New Jersey State School Survey Commission. For many years he has directed the summer courses in the Pennsylvania State Colleges.

Dr. Ross' real name is Carmine Cortazzo. He is a native of Cannalongo, Salerno, Italy, having been taken to this country as a child by his parents. Americans used to call his father, a contractor, Ross for short, and the name stuck, being handed down to his son.

**Recent** elections in Wisconsin brought the following results when 18 out of 31 Italian candidates were successful:

In Hurley, Dr. M. J. Bonacci defeated Domenico Rubatt, present incumbent, for Mayor; Luigi Lopez was elected as a supervisor; and Pietro De Rubeis, Fred Martino, G. Bertagnoli, A. Zanella and P. Innanti were elected councillors. The Italians are 80% of the population.

In Pence, 98% Italian, Antonio Pedrizzi was elected Mayor, Giuseppe Negri councillor, Stefano Baima secretary, Lena Oliver treasurer, Lorenzo Cortichiato assessor, Davide Andrizzi Judge and Giovanni Chiapusio constable.

In Kimball, Isidoro Brunello was elected councillor, and in Carey, Bartol de Rosso was elected treasurer, while in Upson, the present Mayor, Olivero Peteffi, was reelected without opposition.



Atty. - Antonio Picciotti, of 850 Plymouth Ave., Rochester, has been appointed to the Corporation Counsel's office in that city.

William Bartlett Santosuosso, Commissioner of Parks in South Medford, Mass., since 1932, last month resigned his post.

Vincenzo Giuliano last month for the third time was re-appointed to the Board of Supervisors of Wayne County, in Michigan, which comprises the city of Detroit.

Atty. Carlo Tricoli of San Francisco has been appointed Assistant District Attorney in that city. A graduate of Hastings Law College in 1923, he was formerly associated with Atty. Sylvester Andriano, and later with the Italian Consulate, and is now one of the outstanding members of the Columbus Civic Club.

**Cav.** Dr. Francesco Parenti last month assumed his new duties in Seattle, Washington, as the new Italian Consul there, to take the place of Pietro Gerbore, who was transferred to another position. Messrs. Gerbore and Parenti, at different times, were the guests of honor at many affairs.

More than 500 persons attended the banquet given early this month at Steubenville, Ohio, for Giulio Pizzoferrato, who has been Commissioner of Public Health in that city since 1928. Cav. Dr. Sunseri was the master of ceremonies.

**Count** Asinari di San Marzano, new Italian Consul in Denver, Colorado, arrived recently in New York with his wife and two children on his way to his new post.

**Cav.** Atty. Vincent Brogna of Boston has been appointed a member of the advisory committee to the State Administrator in Massachusetts of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

A banquet was given last month in honor of Ralph A. Piccolo of Bridgeport, Conn. to celebrate his appointment as Chief Deputy Collector of Fairfield County. The committee was headed by Raffaele Borino.

Raphael Langere, Deputy Commissioner of Buildings in the Borough of Richmond, New York, died last month at his home, 171 Chestnut Avenue, at the age of 58, after a long illness. Mr. Langere had been connected with the Richmond Department of

Mr. Langere had been connected with the Richmond Department of Buildings since 1914, when he was appointed chief inspector. In 1922 he resigned to enter the real estate business, but last January was recalled by Borough President Joseph A. Palma.

Mr. Langere was a native of Salerno, Italy, and a graduate of Cooper Union. Before entering the city's service he was engaged in the building contracting business on Staten Island. He was active in Democratic politics in the Third Ward and had served as district leader for several years.

#### Religion

At the suggestion of Douglas C. McMurtrie, who is exceptionally well informed on the history of printing, the theme of this year's year-book of Aquinas High School in La Crosse, Wisc., is the "History of Printing in Wisconsin." It was Mr. McMurtrie who in 1931 discovered that first honors in Wisconsin go to Rev. Samuel Mazzucchelli, whose Indian pamphlet, issued in 1834, is the earliest recorded professional printing done in the State of Wisconsin. It is estimated that Father Mazzucchelli's missionary zeal was instrumental in building at least 80 Catholic churches in the middle west.

Some 500 people attended the banquet given last month in Seattle, Washington for the benefit of the schools of the Church of the Madonna of Mt. Virgin, of which Rev. Lodovico Caramello is rector.

**Rev.** Florenzo Lupo has been appointed by the Archbishop of St. Louis to the position of rector of the Church of St. Ambrogio in Montagna, in that city, to take the place left vacant by the death of Rev. Pietro Barabino.

The Italian Catholic Union of Newark last month for the first time in its history gave a minstrel review and dance at its auditorium, 14-20 Summer Avenue. Joseph Cocozza, vicepresident of the organization, headed the Dramatic Committee, which was in charge of the show.

**Rev.** Giovanni Pedrazzini, Salesian missionary, gave a talk in San Francisco last month on his experience in China, where he has spent 25 years.

The Most Reverend Gaetano Cicognani, Papal Nuncio to Peru, and senior member of the diplomatic corps in Lima, sailed last month from New York for his first visit to Rome in 9 years. He had arrived several weeks before from Peru and had been visiting with his brother in the latter's home at Washington. He expects to spend several weeks in Rome.

In Akron, Ohio, following long efforts on the part of the parish headed by Rev. Salvatore Marino, the new Italian Catholic Church of the community was opened last month amid appropriate ceremonies. Giuseppe Fiocca was chairman and Mrs. Locascio mistress of ceremonies, and among the guests of honor were Judge and Mrs. Pardee, the Mayor, Mr. and Mrs. Locascio, and the architect of the church, Saverio De Maio, together with his wife.

#### Business, Professional, Occupational

The annual report of the Banco di Sicilia during the year 1933, submitted recently to the Council of that institution by General Director Gr. Uff. Giuseppe Dell'Oro, proved interesting not only because of the wealth of its informative material relative to Sicilian economics, but also because it brought forth the highly patriotic labors contributed by the institution to the recent progress of the Italian nation.

Energized by the active and intelligent work of Gr. Uff. Giuseppe Dell'Oro, the Banco di Sicilia shows constant development and, while it continues to be the greatest factor in the local economic life of Sicily, it is fast assuming its rightful place "in the vital forces of the nation, ever unselfishly at the disciplined and devoted service of II Duce and the Regime."

Touching upon world affairs, and with special reference to the Economic Conference at London, the report says that "in that crowded and disorderly conference, the only voice passed on to history was that of Italy. The universal and essentially Roman thought of il Duce, faithfully interpreted by his Minister of Finance, indicated the right way and determined the formation of the gold bloc which rapidly shipwrecked the wise prophets of democratic economy." While at London the genius of

While at London the genius of Mussolini threw a ray of light upon the general confusion, within the borders of Italy, with every ounce of energy, both material and spiritual, bent toward reconstruction without friction or waste and in harmony with those natural forces which we have seen distorted elsewhere, the Italian economic structure brought to completion the preparatory work intended to reach the great goal of the Corporative State.

In 1933, the Banco di Sicilia appreciably augmented its general activities in comparison with the preceding years and now ranks among the best institutions having a high percentage of liquidity.

The net profits show a notable increase, notwithstanding the social and altruistic character of the institution, which gives it first rank in the extension of credit at a low rate of interest under favorable conditions, and often gratuitously when charitable and meritorious institutions are concerned.

The financial statement as at the close of business December 31, 1933 shows: Capital Lit. 230,000,000, Reserves Lit. 232,384,933.68, Deposits Lit. 746,884,923.68 (this sum includes an increase of Lit. 66,136,885., compared to the previous years and is further proof of the confidence and popularity enjoyed by the institution). Due to correspondents Lt. 973,738,903.24.

In New York the Banco di Sicilia through its affiliate, the Bank of Sicily Trust Company, is experiencing a period of intense activity, and extending invaluable assistance to deserving Italians both in their commercial enterprises and in their personal banking requirements.

The management of the Bank of Sicily Trust Company has been entrusted in the capable hands of Dr Bruno Rovere, who combines rare experience with profound knowledge of banking and of the conditions prevailing in New York.

Dr. Rovere, formerly an executive of the New York Office of the Credito Italiano and of Lloyds Bank of London and the Credit Lyonnais of Paris, has succeded in giving new life to the Bank of Sicily Trust Company and the Italians may well be satisfied with the remarkable results achieved thus far.

**Cav.** M. L. Perasso last month was unanimously re-elected president of the Italian Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco.

At a recent monthly meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade, Prof. Cav. Emilio Goggio of the University of Toronto, spoke on "Mete ed imprese dell'Italia d'oggi." Among those present were Vice-Consul Cav. Ambrosi and Messrs. Magi, Grittani, Giannelli, J. Lobraico and Mari.

Italians in Cleveland and in professional circles throughout the country were grieved last month to hear of the death of Dr. Comm. Giovanni Barricelli, one of the best known Italian physicians in this country and a former Grand Venerable of the Ohio Grand Lodge of the Order Sons of Italy.

Angelo M. Lippi, formerly of the "Touraine" and "Cocoanut Grove" in Boston, has been made director of the Hotel Somerset in that city. Mr. Lippi comes of a noted family of restaurateurs from Lucca.

A banquet was given this month to the newly licensed doctor of dentistry, Frank R. Coppola, by the Santandreano Society of Newark.

Louis C. Duro, twenty-seven, 104-37 Forty-first avenue, Corona, is among the thirty-two Queens students who passed the March bar examinations.

Mr. Duro took an active part in the last Fusion campaign as secretary to Frank A. Bellucci.

Mr. Duro was graduated from P. S. 166, Corona; Newtown High School, Elmhurst, and St. John's College School of Law, Brooklyn.

His scholastic work in public school kept him on the honor roll almost through his entire eight years. In Newtown High School he was active in the cross-country team and was captain of the service squad for two years.

He is a member of the Queensboro Italian-American Citizens' League, Queens Legal Club, and is managing clerk in the office of Mr. Bellucci.

**Dr.** George E. Milano has been appointed Acting Director of the Surgical Department of the Morrisania Hospital, one of the more important New York hospitals.

**Headed** by Dr. Comm. Giuseppe Castruccio, Italian Consul General in Chicago, and Dr. Cav. Uff. Aurelio Pagano of the Nastro Azzurro of Italian World War Veterans, a gathering of several hundred took part last month in the ground-breaking exercises for the new Italian Village at the 1934 World's Fair. The village will be modelled along old country atmosphere lines, resembling particularly some of the country of Tuscany, with its hill towns, built around fortified castles. The president of the Italian Village is the Hon. Giuseppe Imburgio, Mayor of Melrose Park. Together with him in the project are Alderman William Pacelli, State Senator Dan Serritella, and Atty. Eliodoro Libonati.

**Dr.** Charles Fama was appointed by the New York City Board of Estimate to the medical board of the New York City Employers Retirement System upon the proposal of Mayor La Guardia last month.

Dr. Fama, who lives at 236 East 200th Street, the Bronx, is a medical officer in the Officers' Reserve Corps.

Dr. Fama was graduated from the New York Homeopathic Medical School and Flower Hospital in 1914. In 1920 he received a degree in medicine and surgery from the University of Palermo for his work on typhus. He is a member of the Bronx County and State Medical Associations, a fellow of the American Medical Association and member of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States Army. In 1921 he was appointed by the Department of the Interior a member of the United States Board of Pension Surgeons.

Dr. Fama also served as honorary surgeon of the Police Department by appointment of former Police Commissioner Richard E. Enright. He is a Republican, member of the Park Republican Club of the Bronx and a county committeeman.

The Banca Commerciale Italiana, New York Agency, has distributed copies of the report made to the Board of Directors of the organization in Milan at the stockholders' meeting held on March 31 under the presidency of Senator Ettore Conti. According to the report, the bank had in 1933 a net profit of 42,444,933 lire, of which 35 million were distributed as dividends to stockholders, and the remainder added to the reserve fund.

The new address of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Chicago is 201 North Wells Street, on the 10th floor, the building being the same as the one in which the Italian Consulate is situated.

Atty. Giuseppe L. Frascati was recently appointed legal adviser to the Federal Trade Commission in New York.

Dr. Salvatore Parlato of Buffalo, N. Y., is said to have discovered a method for curing or treating the annoying malady of hay fever.

The Italian Consul, Cav. Ungarelli, was the featured speaker recently at a luncheon meeting of the Italian Chamber of Commerce of Detroit. Dr. V. Mancuso, president of the Chamber, presided.

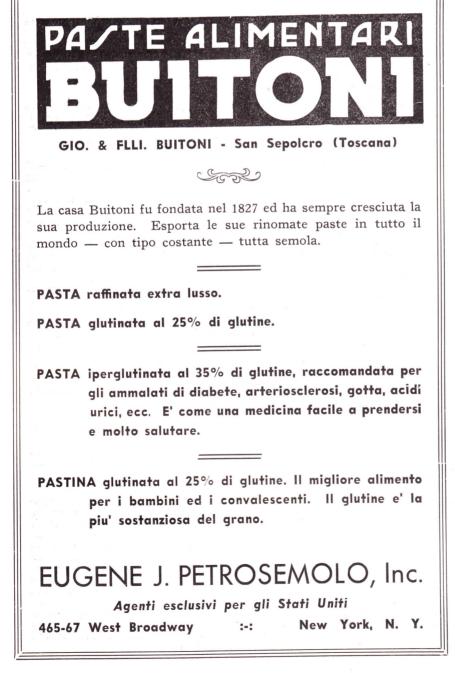
In Utica, N. Y., Thomas G. Ferrara has been appointed Depty Chief pro tem of the Utica Police Force, pending his permanent appointment to that position to be made soon. He has been on the force for 25 years. Other Italians on the Utica Police Force are Lieut. V. V. Felitto, Captain pro tem of the detective squad, and Detectives Fred G. Grieco and John B. Grande.

**Cav.** Joseph A. Tomasello, president of the Italian Chamber of Commerce of Boston, and one of the best known contractors in Massachusetts, has been appointed one of the administrators for the Massachusetts Division of the Contractors Code under the NRA, which he aided in drawing up.

Dr. Prof. Luigi Caporale recently arrived in this country, at the invitation of the American Urological Association, to give a series of lectures in American universities.

Dr. Harold E. Smith, Director of the Brooklyn College Radio Board, recently addressed the public from the Municipal radio station WNYC on one of the popular topics of the day, the question of how to prevent war. Dr. Smith, who holds the degrees of M.A. (Columbia), J.D. (N. Y. U.), and Ph.D. (Fordham), pointed out in his address that the matter of neutrality is an outstanding factor as to the causes of the spreading of war. This talk was based on his latest work "A Critical Study of the Law of Neutrality" recently completed after extensive research. Dr. Smith is also interested in things Italian. The chief points of Dr. Smith's are

The chief points of Dr. Smith's argument were: 1) that neutrality has not worked in the past, 2) that the principles of neutral concepts are contrary to the covenant of the League of Nations 3) that they are in conflict with post-war treaties and 4) they are inconsistent with the recent arms embargo policies adopted by the leading countries.



#### **Fine Arts**

The City of Pittsburgh commemorated on April 21 the tenth anniversary of the death of the great tragedienne, Eleonora Duse, who died on that day in Pittsburgh ten years ago in the Hotel Schenley. Speeches in English and Italian were broadcast over Station KDKA and picked up by Italian broadcasting stations.

Prior to his departure for Italy last month, Gr. Uff. Giovanni Martinelli, world-famous tenor, was guest of honor of the Dante Alighieri Society at the Casa Italiana in New York, where a musical program and a few short speeches were held.

"High Spots of New York," a movie short produced by Charles S. Cajiano of New York City, has been running in many moving picture houses lately, including the "Roxy" last year and the Loew circuit as far out as the Hawaiian Islands. It has been favorably commented on by the Film Daily and the Motion Picture Herald. Mr. Cajiano, a motion picture photograher of note, is now working on a series of New England shorts taken on a recent 25-day trip swordfishing off the Gloucester Coast.

Born in Polla (Salerno) Italy in Born in Polla (Salerno) Italy in 1895, he came to this country in 1908, where he went to school for a few years. He has been in the field of photography for the past 16 years, starting out as a projectionist, then doing some free-lance photography for independent companies. Painting is his hobby and he likes both his vocation and his avocation because they enable him to be outdoors. His favorite subjects have to do with the country, sports, travel, etc.

The Italians of Syracuse, under the general chairmanship of Joseph J. Pietrafesa, are working toward the accumulation of a popular subscription fund for the erection of a monument to Columbus. There are 35,000 Italians in Syracuse.

The Italian Teatro D'Arte, under the direction of Commendatore Giuseppe Sterni, presented early this month at the Longacre Theatre in New York Gerolamo Rovetta's fouract drama, "Romanticismo," one of the more important plays dealing with the "risorgimento," It was the company's last performance of the season. The season of 1934-35 will open in September with a new Italian version of Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables."

"Dante" was the subject of a semiprivate lecture by Mrs. E. Lenore Shaw early this month at the home of Mrs. John W. Hession, 155 Edgar's Lane, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York. Mrs. Shaw, a native San Franciscan, is already becoming known for her talks on Italy in Hastings and Dobbs Ferry. A personal friend of Premier Mussolini, she has spent the larger part of her time living and traveling in Italy. She has written considerably on things Italian, and some of her work has appeared in *Atlantica*. The Leonardo da Vinci Art School in New York announces, in addition to its regular courses that continue during the summer, some special summer courses beginning May 15 and continuing to September 15. Information may be obtained from the school at 149 E. 34th Street, New York City. (Ashland 4-6176).

**Prof.** Alberto Bimboni, director of the Juilliard Graduate School of Music, last month gave a talk at the Haarlem House in New York on the 19th century. Following his talk Prof. Bimboni, who also teaches at the University of Pennsylvania, was thanked by Gaetano Restiyo, president of the Haarlem House Citizenship Club.



Cav. Joseph A. Tomasello

Through the efforts of Miss Grazia Bellotti, secretary of the Italian department of the Y. W. C. A. in Jersey City, a benefit performance was held early this month at the central branch of the institution in that city of Niccodemi's "La Maestrina," interpreted by the Italian Dramatic Association. The artistic direction was by Ferdinando Papa, and in the cast were Mrs. Corinna Bono, Mrs. Maria Gannuzzi, Miss Lillian Bono, Nando Rossi, D. Vellanti, Mauro Mauri, Mario Turlin and Mr. Oddo.

Miss Inez Lauritano, talented violinist, early this month gave a concert in Washington, D. C. before the Italy America Society there, following which she was congratulated and thanked by Ambassador Rosso and Mrs. Davidge, president of the society.

#### Sports

At the opening game of the baseball season for the New York Yankees, before 50,000 spectators in the Yankee Stadium in New York, an Italo-American Mayor, Fiorello H. La Guardia, threw out the first ball (and also began the precedent of throwing it from the pitcher's box), and an Italo-American player, Frank Crosetti, Yankee shortstop, did the honors by banging a home run that turned out to be the only tally of the game, and which decided it in favor of the Yanks.

"Florentine Football in 1500" was the subject of a recent talk by Prof. Rudolph Altrocchi, head of the Italian Department of the University of California, at the Sezione Combattenti, 678 Green Street, in San Francisco.

Hugh Alessandroni, whose nineyear fencing career had been marked by a succession of second places but never a first in major competition, last month captured the national foils fencing championship in the 44th annual title tournament held at the Hotel Astor in New York. The title had been let go by default b∮ Joseph Levis of Boston.

Angelo Trulio of the New York A. C. was the runner-up last month in play for the national A. A. U. fourwall handball title held at the New York A. C.

Philadelphia fans are singing the praises of Joe Cascarella, the young pitcher of the Athletics who early this month gave the Cleveland Indians their first shutout of the season by doling out only three hits to them. Cascarella, who was a radio crooner before he came with the Athletics for this, his first season in the major leagues, faced only 18 batters during the last six innings. He is only 25 years old and was born in the heart of South Philadelphia's Italian section.

#### Miscellaneous

Dr. Albert C. Bonaschi, the capable and efficient secretary of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in New York, on May 17th was unanimously elected president of the Association of Secretaries of Foreign Chambers of Commerce in this country with headquarters in New York. Dr. Bonaschi was one of the founders of the association in 1929, and he served as vice-president for three consecutive terms.

In the May 15th issue of the New York State Journal of Medicine, published by the Medical Society of the State of New York, Dr. Charles Leone of Buffalo, N. Y. had a letter to the editor, in which, praising the magazine's editorials "Defeatism" and "Alice in Wonderland" in a previous issue, he closed saying "The medical profession must at all times be on guard against the insidious influences of these self-appointed guardians of the public weal, therefore the Bacelli Medical Club of Buffalo, consisting of a group of physicians of Italian extraction, at their last meeting voted to commend you for your splendid editorials."

Salvatore Viola, secretary of the Permanent Italian Book Exhibition, Inc. at 2 West 46th Street, New York City, which is one of the main outlets for Italian books in this country, is now conducting a weekly column reviewing the latest outstanding Italian books published. His column appears in the *Corriere Siciliano* of New York, of which Giuseppe Genovese is editor.

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DANTE—LA DIVINA COMMEDIA. Testo critico della Societa' Dantesca Italiana — Riveduto — Col Commento Scartazziniano in questa nona edi zione rifatto da Giuseppe Bandelli, aggiuntovi il rimario perfezionato di L. Polacco e indice dei nomi proprii e di cose notabili, 1 volume, India paper, 16mo., 1062 pp., cloth. \$3.50.

This volume is undoubtedly the best annotated edition of the Divine Comedy. It is one that every lover of Dante should consult.

DANTE – LE OPERE. Testo critico della Societa' Dantesca Italiana a cura di M. Barbi, E. G. Parodi, F. Pellegrini, E Pistelli, P. Rajna, E. Rostagno, G. Vandelli, con indice analitico dei nomi e delle cose di Mario Casella e tre tavole fuori testo. One volume, India paper, 16mo., 980 pp. cloth. \$4.00.

In this volume the Società Dantesca Italiana has collected all the works of Dante in the most accurate and authoritative text, and in their original version (Italian Latin prose and poetry). The volume contains neither notes nor comment, and its great value consists in the fact that we may find within the pages of a compact and handy volume everything Dante ever wrote. A book every intelligent reader would be proud to possess.

#### CASELLA, A.-21 PIU' 26, one volume 16mo., 250 pp. \$1.35.

Alfred Casella is considered today one of the greatest composers of modern Italy. He is also a pianist of distinction and a conductor and in such capacities he has visited every civilized country. The title of this book, Twenty-one plus Twenty Six, simply means that he started his career at 21 and it is now 26 years since that day. The volume contains a sort of musical credo of the author. The outstanding chapters are those on Puccini, DeBussy, Rossini, Jazz and Casella himself.

#### CRISPOLTI, F.—PIO IX, LEONE XIII, PIO X, BENEDETTO XV (RICORDI PERSONALI). 1 volume, 16mo., 216 pp. \$1.25.

Reminiscences of the last four pontiffs by the Marchese Filippo Crispolti who was personally intimate with each one of them.

#### APPOLONIO, M. – STORIA DELLA COMMEDIA DELL'ARTE, one volume, 12mo., 368 pp. \$2.25.

Mario Appolonio has written a comprehensive and delightful history of the popular Italian drama of the 16th and 17th centuries. Those who are interested in the affairs of the theatre will find in this book valuable material concerning the popular form of the Italian drama and in the author a very helpful guide.

#### APPOLONIO, M. — L'OPERA DI CARLO GOLDONI, 1 volume, 12mo., 416 pp. \$2.75.

Professor Appolonio has given us with this masterful work a life of Goldoni and a detailed critical appreciation of all of his work.

MORI, CESARE—CON LA MAFIA AI FERRI CORTI, con 35 illustrazioni fuori testo, 1 volume, 8vo., 380 pp., cloth \$3.35.

An interesting account of how the secret power of the Mafia was for the first time and definitely stamped out of Sicily. Cesare Mori was the man delegated by Premier Mussolini for this job and he did it successfully.

#### FOSCHINI, A.—L'AVVENTURA DI VILLON, 1 volume, large 8vo., 260 pp., illustrated. \$1.75.

As far as we know this is the only biography of Villon in Italian. Somehow in reading about Villon in Italian we get the impression that he is one of Italy's men of the Renaissance rather than a French author.

#### CASTELFRANCHI, G.—TELEVISIO-NE (Le basi fisiche del Radiovedere) con 207 Incisioni nel Testo, 1 volume 8vo., 320 pp. \$2.75.

The author who is a professor of the R. Scuola Superiore d'Ingegneria of Milano has put together the known facts about television, its history and its possible development for the near future.

#### BORGESE, G. A.—D'ANNUNZIO, 1 volume, 8vo., 235 pp. \$1.35.

This is not a biography of the greatest Italian poet of modern times but a keen analysis and a critical estimate of his work taken as a whole.

#### CIARLANTINI, F.—MUSSOLINI IM-MAGINARIO, 1 volume, 16mo., 208 pp. \$.60.

The author who has travelled and visited every country of the globe has gathered in this unique volume directly from the people of many lands their impressions and their imaginary vision of Mussolini. The book gives us a singular portrait of Il Duce not as he really is but as people who have never seen him imagine him to be.

TILGHER, A.—HOMO FABER. Storia del Concetto del lavoro nella civilta' occidentale. Analisi filosofica di concetti a fini, 1 volume, 8vo. 200 pp. \$1.65.

In this genial work Adriano Tilgher has made a synthetic though thorough analysis of work — human labor throughout the centuries, from the slavery of the classic world up to the mass production of present day industrialism.

#### COGNI, G.—SAGGIO SULL'AMORE. —COME NUOVO PRINCIPIO DI MORTALITA', 1 vol., 16mo., 150 pp. \$1.25.

The publication of this work has given rise to a great deal of controversy of a rather accentuated nature, especially from the higher hierarchy of the church. The author, it seems, has tried to conciliate both the Platonic and the Carnal love into a whole from a philosophical point of view, of course, taking the lead from such two diverse philosophers as Gentile and Freud.

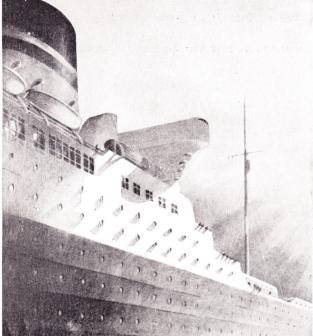
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