Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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A. C. Weekly Bulletin Vol. II

Sept. 1945. Mar 1946

March 30, 1946

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 52

POLITICAL

The Leftist tide running in the administrative elections (see *Election Details* that follows) apparently is spurring the Right to speed up their plans for a united front in the proposed National Democratic Union, though a group declaration on the institutional question still seems to be the hitch in that program. Minister of Education Mole (Labour Democrat), in a speech at Catanzaro, came out for the republic and called upon all leaders and parties to declare themselves openly on this question. Nitti of the old guard has yet to proclaim himself and, according to the latest press reports, will head his own National Union for Reconstruction. Sforza, who announced his republican attitude last week in *Momento*, came in for the customary brickbats from *Italia Nuova* which announced that Sforza was already running for presidency of the republic. Prime Minister De Gasperi himself did not escape editorial jabs on the institutional question, *Voce Repubblicana* pointing out that De Gasperi was still sitting on the fence. The Rome Section of the Christian Democrat party, incidentally, during the week voted 9,000 for the republic and 2,100 for the monarchy while 2,300 abstained from voting.

Opening his party's campaign as secretary general, De Gasperi spoke at Turin on March 24. He said he had wanted to hold the referendum during the *Costituente* but had compromised for the sake of tranquillity. He praised the letter of the *Luogotenente* as a noteworthy contribution to the freedom of the elections and then went on to express his surprise at Togliatti's appeal for common lists, because, he said, all parties must have their own programs. The unity theory developing between the Anglo-Saxons and the Russians. He defended his indecision on the institutional question by saying that "hesitations and qualms" can be perfectly sincere and noble.

Togliatti, making an election swing through Emilia and Lombardia (as Nenni was making one through Tuscany), had spoken at Bologna on the 23rd where he again asserted the "indisputable" Italianity of Trieste but said that one should recall the sufferings imposed on Yugoslavia by the Nazi-Fascists. He said the Communists would respect the Lateran Pacts and that Communists had always invited political as well as trade union collaboration. At Varese, on the 25th, Togliatti made a reply to De Gasperi's Turin speech, somewhat plaintively stating it was "incomprehensible" why De Gasperi felt it necessary "to set up a dam against the Socialist-Communist current because, if we note the Christian Democrat victories, we do not understand what they are worried about".

The Council of Ministers met on the 28th and 29th. De Gasperi made a report on Italo-Spanish relations and opposed Nenni's criticisms of relations with the Franco regime by stating that Italian policy toward Spain followed that of the United States and United Kingdom Governments. The Council also cleared up further technicalities on the referendum: The symbol of the crown superimposed on the Savoy coat of arms will be used to represent the monarchy on the ballot, which will be of different colored paper than the one for the elections, and a woman's head surrounded by laurel and oak will indicate the republic. Both symbols will be again superimposed on the profile of the Italian peninsula. The Court of Cassion will announce the result of the referendum within five days of the balloting. Reports were heard on the coal situation and prisoners

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sed and authority granted for the issuance of metal coins in one, two, five and ten lire denominations. Finally, after considerable discussion, the Ministry of War was entrusted with the task of clearing the 250,000 hectares of mined ground in Italy.

The progress of the Allied Investigating Commission in Venezia Giulia was reported in great detail by the press, which particularly hailed the demonstrations of the Italian populations, and gave wide prominence to the statement of the Supreme Allied Commander, Lieut. Gen. Sir William Morgan, to the effect that the Allied authorities would continue their administration in the interests of justice, peace and security, decrying attempts to create incidents in Zone A and denying the necessity for Yugoslav troop movements in Zone B.

ELECTION DETAILS

The Leftist trend in the administrative elections began to be increasingly evident as the larger population centers voted in the latest election held on March 24. Bologna went Communist as did Siena, Savona, Vercelli and Asti while the Socialists took Novara and Cremona and a Leftist bloc won in Venice and Ancona, according to press reports via the Ministry of Interior. The Christian Democrats took Padua among the larger cities. A. C. LOs, performing valiantly, observed the elections in detail and reported the usual large turnouts and general order.

Lieut. Col. E. W. J. Walters (B) at Bologna reported on 17 communal visits by his staff, and noted how women especially were courted for their votes. Lieut. Col. W. Turner-Coles (B) in Liguria told of 23 communes voting. Lieut. Col. F. G. Green (B) in Piemonte had elaborate reports on more than 70 communes. Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse observed in five Rome Province communes while Major C. G. R. Williams, executive officer of the Local Government Sub-Commission, looked on at four communes in Littoria Province, where one of the issues impelling mountain voters to the Left was the desire to reclaim their old grazing lands in the lowlands, which right they had lost when the Pontine Marshes were reclaimed.

Major R. R. Temple, director of the Local a table of the results in the three administrative elections to date, returns being derived from both official and unofficial sources. A complete official report will be published when all the returns for the five Sundays ending April 7 are in.

THE NORTH

One comes back from an all too curtailed visit to the North rather baffled, recent visitors report. A fortnight ago we were writing in all good faith of a food situation in Italy worse than anything which the Allied Commission had yet experienced: a basic ration of 600 calories—supplemented by purchases (which ate up the whole of the daily wage) amounting to another 1,000 calories. One knew that coal and wood and electric power was desperately short in the North. But the actual conditions which are met throughout the valley of the Po do not tally with the grim facts shown up by statistics. The people, rich and poor, look well-fed and healthy. With an air of cheerfulness in the country villages and in the towns themselves, the food shops are full of produce; they are well stocked and prices are dropping. The *trattorie* or eating houses all provide a good meal—and at no exorbitant price. The Liaison groups in general affirmed that shortage of food was not now the current topic of conversation.

What does it all mean? The first conclusion is that everyone—including the big industries—is eating out of capital. There is an abundance of perishable food and much of it is within reach of many of the people. Secondly, industrial managements provide good mid-shift meals for their workers. An early spring has succeeded a winter which mercifully has not been too severe and the recent curious anomaly of a country living literally from hand to mouth on imported food for their basic rations and yet giving all the appearance of having, at any rate, enough perishable food to get along well into the coming harvest. Italy may well be thankful for the sun and the short dry winter, for her abundant local produce, her fruit and her nuts and for the ability of her people to live without meat. These factors have kept and will continue to keep the country from actual starvation but must never be counted as a reason for not maintaining her stock of cereals at an adequate standard.

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Major R. R. Temple, director of the Local Government S.C. spent the March 24th election in Venice, touring the city in a motorboat. He reported he saw no ballot boxes floating in the canals. Major Temple also visited nearby Chioggia, a fishing village with considerable unemployment, which went Communist. On page 3 is for the five Sundays ending April 7 are in.

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What does it all mean? The first conclusion is that everyone—including the big industries—is eating out of capital. There is an abundance of perishable food and much of it is within reach of many of the people. Secondly, industrial managements provide good mid-shift meals for their workers. An early spring has succeeded a winter which mercifully has not been too severe and the recent curious anomaly of a country living literally from hand to mouth on imported food for their basic rations and yet giving all the appearance of having, at any rate, enough perishable food to get along well into the coming harvest. Italy may well be thankful for the sun and the short dry winter, for her abundant local produce, her fruit and her nuts and for the ability of her people to live without meat. These factors have kept and will continue to keep the country from actual starvation but must never be counted as a reason for not maintaining her stock of cereals at an adequate standard.

Valuable work is being done by the Liaison groups. They have maintained their mobility and, therefore, their contact with local authorities, and their obvious interest in the communal elections has without doubt aided the natural desire of the Italian people to conduct these first

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PARTY	MARCH 10						MARCH 17						MARCH 24						TOTAL TO D			
	Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats			Majorities			
	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A
Left Concentration	—	129	129	2	2,419	2,421	—	362	362	21	6,368	6,389	1	506	507	56	8,881	8,937	1	997	998	79
Communist	2	4	6	81	73	154	1	19	20	31	419	450	5	30	35	128	501	629	8	53	61	240
Socialist	2	6	8	50	112	162	—	23	23	54	402	456	—	29	29	97	680	777	2	58	60	181
Republican	1	4	5	31	72	103	—	8	8	17	178	195	1	10	11	28	200	228	2	22	24	70
Action	—	1	1	1	32	33	—	1	1	1	70	71	—	4	4	3	76	79	—	6	6	5
Christian Democrat	3	132	135	77	2,491	2,568	4	338	342	78	6,181	6,259	5	382	487	181	8,725	8,906	12	952	964	339
Center Concentration	—	44	44	6	783	789	—	76	76	1	1,479	1,480	1	57	58	31	1,206	1,237	1	177	178	38
Right Concentration	—	6	6	15	141	156	—	36	36	2	672	674	—	27	27	3	496	499	—	69	69	2
Liberal	—	19	19	8	320	328	—	15	15	8	339	347	—	25	25	7	415	422	—	59	59	20
Labour Democrat	—	10	10	6	176	182	—	25	25	—	376	376	—	16	16	5	306	311	—	51	51	11
Uomo Qualunque	—	3	3	5	63	68	—	7	7	6	120	126	—	7	7	9	117	126	—	17	17	2
Italian Democrat	—	—	—	—	8	8	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	13	14	—	3	3	
Independents	—	42	42	4	715	719	—	109	109	—	1,980	1,980	—	92	92	2	1,781	1,783	—	243	243	
Local Parties	—	8	8	9	173	182	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	39	10	630	640	—	47	47	
Veterans	—	8	8	8	168	176	—	15	15	—	253	253	—	6	6	9	168	177	—	29	29	
			424			8,049			1,041			19,056			1,344			24,765			2,809	

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals. — B = Communes under 30,000.

* = 6 communes where no majority was gained.

2,178

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	MARCH 10						MARCH 17						MARCH 24						TOTAL TO DATE					
	Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats		
	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total
	—	129	129	2	2,419	2,421	—	362	362	21	6,368	6,389	1	506	507	56	8,881	8,937	1	997	998	79	17,668	17,747
	2	4	6	81	73	154	1	19	20	31	419	450	5	30	35	128	501	629	8	53	61	240	993	1,233
	2	6	8	50	112	162	—	23	23	34	422	456	—	29	29	97	680	777	2	58	60	181	1,214	1,395
	1	4	5	31	72	103	—	8	8	17	178	195	1	10	11	28	200	228	2	22	24	76	450	526
	—	1	1	1	32	33	—	1	1	1	70	71	—	4	4	3	76	79	—	6	6	5	178	183
	3	132	135	47	2,491	2,568	4	308	312	78	6,181	6,259	5	482	487	181	8,725	8,906	12	952	964	336	17,397	17,733
	—	44	44	6	783	789	—	76	76	1	1,479	1,480	1	57	58	31	1,206	1,237	1	177	178	38	3,468	3,506
	—	6	6	15	141	156	—	36	36	2	672	674	—	27	27	3	496	499	—	69	69	20	1,260	1,329
	—	19	19	8	320	328	—	15	15	8	339	347	—	25	25	7	415	422	—	59	59	23	1,075	1,097
	—	10	10	6	176	182	—	25	25	—	376	376	—	16	16	5	306	311	—	51	51	11	858	869
	—	3	3	5	63	68	—	7	7	6	120	126	—	7	7	9	117	126	—	17	17	29	320	320
	—	—	—	—	8	8	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	13	14	—	3	3	1	21	22
	—	42	42	4	345	719	—	109	109	—	1,980	1,980	—	92	92	2	1,781	1,783	—	253	243	6	4,479	4,482
	—	8	8	9	173	182	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	39	10	630	640	—	47	47	19	803	822
	—	8	8	8	168	176	—	15	15	—	253	253	—	6	6	9	168	177	—	29	29	17	589	606
			421			8,049			1,031			19,056			1,344			24,765			2,809			51,870

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elections with dignity and legality. Probably everyone has been a little surprised at the lack of incidents arising out of the elections. The optimistic foresee no trouble at the national polls. Much probably depends on the degree of passion and heat generated during the electoral campaign.

Another cheerful report from the North is that public confidence in the CC. RR. is increasing. At long last equipment and clothing has reached the men in the towns and villages and that has made all the difference. But there is still a police problem of some magnitude to be tackled. Police agencies other than the CC. RR. are not in really good fettle. Their ranks have been swelled with an irregular form of irresponsible auxiliary police—an early aftermath of the fruits of liberation.

But more serious than anything is the critical lack of gasoline for the police forces, ridiculous monthly allocations being given to *questori*. When one sees the quantities of private cars on the road, one wonders whether there is gross maldistribution of gas. On the whole, however, one obtains a picture of Italian administration functioning, of industry just turning over (coal distribution has been adequate), of, thank goodness, a little more water flowing through the hydro-electric turbines, and, above all, of a healthy crop coming up through the good earth.

ODDS AND ENDS

Land Forces Sub-Commission gives the good news that 10,300 Italian POWs in three ships are en route from India to Naples and will land on dates between the 10th and 26th of April; this is the first large-scale repatriation of such personnel from India and includes 40 per cent. of the estimated 24,000 held there... The French representative to the Allied Commission, *Capitaine de Vaisseau* Moullec has been promoted to *Contre-Amiral* or Rear Admiral and will shortly leave us to go to the United Nations Organization as French Naval representative on the UNO Security Committee; he will be succeeded here by *Capitaine de Vaisseau* Heron de Villefosse, a distinguished writer who was assistant chief of staff to Admiral Muselier of the Free French Naval Forces; we are sorry to see Admiral Moullec leave us and wish him luck in his new post... The 1924 class of Italian youth (aged 22) seem to be in better physical condition than recent predecessors, Land Forces S/C reports... Starting next week, the PRB *Bulletin* will be unclassified, authority also having been obtained from the Chief Commissioner and Executive Commissioner to declassify all past issues in order to make the document available to historical organizations and libraries... The U. S. mail situation is finally much better, Capt. Thurman Oliver, head of APO 394 reports: In January, the APO was getting an average of six or seven bags a day, in February only three or four, but in March the average built up to, first, 28 or 29 bags and, then, to 41 and 45 a day, with the peak reached March 20 when 277 bags came in; there is one catch to the picture, 60 per cent. of the mail received is usually for the U. S. Embassy or UNRRA, which use our APO facilities... Major Sam V. Noe, former A. C. education officer, is back at his old trade of principal of the Highland (Ky.) Junior High School... The following decorations have been announced: *Officer of the Order of the British Empire* – Col. Clayton P. Kerr; *Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus (Commander)* – Col. Ernest J. Ristelli; *Italian Cross of War Merit* – Pvt. Alberto V. Di Martino and Pvt. Fred Raffin; *Crown of Italy* – *(Knight Officer)* Lieut. Cols. Lorenzo R. Holmes, Walter P. Scoggins and Howard K. Seith; Majors Harry M. Downer and Norbert W. Hyland; *(Knight)* Capt. Warner G. Peterson and Sergt. Thomas M. McCommas, Jr...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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March 23, 1946

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 51

POLITICAL.

The monarchy, most observers agreed, more or less opened its campaign for re-election, as it were, in the letter which the *Luogotenente* sent to Prime Minister De Gasperi along with the two signed decrees on the referendum and powers of the Costituente and the electoral code. Both decrees, it transpired, were signed March 16 while the letter itself was published March 18. The Prince proclaimed that he was following the "glorious traditions of the National *Risorgimento* (*of the last century*) and that his approval of the decrees followed his father's decision in April, 1944 to retire irrevocably from public life in order to "facilitate national unity".

Indeed, the *Luogotenente* said, his signature on the decrees was an "approval that was the crowning of a tradition which is at the basis of the pact between the people and the Monarchy, a pact, which, if it is to be confirmed, must constitute the foundation of a reformed Monarchy which will make popular self-government and social justice fully operative". He then said that by signing the decrees he had given freedom to vote to all those who were bound by an oath (to the Crown) and that he considered the letter he had just written "a necessary contribution to the serenity of the popular will".

The Republican phalanx immediately took up the cudgels reserved generally for monarchist sympathizers to swing at the Prince's remarks. *Avanti* cried: "The bitter cup. The *Luogotenente* signs and hopes in Providence". *Voce Repubblicana* commented that the letter contained "grave errors of historical and juridical interpretation". The *Statuto Albertino*, it said, was a royal concession, not an agreement. In 1849, the paper continued, a Constituent Assem-

Meanwhile, the administrative elections continued, the 17 March results, as of a March 22 announcement to the press by the Ministry of Interior, giving majorities in 1,019 communes out of 1,090 as follows:

Left Bloc	428
Christian Democrats	363
Independents	73
Right Bloc	45
Local Groups	33
Labour Democrats	24
Liberals	22
Republicans	12
Veterans	11
Uomo Qualunque	7
Democrats (Monarchist)	1

Voting was heavy as in the March 10 election and general order prevailed except for one incident at Riesa in Caltanissetta Province in Sicily where a band broke into eight polling places and destroyed the ballot boxes. Police arrested 32 persons.

Skirmishes.

The political skirmishes continued, perhaps a little sharper. Togliatti made a speech at Terni on the 17th where for the first time he was somewhat critical of the Christian Democrats, accusing them of doing nothing about the land reform plank in their platform. The Pope's message defending the right of the Church to speak its mind on secular matters drew pros and cons. *Italia Nuova* loudly attacking the Government for sponsoring an anti-clerical electoral law while *Popolo* sympathized with the Church's views and pointed out that De Gasperi succeeded in toning down the controversial Article 66 as voted by the *Consulta*. De Gasperi himself, as secretary

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Christian Democrats	363
Independents	73
Right Bloc	45
Local Groups	33
Labour Democrats	24
Liberals	22
Republicans	12
Veterans	11
Uomo Qualunque	7
Democrats (Monarchist)	1

Voting was heavy as in the March 10 election and general order prevailed except for one incident at Riesa in Caltanissetta Province in Sicily where a band broke into eight polling places and destroyed the ballot boxes. Police arrested 32 persons.

Skirmishes.

The political skirmishes continued, perhaps a little sharper. Togliatti made a speech at Terni on the 17th where for the first time he was somewhat critical of the Christian Democrats, accusing them of doing nothing about the land reform plank in their platform. The Pope's message defending the right of the Church to speak its mind on secular matters drew pros and cons, *Italia Nuova* loudly attacking the Government for sponsoring an anti-clerical electoral law while *Popolo* sympathized with the Church's views and pointed out that De Gasperi succeeded in toning down the controversial Article 66 as voted by the *Consulta*. De Gasperi himself, as secretary general of the Christian Democrats, will open his party's campaign with a speech at Turin tomorrow, 24 March. Political alliances were still in the making: Republicans, Action Party and Parri's Republican Democrats were reported joining in common lists while Bonomi spearheaded an attempt to weld into a united front the

Labour Democrats, Liberals and Democratic Liberals but leaving out declarations on the institutional question.

On foreign affairs, beyond the constant attention given to Big Three problems, the press reported that the Government had sent five memoranda through diplomatic channels in the last week, one to Washington on the proposed *modus vivendi*, and four to the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers in London on Italian colonies, Venezia Giulia, the Alto Adige and reparations. The Allied Investigating Commission's progress through Zone B in Venezia Giulia and its visit to Pola was watched while the Government's move in appointing a special commission to draw up administrative autonomy for Venezia Giulia was generally approved as a shrewd tactical step.

Despite the absence of several ministers away on political tours, a circumstance pointed up with snide remarks by the opposition press, the Council of Ministers met on the 22nd and concluded some business but put off the debate on what symbols (for monarchy and republic) to use on the ballots for the referendum. It was decided, however, that the Court of Cassation would officially announce results of the referendum and also receive appeals from election results up to 22 days after the elections, which, to be held on June 2, will be permitted to continue through June 3, if everyone has not voted in time.

The Council also abolished revenue taxes on gift parcels not exceeding 20 kilos from America and also for such parcels weighing more if they contain food. Also approved was a decree allowing Italian exporters to manipulate freely 50 per cent. of the foreign exchange earned through their transactions, which they can use to buy urgent materials listed by the Government. (See *Foreign Trade* in this *Bulletin*.) Decrees were also passed shortening the period of internment or political confinement of individuals and against tobacco smugglers.

ELECTION DETAILS

In our effort to present some background and analysis of each Sunday's administrative elections, thanks to the data supplied by Major R. R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, we run below the complete of-

was used, and *B* communes under 30,000 where the majority system of counting ballots was used. The latter method, incidentally, weights the majority in favor of the winner to a greater degree than the other system. The *second* set of figures gives the number o seats won by the victorious majority winners. The total number of seats contested for were 8,050 and since 6,253 seats went to the majority parties, this means the remaining 1,797 seats went to minority parties in each commune. No breakdown of the distribution of all the seats is yet available, though it is obvious that the leading parties must have picked up other seats in places where they were in the minority to increase their overall total.

It will also be noticed that there were few communes voting with populations larger than 30,000. In fact, Milan (on April 7) is one of the few large Italian cities which will vote in its administrative election in the series of five Sundays devoted to this sport. Practically every other large city will have to vote later, perhaps in the fall, or at some time agreed upon by the local authorities and the Ministry of Interior. For this reason, experts point out, these local elections are not yet a sufficient clew to the political trend of the country. One other remark about the table is necessary. Where concentrations of the Left, Right or Center are recorded, this means common lists. The largest single exception usually was the Christian Democrat party which generally ran alone but sometimes did join in groups of the Center with Labour Democrats or other local bodies and sometimes ran with the Right, with the Liberals, Qualunquisti, etc. Right concentrations usually included the two latter while the Left was composed of Socialists, Communists, Action Party and often Republicans.

Party	Majorities in communes			Seats won by majority winners		
	A	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total
Action		1	1		16	16
Communist	2	4	6	42	52	94
Christian Democrat	3	132	135	51	1933	1984
Labour Democrat		10	10		134	134
Liberal		19	19		261	261
Republican	1	4	5	16	60	76
Socialist	2	6	8	30	72	102
Uomo Qualunque		3	3		36	36
Sardinian		8	8		128	128

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In our effort to present some background and analysis of each Sunday's administrative elections, thanks to the data supplied by Major R. R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, we run below the complete official returns of the Ministry of Interior on the March 10 elections. Some preliminary explanations may make the matter clearer. The *first* set of figures gives the winning majority party in each of the 424 communes that voted, A being provincial capitals and communes with population over 30,000, where the proportional system [illegible] favor of the winner to a greater degree than the other system. The *second* set of figures gives the number of seats won by the victorious majority winners. The total number of seats contested for were 8,050 and since 6,253 seats went to the majority parties, this means the remaining 1,797 seats went to minority parties in each commune. No breakdown of the distribution of all the seats is yet available, though it is obvious that the leading parties must have picked up other seats in places where they were in the minority to increase their overall total.

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Uomo Qualunque	—	3	3	—	36	36
Sardinian	—	8	8	—	128	128
Veterans	—	8	8	—	112	112
Independents	—	42	42	—	622	622
Center Concentration	—	44	44	—	636	636
Right Concentration	—	6	6	—	106	106
Left Concentration	—	129	129	—	1946	1946
			424			6253

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gines, machine parts in addition to hemp, drugs silk and rare essences.

Austria. — This agreement, to be signed any day now, is strictly barter based on 1937 prices since there seems no determinable basis for the mutual valuation of the respective currencies. The Italians promised fresh fruit and vegetables, hemp, silk, hairfelt, straw hats, mercury, pyrites, pumice, electrical engines and parts, cars, bicycle frames and other machinery, oils and extracts, medicinal herbs and books, magazines and newspapers; which last item appeared in practically all agreements. Austria will provide timber, cellulose, magnesite, fire clays, graphite, iron, scythes and sickles, saws and files, paper, musical instruments and engines.

France. — This agreement was signed 9 February and is for 1946, renewable annually and subject to three months' notice of termination by either side. RCL items, which, incidentally, must still be passed on by the Combined Boards, before trading can start with either France or Spain, include 1,500 tons of cowhides, 1,000 tons of cocoa, 15 tons of clover seed, 800 tons of croupons or choice center hides (to be exchanged in effect for croupons from Madagascar), 1,000 tons of dried figs and 50 tons of rice for sowing. Italian items include fruit, nuts, seeds, oils for the perfume trade, herbs, hemp, pyrites, pumice, zinc, mercury, cadmium, silk, wool cloth, watches, matches, typewriters and machine tools. From France would come coffee, cocoa, spices, linen yarns, iron scrap, agricultural machinery, spectacle lenses, printing machinery, clays, bauxite, mica, insulators, gums, fertilizers, and various colonial products. The French have also granted a $20,000,000 credit in francs to Italy, but apart from this agreement.

Sweden. — This signed agreement is also quite advanced as to its implementation, that is, for actual trade to get started. All RCL items have been cleared except tartaric acid, of which 90 tons have been provisionally allocated for 1946, with half of this definitely authorized for the January-June period. The agreement is for six months and renewable. The Swedes will give iron and steel, machinery, tools, precision instruments, wood, cellulose and paper. The Italian list [illegible] fruit (as ever), nuts, flower seeds, have already been approved with the temporary exception of 50 tons of tartaric acid and 2½ tons of essential oils. The pact, by the way, is between Italy and the Belgium-Luxemburg Economic Union. Italy is to provide fruit, nuts, citric oils and juices, laurel leaves, juniper berries, seeds, wines, hemp, silk and wool, felt hats, straw hats, marble, mercury, earth colors, dyes, salts, machines of various kinds, celluloid, artisan works, lead ores, millinery, candlewicks, glass tubes, and chestnuts, in one of the most comprehensive lists so far produced. The Belgians et al. will send stud and dray horses, peas and beans, flax, steel scrap, tungsten, copper, antimony, tin, coal, tiles, glass, odd minerals, drugs, hides, pigments, tires, wall paper, film, and nursery plants.

Russia. — Trade possibilities between Italy and Soviet Russia were explored for the first time soon after the exchange of views between the Italian ambassador to Moscow and the Soviet Government last fall. The Italians suggested that they manufacture industrial products which the Russians want and the Russians would provide the raw materials both for the goods themselves and in payment for the Italian workmanship. This is now well known as the *lavorazioni per conto* principle, which the Russians have accepted as such and in addition have inquired for lists of Italian goods which could thus be made. The Italian Government is drawing up such a specific list. One of the Russian interests is in having ships built in Italian shipyards, it being understood that only merchant ships would be constructed.

Poland. — The chief goal of Italian trade to Poland lies in the coal that can be obtained. An Italian mission went to Warsaw and a Polish mission has now been invited to Rome. The negotiations, in fact, have been going on since last August. Poland, it was estimated, can provide Italy with 720,000 tons of coal a year, to be shipped by rail, a project, however, which recently was held because of difficulties of trans-shipment through Czechoslovakia. Among the Italian offers to Poland, RCL clearance has already been obtained for 12,000 tons of lemons. To obtain the critically needed coal, in fact, Italy is prepared to export even items short on the home market, such is the demand for coal to energize industry

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Belgium. — This agreement, yet to be signed, was screened while in process of negotiations, with the happy result that allocations of RCL items tween Italy and the Belgium-Luxemburg Economic Union. Italy is to provide fruit, nuts, citric oils and juices, laurel leaves, juniper berries, seeds, wines, hemp, silk and wool, felt hats, straw hats, marble, mercury, earth colors, dyes, salts, machines of various kinds, celluloid, artisan works, lead ores, millinery, candlewicks, glass tubes, and chestnuts, in one of the most comprehensive lists so far produced. The Belgians et al. will send stud and dray horses, peas and beans, flax, steel scrap, tungsten, copper, antimony, tin, coal, tiles, glass, odd minerals, drugs, hides, pigments, tires, wall paper, film, and nursery plants.

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magnetic plate for locomotive construction, since it is interested mainly in machinery.

Holland. — This proposed pact envisages an exchange of goods amounting to 1,100,000 Dutch florins. (It is not known how much this means in Italian lire.) RCL clearance is currently being obtained for import of 70 tons of linseed for sowing from the Netherlands. In brief, in exchange for fruit, mostly, the Dutch would ship seed potatoes, flower bulbs, seeds and electrical materials.

Other Plans.

The above list thus comprises agreements signed, under negotiation or definitely planned, although there are other irons in the fire as Italy attempts to create enough foreign valuta to buy abroad urgent necessities for the Italian economy. Free trade between the United States and the United Kingdom was opened 15 February, though no transactions have yet transpired, as far as is known. RCL items and a few other critical commodities excepted, this "free" trade is free as far as the U. S. is concerned, but in England there is still exchange control and in Italy, of course, similar control. What may happen to Italo-Swiss trade is not known either, since a new pact must be drawn up, omitting payment of Fascist debts. There is some intra-UNRRA trade in prospect on the *lacorazioni per conto* basis between Italy, Greece and Yugoslavia, but as yet that is small potatoes.

Denmark has sent a trade mission to Rome and signed a pact 9 March but no definite word has come out as to details. Conversations have been held with Argentina on obtaining ships and wheat but Italy is not offering much in return as yet, especially since some of the ships used to be Italian which the Italians are now trying to get back. Trade talks have also been held with Turkey, Czechoslovakia and there is some prospect of a revival of commerce with Eritrea, the Italian colony now in limbo, and with Egypt, which has cotton but also a lot of Italian currency it can use to pay with. This last project has been promoted by a Signor Eugenio Spinelli, a private trader, who came to Italy last fall with the blessing of the BMA in Eritrea and the Civil Affairs Office in Cairo.

Eritrea, according to this gentleman, can give quality silks and textiles, gloves, perfumes and hats. The deal would, further, need shipping, short in those waters, and a three-cornered financial parlay. Egypt could supply 15,000 bales of cotton for manufacture in Italy and re-export to Egypt similar to the arrangement now in effect for the import and manufacture for re-export of 645 quintals of cotton and 135 quintals of wood from Eritrea.

ODDS AND ENDS

Brigadier General William M. Lee, Deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College when he gets home 9 April... Major Richard R. Bullock is back in Rome as Adjutant of 2675 Regiment after TD in the States... The following awards to U. S. officers have been announced: *Crown of Italy* – Col. Robert F. Worden and Major R. R. Temple (Commander) and Major John W. Gilday (Knight Officer)... The PRB *Bulletin* reaches exactly two years with this issue; *tempus fugit*... A survey by A. C. executive officers shows that eight Rome hotels have been relinquished but three of these were taken over by other Allied agencies; the A. C. now has a whole or part interest in nine hostels... Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin, former DPR and now on terminal leave, writes us from Ithaca, N. Y. to say he got home at 7:30 one morning and had to start teaching as a civilian in his Cornell University classes at 11 a.m.; he passes on this priceless anecdote, too, which will not fail to strike a sympathetic note from any veterans of trans-atlantic army crossings:

"Another curse of the trip was the public address system. It worked perfectly, with the result, of course, that at intervals of five minutes beginning at about 0430 and ending about 2230, wherever you might be on the boat, your ears would be assailed by messages of all kinds: *Dog Three, Chow; Compartment Commander, Baker One, report to Troop Commander; Pfc. McCloskey report to Mess Hall; Garbage detail report immediately* (this was one frequently repeated); *Chief engineer report; Boat crew No. 3 report; Attention! has any one found pigskin wallet on boat deck;*

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A. C. LOs observed the March 17 elections as ordered and reported general quiet. Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis (A), CLO, Venezia, reported on Vicenza, Padova and Venezia. Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse (B) visited five communes in Rome province while Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick (B), CLO, Naples, and three officers toured 21 communes in Avellino, Caserta, Salerno and Reggio di Calabria provinces. Col. A. N. Hancock (B), CLO, Lombardia, reported quiet, too, from 220 communes in his bailiwick. At Salerno, Major H. S. Harris (B) reported that a slightly officious official insisted on lecturing to each citizen on voting procedures at such length that a queue of 100 formed outside his polling place. Turnouts as heavy as 90 per cent. were described in many cases. Polls were open from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m., so ballots were counted Monday.

Major Temple visited Tivoli and Subiaco, famed as for its sanctuary of St. Benedict and where trouble was expected, which did not occur, so 65 CC. RR on hand twiddled their thumbs happily enough. At industrial Tivoli, out of a population of 20,875, there were 14,315 registered voters, sixteen polling stations and two lists of candidates—Right and Left—running for 24 seats. By 5 p. m., 90 per cent. of the vote had been cast but 1,000 electoral certificates had not been claimed or delivered because of changes in voters' addresses. Trucks carried loads of voters to the polls. Among the 300 persons excluded from voting were four fascists, 292 with criminal records, one poor ward and three insane or feeble-minded persons.

FOREIGN TRADE

Italian interest in reviving its foreign commerce boiled up to its highest since the Armistice at the recent Milan meeting (March 11-14) when private businessmen of every shade of interest held a lively meeting to clamor for removal of controls, trust in private enterprise and a chance to allow individual energy and initiative to obtain essential necessities in the world markets and at the same time turn a little profit. The meeting was attended by Col. Charles Walton (A), Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, and Lieut. [illegible] for the Allied needed commodities (like wheat and coal) and also allow private business an opportunity to resume normal trade.

The traders, who appointed a standing committee to work out the concrete problem with the Government, asked that the Government trust private business by putting it up to them to get the commodities required for the Italian economy and stated they would accept any prohibitions in trading in certain items, provided they were free to manipulate the foreign exchange resultant from Italian sales as they saw fit after they had arranged for the import of the generally needed goods, which list of goods would be prescribed by the Government.

Meanwhile, formal reopening of international trade with other countries has been going on apace, at least in the signing of agreements and in negotiations for further pacts. Agreements have been signed between the Italian Government and Spain, Sweden, France and Austria; a signed agreement was reached with Switzerland but held up by the Combined Chiefs of Staff; negotiations are in progress with Belgium, Luxemburg, Poland, Russia, Holland and Denmark while preliminary talks have been held with Eritrea, Argentina and Turkey. The status of each of these affairs, as reported by the Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, whose duty is to screen each agreement for items on the Reserved Commodity List to be referred to the higher authority of the Combined Boards in Washington, a duty soon to be taken over by the Italian Government itself, are as follows:

Spain. — The agreement was signed 10 January 1946 to cover this current year but a 1947 pact will be drawn up as soon as possible. Italy will import 1,826 million lire (200 million pesetas) worth of goods and export to Spain 456 million lire (50 million pesetas) worth. RCL items in the pact include 800 tons of raw goatskins, 3,000 tons of canned fish and 600 tons of cocoa beans. As in many of the negotiations this deal has two angles—actual trade items and financial arrangements for payment. In this particular case, the Spanish war debt of five billion lire to Italy provides the credit for the Italians. Only 80 million lire had been paid before the fall of Fascism. The difference between the Spanish im-

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Major Temple visited Tivoli and Subiaco, famed as for its sanctuary of St. Benedict and where trouble was expected, which did not occur, so 65 CC. RR on hand twiddled their thumbs happily enough. At industrial Tivoli, out of a population of 26,875, there were 14,315 registered voters, sixteen polling stations and two lists of candidates—Right and Left—running for 24 seats. By 5 p. m., 90 per cent. of the vote had been cast but 1,000 electoral certificates had not been claimed or delivered because of changes in voters' addresses. Trucks carried loads of voters to the polls. Among the 300 persons excluded from voting were four fascists, 292 with criminal records, one poor ward and three insane or feebleminded persons.

FOREIGN TRADE

Italian interest in reviving its foreign commerce boiled up to its highest since the Armistice at the recent Milan meeting (March 11-14) when private businessmen of every shade of interest held a lively meeting to clamor for removal of controls, trust in private enterprise and a chance to allow individual energy and initiative to obtain essential necessities in the world markets and at the same time turn a little profit. The meeting was attended by Col. Charles Walton (A), Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, and Lieut. Col. Fred Tooby (B) as observers for the Allied Commission. Undersecretary of Foreign Trade Storoni and others spoke for the Italian Government, Storoni making a good case for controls in light of Italy's present economic plight and, in effect, told the private traders that the Government was willing to put into effect any scheme that would, first, guarantee a steady flow of the [illegible] Government, asked that the Government trust private business by putting it up to them to get the commodities required for the Italian economy and stated they would accept any prohibitions in trading in certain items, provided they were free to manipulate the foreign exchange resultant from Italian sales as they saw fit after they had arranged for the import of the generally needed goods, which list of goods would be prescribed by the Government.

Meanwhile, formal reopening of international trade with other countries has been going on apace, at least in the signing of agreements and in negotiations for further pacts. Agreements have been signed between the Italian Government and Spain, Sweden, France and Austria; a signed agreement was reached with Switzerland but held up by the Combined Chiefs of Staff; negotiations are in progress with Belgium, Luxemburg, Poland, Russia, Holland and Denmark while preliminary talks have been held with Eritrea, Argentina and Turkey. The status of each of these affairs, as reported by the Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, whose duty is to screen each agreement for items on the Reserved Commodity List to be referred to the higher authority of the Combined Boards in Washington, a duty soon to be taken over by the Italian Government itself, are as follows:

Spain. — The agreement was signed 10 January 1946 to cover this current year but a 1947 pact will be drawn up as soon as possible. Italy will import 1,826 million lire (200 million pesetas) worth of goods and export to Spain 456 million lire (50 million pesetas) worth. RCL items in the pact include 800 tons of raw goatskins, 3,000 tons of canned fish and 600 tons of cocoa beans. As in many of the negotiations this deal has two angles—actual trade items and financial arrangements for payment. In this particular case, the Spanish war debt of five billion lire to Italy provides the credit for the Italians. Only 80 million lire had been paid before the fall of Fascism. The difference between the Spanish imports and Italian exports represents an advance made by the Spaniards in part payment of their war debt. The Spanish goods include fish, hides, cast iron, rosin, wolframite, cork, goat and rabbit wool. Italy has promised considerable industrial production such as tramways, motor cars, typewriters, sewing machines, aircraft en-

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come and get it. Finally, at last night out some devil maddened by it all gave us the only thrill of pleasure we ever got from that damned piece of modern efficient mechanism. By some coup he got hold of it just long enough to say: *Attention!* Lieut. Goldberg; climb crow's nest and bring down crow's eggs." ...The first number of the *A. C. Courier*, to be published fortnightly by and for the British Detachment under the editorship of Cpl. T. A. Bell, appears on Monday, March 25th; from the glimpse we have had of the stencils it promises to be an entertaining publication; contributions, on any subject, are invited from all British A.C. personnel... 2675 Regiment has a new Commanding Officer, Colonel Robert C. Ross, formerly with the 92nd Division and recently CLO at Leghorn and Turin; on 29 March he relieved Colonel Charles M. Parkin who, now transferred to G-5 AFHQ, has commanded the Regiment since its activation in North Africa in September, 1943... Colonel John S. Arnold, Major Donald M. Chapman, Capt. James F. Kein and Capt. Ned A. Holsten have also returned from leave in the States... Approximately 30 American officers are due to leave A. C. March 31st on one basis or another...

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March 16, 1946

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 50

POLITICAL

The Italian press chorus, in complete unanimity for once, hailed the March 10 administrative elections, the first free elections in more than two decades in Italy, as a great success. From all accounts, there was general order; a large turnout—estimated by *Popolo* as high as 80 per cent—with women showing up at the polls *en masse* to exercise their newly granted suffrage; and lastly, a singular and heartening absence of charges of fraud. The victories went mostly to the Christian Democrats and the Leftist bloc of Socialists, Communists and Action Party, who ran common lists. As of 15 March, the returns of 114 out of 434 communes announced to the press by the Ministry of Interior gave majorities as follows:

Christian Democrats	168
Leftist bloc	130
Independents	77
Liberals	17
Labour Democrats	11
Republicans	8
Uomo Qualunque	3

The elections were spread geographically throughout the country, though the vast majority were in the South and in Central Italy and mostly in small towns in the countryside. Results in provincial capitals under the proportional system, where 40 councillors were to be elected, for example, gave Socialists-Communists 27 seats in Arezzo, Christian Democrats 22 seats in Frosinone, while Enna reported a Republican majority and Grosseto a Communist one.

Most of the party papers read pleasing interpretations into the results: *Italia Nuova* said, "The Left has crowed too much. Christian averred that these first electoral skirmishes were virtually meaningless because of personal factors but stressed the growing national responsibility of the Christian Democrats who, it cautioned, must avoid sliding into a position of "intolerant conservatism".

The fun and ferment will now continue through the next four Sundays up to 7 April when the administrative elections close and the country takes a breather before starting the campaign for elections to the *Costituente*. Next Sunday, 17 March, 1,090 communes will vote. The *Costituente* elections will be held 2 June, it was finally decided by the Council of Ministers on 12 March as they gave a final glance at the law on the powers of the *Costituente* and to the bill on the electoral code, which latter was signed by the *Luogotenente* the next day. In its review of the *Costituente* law, Article 7 was revised to omit the provision dismissing officials of the State and armed forces who did not respect the results of the referendum. Heavy penalties were to be provided instead.

Costituente.

The *Costituente* bill had finally been passed 9 March by the *Consulta* at probably its last plenary session, 172 to 50, after a speech by Orlando, which, received by tumultuous applause, summed up recent Italian political history and called for constitutional decisions to be based on Latin law deriving from the social contract. Despite this latter remark, which some observers took as a crack at Marxism, both *Avanti* and *Italia Nuova* praised Orlando as the champion of their points of view. The *Consulta*, incidentally, will still function through its various commissions, that on foreign affairs, for example, hearing Prime Minister De Gasperi early in the week review

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Most of the party papers read pleasing interpretations into the results: *Italia Nuova* said, "The Left has crowed too much. Christian Democrats and democratic parties lead in two thirds of the communes". *Unita* claimed victory in the important population centers where Communist strength is supposed to be concentrated. *Quotidiano* was of the opinion that the Left did not do so well as expected and that the extreme Right demonstrated its own weakness. *Momento* averred that these first electoral skirmishes were virtually meaningless because of personal factors but stressed the growing national responsibility of the Christian Democrats who, it cautioned, must avoid sliding into a position of "intolerant conservatism".

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The foreign scene was, as usual, a matter of absorbing interest to the Italian press, especially as concerned the movements of the Allied Investigating Commission in Venezia Giulia, which, about to depart for Fiume according to reports of 16 March, went about its business despite

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demonstrations and counter-demonstrations, including a general strike (on 11 March) called after two civilians were killed in the course of an attempt by Venezia Giulia police to remove a Yugoslav flag from a church.

The Council of Ministers held a second meeting on the 15th, when it disposed of considerable accumulated business. Nenni asked De Gasperi to send a note to the Allied powers associating Italy with the *demarche* of Allied disapproval concerning the Franco regime in Spain, which De Gasperi said he felt could not be done juridically because of Italy's ambiguous Armistice status. Veterans, prisoners of war again, export trade, food as ever, were discussed, an amnesty decree for military crimes approved as also was a plan for public works in Rome, an allocation of 16 billion lire for the reconstruction of ports and six billion more for housing and, finally, a 100 per cent. increase in charges for telegraph and telephone services.

ELECTION FOOTNOTE

As all A. C. officers know, the LOs in the field are required to observe the Italian elections with strict adherence to protocol. Further, they are not permitted to enter polling places. Reports from the field have not come in yet but indications by word of mouth are such as to agree with the press reports (as given in *Political* of this *Bulletin*). Major Ralph R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, made a tour of the North, where only two provinces were voting, while another of his officers, Capt. C. V. Vella (B) took a swing through Calabria.

Major Temple, an old hand at observing elections as an Assistant Attorney General in New York, has some interesting facts to report. Accompanied by Dr. Gaetano Mastrobuono, Inspector General of the Ministry of Interior for the elections, he visited the Como region and also took a trip *outside* Italy to watch the voting. This latter puzzling remark can be explained thus: The trip was to Campione d'Italia which is located 17 kilometers beyond the Italian frontier in the midst of Switzerland on Lake Lugano. Although Swiss currency is used and one has to cash, part of whose gambling proceeds goes to Como Province.

The calm and the cheerful activity seemed homelike to the major, even some of the voting appeals to the electorate sounding familiar, for instance, that of the party which affirmed that a vote for it would bring more parcels from America. Voting was fast, the officials efficient and, best news, all the complicated electoral procedures, particularly early delivery of electoral certificates to the voters, had apparently been complied with. The ballots themselves were decorated with party symbols that ranged from a quarter moon to an alpine flower.

In the Commune of Palasco, 130 persons were eligible to vote and 120 turned out. Of the two lists presented, with a total of 21 candidates, all but three had the names of Busi or Manzoni, while two of the three exceptions were named Denti. It was clear that the families of Busi or Manzoni won the election in walk. The law forbids only relatives in the first degree to be members of the same communal council. One upset was witnessed by Major Temple. In Lierna (750 registered, 601 voting), officials almost announced prematurely that the Christian Democrats had won most of the seats. The final results: Socialists-Communists—12, Christian Democrats—3.

POLES IN ITALY

A report concerning the Poles in Italy, about whom there has been a considerable ruckus in the press of late, came across our desk recently, which may interest our readers. A large portion of the Allied personnel, including both troops and civilians, at present on Italian soil now consists of Poles. Of these, the greatest part is, of course, made up of the 2nd Polish Corps under the command of Lieut. Gen. W. Anders, which still numbers well over 100,000 men, and who fought so magnificently in the war. The total number of Poles in Italy has, if anything, increased since the end of the campaign, since, although a small proportion has been repatriated, at the same time there has occurred an influx of persons liberated from POW camps in Germany and even persons who have left Poland itself.

From Polcorps about 14,000 soldiers had been

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From Polcorps about 14,000 soldiers had been repatriated up to the end of last year. The remainder have been unwilling, in the main, to return home, and the future of these troops, who are at present stationed along the Adriatic coast from Taranto up, is thus somewhat of a problem. The policy of the British Government

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scale the welfare services of that government for Polish civilians, until the transfer of those services and their assets to the new Government of Poland. These services still continue to function in Italy, and are controlled by the British Embassy, which last August set up a Polish Welfare Office staffed by former officials of the London Polish Government. Under this scheme, which principally benefits Poles living outside camps, it is possible to provide additional material relief and certain educational facilities.

MR. HOPKINSON LEAVES US

At the latest meeting of the Vice Presidents and executives of the Allied Commission the other day, the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, expressed his and the Commission's appreciation and regret when Mr. Henry L. d'A. Hopkinson, Minister at the British Embassy and Political Advisor (B) to the Chief Commissioner, announced his imminent departure from the theater, after a year and three quarters, to return to private life and enter the political stage in Britain.

Mr. Hopkinson (Eton and Cambridge) came to Italy in July, 1944 at the point when the Allied Commission was about to encounter its greatest problems. At that time he was Deputy British High Commissioner to Sir Noel Charles and served in forming the first link in the resumption of British diplomatic relations with Italy. On the departure of Mr. Harold Caccia for Greece, Mr. Hopkinson became a Vice President of, and British Political Advisor to, the Commission. We remember Mr. Hopkinson's advent rather well, as it happens, running into him at several meetings, particularly at the Allied Publications Board where, as a newcomer, he sat back quietly and (truth be told) sort of elegant, and took in the somewhat interminable deliberations on how much newsprint to give whom. That first picture of the career diplomat—suave, polite, with a flair for picking out the nub of a situation—remained with us.

Highlights.

In Italy, Mr. Hopkinson, besides being consulted daily on the regular operations of the Commission in its dealings with the Italian Government, played a great part in framing policy in connection with the organization and direction of the activities of the Partisans of Northern Italy and in keeping in tow the enthusiastic CLNAI, who were encouraged to maintain control as a stop-gap measure until the arrival of AMG. In the Northern campaign, Mr. Hopkinson was ubiquitous, serving as political advisor to Gen. Crittenberger of IV Corps. He was early in Milan and then sped to Turin (ahead of the troops, by the way) to consult with the Italian resistance leaders of the CLN and to prepare them to hand over their functions smoothly. Most recently, he has been keenly interested in bringing democratic ideas and information before the fact-starved Italian people, particularly concerning election and constitutional procedures of the Allied countries, through the medium of the British Council.

This diplomatic career, which is ending in Italy at 44 (a prime age to get into politics, incidentally), began in the British Foreign Office soon after Cambridge about twenty years ago. His first assignment was to Washington for five years. He thence progressed to Stockholm, back to the F. O. as assistant private secretary to Sir John Simon, the Foreign Secretary of the time, then to Cairo, where he spent four years and helped in the drafting of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty, and from there to Greece.

He was at home on leave from Greece when the war broke out. Mr. Hopkinson became the first secretary of the Anglo-French Military Committee, which was dissolved after the French collapse in 1940, but was a model of the later and enormously effective British-American Combined Chiefs of Staff. After a year as private secretary to Sir Alexander Cadogan, Permanent Undersecretary of the F. O., the travels commenced anew: Cairo again, as advisor, first to the Rt. Hon. Oliver Lyttleton, Minister of State for the Middle East, and next to his successor, Mr. Richard Casey, in which post, covering all Empire problems from Afghanistan to Tunis and from Turkey to Kenya, Mr. Hopkinson negotiated the Jibouti surrender of French Somaliland from Vichy to Free France and also helped in the surrender of part of the French fleet at Alexandria. He then moved to Lisbon, where, after keeping his ear tuned to the winds of international intrigue in that hotspot, he aided in the preliminary

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Highlights.

In Italy, Mr. Hopkinson, besides being consulted daily on the regular operations of the Commission in its dealings with the Italian Government, has several highlights to paste in his memory book. There was the long political crisis in December, 1944, at the formation of the second Bonomi Government. Then came preparation for the campaign for the North of Italy in which Mr. Hopkinson, it can now be told, played a ing in low the enthusiastic CLNAI, who were encouraged to maintain control as a stop-gap measure until the arrival of AMG. In the Northern campaign, Mr. Hopkinson was ubiquitous, serving as political advisor to Gen. Crittenberger of IV Corps. He was early in Milan and then sped to Turin (ahead of the troops, by the way) to consult with the Italian resistance leaders of the CLN and to prepare them to hand over their functions smoothly. Most recently, he has been keenly interested in bringing democratic ideas and information before the fact-starved Italian people, particularly concerning election and constitutional procedures of the Allied countries, through the medium of the British Council.

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Mr. Hopkinson is married to Mrs. Alice Eno Hopkinson of Princeton, N. J., U. S. A., whom he met when at Washington. They have one

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child, Nicholas. Mr. Hopkinson thus started off his diplomatic career with Americans and ended it, again, as a partner with the Americans, a fact he is proud and happy to talk about. While he is taking his political soundings and beginning his party (Conservative) work, he will be found at Netherton Hall, near Colyton, Devon, England.

The *Bulletin*, too, must note Mr. Hopkinson's departure with regret, he long being one of PRB's closest contacts with the top policy-making echelon of the Commission, not to mention the grateful recollection we carry of his help and ever courteous cooperation in reviewing our weekly political column in this publication. For his aid and consideration, we personally and officially herewith express our Branch's thanks and wish him the best of luck in his projected sally into the hustings of politics.

ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Harold V. Reilly is back from the States and on duty as CLO in Livorno... New U. S. promotions: to Captain – Roy E. Barone, Harry Landsman, Charles J. Molfetto and Paul G. Woden; to First Lieutenant – Sheridan Cruttenden... The I. G. at MTOUSA will make his annual inspection of 2675 Regiment on 5 April... Everybody will lose one hour of sleep tomorrow, 17 March, when daylight saving time, at the request of the Italian Government to save electricity, is re-instituted, at 2 a.m.... PRB this week, again at the Italian Government's request, arranged for a score of Allied and neutral journalists to travel to Trieste via Udine in an Italian plane to cover the activities of the Allied Investigating Commission... Lieut. Col. R. E. L. Timmons, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, also was in Trieste to give advice on financial problems on call... Ten officers and three EM have applied for permission to bring their dependents to Italy from the States; applicants have to sign up to stay in the army one to two years... The Regiment's T O, as of 12 March, has been approved by MTOUSA at 16 colonels, 28 lieutenant colonels, 52 majors, 75 captains, 16 lieutenants and three warrant officers or 190 officers, and 260 EM broken down into eight master sergeants, 11 staff sergeants, 33 technical sergeants, 78 sergeants, 90 corporals and 40 privates first class and privates, a regimental strength of 450...

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towards Poles who have left their country as a result of the war is, first, not to force anyone to return to Poland against his will and, second, to offer every encouragement and facility possible for those who wish to return.

Constituted on a British W. E. Polcorps' original cadre was formed as a result of the Sikorski-Stalin agreement in Russia in 1942, and drawn mainly from Polish prisoners of war taken by the Russians in the 1939 campaign. Under Gen. Anders, it was subsequently transferred to Iraq and there, and later in Palestine and Egypt, it was trained under British command and organized on the British scale. During this period, there was incorporated into Polcorps the Carpathian Brigade, which had fought in France in 1940 and later taken part in the Libyan campaign, where it distinguished itself in the defence of Tobruk.

Move to Italy.

In January, 1944, the Corps moved to Italy, and thereafter fought throughout the Italian campaign. Its first mission was the holding of a sector on the Sangro. In April, it was transferred to the Cassino front where it earned undying laurels by the capture of Monastery Hill and other important positions during the third and last attack on the Gustav and Hitler lines. After these actions the Corps was much weakened by casualties and withdrawn, but in June it was back in the line. In the following months it carried out a successful offensive up the Adriatic coast, which started in the region of Ortona, carried the important port of Ancona and eventually reached and penetrated the Gothic Line.

During this time it was found possible to reinforce the Corps from the number of Poles who had been forced to serve in the German Army and who had promptly deserted when they found themselves faced by their own countrymen on the Italian front. After some heavy fighting in the Appenines during the winter campaign of 1944-45, the Corps found itself in the following Spring holding a section of the 8th Army front on the Senio river. It was from here in April, 1945, on the left flank of the 8th Army, that its last attack was launched, Polish troops participating in the capture of Bologna.

Since the end of the war, apart from its garber of primary and secondary schools manned by teachers with civilian qualifications, who teach to about 10 per cent. of the whole Corps. Recently, the Italian Ministry of Education opened Italian Universities to Polish military students, and about 1,200 of these have begun their studies in Rome, Bologna, Turin and other centers of learning.

Civilians.

Polish civilians in Italy are a much more difficult quantity to assess. The great majority are displaced persons, dependent more or less on relief, but one can only speak with accuracy about those actually accomodated in displaced persons camps. By the end of 1945, only some 1,300 had passed through the A. C. repatriation camp for Poles at Reggio Emilia and returned to Poland. On the other hand, there has been a steady trickle into Italy of Poles from Germany and from Poland itself, persons for most part who have arrived with little or no means. Jews from Poland present another problem, which it is not our business to discuss. As to non-Jewish Poles, some indication of numbers is provided by the fact that the population of the Polish Refugee Centers at Barletta and Trani has risen in the last few months from 4,000 to 6,100. One reason for this influx, apart from the Italian climate and the search for better conditions of life, is to be near relatives in the Polish Corps.

At the end of 1945 there were, conservatively speaking, approximately 11,000 non-Jewish civilian Poles in Italy. These can be divided into two groups: those accommodated in DP camps, and those living privately, mostly in towns. The first group is almost entirely concentrated at the Barletta and Trani camps. These are controlled and administered by the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, with the assistance of a Polish staff. In practice, the administration is largely delegated to representatives of the DPs themselves, who have been encouraged to develop their own system of self-government. Educational and other services have also been built up with the assistance of various charitable organisations. There is a high proportion in these camps of women and children. The second group of civilians mentioned above,

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Since the end of the war, apart from its garrison duties, the Corps has done considerable to organize its own welfare services. Both in sport and entertainment there has been no lack of Polish talent and an extensive scheme of education has also been developed. In addition to technical training carried out by units, the Corps staff, from its own resources, has created a number of Polish University courses and has secured the admission of 2,000 Polish military students to Italian Universities. Polish military students, and about 1,200 of these have begun their studies in Rome, Bologna, Turin and other centers of learning.

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Polish DPs also receive some assistance from the British Embassy. When the British Government ceased to recognise the London Polish Government-in-Exile in July, 1945, it decided to maintain under British control and on a reduced

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POLITIC L

Italian political lines in the past week began openly to melt, shift and newly coalesce as party leaders experimented with tentative b ttle formations for the coming elections. With the gist of the decisions on the bills on the electoral code and powers of the Constituente virtually decided, the hearings in the Consulta on the latter (which started 7 March) were a sounding board, as it were ; where the various leaders reiterated their beliefs to the nations at large. In the intervals of political argument popped up again more news of the other major question facing Italy: that of her international status, which was heightened by the arrival, at long last, of the Allied Investigating Commission at Trieste; and by reports that Premier-Minister Alcide De Gasperi might accede to request to present Italy's case in person before the Deputies of the Big Four Foreign Ministers drafting the Italian peace treaty or an interim modus vivendi.

The Consulta sessions on the Constitutional law were opened by Nenni, as Minister for the Costituente, who pointed out the historic character of the imminent national assembly, the first truly such in Italian history. Nitti followed Nenni, taking occasion to get a comprehensive list of complaints off his chest, including apprehension about public order at the elections, Italy's foreign status, the sweep of epuration. He predicted that the Costituente would "inevitably" consist of only three parties- the Christian Democrats, the Communists and the UOMO QUALUNQUE , which latter, he said, united all the malcontents. He proposed setting up a panel of high-ranking magistrates to control the result of the referendum. La Malfa, one of the dissident Action Party leaders who joined Parri in a new movement, also spoke, asserting that the six-party rule of the CLN had concluded its political phase, and praising De Gasperi as the man who could guarantee the democratic development of the present critical situation and

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Line-ups.

De Gasperi himself during the week had addressed the Consulta sub-commission which first went over the draft. At that time he called for a declaration by all parties on the

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institutional question. The Rome press speculated freely on possible solutions, GIORNALE D'ITALIA summing up the status quo of the moment as follows: Socialists, Communists and Action Party for the Republic; Liberals, Labour Democrats and Christian Democrats not yet on record, though the first two were believed to be leaning toward monarchy while the latter seemed more republican. Indeed, reports in ITALIA NUOVA of a Christian Democrat meeting in Milan had the party there in a peculiar situation, perhaps typical of its party-wide dilemma. The newspaper said that of 10,000 Christian Democrats at the meeting 7,000 abstained from voting and that of the 3,000 who voted, 79 per cent. were for a republic; UNITA' similarly analysed a Genoa provincial Congress of the De Gasperi party and asserted 81 per cent. were for a republic.

The general political reshuffling occasioned a comprehensive review of the party line-ups also in MOMENTO which stated that the Christian Democrats would enter the elections without allies. The Communists, it went on, would do so also if their proposed merger with the Socialists - for a union of the two parties in the elections, with an equal number of seats - fell through. The Monarchist forces, it was said, were grouping around the Uomo Qualunque Front, with prospect of another adhesion, that of the Lemo-Liberal Conservation of Bergamini. A Liberal bloc also seemed in the offing - a combine of Liberals, Labour Democrats and others - which would unite all the elder statesmen such as Orlando, Nitti, Nenni, Croce, and De Nicola. Where Count Sforza would fit in was uncertain. In effect, then, the paper concluded, there would be five blocs- Qualunquiste-monarchists on the extreme right, Christian Democrats, the Liberal aggregation the Republican alliance of Saccisadi, Lussu and Parri and the Socialists-Communist group.

Ferment.

Local political unions made news through the week as the big guns of the parties planned trips to the sticks to speak up for their adherents. (For example, Nenni spoke at Rieti and Pescara last week.) The U.Q. Front began an apparent campaign to woo all dissidents into its ranks, publishing an appeal to members of other parties to join their ranks. At Syracuse in Sicily, the qualunquisti and Liberals decided on a common list for the administrative elections while at Cerignola, a bloc of

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De Gasperi held one of his few press conferences with

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foreign journalists in recent weeks and toldthem, notably, that he would not sign a peace treaty which ceded Trieste to Yugoslavia. He said he hoped the Allied Investigating Commission would range over the entire disputed territory and also investigate the deportations of Italians to Yugoslavia. On the Alto Adige, he said Italian policy was based on defense of the Brenner frontier and cession of the widest autonomy to the German-speaking population.

In other governmental business of the week, the Council heard several ministers report on technical matters - industry, shipping, insurance and repatriation of prisoners (in which Italian interest has been re-awakened in regard to having them vote in the elections). The Government has again asked the Allies to repatriate the POWs as soon as possible. The Council of Ministers also approved a law on the compulsory employment of an increased number of veterans in public administration.

REORGANIZATION

The Economic Section, in whose once capacious folds more than 300 officers once worked, has been reorganized completely with 50 British and American officers, 24 EA/OR and 12 officers in the field. By this week-end, most of the Allied civilian personnel going to UNRRA will have gradually moved into their new offices, changing titles and desks at the same time. The new line-up then is as follows.

Acting Vice President - Col. Charles B. Welton (A); Deputy Vice President - Lieut. Col. B.E.L. Timmons (A); Chief Staff Officer - Major Norman R. Smith (A); and the following branch and directors (all other units having been abolished, including the Labor Sub-Commission) - Industry and Utilities Branch, Col. H.M. Walker (A); Transportation and Shipping Branch, Lieut. Col. W.P. Scoggins (A); Food and Agriculture Branch, Lieut. Col. V.R.A. Cowper (B); Captured Enemy Materials Branch, Lieut. Col. J.A. Campbell (B); Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, Capt. A.G. Lapthorne (B); Venezia Giulia and Udine Supply Operations Branch, Lieut. J.M. Orensberg (A). and Finance Branch, Col. Timmons, who is also Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner.

Thus, the hot-hot period of integrated A.C. - UNRRA supply operations which began some two months ago comes to an end. The reorganized Section will observe economic conditions in Italy,

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Thus, the two-hat period of integrated A.C. - UNRRA supply operations which began some two months ago comes to an end. The reorganized Section will observe economic conditions in Italy, maintain economic liaison with the Italian Government and UNRRA; handle AMG supply matters; clean up miscellaneous correspondence, particularly that dealing with dereguisitioning, clear trade items on the reserved commodity list; continue cooperation on power rehabilitation and distribution; rearrange the Section's voluminous files for most efficient use by the successor supply agencies and A.C. until they are turned over to archives, and discharge sundry financial functions. One aim also will be to turn over as much business as possible to suitable successor agencies.

/Dribbles

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Dribbles of economic news also have come in from various sources. At Merano in Bolzano 475 tons of sugar were found in jam factories. The business is being looked into. Italian charges that lumber in large quantities was being exported abroad turned out, as usual, baseless. The facts are that 2,000 tons a month have been sent to Greece purely for British military use, a program which ends this month. The rest of the cuttings were shipped regularly to other parts of Italy. The Air Forces Sub-Commission has practically completed arrangements to have food supplies from Sardinia flown thrice weekly to the mainland by Italian military aircraft. The food will amount to about 3,000 kilos of fish, meat, butter and cheese each trip. Two or three planes will be used at a time with the hope of eventually making daily flights and bringing Rome cooperatives, canteens and soup kitchens about 20,000 kilos of food a week. A similar run to fly fish is planned from Treviso to Milan.

VENEZIA GIULIA

Now that international interest, with the arrival of the Allied Investigating Commission, has again swung towards the problems of Venezia Giulia, or as the Yugoslavs prefer to call it, the Julian March, it will be of interest to look over some of the accomplishments of AMG in the last year. We will skip over the troubled diplomatic history of the days before AMG took over, on the 12-13 June 1945, the civil administration of Venezia Giulia. On 9 June agreement had been reached between the Allied and Yugoslav authorities and as a result Venezia Giulia was divided into two zones, one to be occupied by British and American forces and the other by Yugoslav troops. The Allied Military Government in the zone occupied by the Anglo-Americans was to consist of only Anglo-American personnel but 2,000 Yugoslav troops were to remain in this area under command of the Supreme Allied Commander.

As AMG took over, series of proclamations and orders were immediately issued, dealing with property control, establishment of courts, dissolution of Fascist organizations and the repeal of Fascist laws, taxes and anti-Jewish legislation. Ordinances on labor, food distribution, epuration, housing, curfew and so on were also promulgated.

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In early August difficulties made themselves felt. It was decided by AMG that the administrative bodies left behind by the Yugoslavs were not representative or satisfactory. Under General Order 11, local government was established under the control of AMG. The order provided for the division of the Anglo-American zone into Areas and each Area was asked to nominate an Area President who would be responsible to AMG. The Slovenes reacted immediately and would not play. A long and intensive game of political tennis ensued during which the Slovenes used their press, strikes, meetings and demonstrations to gain their points over AMG.

/Italians

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Italians

In any event, during this period the Italian movement began to recover courage and even strength, as the AMG administration demonstrated its impartiality. The Italians held their first large demonstration on November 3rd, the holiday of San Giusto, which was very successful. On the following day the Yugoslavs held their own demonstration, which was also of considerable size, but lacking in the qualities of gaiety which the Italians displayed. It is of note that these demonstrations saw the first real public appearance of the Venezia Giulia Police Force and the success with which they handled numerous difficult situations gained them much prestige in the city.

Amidst alternating brickbats and bouquets, AMG settled down to its difficult task of ruling the zone and carrying out its functions as a caretaker government. That it has not been without success is adequately demonstrated by the facts and the present conditions. Although there is tenseness in the zone, there has been little trouble and practically no violence. Both sides have settled in and today the main political forces in the zone are represented, on the one side by the Slovene dominated "Unione Antifascista Italo-Slovene", and "Sindacati Unici," which is the Communist pro-Slovene trades union organisation, and on the other side by the Italian CLN and the "Sindacati Giuliani," the Italian trades union organisation. In other words, politically the situation, although not happy, is fairly healthy with both sides in the open and reasonably vital.

Now the record, which has been made under direction — for the most part of Col. Alfred C. Berman (.), SCAC to the CG, 13 Corps, Lieut. General Sir John Harding:

Legal.

The Legal Division has had almost overwhelming difficulties. The first problem that arose was that caused by the fact that all legislation enacted after September 3, 1943 was invalid. Further, proclamations, general orders, or orders of any kind which had been used in Italy, could not be used in Venezia Giulia without radical alteration. The Legal Division, therefore, had to set itself the task of providing new legislation for the territory, practically from scratch, and of creating the legal basis of a new military government.

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By January 1946 seven proclamations had been drawn 4405 up, 41 general orders, 65 orders, 25 administrative orders, and many minor notices and appointment of officials had been published. Up to date, approximately 60 important financial economic regulations have been asked for by the Finance Division alone. The Legal Division also advises the Port Control Committee and all Divisions of Allied Military Government on legal matters.

/ Military

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Military and civil courts and tribunals were set up in Trieste, Gorizia and Pola under the division's supervision. During the months of October, November and December last year, 861 cases were dealt with by AMG summary courts, including charges of being in possession of arms (not many) and of offenses against property and persons. Superior and general courts, dealing with more serious offenses, were also established. Epuration Commission dealing with the suspension of leading Fascists and a Special Court of Assizes trying Fascist criminals were established.

Food.

Since the zone was taken over by AMG, foodstuffs according to the ration scale of the Allied Commission have arrived in the area continuously. Strict rationing and distribution at controlled prices have insured a fair distribution. From June to December 1945, AMG imported from Allied sources approximately 40,000 tons of food. During the same period AMG's Food Division obtained from local sources a further 6,000 tons.

The possibility of increasing the productivity of the area was not examined. One hundred and sixty horses were distributed to farmers in the Trieste area and 104 horses and mules to farmers in the Gorizia area. Another hundred horses will arrive shortly, thus making a total of over 400 working animals supplied.

Land reclamation has been carried out in the Grado-Monfalcone area by the Public Works Division and, as a result, 1,000 hectares of new land will be available for spring planting. Young pedigree bulls from Italy and Austria will be imported and, in order that local milk production should be increased, arrangements have been made to obtain high milk producing cows from Emilia.

Housing.

The question of providing housing and shelter in what is, in many parts, a war devastated area, has been attacked. A survey covering the whole area was made in order to obtain the maximum use of all accomodation available. A scheme was produced to rebuild the "Distressed Villages", many of which had been burned down by Germans as reprisals for partisan activity. Work has been approved and is going ahead on 4,367 units. (A unit represents the rooms occupied by one family.) This figure does not include rebuilding of "distressed villages" and at present reconstruction is in progress in the four distressed villages of Meme, Rubbia, Sago and Starovische.

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The question of providing housing and shelter in what is, in many parts, a war devastated area, has been attacked. A survey covering the whole area was made in order to obtain the maximum use of all accomodation available. A scheme was produced to rebuild the "Distressed Villages", many of which had been burned down by Germans as reprisals for partisan activity. Work has been approved and is going ahead on 4,367 units. (A unit represents the rooms occupied by one family.) This figure does not include rebuilding of "distressed villages" and at present reconstruction is in progress in the four distressed villages of Memo, Rubbia, Sago and Starovische.

Labor and Industry.

The most important task of AMG was finding employment for the population. To do so meant, first, a close examination of the economic possibilities of the region and, second, an attempt at rehabilitation of entire industries in many cases.

Many industries have now been reactivated, with resultant jobs for many workers. A survey of factories showed that the majority were on the verge of bankruptcy and as a result of war

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damage, bombardment, the world shortage of raw materials and the necessity for paying unemployment compensation to thousands of unproductive workers, the problems faced were sizeable indeed.

AMG tackled the problem by first removing the drain on industry and permitting the dismissal of non-productive workers. A new unemployment benefit scheme called the "disoccupazione del dopoguerra" was introduced for the period from September to December, 1945, to compensate those dismissed. A large salvage program was instituted and in this way raw materials were obtained and real employment increased.

The next step taken by AMG was to change the type of work done by certain factories and at the same time to change the type of work done by many employes. Many jobs were made as a result of an order making industries employ their labour on public works, such as land reclamation, filling in of tank ditches, stump pulling and the like.

Soon, as coal and raw materials started to arrive and as public confidence increased, ship-building recommenced and contracts were placed by Allied and Italian authorities and by private companies. Coke from the gas works enabled the foundries to start work and further factories were able to commence a limited production. For example, as a result of raw cotton being obtained from the States and Sicily, the Cerpelle cotton mills during December turned out 330,000 yards of finished cotton, increasing the output in January to 428,077 yards.

The port of Trieste itself has been working to the maximum outgoing capacity of the railways, unloading military and UNRRA supplies. In fact, the port now handles its pre-war tonnage of 6,000 tons a day and will shortly be able to handle 8,000 tons daily. During this time, the Labor Division had initiated insurance schemes and played a large part in reconciling workers and employers while studies of the cost of living and working conditions has assisted the SCAO in keeping a close watch on the problems of labor.

Displaced Persons.

As elsewhere, the same problems, in terms of refugees and displaced persons, were in existence in Venezia Giulia at the end of the war. Prisoners of war, civilian internees and thousands of slave laborers who had been taken to Germany streamed back to their homes. In addition to the Giuliani who returned, there also [illegible] Trieste became a clearing house for

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There being no civil postal facilities from this territory to Germany and Austria, a Prisoner of War Message Service has been created and operated from AMG Headquarters. Liaison is also maintained with the various Red Cross Organizations in Europe and

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also with the Central Tracing Bureau for Germany. This last deals mainly with concentration camp deaths.

Considerable sums of money have been paid out to various Allied nationals in distress as a result of the war. This is being now done on behalf of UNRRA which does not operate in the territory. Attempts have also been made by the Division to trace the relatives of Allied Italians deported into Yugoslavia.

Welfare.

The main job of AMG's Welfare Division has been to see that the main State and parastatal social and welfare organisations have sufficient funds to carry out their functions. Many organisations have been reorganised and put on a sound basis, while help and advice is given to private associations engaging in charitable work.

The Public Assistance Department of Trieste Commune, together with various charitable institutions throughout the city, takes care of hundreds of aged and sick persons. War orphans are looked after the Opera Orfani di Guerra and wounded and crippled war veterans can receive advice and help when they are in need.

The Welfare Division furnished a supply of soup for people who wish to move household goods from Yugoslavia to Italy or vice versa. The age pensions and similar subsidies have been increased throughout Venezia Giulia. Thousands of free meals are given away every day in the communal soup kitchens. Recently it distributed 40,000 blankets. Attached to the Welfare Division until recently was a team of American Red Cross workers. Their record included the distribution of 100,000 articles of clothing, footwear and medical supplies such as vitamins. The Italian and Slovene Red Cross organisations also work in the territory, each dealing with their own compatriots.

Public Health.

The Public Health Division was likewise faced with a major problem at the start. Orders were given and enforced that no poor person was to be refused admittance into hospitals in Zone "A" and this ruling included those people living in Zone "B" who would normally have received treatment in AMG territory. Financial assistance was given to hospitals and a special board was set up to deal with medical supplies, which were received monthly and distributed to hospitals free. There were epidemics [illegible] in terms of infectious disease. The water supply

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The Public Assistance Department of Trieste Commune, together with various charitable institutions throughout the city, takes care of hundreds of needy old persons, destitute orphans are looked after the Opera Orfani di Guerra and wounded and crippled war veterans can receive advice and help when they are in need.

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Education

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Education.

There was little or no education system in being when AMG took over. The pro-Yugoslav Liberation Councils were attempting to set up schools in the Slovene and Croat languages and were aiming at complete school autonomy. In existence were only Italian schools, although under Austrian rule there had been Slovene elementaryschools in many rural districts and one Slovene high school at Gorizia. The Liberation Councils now wanted their schools again and wanted them under their own control.

The Education Division recognised the justice of the demand for Slovene and Croat schools and immediately started to establish them. As many as 105 Slovene elementary schools and eight Croat schools have to date been opened in AMG territory. It was not possible, however, to allow the Liberation Councils to control the curriculum and choice of text books, although their views were always taken into consideration. AMG policy had decided that in administering a disputed territory it could not do so impartially if propaganda, of one side or the other, was permitted in the schools. All text books were carefully examined by the Division and anything calculated to inculcate nationalist feeling, Italian or Yugoslav, was withdrawn or eliminated. The appointment of teachers also caused differences of opinion between the Division and the Liberation Councils. AMG, being more concerned with the scholastic qualifications of teachers nominated, found it necessary to reject many of the nominations put forward by the Councils. The Education Division thus came under attack by the pro-Yugoslav press, a storm which AMG, of course, weathered.

Among the other tasks tackled by the Division was the confiscation of Fascist text books in all schools and libraries. Qualified teachers and professors were appointed to special commissions to draw up new educational programs for Italian and Slovic schools and completed in two months, a job which normally would have taken a complete academic year. Non-resident professors in the area were employed as school superintendents and inspectors and professional assistants were employed in the Education Division to handle all routine administrative work. Three new Slovene secondary schools were established in Trieste and three in Gorizia. Altogether there are now 120 Slovene schools.

School finance had to be reconstituted as well as repair and re-equipping of schools taken in hand. The Division obtained fuel to heat all the schools and a school lunch project received [illegible] 60,000 children each month. [illegible]

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Schools finance had to be reconstituted as well as repair and re-equipping of schools taken in hand. The Division obtained fuel to heat all the schools and a school lunch project received funds to provide lunches for 60,000 children each month. A congress of teachers from the entire region will be held shortly at which all the educational problems of Venezia Giulia will be discussed.

Police. 4483

One of AMG's biggest problems on taking over was the fact that in an area in which it could be expected that anything might happen (although in the main did not happen) there was no police force that compelled general recognition. The only police organisation was the Yugoslav para-military force known

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as the " Difesa Popolare". It was decided by AMG that a completely new force responsible directly to AMG was necessary, so it was agreed to disband the "Difesa Popolare". A new police force was recruited and the methods and training were based on the British and American police systems.

Today, the force consists of 2,400 officers and men and has been recruited from local sources and drawn from all sections of the community - Slovene, Croat and Italian. Every candidate is vetted closely in order to determine whether he has a Fascist background. He is then checked on Tribunal records to find out if he has a criminal past and finally, if he passes through this screen, he is called before a selection Board composed of Allied officers and Venezia Giulia police officers. The successful candidate then enters a training school for a two week's course. The subjects studied include police law and procedure, foot drill and physical training.

Having passed the course, he is enrolled in the uniform division as a guard and is sent to one or other of the zones. After a period of practical experience and duty he then returns to the schools for a longer and more intensive course. Specialist courses at the school include criminal investigation and radio operating. The British Police Disciplinary Code, modified in certain cases to meet local conditions, has been imposed. The conduct of the force has been good and there have been very few serious breaches of the Code.

Since the Police Force began functioning there has been a decided lessening of crime and a definite return to law and order. In the early days, the "popular" police patrols were composed of at least six men, all fully armed with tommy guns and hand grenades. Now the strength of a Venezia Giulia Police patrol never exceeds two men and in certain districts, such as Trieste city, Gorizia and Monfalcone, uniform patrols during daylight hours have been disarmed.

Last add.

As we go to press, our PRO colleagues at Trieste inform us that the energetic propaganda preparations by both Italians and Slovenes greeted the Allied Investigating Commission on its arrival 7 March, with the efforts of the latter being the more elaborate. The pro supporters have been busy with brush and flags while every village in the predominantly pro-Tito hinterland has its triumphal arch of welcome to the Commission. The arches are adorned with portraits of the Yugoslav Marshal. The AMG [illegible] announced by Col.

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<u>Last Add.</u>

As we go to press, our PRO colleagues at Trieste inform us that the energetic propaganda preparations by both Italians and Slovenes greeted the Allied Investigating Commission on its arrival 7 March, with the efforts of the latter being the more elaborate. Tito supporters have been busy with brush and flags while every village in the predominantly pro-Tito hinterland has its triumphal arch of welcome to the Commission. The arches are adorned with portraits of the Yugoslav Marshal. The AMG policy on arches, posters and wall signs, as announced by Col. H.E.E. Robertson (B), acting SCAO, is that writing on walls is not permitted on public buildings, on premises occupied by Allied troops or on private houses where the permission of the owner has not been obtained. Arches have been removed only if they constitute a traffic hazard. The Russian and British delegates are staying at the British transit hotel while the French and Americans are billeted in the U.S. leave hotel. The main body of Russian representatives is now en route via Ljubljana. The chief delegates are Jean Phillippe Wolfrom, French; M. Gerashchenko, Russian; C.H.M. Waldock, British, and Philip Mosely, American.

/ A tele

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A TALE OF BUMPF

To most of us who have struggled through the recent years with inexperienced civilian clerks, usually willing and hard working but as usually agile only in their peculiar Italian English, filing and the like have been everpresent nuisances. But today the nuisances are coming home to roost with a vengeance on the head of Major N.M. Harrisson (B) and his gallant Anglo-American-Italian staff, for the Major is at present involved in the gigantic task of filing (in a very big way) the entire archives and records of the Allied Commission and AMG.

In the bowels of the "Corporazioni" on Via Veneto, surroundedby the symbols of his terryfying task, sits Major Harrisson, with his staff, Captains Rowlands and Cannings, British, and Lieutenants Taylor and Reeden, American. The main working room itself is frighteninsly efficient and walled completely by hundreds of little green steel boxes. In this and two other rooms are files or original papers of the approximately 8,000,000 documents and their approximately 200,000 files, said to be half of all the Allied files in the MTO.

Included in these documents is, for those who will want to, the detailed story of the Allied Commission and AMG in Italy. It is the task of the Archives Branch to arrange these files and documents in such a manner as to ease the work of future historians who will write the story of Military Government in Italy. That the records are of keen interest to professional archivists is attested by the Keeper of the Public Records of England who has visited Italy three times to see about them while a representative of the U.S. Library of Congress also has paid a visit.

The general plan of the scheme is to insure that a complete record, easily handled, of the campaign and work of the Allied Commission is made available. Every one of the 8,000,00 documents is being examined and refiled. Most of the relevant documents will be photographed and copies sent to those Governments and organisations directly interested while all documents are being recorded, checked and prepared for storing. This work, it is estimated, should take 50 employes several years to complete. Documents are stored, catalogued and cleaned for micro-filming.

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After the filming of necessary documents they are replaced in their respective files, card indexed for cross reference and the records arranged by functions. There are over thirty A.C. functions listed. Since half of the records received are from regions which it is not proposed to disturb, the story of any activity in a sub-commission can be found and the relevent files extracted by consulting the card index. 4/69

The importance of the work for history is equalled only by its magnitude, and the hive of energy that is the Archives Branch today makes us hang our head in shame as we recall the

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filing system we ourselves kept in the field-a filing system conditioned by circumstances in which we were our own director, mentor, driver, mechanic, batman and last/worst, in view of the chaos which will undoubtedly result when one certain set of archives are discovered, our own clerk and typist. To Major Harrison and his colleagues, our admiration and deepest apologies.

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. H.C. Rose (A) succeeds Col. W.R. Gordon (redeployed to the States) as CLO in Piemonte... U.S. officers will be redeployed on schedule according to the time limits stated in their Category IV certificates, which may now no longer be extended, except to Categories I (indefinite) and II (June, 1947)... A score of EM promotions have been announced plus one of an officer - Harry Gelkin to Captain... The T/O of 26th Regiment, which was 500 officers and men, has been cut to 450, as of 1 March, with further cuts of 50 bodies a month every month, until 1 July... MTOUSA ruling is being protested on the grounds that alterations would have to be drawn in order to comply... Many officers of A.C. Hq. during off hours will henceforth wear civies of one cash in the offices of the Adjutant, Economic Section and Chief Commissioner... American officers will be happy to know that U.S. Army peace-time rules on property responsibility have now come into force... A special Italian military courier plane between Rome, Munich and Paris for official business has been arranged, to be used as need arises... At a ceremony in Rome attended by Lieut. Gen. John C.H. Lee, Deputy Supreme Commander, MTOUSA, the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, presented the Legion of Merit to the following British officers of the Commission - Major General [illegible] (Grand Officer) and Brigadier M. Carr [illegible] (Officer); Col. C.B. Findlay (P) also has been awarded the latter decoration but is away in Germany; Gen. Lee himself presented the same medal to Brigadier Albert Low of R.A.M.C.... Other awards include: Order of the Knights of Malta - Flag Lieut. Edward Bohn; Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus - Lieut. Colonel A. Cicala (Knight); Order of the Crown of Italy - Col. Annibal M. Fiore (Grand Officer), Col. J.W. Chapman and Capt. C. St. J. Butler (Commander); Lieut. Col. James R. Reis and Capt. Anthony Ciliberti (Knight Officer), and Captain Earl B. Noe and L. Cioes (Knight)... With 5,311 Italian communes slated to hold administrative elections, as of the latest reports, beginning 10 March (when 442 communes will vote), the Local Government

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March 2, 1946

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 48

POLITICAL

The Italian Government wrote history this week. Amid the somewhat tortuous but patently democratic procedures of consulting all shades of opinion and of exhaustive and exhausting talks, all so familiar to us in the western democracies, the Council of Ministers virtually decided to submit the fateful question of the choice of a monarchy or of a republic to a referendum of the people, drafted a proposed bill defining the powers of the *Costituente* for submission to the *Consulta*'s review, determined apparently not to submit this bill to a referendum, and put final touches on the electoral code for the elections to the *Costituente*, thereby readying the new Italy for its first free election campaign in more than twenty years.

The general mood of satisfaction with an arduous task so nearly completed and, to almost an unanimity of observers, well done, was reflected in bursts of hosannahs from most of the Rome press, even though there were some carpers (who this time did not include that consistent critic, *Italia Nuova*, which relaxed far enough to claim credit on behalf of the Democratic (Monarchist) party for the victory of the referendum proposal on the institutional question, and piously to add its hopes that the referendum's results should seal the reconciliation of all Italian parties to each other). *Risorgimento Liberale* averred that the momentous discussions truly demonstrated the "complete political maturity of our party leaders" while *Mondo* praised the political *savoir faire* of Prime Minister De Gasperi who served as the middleman of the compromises effected.

These climacteric debates and agreements in [illegible] last week (see *Bulletin* of the 28th) on the three major matters—referendum, status of the *Costituente* and the electoral code—are as follows:

ELECTIONS for the *Costituente* will probably be held 26 May. (A special commission to insure public order at that time has already been set up. Reports have it that 70,000 Carabinieri will be on duty, besides other army and police forces.)

THE *COSTITUENTE* will convene 22 days after the elections or on 18th or 20th June and will disband within ten months or the same day the new Constitution becomes effective.

THE REFERENDUM on the institutional question will be voted on at the same time as the elections are held. It will be decided by a majority of 51 per cent. What the precise form of the question to be put is also undetermined. Togliatti having suggested "Do you wish a democratic republic to be instituted?" Ciancа of the Action Party afterwards said his party agreed to the referendum only as an alternative to forcing a crisis by withdrawal from the Government. In the course of the Government's decision, the opinion of the British Government, advocating a referendum but not stipulating a time for it, was also studied.

COMPULSORY VOTING, as approved in the electoral code by the *Consulta*, was withdrawn from the Government draft. In its place, De Gasperi succeeded in having accepted the formula of calling upon all citizens to vote as a patriotic duty and of formally classifying all abstainers from the polls as "civil deserters", after the Communists pointed out the impossibility of enforcing sanctions on non-voters and after Togliatti's remark that he distrusted compulsory voting as a monarchist maneuver to force the supposedly conser[illegible] to the polls.

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The general mood of satisfaction with an arduous task so nearly completed and, to almost an unanimity of observers, well done, was reflected in bursts of hosannahs from most of the Rome press, even though there were some carpers (who this time did not include that consistent critic, *Italia Nuova*, which relaxed far enough to claim credit on behalf of the Democratic (Monarchist) party for the victory of the referendum proposal on the institutional question, and piously to add its hopes that the referendum's results should seal the reconciliation of all Italian parties to each other). *Risorgimento Liberale* averred that the momentous discussions truly demonstrated the "complete political maturity of our party leaders" while *Mondo* praised the political *sangfroid* of Prime Minister De Gasperi who served as the middleman of the compromises effected.

These climacteric debates and agreements in the Inner Cabinet started last week (see *Bulletin* No. 47), were interrupted during the week-end to give time for individual party consultations and were resumed on 26 February. The full cabinet participated, meeting twice a day, on the 27th and 28th (the last day on which we report in these columns). The gist of the decisions taken (as of the 28th) on the three major matters—referendum, status of the *Costituente* and the electoral code—are as follows:

ELECTIONS for the *Costituente* will probably be held 26 May. (A special commission to insure public order at that time has already been set up. Reports have it that 70,000 Carabinieri will be on duty, besides other army and police forces.)

THE *COSTITUENTE* will convene 22 days after the elections or on 18th or 20th June and will disband within ten months or the same day the new Constitution becomes effective.

THE REFERENDUM on the institutional question will be voted on at the same time as the elections are held. It will be decided by a majority of 51 per cent. What the precise form of the question to be put is also undetermined. Togliatti having suggested "Do you wish a democratic republic to be instituted?" Ciasca of the Action Party afterwards said his party agreed to the referendum only as an alternative to forcing a crisis by withdrawal from the Government. In the course of the Government's decision, the opinion of the British Government, advocating a referendum but not stipulating a time for it, was also studied.

COMPULSORY VOTING, as approved in the electoral code by the *Consulta*, was withdrawn from the Government draft. In its place, De Gasperi succeeded in having accepted the formula of calling upon all citizens to vote as a patriotic duty and of formally classifying all abstainers from the polls as "civil deserters", after the Communists pointed out the impossibility of enforcing sanctions on non-voters and after Togliatti's remark that he distrusted compulsory voting as a monarchist manoeuver to force the supposedly conservative "silent vote" to the polls.

ARTICLE 66 of the code, which had caused upheavals in the *Consulta* and which provided for penalties against clerical influence in elections, was modified to castigate officials of any type who abused such influence.

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PROPOSED POWERS and procedures of the *Costituente* included provision that the President of the Council of Ministers resign his Government to the *Costituente* upon its convening, whereupon a new President will be appointed by the *Costituente* to serve for its duration. If a republic is carried, the new President of the Council will also serve as Head of the State during this period. If a monarchy wins, the *Costituente* will have to decide on the future of the *Luogotenenza*. The Government will be responsible to the *Costituente* which, in turn, will delegate to the Government legislative powers except as concern international treaties and electoral matters. The Government will not need to resign when the *Costituente* rejects one of its proposed laws.

Pledge.

Before adjourning the session of the 28th, every minister pledged himself to insure that his party would fully respect the electoral laws and the integrity of the powers of the *Costituente* in carrying on their political activities, would so conduct their campaigns as to guarantee absolutely free elections, and would insist that everyone vote so that the referendum and the elections can truly represent the real will of the Italian people. A pledge will be taken later by all civil and military officials to respect the results of the referendum and the *Costituente*'s decisions.

After last week's preliminary conversations and intra-party caucuses, De Gasperi personally interviewed one by one practically every single leader of prominence in and out of the Government, including Sforza, Orlando, Bonomi, Brosio, Nenni, Togliatti, Nitti, Pacciardi, Lucifero, Molè, Parri and La Malfa. Summing up the points scored or lost by the various parties, the Liberals won their institutional referendum but apparently have lost the one on the powers of the *Costituente* while the Left—Communists, Socialists and Action Party—retreated on the former but gained their point on the latter. The Christian Democrats provided the meeting ground, effecting the compromise on compulsory voting in addition, which the Right wanted and the Left did not. *Epoca* had bitter comment to make on all this: it wanted to see the whole business resolved by a blood-letting, adding it could foresee a republic all right but "a weak, bourgeois one created by *del giorno*. Parri and La Malfa finally announced formation of their new party—the Republican Democracy Movement. Nenni, speaking in Modena, prophesied the victory of the republic and told monarchists and *qualunquisti* to hush. Selvaggi, monarchist leader, at Spoleto, again accused the six C.L.N. parties of dictatorial ambitions and defended his alliance with the *Uomo Qualunque* Front, saying both movements had the same ideals—"freedom, unity, labor, peace". Ahent the U.Q. Front, a report that fizzled out had the Liberals joining the alliance, while *Buonsenso*, U.Q. Rome mouthpiece, lightly commented on the significant decisions being taken by the Government by saying that the Front was strong enough to compete with its enemies on any grounds and so did not care what decisions were taken on the electoral laws, referenda and the like.

On the international front, the Italian press was particularly vocal upon the reappearance of the possibility of a *modus vivendi* for Italy that would abrogate the Armistic terms and recognize the *status quo* of virtual sovereignty, now that hopes of an early Italian peace treaty, by all observers, seemed distant. The AP report that the United States had sent such a proposal to Great Britain and the Soviet Government was widely played up. *Popolo* stressing the "urgent" need of some such international recognition. The communique of the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers on the imminent arrival of the Allied Investigating Commission into the Venezia Giulia frontier also received wide publicity but no mention was made of how far afield its powers could take it.

As we go to press, the March 2 morning papers report that the *Consulta* will begin debates on the draft bill on the powers of the *Costituente* Monday, with speeches limited to one representative of each party. Orlando will be relator of the proposed law. The formula for the institutional referendum will read simply: Republic or Monarchy? The Council of Ministers has also turned to discussion of the size of the electoral colleges—31 of them—which will elect 573 deputies to the assembly.

ECONOMIC FRONT

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The election campaign which will formally open with the promulgation of the electoral code by the De Gasperi Government has, in most respects, being going on all along, with party directorates busily meeting and issuing *ordini* [illegible] *viaggi*, monarchist leader, at Spoleto, again accused the six C.L.N. parties of dictatorial ambitions and defended his alliance with the *Uomo Qualunque* Front, saying both movements had the same ideals—"freedom, unity, labor, peace". Anent the U.Q. Front, a report that fizzled out had the Liberals joining the alliance, while *Buonsenso*, U.Q. Rome mouthpiece, lightly commented on the significant decisions being taken by the Government by saying that the Front was strong enough to compete with its enemies on any grounds and so did not care what decisions were taken on the electoral laws, referenda and the like.

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ECONOMIC FRONT

As the letter below from the Chief Commissioner to Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, discloses, the Economic Section as we all knew it has disappeared. Details of the new setup, to be still

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with mines which detonate acoustically or magnetically. In addition, a special vessel used for demagnetising ships has been transferred to the Italian Navy at Taranto, with all the necessary equipment.

Thus before long the work of mine clearance in Italian waters will be carried out entirely by the Italians themselves, as well as the task of destroying or rendering harmless sea mines which break adrift from their moorings and become a danger either at sea or on the coasts.

The work of the minesweepers, which is hampered in the winter months by bad weather, will begin intensively this spring. Channels will be widened and dangerous areas will be whittled down, but so many and varied are the types of minefields laid by the Germans and Italians that it may be years before the entire waters of the central Mediterranean can be declared free for all purposes.

ODDS AND ENDS

Here are a few more awards: *Crown of Italy (Knight Officer)* – Lieut. Col. P. D. Shriver, Major P. Cobel, Captain H. W. Dudley and Mr. O. Bazzanella... Honorary citizenship of the City of Cagliari in Sardinia has been conferred upon Brigadiers J. K. Dunlop and M. Carr, Colonels J. R. C. Pennycuick and E. R. McPhee and Lieut. Col. Edward P. Price... The first U. S. officers held six months beyond their normal release date as 8104's (civil affairs officers) are going home this week; three of them... Latest electoral list returns: – compiled 13,782 (96 per cent.); approved – 8,034 (56 per cent.); ready to hold elections – 4,835 communes...

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who was playing the sybarite in a nearby villa and who was known as a crony of Marshal Graziani. Ato Haghan and company temporarily shanghaied the colonel, confiscated a quantity of armament and somehow, during the incident, the colonel's house caught fire and burned down. Not much later, another encounter with the colonel occurred during which the colonel was shot. Dead, of course.

According to our narrator, Marshal Graziani offered a reward of 50,000 lire for Ato Haghan's skin, with or without red corpuscles. His fellow partisans—they included French, British, Jugoslavs and Italians plus nine Ethiopians (of whom three were killed in action)—got Ato Haghan safely away. But the story has an epilogue:

After the war was over, further differences of opinion arose between Ato Haghan and certain officials in connection with aftermaths of the unfortunate accidents to Colonel Trombetta and the Eritrean guards. The misunderstanding was finally happily resolved and Ato Haghan is now on his way back to Abyssinia, carrying with him as his most cherished possession one of those fine certificates signed by Field Marshal Alexander to the effect that he was a real partisan.

SWEEPING THE SEA

Mines, one of the most troublesome and dangerous aftermaths of the war, both on land and sea, have worried AMG officers in the past who have been impatient of the delay they have caused to the resumption of agriculture on land, of fishing and communications at sea. The story of the *bonifica* of Italy's mine-sown fields is well known, but the immensity of the task of clearing the seas round the coasts of Italy has, perhaps, been less appreciated. Allied mines apart, vast areas were thickly sown by the Germans and Italians themselves, some of the worst infested being the Bay of Naples, the entrance to the Gulf of Taranto and the northern Adriatic and Ligurian seas.

Minesweeping is no part of the Navy Sub-Commission's direct responsibility, except in so far as supplies made available to the Italian Navy by the sub-commission might help towards nations, are represented on this Board, but not Italy, although the Italian Navy is doing a large proportion of the actual work.

The Mediterranean Board is in turn represented on the International Mine Clearance Board which meets in London and determines mine clearance policy throughout the five oceans. Actual operations in the Mediterranean are under the direction of the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean at Malta, who controls the work of the sweepers of all nationalities within the area.

Approaches.

After clearing the harbors themselves, the policy has been to clear the approaches to the most important ports and landfalls and to sweep channels along the shore for the benefit of coastal traffic and fishermen, leaving large areas which are known to contain mines to be cleared later. For example, in recent weeks the channels to Genoa, Savona, Imperia and San Remo have been re-swept.

The positions of swept channels and dangerous areas are relayed to all ships and port authorities in such a way that no mariner should have any doubt as to what course to pursue.

Harbor clearance, which has first priority, is also the hardest part of the job. The clearance of magnetic mines from the inner waters of ports such as Leghorn and Genoa has proved a most difficult task technically, and has previously been undertaken exclusively by British minesweeping forces, assisted by Italian divers. The work of these divers is dangerous as well as difficult, since they have to grope in thick mud for mines which cannot be located by other means.

Owing to the demands for assistance in other parts of the Mediterranean, the British minesweeping forces are now being withdrawn from Italian waters and the Italians are being trained to tackle the magnetic mines themselves.

Minesweepers.

By an agreement between the British Admiralty and the Italian Ministry of Marine signed at the end of January by Admiral G. L. Warren, Flag Officer Italy and chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, and Admiral R. de Courten, Italian

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Minesweeping is no part of the Navy Sub-Commission's direct responsibility, except in so far as supplies made available to the Italian Navy by the sub-commission might help towards the work. In Italian waters minesweeping is subject to the general direction of the Mediterranean Zone Mine Clearance Board, an inter-Allied organization which meets every few months to determine priorities in the Mediterranean area as a whole. Great Britain, the United States, France, Russia, Greece and Jugoslavia, as Allied [illegible] which meets in London and determines mine clearance policy throughout the five oceans. Actual operations in the Mediterranean are under the direction of the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean at Malta, who controls the work of the sweepers of all nationalities within the area.

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called the Economic Section and dealing with residual functions, will be printed next week. The letter:

Dear Mr. Cleveland:

As from 1 March the Economic Section of the Allied Commission and its dependant sub-commissions as we have known it for over two years will be substantially reduced.

This Section and its sub-commissions has been responsible for the maintenance and the reconstruction of the economic life of Italy since liberation of the country. In spite of tremendous difficulties it has maintained a level of food which has prevented starvation. You have guided and assisted the Italian Government in the reconstruction of their ports, their railways and roads and their transport system, so that the great volume of important food and coal and the smaller volume of other raw materials have been adequately distributed among the towns and villages and industries. You have helped to resuscitate many of these industries and so prevented unemployment, and in the field of labor you have guided the Italians into a democratic conception of wage structures and industrial organization. The Italian financial and banking system has depended almost entirely on the guidance of the Finance Sub-Commission in emerging with no small measure of success from the confusion into which the conditions of the country had brought them. You have initiated commerce and foreign trade and with your help the Italian Government has been able to prepare a program of economic rehabilitation which will stand them in good stead in the difficult months to come. No part of the Commission has worked in more intimate and cordial association with the members and departments of the Italian Government.

I want you as the departing Acting Vice President and your staff, past and present, to know how much your work has assisted the Allied Commission and how much it has been appreciated. Italy owes a great deal to the Section and your sub-commissions and you may be proud to hand over the major part of your responsibilities to the Italian Government itself, to UNRRA, and to the Embassies, with the knowledge that [illegible] a great part in the economic

ETHIOPIAN SAGA

The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, now in the throes of transition (most of its chores going to UNRRA), still is producing its curious stories. For instance, it is not generally known that among the political prisoners the Fascists kept under lock and key in Italy were 16 Ethiopians. There was another batch of 60 Ethiopes held but more or less under easier rein, they being used simply as exhibits in a Naples show of 1940 and were confined merely to a villa provided for them. But the prisoners were real prisoners and the imminent return of one of them—Ato (Mr.) Addisa Haghau—to his native heath, through the kind services of the A. C. sub-commission, provides us with a tale.

Ato Haghau, our history opens, commenced his differences with the former Italian Fascist Government in 1936 when, while a student at the Abyssinian Military College of Moletta in Ethiopia, which was run by a Swedish Military Mission, he took part in one of the last defensive actions before Addis Abeba. This foray took place on the Dessie road, and after being wounded three times Ato Haghau was captured and taken to a concentration camp at Mogadishu. He remained there until 1939 when he was removed to Jimma prison (also in Ethiopia).

In 1940 he was brought to Italy and kept in Naples prison until 1942, when he was moved to the Treia prison camp near Macerata. On 4 July 1943, he relates, a British plane flew over and dropped leaflets on the compound. In the course of a search by the guards, who included several Eritreans, to confiscate all the propaganda sheets, Ato Haghau and one of the Eritreans indulged in an argument which resulted in a sentence of eight months' imprisonment (!) for the former, the charge being rudeness of a threatening character.

Further Events.

On 8 September 1943—the date of the Armistice—Mrs. Haghau—do not ask how she gets into the story—made contact with a RAF officer who was organizing a partisan band near Macerata. This British officer boldly approached the prison and made off with Ato Haghau. A short time later, Ato Haghau, foraging for his

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Sincerely,

(*signed*) ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN;
Chief Commissioner

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Following this adventure, Ato Haghan et al. paid a visit to a certain Italian Colonel Trombetta,

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February 23, 1946

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WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL.

Der Weg zur Ruhe geht nur durch das Gebiet der allumfassenden Tätigkeit.

NOVALIS

The Italian political scene was something like a three-ring ballet in the past week, particularly if we take the license of likening the cascade of palaver that accompanied the movements to a musical score. *La bell'Italia*, modernistically tailored in the guise of the Inner Cabinet of the De Gasperi Government, historically took its first steps, mincing but deliberate, toward a large iridescent but mysterious objective: the institutional question. The audience watched the bold yet delicate movements: what will be unveiled in the last act: monarchy or republic? To the side of the stage, a chorus of conservatives, monarchists and *qualunquisti* made coy, self-contented little signs of encouragement. On the other, a phalanx of republican stalwarts without togas signaled, with hearty pirouettes, for the ballerinas of the Government to leap forward. In the background, other strange figures in British cutaways, Russian boots and American pin stripes, made motions, with pieces of paper, no doubt having to do with the Italian peace treaty, whereupon *La bell'Italia* visibly drooped to the floor in a graceful descent of hope, as it were, only, the next minute, to leap into the air with a series of vigorous entrechats as there sounded off the stage reports and alarums of Jugoslav troops massing on the Venezia-Giulia border.

To unfold the mixed patterns of the political dance, a detailed look at the week's record is necessary. Depression of a sort was rather general about what most Rome dailies regarded as the fading chances of an Italian peace treaty

Ministers' Deputies apparently have reached no agreements, reparations and the future trusteeship of Tripolitania (Russia wants it) being stumbling blocks. Even the Allied investigating commission that will look into the problem of a border line has not been dispatched. Further, the paper said, in May the peace draft would have to be approved by each of the 19 countries represented at the conference in Paris, following which ratification by their home governments would be necessary. The mood was lightened, momentarily, by satisfaction with the speech of British Foreign Minister Bevin on 21 February in the House of Commons in which he reiterated his desire that Italy should have a just peace on terms that would not sow seeds of antagonism that might engender later conflicts. He added that he had appealed to all concerned not to allow nationalistic feelings to obscure the common sense needed to meet the economic problems involved. The *Giornale del Mattino* ran a comment from its London correspondent to the effect that Mr. Bevin's words of encouragement to Italy were also voiced six months ago but that execution of his policies had yet to be carried out. Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the Allied Commission, also told the Commons that Italy had indeed earned her "return ticket", in the famous Churchill phrase, in a speech widely and favorably reported by the Italian press.

The barometer of hope also shot up and down (in which region it stayed to oscillate) at a story of the *Sunday Dispatch* from London that Vishinsky had promised Carandini that the Soviets would persuade Jugoslavia not to press claims for Trieste, a report which was promptly denied by the Tass Agency from Moscow. All papers played in scare headlines the UP report than the Jugoslavs had supposedly massed seven divisions on the Venezia-Giulia border and a similar dis-

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Der Weg zur Ruhe geht nur durch das Gebiet der allumfassenden Tätigkeit.

NOVALIS

The Italian political scene was something like a three-ring ballet in the past week, particularly if we take the license of likening the cascade of palaver that accompanied the movements to a musical score. *La bell'Italia*, modernistically tailored in the guise of the Inner Cabinet of the De Gasperi Government, historically took its first steps, mincing but deliberate, toward a large iridescent but mysterious objective: the institutional question. The audience watched the bold yet delicate movements: what will be unveiled in the last act: monarchy or republic? To the side of the stage, a chorus of conservatives, monarchists and *qualunquisti* made coy, self-contented little signs of encouragement. On the other, a phalanx of republican stalwarts without togas signaled, with hearty pirouettes, for the ballerinas of the Government to leap forward. In the background, other strange figures in British cutaways, Russian boots and American pin stripes, made motions, with pieces of paper, no doubt having to do with the Italian peace treaty, whereupon *La bell'Italia* visibly drooped to the floor in a graceful descent of hope, as it were, only, the next minute, to leap into the air with a series of vigorous entrechats as there sounded off the stage reports and alarums of Jugoslav troops massing on the Venezia-Giulia border.

To unfold the mixed patterns of the political dance, a detailed look at the week's record is necessary. Depression of a sort was rather general about what most Rome dailies regarded as the fading chances of an Italian peace treaty this year. *Risorgimento Liberale*, organ of the Liberal Party, one of whose leaders, Carandini, is Italian Ambassador in London and who recently was reported as holding a long and friendly talk with Russian Vice Commissar Vishinsky, analyzed the prospects as follows: The Big Four's Foreign Ministers' Deputies apparently have reached no agreements, reparations and the future trusteeship of Tripolitania (Russia wants it) being stumbling blocks. Even the Allied investigating commission that will look into the problem of a border line has not been dispatched. Further, the paper said, in May the peace draft would have to be approved by each of the 19 countries represented at the conference in Paris, following which ratification by their home governments would be necessary. The mood was lightened, momentarily, by satisfaction with the speech of British Foreign Minister Bevin on 21 February in the House of Commons in which he reiterated his desire that Italy should have a just peace on terms that would not sow seeds of antagonism that might engender later conflicts. He added that he had appealed to all concerned not to allow nationalistic feelings to obscure the common sense needed to meet the economic problems involved. The *Giornale del Mattino* ran a comment from its London correspondent to the effect that Mr. Bevin's words of encouragement to Italy were also voiced six months ago but that execution of his policies had yet to be carried out. Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the Allied Commission, also told the Commons that Italy had indeed earned her "return ticket", in the famous Churchill phrase, in a speech widely and favorably reported by the Italian press.

The barometer of hope also shot up and down (in which region it stayed to oscillate) at a story of the *Sunday Dispatch* from London that Vishinsky had promised Carandini that the Soviets would persuade Jugoslavia not to press claims for Trieste, a report which was promptly denied by the Tass Agency from Moscow. All papers played in scare headlines the UP report than the Jugoslavs had supposedly massed seven divisions on the Venezia-Giulia border and a similar dispatch a few days later concerning the Soviet note to the UNO about the presence of Polish troops in Italy, which latter development was characterized by the nervous Rome press (*Tempo* and *Momento*, among many) as just a cloak for

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the Jugoslav troop movements, while *Libera Stampa*, looking with a pained eye at the reported Russian stand to limit inquiries of the Allied Investigating Commission in effect to the Anglo-American zone, declared that defeated Italy might have to accept sacrifices, "but she cannot resign herself to being sacrificed even before the discussions are started".

Costituente.

Even the prime event of the week, the opening of discussions on the powers of the Costituente and the institutional question by the Inner Cabinet (De Gasperi, Nenni, Brosio, Molè, Togliatti and Ciancì—or one representative from each of the six parties in the Government) came under the aura of international opinions. *Popolo* published an AP dispatch from Washington giving views of the U. S. State Department, which, in brief, maintained that the Italian *Costituente* is not a revolutionary assembly ratifying a *fait accompli*, as similar European assemblies of the past have been. The American opinion pointed out that the *Costituente* was created by a decree (DDL 151 of 25 June 1944) of the Italian Government, and that it should not assume the powers of government but solely draw up a constitution and, in so doing, decide the institutional question. *Avanti* had something to say immediately: "We think we are not lacking in respect for the U. S. A. in saying that the Allied Nations have nothing to do with the question of the methods adopted for solving the institutional question. The Allies have given a solemn and irrevocable pledge to recognize the right of the Italian people to give itself the institutions it prefers. They have attached one condition ... that it should be expressed by constitutional means. We accept this condition ... but the manner of doing so concerns Italians and Italians alone".

The cabinet discussions were made possible, of course, by re-establishment of the full roster of ministerial posts, three of which had gone unfilled while the Action Party crisis adjusted itself. Ciancì finally replaced Lussu as Minister for the *Consulta*, Lombardi went back to Transport and a new appointee, Mario Bracci, a member of the first Bonomi cabinet, went in for La Malfa [illegible]

reports false. The upshot of the discussions (on the 19th, 20th and 22nd) on the Costituente were as follows.

Specifically, the subject toward which the discussions tended was the enactment of a bill to define the powers of the forthcoming *Costituente*, and perhaps, as a corollary, solve the question of a monarchy or republic at the same time. All participants agreed at once to get on with the business and also submit the bill to the *Consulta*, which, incidentally, would probably die once the bill became law. The Liberals throughout insisted on two referenda: one on the *Costituente*'s powers and one on the institutional question and *both before* the *Costituente* convened. Communists, Socialists and the Action Party started out by being against all referenda. The Christian Democrats initially supported the Liberal position on the referendum but suggested a referendum on the monarchy *after* the *Costituente* was convoked. De Gasperi also pointed out that the use of a referendum was held by international circles as the most democratic way of ascertaining the will of the people.

Regency.

In the second meeting, the U. S. opinion was studied and a proposal made for a civilian regency to supplant the *Luogotenente* during the duration of the *Costituente*, part of a compromise solution for the Liberal-Leftist impasse. This proposition was pursued on the 22nd when, though the Liberals still argued for two referenda, the Socialists and Communists retreated far enough to be agreeable to the idea of a referendum after the *Costituente* completed its work. The left-wing parties also opposed the naming of the Lieutenant General of the Realm to be a member of the civilian regency (Count Sforza had been mentioned by *Italia Nuova* as its head) whereupon the name of the Prince of Naples was suggested as an alternative to Prince Umberto. The compromise offered, it was also reported in the *Giornale del Mattino*, envisaged a possible referendum on the powers of the *Costituente* (to which the Leftists were not as strongly opposed as to one on the monarchy) which device would, in effect, elicit the views of the people on the institutional question and make a further spe[illegible]

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In its routine business the Council of Ministers decided to call up for military service men born in the last eight months of 1924, declined to grant further authorizations for opening of

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gambling casinos, approved the emergency enrollment of 15,000 auxiliary policemen, studied replacement of some prefects, sent a bill to suppress the immoral press to the *Consulta*, discussed another reconstruction loan and appropriated one billion lire for more shipping tonnage to be used for POW repatriation and 15 million extra for reconstruction in Caserta province.

That lively appendage of the Government, the *Consulta*, alternated between considerable uproar and much hard work, giving approval to 66 of the 74 articles of the electoral law for elections to the *Costituente*, in the course of which it defeated an amendment threatening penalties to priests influencing votes. The uproar came on two occasions, the first being on the 19th when a Communist *consultore* asked that fellow *Consultore* Patrissi be forthwith thrown out of the *Consulta* for a speech he made at the *Uomo Qualunque* Congress where Patrissi reportedly said that all Italy's woes were due to the political exiles who had returned to the country "like packs of hyenas and jackals" allegedly to profit by the nation's misery. Patrissi said later in *Buonsenso* that the hostile newspapers had misquoted him. The second major fracas occured the 22nd when the session had to be recessed to restore order during the debate on the remainder of the electoral articles when *Consultore* Longo, a Communist, filed an amendment forbidding the use of the national tricolor, with or without the national coat of arms, on the candidate lists.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Section, a good part of which also occupies the role of the Bureau of Requirements and Distribution of UNRRA in Italy, is continuing to hand over its responsibilities—with the exception of those connected with AMG, Udine and Venezia Giulia. The Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission's agricultural work is practically nil now, the only food distribution concerning wheat shipments under FEA shortfalls and feeding of the Italian Armed Forces. The Transportation Sub-Commission is taking care of the remainder of the FEA shipments entirely occupied, except for cleaning up old A. C. correspondence. Civilian POL supply is now handled by UNRRA and the Army-Navy Petroleum Board. The Coal Division still watches overall requirements, including those of the military, which, however, are handled operationally by each military headquarters concerned. The Divison has the last of the FEA coal shipments to distribute and helps represent Italian interests in the European Coal Organization. The Special Projects Division is ready to go to the U. S. Embassy any time it called. The Requisition Branch is handling UNRRA problems, largely, with only accounting clean-ups on the FEA and troop pay programs remaining on its A. C. agenda; the troop pay procurement account will henceforth be handled by the Italian Government. The personnel formerly with the Program Coordination Branch are devoted exclusively to UNRRA. The Captured Enemy Materials Branch does have considerable work, especially with the RUK files and turnover of depots, but there is some talk that it may wind up under AFHQ, like the financial and the supply accounting agencies.

The Labor Sub-Commission, slated to go to the British and American Embassies, is in effect nearly there, the labor staffs of the two embassies having now taken practical control of most of the tasks there are. The Commerce (Foreign Trade) Sub-Commission has mainly the job of clearing Italian trade items on the Reserved Commodity List, a duty the Italians are supposed to take over as soon as possible. The Finance Sub-Commission chiefly gives whatever financial advice is necessary to the Chief Commissioner and, of course, watches over problems in Udine and Venezia-Giulia.

Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Section, reported the other day on an interesting project of the Italian Government. The Inter-Ministerial Committee for Reconstruction has appointed a Technical Commission which is to do much of the real detailed work on reconstruction. A three-year plan for the Italian economy, starting in 1947, is being discussed, with first priority planned for the so-called service industries, such as transportation, public utilities and communications, to create an atmosphere, as the Italians put it, in which industrial and

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The Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission's personnel are also in the UNRRA Industry Department, with which work they are almost

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Two other items may be noteworthy. U. S. Army plans to dump surplus ammunition into the sea have been modified in view of an Italian Government request to use the surplus for the

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civilian economy, the old powder for fertilizer processing and the castings for metals. Similar use has already been made of British ammo surpluses in Italy. The Labor Sub-Commission reports the latest data on the cost of living as follows for January: To feed a family of five on food with a value of 2,200 calories for each person, one spent 14,767 lire in Rome, of which sum, 1,109 were spent on food purchased by ration card and 13,658 lire on food bought in the free market. In 1938, the same food in Rome cost 416 lire. Comparisons with other Italian cities reveal that the food budget that in Rome cost 13,677 lire in December cost during the same month 13,359 in Bologna, 12,542 in Florence, 13,733 in Genoa, 14,003 in Milan, 12,948 in Naples, 13,451 in Turin and 10,891 in Palermo.

Incidentally, anent the story in last week's *Bulletin* on the parlous wheat situation, no inference was intended to the deprecation of UNRRA's efforts to meet the grain import needs of Italy nor should UNRRA be held responsible for reductions in the ration up to now.

HOUSING THE HOMELESS

Those who have seen the effects of shells, bombs and mines on buildings in the Italian campaigns can best appreciate what the housing shortage means in this country. War damage probably can better be visualized if we talk of rooms damaged in order to give a more realistic picture of the lost living space which has created so many homeless families. According to the housing experts of the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission, it is estimated that 5,154,900 to 6,500,000 rooms have been destroyed or damaged. In the more specific estimate, 1,587,600 rooms were destroyed, 821,400 badly and 2,725,900 rooms slightly damaged, circumstances which put as many as 1,500,000 persons on the street. Indeed, one estimate of persons in one way or other displaced from their homes by war damage runs as high as 9,000,000 persons.

Today, the number of homeless rehoused amounts to approximately 700,000 taken care of since September, 1944, when concerted efforts began to do something about the matter. Italian decrees were passed, with later amendments, the subsidy, to the property owner, who also lost all rights to the property for five years.

At the same time communal housing committees were set up throughout Italy, which, in cooperation with the communal engineer, coordinated the work, assigned priorities and adjudicated neighborly disputes and, incidentally, gave private enterprise a chance to operate. Despite handicaps of little transport and materials, by the end of last year repairs to 571,337 rooms had been reported, of which 349,596 had been completed and 241,741 were in progress. Further, another 50,000 rooms had been estimated repaired but unreported. Thus more than 500,000 persons were rehoused in repaired houses while about 75,000 more were known to be living in newly constructed barracks or *casettas*.

Barracks.

The barracks were made of stone to save critical materials. The first ones authorized to be built (in late 1944) at a cost of 124,064,500 lire, were at Frascati, Genzano, Velletri, Cisterna, Terracina and Littoria, in the Anzio-Gustav Line sector which suffered the worst damage of the Italian war. These barracks took about nine months to build and housed only 2,500 persons. One flaw later admitted in the housing procedures was that it did not take enough notice of the emergency need of certain stricken classes but instead applied Government aid to all indiscriminately.

An emergency clause was later enacted in the housing decrees and used for urgent cases. Such a project would be declared a public works matter and all costs assumed by the Government. Unfortunately, not many cases were so classified, and there are some towns which still have to receive housing aid despite obvious need, such as Cotignola in Emilia, which was in the other major devastated war zone in Italy, that part of the Gothic Line around Ferrara, which has about 250,000 homeless. Cotignola was 95 per cent destroyed but the town's inhabitants are still living on the outskirts of the town in makeshift shacks and barns.

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Today, the number of homeless rehoused amounts to approximately 700,000 taken care of since September, 1944, when concerted efforts began to do something about the matter. Italian decrees were passed, with later amendments, in which the Government contributed one third of the cost of building or repair projects up to 300,000 lire, repayable at 4 per cent. If the owner of the property failed to start the project, after being told to do so by the Italian *Genio Civile*, this latter organization was supposed to take on the job, charging the whole cost, minus fees were set up throughout Italy, which, in cooperation with the communal engineer, coordinated the work, assigned priorities and adjudicated neighborly disputes and, incidentally, gave private enterprise a chance to operate. Despite handicaps of little transport and materials, by the end of last year repairs to 571,337 rooms had been reported, of which 349,596 had been completed and 221,741 were in progress. Further, another 50,000 rooms had been estimated repaired but unreported. Thus more than 500,000 persons were rehoused in repaired houses while about 75,000 more were known to be living in newly constructed barracks or *casettas*.

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In many cases the inhabitants have gone ahead on their own repairs without bothering about the complications of bureaucratic assistance, with good effects as to private initiative but also some bad effects. As a result of lack of controls and expert guidance, many persons are building on other persons' property or are encroaching on city street lines, which tends to upset the over-all building reconstruction plans. In other places, the destruction has been so ex-

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tensive that immediate repairs are overlooked and long town meetings are held on wholesale rebuilding and town planning. However, recently more attention has been paid by the Government to housing the homeless somehow until permanent rebuilding can take place. *Case popolari* have been authorized more frequently and Nissen and Alpine huts obtained from Allied military sources to be set up on sites that will not obstruct future building.

Example.

One example of effective emergency housing—as well as long-range town planning—is the famed city of Rimini where Lieut. Peter F. Natale, AMG housing expert, helped the town to help itself despite the fact it was only a few kilometers from the front lines at the time—a year ago. The city was 85 per cent. destroyed, more than 21,000 persons were homeless, there was no water, no lights, no sewers and a typhoid epidemic was raging. A citizens' housing committee was organized at once to start on immediate repairs, with first priority on slightly damaged homes. All homes beyond repair were to be demolished and the materials salvaged for use in other repair work, proper receipts being given to the owners for future compensation. In 15 days enough progress had been made to rehouse 2,500 persons. Builders, contractors, workmen pooled labor, materials, equipment, use of lime pits and output of small brick works to speed the project. In 90 days all the 21,000 were re-housed. The job cost 178,500,000 lire or about 8,500 lire a person. The repairs were naturally temporary but so effected as not interfere with the permanent ones. By the end of May, 1945, all the sewer and water system repairs had also been made. In that spring, the city, again with Lieut. Natale's help, created a town plan for entire reconstruction of the city, the first such plan in the new Italy.

With this example, Emilia, immediately after the German surrender last May, also took up the problem of rehousing the Gothic Line homeless. Housing committees were appointed in every commune. In the area 25 towns existed which were 80 per cent. or more destroyed and in which [illegible] persons had ex-

materials industries, which, in turn, depend on the imported materials promised by UNRRA in 1946.

THE CHIEF IS BACK

There was a hustle and bustle again outside the Chief Commissioner's office last Monday morning. The "Old Man" must be back on board, we thought immediately, and hastened in to the Admiral's quarters to get the lowdown on the trip from his aide, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn, who, as befitting a good Harvardman, had an urbane story to relate, though space compels us to omit some of the more colorful details. Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, as will be recalled, had been awarded the high British decoration of Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire for his achievements as Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission in Italy. He had just returned to Rome after a visit to London where he had received the honor of being personally invested with the award by His Majesty King George VI of England.

The presentation of the K.B.E. by the King was, of course, the climax of the eight-day trip, which was attended by an almost continuous round of affairs in the Admiral's honor, the principal one of which was a state luncheon tendered by British Government and presided over by the Secretary of State for War, the Rt. Hon. J. J. Lawson. It was the Admiral's first trip outside the theater since he arrived in Italy as one of the original members of the Allied Military Mission two and a half years ago. And keeping to character, that is, making most of his time, the Admiral also managed to get in a lot of business, a host of official calls, not to mention a number of welcome reunions with many A. C. alumni in London who are now back to wearing mufti and wing collars. But perhaps we better stick to the straight narration of the journey as we have it from the personable Mr. Behn.

The Admiral left Rome 9 February in the C-47 of Brigadier General William L. Lee, Deputy Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission. The flight had bumpy weather, bucking a 50-knot wind all the way, and an overnight stop was necessary at Paris en route to London, being made the next

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cently more attention has been paid by the Government to housing the homeless somehow until permanent rebuilding can take place. *Case popolari* have been authorized more frequently and Nissen and Alpine huts obtained from Allied military sources to be set up on sites that will not obstruct future building.

Example.

One example of effective emergency housing—as well as long-range town planning—is the famed city of Rimini where Lieut. Peter F. Natale, AMG housing expert, helped the town to help itself despite the fact it was only a few kilometers from the front lines at the time—a year ago. The city was 85 per cent destroyed, more than 21,000 persons were homeless, there was no water, no lights, no sewers and a typhoid epidemic was raging. A citizens' housing committee was organized at once to start on immediate repairs, with first priority on slightly damaged homes. All homes beyond repair were to be demolished and the materials salvaged for use in other repair work, proper receipts being given to the owners for future compensation. In 15 days enough progress had been made to rehouse 2,500 persons. Builders, contractors, workmen pooled labor, materials, equipment, use of lime pits and output of small brick works to speed the project. In 90 days all the 21,000 were re-housed. The job cost 178,500,000 lire or about 8,500 lire a person. The repairs were naturally temporary but so effected as not interfere with the permanent ones. By the end of May, 1945, all the sewer and water system repairs had also been made. In that spring, the city, again with Lieut. Natale's help, created a town plan for entire reconstruction of the city, the first such plan in the new Italy.

With this example, Emilia, immediately after the German surrender last May, also took up the problem of rehousing the Gothic Line homeless. Housing committees were appointed in every commune. In the area 35 towns existed which were 80 per cent or more destroyed and in which towns alone 127,195 persons had no homes. Contracts were awarded for 300 barracks and they are now being completed and will house about 6,000 persons. For the future, the housing program (which may cost up to 81,500,000,000) depends on provision of enough transport for the necessary short hauls of materials to building sites and on rehabilitation of the construction

THE CHIEF IS BACK

There was a hustle and bustle again outside the Chief Commissioner's office last Monday morning. The "Old Man" must be back on board, we thought immediately, and hastened in to the Admiral's quarters to get the lowdown on the trip from his aide, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn, who, as befitting a good Harvardman, had an urbane story to relate, though space compels us to omit some of the more colorful details. Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, as will be recalled, had been awarded the high British decoration of Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire for his achievements as Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission in Italy. He had just returned to Rome after a visit to London where he had received the honor of being personally invested with the award by His Majesty King George VI of England.

The presentation of the K.B.E. by the King was, of course, the climax of the eight-day trip, which was attended by an almost continuous round of affairs in the Admiral's honor, the principal one of which was a state luncheon tendered by British Government and presided over by the Secretary of State for War, the Rt. Hon. J. J. Lawson. It was the Admiral's first trip outside the theater since he arrived in Italy as one of the original members of the Allied Military Mission two and a half years ago. And keeping to character, that is, making most of his time, the Admiral also managed to get in a lot of business; a host of official calls, not to mention a number of welcome reunions with many A. C. alumni in London who are now back to wearing mufti and wing collars. But perhaps we better stick to the straight narration of the journey as we have it from the personable Mr. Behn.

The Admiral left Rome 9 February in the C-47 of Brigadier General William L. Lee, Deputy Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission. The flight had bumpy weather, bucking a 50-knot wind all the way, and an overnight stop was necessary at Paris, arrival in London being made the next day, Sunday. The Admiral thereupon made a series of calls: on Mr. Bevin, the Foreign Minister, on leading officials at the Foreign Office; at the War Office, including the new Deputy Chief of the Imperial General Staff and the Directorate of Civil Affairs; on the First and Second Sea Lords of the Admiralty; on Mr. James Dunn,

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who is U. S. representative among the Deputies of the Big Four Foreign Ministers working on the Italian peace treaty; on Mr. Harold Macmillan, former A. C. Acting President, and, of course, on Lieut. General Sir Frank Noel Mason MacFarlane, M. P., former Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission. Mason Mac, the Admiral found, is still keenly interested in Italy and the A. C. but is still also a pretty sick man and much thinner than his usual spare self. The Admiral saw the General twice, in fact, talking over old times.

On 13 February was held the state luncheon at the Savoy where Mr. Lawson was host and at which he paid tribute to the leadership and vision of the Chief Commissioner in carrying out his duties, and to which the Admiral risposted his testimony of the unfailing cooperation of the British in the Allied venture and his personal appreciation of the high honor and warm and bountiful hospitality accorded him in London. The luncheon was virtually an old boys' reunion. Among those present were Viscount Stansgate, former Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section and now Secretary of State for Air; Mr. A. P. Grafftey-Smith, the former Brigadier who was joint director of the Finance Sub-Commission; Mr. Gerald R. Upjohn who used to be a brigadier, too, and is an ex-VP of the Civil Affairs Section; Mr. H. A. Caccia, former British political advisor and VP of the A. C.; Mr. H. L. d'A. Hopkinson, present British Poltad; Admiral Sir Algernon Willis, Second Sea Lord, who has since been appointed C-in-C, Mediterranean, and several other notables from the War Office, Foreign Office and Parliament. The Admiral managed to see at a luncheon at Claridge's the other former political VP, Mr. Samuel Reber who was in London with Mr. Dunn from his post in the U. S. State Department.

The big day came on the 15th when the Admiral went to Buckingham Palace. There he was met by the King's Equerry, Wing Commander Peter Townsend, and presented to the King, who was wearing the uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet. After the presentation of the K.B.E. the King and the Admiral conversed for about half an hour. The Admiral left London two days later but not before attending a reception tendered by Admiral H. K. Hewitt, U. S. N., Commander, U. S. Naval Forces in Europe, and not before seeing several times his old P. A., the ever amiable (Major) Tony Quayle, back behind the footlights again at the Criterion Theatre in Sheridan's "The Rivals". The flight back to Rome took five and a half peaceful hours.

THE ELECTIONS

Italian election preparations are growing like a snowball, says Major Ralph R. Temple, director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, almost the busiest single Sub-Commission in the A. C. these days. According to the latest overall report (of 12 February) 13,731 of the 14,428 electoral lists (for males and females) in the 7,214 communes of Italy (excluding Venezia Giulia)—or 95 per cent.—have now been compiled. Better yet, more than 50 per cent. have been approved. As a consequence, 1,498 communes are now ready to hold their administrative elections on one of the four election Sundays in March and on the first Sunday in April. This number comprises twelve entire provinces (with 699 communes) as well as a further 29 provincial capitals.

The Italian brand of democracy, our experts feel, has its own brand of haste but the results appear much more satisfactory than at one time appeared possible. The North, where preparation of the electoral lists under AMG did not start until 15 July 1945, has a particularly good record. A breakdown of the detailed 31 January sitrep shows an impressive jump over the previous report, an improvement ascribed mainly to the new system of checking criminal records. Before, reference had to be made to the Judicial Records Offices, whose files often were either lost or in such a state as to delay matters unconscionably. The business has been speeded up no end by simple inquiry at the local police stations. Here is a summary table of the 31 January situation:

Area	Total Number of	Lists Compiled	Lists Approved	January 31 Percentages	January 15 Percentages

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AREA	Total Number of Communes	Lists Compiled	Lists Approved	January 31 Percentages *		January 15 Percentages *	
				C	A	C	A
Italian Government territory (as known before turnover of North)	3,586	6,948	4,350	97	61	88	43
Former AMG area in North (including Udine)	3,628	6,411	1,750	88	24	62.5	7.9
All Italy (excluding Venezia Giulia)	7,214	13,359	6,100	93	42	70.5	24.2

* C is Lists Compiled and A Lists Approved.

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The entire provinces ready to proceed to the vote are as follows (including, of course, the capital which gives the province its name): Bergamo, Grosseto, Ragusa, Campobasso, Modena, Siracusa, Cosenza, Piacenza, Terni, Enna, Pisa and Verona. The 29 other provincial capitals likewise *pronti* are Ancona, Bologna, Cremona, Macerata, Pesaro, Savona, Treviso, Arezzo, Brindisi, Forli, Novara, Pescara, Siena, Venezia, Ascoli Piceno, Cagliari, Frosinone, Nuoro, Reggio Emilia, Teramo, Vercelli, Asti, Chieti, Imperia, Padova, Rieti, Trapani and Vicenza. The geographical spread of these communes is such as to provide straws for the political winds that will blow. As of this week, 3,953 of the 4,498 communes ready to ballot have fixed their election dates. On 10 March 436 will vote (70 per cent. of these communes have less than 5,000 population) on 17 March 1,074, on 24 March 1,162 and on 7 April 45 so far.

Background.

At this point, for the record, it might be timely to give some background of how the elections will be handled on the basis of the local electoral law (DLL 7 January 1946) of 85 articles, which, approved by the Consulta, became law with publication in the Official Gazette of 10 January 1946. Incidentally, the *consultori* and the Italian Government's experts have consulted steadily with Major Temple and his staff since last September and finally incorporated practically all the suggestions made by the Chief Commissioner to the Prime Minister. In fact, the Italians are so hot on the subject now that they would like to send an official mission to the States and United Kingdom to study further how democracy does it at the polls.

The electorate or those eligible to vote are all Italian citizens registered in the electoral lists, both men and women (for the first time in Italian history) who were 21 by 21 December 1945 and who have not since been excluded from the lists for some valid reason. Some persons cannot be registered, among whom are lunatics, bankrupts, certain criminal convicts and those found guilty of Fascist activity, which takes in ranking officials of the Fascist party or Fascist government and those subject to loss of civil rights by special provincial commissions. Neither can these latter seists, ineligible to hold the office are clerics, provincial and state officials, salaried employes of communes or their institutions, persons who have a lawsuit pending against the commune, magistrates, persons having direct or indirect financial relations with the commune and—with true Latin cynicism—all close relatives of the last named.

Procedures.

In these first or administrative elections in the communes, the voters will cast ballots for members of the communal councils, the size of which varies from 15 to 80 according to population of the commune. Under 3,000 there are 15 members; over 3,000 are 20 members; over 30,000 or if provincial capitals (with smaller populations), 40 members; over 100,000, 50 members, and over 500,000, 80 members. At its first meeting the council elects by secret ballot from its own members a mayor or *sindaco* and a *giunta* or municipal board. The *giunta* range from two members or *assessori* in places under 3,000, to four in communes over 3,000, to 14 in cities over 500,000.

Two different methods of voting are offered, again varying as the size of the commune does. In communes of less than 30,000 that are not provincial capitals, the so-called majority system with limited voting is used, that is, one may vote for only four fifths of the councillors to be elected. The other system, used in communes of over 30,000, is proportional representation, with the additional right of showing preference for up to five candidates, depending on how many are to be elected.

Candidates are nominated for office by petitions signed by eligible voters—ten in communes of 2,000 to 500 in those of more than 500,000. Lists of properly nominated candidates are published and displayed publicly 15 days before the election, an improvement over the original intention of making the names available only the day before the election. And for the first time again in Italian history, an official ballot is to be provided, as the A.C. so strongly urged. Before 1919, the poor voter had to bring along his own ballot, a necessity which the parties used to kindly take care of by providing their own voting sheets. Another Allied suggestion incorporated in the

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Anyone is eligible to run for communal councilor if he is a registered elector and can read and write, which is attested to by a certificate of study or tested by a statement written and signed by the aspiring nominee in the presence of a local official and two lay witnesses. Besides the Fascist cynicism—all close relatives of the last named.

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of the Italian police or armed forces unless specifically requested by members of the election board for the obvious reason of quelling disorder.

In the booths, which will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (but 7 p.m. in voting districts with less than 500 electors), the procedure is familiar. Incidentally, all voters safely inside the booth at closing time have until 9 p.m. to vote. After identifying himself, the voter presents his electoral certificate to the president of the election board in the booth. This worthy detaches from the certificate an attached coupon and taking a ballot from a special box gives it to the voter, together with a pencil. The voter walks to a table, does his stuff, folds the ballot and returns it, *plus* the pencil, to the aforesaid election official who then places the vote in another ballot box while a clerk marks off the voter on the election list as having voted. There are also sanctions against absent-minded gentry walking off with ballots or pencils. Failure to return *either* will earn the chap a fine of 1,000 to 3,000 lire. The ballots are innovations to the Italians in more ways than one. Besides being of standard color and size, they will have the lists of parties, topped by their symbols, across the page, with the party candidates beneath. The voter can vote straight ticket or scratch around, just as we do at home.

It cannot yet be said whether the compulsory vote recommendation made by the *Consulta* will be made into law by the Government in time for the first of the local elections. In any event, the experts point out that it obviously would result in an increased strain on election machinery as the many voters who have moved residence rush to get duplicate electoral certificates in their new locations. As to how many will vote, one can only recall that in the last free local elections in Italy, in 1923, approximately 12,060,000 persons or 33.3 per cent. of the population were on the election registers. Of these more than 6,000,000 or 55 per cent. actually voted. This year, with a national population of 43,000,000, 65 per cent. or 28,000,000 (including 15,000,000 women) will be able to vote, it is estimated.

ODDS AND ENDS

The latest awards: *Italian Cross of War Merit* – T/5 G. R. Lanchaniss; *Crown of Italy – (Knight* Capt. Charles Perry; *Medal of Freedom* – British civilian, Mr. William H. Braine (with silver palm); Italian civilians, Mr. Mario Martini and Mr. Michele Savarese (with bronze palm); and American civilians, Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Mr. Leland G. Allbaugh, Miss Mildred A. Avallone and Mr. David C. Sachs... A proposal is now under discussion to award the Italian Army War of Liberation service ribbon to all U. S. members of the Allied Commission who served in Italy prior to V-E Day; the British Army does not as yet accept Italian awards... Brigadier M. Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, back from a tour of the North, reports quiet despite some discontent, rising unemployment and shortage of food... The British W E for the A. C. has finally been submitted at 217 officers; surplus officers will be processed through the Benevento depot speedily, according to assurances of G-1 (B)... Udine and Venezia Giulia have about reached their top possible limit in American officers, the former's strength being at 12 (T O - 15) and the latter's being 63 (including five on TD in the States) or ten below the T O of 73; the British strength in Udine is 19 (W E - 17) and Venezia Giulia 63 or a full W E... The 2675 Regiment reports that 24 officers have applied for commissions in the U. S. Regular Army, 22 of these taking their physical at Naples Monday (the other two are out of the theater)... Col. Floyd L. Simmons, formerly with the Land Forces Sub-Commission, writes from Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A., where he is principal of Collinwood High School, that he would be happy to hear from old friends... British Army release dates, according to the latest information, are as follows: *Officers* – Group 25 – completed by 9 April; Group 26 starts 10 April; 27 on 6 May; 28 on 23 May; 29 on 1 June; 30 on 9 June; 31 on 17 June, and 32 on 24 June; *OEs* – Group 27 – completed by 20 April; Group 28 starts on 21 April; 29 on 19 May; 30 on 2 June; 31 on 12 June, and 32 on 24 June... Looking around Rome for a spare hotel to house U. S. officers, the Regiment was offered the Boston but had to turn it down when it was found that it would cost six million lire to put the kitchens in order...

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~~RESTRICTED~~

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Party decisions, whether good or bad, are inseparable from a free government.

BURKE.

The pre-election atmosphere in Italy is beginning to get sharper day by day. Party convocations in Rome, attended by reams of avid comment from friends and foes, appear almost daily affairs. More important, to the bystander, signs of reshufflings and regroupings of the established political aggregations, new marshallings of party forces, for the vital test of strength in the imminent elections, marked this unusually heavy political week. Indeed, as one Roman newspaper put it, rather wistfully, it would be so desirable if all the parties finally separated and coalesced into clear-cut organizations of the Left and Right.

To begin chronologically, with the event that started off the chattering of the editorial sages. On 7 February (see last week's *Bulletin*), at the meeting of the national congress of the Action Party, debate between the right and left wings of the party resulted in a clear split, the consequences of which were that Emilio Lussu, Minister for the *Consulta* in the Italian Government, and leader of the left wing in the party, resigned his office of party secretary and also his post in the Government. Whereupon, to observe the niceties of the situation, Riccardo Lombardi, Minister of Transport, and Ugo La Malfa, Minister of Foreign Trade, center- and right-wing party leaders respectively, and holders of the other two Action Party seats in the Council of Ministers, also resigned. The break within the party was almost immediately widened when former Prime to the Republicans, gave rise at once to the report that he would join the party.

The resignations of the Action Party ministers procedurally were complicated by the fact that an executive committee to accept the withdrawals had not yet been elected. While this matter of form was being adjusted the opposition press, led as usual by *Italia Nuova*, proclaimed these events a Government crisis, which statements were quickly disclaimed by Lussu's assertion that the resignations only meant a reshuffle of Action Party representatives in the six-party Government and not a withdrawal of the party from participation in the Government. Although no word has yet issued on the confirmation of the new Action Party appointees, the latest report has it that Lombardi will be reconfirmed in Transport, Alberto Cianca will replace Lussu and Aurelio Peccei (at present commissioner of the Fiat works in Turin) or Rodolfo Siglienti will take the place of La Malfa. To fill Lussu's spot as party secretary, the party elected Fernando Schiavetti, editor of the Milan *Italia Libera*, who will now also assume the editorship of the Rome organ of the same name.

Parri.

Parri, who had walked out after the left-wing motion by Codignola had won by a plurality, and taken along with him, besides La Malfa, a group of other Action Party names, notably De Ruggiero, explained his stand further in a letter to the party directorate in which he said that, in view of his fixed aim of fighting for a democratic republic, he could not stay in a party led by men of the present composition of the new executive committee of the party. He said that most Italians wanted a republic and not a socialist state

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Party divisions, whether good or bad, are inseparable from a free government.

BURKE.

The pre-election atmosphere in Italy is beginning to get sharper day by day. Party conventions in Rome, attended by reams of avid comment from friends and foes, appear almost daily affairs. More important, to the bystander, signs of reshufflings and regroupings of the established political aggregations, new marshallings of party forces, for the vital test of strength in the imminent elections, marked this unusually heavy political week. Indeed, as one Roman newspaper put it, rather wistfully, it would be so desirable if all the parties finally separated and coalesced into clear-cut organizations of the Left and Right.

To begin chronologically, with the event that started off the chattering of the editorial sages, On 7 February (see last week's *Bulletin*), at the meeting of the national congress of the Action Party, debate between the right and left wings of the party resulted in a clear split, the consequences of which were that Emilio Lussu, Minister for the *Consulta* in the Italian Government, and leader of the left wing in the party, resigned his office of party secretary and also his post in the Government. Whereupon, to observe the niceties of the situation, Riccardo Lombardi, Minister of Transport, and Ugo La Malfa, Minister of Foreign Trade, center- and right-wing party leaders respectively, and holders of the other two Action Party seats in the Council of Ministers, also resigned. The break within the party was almost immediately widened when former Prime Minister Ferruccio Parri, asserting that the present Action Party no longer followed its original ideals, also walked out and showed up two days later at the congress of the Republican party (of which more later), where he was welcomed and thrice welcomed. This action, despite his denials that he was contemplating joining forces to the Republicans, gave rise at once to the report that he would join the party.

The resignations of the Action Party ministers procedurally were complicated by the fact that an executive committee to accept the withdrawals had not yet been elected. While this matter of form was being adjusted the opposition press, led as usual by *Italia Nuova*, proclaimed these events a Government crisis, which statements were quickly disclaimed by Lussu's assertion that the resignations only meant a reshuffle of Action Party representatives in the six-party Government and not a withdrawal of the party from participation in the Government. Although no word has yet issued on the confirmation of the new Action Party appointees, the latest report has it that Lombardi will be reconfirmed in Transport, Alberto Cianca will replace Lussu and Aurelio Peccei (at present commissioner of the Fiat works in Turin) or Rodolfo Siglienti will take the place of La Malfa. To fill Lussu's spot as party secretary, the party elected Fernando Schiavetti, editor of the Milan *Italia Libera*, who will now also assume the editorship of the Rome organ of the same name.

Parri.

Parri, who had walked out after the left-wing motion by Codignola had won by a plurality, and taken along with him, besides La Malfa, a group of other Action Party names, notably De Ruggiero, explained his stand further in a letter to the party directorate in which he said that, in view of his fixed aim of fighting for a democratic republic, he could not stay in a party led by men of the present composition of the new executive committee of the party. He said that most Italians wanted a republic and not a socialist state or a dominant political group with a clerical background. He concluded by asking all sympathizers to follow him into a new party, which a few days later he termed a "Democratic Republican Concentration".

Post-mortems on the Action Party crisis filled almost as much space as reports of the events

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themselves. Togliatti in *Unità* diagnosed the malady by saying that the party perhaps was more eager to espouse the programs of others than to create and follow an integrated one of its own. At least, he remarked, "... a Socialist knows where he stands". Many of the other papers, particularly the *Giornale della Sera*, gave the impression, more or less, of hoping that the patient died quickly.

The day after the Action Congress disbanded —on the 8th—the national council of the Labor Democratic party met. Former Prime Minister Ivanoe Bonomi, closing the two-day session, made a weighty appeal for a concentration of elements of the political center, stating that there should be a middle-class representation of liberal and democratic tendencies, perhaps a social democratic party, between the groups of Socialists and Communists on one hand and Christian Democrats on the other, a proposal on which *Unità*, in a leading article, took occasion to comment that Bonomi's fighting for democracy tended to "disappear under the veneer of all-concealing formulas". *Risorgimento Liberale*, however, agreed that such a coalition of the center would fill "a logical and practical need", while the Labor Democrat party organ, *Ricostruzione*, hailed the speech as worthy of the traditions of the party which one enthusiast proclaimed went back to the initial alliance of Bissolati and Bonomi (the youthful Socialist) in 1912.

Republicans.

The congress of the Republican party met concurrently and was certainly marked by a spirit of harmonious and hearty loyalty to the goal of a republic, which the party's *Voce Repubblicana*, also calling upon tradition, said went back to Mazzini and Garibaldi. Randolfo Pacciardi, the party's secretary, reiterated the party line that it should abstain from all blocs and concentrations (one of the latest Italian political coinages) and keep a vigilant eye on their enemies, the monarchists. Almost as an aside, the congress voted for decentralization of state administration. The party incidentally also announced that it had 194,065 registered members. The Action Party a few days earlier had asserted it had 267,000 members.

The week did not end that easily for the Christian (Democrat) Party. The announcement of the alliance, signed by respective leaders of the two groups, Guglielmo Giannini and Enzo Selvaggi, proclaimed the temporary union (but not fusion) as actuated "for the reconstruction of the country". *Momento* immediately placed the interpretation on the event as an "alliance in favor of the monarchy" while *Avanti*, as might be expected, headlined the news under "The Savoy and Giannini fronts fight together against democratic revival in Italy".

The technical battles of the parties in the *Consulta* were resumed on the 11th with the reconvening of that body, which was urged by Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi to make fast progress on the electoral law. Preliminary skirmishing on one of the first days brought about a temporary bedlam of some minutes when a Communist *consultore*, Marchesi, speaking against compulsory voting, made some sarcastic remarks about *consultori* of the center parties, addressing them as "my neo-liberal and neo-anti-Fascist friends". The strictures that followed, the usual suspicions and counter-suspicions that the other party was preparing to rig the electoral machinery, finally gave way to discussions on how far the *Consulta* could go toward defining the powers of the *Costituente*, with the Liberals plumping for a referendum to vote on a list of suggested powers. The *Consulta* sessions came to a climax on the 15th when, by a majority vote and after a succession of declamations and demonstrations in the chamber, the compulsory vote was approved. This, as everyone knows by now, was a defeat for the left-wingers. What the Communists and Socialists will do about it remains to be seen.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Shifting winds of world economic demands force us to tack quite a bit on our last week's grain futures. Tabulations on expected arrivals make it more and more evident that Italy's reserve stocks are dropping lower and lower, with a dangerously low figure of 56,984 tons (or less than a week in hand) as of 1 June, while the July 1 figure cannot even be estimated. The latest cables to UNRRA, which now has the supply responsibility for importing wheat, are pessimistic and speak of unexpectedly low March shipments. The

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The week did not end that easily for the tired political reporters. Today the *Uomo Qualunque* Front opens another congress in Rome, an event preceded on February 14 by a bold but not unexpected announcement (according to hindsight commentators) of an alliance between the Front and the Democratic (monarchist) Party. The Front's secretary, Guglielmo Giannini, announced that the two parties would "fight together for the reconstruction of the country". *Momento* immediately placed the interpretation on the event as an "alliance in favor of the monarchy" while *Avanti*, as might be expected, headlined the news under "The Savoy and Giannini troops fight together against democratic revival in Italy".

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tico in my case, for that is full already with the chaps who preceded me two weeks ago and are still waiting, but the Terminus, right near the station, i.e. miles from anything else (and I'm not going anywhere by train), and in some ways a pretty grisly auberge. A distinguishing feature is the lack of keys for the doors. Otherwise, it is only moderately dusty and, to be fair, not quite suicidally depressing.

The dining room is a pleasant room, but the coffee reminds me of the mixture I had on a freighter years ago (after we had been ten days out and hadn't made it fresh since leaving Le Havre). Of course often there isn't any coffee—those are the good days I suppose...

Well, then the next step is filling up forms for luggage. And here are some things one ought to know. Theoretically you are allowed to carry only what you can carry personally up the gang plank in one trip. I thought of my barracks bag, Vadpack, wooden box, musette bag, typewriter and two coats—and wondered. Somehow I must do it. But if there is a resounding splash in Naples harbor, you will know it's the ex-DPR faithful to his possessions to the bitter end. Or no, maybe not: I saw pre-occupied expressions on a number of faces when that bit of news was given out. Next—you must list all stuff that might have been GI. And then you are told you must hand in bedding rolls and blankets. For those who had everything packed in bedding rolls it meant a lot of scurrying around the alleys to find supplementary luggage. But it is the law. We were cheered by the announcement that we could carry a gallon of liquor on board (that would make six packages, though, and I'm not up to it). Then having listened to all this we were given hundreds of forms to fill out—it took me literally about two hours to get through mine...

And now we wait. And since Military Government School at Charlottesville I have never heard so many rumors. We hear that Liberty ships are sailing every day but *They* don't want us to take them. We hear that *They* will let us go by plane if we can show cause. We hear there is a boat sailing to-morrow but only for colonels, that there will not be a ship for three weeks, that the first list is already picked, that we have to have all our shots again, etc., etc. So far no aura that hangs about us. We are all orphans. It is a curiously lost feeling you get when you don't really belong to anything any more.

We are all going home to be sure, but everybody wants to get there and not hang around marking time. And we know, too, that we are going back to Uncertainty, however pleasant, and we have left behind a kind of security and in many cases a good bit of our lives as well... So we sit and glare mournfully at each other, seeking separate tables, not speaking too much, wrapped in our own special memories or anticipations...

Major Scotten, by the way, is in the Terminus with me while Colonels Densmore and McPhee are in the Turistico. Densmore is at the moment engaged in a life and death struggle to keep his bedding roll in the teeth of regulations. With four rows of ribbons we don't see how he can lose, but it's touch and go. I'll let you know how the doughty colonel makes out.

ODDS AND ENDS

A meeting with MTOUSA at Caserta 18 February will decide the permanent T/O of the 2675 Regiment, it is hoped: the present setup contemplates 250 officers and men, with a reduction of 50 men a month from present strength till 1 July, a cut which will not permit the A. C. to carry out its commitments, according to G-1's view... Liaison offices at Florence and Ancona may close for the time being... A survey is being instituted of billet and messing facilities in the North, especially for A. C. Allied civilians who have business in the field... The Land Forces Sub-Commission, on the British side, is looking for surplus officers from A. C.... Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia, is off on leave to the States... The following awards have come through:

Italian Cross of War Merit – Cpl. G. A. Cocco and T/4 M. J. Kutarnia; *Crown of Italy* – (*Grand Officer*) Colonel C. P. Kerr; (*Knight Officer*) Major J. W. Cunliffe; (*Knight*) Captains S. Casale, James F. Ellman, Armando Ferrari and Sidney C. Hall, First Lieut. P. A. Daugert and Sergt. Clemente Barone...

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and more dependency must be placed on the storage reservoir plants. If the snow and rainfall over a period of time is below normal, the storage reservoirs do not become refilled. Drought and lack of snow-fall, therefore, not only have an immediate adverse effect upon the stream flow plants, but in addition do not replenish the storage reservoirs.

In Southern Italy approximately 55 per cent. of the generating capacity was damaged by the enemy and through combat operations. At the present time approximately 60 per cent. of this original capacity is now back in operation. In Central Italy something over 90 per cent. of the generating capacity was blown up by the Germans before they left. At the present time about 45 per cent. has been restored to service. In Northern Italy the enemy had planned extensive demolition, but due to the speed with which the Allies advanced and Partisan activity he was unable to do much damage, with the result that slightly over 90 per cent. of the original generating capacity was found intact when the North was liberated.

Pre-war Power.

Before the war it was customary to send power from Southern and Central Italy to Northern Italy during the winter months when the streams and lakes in the Alps were frozen and when most of the precipitation in the North was in the form of snow. In the spring and summer the reverse operation took place when the snow in the Alps began to melt and some of the power produced therefrom was transported to Central and Southern Italy. However, the transmission lines connecting North Italy with Central and Southern Italy were all damaged or destroyed and only part of these lines has been restored to operation up to the present time, which permits a very limited interchange of power.

The destruction of generating equipment in Central and Southern Italy, the unusual drought conditions which have existed during the past two years, and the unusual loads placed upon the power systems by domestic consumers due to a lack of artificial gas and other cooking fuels have all brought about a combination of conditions a period of many years and is used as basis for comparison.

Taking the normal or average as 100 per cent., the 1945 precipitation in Northern Italy was 62 per cent. of the average, for Central Italy it was 51 per cent., for Southern Italy it was 82 per cent., for Sicily it was 83.5 per cent. and for Sardinia 62.5 per cent. Precipitation in 1944 was noticeably heavier.

The power shortage has made it necessary to reduce the energy consumption and also to reduce the load on the electric power systems. The first is done by rationing decrees limiting the amount of electric energy used by all classes of consumers. The second is accomplished by shutting off the power supply in rotation to large areas for varying periods of time. For example, in the North a coast-to-coast uniform rationing system has been set up as a result of Allied Commission efforts.

Drought conditions not only exist in Italy, but also in other countries of the Mediterranean basin. Spain and France report acute power shortages due to drought conditions, which, of course, have also affected the harvest everywhere.

ANTICLIMAX AT NAPLES

Considering the number of our comrades who have been through this experience already and the natural curiosity among those who haven't, but will, it seems odd that no one has told us about the functioning of a repple-depple. Or perhaps it was kindness, says our late esteemed boss, writing from the Naples repple-depple.

The first thing is to get out to Bagnoli and report at one of the little white huts among many. This is easy if your driver knows where he is going, but it took me about 10 minutes from the Parco (where I learned immediately that I couldn't stay). Then you are seated at a desk—just like school—and made to fill out three forms. Mostly the filling out is a matter of checking off documents that are supposed to be in your possession. Have you an AGO? Have you an immunization record? Have you a form 30? Another 37-54? And two copies?... The trouble was I didn't know what any of them meant and kept saying "no" and looking frustrated. Then the ser-

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The destruction of generating equipment in Central and Southern Italy, the unusual drought conditions which have existed during the past two years, and the unusual loads placed upon the power systems by domestic consumers due to a lack of artificial gas and other cooking fuels have all brought about a combination of conditions which have produced the temporary present power shortage situation which exists this winter throughout the country.

Statistics show how much the precipitation for the years 1944 and 1945 was less than the average normally expected. The normal or average is computed from readings taken over

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Then one is whisked back to a hotel. Not the Excelsior, not the Pareo, not even the Turis-

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reconsidering the bread ration itself in order to get the country by until the next harvest.

There is also some financial news. Allied troops in Italy, according to the Finance Sub-Commission, may begin to get paid in Italian metropolitan lire (instead of AM lire) by 15 March as a result of the new currency agreement with the Italian Government. AM lire are, of course, still legal tender. The new exchange rate of 225 lire to the dollar has now been applied to private remittances. Maj. John W. Young (B), formerly chief financial advisor to G-5, is the new head of the Allied Supply Accounting Agency, which is under AFHQ but attached to the Finance Sub-Commission. In Venezia Giulia 5,000 men are being employed on reforestation projects; the immediate need is for two million seedlings.

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

The latest cutback in the U. S. Army cigaret ration here in Italy—seven packs a week when some of us before the war used to buy five packs a day—makes us feel very sorry for ourselves but perhaps even more so for our Italian brethren, who, if they want to taste the luxury of a good American smoke, have to pay 17 lire for one fag or 350 lire for a whole pack. This business also brings up the story of the enterprising villagers of the river town of Isola del Liri, recently in the Italian news, who, we are told, have been discovered to be one of the most productive sources of black market cigarets in the country, their industry putting out at its peak as many as 10,000 cigarets in one day.

The cigaret industry of Isola del Liri, however, is now (we hope) a thing of the past as a result of inquiries pursued there by the Italian police. But probably the saddest part of the story has to do with the indignation of the villagers themselves who aver that they were only trying to help out the situation patriotically and that besides, as a result of the income created by their initiative, all the windows of the *Municipio* have been restored and all the main streets of the town re-illuminated, not to mention that their allegedly self-imposed tax of 10 lire a pack has gone into a fund to rebuild their war-damaged homes.

The police story is simpler: The village, em-

was called *Vero Nazionale*. Whether *Vero Camel* or *Vero Players* were made is not known as yet as the matter is being pursued.

The black market in tobacco, of course, is flourishing in practically every Italian town, particularly in Rome, Naples, Turin and Milan, according to our informants in the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission. Nonetheless, the state monopoly is not doing so badly. Pre-war peak raw tobacco production was 15,000 tons a year while last year it was 16,547 tons. It is hoped in 1946 to produce 40,000 tons. Pre-war finished tobacco production amounted to 36,500,000 kilos. (One kilo makes 1,000 cigarets.) In 1945 were made 10,500,000 kilos of cigarets, 2,500,000 kilos of cigars and 7,000,000 kilos of cut tobacco. The 1946 outlook is for 13,000,000 kilos of cigarets, 3,000,000 kilos of cigars and 7,500,000 kilos of cut tobacco, much from imported stocks. The ration during 1944 and early 1945 was 20 cigarets, 20 grams of tobacco or four cigars a week for all males over 18. The scale has been upped since to 30 cigarets, 30 grams of tobacco and five cigars a week.

Despite the Isola del Liri competition and that of other friends of heavy smokers, the Italian Government pockets a pretty revenue from its monopolies (which include salt and matches). Currently, this income is about 1,000,000,000 lire a month, of which 3,200,000,000 comes from tobacco. To raise the ante, the monopoly is trying to import raw tobacco from the States and from Turkey, or a total monthly import of 3,000,000 kilos. All that is needed are foreign credits of 870,000,000 (*sic*) over a period of two years...

WHY POWER IS SHORT

The Electrical Division of Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission has come forth with some interesting facts on the causes for the shortage of electric power in Italy based on statistics taken from records of the Italian Ministry of Public Works. Italy of course depends almost entirely on hydro-electric plants for its power. Rains and melting snows are the sources of the water on which these plants in turn depend to run the water wheels and generators which produce the electric power.

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Commission, may begin to get paid in Italian metropolitan lire (instead of AM lire) by 15 March as a result of the new currency agreement with the Italian Government. AM lire are, of course, still legal tender. The new exchange rate of 225 lire to the dollar has now been applied to private remittances. Maj. John W. Young (B), formerly chief financial advisor to G-5, is the new head of the Allied Supply Accounting Agency, which is under AFHQ but attached to the Finance Sub-Commission. In Venezia Giulia 5,000 men are being employed on reforestation projects; the immediate need is for two million seedlings.

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

The latest cutback in the U. S. Army cigaret ration here in Italy—seven packs a week when some of us before the war used to buy five packs a day—makes us feel very sorry for ourselves but perhaps even more so for our Italian brethren, who, if they want to taste the luxury of a good American smoke, have to pay 17 lire for one fag or 350 lire for a whole pack. This business also brings up the story of the enterprising villagers of the river town of Isola del Liri, recently in the Italian news, who, we are told, have been discovered to be one of the most productive sources of black market cigarets in the country, their industry putting out at its peak as many as 10,000 cigarets in one day.

The cigaret industry of Isola del Liri, however, is now (we hope) a thing of the past as a result of inquiries pursued there by the Italian police. But probably the saddest part of the story has to do with the indignation of the villagers themselves who aver that they were only trying to help out the situation patriotically and that besides, as a result of the income created by their initiative, all the windows of the *Municipio* have been restored and all the main streets of the town re-illuminated, not to mention that their allegedly self-imposed tax of 10 lire a pack has gone into a fund to rebuild their war-damaged homes.

The police story is simpler: The village, employing as many as 1,000 persons in home manufacture, bought tobacco illegally from growers (who should have sold it all to the state monopoly) and when this source of supply dried up, report has it, the cigaret makers were not above using various other ingredients. The chief product flourishing in practically every Italian town, particularly in Rome, Naples, Turin and Milan, according to our informants in the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission. Nonetheless, the state monopoly is not doing so badly. Pre-war peak raw tobacco production was 15,000 tons a year while last year it was 16,547 tons. It is hoped in 1946 to produce 40,000 tons. Pre-war finished tobacco production amounted to 36,500,000 kilos. (One kilo makes 1,000 cigarets.) In 1945 were made 10,500,000 kilos of cigarets, 2,500,000 kilos of cigars and 7,000,000 kilos of cut tobacco. The 1946 outlook is for 13,000,000 kilos of cigarets, 3,000,000 kilos of cigars and 7,500,000 kilos of cut tobacco, much from imported stocks. The ration during 1944 and early 1945 was 20 cigarets, 20 grams of tobacco or four cigars a week for all males over 18. The scale has been upped since to 30 cigarets, 30 grams of tobacco and five cigars a week.

Despite the Isola del Liri competition and that of other friends of heavy smokers, the Italian Government pockets a pretty revenue from its monopolies (which include salt and matches). Currently, this income is about 4,000,000,000 lire a month, of which 3,200,000,000 comes from tobacco. To raise the ante, the monopoly is trying to import raw tobacco from the States and from Turkey, or a total monthly import of 3,000,000 kilos. All that is needed are foreign credits of 870,000,000 (*sic*) over a period of two years...

WHY POWER IS SHORT

The Electrical Division of Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission has come forth with some interesting facts on the causes for the shortage of electric power in Italy based on statistics taken from records of the Italian Ministry of Public Works. Italy of course depends almost entirely on hydro-electric plants for its power. Rains and melting snows are the sources of the water on which these plants in turn depend to run the water wheels and generators which produce the electric power.

In Italy there are two types of plants: the first uses large reservoirs for water supply while the second, located on streams, utilises the stream flow. Consequently, when there is a shortage of rain or precipitation, the stream flow plants produce greatly reduced amounts of electricity

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RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Non consiste tanto la prudenza della economia nel sapersi guardare dalle spese, perchè sono sudte volte necessarie, quanto in sapere spendere con vantaggio.

GUICCIARDINI.

The Italian Council of Ministers had a busy week. Though the inner cabinet (as reported in last week's *Bulletin*) had issued a somewhat reassuring communiqué on the food situation, the Council meeting on February 1st was taken up largely with problems connected with the basic matter of how the country is going to eat. There was a report from the High Commissioner for Food and a lengthy discussion of ways and means. It was decided to stiffen measures aimed at building up the *ammassi* and to put a stricter control over public eating places. The Council also resolved that, since "the present ration cannot be assured by national production", the Allies should be made aware of the situation in order to assure continuance of the present supply of foreign wheat and the possibility of Italy's getting other supplies from foreign markets.

The Council then passed on to various other matters, allotting two billion lire to veterans' cooperatives for the building of *case popolari*, providing for the employment of *reduci* in private concerns and naming Guido Visentini president of the *Consiglio Superiore* of public works—to mention the principal items. The meeting the following day transferred to the *Presidenza del Consiglio* the functions now exercised by the *Alto Commissario* for Sanctions against Fascism and dealt with some minor technical matters touching the Assizes Courts and veterans affairs. A third meeting, held on the 6th, began with a statement by Prime Minister De Gasperi on the

viding that the allotment of jobs should be made through competitions.

In the field of reconstruction and public health, two billion lire were allotted to tuberculosis hospitals, four billion to the reconstruction of Naples and 200 million for relief to Torre Annunziata. On the last point it may be noted that some flurry was caused in the press by a letter of Brigadier Cripps (Naples zone commander) to the Neapolitan press, charging the Italian civilian authorities with inefficiency in handling the relief supplies made available by the Allies. Romita, Minister of the Interior, gave orders for a stricter control and the letter has had no further political consequences.

Uomo Qualunque.

The first congress of the *Uomo Qualunque* was held at Bari on Sunday. Giannini made the keynote speech; the program outlined was rather vague, laying stress on individual freedom and democratic organization of the powers of the State. General Beneivenga, onetime leader of the Roman front of the resistance movement and the leading *qualunquista* convert, also spoke. In a letter to Lazzato (published in *Buonsenso*), he gave as his reason for joining the party the defence of his ideals of liberalism, democracy and freedom. The Action Party also met during the week and heard Parri recall its days of greatness in the resistance movement but no new resolution or *ordine del giorno* has yet been forthcoming. However, the meeting is still in session as we write.

Bolzano loomed larger than Trieste in the foreign news of the week. A Reuter's report from Vienna (published on the 2nd) told of an Austrian note to the Allies suggesting a plebiscite in the Alto Adige and offering Italy various sugar [illegible] (such as a free port on the Danube) to

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rejected very strongly the suggestion that the Alto Adige could be considered disputed territory and, as for a plebiscite, stated that Italy could not allow a frontier problem affecting the whole country to be entrusted to the vote of a small fraction of her citizens. *Risorgimento Liberale* strongly supported the Government's thesis with a leading article making much of the point that the Brenner frontier was not one secured by conquest but was the natural expression of national rights based on history and geography.

On Trieste the principal news item of the week came from the U.P., to the effect that the special Allied commission is "about to leave" London in order to study the situation on the spot. The same dispatch also reported that all the Deputy Foreign Ministers—except the Russian—are well disposed to the Italian case for most of Venezia Giulia. An INS report of U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes' statement that the Russians had accepted the American suggestion to revise Italy's Armistice has, of course, come in for much comment. Just what it means at this time when the new treaty is in preparation is hard to say, but it is regarded as a sign of good intentions at least, though with some reservations. What England and France would think about it is not yet clear, as *Indipendente*, for one, remarked.

Stop Press — Just as our faithful Henry is about to remove the copy from our OUT basket we learn—from the *Giornale del Mattino*—that Lussu, La Malfa and Lombardi have tendered their resignations from the Government to the party directorate for consideration, a result, apparently, of a stormy session within the Action Party. Parri, too, is reported to have said that he cannot continue in the party: explanation of all these moves is still obscure.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The grain picture for Italy is a little but only a little brighter this week, though, as Mr. W. J. Legg, director of the Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission, puts it, it will be a job of constant attention and cooperation to pull the official ration through in view of the uncertainties and complications of the situation [illegible] remember that their official ration is now 2,000 grams. The regular ration, however, was continued in the Marche and Umbria and the provinces of Grosseto, Matera, Rieti, Siena, Teramo and Viterbo because enough locally-grown Italian grain was available for the local populace.

When the full 2,000-gram ration will be restored, God only knows, and, between us, it is highly doubtful if the arrears will ever be paid up. The suspension of the full pasta ration, incidentally, saved an estimated 62,000 tons of grain and resulted in a little gain in the overall cereal stock figures of 1 January, when, instead of the anticipated 208,000 tons reserve, it was found that 232,000 tons were on hand. This is adequate for 21 days' rations to the 35,000,000 non-producing eaters who have to be fed. The 500-gram general pasta ration, by the way, will finally remove previous disparities between North and South Italy in this issue.

Reserve stocks at the end of January were estimated at 236,000 tons. Imports during the month were 192,000 tons and amassing 45,000. For February, imports should reach 228,000 if the ships arrive on time. With an amassing of 20,000 in prospect, the stock situation at February's end should improve while by the end of March, the reserves should be an estimated 255,000 tons. As for the future, UNRRA tentatively proposes to bring in 1,620,000 tons of grain by the end of June loadings. Argentine wheat would help Italy—there are 100,000 tons of it available—if the grain could be moved to the ports of Argentina, which is also bedevilled by transport troubles.

Coal.

The coal situation in also less black. The U. S. steel strike, ironically enough, released more coal for export to Italy, coal which would otherwise have gone to the steel mills. Talking about strikes, the strikes in Chile are retarding nitrate shipments from that country to Italy as well as the delivery of Peruvian cotton, which is loaded on the same ships. The February coal imports will amount to an estimated 100,000 tons from the U. S. and 28,000 tons from South Africa, as of this week. For the record, here are some coal statistics recently made available:

Pre-war Italy imported 12,000,000 tons of coal

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Pre-war Italy imported 12,000,000 tons of coal a year or 85 per cent. of her requirements, most of it coming from Germany, with England, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Belgium being the other chief suppliers. Coal was largely used for industry and only 5.7 per cent. for household purposes, which latter per capita consumption in Italy is

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one of the lowest in the world. From D-Day in Sicily to the end of last September, the Allied military authorities brought into Italy 1,017,988 tons of coal for essential civilian use, not counting coal used for hauling civilian freight. Half of this came from the U. S. and half from the British Empire. Up to the first half of 1945, when the industrial North was liberated, monthly allocations averaged 50,000 tons. In July, 98,200 tons were imported, in August 203,000, in September 249,000.

In October the FEA program began, which envisaged an eventual total coal import of 1,687,000 tons valued at about $40,000,000. Despite strike and shipping difficulties, imports since September have been 358,000 tons in October, 131,433 in November, 391,831 in December and 323,000 in January. UNRRA plans, not yet fixed, contemplate, in the planning stage at least, importing 5,250,000 tons for 1946, about half the estimated essential requirements of Italy. Italian coal production itself is improving somewhat. Sardinian production is now 60,000 tons a month and steps have been taken to reduce the 70,000-ton stockpile on Sardinian docks. Lignite production is now about 110,000 tons a month and could go much higher once many mines could be connected by rail to the main lines.

Cotton.

Cotton also has come in for some examination. Italy, it is learned, has a large stockpile of finished textiles—about 75,000 to 100,000 tons—of both highgrade cotton goods and a lot of the poor, autarchic stuff made under the Fascists. The stocks, however, are still in warehouses, apparently kept for a price killing on the present inflated market. One of the main objectives of the UNRRA program is to help get prices reduced and the owners of these stocks may find themselves taking a pretty loss. Italian internal consumption of cotton used to amount to about 86,000 tons a year. Under the troop pay and FEA programs, 45,000 tons have been ordered but these have only just begun to arrive. To date, 29,928 tons have come in, with the rest now en route. This cotton will help initiate a return to substantial employment in the cotton industry which used to employ 220,000 persons. UNRRA also has been requested to import another 18,000 tons. Other UNRRA cotton may also be used

supplies to make relief goods. Discussions on prices have also begun, seed potatoes (30,000 tons are being imported as the first UNRRA shipments of 1946) and coal being test cases. Studies are also proposed on consumer research, it being held that no sound program can be established if one does not know what to manufacture for whom. Other news includes a visit from Mr. A. G. Antolini, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, who is now president of an American export merchandising firm. The North Italy Industrial Council (set up by AMG originally) is continuing its activities until the end of March.

RELIEF TO TORRE ANNUNZIATA

The Torre Annunziata tragedy is still very much in the public eye although, at the moment, most of the interest is concentrated around charges and counter-charges concerning thefts of relief materials supplied by the Allies.

Considerable relief goods were immediately given by the Allies and Colonel Pennycuick, A. C. CLO in Naples, has been very busy in coordinating all relief activites. Aid began to flow 22 January (the day following the explosion) when Brigadier Cripps, Commander, 56 Area, sent 300 tents and 1,000 stretchers, which were used as beds. A military party immediately set up a camp and the UNRRA medical officer arranged with the 300th General Hospital (American) for the loan of emergency medical stores. 56 Area also provided 50 lbs. of tea, 150 lbs. of sugar, 1,000 tins of canned meat and 2,000 tins of soup. Soup kitchens were established by the military which also supplied stoves and fuel. Since then, from Allied sources have come 860 kilos of cheese, 11,750 kilos of canned fish, 10 quintals of rice, 10 quintals of vegetables, 30 sacks of childrens' clothes, 85 sacks of clothes for adults, 2,000 blankets and one ton of bread.

The question of finding more permanent housing has also been dealt with by Colonel Pennycuick, who obtained material for 100 huts from 56 Area and 3 District. These will be constructed by the *Genio Civile*. Also, 15,000 square meters of sheet glass were acquired through AFHQ and this is now being collected from a factory in Salerno.

The latest casualty figures report 38 persons

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The Economic Section is busier than ever at its dual rôle. In its UNRRA rôle, it is having discussions with the Italian Government about the key problem of allocation of the imported

Studies are also proposed on consumer research, it being held that no sound program can be established if one does not know what to manufacture for whom. Other news includes a visit from Mr. A. G. Antolini, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, who is now president of an American export merchandising firm. The North Italy Industrial Council (set up by AMG originally) is continuing its activities until the end of March.

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The latest casualty figures report 48 persons killed, 300 injured and 9,000 made homeless. Two mills were damaged and three pasta factories destroyed. About 250 boats were also destroyed, along with fishing material and equipment such as nets. Much of the explosion

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area was badly damaged and a number of public buildings, including warehouses, customs offices, harbor offices, the maritime railway station, the gasometer and one church were completely demolished. Among the buildings blown about was the local prison. It being an ill wind that blows nobody any good, this resulted in the release of 35 convicts by the guards, who, looking at the damaged condition of the prison, came to the conclusion that they could not control the prisoners.

LES FRANCAIS

We have felt for some time that a note on French personnel in the Allied Commission would be welcome to our readers, particularly since the French officers of the Commission have made so many friends among us. We were happy in securing the willing collaboration of Sous-Lieutenant de Montera who obligingly gives us the following notes on the *Representation Française*:

Le 16 décembre 1943, sur la recommandation du Conseil Consultatif, les Gouvernements de Londres et de Washington approuvent la nomination à l'Allied Control Commission d'un membre français et d'un membre soviétique avec fonctions consultatives.

Le 16 février 1944, le Général de Brigade Aérienne de Sevin participe pour la première fois aux travaux de l'Allied Control Commission. Nommé Général de Division, le Général de Sevin restera dans ses fonctions jusqu'en 1 juin 1945, date à laquelle il est nommé à la Sous Commission de l'Air de la Commission de Contrôle à Berlin. Le Capitaine de Noue, son adjoint à l'Allied Commission, l'accompagne d'abord en Allemagne, puis rejoint, à Londres, l'ONU. Le Lieutenant de Malherbe, des Auxiliaires Féminines de l'Armée de Terre, quitte également l'Allied Commission, en septembre 1945, et va occuper un poste au Consulat Français de Calcutta.

Le 13 août 1945, le Capitaine de Vaisseau Moulhe, de la Marine Nationale Française, est nommé à Rome, en remplacement du Général de Sevin. Le Capitaine de Vaisseau Moulhe est bien connu des autorités britanniques à l'A. C. C'est lui, en effet, qui, dès le mois de juin 1940, avant gagné Londres où il s'était mis immédiatement contre l'ennemi commun. Auparavant, le Capitaine de Vaisseau Moulhe avait occupé les fonctions d'attaché naval français en Espagne pendant la guerre civile de 1936-1939. Il est officier de la Légion d'Honneur et a reçu la Croix de Guerre, après la campagne de Norvège en 1940.

Le Capitaine de Vaisseau Moulhe a sous ses ordres, à la Représentation Française près de la Commission Alliée, le Lieutenant-Colonel Cros, de l'Armée de l'Air, le Capitaine de Corvette Glaizot, le Capitaine Luquet, l'Officier de première classe Guyot et le Sous-Lieutenant de Montera.

Le Représentant Français a pour rôle de se tenir au courant de tous les aspects des travaux de l'A. C. Il est chargé, le cas échéant, de faire des suggestions au Président délégué.

We are grateful to Sous-Lieutenant de Montera for his account. Off the record, we might tell you that he reported to us that our own little *Bulletin* is highly regarded by the *Representant Français*; he finds it invaluable - *pour se tenir au courant*-. *Mille remerciements, mon Capitaine: on pensera à faire une édition française un de ces jours.*

AWARDS

The following decorations to A. C. personnel (past and present) have been approved by MTOUSA, although we may have published some of them before; if so, sorry:

Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus – (*Commander*) Colonels Edmund H. Bullis and Norman E. Fiske; (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Col. Milton Harris; (*Knight*) Lieut. Col. Robert J. Wilson, Lieut. Wendell M. Adamson.

Italian Cross of Military Value – Col. Clayton P. Kerr.

Italian Cross of War Merit – Lieut. Opal L. Rose.

Crown of Italy – (*Knight Grand Cross*) Col. Norman E. Fiske; (*Grand Officer*) Col. Charles Poletti; (*Commander*) Colonels Alfred C. Bowman, Edmund O. Howell, W. R. Jordan and Charles W. Walton, Lieutenant Colonels Albert R. Lester and Lloyd W. Stearns; (*Knight Officer*) Colonel E. R. McPhee, Lieutenant Colonels John S. Arnold, Louis J. Bocchino, Raymond Kenny, C. G. King and F. O. Mavis, Majors Franklin P. Luckman, Sam F. Mullie, Knute R. Nelson and E. H. Richardson, [illegible] and Harry A. Schmitt.

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was the local prison. It being an ill wind that blows nobody any good, this resulted in the release of 35 convicts by the guards, who, looking at the damaged condition of the prison, came to the conclusion that they could not control the prisoners.

LES FRANCAIS

We have felt for some time that a note on French personnel in the Allied Commission would be welcome to our readers, particularly since the French officers of the Commission have made so many friends among us. We were happy in securing the willing collaboration of Sous-Lieutenant de Montera who obligingly gives us the following notes on the *Representation Française*:

Le 16 décembre 1943, sur la recommandation du Conseil Consultatif, les Gouvernements de Londres et de Washington approuvent la nomination à l'Allied Control Commission d'un membre français et d'un membre soviétique avec fonctions consultatives.

Le 16 février 1944, le General de Brigade Aérienne de Sevin participe pour la première fois aux travaux de l'Allied Control Commission. Nommé Général de Division, le Général de Sevin restera dans ses fonctions jusqu'en 1 juin 1945, date à laquelle il est nommé à la Sous Commission de l'Air de la Commission de Contrôle à Berlin. Le Capitaine de Nonc, son adjoint à l'Allied Commission, l'accompagne d'abord en Allemagne, puis rejoint, à Londres, l'ONU. Le Lieutenant de Malherbe, des Auxiliaires Féminines de l'Armée de Terre, quitte également l'Allied Commission, en septembre 1945, et va occuper un poste au Consulat Français de Calcutta.

Le 13 août 1945, le Capitaine de Vaisseau Moullec, de la Marine Nationale Française, est nommé à Rome, en remplacement du Général de Sevin. Le Capitaine de Vaisseau Moullec est bien connu des autorités britanniques à l'A. C. C'est lui, en effet, qui, dès le mois de juin 1940, ayant gagné Londres où il s'était mis immédiatement au service du Général de Gaulle, a organisé, comme chef d'Etat Major de l'Amiral Muselier, les Forces Navales Françaises Libres qui devaient, tant dans l'Atlantique Nord que jusque dans le Pacifique, continuer à faire participer la flotte française, aux côtés des flottes alliées, à la lutte [illegible] de la Légion d'Honneur et a reçu la Croix de Guerre, après la campagne de Norvège en 1940.

Le Capitaine de Vaisseau Moullec a sous ses ordres, à la Représentation Française près de la Commission Alliée, le Lieutenant-Colonel Cros, de l'Armée de l'Air, le Capitaine de Corvette Glauzot, le Capitaine Luquet, l'Officier de première classe Guyot et le Sous-Lieutenant de Montera.

Le Représentant Français a pour rôle de se tenir au courant de tous les aspects des travaux de l'A. C. Il est chargé, le cas échéant, de faire des suggestions au Président délégué.

We are grateful to Sous-Lieutenant de Montera for his account. Off the record, we might tell you that he reported to us that our own little *Bulletin* is highly regarded by the *Représentant Français*; he finds it invaluable *«pour se tenir au courant»*. *Mille remerciements, mon Capitaine; on pensera à faire une édition française un de ces jours.*

AWARDS

The following decorations to A. C. personnel (past and present) have been approved by MTOUSA, although we may have published some of them before; if so, sorry:

Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus – (*Commander*) Colonels Edmund H. Ballis and Norman E. Fiske; (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Col. Milton Harris; (*Knight*) Lieut. Col. Robert J. Wilson, Lieut. Wendell M. Adamson.

Italian Cross of Military Valor – Col. Claxton P. Kerr.

Italian Cross of War Merit – Lieut. Opal L. Rose.

Crown of Italy – (*Knight Grand Cross*) Col. Norman E. Fiske; (*Grand Officer*) Col. Charles Poletti; (*Commander*) Colonels Alfred C. Bowman, Edmund O. Howell, W. R. Jordan and Charles W. Walton, Lieutenant Colonels Albert R. Lester and Lloyd W. Stearns; (*Knight Officer*) Colonel E. R. McPhee, Lieutenant Colonels John S. Arnold, Louis J. Bocchino, Raymond Kenny, C. G. King and F. O. Mavis, Majors Franklin P. Luckman, Sam F. Mutlic, Knute R. Nelson and E. H. Richardson, Captains W. R. Lanning and Harry A. Schmitt, Lieut. Louis Sabatino; (*Knight*) Captains Guido Alasia, Peter Boter, Francis W. Bushard, Orizzonte Mastroianni, M. Morrill, T. E. Ramsey, Robert E. Richert, Jeff A. Robertson, Marion H. Scott and Theodore H. Wilcox, First Lieu-

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lenants Roy E. Barone, William A. Giustiniani, Oscar D. Mitchell, Clement C. Petrillo, J. J. Scanlan and John J. Ward, Second Lieut. Stephen J. Roth.

U. S. Medal of Freedom – Marchese Carlo del Barbazzale and Elena L. Scudder.

VENICE

(*Editor's Note* – We are thankful to Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, CLO—and former RO—of Venezie for this article.)

The Editor asked for a story of Venice in the last nine months. He is in a hurry, as editors usually are. Yet the regional archives are—with our usual regional obedience to orders—boxed, corded and on their way to Rome. So what follows here must be undocumented history.

Sad it is that I cannot give the precise minute at which Air Commodore ("Con") Benson descended from the sky on to the Lido Airport—not sure whether German ack-ack guns might not open up—to be received with great enthusiasm by the *Partigiani* and with scarcely less enthusiasm by some hundreds of Germans who insisted on surrendering to him and *not*, repeat *not*, to the *Partigiani*. It also pains me that I cannot pinpoint the exact spot where Lieut. Col. Fergus McCleary crossed the Po—or was it the Adige—in a "Jantail", racing forward for Venice and beating (so he says) the Headquarters of the Queen's Brigade into the Grand Hotel by a shaved eyebrow.

These things are the stuff whereof stories are spun. This writer's more pedestrian tread first took him to Venice on 7 May. Almost the first sight that met his eyes was that of the best part of a battalion of the same tough Queen's Brigade, of the 56 (London) Division, on its way from Venice to Trieste. In soldierly trim, but with the broadest of grins, the battalion was proceeding majestically up the Grand Canal in a flotilla of *caporetti*. Already soldiers of all Allied Armies were afloat in every available gondola, and khaki was the prevalent color in St. Mark's Square.

One remembered the summer of the previous year, the real relief when Rome was found undamaged, and Venice was a city, in one sense, even more unique than Rome. It is said that some

The People.

Whatever may have been the intentions of some of the Germans, the Venetians, it is clear, had little fear of the intentions of the Allies. We were told later by friends who were within the German lines how amazed they were at the confidence with which the Venetians watched the approach of Allied air fleets last spring, confident that no bomb would be dropped on Venice. In fact, the air attack that was made one day on the Venice dockside was a masterpiece of precision bombing. It hit the two vessels aimed at, and that was all.

As a result of this confidence, Venice was a city of refuge and much that was valuable, and also a good deal of human dross, accumulated in the city. Thither were brought for safe custody paintings and church treasures, from all over North Italy. To Venice also fled, to save their skins, many rich Fascists.

As insurance, however, against over-confidence, some of the more important treasures were sandbagged, for example, the façade of St. Mark's and the Doge's Palace, and other famous monuments were brought down to ground, or below ground, level.

No sooner had peace come, than the face of the Piazza changed overnight, almost. Perhaps in no city of Italy has seen such a vehement tearing down of protection. The scaffolding and sandbags before the Basilica melted away. On Saturday, 2 June, there was opened in the courtyard of the Doge's Palace an exhibition of sculpture the like whereof had not been seen before. There were the four bronze horses, there were the Lion and S. Teodoro no longer high on their pillars, but displayed at arm's length (and seen for the artistic frauds they are). There, above all, was the *Colleoni*, perhaps the finest equestrian statue in the world. There were less known but nevertheless beautiful bronzes and marbles from a dozen churches.

Fired by the success of this exhibition, a more ambitious project was planned, resulting in the "Exhibition of Five Centuries of Venetian Art", which opened on 21 July 1945. Never before in Venice—and rarely anywhere—had such a rich collection been assembled in one place. Many of the pictures, then exposed to view in

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One remembered the summer of the previous year, the real relief when Rome was found undamaged, and Venice was a city, in one sense, even more unique than Rome. It is said that some German commanders on the Lido had been prepared to fight it out. The speed of the Allied advance, the stout work of the *Partigiani*, and a most courageous stand on the part of the Patriarch of Venice, all these combined to spare Venice from an irreparable destruction.

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Life Resurgent.

Meanwhile, with early summer, life surged through Venice. Ducks, assault landing craft, and folding boat equipment appeared on the Grand Canal. Soldiers of every component part of the Allied Armies crowded to Venice and relaxed in its charm. Across the lagoon there sprang up on the Lido one of the largest enterprise in troop welfare that the Allied armies had known.

Communal funds at that stage were too low to permit of the usual concert, fireworks, and decorations on the eve of the festival of the Redeemer (July 14), but Venice would not be robbed of its traditions. What could not be done communally was done privately. The night was warm and calm; gaily colored lanterns shone over the waters of the lagoon; there was music, laughter, and the happy chuckle of water beneath the gondola's prow. The war was really over.

The gondola race on Sunday, 19 August, was another milestone on the road of return to normal life. Yachts and steamers, racing skiffs and gondolas, craft of every kind, packed with sightseers, wine and victuals, turned out to line the course—round the lagoon to finish at Murano. There they were to cheer the competitors, to accompany the racers, to get in the way, to be chased out of the way by the hoses of the fire-boats, in fact, to have a wonderful Sunday afternoon.

The Port.

Venice, of course, is also a port. When the Allies arrived, channels, lagoons and docks were thoroughly mined. Minesweepers came in, channel after channel was cleared, and cargoes began to arrive. Stores for the Army, schooners with salt, tankers and, perhaps most eagerly welcomed, ships laden with coal for Italian industry. Allied port installations mushroomed at Mestre and Porto Marghera. Damaged petrol tanks were repaired and damaged railroad sidings re-opened. Trains began to pull out of the port of Venice for Udine, and beyond, carrying stores for the British Army in Austria. On 12 September a through civilian passenger train left Venice for Milan. As the port developed, the endless procession of trucks, which had rolled day and

Smoke began to arise from the factory chimneys in the industrial suburbs. In October, one of the two great glass furnaces at Porto Marghera resumed work. That day there commenced to flow a continuous stream of sheet glass for the repair of Italian windows. A few days later, another milestone was reached. The first export cargoes, hemp and silk, were loaded on the Canadian built steamer "Fort Millan" for England. Now cargoes of grain are reaching Venice for distribution right across Northern Italy.

The thunderstrokes of two great wars have passed very close to Venice. A generation ago one great Teutonic Army was broken on the Piave, last year another met its death below the Po. Had either battle come but a score of miles nearer, Venice could hardly have survived. Yet the city still stands, its fragile beauty precariously poised upon the sands. Long may it endure.

ARRIVEDERCI, TOM

(*Editor's Note* – The following piece has been sent to us by the powers that be. We personally and heartily say "Amen *and* amen" and could say much more....)

The Director of the Public Relations Branch will have left us when this number of the *Bulletin* appears. Though not always Director of the Branch, he has, however, for many months, since the Naples days, contributed to the weekly publication of the A. C. with his brilliant prose. Lieut. Col. T. G. Bergin (A) managed to put in his columns on the Italian political situation his deep and humanitarian understanding of the Italian people while his perfect knowledge of the language has enabled him to read the daily papers himself, and therefore to grasp many points that might escape a non-Italian reader. Whoever will, after this week, be writing the "Political", is undertaking a heavy task and a great responsibility. May we say—we who would never be able to write so accurately and so wittily at the same time on a subject so dull and serious as policy—how much we have enjoyed reading Col. Bergin's articles? The *Bulletin*'s readers will certainly miss the sparkling columns of this young Professor of Romance Languages from Cornell University. The whole staff of the Public Relations Branch—and we are sure the numerous

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ODDS AND ENDS

A few more U. S. promotions are out, all to captain; those promoted are Joseph Bellotti, Jack S. Cammarata, James J. Cantilli, Ward D. Carpenter, jr., Harold T. Coker, Stephen H. Conduct, Charles T. Kurlan and John P. Simoni... The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission hopes it will be able to hand over to UNRRA most displaced persons functions by 1 March, after which residual functions will still remain... All available U. S. officers who can be found are slated for Venezia-Giulia to keep up parity with the British there... New American rules have come in for promotions to and in field grade: the recommendations have to be approved in Washington and the time of length in grade has been increased (still counting time and a half oversea) to 18 months for first lieutenants and captains, 24 months for majors and lieutenant-colonels and 30 months for colonels... Of the 100-odd U. S. officers who signed in Category V for immediate release, only about 10 have had enough points to be redeployed while the rest have to wait until a new point rating (the last was of 2 September 1945) is made and then they can see if they qualify for home... U. S. officers in A. C. Hq. handed in some $12,000 worth of lire (at the old rate) and got nearly 3,000,000 in conversion refund...

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February 2, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 44

POLITICAL

Io vo gridando: Pace, pace, pace!
PETRARCH.

The political pattern of the past week is woven of the same threads that have dominated the tapestry for the last month or so: speeches, rumors of the peace treaty, allusions to Sicily and the prosaic but substantial work of the Council of Ministers. Only the colorful skein of the *Consulta* is temporarily missing. To begin with the Council: the meeting of this week was given over largely to a discussion of the problems of the *reduci*, the *partigiani* and the civilian victims of the war. A special committee was set up to look after the matter of employment and housing for these classes of citizens, and the Minister of Post-War Relief was authorised to carry out special measures for their shelter and welfare. Other business included: a report from Cattani on the condition of Torre Annunziata, a draft decree on the supplementary agreement between the Government and UNRRA, a measure to facilitate preparation of the electoral lists and a decree authorising such public work projects as could be called urgent. Two billion lire were allotted for the construction of *case popolari*. Later in the week the inner cabinet met and, according to the communique, "studied the food situation" and heard the President of the Council state that there will be no necessity of reducing the bread ration.

On Sunday Prime Minister De Gasperi spoke at Naples. Possibly stung a little by the criticism—from some quarters of the press—that his earlier speeches had had too penitent a tone, he affirmed that Italy had expiated for a great many also be forthcoming in this second one. Unlike his previous speeches, however, much of the talk at Naples turned on internal affairs, stressing the enormous difficulties of reconstruction. Labor must be pre-eminent over capital, he said, and a more equitable distribution of wealth must be brought about. He cautioned his hearers to remember that the State cannot do everything: "It is as absurd to form a magical idea of the power of the State as it is to expect that the *Costituente* will be able to solve, unaided, the immense and serious problems that hang over Italy." The *Costituente*, he went on, may be able to make certain reforms in the structure of the State but the rest will depend on the ability and determination of the individual citizens.

Allusions.

Since the speech was made in Naples there were certain local allusions not without interest: the Neapolitans were congratulated on their resistance to Fascism and the heroism of the *quattro giornate* before the Allied armies moved in. The President of the Council remarked also on the international link between Southern Italy and the rest of the world, recalling that the great majority of the ten million Italians living abroad came from the South. He referred to the Separatist movement in Sicily and, after extolling the Carabinieri, described *separatismo* as a "malady of defeat". He made it clear that he was not opposed to "autonomy within the state", as a central bureaucracy would suffocate Italy's revival, but separatism was a different matter, nor was it, indeed, confined to Sicily. "The Italian state", he declared, "is mending its tissues, and when recovery is complete it will use all its energies to save its unity." In saying this he added that he was not opposing the legitimate

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He made a special appeal to England, recalling that British Prime Minister Attlee had once said to him that the program of Christian Democracy is very similar to that of the Labour Party, and, remembering England's friendship in "the first *Risorgimento*", hoped that her aid might also be forthcoming in this second one. Unlike his previous speeches, however, much of the talk at Naples turned on internal affairs, stressing the enormous difficulties of reconstruction. Labor must be pre-eminent over capital, he said, and a more equitable distribution of wealth must be brought about. He cautioned his hearers to remember that the State cannot do everything: "It is as absurd to form a magical idea of the power of the State as it is to expect that the *Costituente* will be able to solve, unaided, the immense and serious problems that hang over Italy." The *Costituente*, he went on, may be able to make certain reforms in the structure of the State but the rest will depend on the ability and determination of the individual citizens.

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Freshly returned from his London mission, Nenni reported to the President of the Council and later gave an interview to *Tempo* in which

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he described his impressions at some length. His first task, as Secretary General of the Italian Socialist party, had been to re-establish relations with the British Labour Party, he said, and in this respect the mission was an unqualified success. He had also taken advantage of his opportunity to discuss Italy's situation with various personages in London: he had had talks with Bevin, Spaak and Noel-Baker, among others. Not all he learned was encouraging, he reported, "certain national positions have been irreparably compromised by the mad Fascist policy ... for it is unfortunately true in foreign as well as domestic policy that nothing is forgotten and everything is paid for... This means in practice that the frontier and colonial questions and, in general, that of our rôle in Europe are being raised under very difficult conditions for us."

However, he added that he was convinced that no one wished to crush or humiliate Italy and the United Nations were aware that Italy "should emerge from her present crisis and regain her democratic destiny in the joy of living, without fear or want". He said that when he left England it was accepted by all that Italy would be given a chance to present her case, though the time and manner of the presentation would have to be worked out. He added that he had stopped in Paris on his return where he had had talks with M. Auriol and Leon Blum who were planning to come to Italy in April for the Socialist Party Congress which Mr. Laski of the British Labour Party also expected to attend... Silone, editor of *Avanti*, who accompanied Nenni, said that their visit "fell in the sphere of normal relations between the British and Italian peoples" and hoped that the example would be followed by doctors, artists and professional men of every branch. He wrote (in *Avanti*) further that "in London we met men ... who are generally conscious of their responsibilities towards European countries".

Other News.

Further news, though much of it unofficial, continues to come in about the peace treaty. A UP dispatch from Washington states that it will probably be ready by April 1st. Secretary Byrnes, on January 29th, told the press that it had been *Unità* printed the comments of the Communist member of the *Consulta* committee on elections; according to him, the Communists are in favor of the adoption of the "*collegio regionale*" and all major parties favor the proportional system. As for the compulsory vote, he was sure that Communist opposition would cause it to be rejected. On the question of limiting the powers of the *Costituente*, he remarked that it would seem strange if a body like the *Consulta*, which he described as "not precisely democratic", could restrict the power of another body which would be the expression of the will of the whole country... As for the date of the elections, he added, that would depend on the good will of the *consultori*.

Sicilian bandits have been busy this week, too. Latest reports are of an attack on the *polveriera* (powder-plant) of Villa Grazia near Palermo. ANSA reports that regular army units are being dispatched to deal with the banditry and the remnants of separatism on the island.

A memoria: Partial quotation, though frequently necessary for such capsule publications as ours, is dangerous. In last week's *Bulletin* we left De Gasperi's words open to possibly wrong interpretations by omitting certain phrases in a quoted paragraph. To set the record straight we herewith give the paragraph in full with apologies to De Gasperi and to those who may have been misled by our editing:

"In reality if I were to describe my state of mind on the eve of the new negotiations, I would have to state that my trepidation is great. The British Empire cannot forget that the Italians one day threatened to cut her route to India and her danger was great. We are up against propaganda which is very ably carried on: photographs of exceptional gravity, dealing in particular with our activities in Jugoslavia, have been distributed. What can we do? However, I refuse to despair. We must have faith in a better world. I believe in international life so far as Italy is concerned; I believe in the way of thought and in our civilization."

ECONOMIC FRONT

The most important news of the week appears

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Other News.

Further news, though much of it unofficial, continues to come in about the peace treaty. A UP dispatch from Washington states that it will probably be ready by April 1st. Secretary Byrnes, on January 29th, told the press that it had been decided to give priority to the drafting of Italy's treaty and finally UP (from London this time) reported that considerable progress in the drafting had already been made.

On the elections, Romita, sticking to his statement of last week, told ANSA that it would be possible to hold the political elections in May. As for the compulsory vote, he was sure that Communist opposition would cause it to be rejected. On the question of limiting the powers of the *Costituente*, he remarked that it would seem strange if a body like the *Consulta*, which he described as "not precisely democratic", could restrict the power of another body which would be the expression of the will of the whole country... As for the date of the elections, he added, that would depend on the good will of the *consultori*.

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ECONOMIC FRONT

The most important news of the week appears to be that private trade between the United States and all parts of the British Empire and Italy will be resumed 15 February, which will be announced by the Italian Government 5 February. AFHQ has also issued a memorandum to all Allied commanders directing full cooperation with the Italian authorities in the latter's efforts to re-

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establish a customs service whose aims, of course, will be to prevent leakage of foreign exchange (that must be used only for the purchase of essential imports), to prevent the export of products needed in Italy and to operate the scheme of export subsidy and import surcharge set up by the Italian Government. Allied port commanders will release accommodations and extend such help to the Italians as will not conflict with military requirements.

The re-opening of private trade with the Allies in effect re-establishes private trade with all countries except Germany, Japan, Manchuria, Korea and Formosa, although all trade, of course, on the Italian side will be subject to the Government's regulations and to Italian cooperation with the rules, voluntarily accepted, laid down by the various international committees operating the procedures of the Reserved Commodity List. The affected commodities are food, coal, tin, rubber, hides and certain cotton textiles, which are controlled so as to insure equitable distribution throughout the world as long as they remain in short supply. There used to be 41 groups of commodities controlled before 1 January 1946 by the Combined Raw Materials Board, the Combined Production and Resources Board and the Combined Food Board, of which the first two have been split into five committees while the last is continuing unchanged.

The Economic Section and the UNRRA Bureau of Requirements and Distribution are operating more smoothly in their Janus rôle. Prospects at the moment are that the A. C. Section will not be able to go over entirely to UNRRA until 1 March. With the UNRRA Supplementary Agreement out of the way, a document necessarily marked with the reservations imposed by policies embodied in UNRRA Council resolutions, the A. C. Section and UNRRA Bureau are currently busy with studies of the problem of allocation, always, of course, in concert with the Italian Government. The former Allied Commission-UNRRA *Economic Notes* have also changed their title to UNRRA *Economic Notes*, although the PRB will continue to put them out through Issue No. 4, which is the next issue.

There are some incidental pieces of economic information. When all imports arranged for by the Allied Commission are accounted for, they are expected to amount to about six million tons worth about $700,000,000. As of 28 January, 983,600 tons of wheat have gone into the *Amgotsi*. The final report of the AMG Economic Commissioner for the North has some statistics of note: The entire rice crop is being used as a substitute for pasta. Production of copper sulphate has started from 3,000 tons of imported blister copper. Synthetic methanol (as a substitute for gasoline) production is going on in one plant at the rate of 600 tons a month. An estimated 10,000 tons of "domestic coal" a month are being mined but about 5,000 tons leak unregistered to the black market. The Pirelli Co. got substantial quantities of raw materials captured from the Germans. As of the year's end, some 25,000 kilos of cotton had arrived and been distributed to 3,000 firms, together with 65,000 tons of coal. In brief, production is low, inspections have been made and everybody is waiting for raw materials and coal to get going.

ODDS AND ENDS

Eleven promotions to captain are announced, the lucky fellows being Oswald R. Anselmo, George W. Barrus, Delos De John, Joseph M. De Luca, William H. Hunter, William W. Sampson, John J. Scanlan, Odell M. Smith, Bertel W. Straight, Lewis L. Stuart and Wilson A. Treadway... Col. Leonard Densmore, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section and one of the original U. S. officers from the Sicilian landing, has left the A. C. for the States... Separate British and American messes went into effect 1 February: the British have the Flora while the Americans have the Grand, the Bella Vista, the Inghilterra and the California... U. S. strength in the Commission is now 221 officers and 291 EM and British strength 389 officers and 648 ORs, which figures include many on LIAP or in the way to surplus; the American TO has just been cut from its previous total of 750—250 officers and 500 EM—to 500, which, roughly, will be divided into about 200 officers and 300 EM while the British WE is also now in process of being reduced...

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January 26, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 43

POLITICAL.

Ἀπορία δ' ἂν δοξειε τισὶν ὁποτέρως χρὴ ζῆν πότερον τοῖς ἐναντίοις ἅπασι τοῖς νόμοις, οἷον τῷ χρῆσθαι καὶ τοῖς ἀδικοῦσιν. Ἔτι δὲ κοινῆς ἄρχει πολιτείας καὶ πόλις τοὺς γειτνιῶντας ἅπαντας, εἰ δεῖ τὸν πόλιτην ζῆν ἄνευ πολιτείας.

ARISTOTLE. *Politics.*

This week, like the week just past, was largely a matter of speeches. The Council of Ministers did very little business; though it met twice, it concerned itself only with such relatively minor matters as the retirement of certain categories of state employes and the increase of telephone and telegraph charges. A good deal of the energy of the ministers was expended in the *Consulta* where the series of speeches, begun last week, was continued.

Again, as might be expected, the speech that was most widely commented on was Prime Minister De Gasperi's, at once an answer to some of the remarks made on his first outline of policy and a more detailed elaboration of some of its aspects. He tackled *seriatim* the delicate aspects of Italy's frontier problems. He repeated the position of the Government: regretted, as he and other ministers have in the past, that direct negotiations with the Yugoslavs were impossible; suggested the Wilson line as a reasonable frontier and asked that special consideration be given to the citizens of Fiume. On the Bolzano question he was not inclined to yield anything, asserting that cultural rights of the German-speaking minority had been safeguarded by recent legislation which the Government is willing to redraft or modify to suit the local population. He pointed out that the electric power from that region is the only reserve on which the industrial gave assurances that there were no further claims to be made on Italy, yet now they are asking for a rectification of the frontier. "Even so, we will not take up an uncompromising attitude," De Gasperi said. He reiterated the Italian renunciation to all claims on the Dodecanese, but asked that guarantees be given for Italians living in Rhodes. As for the colonies, he hoped they would remain open to Italian labor and he felt confident their administration would be entrusted to Italy,—"above all because they are not rich". He argued vigorously against the collection of reparations by expropriation of property of Italians abroad. On the question of the Spanish trade agreement, which had been criticized on political grounds by Di Vittorio among others, De Gasperi defended the Government's action, pointing out that it was a purely commercial arrangement and as for the political aspect, the Italian Government was merely following the same line as England, France and the United States.

Apart from these specific matters, there were a few general remarks that caught the attention of the press. Speaking of Russia, De Gasperi said he thought her attitude towards Italy could be understood if one realized that Russia thought she had an international mission: "namely that of protecting the states which have special ties of blood and geographical relations with her". He further added that it was a matter of regret that Italians had known Russians so far "only as enemies", but hoped much could be gained from the support of considerable forces of the workers. He concluded with the frank statement: "On the eve of new negotiations ... my trepidation is great. The British Empire cannot forget that one day the Italians threatened to cut her

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Ἀεὶ γὰρ δεῖ τὸν σωθησόμενον πρὸς τὸν κίνδυνον τίθεσθαι τὸν νοῦν, πρὸς τὸ μέλλον καὶ τὸν πόλεμον. Ἐν δὲ κακῶν ὄντι συμβόλαια καὶ πρᾶγμα τοῖς ἐπιτιθεμένοις οὐδὲν ἧττον ἢ τοῖς ἐπιτιθεμένοις.

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As for the western frontier, said the *Presidente del Consiglio*, when Italy renounced all aspirations to Tunisia, the French Government gave assurances that there were no further claims to be made on Italy, yet now they are asking for a rectification of the frontier. "Even so, we will not take up an uncompromising attitude," De Gasperi said. He reiterated the Italian renunciation to all claims on the Dodecanese, but asked that guarantees be given for Italians living in Rhodes. As for the colonies, he hoped they would remain open to Italian labor and he felt confident their administration would be entrusted to Italy,—"above all because they are not rich". He argued vigorously against the collection of reparations by expropriation of property of Italians abroad. On the question of the Spanish trade agreement, which had been criticized on political grounds by Di Vittorio among others, De Gasperi defended the Government's action, pointing out that it was a purely commercial arrangement and as for the political aspect, the Italian Government was merely following the same line as England, France and the United States.

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Press Comment.

The words of the President were very well received by the press which seemed to feel that he had spoken for Italy on the whole with consi-

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derable accuracy and which has, since his speech, been again reminding the Allies of Italy's sacrifices and the various promises made at Quebec, Yalta and elsewhere. Only *Buonsenso* took exception to a minor point in the prime minister's discourse, rejecting indignantly his avowal that Italy had tolerated Fascism. "No more than anyone else" was the essence of *Buonsenso's* rejoinder.

In the course of the debate between De Gasperi's two speeches, Parri had an opportunity to express himself. He stressed his solidarity with De Gasperi on foreign policy and aligned himself with those who believe that Italy must not join one bloc or another and should not be made use of as a weapon against Russia; her function was rather "to put herself at the head of the smaller nations" and work for general world harmony. He ended his speech with an appeal for an early convocation of the *Costituente*. Sforza's contribution, made after De Gasperi had concluded, was to voice the opinion, shared, he was sure, by 44 million Italians, that a "punishing peace" would be unjust in view of Italy's services to the Allies and fatal as well to the hope of establishing democracy in Europe.

Aside from foreign affairs the most carefully studied speech of the *Consulta* was Corbino's account of Italy's financial situation. The lira, he confessed, had been saved not so much by action of the Government as "through one of those miracles which only the Italian people are capable of performing". On economic matters something of a flurry was occasioned in the Socialist ranks when Cavinato, one of their own *Consultori*, said that industrialists would have to close down their plants unless relieved of the strain of paying workers for whom there is no work. This remark brought immediate protest from Left Wing Socialists and the clarification from the party secretariat that the *Consultori's* ideas were his own and not those of the party. The *Consulta* adjourned Thursday. The next session will begin February 11, and will get to work on the electoral law. A fixed date for the *Costituente* elections is still to come; Romita, speaking in Pescara, said they would be held May 12, a week later than the last date we heard mentioned.

on these matters, said the Communists would leave the Government if the compulsory vote were approved but in his opinion approval was very unlikely. (An ANSA report gives some support to this view, reporting that many Labor Democrats and Christian Democrats are opposed to the compulsory vote.) The Communist leader went on to say that "on general principles" his party is not opposed to the idea of a referendum.

Early in the week it was rumored that Aldisio, High Commissioner for Sicily, would be replaced in the face of strong opposition to him by the parties of the Left; however, this does not seem to be an immediate possibility for De Gasperi has intervened and written him a letter, urging him to "remain at his post". Meanwhile, at least according to press reports, the battle of Montelepre continues and tales of banditry still come up from the restless isle... The UNRRA accord was signed by De Gasperi and Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief of the UNRRA Mission to Italy, on January 19. The press carried headlines and pictures but—rather surprisingly—almost no comment, save for *Giornale del Mattino's* statement that the agreement is of decisive importance for Italy.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The Allied Commission is rapidly shedding its economic activities. In effect, the Section's staff is mostly working on the UNRRA program, occupying as many do posts in the UNRRA Bureau of Requirements and Distribution. Then, this week came a cable from SACMED that the A.C. has almost no further mission in regard to Italian foreign commerce, explaining that previous left-over restrictions are now lifted. This particularly refers to classification of Italian exports in the A and B class with different marketing and pricing policies (aimed at giving the Allies first crack at world shortage items) and to responsibility for screening exportable surpluses. The A.C. will continue to make some reports but only until the Italian Government itself takes over the job of cooperating with the various international trade committees. Financially, too, restrictions were lifted further so that external financial transactions by Italian insurance companies are now not subject to A.C. control.

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Liberals.

The National committee of the Liberal party approved a resolution calling for the compulsory vote and a referendum on the powers and duration of the *Costituente* and the institutional question. Togliatti, interviewed by *Risorgimento Liberale* [illegible] support to this view, reporting that many Labor Democrats and Christian Democrats are opposed to the compulsory vote.) The Communist leader went on to say that "on general principles" his party is not opposed to the idea of a referendum.

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Good news comes also from England where Lieut. Col. Tooby of the Economic Section has been expediting the British part of the supply program to Italy. Col. Tooby reports that 1,000 tons of wool has been shipped (with 1,000 more to come); 570 tons of rubber is being shipped;

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strike but we hope the boys will cooperate to get this out for the Allied Armies... Brigadier General A. L. Hamblen, Assistant Chief of Chief Staff, G-5, at AFHQ, is being succeeded temporarily in that post by Brigadier F.G.A. Parsons... Bronze Stars have gone to Lieut. Col. Leif Neprud and Major Anthony P. Nugent... The following U.S. promotions have been announced: To major—Stanley Beatty; to captain—Thurman W. Oliver, Alvin M. Pankratz, John A. Kitner, Thomas D. Morgan and Louis R. Bernard... Late flash: The Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, and the Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, have been awarded the Order of Malta; the Chief Commissioner received the Cross of Merit, first class, with crown, and the Executive Commissioner the Cross of Merit, first class... Col. John K. Weber (A) has been awarded the Order of the Crown of Italy, degree of Commander.

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or the population will lose their livelihood. On Pantelleria large stocks of captured enemy and Allied war material had to be taken care of. An UNRRA representative has visited the island to survey relief requirements.

Turning to Sicily, one thinks of the banditry which has been in the news in recent weeks. The report states that although individual crime is decreasing, organized bands are certainly becoming bolder. Carabinieri barracks are their principal objectives, and some are attacked almost every night. The Carabinieri have conducted themselves well, often against odds of sixty well armed men to three.

There is plenty of food on the black market, lots of sea food, and the food situation is on the whole unchanged. Grain in official stocks was enough to last until January 26. With the wet weather, much grain was being spoiled by being left uncovered on the quayside, and during transport in open trucks—there being a lack of covered vehicles. Citrus fruit for export to England has suffered similar damage. There is some trouble, too, over allegedly unfair allocation (which is made by the Italian ICE through local chambers of commerce) of business among different firms handling citrus exports. There has been something of a slump in the prices of clothing and shoes, which are now more plentiful in the shops, clothing prices being as much as fifty per cent. less than those of a few months ago.

If the rain is damaging food and washing out bridges, it is nevertheless helping the water and electric power situation. Unemployment, especially in Palermo, is being somewhat reduced by the expansion of public works programs. Overdue road repairs are now being tackled. Approximately 11,000 were estimated to be unemployed as of a month ago. Allied naval authorities have handed back shipbuilding yards at Palermo; most of the 1,000 workmen will be taken over by the company operating the yards.

MORE ON OLD BOYS

Again we have to thank the Legal Sub-Commission (which is winning its way to honorary (John) Albright is now commanding officer at Fort Meyer, outside Washington, having "seen a lot of action" in ETOUSA as chief of staff of an infantry division and later C. O. of a regiment. He "was wearing an extra ribbon or so" when Col. Adams met him. Col. Adams himself has received the Legion of Merit from the hands of Lieut. Gen. Gerow, he writes... From Major Titus Oates—another legalite—comes word (more impressionistic than factual) of some other Old Boys; he writes (in part): "The basic man, (Col.) Behrens, stript of his military authority lives in the house immediately opposite mine (in London)... My late chief, Col. Wilmer, wears a bowler-hat (over his ears!)... The voice of (Brigadier) Upjohn booms loud in the legal world." A note also comes in from our old messmate, Capt. Vernon Lewis (Local Government Sub-Commission) who writes (from Nottingham): "It was a peculiar sensation taking up or trying to take up where one left off five years ago." But it was—we're looking forward to it...

ODDS AND ENDS

Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, has returned from London... The Land Forces Sub-Commission is setting up a Carabinieri Section staffed by former Public Safety Sub-Commission officers whose mission will be help the CC. RR... 2675 Regiment has just received the official word about how U. S. officers may be promoted one grade on the first day of terminal leave: If you have an efficiency index in excellent of 40 and above, you qualify, providing lieutenants have been in grade at least 18 months, captains and majors 24 months, and lieutenant colonels 30 months, all overseas service counting as time and a half... The Navy Sub-Commission reports that 1,400 Italians have been moved by Italian cruiser from Port Said to Italy... We apologize most humbly to Mr. G. Stewart Brown, director of USIS and our former boss, about printing that he was getting the Medal of Freedom; the papers concerning the decoration are still in process... Col. Eugene McPhee is back from the States and instead of going to Venezia Giulia, he is probably going back home...

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MORE ON OLD BOYS

Again we have to thank the Legal Sub-Commission (which is winning its way to honorary membership in our Branch) for sprightly material for our *Alumni Notes*. Col. Weber, Director, has received a letter from Col. Dickens Adams, former Economic Section panjandrum. Col. Kirwood, quondam Satrap of Tuscany, he reports, is now commanding officer of one of the artillery regiments at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Col. ment. He "was wearing an extra ribbon or so" when Col. Adams met him. Col. Adams himself has received the Legion of Merit from the hands of Lieut. Gen. Gerow, he writes... From Major Titus Oates—another legalite—comes word (more impressionistic than factual) of some other Old Boys; he writes in part: "The basic man, (Col.) Behrens, stript of his military authority lives in the house immediately opposite mine (in London)... My late chief, Col. Wilmer, wears a bowler-hat over his ears!... The voice of (Brigadier) Upjohn booms loud in the legal world." A note also comes in from our old messmate, Capt. Vernon Lewis (Local Government Sub-Commission) who writes (from Nottingham): "It was a peculiar sensation taking up or trying to take up where one left off five years ago." Bet it was—we're looking forward to it...

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and a quantity of jute will be shipped from Calcutta in February. In Paris, where the colonel also stopped, he reports that the French Government has opened up an initial credit of 20,000,000 francs for Italy. A French delegation is even now in Rome on a trade pact between the two countries. It also looks as if the phosphate rock business will be settled satisfactorily soon and that shipping of some additional rock will start in February.

In other fields, the feeding of the Italian Army is a problem involving much study. The long and short of it is that the Allies have been feeding the Italian Army from Allied military rations. Now the Italian Government must provide the rations, which can come only from the generally available civilian stocks. As is obvious, adding so many more mouths to feed means there will be possibly less for the civilians. In the North, electricity rationing is providing headaches, with Turin muttering the most. Wheat amassing, as of 21 January, amounts 978,700 tons.

ESCAPE IN THE AFTERNOON

Partly because the weather has been good, partly because the sight of other men running around briskly while we sit by in comfort and watch has always had a fascination for us, we have been spending the last few Sunday afternoons at the *Stadio* in Rome, observing the national pastime, *calcio* (soccer to you). It is a game lacking in the drama of American football and without the beautiful complications of rugger, but nonetheless one can form the habit. There are exciting moments, an occasional *combinazione* that works, frequent *tiri velocissimi alla rete* and a number of *belle parate*. We are on the way to becoming real *tifosi*. However, the crowd is as much fun as the game. As voluble and as expert as any bleacher crowd, nothing escapes their merciless eye and they express themselves with a Latin freedom and poetry which has added considerably to our enjoyment and now and then to our vocabulary.

Rome has two teams in the Central-South League, *la Roma*, now at the top of the list, and the unhappy Lazio, grimly battling for last place edging their bitter rival, *la Roma*, into first place. There were an estimated 20,000 spectators on that occasion, all pleased and all expressing themselves freely.

Perhaps that's the charm of the game for us, too; we can't have any opinions about politics while we wear the brown suit, but we can yell "*Forza, Lazio*" with the best of 'em. And we do. We recommend the game to our colleagues. Do not fear you won't understand it; there is always an enthusiast at your elbow who will be happy to expound the fine points, either a frenzied partisan Latin or an RASC corporal probably inclined to draw unfavorable comparisons between the local boys and Manchester United, but don't let him fool you. He'll be yelling "*forza*", too, before the afternoon is over. And you can get numbers of the players and the equivalent of ice cold soda and *castagne* vice peanuts... Next to a July afternoon in Brooklyn, one couldn't ask for more.

SICILY AND THE ISLANDS

The most noteworthy event during December in the territory of Lt. Col. W. J. MacCallum (A), A.C. Liaison Officer in Sicily, whose monthly report is just to hand, was the handing over of the islands of Pantelleria and Lampedusa to the Italian administration. The handover took place December 31. We are assured that the accounts were all square, that the budgets for the first quarter of 1946 had already been sent in (on time for the first time) and that all debts to AMG would be collected before the two AMG officers left the islands. Their departure has, in any case, been held up by bad weather.

It is perhaps not surprising that the news of the handover was more welcomed by the Sicilians than by the residents of the two tiny islands who are well aware of their own problems and wonder how they will fare under the new administration. There are, in fact, several difficult problems to deal with, such as low stocks of food and difficulties of transport from Sicily. On Lampedusa food reserves became dangerously low and the island was practically without food for Christmas. A regular service by the *S.S. Lampedusa* from Palermo to both islands, due

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Rome has two teams in the Central-South League, *la Roma*, now at the top of the list, and the unhappy Lazio, grimly battling for last place with the Ancona boys. We are strongly pro-Lazio, a team which recalls the carefree, unstudied style of the Brooklyn Dodgers in its unpredictability. Soundly trounced by everyone, the *Laziali* arose in their might last week and beat off the invaders from Bari (until then league leaders) characteristically (just like dem Bums)

Perhaps that's the charm of the game to us; too, we can't have any opinions about politics while we wear the brown suit, but we can yell "*Forza, Lazio*" with the best of 'em. And we do. We recommend the game to our colleagues. Do not fear you won't understand it; there is always an enthusiast at your elbow who will be happy to expound the fine points, either a frenzied partisan Latin or an EASC corporal probably inclined to draw unfavorable comparisons between the local boys and Manchester United, but don't let him fool you. He'll be yelling "*forza*", too, before the afternoon is over. And you can get numbers of the players and the equivalent of ice cold soda and *castagne* vice peanuts... Next to a July afternoon in Brooklyn, one couldn't ask for more.

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January 19, 1946

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 42

POLITICAL

Ce qui constitue une nation, ce n'est pas de parler la même langue ou d'appartenir au même groupe ethnographique, c'est d'avoir fait ensemble de grandes choses dans le passé et de vouloir en faire encore dans l'avenir.

RENAN

Barba-Neve—the trusty farmers' almanac of Italy, having promised "*notizie sensazionali*" for the end of this week, we have been holding the presses to the last possible minute in order not to miss anything. However, the time is passing and it begins to look as if we have been let down, unless, of course, the sage of Foligno meant the exchange of telegrams between Prime Minister De Gasperi and Monsieur Spaak, president of the U.N.O. The message of the former was an appeal for Italy's admission into the family of the United Nations "so that she may give her contribution to the common effort of assuring peace and achieving reconstruction of the world on a basis of justice". Spaak's answer—necessarily noncommittal—was none the less cheering to Italians because it was promptly forthcoming and because it assured De Gasperi that his words would be published in the records of the meeting.

Otherwise, political interest during the week has centered on the *Consulta*, which has been serving the purpose it was designed for as a sort of sounding board for various opinions. In turn De Gasperi, Bonomi and Nitti have made use of the tribune of the assembly. De Gasperi's contribution might fairly be called a report. He stated the Government's views on recent international events affecting Italy, reaffirming the [illegible] on behalf of the Italy's position and that the Italian Government would be given an opportunity to express its views with respect to the terms of the peace treaty. At this point the President of the Council read a telegram he had just received from President Truman in which the hope was expressed that Italy might be granted a peace which would satisfy "our common needs and desires". The President further stated that De Gasperi could count on the good will and friendly collaboration of the United States "just as I know I can count on yours". The British Government too, said De Gasperi, had assured Italy that in their view the position was no worse than it had been after Potsdam and they, too, hoped that Italy's point of view might be heard before a peace was actually drafted. De Gasperi then took occasion to recall Italy's share in the liberation of Jugoslavia and regretted the failure of that country so far to recognize this contribution of "democratic Italy".

Press reaction to this report was interesting and rather mixed. *Il Popolo* and *Risorgimento Liberale* approved as they might have been expected to; *Indipendente* followed their lead and—rather surprisingly—so did *Lavoro*. *Il Mondo*, however, complained that the President of the Council should have reported on internal as well as foreign affairs and *Voce Repubblicana* took the same stand, even suspecting there might be in all this talk of international matters an attempt to distract Italians from their internal problems. The Rightist *Giornale della Sera* thought that he should have taken a firmer line and pleaded Italy's case with more vigor; something of this feeling seemed to lurk, too, behind *Italia Nuova*'s expression of skepticism about Allied assurances and *Ricostruzione*'s plaintive cry that the present

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Other Speeches.

Bonomi's speech was, of course, less significant since he is not a member of the Government. Its most dramatic moment came when the former

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Council President, asserting the "*latinità*" of Venezia Giulia (incidentally deploring the failure of the Allies to occupy the whole region), informed his audience that "there is a racial solidarity which is greater than class and party liberty". This brought cheers from all the delegates—except the Communists. The rest of his speech dealt with other aspects of Italy's international problems. Einaudi made it clear that he was in agreement with the Government's policy in general, but he reminded the Allies more sharply than a Government spokesman would have done of Italy's services in the war and of the Allied promises that were made contingent on those services. Nitti was the only one of the three speakers to deal with internal affairs and his survey of Italy's present condition and immediate prospects was somewhat pessimistic. He laid stress on the need of national unity in such trying times as these.

These three speeches—given the national stature of the orators—were the principal ones of the *Consulta's* week but they were not the only ones. Einaudi made a persuasive plea for making Italy the trustee administrator of her colonies and Cingolani made suggestions for the protection of Italian workers abroad. The Council met only once during the week. Romita reported on recent events in Sicily whose troubles he blamed on an unholy alliance of the black market, bandits and separatism. He urged newspapers not to exaggerate reports of violence and turmoil on the island. (Meanwhile stories continue to appear of "pitched battles" between police and outlaws and a few days after Romita's report, the Socialist, Communist and Action parties in Sicily issued a joint order of the day expressing lack of confidence in Aldisio, the High Commissioner, whom they accused of connivance with separatists and reactionaries.) The Council, after lengthy debate also announced that the proposed change in currency was to be indefinitely postponed.

While the Council is trying to cope with immediate issues, the parties are preparing for the electoral battles to come. The Communists and Socialists, who had long since agreed on the principle of a common program and a common list, got down to details and arrangements so as to meet either the single-member constituency or the proportional system with a united front. The Liberals, Democrats of Labor, Christian Democrats, Action and Republicans are also preparing their lists. The question often asked and never answered—is what is their respective strength. *Buonsenso* (the paper of the *Uomo Qualunque*) made an estimate this week which we append for what it is worth. The figures are for Rome only but insofar as they are valid at all may give some indication of national proportion. Herewith the statistics, purely unofficial: Communists 9,000, Socialists 11,000, Christian Democrats 17,000, Action 1,500, Labor Democrats 2,500, Liberals 6,000. Estimates for parties outside the coalition are: Republicans 3,000, Democrats (i.e. Monarchists) 1,000 and 1,000 enrolled in the National Concentration Group. Gives you an idea of what the elections are going to be like.

ADRIATIC PORTS

Monthly reports for December, 1945, from the A.C. Liaison Officers at Ancona and Bari afford an opportunity of comparing conditions in two ports on different sectors of the Adriatic, though in point of fact the reports are not precise parallels, the former being confined to Ancona Commune while the latter covers the whole of the Puglie and Lucania regions.

Bari saw little of the war and nothing of AMG having been in what was called King's Italy, which may explain why the citizens appear more pre-occupied with politics than those of Ancona who, on the other hand, seem to have been thinking more of what the Allies have done for them, and have expressed their appreciation by conferring the Freedom of the City on Brigadier C. St. Q. O. Fullbrook-Leggatt, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Commander 61 Area, on Lieutenant General Wladislaw Anders, C.B., G.O.C. 2nd Polish Corps, and on Lieut. Col. Paul Shipman Andrews, A.U.S., Commandant "H" Group DP & RSC.

Some of the unrest in the Puglie is attributed to the labor situation. Civil servants in general will perhaps now be somewhat mollified by the recent announcement of a 20 per cent. increase of their cost-of-living *indennità*, but at Bari, unsatisfied with their Christmas bonus, all the civil servants of the *Municipio*, Provincial Administration, the Civil Hospital, etc., went on strike for a week. The Salt Monopoly employes at Margherita di Savoia also struck for the same reason, and achieved a 30 per cent. increase. The following unemployment figures are given: Ta-

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which is greater than class and party liberty".
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severely damaged, he maintained excellent control of his guns and aided materially to the successful completion of this hazardous mission. His conduct gives evidence of his great value to the naval service."

Many of the awards go to officers and men no longer with us. The list follows:

Purple Heart – Pfc. Richard L. Van Houten.

Medal of Freedom – Mr. G. Stewart Brown.

Legion of Merit – Col. William R. Jordan.

Bronze Star – Rear Admiral Guy L. Warren, Major Felix J. Aulisi, Col. Clarence R. Birchett, Capt. Almond M. Allyn, Capt. Oliver C. Jessop, Major Abraham E. Gold, Pfc. Bruno Pellicano, Sergt. Samuel A. Gaeta, Lieut. Louis A. Sabatino, Major John A. Robb, Lieut. Col. Charles J. Birt.

Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus – Major G. G. Green (Knight), Col. Arthur E. Sutherland, jr. (Commander).

Italian Cross of War Merit – Col. Francis A. Markee, Lieut. Col. John Nygaard, Col. Edmund H. Bullis, Pfc. Axel A. Johanson, Pfc. David Curthrope, Sergt. Walter Epstein, Sergt. Louis F. Tozzi, Cpl. Ernest J. Lamattina, Sergt. Joseph Previte, Pfc. Henry R. De Panfilis, Staff Sergt. Frank E. Cicone, Sergt. Vincent Tallarico, Sergt. Mario Maggenti.

Crown of Italy – (Commander) Col. Floyd E. Thomas, Lieut. Col. Stanley Andrews, Lieut. Col. William McBratney, Col. J. B. Thornhill, Col. Birchett, Col. Thomas N. Page, Lieut.-Col. Norman Ramsey, Lieut. Col. Thomas A. Lane, Lieut. Col. John W. Clarke, Lieut. Col. Elmer N. Holmgreen, Col. Carl M. Gevers, Col. John J. Albright, (Knight Officer) Capt. Willis E. Pratt, Capt. Edward A. Valentine, Major Robert M. Albright, Major Hartwell J. Rosson, Lieut. Col. Edward P. Morton, Lieut. Col. Richard E. Lollar, Major Donald M. Gaither, Lieut. Col. Lendon Snedeker, Major Francis J. Burns, Major Andrew J. Mahatesta, Lieut. Col. William F. Waugh, Major S. A. Austin, Major Richard P. Ayre, Major James M. Blackwell, Major Wendell E. Phillips, Major Henry L. Glenn, Major Frank A. Culotta, Lieut. Col. R. Cherry, Lieut. Col. Edwin P. Mercer, Lieut. Col. H. Mead Rogers, Capt. Samuel V. Noe, Major Louis L. Cox, Major J. Marquano Walker, Lieut. Col. Stephen Capt. James H. Brown, Capt. Richard A. Loeb, Capt. Fred R. Brownyard, Mr. George V. Bickel, Mr. Rock Ferris, Capt. Orlando Cassani, Capt. D. Goodman.

MORE FROM THE ALUMNI

Our Old Boys' Column this week is amply filled by a letter from Col. Charles Poletti, former PC of Lombardia, written to Lieut. Col. G. G. Hannaford of the Legal SC, who has allowed us to look over his shoulder and jot down a few items of gossip about Charlie's old Milan crowd and others. The letter head has the imposing firm title of Poletti, Diamond, Rabin, Freidin & Mackay, 598 Madison Avenue, New York City, and our old comrade-in-arms writes as follows:

"It is fun practicing law and not worrying about finding the wheat to supply the two hundred grams of bread for each member of the population of New York City... I should let you know that (Capt.) Maurice Neufeld is becoming a professor at Cornell University. (Give my regards to Davy – *Ed.*)... (Lieut. Col. Harry) Hershenson is returning to Chicago to practice law... (Lieut. Col.) Jack Rorimer is back in the manufacture of plows in Cleveland Ohio (and reading the *Plain Dealer* we hope – *Ed.*). (Lieut. Col.) Ed. Palmieri has resigned from the Bench and has gone into the practice of law here with offices only a couple of blocks away... (Col. James) Kincaid has just left for South America in connection with the purchase of three or four new hotels by his company... Colonel John Warner has concluded his job with the War Production Board and is going to relax for a while... (Lieut. Col. John) Murtagh has just been appointed by Mayor William O'Dwyer (our former V. P. and Murtagh's pre-war boss – *Ed.*) as head of the Bureau of Investigations of this city... Major Bob Levitt is still loafing..."

ODDS AND ENDS

The Mead Committee of the U. S. Senate is expected to make a flying visit to Rome in the next few days... The 2677 Regiment has received 20 replacements from the Persian Gulf Command... Excluding the 11 Regular Army officers on the

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naval service.

Many of the awards go to officers and men no longer with us. The list follows:

Purple Heart – Pfc. Richard L. Van Houten.

Medal of Freedom – Mr. G. Stewart Brown.

Legion of Merit – Col. William R. Jordan.

Bronze Star – Rear Admiral Guy L. Warren, Major Felix J. Aulisi, Col. Clarence R. Bucheit, Capt. Almond M. Allyn, Capt. Oliver C. Jessop, Major Abraham E. Gold, Pfc. Bruno Pellicano, Sergt. Samuel A. Gaeta, Lieut. Louis A. Sabatino, Major John A. Robb, Lieut. Col. Charles J. Birt.

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There has also been a brisk trade in Anglo-American verbal exchanges: we had, before enlisting in this enterprise, known of "rockers", and "flaps" but never by such names. We have also learned to "get cracking"; that is, of course, when things have been properly "laid on" and "buttoned up", and unhappily on some occasions we have also "bogged it".

Among our British colleagues we note the complete triumph of "O.K." over "right-oh", just as among Italians it has also practically swept "*cablene*" from the field. We have even caught red flannel red-handed in poaching "Okay by me" (they'd better not take that one back to Cheltenham) and not infrequently "you're telling me" has been wafted to our ears from otherwise impeccable British lips.

Another kind of Americanese has had a great success too: the jargon of bureaucracy. "Set-up", "frame work" (especially when it is "overall"), "firm" (as married to figures and estimates), "significant" and the ever present verbs "process" and "co-ordinate", we all use these happy creations of the new streamlined (but not bomb-proof) world. To say nothing of our own private cabalistic offspring, of which the sturdy quadruplets MOC, FAN, MAT and COM seem to be the family favorites. But you don't know what they really mean. We *could* tell you but in too much knowledge, as the sages teach, there is little wisdom. *Ciao* for now.

ELECTIONS

The Local Government Sub-Commission, headed by Major E. E. Temple (A), is one of the few in the Civil Affairs Section which still finds itself very busy because of its job in keeping an eye on the vast amount of spade-work necessary to prepare the ground for the national and local elections. Draft decrees are prepared by the Italian Government which has sought the Sub-Commission's counsel on various points and in fact has accepted A.C. advice practically *in toto*. Local elections can be held in any commune as soon as the lists are ready, whereas national elections for the *Costituente* cannot begin until the lists for the whole country are complete.

The following table shows the progress of electoral work in Italy as at December 31, 1945. Italian Government and AMG Territory refers, of course, to the situation before the hand over. There are two lists for each commune, one male, one female.

	Total No. of Communes	No. reported on	Draft Lists: Male completed	Draft Lists: Female completed	Draft Lists: Total	Definitive Lists: Male completed	Definitive Lists: Female completed	Definitive Lists: Total
Italian Govt. Territory	3,586	3,533	2,481	3,442	5,923	1,124	1,365	2,489
AMG Territory (less Venezia Giulia)	3,628	3,340	935	2,600	3,535	92	185	277
TOTALS	7,214	6,873	3,416	6,042	9,458	1,216	1,550	2,766

Sixty-five per cent. of all the communal draft lists have been completed, and 39 per cent. of the definitive lists approved. The following provincial capitals have both male and female lists completed and approved: Avellino, Caserta, Cosenza, Grosseto, Enna and Ragusa. (Latest flash: as of January 17, 1456 communes, 20 per cent. of the total, have approved both male and female lists.)

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AWARDS

A whole raft of decorations has just been announced, which we are happy to print and to congratulate the recipients thereof. The first in line is a Citation by the United States Navy of Lieut. (j.g.) Edward J. Behn, Flag Lieutenant to the Chief Commissioner. Lieut. Behn, as the citation indicates, must have had a merry time in the Pacific as a flak battery officer. We land soldiers can't refrain from quoting a little from the official text, though it does not mention that the vessel on which the Lieutenant spent his time happened to be one of those tiny escort carriers which regularly took the brunt of the *Kamikaze* planes:

"During the assault on Iwo Jima, when the ship was attacked by numerous enemy suicide planes, he, demonstrating outstanding skill and courage, directed accurate and intense fire against these aircraft. Although in great personal danger and even after the ship had been struck and

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bulk of demobilized soldiers. In Ancona the unemployment situation has not changed much. Total figures for the whole of Ancona Province are 82,248 employed and 13,980 unemployed. It is expected that derequisitioning of some factories during the present month will take up some of the unemployed.

The economic and food-supply situation in both places is not uncharacteristic of the rest of Italy. Rationed supplies are short. Food prices are rising, though there is a tendency for some other prices (e.g., clothing) to diminish slightly. The Ancona cost-of-living index (food only) is now 121 based on 100 of January, 1945, or 2,209 based on 100 of 1940. The monthly expenses of an average family of five is calculated at 18,958.80 lire, or 13,716.80 lire for food only. 11,420 tons of grain were imported into Bari during the month. The Provinces of Bari, Brindisi, Taranto, Lecce, Foggia and Potenza were assured of grain supplies until January 20th, after which they depended on further shipments—a narrow margin. Further, 112 tons of wine were exported from Bari.

In Ancona steps were taken to improve the fish supply: removing the fish price control encouraged fishermen to bring their catch to the market which they had previously avoided as they could sell at uncontrolled prices elsewhere. Thus, 602 quintals of fish worth 7,703,000 lire were marketed in December compared with only 143 quintals in the previous month. The agricultural outlook for the Ancona region is hopeful, though a shortage of chemical manures is being felt. In the Puglie the olive crop is poor.

The Ancona report has nothing to say under the head of Public Safety, but the Liaison Officer in Bari has a sad tale to tell in the details of curfew imposed in Bari City because of a crime wave and of thefts from the granaries. There was also a case of the illegal issue of ENAC trip tickets for the illicit transport of wine to the north, as a result of which the Lecce Provincial Director of ENAC has been suspended from duty.

THE CHILDREN

Now that the hurly burly of handing over has died down, the Sub-Commissions, still dizzy from perhaps one of the most complicated and vital aspects of reconstruction.

The first axiom of policy in rehabilitating education was that there should be no superimposition of principles and methods which were foreign to Italian tradition. In order to do this, the Sub-Commission had at times to sail very close to the wind. The care with which curricula were chosen gave opportunities for the well-worn cry that nothing was being done radically to alter the old system.

The elementary schools themselves offered no small problem in the field of reorganization. Before the liberation, the difficulty was that instruction had been almost completely political and, of course, Fascist. The curriculum, based on the Gentile program of 1923, included religious instruction, mathematics, with stress on a curious subject called "general notions" which dealt with History, Geography and Hygiene! Other subjects taught were drawing, writing, Italian literature, composition and last but by no means least, singing.

Scrapping the entire system was considered inadvisable for many reasons and the only thing to do was to accept the existing structure but to transform most of what had formerly been included. The curriculum advised by the Education Sub-Commission and accepted by the Italian Ministry of Education contained the subjects of religion, moral, civil and physical education, handiwork, history, geography and citizenship, science and hygiene, drawing, singing, literature and composition. The A.C. Sub-Commission trusts that it has at least changed the spirit of the instruction.

THIS IS OUR PIDGIN

Leafing through our Christmas mail—which arrived in good time for Twelfth Night—we came across an article in a erudite review on soldiers' language in Italy. Having admired the *gesta* of "*Forty Geezis from Bizerte*" (and we don't suppose for a minute they told us all), as well as sundry other examples of G-I linguistic fantasy, we fell to thinking about the glottological cross currents of our own little pond. It is hard to say how much Italian will really creep into [illegible] but for the moment our patois

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Now that the hurly burly of handing over has died down, the Sub-Commissions, still dizzy from their gyrations on the merry-go-round of trying to fit on Italy a series of new conceptions, are wearily reviewing their past activities. Perhaps one of the most hectically involved has been the Education Sub-Commission led by Lieut. Col. Carleton W. Washburne. Education has always been a subject of controversy and has presented to Italian tradition. In order to do this, the Sub-Commission had at times to sail very close to the wind. The care with which curricula were chosen gave opportunities for the well-worn cry that nothing was being done radically to alter the old system.

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March 1) – 77; Category V (immediate release) – 97... In the regrouping of personnel thus made necessary, long-term U. S. officers will be assigned to Udine and Venezia Giulia... The British in A. C. have gotten a break on their precarious transport situation: a number of captured enemy vehicles from the North are being assigned to make up for the losses sustained when American-requisitioned vehicles were taken away... AMG courts in Venezia Giulia tried 294 persons in December, but only eight for illegal possession of arms... Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission has handed over nine camps to UNRRA, the delay in further handovers at this time being occasioned by the lack of camp commanders... In the absence of Brigadier Lush, Lieut. Col. Fergus McCleary is Acting Executive Commissioner and not Brigadier Carr as we erroneously stated in last week's *Bulletin*... Our love of truth also impels us to add a footnote on last week's LIAP article: We are informed that officers are not by any means always "better provided for", but, as one veteran of the round trip safari informs us, in his case "officers travelled 5 or 6 in a compartment", "none of the upholstery was warm red plush or anything so comfortable" nor was there anything special about the heating... APHQ has given the go-ahead on making arrangements for customs to be set up along the Udine border with Venezia Giulia and along the Morgan Line... The Requisition Branch reports that $21,000,000 worth of supplies (not counting freight costs) purchased under the "troop pay" fund of the Italian Government have actually arrived in Italy plus $74,000,000 worth of supplies bought under the FEA fund, while another $10,000,000 worth are on the way... The Allied Financial Agency is leaving the A. C. to go under G-5 at AFHQ... Major J. R. G. Sutherland (E) and Miss Lena Passeriti, American civilian of the Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission, are in the Hague, Holland, for a seed conference sponsored by the Emergency Economic Council for Europe... Mr. W. J. Legg, director of the aforementioned Sub-Commission, is studying the possibility of substituting the import of oats for wheat to make up some of the current Italian grain deficiencies... As of the latest report, wheat amassing now amounts to 976,800 tons... Italian food officials, in conference with Economic Section staff officers, assert that they need some 4,000 gals. of oil properly to guard against pilferage in warehouses or while supplies are in transit; as would be expected, sugar and milk show the greatest leakages...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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January 12, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 41

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POLITICAL

Fast en ach hear
Eritt ande pa Tiogel sin morning.
ESAIAS TEGNÉR

With the *precepi* packed away for another year, the *Befana* come and gone and the distractions of the holidays out of the way, the political program of this "year of decision"— as one of the journalists has called it— is now under way. The *Consulta* has assembled again in plenary session in an atmosphere quite different from that of the first meeting. For in October the press was full of satisfied and almost festive commentary, playing up the significance of this democratic, though to be sure, not elected, convocation. This time, on the other hand, commentary tends to stress the importance and seriousness of the tasks the *Consultori* must face.

The body made up, as the *Giornale della Sera* pointed out, of men having an average of ten years' imprisonment apiece behind them, opened its session on 9 January and elected Pietro Mancini (Socialist) Vice President. Sforza, who presided, announced that a special committee had been named to study the plans for the political electoral law. One of the *Consultori* predicted that this law would be the apple of discord and added, somewhat grimly, "if we are still alive and safe when this law is approved, then it will be possible to say that Italy is again a democratic country". Nor is this the only difficult knot likely to come before the *Consulta*. The administrative election law, so it was stated before the holidays, must be reviewed too, and that will bring up the question of the compulsory vote. All [illegible] this brings the delicate question

Communist.

The Communist congress concluded its activities on the 5th. Next only in importance to Togliatti's speech (see last week's *Bulletin*) was the motion of Longo recommending fusion with the Socialists. In the course of his exposition, he made appeals to other parties too—or at least to the "democratic forces existing within them". He was particularly anxious to assure the Christian Democrats that the Communist party was not an atheist party and indeed "has always condemned anti-clericalism". The motion was passed after some discussion. This does not by any means imply that such a fusion is an immediate possibility; even Longo himself described the fusion as a *point d'arrivée* rather than a *point de partie*.

The Socialist answer came in Nenni's speech before the Central Committee of the Socialist party. He agreed with Longo that fusion was "a hope and a prospect" but felt that it would not come about by "premature decisions of Congresses or unification committees" but rather "from below when all mistrust between members of the two parties has disappeared". To Nenni the problem of united action was of more immediate importance than fusion. Nenni also took occasion to reaffirm other aspects of the Socialist platform: opposition to compulsory voting, a "sovereign" *Costituente*, the two fundamental needs of bread and employment, for which, said Nenni, "we are literally dependent on the Allies". On Allied policy, Nenni said, somewhat later in his discourse, "we owe them gratitude for the little daily bread and the little coal we have, for petrol and for raw materials. But to them, too, we owe our uncertainty as to our fate and the lack

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ESAIAS TEGNER

With the *presepi* packed away for another year, the *Befana* come and gone and the distractions of the holidays out of the way, the political program of this "year of decision"— as one of the journalists has called it— is now under way. The *Consulta* has assembled again in plenary session in an atmosphere quite different from that of the first meeting. For in October the press was full of satisfied and almost festive commentary, playing up the significance of this democratic, though to be sure, not elected, convocation. This time, on the other hand, commentary tends to stress the importance and seriousness of the tasks the *Consultori* must face.

The body made up, as the *Giornale della Sera* pointed out, of men having an average of ten years' imprisonment apiece behind them, opened its session on 9 January and elected Pietro Mancini (Socialist) Vice President. Sforza, who presided, announced that a special committee had been named to study the plans for the political electoral law. One of the *Consultori* predicted that this law would be the apple of discord and added, somewhat grimly, "if we are still alive and safe when this law is approved, then it will be possible to say that Italy is again a democratic country". Nor is this the only difficult knot likely to come before the *Consulta*. The administrative election law, so it was stated before the holidays, must be reviewed too, and that will bring up the question of the compulsory vote, while beyond all this looms the delicate question of defining the powers of the *Costituente*. One debatable though relatively minor matter was touched upon at the first meeting: the right of "*autoconvocazione*" of the *Consulta* itself, but this was temporarily shelved since Prime Minister De Gasperi was not present to express the Government's views on the problem.

Communist.

The Communist congress concluded its activities on the 5th. Next only in importance to Togliatti's speech (see last week's *Bulletin*) was the motion of Longo recommending fusion with the Socialists. In the course of his exposition, he made appeals to other parties too—or at least to the "democratic forces existing within them". He was particularly anxious to assure the Christian Democrats that the Communist party was not an atheist party and indeed "has always condemned anti-clericalism". The motion was passed after some discussion. This does not by any means imply that such a fusion is an immediate possibility; even Longo himself described the fusion as a *point d'arrivée* rather than a *point de partie*.

The Socialist answer came in Nenni's speech before the Central Committee of the Socialist party. He agreed with Longo that fusion was "a hope and a prospect" but felt that it would not come about by "premature decisions of Congresses or unification committees" but rather "from below when all mistrust between members of the two parties has disappeared". To Nenni the problem of united action was of more immediate importance than fusion. Nenni also took occasion to reaffirm other aspects of the Socialist platform: opposition to compulsory voting, a "sovereign" *Costituente*, the two fundamental needs of bread and employment, for which, said Nenni, "we are literally dependent on the Allies". On Allied policy, Nenni said, somewhat later in his discourse, "we owe them gratitude for the little daily bread and the little coal we have, for petrol and for raw materials. But to them, too, we owe our uncertainty as to our fate and the lack of autonomous nation status."

The Council of Ministers has been mostly concerned with the Christmas bonus for state employees. As recorded in last week's *Bulletin*, the "*impiegati*" have threatened to strike if they are not given a more generous bonus than the one originally voted. The strike has not

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yet taken place and the intervention of the CGIL has been a healthy mediating influence, but it seems clear that some further action is being planned. A special committee of Ministers was appointed to meet with the representatives of the state employees and the CGIL to work out some kind of compromise; meanwhile it is rumored that the Government is planning a distribution of food and clothing in place of another cash payment.

As we are on the point of consigning our stint to the printer, we learn the results of the first skirmish in the *Consulta*. The right of *autoconvocazione*—brought up by the Action Party—has been voted down by 214 to 89. The Action leaders had counted on the support of Communists and Socialists, but their hopes were dashed when Pertini, former secretary of the Socialist Party, said that in view of the imminence of the *Costituente*, it seemed unwise to give too much power to the *Consulta*. After the vote, De Gasperi consoled the losers somewhat by declaring that the *Consulta* should meet once a month as a normal thing and the Government should be called upon to explain the reason for any postponement of such regular meetings.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Wheat seems to hold the center of the economic stage this week as the pasta ration, already in arrears in Puglie and Naples, was postponed officially in all Southern Italy, Liguria, Veneto, Sicily and Sardinia. The shortage in grain reserves in the last week brought about a situation that left Lazio, including the City of Rome, and Campania, including Naples, with only seven days' supply on hand up to 10 January. Bari had only four days' supply up to 6 January. The state of grain reserves on 1 December and 31 December tells the story: On the former date, the reserves for the bread ration were 354,000 tons. On the latter, 208,000.

The causes of all this are several: a disastrously poor harvest, caused by bad weather at planting time, late frosts and by a severe drought which resulted in the lowest yield in 25 years. Further, amassing of what grain was produced has been notably inadequate. Lastly, shipping complica- [illegible] demands for wheat

gions—the Marche, Umbria, Emilia and Toscana. The other 63,000 tons of reserve stocks is in process of discharge from ships in port, in base and provincial warehouses or in transit and is wholly inadequate to insure regular supplies for the big urban centers. Nevertheless, our experts hope that the reserves can again be built to a minimum 320,000 tons (or about one month's supply for all non-producers), partly by importing in January and February the deficiency in the 1945 program and also by more stable shipping schedules.

On the basis of present consumption, local Toscana stocks will be exhausted by the end of January, those of Emilia by the middle of March, Umbria's by the end of July and the Marche's by the end of August. It is therefore only practicable to move limited quantities from the Marche and Umbria surpluses to deficient areas at this time and such movements can only be made within the limits prescribed by the shortage of Italian transport facilities. Thus, the whole of Southern Italy, the Islands of Sicily and Sardinia and the greater part of Northern Italy are now dependent on imported wheat and are existing on a day-to-day basis as far as the bread ration is concerned.

Most of the other economic news is in sort of abeyance. Studies are being made on the problem of preventing pilfering from imported supplies. The Requisition Branch reports that $63,500,000 worth of supplies from the $100,000,000 FEA appropriation have arrived in Italy, as of this week, and that another $18,200,000 is on the high seas. The Finance Sub-Commission, which has a new director in Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), has about completed an agreement with the Italian Government, to unify currency issue, in which the Government recognizes its responsibility for the issue of some 80 billion AM lire in Italy to date and to act henceforth as the issuing authority for AM lire. Finally, the *Economic Notes* announced in these columns a few weeks ago becomes a reality with as of this date, with both the Allied Commission and UNRRA represented on the masthead. All *Bulletin* subscribers will get a free copy. Please don't mind the occasional duplication of some items.

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The causes of all this are several: a disastrously poor harvest, caused by bad weather at planting time, late frosts and by a severe drought which resulted in the lowest yield in 25 years. Further, amassing of what grain was produced has been notably inadequate. Lastly, shipping complications and the extraordinary demands for wheat by all the liberated countries of Europe, have resulted in a deficiency in the total amount of wheat requested for import to Italy.

Of the 208,000 tons of total reserve stocks available on December 31, 145,000 tons was indigenous Italian grain concentrated in four regional warehouses or in transit and is wholly inadequate to insure regular supplies for the big urban centers. Nevertheless, our experts hope that the reserves can again be built to a minimum 320,000 tons (or about one month's supply for all non-producers), partly by importing in January and February the deficiency in the 1945 program and also by more stable shipping schedules.

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LIAP

The small party of British personnel proceeding on LIAP today (12 January) is expected to be one of the last to set out from this HQ on the arduous journey across Europe to spend four

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ODDS AND ENDS

The post of Vice President of the Establishment Section has been abolished; Col. Charles M. Parkin will continue to act as Executive Officer (A) while Lieut. Col. K. Wilbe-Jones will be Executive Officer (B)... The Education Sub-Commission reports some revealing statistics: 83 per cent. of Italian children get five years or less of schooling while only about 5 per cent. complete secondary school... The following U. S. personnel has been awarded the Bronze Star: Pfc. Joseph Prola, Staff Sergt. Pasquale J. Marinelli and Majors George R. Koopman and Arthur E. Pucinelli... The Executive Commissioner is at present in England; Brigadier M. Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, is acting in his stead... Perhaps the A. C. will get some U. S. EM replacements from the 500 expected to arrive for the Rome area in the next few days; the Regiment's current strength is now 226 EM (the T O calls for 500)... Of the 225 American officers (T/O strength – 250) with the Commission, to date 33 have signed the certificates for one of the five categories on released from or staying on active duty; the certificates must be signed by 15 January since reports to higher headquarters are due by 31 January; the count of the 33: Category I (indefinite stay) – 1; Category II (until June, 1947) – 1; Category III (until December, 1946) – 1; Category IV (short term) – 8; Category V (immediate release) – 19... Here are alumni notes on certain of our old boys (A) which might interest their friends: Col. T. V. Smith, quondam Director of the Education Sub-Commission writes us that the U. S. Army has given him a shining pair of eagles as "a going away present"; that a star was bestowed on Henry Parkman whom many of us will remember from Charlottesville and G-5 at Algiers, and that Lieut. Col. John Clarke, late Senior Finance Officer, AMG Fifth Army, has been appointed by the Foreign Liquidation Commission as Field Commissioner for the North Atlantic Area, covering everything from the Bahamas to Greenland (imagine liquidating, not to say "unfreezing", Greenland)...

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under 5/- including meat and eggs. One notices, too, the extreme docility of one's countrymen, their aptitude for forming queues which they carry to such a length that one even queues up to buy an evening paper. It is heartening to find the Englishman's sense of fair play, at least in the small matters of daily life, still so rampant. Yet one sometimes thinks, standing at the wrong end of the queue, that one would like to institute the good old Italian free-for-all system of boarding a bus.

The effects of controls, rationing, bureaucratic systemization, utility and austerity, are evident everywhere. With virtually no black market, England is still fully in the grip of a State-controlled economic system while Italy, at present, enjoys, through the black market, what appears to this observer to be a system of unbridled economic *laissez faire*.

CLAIMS

One of the most surprised Anglo-American teams in this Headquarters is that which is concerned with what, to them, must have appeared, in prospect, a terrifying task. This is the claims board created last October, which had the duty of compiling a list of civilian claims (made for a variety of reasons) against AMG and A. C. The surprise is occasioned by the happy paucity of the numbers of the claims and of their petty sizes.

By the American side only 40 have been received, concerning 12 motor cars, seven wheels and tires, one piano, miscellaneous furniture, china and linen and, most interesting of all, a claim for an ice-cream machine. Another claim is fragrantly sentimental and is the cost of printing invitations (pink and with forget-me-nots, we trust) to a children's party. This was apparently organized by two nostalgic, if absent-minded, officers who, in a lapse of memory, forgot to foot the bill but who will, in due course, receive in their home towns, to which these kindly gentlemen have now returned, bills for their forgetful act of generosity.

The British side leads the field in numbers with a score of 120 claims. These include motor cars, typewriters, five radio sets, four pairs of sheets attached to four beds, a horse, two welding

esteemed British colleagues. Figures show that the total number of requisitioned cars held by the British numbers eleven—and these in far-off Venezia. The more fortunately endowed Americans possess rather more. This has placed something of a strain on British arches.

This state of affairs has been brought about by the fact that from the beginning a limit was placed on the number of vehicles the British could requisition, while to the Americans the sky seemed the only possible limit. The result was that almost all requisitioning in A. C. was done through American channels. All ran smoothly until recently Nemesis, in the form of the cancellation of Lend-Lease, brought an order that each army was to use its own physical equipment, among other things.

RIGHT OFF THE PRESS

The sympathy of PRB is extended to one of its best customers, Mr. Milton Bracker of the *New York Times*. Mr. Bracker for many months has questioned us shrewdly (often too shrewdly) on the activities of A. C. and AMG and the telephone wires between the *Stampa Estera*, where he has his office, and this Branch have hummed hot and heavy as we offered what information we had. But the other day a cruel fate overtook Mr. Bracker, and the news-hound became a news source himself.

Let it be said at once that Mr. Bracker was not backward in giving us what information he could and neither was there any question of the interview being "off the record". The point was that the Rome offices of Mr. Bracker and the *New York Times* had been broken into, despoiled, ransacked, not to say, feloniously invaded. Burglars, showing no respect for the immunity of the press, removed three typewriters (one a well-loved portable, carried by the victim for seventeen years), some 7,000 lire in cash, a bed roll, from which the blankets were removed, examined, and, apparently, rejected. Into the bed roll was placed the loot, and before taking their departure the visitors consumed a number of tins of C and K rations.

Mr. Bracker came on the scene the next day, at an hour lordly journalists are wont to arrive, to see a wreckage of empty tins, a half eaten and

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The British side leads the field in numbers with a score of 120 claims. These include motor cars, typewriters, five radio sets, four pairs of sheets attached to four beds, a horse, two wedding sets, a suite of furniture, four accident claims and the small matter of somebody's wages. As of this report, no money whatsoever has been paid but it is hoped, say those responsible, that this will be done in the near future.

But speaking of such trivial matters leads us to another tale: the sad condition of some of our something of a strain on British arches.

This state of affairs has been brought about by the fact that from the beginning a limit was placed on the number of vehicles the British could requisition, while to the Americans the sky seemed the only possible limit. The result was that almost all requisitioning in A. C. was done through American channels. All ran smoothly until recently Nemesis, in the form of the cancellation of Lend-Lease, brought an order that each army was to use its own physical equipment, among other things.

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Mr. Bracker came on the scene the next day, at an hour lordly journalists are wont to arrive, to see a wreckage of empty tins, a half eaten and rejected fruit cake and a dearth of typewriters. Left behind by the thieves was an envelope containing nearly 100,000 lire which may indicate that C and K rations are good for body building but not for the intellectual alertness proper to a well-trained burglar.

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weeks at home after serving overseas for periods of two years and upwards. The LIAP scheme was started just over a year ago to enable personnel serving in the Mediterranean to get a leave at home during their tour of overseas service. LIAP means Leave In Addition to Python (so *now* we know – *Ed.*) and Python is the code word used to signify the scheme by which British personnel serving abroad are posted back to the United Kingdom after completing their overseas tour. The duration of this tour was first fixed at 4 ½ years and later reduced to 4 years. Now it is practically inoperative as the majority of personnel still serving abroad are due for release long before qualifying for Python.

The first parties, which went, more comfortably, by sea, arrived in time to spend Christmas, 1944 at home. Throughout 1945, parties left A. C. regularly, and by now practically all entitled personnel have had their LIAP. For the whole period, up to and including the party leaving today, the total numbers sent from HQ, A. C. are 79 officers and 332 other ranks. One of the PRH staff has just returned with the following impressions of the journey and of England.

First, the journey, at any rate in winter, was so terrible as to make one wonder whether the whole enterprise was worth while, at least to this OR traveller. There was a time when one could board the Rome Express in the forenoon and arrive in London (and comfort) in the evening of the following day. To go on LIAP today one must get up at 3 a. m., walk to the station with all one's kit in the pouring rain (it usually does), and then stand about waiting for the train to come in at about 6. One is then packed into 3rd class compartments, hard seats, four a side and no leg-room, with kit. Many of the coaches are in the last stages of decrepitude, unlighted and, if nominally heated, one nearly always seems to find oneself in the one coach which the heat does not reach. (Officers, however, to do the organization justice, were better provided for; if they, too, were sometimes without heat or light, they were provided with the warm red plush of the Italian first class—and only two to a compartment.)

On to Milan.

About 26 hours after leaving Rome one reawrapt in a Lombardy fog. The one—and only—warm corner was eventually discovered in the barber shop, which became the morning social rendezvous. In the afternoons one could keep warm by lighting one's way on and off the trams which went into Milan.

However, comes the day at last when one's name appears on the lists and one re-entrains at Milan in the gathering dusk. One is now on MEDLOC proper (Mediterranean Leave Over Continent) (just ask us anything! – *Ed.*) and there are rather better chances of a less dilapidated coach, of some heat and light. That same evening one dines at Domodossola and dives into the Simplon tunnel. Next morning finds Switzerland left behind and one is being turned out, shivering and aching, into the cold dawn for breakfast somewhere in France. The rest of the day and most of the following night seem to be spent waiting in sidings while French civilian expresses rush past, but somehow the train manages to stagger into Calais in the early hours of the morning. At the particular camp in Calais the organization was good. The party was documented, money-changed, NAAFI-issued etc., shipped across to Folkestone and delivered at Victoria Station, London, by 2 o'clock the same afternoon. It was a Sunday—one week and seven hours after leaving Rome, 36 hours being consumed in the ride from Milan to Calais.

Return Trip.

The return trip was worse still, subject to the worst torments of hell: darkness and cold. (My! My! Corporal! – *Ed.*) The transit camps at Calais and Novara were less well organized than those of the outward trip. Suffice it to say that the writer is now suffering from a terrible cold and feeling more dead than alive (he doesn't look that bad – *Ed.*). If top priority were given to heat and light, especially at this time of the year, it would make a world of difference. A word about the feeding arrangements: At the various stopping places everyone gets off the train for a meal which has been prepared for them. Of these establishments those in Italy are quite excellent, especially that at Foligno, while those in France are not nearly so good, neither in organization nor in the quality of the meals served.

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About 26 hours after leaving Rome one reaches Milan, having lunched at Foligno and dined at Rimini. And from Milan in trucks to the transit camp at Monza. Here the whole scheme seems to fall into abeyance for some days—three or four perhaps—during which there is nothing to do but wander about searching in vain for a warm corner in the camp which seemed perpetually which went into Milan.

However, comes the day at last when one's name appears on the lists and one re-entrains at Milan in the gathering dusk. One is now on MEDLOC proper (Mediterranean Leave Over Continent) (just ask us anything! – *Ed.*) and there are rather better chances of a less dilapidated coach, of some heat and light. That same evening one dines at Domodossola and dives into the Simplon tunnel. Next morning finds Switzerland left behind and one is being turned out, shivering and aching, into the cold dawn for breakfast somewhere in France. The rest of the day and most of the following night seem to be spent waiting in sidings while French civilian expresses rush past, but somehow the train manages to stagger into Calais in the early hours of the morning. At the particular camp in Calais the organization was good. The party was documented, money-changed, NAAFI-issued etc., shipped across to Folkestone and delivered at Victoria Station, London, by 2 o'clock the same afternoon. It was a Sunday—one week and seven hours after leaving Rome, 36 hours being consumed in the ride from Milan to Calais.

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And what of one's impressions of England after two years absence, mostly in Italy? They are mainly of contrast, perhaps the most astonishing, bearing Roman food prices in mind, was the cost of a *week's* rationed food for one person:

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January 7, 1946 — RESTRICTED —

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

The democratic aspiration is no more recent phase in human history. It is human history.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

New Year's Day was ushered into Rome with most of the gayety and hi-jinks that used to be traditional in the good old days. Many a glass of *spumante* was drunk and the Romans saw the old year out with the traditional noise-making devices: *mortaretti*, *petards* and a few *bombe a mano* left over from the clandestine period. In the midst of all this distraction, however, the Italian Government managed to get in quite a lot of work. The Council of Ministers met three times during the week, on the 28th and 29th of December and on the second day of the new year. The first meeting was given over to rather general discussions. The Council heard Prime Minister De Gasperi's report on his talks with the ambassadors of the Allied nations, and the Government, "recalling the solemn statements made at Potsdam" expressed its "firm expectation" of a fair peace treaty. Corbino and Scoccimarro reported on the financial situation and outlined their immediate plans. Barbareschi recommended continuation of the agreement now in force between industrialists and workers. On more concrete matters De Gasperi, deploring the outrage committed against the Communist Headquarters (see last week's *Bulletin*), announced that the police had been given "very severe orders" to round up the perpetrators, and the Council tackled the pressing problem of the Christmas bonus for state employees.

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On the Government's side of the question there is one argument — the state of the budget — and an argument not without weight. At this meeting, too, Nenni presented his order of the day on the election question. The motion suggested that in communes where the electoral lists should have been approved by 25 January, the administrative elections should be held on 17 February and where approval is granted by the later date of 9 February, elections should be held on the 10th of March. After this the *ordine del giorno* recommended that the administrative elections should be postponed until after the political (*Costituente*) elections which—again as recommended in the motion—should take place on May 5th.

These suggestions gave the Council food for serious deliberation at the meeting on 2 January. A draft law was agreed upon which made the following specific points in regard to the administrative elections: co-existence of the proportional and one-member systems; the population limit between the two systems fixed at 30,000; use of the State ballot and compulsory presentation of candidacy for the one-member system as it is already for the proportional system. Some other points were left still undecided. The question of the compulsory vote was left for further discussion by the committee of the *Consulta*. Nenni's motion was considerably mangled before being passed, the scheme of interrupting the administrative elections did not meet with general approval and it was decided instead to hold the administrative elections running through March. Nenni then suggested the interruption might come on the 24th of March, at the same time modifying his original schedule of dates. The official communique gave no indication of whether these ideas of Nenni were accepted, but it was reported that "De Gasperi seemed to concur".

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POLITICAL

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This ticklish matter was the principal subject of the second meeting at which the special *indennità* was in fact voted, to consist of 3,000 lire in large cities and 2,500 in smaller centers, payable the 12th of January. As the traditional bonus is an extra full month's pay the employees themselves found these sums inadequate and there has been talk of a strike during the week—talk which has not yet simmered down as we go to press. On the Government's side of the question there is one argument— the state of the budget — and an argument not without weight. At this meeting, too, Nenni presented his order of the day on the election question. The motion suggested that in communes where the electoral lists should have been approved by 25 January, the administrative elections should be held on 17 February and where approval is granted by the later date of 9 February, elections should be held on the 10th of March. After this the *ordine del giorno* recommended that the administrative elections should be postponed until after the political (*Costituente*) elections which—again as recommended in the motion—should take place on May 5th.

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Foreign Affairs.

Naturally all the business of the Council was of lively interest to the press. The papers of the 30th carried De Gasperi's statement to I. N. S. (also published in America) which conveyed in

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forthright terms his feeling of surprise and disillusionment that Italy, which had fought for 18 months with the Allies and had been given definite assurances at Potsdam, should be thus neglected and put on the same level as other nations of very different record. Some rather strong expressions of bitterness have appeared in the Roman papers on this matter. *Secolo XX* (Independent Rightist) said that "it is now obvious that the Allies landed in Italy in order to occupy her and not liberate her as we were told". Orbis news-agency reported that Sforza, discussing the Moscow communique with French journalists, used the word *diktat* to describe the decisions handed down on Italy and the word was seized upon by leader writers looking for the proper *Schimpfwörter* to express their attitude, *Italia Nuova* for one indignantly rejecting any "*diktat*", however generous. As we reported last week, discontent with the Moscow news is not restricted to the Right: Urbanus in *Voce Repubblicana* contended that the new Italy, even if not yet all that the Allies would like it to be, is still "worthy of a gesture of confidence". The handover of the Northern provinces brought forth little comment, largely because the papers had already expressed themselves at the time of the announcement a few weeks ago. *Risorgimento Liberale* repeated De Gasperi's phrase to the effect that the return of the North was a "good omen" but *Avanti*, sobered by the Moscow communiqué, merely noted that the hand over did not signify the end of Allied control in Italy, "nor, as we had hoped, of the Armistice régime".

The noteworthy speech of the week was made by Togliatti who addressed the Communist Congress made up of 1,800 delegates from all over the country. He made several points; on foreign policy he declared Italy must be on good terms with all the United Nations, including Russia; the Communists he affirmed were opposed to the concept of "blocs" in international politics. Togliatti also came out for the *italianità* of Trieste, and Bolzano as well. As for internal affairs, the party is in favor of a democracy based on free parliamentary principles and prefers a Republic to a Monarchy, believing that a Monarchy would always lean towards Fascism. Nenni spoke (which lasted some four hours), and analyzed it for his readers the following day. The principles set forth, he wrote, could be subscribed to by any anti-Fascist party but the undertones were disquieting. He was disturbed by what seemed to him the latent anti-clericalism of the speech and naturally enough by the rather derogatory phrase which Togliatti used to describe the Christian Democrat party: "two souls in one body". He criticized, too, the scarcely veiled threat of the Communist leader to withdraw from the Government if the vote were made compulsory. And, somewhat paradoxically, he found fault with Togliatti for not drawing a sharper ideological line between Socialists and Communists, accusing the old doctrinaire party of having adopted an attitude of "pragmatism".

In spite of the reported shortage of newsprint, the large family of Roman dailies was increased by one when Giannini (*L'Uomo Qualunque*) launched his *Recasenso* on the 30th of December just in time to greet the new year. As might have been expected, he blamed the Leftist parties for the treatment accorded Italy at Moscow and—also predictable—came out in favor of the compulsory vote. The latter subject has, of course, been discussed very exhaustively by practically every paper in Rome. *La Capitale* thinks it not at all unlikely that this question may well split the C. L. N. and retard the elections until next summer or fall. But of that more when the *Consulta* meets.

GOOD-BYE TO AMG

The turnover of the North passed uneventfully and, in retrospect, there is at hand a letter from the Chief Commissioner which sums up the feeling of the Allied Commission about its AMG stalwarts. The letter follows:

"*To the Regional Commissioners of Northern Italy.*

"On 31 December the work of Allied Military Government in your Regions will come to an end. You and your predecessors and your staffs have achieved much. You have faced great difficulties. The long months of training were beset with shortage of personnel and transport, and

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neglected and put on the same level as other nations of very different record. Some rather strong expressions of bitterness have appeared in the Roman papers on this matter. *Scoglio XX* (Independent Rightist) said that "it is now obvious that the Allies landed in Italy in order to occupy her and not liberate her as we were told". Orbis news agency reported that Sforza, discussing the Moscow communique with French journalists, used the word *diktat* to describe the decisions handed down on Italy and the word was seized upon by leader writers looking for the proper *Schimpfwoerter* to express their attitude. *Italia Nuova* for one indignantly rejecting any "*diktat*", however generous. As we reported last week, discontent with the Moscow news is not restricted to the Right; Urbanus in *Voce Repubblicana* contended that the new Italy, even if not yet all that the Allies would like it to be, is still "worthy of a gesture of confidence". The handover of the Northern provinces brought forth little comment, largely because the papers had already expressed themselves at the time of the announcement a few weeks ago. *Risorgimento Liberale* repeated De Gasperi's phrase to the effect that the return of the North was a "good omen" but *Avanti*, sobered by the Moscow communiqué, merely noted that the hand over did not signify the end of Allied control in Italy, "nor, as we had hoped, of the Armistice régime".

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In spite of the reported shortage of newsprint, the large family of Roman dailies was increased by one when Giannini (*L'Uomo Qualunque*) launched his *Buonasera* on the 30th of December just in time to greet the new year. As might have been expected, he blamed the Leftist parties for the treatment accorded Italy at Moscow and—also predictable—came out in favor of the compulsory vote. The latter subject has, of course, been discussed very exhaustively by practically every paper in Rome. *La Capitale* thinks it not at all unlikely that this question may well split the C. L. N. and retard the elections until next summer or fall. But of that more when the *Consulta* meets.

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"*To the Regional Commissioners of Northern Italy.*

"On 31 December the work of Allied Military Government in your Regions will come to an end. You and your predecessors and your staffs have achieved much. You have faced great difficulties. The long months of training were beset with shortage of personnel and transport, and were chequered with disappointments and delays. When the break came large areas fell to your administration in a matter of days and you were stretched to the limit to cover them. No sooner had you established Regional administration than the demands of redeployment and release schemes reduced your staffs to a mere shadow. You

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found a territory split by civil war, recently occupied by a defeated enemy, and abounding with arms. You were faced with political controversies which threatened to undermine the whole system of local government. You found great industries completely lacking raw material and coal with the consequent threat of widespread unemployment. You have overcome these difficulties magnificently. Your numbers have invariably been insufficient. Your quality has never deteriorated. You have maintained law and order, established good government and started economic rehabilitation. You and all hands serving under you—officers and men—have done much for Allied interests, for the restoration of Italy, and for the cause of freedom and democracy. You may be proud of your work as I am proud to have commanded you. To all of you, whether you remain with the Commission or serve elsewhere, I send you my warm gratitude and wish you good fortune.

(sigd) Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
REAR ADMIRAL, USNR.
CHIEF COMMISSIONER

A couple of points in the Admiral's letter might bear amplification. On 5 May, for example, the peak of the strength in the North, there were 604 American and British officers on the spot. On 27 December, there were only 258. On the respective dates, Lombardia had 187 and 68; Liguria 91 and 41; Piemonte 145 and 52, and Venezie 183 and 97. The figures speak for themselves of the job done under handicaps.

Once relations between the CLN and AMG were smoothed out, with the CLN eventually recognizing its purely advisory capacity, the main problem, of course, was economic—how to put to work the great undamaged industrial capacity of the North. In the *Bulletin* we have often told how the Economic Section arranged for over-all plans and imported supplies. Perhaps it might interest our readers to hear about a few interim production figures as obtained from the Industrial Council of North Italy, an organization sponsored by AMG. For instance, cement production is at the moment high enough to satisfy present demands. More than 1,200,000

During the early part of the AMG period, production of plastics was resumed and Montecatini is now producing quantities of resinous chemicals. Other figures include the production of 1,490 tons of newsprint per month and 2,000,000 note books for schools (distributed free of charge), while 8,000,000 more are in process of being manufactured.

ADMIRAL STONE K. B. E.

All hands in the Allied Commission will join us, we know, in offering congratulations to our Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, on his award of the Knight Commander of the British Empire to which "His Majesty King George VI has been graciously pleased to appoint him".

We cannot do better perhaps than to quote the citation which was read out when the Admiral received the C. B. E. a short time ago from Admiral Sir John Cunningham. Those who have had the privilege of serving under the Admiral, one of the original members of the Allied Commission (as a member of the Allied Military Mission in September, 1943), know how applicable this citation is.

The citation ran:

"Rear Admiral Ellery Wheeler Stone has achieved outstanding work for the Allied cause in Italy. As Director of the Telecommunications Section in the Allied Control Commission he laid the foundations of effective co-operation between the Italian Government and technical authorities and the Allied Forces in the field of communications. Appointed Deputy Chief Commissioner to Lieut. General Sir Noel Mason MacFarlane in January 1944 he played a principal part in the re-organisation of the Allied Control Commission, in the planning and execution of Allied Military Government in Italy, in establishing the closest relation between the Allied authorities and the Italian Government in the most difficult circumstances after the Armistice and in the critical days of the formation of the first representative Italian Government after the occupation of Rome by Allied troops. On the departure of General Mason MacFarlane, Admiral Stone was appointed Acting Chief Commissioner and later confirmed as Chief Commissioner. In this capacity he helped to establish confidence in the new Italian Govern-

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system of local government. You found great industries completely lacking raw material and coal with the consequent threat of widespread unemployment. You have overcome these difficulties magnificently. Your numbers have invariably been insufficient. Your quality has never deteriorated. You have maintained law and order, established good government and started economic rehabilitation. You and all hands serving under you—officers and men—have done much for Allied interests, for the restoration of Italy, and for the cause of freedom and democracy. You may be proud of your work as I am proud to have commanded you. To all of you, whether you remain with the Commission or serve elsewhere, I send you my warm gratitude and wish you good fortune.

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of food and medicines. As head of the first Commission to undertake the administration and guidance in the first liberated country in Europe, Admiral Stone has shown himself a great Allied leader."

As our enterprise draws to an end, we of the *Bulletin*, like to feel a little freer in letting ourselves go and expressing our opinions with some liberty—never license, of course. And so, while convention would permit us only the most formal congratulations on the occasion of this tribute to our commanding officer, perhaps we may be allowed, too, to voice our personal and quite informal delight on the occasion.

We remember Captain Stone (as he was then), an authoritative, truth to tell, somewhat formidable figure looming out of the gloom in the *Internationale* in Brindisi, bearing down on us with purpose in his eye. We were alarmed and sprang to immediate attention, fearing the worst. However, it was merely to tell us that he had trouble getting his Navy collars properly starched and would we assist in getting the precisely correct formula across to the Italian laundry.

It was our first contact with that meticulous attention to detail which the Captain and subsequently the Commodore and the Admiral (we had the pleasure of chronicling these successive steps upward) applied and still applies to the affairs of the Commission no less than his own. We remember the feverish days when, with the departure of Mason Mac, all the complications of the delicate ACC (as it still was) and the new Italian government were set before the Admiral for solution.

We had then, and we have had since, frequent opportunities to watch him at his work. (And, *en passant*, how *he* has watched *us*; the *Bulletin* has had no more faithful reader and, as in the affair of the starched collars, he never skips a comma). And we have, it all must be told, been ticked off and had our share of rockets. But we have come to have an enormous respect for the Chief's integrity, his desire to get at the facts, his basic fairness and, above all, his courageous and inflexible devotion to duty. These are not mere words; we have come to know what they mean. And we are glad to see these rare qualities recognised and rewarded. *Homos honestum decorat.*

most recently has been Acting AMG Commissioner for the Zone until the turnover the other day. The report is the last—and the 19th—submitted from Livorno and contains a highly interesting summary of life in the thriving military port which has been chief center of operations for the Peninsular Base Section in Italy and, as such, the port into which the tremendous military supplies of the war factories of America have poured for the last phases of the Italian campaign.

Thousands upon thousands of Allied troops—British (from all parts of the Empire), Poles, French, Brazilians and Americans, the British and American Navies in no inconsiderable strength, both the R. A. F. and American fighter and bomber groups were stationed in the province which once contained more than 250,000 native souls. But perhaps it would be even more appropriate to let Capt. Beatty tell the story in the words of his own report:

"Livorno was a city deserted and smoldering in ruins when this officer (Capt. Beatty) entered here in mid July 1944. Streets were filled with countless tons of debris and rubble. Walls of buildings swayed crazily under the impact of German shells being lopped into the city. The harbor was a graveyard of sunken ships, the port area in shambles, and on both sea and land was a treacherous net work of mines. The battle raged only a few kilometers north of the city.

P. B. S.

"The Peninsular Base Section came here overnight. Offices and installations were established as if by magic. Troops, supplies and equipment poured in every minute of every hour of every day. The transition in the Livorno area was like a story from the Arabian Nights. Miles of streets and highways were cleared of debris, roads were built, airports sprung up overnight, dumps and warehouses appeared in the fields and forests, miles of telephone and electric light wire were placed and strung everywhere. Water mains were rebuilt, sewers repaired, bridges were laid, 55,000 mines were lifted, the harbor was cleared of partly submerged ships. These and many more equally astonishing feats occurred in a matter of days.

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LIVORNO

A good report (for December, 1945) comes to hand from Capt. Stanley Beatty, former Kansas City (Mo.) police inspector, who has ben serving as AMG Public Safety Officer in Livorno, and tary port which has been chief center of operations for the Peninsular Base Section in Italy and, as such, the port into which the tremendous military supplies of the war factories of America have poured for the last phases of the Italian campaign.

Thousands upon thousands of Allied troops—British (from all parts of the Empire), Poles, French, Brazilians and Americans, the British and American Navies in no inconsiderable strength, both the R. A. F. and American fighter and bomber groups were stationed in the province which once contained more than 250,000 native souls. But perhaps it would be even more appropriate to let Capt. Beatty tell the story in the words of his own report:

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"P. B. S. overlooked nothing. Hospitals were established for the wounded and ill, recreation places for the war weary; all kinds of entertainment; all kinds of services; PX, Dry cleaning, Ice, Libraries, Newspaper, Bathing beaches, tours and many other things far removed from the horrors

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of war to lessen the war weariness and homesickness of our troops. In the midst of this kind of a setting, Livorno A. M. G. set about to take a part in this great drama.

"We set up the machinery to investigate 38,000 civilian employees who were working at the many military and naval installations. The control of civilian movement was a prodigious task here, this being a military zone, and the front only a few kilometers away for several months. Security of our troops and the many installations had to be insured, and AMG reorganized all the civil police agencies. The first aim in the reorganization plan was to make them entirely duty-conscious and loyal to the Allied forces. The second step was to co-ordinate their activities to such an extent that all military police and all security branches would get the benefit of a maximum amount of civil police cooperation. The fire department equipment had to be completely overhauled and put in working order. Prisons had to be repaired and made secure. There were many enemy espionage agents and Fascists to be hunted down, bands of criminals and fugitives roamed about and had to be rounded up. Civil police forces were enlarged, their activities expanded and many were trained in certain types of specialist work.

Crime.

"Prostitutes are rigidly controlled. Civilian liquor supply sources are carefully checked and watched in order to protect the life and health of our troops. Political and labor groups are cooperative and friendly. There are no strikes or lock-outs. There are no demonstrations or displays of mass hysteria.

"Following the collapse of the German army in May, 1945, a vast horde of slave labor, refugees and all types of displaced persons fairly inundated this area. In the early stages, 6,000 to 7,000 of these half-starved, sick and semi-hysterical people swarmed into Livorno every day. Since then, a total of approximately 750,000 of them have been checked, fed, given necessary medical care and trips scheduled for them to their final destination. Owing to the crowded conditions in Livorno, it was utterly impossible to house

Livorno AMG organized a volunteer corps of men and women from among the political and labor Groups of Livorno to donate their time at the staging area at the rail head helping their unfortunate countrymen. This volunteer corps has rendered a truly distinguished service.

"Livorno is a different city today from the city lying prostrate back in July, 1944. The rehabilitation has been astonishing. Utilities are restored, houses rebuilt, stores and business establishments opened again, transportation and communications are well on their way to normalcy, and the city will be strong and important again".

Latest facts.

The December public safety detailed report gives a picture of Livorno as AMG leaves it (but to continue in another form and function as an Allied Commission liaison station). As a whole, the city itself could not help but be fairly prosperous because of the thousands of Italians employed by the armies there and the steady flow of paychecks. As to public safety, the Carabinieri, Capt. Beatty says, have shown lately a marked improvement, although "previously they were terrible". In near-by Pisa, on the other hand, the CCRR. have been most satisfactory all along. The Agents of Public Security of the Questore, too, have been doing an excellent job, working closely with the military police. The Guardia di Finanza similarly have a good record and are preparing to take over customs duties when the time comes. Petty crime flourishes but so do police measures to keep it within bounds. Most notable action during the month was the combined Allied-Italian raid on the Viareggio area which netted 285 arrests.

Relations between soldiers and civilians have been cordial for months, despite the continued presence of many soldiers. Speaking of soldiers, many who are transferred to the Livorno area bring their girl friends with them, but these latter are usually sent back home because housing is at a premium. Regular round-ups of prostitutes occur, the latest in the zone having produced 278. The functioning of the Italian courts has been so far behind schedule (and is one of the

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military and naval installations. The control of civilian movement was a prodigious task here, this being a military zone, and the front only a few kilometers away for several months. Security of our troops and the many installations had to be insured, and AMG reorganized all the civil police agencies. The first aim in the reorganization plan was to make them entirely duty-conscious and loyal to the Allied forces. The second step was to co-ordinate their activities to such an extent that all military police and all security branches would get the benefit of a maximum amount of civil police cooperation. The fire department equipment had to be completely overhauled and put in working order. Prisons had to be repaired and made secure. There were many enemy espionage agents and Fascists to be hunted down, bands of criminals and fugitives roamed about and had to be rounded up. Civil police forces were enlarged, their activities expanded and many were trained in certain types of specialist work.

Crime.

"Prostitutes are rigidly controlled. Civilian liquor supply sources are carefully checked and watched in order to protect the life and health of our troops. Political and labor groups are cooperative and friendly. There are no strikes or lock-outs. There are no demonstrations or displays of mass hysteria.

"Following the collapse of the German army in May, 1945, a vast horde of slave labor, refugees and all types of displaced persons fairly inundated this area. In the early stages, 6,000 to 7,000 of these half-starved, sick and semi-hysterical people swarmed into Livorno every day. Since then, a total of approximately 750,000 of them have been checked, fed, given necessary medical care and trips scheduled for them to their final destination. Owing to the crowded conditions in Livorno, it was utterly impossible to house any numbers of refugees. A staging area was established at the rail head, kitchens were set up, tents erected to protect them from the elements, and transportation was arranged for them almost as soon as they arrived here. Since there were no regular representatives of the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission stationed here,

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This Livorno story should properly close with Capt. Beatty's own last remarks. They follow:

"AMG steps aside with a certain feeling of inward pride and satisfaction. Close association with the people here for these many months has been one of mutual friendship, sympathy and understanding between us. True friendships have developed that will never be forgotten. There have been no promotions or medals. We merely did a duty that was required of us by all military standards. We have been rewarded in a certain way, yes, richly rewarded for our efforts. Those 106 letters and cards of holiday greetings, and the great mass of cut flowers that came to our office in an endless stream from the people of every walk of life in Livorno are much more precious than all the other rewards that could be given. It conveyed a message to us, more eloquently than words, that we, as representatives of the Allied Forces, and particularly members of the Army of the United States had won the confidence and good will of these people by our sincere efforts in their behalf."

CRISTMAS IN THE DOLOMITES

(Editor's Note. — *The article that follows comes from the distinguished pen of a nameless Northern BC who, as the reader will notice, packs a mean literary, as well as administative, wallop.*

The Carabinieri car that had brought me out from Bolzano had climbed some 3,000 feet up a narrow, steep winding road, to deliver me, the solitary guest at a small gabled inn, in a tiny mountain village. The inn formed most of one side of the village square: opposite was the church, large for so small a community. To the right a tall bell tower, to the left the *Gemeinde Amt*, what we call the *municipio* farther south. Though it was not cold, everything was snow covered. The bright inn signs, the steeply gabled house, the bright paintings on the walls, the silence and air of quiet comfort combined to bring in an indefinable way, a real old-fashioned Christmas impression.

Though, that night, I dined alone in the front parlor of the inn, it was far from being a lonely meal, for the family Christmas tree, with attendant and the innkeeper, his wife, daughter, the son, and three or four others were grouped round the tree. We sang, *Stilles Nacht, Heiliges Nacht*, and the little gifts were distributed. I have a feeling that the bottle of Canadian whiskey which I was able to contribute to the celebration was appreciated more from courtesy than from conviction.

I had been told that the midnight mass was the great celebration. Yet, when I looked out onto the village square at 11:30, there was scarcely a soul to be seen. Fine snow was falling slowly, glistening in the bright electric light. Even as I looked, the folk commenced to arrive. Some in horse-drawn sleighs, the majority afoot. Many had walked three or four miles through the darkness and snow from their mountain farms and would be back home again before daybreak. By midnight there were over 2,000 people in the church. Tyroler fashion, the men sat on the right, women on the left, on the long, low wooden pews. In the organ loft, high over the western door, was the village band, and choir. Again we had *Stilles Nacht*, twice in fact. The trumpets rang through the high vault of the church, taking my mind suddenly back to the hallelujah chorus of Handel's *Messiah* and days long ago in Albert Hall in London.

The Congregation.

As the service went on, a little group gathered at the altar rails, a group so attractive in its quaintness that one still felt that it was all something out of a story book. Three little maidens of about twelve, with tall, pointed pixie caps, knitted woolen jerseys and bunchy skirts. Five or six peasant girls with braided hair, shawls, embroidered bodices and blue aprons over homespun skirts. Heavy mountaineer shoes and thick stockings showed that they had come a distance on foot. They were not fair-haired, just as many of our Scots mountain folk are not fair. These had bright complexions but brown hair. When the time came for the Gospel, the priest walked down through the crowd to the pulpit high above the people in the center of the church, to read in German the nativity story from St. Luke. So, at last to the end, and we came out to heavy falling snow, and the great congregation dispersed, silently as spirits,

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Though, that night, I dined alone in the front parlor of the inn, it was far from being a lonely meal, for the family Christmas tree, with attendant angel, stood in one corner of the room, and some member or other of the innkeepers's family or household staff was for ever coming in, to see how I was getting on or to put some fresh ornaments on the tree. Indeed, the meal was barely over before candles were lit on the tree feeling that the bottle of Canadian whiskey which I was able to contribute to the celebration was appreciated more from courtesy than from conviction.

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Eighteen hours later there was much more bustle in the square, for the *Dorfmusik*, the village band and the village choir, had come to play and sing at the hotel. By the time the 24 members of the band, with all their instruments,

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had been accomodated, and eight in the choir and also a children's choir of seven, most of the hotel's largest room had been filled. But those of the public who could not crowd in listened from neighboring rooms or from the corridors. Most of the space left in the room was taken up with one table round which sat twelve worthies, each in the traditional village costume of brown jacket with velvet collar, flowered waistcoats, brilliant-colored ties pulled through gold rings. Some smoked the old-time long pipes, others accepted cigarets. My next-door neighbor had a beard that went well down over his waistcoat. Others wore the *Kaiserbart*, the sidewhiskers and forked beards that they and their forefathers before them had seen on old Emperor Franz Joseph. They looked what they were, solid mountain farmers.

The band instruments were of another generation, trumpets and horns of a queer, elliptical shape that had been out of fashion for decades. That, however, made no difference to the spirit of the music. The band played, the children sang, the choir sang—always unaccompanied, always local Tyroler folk songs. The wine passed around. There was always the feeling it was unreal, that it was of a past generation. Yet the solid faces round the table were real enough. And so two hours passed all too quickly and we wished each other *Frochliche Weihnacht* and went out into the snow.

ODDS AND ENDS

A new WD circular has come for U. S. officers which throws a different light on the release plans, in fact, as far as personnel is concerned, is giving serious worry to G-1 in re-casting the American side of the Liaison Groups; the new release rules, effectively immediately, revoke *all* past statements of willingness to continue on active duty and create five new categories as follows: Category I – Election to continue on extended active duty for an unlimited length of time; Category II – Election to continue until 30 June 1947 (the former Class A); Category III – Election to continue until 31 December 1946; Category IV (a sort of former Class B) – Election to continue until some fixed date, the date to be jointly agreed between the commanding officer and the officer concerned but which date must be not earlier than at least 60 days subsequent to the signing of the new certificate and not later than 30 November 1946; Category V – Election to be relieved from active duty at the earliest opportunity... Every officer must sign one of the five certificates by 31 January... The Civil Affairs Section is giving thought to what will happen to it now that there are less AMG problems in the field to worry about; it is contemplated that the Public Health and Education Sub-Commissions might soon disappear, that Fine Arts and Monuments may do likewise by 1 March but that Public Safety, Legal, Displaced Persons and Local Government, with headquarters staffs ranging from 8 to 3, will stick around for a while... Udine and Bolzano will correspond directly with A. C. Hq., while other communications to the field should be addressed to the CLO concerned... Only officers who have six months or more to serve (on the basis of their present point scores) will be sent to Venezia-Giulia... Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, who has been with us since December, 1943, has left the A. C. for MTOUSA, where he is helping on American supervision of the forthcoming Greek elections... Personnel of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, on the U. S. side at least, have returned to the administrative jurisdiction of 2675 Regiment after having been under Rome Area Command... Separate messes for British and American officers in Rome are being arranged... The Regiment has just received word that EM down to 45 points be readied for redeployment; eligibles number about 12... About 30 EM with from 53 to 50 points and about six officers from 72 to 70 points have been eligible to leave also but no orders to depart have yet come through...

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RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

I don't know why I don't slap the next person who asks me, 'What's the use of culture?'

E. P. A.

There has been little action on the political front this week and—since the press had a two-day holiday like everyone else—very little commentary either. On 21 December the Council of Ministers met and carried out some relatively minor reshuffling in the cabinet. The Ministries of the *Consulta*, Reconstruction and Food were abolished. Ugo La Malfa, who was Minister for Reconstruction, now presides over the new Ministry of Foreign Commerce. The Food Ministry will be replaced by a High Commission. The High Commissioner is to be Pietro Mentasti (a Christian Democrat) and the Associate Commissioner Luigi Sansone (Socialist). Only comment on this new set-up came from the Rightist *Giornale della Sera* which expressed disappointment in De Gasperi, accusing him of putting aside high principles in order to place his man Mentasti in a position of authority.

A more important issue was opened when the special committee of the *Consulta* for the administrative elections voted (by 15 to 13) that suffrage should be compulsory. This was a definite defeat for the Leftist parties which had to confront the combined opposition of Liberals, Christian Democrats, Labor Democrats and the independents on the committee. Leftist papers were quick to point out that this ruling now has to go to the *Consulta* and therefore only the first round has gone to the Right. Again the holidays have cut short the debate in the press but the question will no doubt come in for very

he must have been expecting something more than finally emerged, for on the 27th, the day the official communiqué was released, he called the press together and let them know that he had expressed to the American, British and Russian Ambassadors his disappointment at the outcome. An ANSA report, which gave every evidence of being inspired, spoke of a step backward from the Potsdam position and emphasized the "profound regret" which Italy feels when she observes that her 18 months of co-belligerency seem to avail her no privileges.

The editors of Rome's leading dailies were encouraged to interpret "the unanimous thought" of the nation and they did not overlook the opportunity. From Left to Right the reaction was the same, only the vocabulary and the interpretations differing somewhat. *Acanti* spoke of a feeling of pain that even some provisional *modus vivendi* could not have been arranged. *Risorgimento Liberale* headed its story "A Step Backward". *Italia Nuova* elaborated the same idea with the headline "From Co-belligerency to Conquered Nation Status." Both *Unità* and *Acanti* put the blame to a certain extent on Italians themselves, since, in the view of these organs, the fight against Fascism has not been carried out with sufficient vigor. *Italia Nuova* saw in the whole affair as simply the sacrifice of Italy in the interests of Russia's satellites and *Il Globo* was inclined to blame the "campaign of certain elements of the foreign press, inspired at Rome, against the democratic government of Italy." But more impressive than the divergence of interpretations was the unanimity of the sentiment that the promise of Potsdam had not been kept.

On Christmas Eve a bomb was thrown at the Rome headquarters of the Communist Party. There were no deaths and no serious injuries.

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POLITICAL

I don't know why I don't stop the next person who asks me, "What's the use of about".

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Italians are not pleased with what has come out of Moscow. At first an AP dispatch quoted De Gasperi as saying: "Italy would receive with relief and new hope" the news that work on drafting a peace treaty would be resumed, but he must have been expecting something more than finally emerged, for on the 27th, the day the official communique was released, he called the press together and let them know that he had expressed to the American, British and Russian Ambassadors his disappointment at the outcome. An ANSA report, which gave every evidence of being inspired, spoke of a step backward from the Potsdam position and emphasized the "profound regret" which Italy feels when she observes that her 18 months of co-belligerency seem to avail her no privileges.

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On Christmas Eve a bomb was thrown at the Rome headquarters of the Communist Party. There were no deaths and no serious injuries. *Unità*'s comment was an austere refusal to "dramatize" the incident but both *Italia Libera* and *Avanti* urged the police to action, the Socialist paper adding that the act of violence "was committed by those same forces which are trying by all possible means to postpone the elections."

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ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Section, it can now be said, is on its last lap as an A. C. entity, passage of the $550,000,000 1945 UNRRA appropriation and authorization for the 1946 contribution of $1,350,000 by Congress having ensured the eventuality of an UNRRA supply program for Italy. A tentative date has also been fixed for the turnover of the supply responsibility, subject to direction from the Combined Chiefs of Staff, authorizing the Commission to relinquish this responsibility for civilian supply. The date in mind is 31 January, although it is expected that the transition period of turnover will last until 1 March while odds and ends of arrivals from the September-December period of FEA-$100,000,000 interim program are received and accounted for.

During this period we will see some of our well-known figures disappear while others will be wearing two hats, as it were, that of A. C. and that of UNRRA. Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, is designated to be Deputy Chief of the UNRRA Mission in charge of it's Bureau of Requirements and Distribution. Our former Colonel W. J. Legg (R) who is back in Rome as civilian head of the Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission, will also in a post as a sub-chief under Mr. Cleveland at UNRRA. Mr. Elwood Holstein, Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section, will take on the duties of being UNRRA executive officer to Mr. Cleveland. Col. Leonard D. Densmore, Deputy Vice President, who has been one of the standbys of the A. C. for so long, is leaving the Economic Section, after he returns from the Swiss tour he is about to embark on. Col. Charles Walton will continue for some time yet as head of the Supply Group.

The "two-hat" group in the main will not only start the new UNRRA program (indeed, have already started it, of which more later) but will at the same time be liquidating the remainder of the FEA program, mostly in wheat and coal, that theoretically ends with loadings as of 31 December, but whose arrivals will dribble in for a couple of months yet. The use of one group to handle both the old and the new was felt more practical than the creation of a separate, small ments, under U. S. military requirements, under Venezia-Giulia requirements and under special programs such as special imports of the Italian Government for the Sardinian coal and railway program.

The personnel picture will naturally be affected by further transfers of function. Within the two months, functions of the Labor Sub-Commission, a few financial matters (such as watching out for fulfillment of the Allied policy that the Italians should not pay off old foreign debts) and foreign trade will revert to the British and American Embassies. The U. S. Embassy also will take an augmented industry job—that of advising on industrial projects in connection with loans of the Export-Import Bank. Of the 76 U. S.-FEA civilian employees of the Economic Section, about half will go to UNRRA, some will go back to the State Department and on to the American Embassy, others will be part of the clean-up staff and then go home and a few will go home shortly. Officers will go to UNRRA, Embassies, Udine, Venezia-Giulia, stay for a while on the clean-up staff or else be declared surplus.

On the UNRRA supply program side, the A. C. has managed to arrange already for $61½ millions of supplies for January loadings to get the show started with a bang. Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief of Mission, is now on his way back from the States, and a draft of the new agreement to be signed between the Italian Government and UNRRA is already being discussed in Rome. With the A. C. and the Italians agreed on details of the total program and how its materials are to be used, the next steps are now in the percolating stage, to wit, procedures, especially port reception and so forth. The most important procedures of all—for allocation—are being worked out. Formation of a National Industrial Council to consolidate all past agencies, particularly now that the North Italy Industrial Council's authority (sustained by AMG) lapses, is also being arranged.

LIAISON ARRANGEMENTS

With the North now going back to its fathers and AMG to history, arrangements have been made for the Liaison Groups which will operate

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With the North now going back to its fathers and AMG to history, arrangements have been made for the Liaison Groups which will operate in Italy (ourside of Udine and Venezia-Giulia) until the next and (we hope) final exodus. There will be eleven liaison stations, with a strength of 77 officers (including two civilians).

The liaison officers have received a directive (issued last September) outlining their duties and functions, which will consist mainly of keeping

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their eyes and ears intelligently open to what's going on. Headquarters wants careful reports as to conditions, especially as they affect Allied interests or as they might influence the general policy of the Commission. Officers will watch the effects of the handover, keep in touch with the countryside by personal visits, and maintain close relations with Allied military commanders, consular officials and press officers.

Specifically, the liaison officers should be on lookout for incidence of disease and unrest; pay special attention to law cases involving Allied personnel and property, and to requisitioning and derequisitioning; and to relations between Allied forces and the Italian police.

Most strongly, the liaison officers have been ordered to mix in no way with questions of Italian politics, local government and electoral lists and must NOT offer advice, even when asked, but refer Italian officials to their appropriate ministry in Rome, particularly on the matter of the elections, which the Allied Governments are anxious to see conducted in a free and secret manner.

The list of posts and Chief Liaison Officers is as follows, although it is expected that about 25 additional officers from the Economic Section may at various times be detailed, to clean-up tasks in the North:

Sicily – Major John Lund (A).

Naples – Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick (B), with a staff of four.

Bari – Lieut. Col. L. E. Vining (B), with a staff of two.

Livorno – Col. L. J. Bensley (A), with a staff of four, including a man at Florence.

Bologna – Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters (B) with a staff of five, with Capt. K. F. Vaughan (B) at Ancona (for transportation).

Liguria – Lieut. Col. W. Turner-Coles, with a staff of six.

Piemonte – Col. W. R. Jordan (A), who will function with a staff of ten until relieved by Col. A. S. Arnold (A) now on leave in the States.

Lombardia – Col. A. N. Hancock (B), with a staff of 17.

Bolzano – Col. S. W. Miller (B), with a staff of eight.

Venezie – Brigadier J. K. Dunlop (B), with

to work too hard to remember. Indeed, if the atomic bomb is really all it's supposed to be (and we hope it is'nt), 1945 will mark the beginning of a new Era or the Beginning of the End. But even leaving the A. B. out of it, it is'nt every year that gives you two V days. A lot of things came to an end this year: the war, the *Wehrmacht*, the sinking of the Rising Sun, and perhaps, too, an end for many people to the illusion that peace was simply a matter of silencing the guns. And it was also a year of great things beginning, the long voyage home for millions of soldiers, the painful reconstruction of many ravaged countries and the UNO which can be, *con un po' di buona volonta*, the greatest beginning of all.

Our little world has had its ebbs and flows, too. This time a year ago we were still beating stubbornly but not very effectually on the doorway of the North. Bologna was still the promised land and some of our friends in the field, scurrying back for the holidays, brought us tales of frontline shelling north of Lucca. Out Aquila way they were skiing and searing hell out of themselves by the ascent of the Gran Sasso on the cable car. In Rome there was a shortage of light and heat and a new government had just been formed (some things are only to be described as hardy perennials). Then came the spring and the dam burst as the armies surged forward and the *partigiani* arose in their might and took a hand in liberating the great cities of the North. AMG moved in and started to deal with the industrial problems that loom larger and larger as the war fades away and the figure of reconstruction crowds everything else out of the foreground. With major industrial matters to deal with and political questions for the first time of truly national scope clamoring for an answer, it cannot be said that the summer was an easy time for any of us—perhaps an exception must be made for the Army AMGs who rested themselves (after living through the fever and smoke of the advance) on the sunny shores of Lago di Garda.

Then began the application of the point system and the last six months have seen a constant stream of old familiar faces checking in, packing luggage, filling out forms and joining the great westward trek. Even as the autumn leaves, the green freshness of their availability (if not vita-

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close relations with Allied military commanders, consular officials and press officers.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

Looking back over the year, we have the impression that 1945 will be onedate that school children in the generations to come will not have *macht*, the sinking of the Rising Sun, and perhaps, too, an end for many people to the illusion that peace was simply a matter of silencing the guns. And it was also a year of great things beginning, the long voyage home for millions of soldiers, the painful reconstruction of many ravaged countries and the UNO which can be, *con un po' di buona volontà*, the greatest beginning of all.

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Then began the application of the point system and the last six months have seen a constant stream of old familiar faces checking in, packing luggage, filling out forms and joining the great westward trek. Even as the autumn leaves, the green freshness of their availability (if not vitality) withered away under the influence of the sinister chemistry of "points" and they were borne away from us—a process which still goes on as we write (Thank God—Ed.) We in the PRB had a whole staff shot away from under us and a procession of directors over us; 1945 saw three DPRS where 1944 had managed on one.

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Our experience of course can be matched by every S C and Provincial team in the whole show. Finally—only less than a month ago—AMG, whose vitality had surprised everyone, gave up the ghost and among other things that end with 1945 is AMG itself, save for the last battalions of Udine province and Venezia Giulia.

On New Year's Day one looks forward as well as back—you remember the double face of Janus who presides over our January. So we look now to 1946. It will be, we devoutly hope, a year less easily memorizable by the high school students of the future: we are ready for a year of tranquillity rather than drama, however stirring. A year from now it is certain that we shan't be here and probably you won't either. The *Bulletin* will be dead, the steel will be used for Frigidaires and not shells, brown will be a much less popular color in the best circles and we shall be taking in the current hits of Broadway or Piccadilly rather than Eiaa or USO offerings to brighten our holidays. This is all right and we like to think of it. Still it has been a long comradeship and a happy one. Silly, but we feel a little sad saying good-bye to it all... Happy New Year!

TRANSPORT ITEM

A recent survey of the truck situation reveals the fact that, up to early this month, 16,759 trucks and 3,285 trailers have been turned over by the Allies to the Italian Government, a figure which includes 3,960 imported vehicles. The truck turnovers have helped ameliorate a critical transport shortage whose extent can readily be appreciated when one recalls that, as of a count of 30 September last, there were only 58,992 vehicles available for road haulage with a lift of only 114,532 tons compared with a 1939 lift of 215,000 tons.

At present, essential needs are provided for but goods like fruit, wine and building materials seriously lack transport. However, as the output of the Fiat and other Italian works increases, the prospects will improve, officials feel. The trucks already handed over fall into two classes: army surplus and imported. Army surplus trucks included 84 six- to ten-tonners; 7,653 one-and-a-half- to five-tonners, and 5,062 one-quarter-to

111,573 barrels of petrol, 51,956 barrels of kerosene and 88,613 barrels of Diesel oil, among other lubricants. Each barrel is 159 liters. The distribution between Italian Government territory and AMG areas of the North was, roughly, on a ratio of 3 to 2, respectively.

The shipping situation also looks somewhat better. November saw 84,808 tons lift moved by Italian coasters under United Maritime Authority orders and another approximately 25,000 tons moved otherwise. UMA-directed coasters had moved only 74,225 in October. The coasters, whose total deadweight is 84,000 tons, however, have a problem in repairs and overhaul and so are often unavailable for work.

ODDS AND ENDS

Major Clyde A. Warren (A) has been awarded the Legion of Merit... Two more U. S. promotions: George F. Parker to Colonel and Frederick C. Barr to Captain... At least 10 Class B officers are slated to leave about 1 January, with more officers to follow as 70-pointers are redeployed... We are happy to print a correction of an egregious boner pulled last week in this department; when we occasionally succumb to human frailty, it is always a source of new news, accurate and up-to-the-minute; at any rate, the correction has to do with the electoral lists: Local Government's Director, Major R. R. Temple (A), states that there are 7,060 communes preparing electoral lists (not 28,000—where *could* we have gotten that figure?), that there are 14,120 lists (male and female) and that about 2,000 have been finally approved according to the most recent information... Col. J. L. Jones, G-1 (B), is leaving us to go with UNRRA... Twenty-three British decorations have been announced, many of them going to A. C. officers and men no longer with us; the list follow: C. B. E. – Brigadiers J. K. Dunlop, A. P. Gruffey-Smith, G. R. Upjohn, G. S. Parkinson and Col. P. R. Evans; O. B. E. – Colonels H. G. Wilmer, J. L. Henderson and H. G. Crawshaw and Lieutenant Colonels J. A. Balfour, P. F. Benton-Jones, W. M. Lapper, W. N. Stewart and P. H. G. H. S. Hartley; M. B. E. – Lieut. Col. E. A. C. Talbot, Major S. J. B. Louden, Capt. J. R. Squire, SQMS G. Morris, SSM J. S.

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At present, essential needs are provided for but goods like fruit, wine and building materials seriously lack transport. However, as the output of the Fiat and other Italian works increases, the prospects will improve, officials feel. The trucks already handed over fall into two classes: army surplus and imported. Army surplus trucks included 81 six- to ten-tonners; 7,653 one-and-a-half- to five-tonners, and 5,062 one-quarter- to one-tonners, a total of 12,799 plus 3,285 trailers. The imported transport included 255 ten-tonners, 3,470 one-and-a-half-tonners and 235 one-quarter-tonners. More than 90 per cent. of the trucks turned over were American.

December allocations of POL to operate these fleets were the highest yet made and included

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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December 22, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 38

POLITICAL

Laboriate modice alacriores. Temperata illa, salubria et civilitatibus et usuquis est, utuntur, et alias graves et opus qui habent effrenata est et praeceps.

(LIVY)

Although there have been few changes in the list of undersecretaries which was approved at the end of last week, we publish herewith the complete slate for convenient reference. It will be noted that there has as yet been no appointment of an undersecretary for Food, a ministry still lacking a minister.

Presidency:

GIUSTINO ARTESANI, Liberal
GIORGIO AMENDOLA, Communist

Agriculture:

ANTONIO SEGNI, Cristian Democrat

Air:

Gen. ERNESTO PELLEGRINO, Independent

Education:

ACHILLE MARAZZA, Christian Democrat
(*Fine Arts and Theatres*) ENRICO PARESCE, Labor Democrat

Finance:

BRUNO VISENTINI, Action Party

Foreign Affairs:

CELESTE NEGARVILLE, Communist
(*Italians Abroad*) RENATO MORELLI, Liberal

Industry and Commerce:

(*Industry*) IVAN MATTEO LOMBARDI, Socialist
(*Commerce*) ENZO STORONI, Liberal

Interior:

[illegible], Christian Democrat

Navy:

(*Military*) PASQUALE SCHIANO, Action Party
(*Merchant*) ANGELO CORSI, Socialist

Post:

MARIO FANO, Independent

Post War Relief:

ENRICO BERARDINONE, Communist

Public Works:

GIUSEPPE BRUNO, Action Party

Reconstruction:

PASQUALINO VASSALLO Jr., Labor Democrat

Transport:

ANTONIO PRIOLO, Socialist

Treasury:

GIOVANNI PERSICO, Labor Democrat
(*War Damages*) PIETRO MASTINO, Action Party

War:

POMPEO COLAJANNI, Communist
Gen. LUIGI CHATRIAN, Independent

The new Government held its first meeting on 13 December. After approval of the list of undersecretaries, some further appointments were made affecting individuals who had had posts in the Parri government. Meuccio Ruini was named President of the *Consiglio di Stato*, and was also made a member of the *Consulta*. The other ex-ministers, Parri, Ricci, Jacini and Arangio-Ruiz and ex-undersecretaries, Rossi, Ragghianti, and Ferrara were likewise appointed *Consultori*. The decree on the use of the German language in Bolzano province was approved. It was decided to convoke immediately the necessary committees of the *Consulta* to examine the machinery of the electoral laws, giving precedence to those concerned with the administrative elections and to convoke on 7 January a full meet-

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POLITICAL

Libertate maxime abundant. Temperatio illis salubres et exercitibus et singulis est; animis, et aliis quocis et ipsis qui habent efferantur est et praeceps.

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(*Italians Abroad*) RENATO MORELLI, Liberal

Industry and Commerce:

(*Industry*) IVAN MATTEO LOMBARDI, Socialist
(*Commerce*) ENZO STORONI, Liberal

Interior:

GIUSEPPE SPATARO, Christian Democrat

Justice:

DANTE VERONI, Labor Democrat

Labor and Social Welfare:

GENNARO CASSIANI, Christian Democrat

Navy:

(*Military*) PASQUALE SCHIANO, Action Party
(*Merchant*) ANGELO CORSI, Socialist

Post:

MARIO FANO, Independent

Post War Relief:

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In this speech, which was accepted as reflecting the general platform of the new Government,

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the President of the Council made much of the point that the new cabinet is headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The handover of the provinces in the North coming at this time he said was a good omen; all Italians are aware that the most important objective now must be the winning of a new international status. He hoped that the next step might be abolition of the Armistice. Such international problems were by no means purely political, for associated with them were some of Italy's major economic problems, such as export trade, he pointed out.

He hoped that the Moscow meeting might lead to a general international agreement, in which he trusted that Italy's rights would be recognized. "Certainly", he said, "we must allow other nations to have no doubt about our determination to root out Fascism and to defend the liberty which we have won with the aid of the Allies."

Coming to internal matters, he indicated some sympathy with one of the points pressed by the Liberals when he said that normal administrative organs must replace emergency bodies as soon as possible and promised to hold the elections for the Costituente within the period set by the Parri government. He called attention to the need for economy in state expense and the urgency of making the most of the country's productive capacity. Finally, he appealed for solidarity among the parties and union among Italians until—with the coming elections—the people could give their "conscious, decisive and solemn" verdict. Press comment on the speech was generally favorable though somewhat reserved.

Press Conference

At his first conference with members of the foreign press held later in the week the new President contradicted the rumor that he intended to do away with such meetings with the press. He went on to speak at some length about his career as a journalist in order to make clear to the assembled newsmen that he had every reason to be an ardent supporter of freedom of the press. He supported the Prefect of Rome (who had suppressed two weeklies for the publication of scurrilous cartoons) though he said that in the future such action would be left to the magistrates—thus meeting the objections of most critics

Nenni spoke in Venice, outlining the Socialists' point of view and stressing their opposition to all forms of terrorism and their determination to resist any kind of dictatorship. He, too, addressed the press—in his case the Italian press—and reported on further developments in the matter of epuration. The responsibility for dismissing a number of high state functionaries, under the new legislation, he said, now devolves upon the Council of Ministers and De Gasperi had already asked the Ministries as well as the Commission for Anti-Fascist Sanctions to supply the necessary data by 15 December. Nenni gave an account of progress made in winding up the High Commission (earlier in the week he had presided over a meeting to work out details of its dissolution) and, paralleling in a sense, De Gasperi's pledge on the elections, reaffirmed the promise made under the Parri regime that epuration would be complete by 31 March. Perhaps the most interesting speech of Nenni, however, was the one made at Padua on the 15th in which he pointed out that, for the first time since 1860, the leader of the Catholic party is at the head of the state and the Socialists have the Ministry of the Interior; the significance of this, he said, was that clericalism and anticlericalism were dead, and would no longer disturb Italian political life.

As De Gasperi had promised, the special committee of the *Consulta* on the law for administrative elections met—less than a week after his taking over—and, according to press reports, fell to discussing whether or not the law should be considered by the *Consulta* as a whole. This suggestion, put forward by the Rightist Lucifero, was regarded by the Left as purely obstructive and, according to *Ricostruzione*, the intervention of Romita succeeded in quashing it.

PARCEL ANNIVERSARY

The Gift Parcel Post Service from America is just a year old this week, we are reminded by our esteemed colleague, Col. H. H. Scudder, and during this year it has presented some of the most awkward problems which his Communications Sub-Commission and the Italian Post Office have been called upon to handle. At the commencement the service was limited to 5-lb. parcels for the cities of Naples, Rome, and Palermo and Vatican City only. There was considerable touch-

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The week has been a busy one for the Vice President—Pietro Nenni—too. Last Sunday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Rome, and on Monday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Florence. On Tuesday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Milan, and on Wednesday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Turin. On Thursday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Genoa, and on Friday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Bologna. On Saturday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Ancona, and on Sunday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Pescara. On Monday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Naples, and on Tuesday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Bari. On Wednesday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Taranto, and on Thursday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Reggio Calabria. On Friday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Messina, and on Saturday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Catania. On Sunday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Palermo, and on Monday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Trapani. On Tuesday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Marsala, and on Wednesday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Agrigento. On Thursday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Caltanissetta, and on Friday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Enna. On Saturday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Ragusa, and on Sunday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Siracusa. On Monday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Catania, and on Tuesday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Messina. On Wednesday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Reggio Calabria, and on Thursday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Taranto. On Friday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Bari, and on Saturday he addressed the Socialist Party Congress in Naples. On

suspension, said they were not quite clear what they had come to protest about, having been ordered to come, and volunteered the information that the protests were being scheduled on a time table.

General Order No. 19.

More or less coincident with the suspension of *Primorski Dnevnik* and adding to the bitterness of the extreme left wing attack on Allied Military Government was the revocation of General Order No. 19 which had suspended the provision of Italian law requiring that all persons holding public positions in Zone "A" must be of Italian citizenship.

On the economic side, substantial progress has been made is analysing and coping with some of the more acute practical difficulties in Zone "A". Price control machinery of considerable scope is being worked out, involving a great deal of study and work. It has become clear that statal, parastatal and communal wage scales will have to be increased, but Allied Military Government is naturally anxious to avoid inflation. Food transport costs have been brought under control and cut 20 per cent. A rental law is being drafted which will eliminate speculators in lodging and serve the double purpose of increasing landlords' income and reducing costs to the final tenant. Increases in purchasing through wholesale merchants' associations and Sepral are counted on to bring in more food at lower prices. As of the end of the first week in December the housing survey of Trieste had covered 170,000 lodgings and had made 1,200 rooms available. The fuel situation has eased with the arrival of Allied coal and the importation of firewood from adjoining areas. A lot of 77,000 meters of silk lining fabric which came into Allied Military Government hands was put on sale at 50 lire a meter in one of the larger shops. People queued up for four days, from two o'clock in the morning, to buy. If cotton can be secured for the mills in Gorizia to resume large-scale production, the product may be disposed of in the same way.

Notwithstanding the continued press attacks on Lieut. John Simoni (A), the Education [illegible] Military Government schools use text books from across the border.

In spite of a million-lire drug robbery and several thefts of jeeps, as well as the disappearance of numbers of telegraph poles in the Gorizia area, official police figures show a continued decline in crime in Zone "A". Burglary shows a marked decrease, with night patrols operating and mounted patrols out in the daytime. Traffic police, mounted on motorcycles, are being instituted this month. An effort is being made to develop officers and NCOs among the locally recruited policemen. Notwithstanding the improvement in public safety, the left-wing press continues its merry attacks upon the "Fascist" police and exploits the wider degree of freedom to report police news (granted by AIS) as food for an argument that more crime reported means more crime committed. So, as the dear reader can see, there's always something interesting to talk about in Trieste.

ODDS AND ENDS

The handover of the North (except Udine) and also of Livorno, Naples and the islands will take place at midnight 31 December, though it will take the boys about three more weeks after that to wind up their affairs... Only less than two score liaison officers will be left in various places in Italy, with UNRRA taking over most of the economic representation in all probability except for transportation and warehousing liaison... Col. Eugene R. McPhee (A), now on route to the States on leave, will succeed Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A) as SCAO of Venezia Giulia in January... Administrative elections, it is reported by the Local Government Sub-Commission, may be held on the four Sundays in March, with the *Costituente* national elections towards the end of April: though some 28,000 communes have completed their electoral lists, only about 1,000 have received final o. k... The Italian Government is currently under heavy pressure about the newsprint shortage to satisfy the Italian press, including 23 daily newspapers (all of them digested every living day by PRB) and 208 weeklies of all kinds in Rome alone... Former Lieut. Col. John McSweeney, who used to be A. C. Welfare Branch Chief, is coming back to Italy as operating head

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Notwithstanding the continued press attacks on Lieut. John Simoni (A), the Education Officer, Slovene elementary schools continue to be opened throughout Zone "A". In Trieste there are now 32 recognized institutions operating and in Gorizia there are 71. Pola has eight Croat elementary schools functioning. There are still, however, 46 unrecognized Slovene schools in the region while some teachers in the Allied official police figures show a continued decline in crime in Zone "A". Burglary shows a marked decrease, with night patrols operating and mounted patrols out in the daytime. Traffic police, mounted on motorcycles, are being instituted this month. An effort is being made to develop officers and NCOs among the locally recruited policemen. Notwithstanding the improvement in public safety, the left-wing press continues its merry attacks upon the "Fascist" police and exploits the wider degree of freedom to report police news (granted by AIS) as food for an argument that more crime reported means more crime committed. So, as the dear reader can see, there's always something interesting to talk about in Trieste.

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aged and seedy way to the less violent spheres of the Alto Adige and Trieste.

The main results of the visit were that Italian Labor and its efforts to create a democratic Trades Union organisation had shown themselves to date, to be successful. The Italian Unionists were impressed and pleased by the interest shown by their British colleagues. The story of the struggle for the liberation of the North and the part played by the Partisans and the trades unionists in the factories were dwelled upon the unity within the CGIL and the difference in organisation between the split political unions of the early pre-Fascist 1920's and the unions of today was also emphasised.

The Delegation consisted of Mr. Will Lawther, President N. U. Mine Workers; Mr. Jack Tanner, President A. E. U.; Mr. H. Bullock, National Union General and Municipal Workers, and Mr. A. Carthy of the International Department of the T. U. C.

VENEZIA GIULIA AGAIN

Considerable political activity in Trieste and environs has revolved around *Primorski Dnevnik*, Communist daily newspaper in the Slovene language, which has been suspended since December 7th upon the refusal of the paper's editor to keep a promise to withdraw a published contumacious statement to the effect that the higher administration of Allied Slovene schools appointed by AMG were Nazis, Fascists and *Domobranci* (??), accompanied by bitter personal attacks on the AMG Education Officer.

A number of protests, demonstrations and minor stoppages in factories during the week 8th to 15th December culminated on the latter date in what was intended to be a 24-hour general strike throughout Allied-controlled territory. The "strike", however, was only partially effective. It was called by the Communist *Italo-Slovene Anti-Fascist Union* and backed up by the *Sindacati Unici*, representing several Communist trade unions.

Viewing the action as a political and not an economic gesture, the *Camera di Lavoro* (associated with the CLN and representing Italian trade unions) did not join in. Forty per cent. of the workers in Monfalcone went to work as usual, deluged with petitions and delegations demanding the suspension be lifted. According to local statements, the strike was another step in the campaign to force the authorities to revoke the suspension ordered by Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO.

Behind the News.

The story behind the business is a long one. Primorski has taken the line for months that the only legal government in Zone "A" is the network of organizations set up by Jugoslav Partisans in May to administer the area, and that all persons who do not subscribe to the Communist doctrine and the theory that all Venezia Giulia belongs to Jugoslavia are Fascists, enemies of the people and collaborators with the remnants of Nazism.

Repeated attempts have been made since August, when the policy of the paper became extremely violent following publication of General Order No. 11, to persuade the editors to write more objectively and to report events with a more elementary regard for facts. The editors, who publicly admit that though the paper is written and printed in Trieste its policy is controlled from elsewhere, had been called in by AMS on three separate occasions and warned that unless its tone became less inflammatory and reckless sanctions would have to be imposed. Each editor has agreed to be more careful, and in each instance he has promptly been replaced by another who went back to the old line.

During the last interview between Col. Bowman and the current editor, it was made clear that there would have to be some continuity of editorial responsibility if the paper were to continue, and the editor, having agreed that the latest attack on Allied Military Government schools was not only exaggerated but contained definite falsehoods, was instructed and agreed to print a retraction. On the day the suspension was announced the Italian-language Communist daily, *Il lavoratore*, published a brief article saying the facts of the suspension were not yet clear but that in any event its solidarity with *Primorski* compelled it to take up the cudgels in behalf of the suspended publication and "in the interests of the freedom of the people's press".

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Viewing the action as a political and not an economic gesture, the *Camera di Lavoro* (associated with the CLN and representing Italian trade unions) did not join in. Forty per cent. of the workers in Montaleone went to work as usual. Public utilities and the majority of the shops in Trieste were unaffected. There were very few incidents and the Venezia Giulia Police maintained order without difficulty.

For the last ten days Allied Military Government and Allied Information Services had been

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Two days later the campaign to force the hands of the Allies began, with no suggestion from any quarter that *Primorski's* editor should keep his promise to the SCAO. Some of the delegations, which trudged from the villages into AIS headquarters in Trieste to protest the

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damage and requisitioning. Major William H. Green, the Chief Postal Officer, still studders at the memory of the desperate efforts to put into usable shape, before the first consignment arrived, a bomb-damaged part of the Naples Central Post Office and to overcome the general shortage of materials, especially electric light fittings.

Initial problems licked, traffic began to boom and the Naples premises became too small. There were other troubles, too: snafus in unloading assignments and the provision of road and rail transport; diversion of ships carrying mail to other ports where no adequate facilities existed. It was one crisis after another.

It soon became evident from censorship reports, too, that the gift parcel service was being abused in some cases to transmit items intended for sale and also that "accommodation" addresses in Rome, Naples and Palermo were being used for parcels intended for other parts of Italy. Indeed, such a demand arose that a violent campaign was opened in America and Italy for the extension of the service to all parts of Italy and for an increase in the weight limit. On several occasions the pressure became so great that the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications was almost stampeded into agreeing to such extension without any reasonable prospect of being able to handle the volume of traffic which could be anticipated.

Anticipated Flood.

Finally, as from 1 August 1945, it was agreed to accept parcels for all parts of Sicily and Sardinia, as a starter. Within a few days of this extension being advertised, the U. S. A. announced that 30,000 bags (about 300,000 parcels) were on their way.

During this time the Sub-Commission continued to plead for the restoration of Post Office accommodation at Naples. By prayer and luck, it managed to obtain for the Italian Post Office the use of a large double Romney hut of about 6,000 sq. ft. and the promise of two other similar huts. In the meantime the use of a large crypt under a church was obtained.

With the additional accommodation and a promise by the Italian State Railways to provide the necessary rail cars, it was at last felt to be possible to agree to the extension of the service

The extension of the service was advertised in the U. S. on 3rd November and in a few days a telegram was received indicating that owing to the unprecedented volume of postings the U. S. Post Office would be unable to sort the parcels as promised until after Christmas. So the Chief Postal Officer had to make another begging expedition to Naples to try to secure other premises which could at least be used to put the mails under shelter and afford them some security. Col. Pennycuick, AMG Commissioner, Naples Commune, agreed to the Fish Market. That every inch of space available will be required can be imagined when it is stated that, according to information received to date, 226,000 bags (about 1,356,000 parcels) have been shipped from the U. S. A. since the early part of November. The sub-commission and its Italian counterparts are going to have a merry New Year.

LABOUR TOUR - No. 2

Shepherded by Mr. William Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, and by Major E. Scicluna of the Milan AMG Economic Division, the British Trades Union Delegation visiting Italy has been hectically rushing round Milan, Genoa and Turin to the accompaniment of stirring speeches from Signor Giuseppe Di Vittorio, Communist Joint Secretary of the CGIL, who, phantom-like, pursued them wherever they went.

The visit socially was a great success. The delegation was greeted enthusiastically in every town it visited and in every town it addressed numerous meetings of workers of the CGIL and of the *Camere di Lavoro*. Immense efforts were made, not without effect, by the Italian Unionists, to impress the delegation and, if the truth be told, this second visit of the delegation to Italy was something of a surprise to most, not the least surprised being Mr. Will Lawther, head of the delegation and President of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, who saw, in addition to the general work done by the CGIL, that it had carried out the advice to the last T. U. C. delegation to remain united and undivided.

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With the additional accommodation and a promise by the Italian State Railways to provide the necessary rail cars, it was at last felt to be possible to agree to the extension of the service to all Italy on condition that the U. S. Post Office would sort the parcels into bags addressed to the various Provinces and thus obviate the need for the great amount of bag opening and sorting space otherwise required at Naples. An extension in the weight limit to 11 lbs. was also agreed to.

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The visit was impressive and terrifyingly speedy, at least to your PRO, who was caught up, by accident, in the vortex somewhere around Milan and was carried in the vacuum created by a large number of luxurious and high-speed automobiles (acknowledgments to the Embassy and Mr. Braine) as far as Turin where, after a rather sumptuous dinner given by the CGIL, he gave up the ghost and proceeded his relatively

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much to our regret, for God's country... The Allied Publications Board will likewise close shop on the turnover of the North but APB functions will be continued in Udine, probably under the PC... Lieutenant Colonels Lorenzo R. Holmes and Earl L. Downing have received the Bronze Star while Brigadier General William L. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, has been awarded the Order of SS. Mauritius and Lazarus, Degree of Commander, by the Italian Government... Sixteen EM with 54 points are leaving us before Christmas while unofficial reports have it that EM with 50 points and officers with 70 points will be eligible for release after 1 January, on which date, incidentally, A. C. will also release nine officers held beyond their eligible dates because of operational necessity.

GREETINGS

As we come to the end of our weekly stint and put away the typewriters, we can hear – perhaps it's just the hallucination born of exhaustion – the jingle of sleighbells and the patter of reindeer feet. Hallucination or not, we like the feeling. Merry Christmas to all, to AMG and AC and the CC and AFHQ and LOs and the CLA and the CFA and JICA and AGWAR and the Italian Government and to those who used to be with us and to the replacements who have just come (don't let it get you down) and to UNO and USIS and ANSA and all men of good will. And to you, a patient and tolerant reader. Especially and heartily to you.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

R26/WE37/PRB

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN

Vol. II, No. 37
15 Dec 1945

POLITICAL

The last minute olive branch extended by Alcide De Gasperi, Christian-Democrat Chief, was accepted by the Liberals on the 7th and after brief negotiations for the distribution of portfolios, Italy's new government was formed, like its predecessor, based on six parties and the unity of the C.L.N. The new Government, announced on the 10th is made up as follows:

Office	Name	Birthplace	Date of birth	Party
President	Alcide DE GASPERI	Trent	1881	C.D.
Vice-President				
& Costituente	Pietro NENNI[1]	Faenza	1891	Soc.
Agriculture	Fausto GULLO[1]	Cosenza	1889	Com.
Air	Mario CEVOLOTTO[1]	Treviso	1887	L.D.
Education	Enrico MOLE[1]	Catanzaro	1889	L.D.
Finance	Mauro SCOCCIMARRO[1]	Udine	1895	Com.
Foreign Affairs	Alcide DE GASPERI	Trent	1881	C.D.
Industry and Commerce	Giovanni GRONCHI[1]	Pontedera	1887	C.D.
Interior	Giuseppe ROMITA[2]	Tortona	1887	Soc.
Justice	Palmiro TOGLIATTI[1]	Genoa	1893	Com.
Labor and Welfare	Gaetano BARBARESCHI[1]	Sestri Ponente	1891	Soc.
Navy	Raffaele DE COURTEN	Milan	1888	Ind.
Post & Telegraphs	Mario SCELBA[1]	Caltagirone	1901	C.D.
Postwar Relief	Luigi GASPAROTTO	Sacile	1873	L.D.
Public Works	Leone CATTANI[3]	Rieti	1905	Lib.
Reconstruction	Ugo LA MALFA[2]	Palermo	1903	Act.
Transport	Riccardo LOMBARDI[3]	Regalbuto	1901	Act.
Treasury	Epicarmo CORBINO[3]	Augusta	1890	Lib.

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Reconstruction	Ugo LA MALFA[2]	Palermo	1903	Act.
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Treasury	Epicarmo CORBINO[3]	Augusta	1890	Lib.
War	Manlio BROSIO[2]	Rimini	1896	Lib.
Without Portfolio (Consulta)	Emilio LUSSU[2]	Armungia	1890	Act.

[1] Holdover from Parri government.
[2] Holdover with change of office
[3] First time in Cabinet.

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Analysis.

Analysis of the new cabinet shows very little change. As will be noted in the Table, 15 of the 19 ministers have been carried over from the Parri cabinet. There are three newcomers to the ministerial stratosphere - the two Liberals, Corbino and Gaetani, the party secretary who played such a busy role in the crisis; and the Actionist Lombardi. Gasparotto was Air Minister in the first Bonomi Cabinet.

The last days of the crisis were not without drama. On the 7th De Gasperi, who the day before had been on the point of forming a five-party government, reported to the leaders of the other parties that he had been informed on the preceding evening by the LUOGOTENENTE that the latter "had been surprised to hear on the radio" that De Gasperi intended to set up a five-party ministry when he had been originally charged to take in all six parties. This report, when spread abroad, lead to some muttering from the Leftist press - notably the Action ITALIA LIBERA and MONDO and, by the same token, to some expressions of approval from the Right. In any case it apparently strengthened De Gasperi in his determination to give the Liberals yet another chance. On the evening of the 7th the six parties met again. This time the Liberal spokesmen was Brosio who adopted a conciliatory tone, saying that the Liberals now felt that their decalogue was to all intents and purposes adequately translated in De Gasperi's general program and that much of what had been said over the preceding few days should be considered as "exacerbated debate" and might well be forgotten. This less intransigent line of the Liberals made it possible for De Gasperi to say at the end of the meeting that prospects for a six-party government were again good and from that moment on it became simply a matter of making the proper division of the portfolios.

Looking at the whole crisis objectively, it is hard to say who won or indeed what is the significance of the solution. Parri has been replaced by De Gasperi and it is fair to say that the latter's combination of patience, skill and firmness at the crucial moment has considerably enhanced his prestige, which is sure to rise even higher with the news of the handover of the Northern provinces. He is then definitely the gainer by the crisis and in a reflected sense the Christian Democrats likewise. The Socialists, too, seem to have gained, paradoxically enough, since the crisis was opened with the avowed intention of weakening the Left. For the Socialists now have not only Nenni who retains in military glory as the sole Vice-President and still in

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[illegible] the days of the crisis were not without drama. [illegible] De Gasperi, who the day before had been on the point of forming a five-party government, reported to the leaders of the other parties that he had been informed on the preceding evening by the LUOGOTENENTE that the latter "had been surprised to hear on the radio" that De Gasperi intended to set up a five-party ministry when he had been originally charged to take in all six parties. This report, when spread abroad, lead to some muttering from the Leftist press - notably the Action ITALIA LIBERA and UOMO and, by the same token, to some expressions of approval from the Right. In any case it apparently strengthened De Gasperi in his determination to give the Liberals yet another chance. On the evening of the 7th the six parties met again. This time the Liberal spokesman was Brosio who adopted a conciliatory tone, saying that the Liberals now felt that their decalogue was to all intents and purposes adequately translated in De Gasperi's general program and that much of what had been said over the preceding few days should be considered as "exacerbated debate" and might well be forgotten. This less intransigent line of the Liberals made it possible for De Gasperi to say at the end of the meeting that prospects for a six-party government were again good and from that moment on it became simply a matter of making the proper division of the portfolios.

Looking at the whole crisis objectively, it is hard to say who won or indeed what is the significance of the solution. Parri has been replaced by De Gasperi and it is fair to say that the latter's combination of patience, skill and firmness at the crucial moment has considerably enhanced his prestige, which is sure to rise even higher with the news of the handover of the Northern provinces. He is then definitely the gainer by the crisis and in a reflected sense the Christian Democrats likewise. The Socialists, too, seem to have gained, paradoxically enough, since the crisis was opened with the avowed intention of weakening the Left. For the Socialists now have not only Nenni who remains in solitary glory as the sole Vice-President and still in charge of the COSTITUENTE, but the Ministry of the Interior as well - a post for which they fought valiantly and unsuccessfully at the time of the formation of the Parri government. Otherwise, there is little change. The Communists remain exactly as they were; the Action party to be sure has lost the presidency but has taken over the important Ministry of Reconstruction. Ruini, who seemed a fixture at that post was an unexpected casualty of the crisis, being driven to resignation by strife within the Labor Democrat party. The Liberals have not won a single one of the points for which they precipitated the crisis, for the government

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has not "broadened its base"; it has not got away from the CLN, and De Gasperi has not specifically accepted the recommendations of the Liberal Party. On the other hand, it may be considered a last-minute victory for the Liberals that they are still in the government, and, of course, they did displace Parri.

Aftermath.

Judging by the Rome press, this crisis, unlike the one last June, has not left anyone with a feeling of satisfaction. LIBERA STAMPA summed it up well, saying that "everyone is dissatisfied: the Liberals for not getting the changes they wanted; the Leftist parties because they had hoped to form a government without the Liberals." The Rightist ITALIA NUOVA expressed freely its disappointment in the Liberals who suffer, according to Rebeuf "from lack of moral courage, lack of character and lack of faith in Liberal ideals." Similarly the Rightist Secolo XX confessed itself "bitterly disappointed" by the defeat of the Liberals. On the other side, Cianca writing in Il Nenno (Action), regretted that the world had to witness the "undignified spectacle" of the crisis and castigated the Liberals "who when they realized that the door might be closed on them managed to sneak in again, thanks to the DUCCOTIS, PCI and De Gasperi."

The Liberals themselves do not regard the outcome as a victory, for Cattani, interviewed in RISORGI ITALO LIBERALE, admitted that the government could not be regarded as "new" but thought merely that the "few changes made might increase its efficiency." AVANTI had a very objective and unenthusiastic analysis of the last week's activities, concluding with the modest claim that the left had won a defensive victory since "reactionary tactics" had failed. Togliatti, interviewed in UNITA, spoke in the same vein, though somewhat more cheerfully. A hopeful sign is the general confidence in De Gasperi - at least within the six parties.

On the 11th the Ministers took office and on the same day at a meeting of the six parties, it was tentatively decided that the all parties would keep the same undersecretaries that they had in the preceding cabinet, except where the Minister belonged to the same political party. This may be subject to some revision when the Council of Ministers holds its first meeting within the next few days.

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Leaving the crisis behind - we hope for good - there is a little else to chronicle in the week's political deluge. That strange anomaly the SINISTRA CRISTIANA, formed of young Leftists anxious to follow both the Vatican and the Kremlin, gave up the struggle and announced its dissolution. From Moscow came news that a peace treaty with Italy was under discussion and from Washington the report that Congressman Vorhis thought the time ripe for Italy's entry to the United Nations. Best news of all for the new government was the announcement of the imminent handover of the Northern provinces which we deal with elsewhere in our BULLETIN.

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TURNOVER

The news of the transfer of the North back to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government came suddenly 11 December and was publicly announced by the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W.Stone, USNR, in a press release 13 December, after he had communicated the welcome story to the new Italian Government the day before. The transfer will take place about 31 December and takes in all remaining Italian territory now under Allied Military Government, including the islands of Lampedusa, Linosa and Pantelleria, but excluding Venezia Giulia and the Province of Udine. The Civil Affairs Section, after many alarums and excursions since the first planned date of transfer on September 1, was finally busy at work, fixing up the legal requirements and spelling out other details of the business. The Province of Udine, it was made clear, was being retained under AMG (there will be some 26 officers on duty there) solely for military reasons and not in any sense because it was considered a disputed area. The transfer was the eighth since 11 February 1944 when the first (Sicily, Sardinia and Southern Italy) was made. Well, now there is only one more step to wait for...

LAST POST?

Decimated by the ravages of strange Anglo-Saxon beasts yclept Repple-Depple, Python and Liap, even more sadly diminished by the trend of circumstance, the tiny band of Regional Commissioners foregathered, on Tuesday 11 December - for what may well be in the nature of things the last RC meeting - in the office of Col.A.N. Hancock, RC, Lombardia Region. (We remember when the conference room of the CORPORAZIONI was scarcely large enough to contain the RCs and their attendant battalions. "Sheu, fugaces".). The meeting opened as scheduled at 1030 hours with the arrival of the Rome group headed by the Executive Commissioner, the Vice President, Economic Section and including the Polads, the Director of the Finance SC and, oddly enough, a PRO. Fresh from 24 hours in a wagon-lit, the Rome representation was alert enough even to cope with the malevolent machinations of the Montecatini lifts - only one member of the company being lost therein for more than the normal twenty minutes - and to go on briskly to keen participation in the deliberations. From Piemonte came Col.Eugene R. McPhee and Lieut.Col. William Turner Coles; from Liguria Col. C.R. Jordan, and from Venezia the long-enduring Brigadier J.K. Dunlop, sole survivor of the original Lords of the North. Lieut.Col. T. [illegible] A.C. Lieut. [illegible] from Bologna was also on hand.

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Liaison Officers, their Uses, Limitations and Duties was the chief subject of the morning discussions. It was decided by common consent that for this task quality is more important than quantity, that LOs must have fairly high rank and that, as long as such arrangement is possible, they should not be attached to the staffs of local military commanders. The original directive outlining their functions, in the opinion of the meeting, had stood up well to the test of experience and would need no modifi-

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cation. The memorandum for the military commanders, however, having been issued in February, 1944, was found to be already out of keeping with new conditions and likely to become more so. After considerable discussion and many suggestions from the floor, Col. Walters was assigned the task of re-drafting it. It was further suggested that the prefects should also be given some kind of document outlining clearly the position of Liaison officers and indicating how cooperation could best be attained. It was further stressed that Liaison Officers should keep in touch with Allied consuls wherever present and that consuls should be sent copies of the monthly reports. A tentative list of Liaison Officers and Public Safety Officers to be left in the field when AFHQ folds its last tent and slips away was then drawn up. The list, slightly modified from the one suggested last August, is as follows:

Sicily - 2 LOs
Bari - 1 LO
Naples - 2 LOs, 2 PSOs
Emilia - 2 LOs, 2 PSOs
Liguria - 2 LOs, 3 PSOs
Piemonte - 3 LOs, 4 PSOs
Lombardy - 2 LOs, 3 PSOs
Venezia - 3 LOs, 2 PSOs
Bolzano - 4 LOs, 2 PSOs
Florence - 1 LO
Livorno - 1 LO

The Economic group does not, of course, come into this line-up; such field agents, in the view of Mr. Cleveland, will not be LOs at all but something quite different though just what to call them is hard to say.

Other items in the morning meeting included a report by Brigadier Maurice S. Lush on recent developments in Rome, Caserta and points west, some discussion of the effect of movements of Allied troops in the area of the French frontier (Liguria and Piemonte didn't think there would be any effects), and an examination of the possibilities of easing transit regulations in frontier zones.

The Civil Affairs Section memo of 5 December on the electoral lists was given to the Regional Commissioners, all of whom, on their part reported that the preliminary lists were ready and awaiting only the checking with the "casellario" before being drawn up in final form. This may well mean some delay, however,

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The Civil Affairs Section memo of 5 December on the electoral lists was given to the Regional Commissioners, all of whom, on their part reported that the preliminary lists were ready and awaiting only the checking with the "casellario" before being drawn up in final form. This may well mean some delay, however, as the casellario is a bottleneck.

The afternoon session began with an exposition by the Vice President, Economic section on the present and future policy in the North. He made the point that as long as CLNAI (not, as one might think the plural of CLNO but the initials of COMITATO DI LIBERAZIONE NAZIONALE ALTA ITALIA) still functions in the North there will be need of Allied personnel to guide and advise the Italian reconstruction effort. Further business in the afternoon centered on details of personnel and ended with a lengthy discussion of legislation for conservation of electric power in the North, a matter of some urgency at the moment.

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Wednesday morning saw only informal conversations and conclaves and left time for some of the visitors at least to look at the Duomo and St.Ambrogio. By the middle of the afternoon most had taken their leave, stealing quietly off in the Lombard mist, grateful for the hospitality offered and perhaps a little subdued by the thought that the Regional Commissioners, A.C, may very well never meet again as such...

BRIGADIER LUSH HONORED

In an impressive ceremony at A.C. Headquarters at noon today (15 December), Brigadier Maurice S.Lush, Executive Commissioner of the Allied Commission since the amalgamation of all Allied Military Government agencies in Italy in January, 1944, was presented the Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer, by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, the Chief Commissioner.

The citation accompanying the award was signed by the President of the United States, Harry S.Truman, and read as follows:

" Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, British Army, as Executive Commissioner of the Allied Commission in Italy from January 1944 to July 1945, was responsible for the implementation of high policy and coordination of the work of the four sections and the independent sub-commissions of the Commission. Under his expert guidance plans for the rehabilitation of Liberated Italy were successfully carried out. His tact and consideration were of great value in the efficient co-functioning of the British and American members of the Allied Commission. Overcoming many obstacles by his unceasing effort, unusual executive ability and faithful perseverance, Brigadier Lush made a valuable contribution to the successful rehabilitation of Italy."

After presenting the medal, one of the highest decorations that can be awarded by the United States Army, Admiral Stone expressed his genuine pleasure in making the award to the Brigadier, who has been his right-hand man in carrying out Allied Commission policies in Italy, whereupon the Brigadier responded, bespeaking his deep appreciation of the honor and the symbolic aspect of the presentation by the Chief Commissioner, an officer of the United States Navy, of an award to an officer of the British Army. This, the Brigadier said, typified the Allied nature of the Allied Commission. The Executive Commissioner further pledged himself to continue to work for the common purposes of

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The Brigadier was thereupon congratulated by the executives and high officers of the Commission who witnessed the ceremony while an honor guard of British and American soldiers stood by.

Possessor of a wide experience in civil affairs, Brigadier Lush came to Italy in late 1943, succeeding Lord Rennell of Rodd as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for 15th Army Group. Af-

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ter Lieutenant-General Sir Frank Noel Mason-MacFarlane became Chief Commissioner, the Brigadier was appointed Executive Commissioner and as such had the job of direct control over the field staff of military government personnel and of the coordination of the execution of Commission policies. The difficulties and the accomplishments that task entailed are now history.

The Brigadier's military record is an impressive one. A veteran of the World War I, in which he served from 1915 to 1919 in the Royal Artillery, winning the Military Cross with Bar and being one of the chief functionaries in the demobilization of the British Army after hostilities ended, the Brigadier then went on to join the Sudan Political Service in 1919, served in the Egyptian Army and also as secretary in the British Legation at Addis Abbeba in Abyssinia. He rose steadily in the Sudan Political Service until he became Sudan Agent in Cairo and finally Governor of the Northern Province of the Sudan, which post he held at the outbreak of World War II.

Recalled to the Army, the Brigadier was appointed Deputy Chief Political Officer for Ethiopia and helped in the campaign which restored the Emperor of Abyssinia to his throne. In 1942 he was assigned as Military Administrator of Madagascar, after that island was taken by the Allies, and that job done, shifted the same year to the post of Deputy Chief Civil Affairs Officer of the British Military Administration in Tripolitania, which job he performed by fighting with the Eighth Army across Africa.

Brigadier Lush, incidentally, became virtually a classic in military government instruction of the American Army by virtue of having his examples, precepts and actions quoted as the wisest thing to do by Brigadier Blackly (then lieutenant-colonel), a British officer who served with Brigadier Lush and later taught at the United States Army School of Military Government at Charlottesville, Virginia.

Besides the MC, the Brigadier also holds the awards of C.B.E. (Commander of the Order of the British Empire), the C.B. (Companion of the Order of the Bath), and the Order of the Nile.

Born November 23, 1896, the son of the late Hugh Stanley Lush, the Brigadier is married to Mrs. Diana Ruth Lush, daughter of Charles Alexander Hill. They have one son and two daughters. The Lush home in England is at Westlands, Dunsert, Guildford, Surrey. The Brigadier was educated at Tonbridge School and at Woolwich.

Speaking for the BULLETIN, we should like to add our

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Speaking for the BULLETIN, we should like to add our personal word of pleasure on this occasion and our own special congratulations. The BULLETIN and the Brigadier have lived in enforced unity for the whole life-time of the former. It has been the duty of the Executive Commissioner to give the weekly "nihil obstat" (and unhappily on occasions the rigorous "veto") to the articles composed by the PRB for the instruction of our readers. 4365

Considering the constrained character of the mating, it might have been a very unhappy marriage. It has, in fact, not been so. We have found the Executive Commissioner always ready to recognize the importance of our deadline; always willing to forgive us our brusque haste (and we very junior officers, too,

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fortified only by zeal); always sympathetic to our point of view; generally more pained than we were when he felt compelled to wield the censor's sheers, and frequently helpful with suggestions and even contributions. We shall always remember with pleasure his quick pushing away of the mountain of red files which always immured him; his cheerful "sit you down"; his appreciative chuckles at some of our efforts to lighten the tone of official reporting; his readiness to take responsibility for passing something that the over-cautious might have cut; his willingness to hear us out on debated points; his final cheerful "thank you, well done", or even in more carefree moods, his "okey-doke".

As in all marriages each partner is of necessity affected and modified by the other, we can see that without the Brigadier the 'Bulletin' would have been very different, and, we suspect, not as good. As for the influence of the "Bulletin" on the Brigadier - well, we'll leave that for him to say. For our part, the relationship has been not only a privilege but good fun as well. And no one in the commission is more pleased than we are to offer congratulations on his award.

VENEZIA GIULIA REPORT

Less complaints are being heard about food shortages in the area of Venezia Giulia administered by Allied Military Government. Production and distribution of fuel gas in Trieste and Pola for the first time in ten months has helped to alleviate what promised at one time to be an acute shortage of fuel. There will be some reduction in the electrical supply because of the scarcity of water which is general throughout northern Italy, but the cuts in Zone "A" will be substantially less than in Italy proper.

There is a serious shortage in housing. Squads are inspecting and re-classifying lodgings and some 500 premises a day are being listed. Persons who came into the city some months ago and installed themselves in buildings to which they have no title and for which no payment is being made will be ejected.

The Venezia-Giulia Police Force now numbers about 1,600 men and is unquestionably giving a sense of security to the local population. People are coming forward much more freely to report crimes and to give evidence. There was a howl from some elements of the local press when the police appeared in what seemed to be black shirts. What had happened was that local dye plants tried to make dark-green American Army shirts into regula-

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A local project which would have given employment on a considerable scale this winter was the development of an industrial port, a project which was interrupted during the war. Local business people were ready to erect new plants if the development, including dredging of a canal and preparing low ground for sites, were approved by Allied Military Government. It has been ascertained, however, that the cost of the project to AMG would be two billion 700 million lire, so the scheme will be dropped unless it is desired by higher authority.

The price of bread has been raised to 18 lire, an increase of three lire... Col. H.F.P. Robertson, O.B.E., Deputy Senior Civil Affairs Officer, and Lieut. Colonel F.J. Armstrong, Trieste Area Commissioner, have both returned from leave to Britain... A new Area Government is being organized, to be known as Trieste City Area and headed by Lieut. Col. J.C.Smuts, O.B.E...

WHEAT BACKGROUND

The wheat ammassing continues so-so, the latest report (as for 10 December) listing a 73.9 per cent. collection or 963,100 tons of the 1,304,000 ton target figure. Italian Government territory collected 400,000 tons or 76.8 per cent. while the richer AMG areas collected 563,100 tons or 71.9 per cent.

The recurrent problem of ammassing always brings up the import situation, on which an interesting set of statistics has been gathered to explain why Italian wheat imports are now high when compared with normal years. Let us start with the following comparative table (all figures in tons), prepared by the Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission:

	1926–1930 (1)	1945 (2)	Percentage Difference
(a) Production . . .	5,070,000	4,224,000 (3)	Minus 30
(b) Seed Deduction .	900,000	890,000	Minus 1
(c) Net for human Consumption .	5,170,000	3,334,000	Minus 35
(d) Imports	2,101,000	2,309,000 (4)	Plus 10
(e) Available for Food (5). . .	7,271,000	5,643,000	Minus 22

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The price of bread has been raised to 18 lire, an increase of three lire... Col. H.F.P. Robertson, O.B.E., Deputy Senior Civil Affairs Officer, and Lieut. Colonel F.J. Armstrong, Trieste Area Commissioner, have both returned from leave to Britain... A new Area Government is being organized, to be known as Trieste City Area and headed by Lieut. Col. J.C.Smuts, O.B.E...

WHEAT BACKGROUND

The wheat emmassing continues so-so, the latest report (as for 10 December) listing a 73.9 per cent. collection or 963,100 tons of the 1,304,000 ton target figure. Italian Government territory collected 400,000 tons or 76.8 per cent. while the richer AMG areas collected 563,100 tons or 71.9 per cent.

The recurrent problem of emmassing always brings up the import situation, on which an interesting set of statistics has been gathered to explain why Italian wheat imports are now high when compared with normal years. Let us start with the following comparative table (all figures in tons), prepared by the Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission:

	1926-1930 (1)	1945 (2)	Percentage Difference
(a) Production . . .	6,070,000	4,224,000 (3)	Minus 30
(b) Seed Deduction .	900,000	890,000	Minus 1
(c) Net for human Consumption .	5,170,000	3,334,000	Minus 35
(d) Imports	2,101,000	2,309,000 (4)	Plus 10
(e) Available for Food (5). . .	7,271,000	5,643,000	Minus 22

(1) Average of the five years.
(2) 12-month period from August, 1945 to July, 1944.
(3) Taken from a production estimate of early summer.
(4) Actual and planned imports.
(5) (c)+(d)

Several other factors must be considered for a true appreciation of the situation. The important fact is that now there are only 123 kilos of wheat available per head while in the 1926-1930 period there were 180 kilos per head. While the current im-

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ports are greater than the five-year average, the imports for 1938-1939 were larger.

Production under the Fascists had been artificially stimulated by high-pressure methods and swollen subsidies. In this attempt at self-sufficiency in food from 1931 to 1936, the Fascist held wheat imports down to an average 538,000 tons a year, but this decrease was not offset by sustained increased production and the bare fact remains that there was less wheat to eat in Italy and what wheat there was cost twice the world price. Even during this period there was one bad crop year - 1936 - when it was necessary to import 1,982,000 tons.

The present situation is aggravated by shortages of other foods normally eaten by Italians, a reduction estimated at one third; less production because of lack of machinery and fertilizers, not to mention land still untilled because of mines or flooding; the 1945 severe drought; and naturally the ever present transport crisis, and the difficulties of the distribution system.

ODDS AND ENDS

Announcement of promotion - Guy L. Farrow to full colonel ... The U.S.redeployment picture is as follows: Eligible for release are officers with 72 points, [illegible] with 55, officers with four years and three months of service and [illegible] with four years of service... 2675 Regiment has passed administratively under Rome Area Command "TOUSA" as the next higher channel... Lieut.Col.Bernard W.Bradley has received the Bronze Star and Major Arthur D. Puccinelli the Knight's Cross of the Order of the Crown of Italy... The AFLNB may soon be dissolved... The Swiss-Italian trade pact has passed out of the hands of the A.C. into those of the British and American Embassies after the British and American Governments ruled that the pact might arrange for payment of old debts only if they were incurred before 10 June 1940... Col.H.S. Hartley, A.C. liaison officer at Bari, sends us a little puff about the fine work done by the officers of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission in the camps for Poles - about 5,000 of them - at Trani and Barletta: extreme cleanliness is evident; a kindergarten, primary schools for boys and girls and a co-educational secondary school are run excellently: a small soap factory, using waste kitchen fats, and a sausage factory have been started; both camps now have dentist's rooms as addition to the usual dispensary: Col.Hartley thinks Major Owen, the officer in charge, should take a bow; so do we... Our erstwhile comrades-in-arms, Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, former SCAO, 5th

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/Freedom

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Freedom with Silver Palm; four other Italian generals have been awarded the Legion of Merit - Roberto Bencivenga, Giuseppe Cortese, Umberto Utili and Mario Nemmi - while 54 other officers and men have received the Bronze Star from the 5th Army...

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December 8, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 36

POLITICAL

Credo che negli umani desiri la ragione non prenda mai tutto da un lato, né il torto tutto dall'altro.

Fuscolo.

We had hoped to have the outcome of the crisis, possibly with names and numbers of the winning ministers, neatly laid out for our readers of this week's *Bulletin*. Our hopes are, however, blasted by two events over which we have no control: the first is the recurrence of the Feast of the *Immacolata* which, since it gives our printers a holiday, sends us scurrying to press twenty-four hours before our usual time, and the second, the last-minute move of the Liberals which has delayed, if not altered, the course of political developments which, earlier in the week, seemed sufficiently predictable to justify the hopes alluded to above.

The drama of the past week divides itself quite neatly into three acts. The first act is concerned with De Gasperi's reluctance and final decision to accept the burden of forming a government. Though apparently sincerely anxious not to take on the responsibility of leading the coalition at this time the Demo-Christian leader was finally prevailed upon; the papers of December 1st carried an announcement that following a meeting of the six parties (which lasted till midnight), agreement on the new government's program had been reached. De Gasperi made a statement, indicating he was prepared to form the government, in which he declared that the *Costituente* must without fail be convoked by the date agreed upon (thus reassuring the Socialists), that he did not consider it absolutely necessary that the President should hold the Interior portfolio as had hitherto been the practice (an indication of his intention, later confirmed, to retain instead their requests had not yet been granted, he went off to the Quirinale to report to the Lieutenant General of the Realm and to receive informal encouragement to investigate the possibilities of forming a government.

Act II hinges on the Liberal reaction. The plot superficially at least focussed for a while on the choice of a Minister of the Interior, to which claim was made both by the Liberals and the Socialists. On the 3d the Liberals' Executive Council held a meeting which lasted five hours and broke up only in the early hours of the 4th. From their deliberations emerged the following decisions: they would yield the Interior to the Socialists; they would, however, claim, instead, either the Treasury or two of the "economic ministries", and they repeated their demand for inclusion of a number of personalities from outside the parties. To De Gasperi this seemed sufficiently acceptable to allow him to present himself at the Quirinale and—this time—formally to accept from the *Luogotenente* the charge of forming a government. This dramatic denouement took place at three a. m. on the 4th and apparently signified the end of the crisis, only the minor, though sometimes tense, negotiations over the portfolios ("*il mercanteggiare delle cacche*", in the cynical phrase of the Romans) being left to deal with.

Act III. However, in the following forty-eight hours it became apparent that the curtain had not come down for the last time but that there was to be a third act, and a third act which might very possibly mean something more than anti-climax. For one thing, the "widening of the government" – it had been understood – was to mean specifically the inclusion of Orlando and Bonomi. After considerable hesitation Orlando declined the offer to come in and Bonomi, who had previously made it clear that he would follow the example

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eyes into the trap set by the Leftist parties) to irritation and contempt ("once more the Liberals have shown they don't know what they want" wrote Lapiniere in *Scoglio XX*) that they had lost their battle on all fronts and were again likely to be "prisoners" of the coalition.

Thus prodded, the Liberals issued a manifesto containing ten conditions to their acceptance of the De Gasperi government. Some of the conditions were platitudinous enough for all to accept, but others were of the essence of the crisis itself and their restatement at the eleventh hour simply brought matters back to the starting point. The clauses which the Leftist parties (notably and specifically the Communists and the Action party) could not accept were those in which the Liberals called for abolition of the special Assizes courts, setting aside of the C. L. N. and restoration of "career" prefects and *questori* in place of the "political" incumbents in the North. In the opinion of Togliatti, the Liberal program might have been that of the "*Uomo qualunque*" and Cianca, writing in *Il Mondo*, felt that it would signify a renunciation of the program agreed on in June and "understood to be" the basis of subsequent governments.

This left De Gasperi the awkward alternative of reopening the whole question of the government program or trying to form a five-party government. On the 5th, he stated, after a long and busy day of negotiations, that he had been unsuccessful in shaking the "intransigence" of the Liberals, though he himself felt there was substantial agreement on the main lines of the common program; that he would make another attempt on the following day but that he could not exclude the possibility of carrying on without the Liberals. As a party leader, he said, he felt he had done all that could be asked of him and might feel free to give up the attempt but as Foreign Minister and "with regard to the economic urgencies" of the moment and to Italy's international position he felt obliged to consider the possible formation of a government based on five parties.

The crisis drama has, of course, held the spotlight during the week. But from Washington on the 1st came news which may be of equal if not greater interest to Italy: Secretary of [illegible] had started negotiations to the chorus, writing in the *New York Herald Tribune* that American policy has so far been sterile and that the United States should do everything possible "unilaterally" to help Italy until a peace treaty can be fashioned.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Section is percolating, as usual, with lots of ideas and even better, with lots of goings-on. Steady attention is being given to the 1946 industrial plan. Mr. Luzzatto, the FEA specialist, has returned to Washington after intensive conferring in the North. Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President, came back from the North with several seeds of thought already sprouting, notably, an examination of what may happen to economic organization in the industrial North after AMG pulls out, and also, a plan to publish weekly economic notes for the informational coordination of the hundreds of persons and groups who are affected by the import program. The business of what happens to the North is vital in that, first, everyone is naturally interested to see a harmonious working relationship between the South and the North in the national planning, and secondly, because when UNRRA takes over the supply program, it has a specific interest in seeing how the imported supplies are used and distributed. To that end, a memo on the allocation and distribution of such supplies is being prepared as the basis of conversations with the Italians. In this range comes the problem of how much, if any, manufacture of luxury goods (to obtain foreign exchange but also to sell at high prices and profits on the Italian market) should be allowed. For instance, one consignment of American cotton was allocated on the basis of the number of spindles per company. The idea of allocating according to the essentiality of the product perhaps should have been considered, our economists assert.

The suggestion concerning the weekly economic notes for Italian—already approved by the Chief Commissioner—was initiated as a necessity in the effective discharge of economic functions, particularly, on the supply side. The idea would be to disseminate key information among all industrial groups, Chambers of Commerce, labor groups as well as newspapers. Mr. Cleveland felt that such a publication would help

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tion of the votes, everybody will know the various proposals and so give everybody a chance to make their views heard, tend to cut down the influence of particular pressure groups and expose any hidden special privileges to the critical light of common knowledge. Important in its calculated effect, also, would be the bringing into the planning picture of the consumer groups who are not now satisfactorily represented and whose voice, illogically at the moment, is (in the North) the North Italy Industrial Council, a group of producers making decisions about consumption and distribution not properly within their competence. In brief, it is a try at one road that leads to economic democracy to parallel the political democracy the Allies have tried to sponsor.

Out of the North, too, comes an electricity shortage scare, the facts about which are currently being investigated by Mr. A. H. Sullivan, director of the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission. As a result of the shortage, said to be due to low water reservoirs as well as lack of coal in the thermal stations, a rationing system has been invoked by AMG order but with the electrical companies as the rationing judges. This, also, does not appear quite logical and a rationing system based on priorities to essential industries may be worked out.

A. C. efforts to obtain representation for Italy on the various European economic organizations set up in London progressed a bit this week. The Economic Section recommended (and the A. C. has now adopted this proposal) that Italians be given non-member observer status at these meetings so that the requirements of Italy can be protected. The groups in question are ECO (European Coal Organization), EECE (Emergency Economic Committee for Europe) and EUTO (European Central Inland Transport Organization), which has just set up an office in Rome on its ORMOA side, that is, for its dealings with military and occupational authorities.

The Combined Chiefs of Staff have come through with another relaxation for Italy, this time for ship repair facilities and ship building for Italian craft, that is, non-naval vessels. With the intent to assist the Italian economy, permission is now given for these Italian facilities to be applied to the following categories in the priority in which

WOOD FOR THE NORTH

With coal earmarked for industrial use, mainly, and a prospective shortage of electricity, already used heavily for heating and cooking, fuel for domestic uses in the North is becoming a problem as winter's breath begins to blow. Mr. M. B. Dickerman (A), of the Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission has been making a study of the situation and has come up with several recommendations which may meet existent needes. The main difficulty lies with the Regions of Piemonte, Lombardia and Venezie, local fuel in Liguria apparently being sufficient for its needs, with the surplus going to Genoa. In the three cited regions, minimum requirements are estimated (for civilians, industries and the military for the next six months) as 10.8 million quintals, with a clear deficiency between Northern wood production and stocks figured at more than 800,000 quintals, which will have to be imported from wood-surplus provinces of Central Italy, namely, from Emilia, Toscana and Lazio. There is some talk, too, of importing wood from Austria.

Lombardia needs 5,160,000 quintals but has only 120,000 on hand. Piemonte needs 2,860,000 and now has 631,000. Venezie wants 2,801,000 and has 284,000 in stock. Several obstacles lie in the way of meeting the requirements the special urgency of which lies in getting the fuel to the large cities which have no immediate local growths they can use. Transport from the surplus areas, as usual, is short. The *Corpo Forestale*, undermanned and unarmed, is fighting a losing battle against both wood poachers and outright thefts of wood shipments. The woodcutters themselves are a serious problem, having trouble getting their rations of cheese and grain in some places, and needing extra food to work in the coming heavy weather. More particularly, they need shoes and they need them before the snow flies in earnest. There is also a shortage of rail cars and of storage space at railheads for the wood, both factors tending to slow down production. And, of course, the wood-producing provinces themselves try first to build up their own stockpiles, with the result that export is retarded. That situation is being met by holding threats of cutting coal and oil shipments to such laggards.

Getting the facts about the fuel wood situation

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Getting the facts about the fuel wood situation was no cinch, in some ways, for Mr. Dickerman. One of his trips was to the Consiglio Forest near Vittorio Veneto in Udine – 6,000 acres of hardwoods, mostly beech, and a state preserve for centuries, originally belonging to the Doges of Venice. As one of the best forests in Italy, it

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has been a gold mine for enterprising woodsmen who got huge profits in the black market. In fact, illegal cutting and plain stealing has been rampant until just recently, it being estimated that 6,000 cords were stolen in September and October. Two Italian Forest Guards patrolling the entrance to the tract were no match for one gang of former guerillas, armed with tommy guns, who regularly every night would appropriate the wood legally cut during the day and piled up on the roadside for transport on the morrow.

The forest, which is located on a plateau on the top of a mountain, has only one road in and out of the place, and during the German occupation, Partisans made the area too hot even for the Germans to venture in, unless in force. On his tour of the woods, Mr. Dickerman encountered this self-same band, who had been unmolested for months, and, in company with his small escort of Forest Guards, had to beat a discreet retreat. The next day the Allied military commander of the area sent him back with a protective guard of two armored cars and half a platton of Polish troops and established a military block at the exit of the forest. Mr. Dickerman then surveyed the area scientifically for prospective cuttings and it is hoped the Consiglio will now be an efficient factor in helping meet the firewood shortage.

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia, has cancelled his U. S. leave for the time being... Major Robert H. Klein has been awarded the Order of the Crown of Italy (Knight)... The first awards for the new U. S. Medal of Freedom are now in: Col. Henry G. Willmer and Lieut. Col. Alexander G. Graham, both British, are the recipients of the Medal, with Bronze Palm... All suggestions of the Allied Commission concerning the elections for the *Costituente* have been accepted by the Italian Government and practically all those concerning administrative elections, the first of which may be held as early as late this month or early next, although only nine per cent of the electoral lists have been approved... The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commissin is expressing some concern over a somewhat large-scale illegal movement of Jews out of Austria, many CC. RR., about to be demobilized, transferred over to the *Guardie di Finanza* to act as guards for the goods... A meeting of the Regional Commissioners may be held in Milan 11 December... An Italian cruiser, operating a shuttle-service, will remove 12,000 Italian POWS from French North Africa while 700 POWS are to be brought home from the Levant by similar means... All A. C. taxis in Roma have been returned to their Italian owners, which should help ease the city's civilian transport crisis... A through train between Rome and Paris is in the making while an Italian plane service from Rome to London is also being talked about; speaking of trains, there is now a sleeper from Milan to Paris... Bronze Stars have been awarded to Major Mathias F. Correa, Major William E. Scotten, Lieut. Col. Bradley D. Nash, Capt. Cecil B. Highland jr., and Technical Sergt. Irvin A. Brucker while Mr. James M. Merritt (formerly Major) and Cmmdr. Michael A. Musmano have received the Legion of Merit... A new Italian epuration decree just drawn up is giving power to government executives to fire "for the good of the service" any suspected fascist over Grade V in the civil service in order to plug a loophole whereby many Fascists have been escaping on technicalities; the decree is effective for a short time, however, a matter of several weeks... The Regiment will have, probably, a net increase of 35 EM this month after 100 replacements arrive and redeployed EM leave... The new U. S. T. O has been approved by MTOUSA, giving us 500 EM and 250 officers; the breakdown is as follows: 14 colonels and general officers, 28 lieutenant-colonels, 68 majors, 115 captains, 22 lieutenants and three warrant officers, seven master sergeants, 10 technical sergeants, 53 staff sergeants, 122 buck sergeants, 205 corporals and 103 PFC's and buck privates... Eleven officers and two enlisted men have been given 45-day leaves in the States... Major General Duff, Chief Administrative Officer at AFHQ, and Brigadier General A. L. Hamblen, assistant chief of staff, G-5, and newly-named Acting Deputy Chief of Staff, have been visiting the A. C. for high-level discussions... As reported before, U. S. officers having the MOS of 8104 (civil affairs officer) are "frozen" for redeployment; what is not as widely known is that the basis of such classification (and possible re-classification) is attendance at a mili-

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that 6,000 cords were stolen in September and October. Two Italian Forest Guards patrolling the entrance to the tract were no match for one gang of former guerillas, armed with tommy guns, who regularly every night would appropriate the wood legally cut during the day and piled up on the roadside for transport on the morrow.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

RPB/WEB/PRB

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN

Vol. II; No.35
1 Dec 1945

POLITICAL

"We know what we are, but
know not what we may be."

Hamlet.

As we draw near to the end of the first week of open political crisis, the immediate solution, so anxiously desired by all parties, and, judging by press reports, by Americans and British as well, still eludes the hard-working Italian politicos. It has been a busy week with party conferences, convocations of the CLN, meetings of party secretaries and colloquies with the Luogotenente, who seemed anxious to leave no stone unturned, even including Giannini, the Uomo Qualunque, in his list of invitées. The candidacies of Orlando and Nitti did not withstand even the first blast of Leftist opposition, the names of Sforza and Parri do not seem to have any greater appeal for the Right and, as we go to press, the most likely candidate is said to be De Gasperi who, confined to his home by a bad cold, is declaring, with some vehemence, that he would rather not be considered.

It had seemed for twenty-four hours or so that the Parri ministry might carry on even without the Liberals. Parri himself suggested that their places could be filled by others not of the party but representing "the same political currents" as the Liberals. However, here again the attitude of the Christian Democrats was decisive. At the meeting of the Council on Saturday 24 November, De Gasperi made it clear that his party considered the defection of the Liberals had deprived the Parri government of its investiture. The Christian Democrat leader suggested that instead of presenting the matter to the Consulta (as had been

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At this meeting Parri announced his resignation. But he took full advantage of the opportunity to present his case. He defended the record of his administration, branded as malicious falsehood the rumors that the Allies did not have any confidence in it, and, proceeding to the attack, went on to declare that what had really weakened Italy in the eyes of the world was the crisis itself which he had, he said, striven to prevent. A further move to the Right would make things worse, he said, adding: "This is not a threat but a warning".

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Debate.

After some spirited debate in which the tone was, as reported in the press, in general favorable to Parri, an order of the day was issued. This resolution formally thanked the Parri government for its service and regretted that the crisis had not been avoided. It further declared that the new government "must be the expression of the C.L.N. and the democratic masses of the country" and must be based on a program "which will respect the pledge to convoke the Constituente not later than next April". Significantly, the Liberals refused to approve the resolution and Cattani, Party Secretary, even insisted that the whole procedure was illegal as Parri had not yet presented his resignation to the Luogotenente. Indeed, it was only at 9.30 that same evening that Parri made his call at the Quirinale and the crisis was formally opened. Following the usual procedure, the present government is to carry on normal routine administration until the next cabinet can be formed.

So the situation remains as described in our final paragraph. If it is decided to keep the presidency within the hands of a member of the six parties - a solution the Liberals have refused to accept in principle - the choice of De Gasperi seems not at all unlikely.

However, the Socialists have already made conditions to their acceptance of him, including a reference to safeguarding the "rights and powers" of the Constituente, which may be a stumbling block. Sforza is still a possibility, though it is hard to see why the Liberals would accept him after having overthrown Parri.

Meanwhile the London TIMES editorially urged Italians not to forget the immediate needs of reconstruction in their absorption with partison politics, adding a special word of reproach to the Liberals, whose choice of candidates of the vintage of Orlando and Nitti, proves - in the opinion of the Times - that the party lives in the past and has lost touch with the present. From America came a more ominous note: an A.P. dispatch from Washington reported that in the view of some American officials the crisis strengthens the argument of certain Congressmen who have been consistently opposed to increase of European relief through UNRRA. Certainly both at home and abroad there is every pressure being exerted for a quick solution of the crisis; it may indeed come within a few days.

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ITALY'S FOREIGN TRADE

Now that the Allies have let down the Allied barriers to the resumption of private trade between Italy and the outside world, it might be useful to examine just what is the position at the moment as to Italian foreign commerce becoming and actuality. The A.C. view is that it is now up to the Italians to get going. The Italians, obviously, must have a machinery that not only makes it possible and easy for Italian enterprise to trade with the world, but protects the fragile Italian economy against the risk of mass exportation of goods still needed in

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Foreign trade, therefore, according to present Italian thinking should be in two categories: that of the government and that of private initiative. The Italian credits now held abroad are, in the main, government credits, which bring up the Italian need right now, the necessity for getting more credits in order to

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[illegible], since one of the principles of lending American money will be the banker's say-so of how the funds would be used and the U.S. position is for as free trade as possible in the world.

The idea worked out for controlling imports, which was incorporated in a decree similarly held up by the Consulta, was the creation of an equalization or compensation fund (compensativo). In effect, the Government would place a subsidy or premium on exports and over-price imports by the same amount, using a rate of exchange to the dollar as the scale of payment. For instance, a typical exporter with a product to export, after the sales value of the product is figured in dollars, would be paid up to 220 lire to the dollar by the Government. The private concern which imported a product from the States, for example would have the dollar value over-priced or translated in lire at up to 220 to the dollar, a mild shot of inflation. The fund from which the Government took the 120 extra lire to subsidize the export would then receive 120 lire from the over-priced (in the sale to the importer) import. It is plain that this is merely a modified and cautious approach to reconverting the lire to a more realistic basis, since, in all truth, it is to the advantage of the Italians not to devalue the lire officially while they still have American troop pay and other credits accruing at the more favorable 1-to-100 rate. Depreciation is expected later, of course. The basic hope of the compensation fund is to reach an eventual balance between domestic and foreignprices. By importing raw materials with which to produce finished goods to market at lower prices than the cost of the imports, it is hoped the lire disparity may be overcome in some measure. The actual pricing of imports, of course, would vary from time to time, according to Government policy. The mechanics of pricing up to the 220 lire to the dollar scale have yet to be worked out. What is needed is a fully-fledged system of import-export license controls and a functioning customs service, both at present non-existent.

Minister of Transport Ugo La Malfa summarized the Italian position at the meeting quite clearly. He said that in order to rebuild the Italian economy, all branches of the economy must be able to procure what they need from the international market. It is the responsibility of the Italian Government, therefore, to control the availability of foreign currency so that all factors of economic life can have a chance to be heard and helped. There is not enough foreign exchange available to guarantee to each economic factor in Italy the necessary credits it might need, so the Government has to pool all needs and all credits and allot priorities in order to achieve a balanced reconstruction. La

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Italo-envisaged Italian foreign credits as (1) those used by the Government's agencies to make state purchases such as wheat and coal; (2) as credits given by the Government to private importers (as for bringing in machinery), and (3) as credits obtained and used directly by private traders. A coordinated form of exchange control would allow free trade to develop harmoniously within the economy, he added. A.C. experts pointed out that even the credits obtained by private individuals would still be under Italian Government control.

Signor Storoni, who had been tentatively picked for the Undersecretariat of Foreign Trade, is currently drawing up a list of commodities available for export while the Inter-Ministerial Committee will make up the same for import. Licenses will be granted on the basis of these priority lists. The channel from the field to Rome or from the private firm to the governmental license grantors would be through the Provincial Chambers of Commerce, who would give the requests the first screening while the final one would be given by the new agency at Rome. Port customs offices have to be set up, shipping availabilities studied (Italy herself may buy some Liberty ships) and other details worked out before free or comparatively free exchange of goods becomes possible. It is still true, though not for long, that the A.C. will have to screen exportable surpluses as to quantity (in order not to deprive the Italian consumer and dwindling military needs of sorely needed essential goods) and to prevent the export of goods imported into Italy under Allied supply programs. The A.C. (and in the case of a few commodities, Washington) decide whether such goods would be exported, it being a nice point whether or not Italy should ask for certain imports and then export the same things manufactured here in order to obtain foreign exchange.

The Italians have been busy as beavers drumming up trade possibilities, it being practically first priority among all Italian ambassadors abroad. At least 13 countries have been contacted in one way or another concerning the possibilities of imports and exports. Besides talks with the U.S., U.K. and France, and the now well known pact "in sospeso" with Switzerland (which provided for exchange of power, medicines, food and machinery), there are negotiations on foot with Belgium, Holland, Spain, Sweden, and Poland, with even approaches to Russia and also talks with the Argentine, Portugal and Turkey. Not all are down to specifics as yet, though the following notes from the Commerce Sub-Commission's latest report give evidence of hopeful activity. The Italians have consulted the A.C. on several of these prospect-

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The Italians have been laying on the line practically everything they have, which all in all, is darn little (like fruits, felt, marble, sulphur, mercury, zinc, hemp, assorted nuts, and juices for special products) and are banking heavily on getting the raw materials and coal which will allow them to manufacture, in their virtually undamaged Northern Italy industrial plant, the heavy products desired in exchange by many countries. Belgium has offered iron and steel products, glassware, machine tools and technical equipment. In turn, Belgium is interested, among other

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things, in typewriters and artificial dyestuffs. The Dutch offer seed potatoes, flower bulbs and electrical equipment. Old debts often figure in the discussions, but as said, are ruled out when it is a question of the new Italy paying. However, in the case of Spain, for instance, it is a matter of Spain paying off on her debt to Italy for then little business of a few years ago. This is o.k. by our side. The tentative accord reached so far has been to provide for larger exports from Spain to Italy than from Italy to Spain, who will ship ox and sheep skins, fish, shoes, lead, potassium fertilizers and okoumé wood, among other things. The Italian have also asked for a large amount of resin but since this item is in world short supply, the A.C. is trying to find other ways to meet the need for Italy.

Trade with Russia so far is much more nebulous, consisting of consideration of the idea of Italy's supplying to Russia certain industrial products (motors, railroad cars, ships) on a "lavorazione per conto" basis, that is, payment for the work involved to be made in raw materials or possibly in dollars of the U.S. Treasury agrees. This interesting idea is being investigated. The trade agreement with Sweden (for six months and renewable) has already been approved by the Swedes and awaits A.C. blessing. Comprehensive lists of goods have been exchanged and allocation of controlled commodities requested. The Swedes will give mainly iron and steel, wools, wood, paper and cellulose, in considerable quantities. The chief item of conversation with Poland since last August has been her coal, which Italy would like at the rate of 720,000 tons a year. To date the only return Italian item A.C.'d has been 12,000 tons of lemons, though what the Poles want mostly is heavy industrial equipment and agricultural machinery.

THE RIVIERA

A recent visit by one of the PRB staff to a section of the Italian Riviera, by a visitor, in fact, who knew it well in the dear, dead years, discloses that the war has by no means succeeded in dissipating the enchantment of the idyllic coast. The magic of olive, vine and cypress where the mountains slope sheer into the Mediterranean is one which no folly of man can obliterate. True, the famous profile of Portofino has been altered in one particular - the campanile of the church of San Giorgio no longer marks the neck which joins the final triple hump to the main land. But the natural outline remains; man has merely knock-

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The Riviera, between Genoa and Sestri Levante, in truth has suffered severely from bombing. There are places like Zoagli and Recco - villages flanking the mouths of mountain torrents which had the misfortune to be dominated by long railway viaducts spanning the valley ends - which have been almost entirely wiped out. In Rapallo and Santa Margherita the damage has been less extensive: a bomb or two in the centre, an aisle of a church demolished, but the general aspect of the places are little changed.

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There is a story about the rescue of Portofino from German demolition. A German Baroness, of Scotch birth, who inhabits one of the "castelli" and is remembered by the peasant as Anti-Nazi at heart, used to entertain the German commander at times. Learning that the charges were all placed to blow up the harbor (whose military importance must have been negligeable compared with the tourist value as a picturesque anchorage for yachts) and that the commander was ready to have them fired, she immediately invited him to tea and talked him out of it.

There was little fighting on this coast - some resistance at Chiaveri, a little at Ruta. U.S. Negro Units of the 5th Army were seen, and passed on. Later came an invasion of a different kind: Rapallo became a South African rest center. Hotels which had been hospitals, now became rest camps. However, the cafés immediately put their prices up to Rome levels and did a roaring trade. With the open air, brightly lit cafés and dancing places, Rapallo evenings were never gayer in peace time than they were during the last summer. One could almost forget there had been a war - but for the uniforms, an ugly view-blocking anti-invasion wall circling the promenade, with pill boxes camouflaged as ice cream kiosks, a PRO station conveniently but discreetly close by. The South Africans, too, achieved an unusually high standard of decorous behavior - perhaps due to the presence, in one of the dreariest hotels previously patronized by the stoutest of English visitors, of an Army "School of Religion".

Recco, Zoagli and Sori are major reconstruction problems. The Sindaco of Recco gave up the proposal to run a competition for the best project for a new town; it would have wasted time, and there was no money for a prize in the municipal till. Technicians were set to draw up the best possible scheme, taking into consideration the urgency of removing rubble, reactivating the railway and providing work for the winter. The railway between La Spezia and Genoa already functions over certain tracts. The bombed viaducts are being temporarily replaced by great timber trestle bridges over which the trains creep gingerly.

One notices one great change since last June. The shops are now as full of food and goods as they are in Rome - and at not much lower prices. Nearly all the bomb rubble has been tidied up; shops are being refitted, houses repaired or reconstructed. There is a little less activity at the rest center, but one South African unit has taken up residence, lock stock and barrel, in one of the principal hotels, in front of which may be seen the anachronistic spectacle of a soldier with a rifle performing all the [illegible]

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NORTHERN RE-STUFFLE

Mention was made last week of a possible amalgamation or consolidation of the Regions in NC Italy into one Region. The idea had been to follow the line taken in Southern Italy last year and to centralise administration in Milan. The Executive Commissioner and Mr. Harland Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, however, held a meeting in Milan with the four Regional Commissioners and their deputies, and reached the conclusion that although, from the economic point of view, such a rolling up might have been desirable, administratively it would be wrong. The Chief Commissioner held the same view. We are happy, therefore, to say that the four Regions of the North will retain their identities. In order, however, to coordinate economic affairs throughout Northern Italy the Office of Economic Commissioner for Northern Italy has been set up. This office will be located in Milan and will be consolidated with and form part of AC Lombardia Region.

Colonel A.W. Hancock will be both Economic Commissioner, Northern Italy, and Regional Commissioner, Lombardia Region. The Economic Commissioner will take his directions from the Vice President, Economic Section, and will issue directions on economic affairs to all four Regions in the North, including Venezia Region. Similarly, Regional Commissioners will correspond direct with him on all economic matters. One can only hope that no basic controversy will arise between the Economic Commission, Northern Italy, and the R.C., Lombardia. The Office of the Representative of the Chief Commissioner in Northern Italy has at the same time been abolished and such functions performed by that office will be the responsibility either of the Economic Commissioner or Regional Commissioner, Lombardia (sic). This plan had the full concurrence of all Regional Commissioners and is contained in the latest Executive Order No. 84. Mr.B.White (A) has been assigned as Executive Officer to the Economic Commissioner.

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LB/42

November 24, 1945

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Salus populi suprema lex esto.
CICERO.

The crisis—which has dominated all political activity and discussion during the past week—was formally "opened" at 10:30 p. m. 22 November by the resignation of the Liberal members of the Government. Ricci, Minister of the Treasury, and an independent, followed suit. This climaxed a week of moves and countermoves which have been extremely interesting as symptomatic of political trends and party attitudes. Analysis of the past week's events may afford some clue as to what the solution of the crisis may be.

To begin chronologically. The Christian Democrats issued a statement last week (published, without regard to our *Bulletin* deadline, just too late for the last number) which took things a little further by indicating at least a tentative sympathy with the Liberals. The key statement was to the effect that reconstruction and pacification required the cooperation of the basic parties and should not exclude "the co-operation of others who can give an effective contribution in this emergency period". In other words they were willing to add to the Government personalities outside the charmed circle of the CLN. To this statement two answers followed immediately. One, from the Socialists, catalogued the problems Italy has to face and suggested that the country proceed more speedily to their solution, rather than "lingering over a Government crisis".

The other answer came from the Liberals. Cheered apparently by the gesture of the Christian Democrats, the Liberals came out with a statement of some length which puts pretty clearly the case zens must have a sense of security, order and equality of rights"; Italians must have an impartial Government consisting not only of representatives of the six parties but containing as well men "whose experience and prestige will contribute to the efficiency of the Government." A further clause urged that the number of portfolios be reduced and that the men called to the Government should serve the state and not the parties.

Liberal Thesis.

The Liberals' thesis appeared in the papers of the 18th and on the 19th its repercussions were immediately evident. Prime Minister Parri in his speech at Chieti, after telling his audience that a "spirit of renascence" is evident in every province and more specifically assuring them that the Government has not printed and does not intend to print new currency, went on to say that the Government could not carry out its tasks if there were too much talk of crisis in the air. Coming back to Rome he gave an interview to ANSA in which he said among other things:

"I consider that nothing in the general condition of the country, political or social, justifies a substantial change in the composition or the character of the Cabinet nor in the orientation of its policy... I feel myself, moreover, personally invested with the specific responsibility of representing impartially the general policy of the Government on the democratic basis on which it has been constituted. I intend to fulfill this duty."

On the 20th the Council of Ministers met and examined the political situation. Nothing decisive came of their deliberations and later in the day the secretaries of the parties met—with equally inconclusive results. The Communists on the same day came out with a resolution essentially

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The other answer came from the Liberals. Cheered apparently by the gesture of the Christian Democrats, the Liberals came out with a statement of some length which puts pretty clearly the case of the Right (the Liberals call themselves Center but there is no visible neighbor on their right, at least within the present coalition). The Liberal declaration made specifically the following points: the time has come to declare the "anti-Fascist period" at an end and to open an era of "speedy justice, pacification of spirits and reconstruction"; "with the approach of the *Costituente*, all citizens must have a sense of security, order and equality of rights"; Italians must have an impartial Government consisting not only of representatives of the six parties but containing as well men "whose experience and prestige will contribute to the efficiency of the Government." A further clause urged that the number of portfolios be reduced and that the men called to the Government should serve the state and not the parties.

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On the 20th the Council of Ministers met and examined the political situation. Nothing decisive came of their deliberations and later in the day the secretaries of the parties met—with equally inconclusive results. The Communists on the same day came out with a resolution essentially supporting Parri and opposing the Liberals; their order of the day stated in part that "the Government has coped with its main tasks and can guarantee to lead the people to the *Costituente* in an orderly and legal fashion."

Meanwhile, of course, the capital began buzzing with the usual rumors. The names of Nitti, De Nicola and Orlando were mentioned as possible

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successors to Parri. Giannini (*L'Uomo Qualunque*) gave out that the crisis had been caused by the strength and the demands of his new movement. A more substantial Giannini, chairman of the board of the U. S. Bank of America, threw more pepper in the political pot, stating at Naples in clear-cut terms that American capitalists are now reluctant to invest funds in Italy in view of the precarious political situation and asking why Italy doesn't give her "able statesmen", such as Nitti and Orlando, a chance to see what they can do. This brought fiery responses from *Lavoro* and *Unita*; the former asserting that Giannini would like to see Italy "a nation of coolies run for the benefit of a few rajahs" and the Communists saying of the men suggested by the American banker: "We know them and they have already shown us what they can do; they gave us Fascism".

Comments.

The forty-eight hours preceding the definitive action of the Liberals were full of editorial commentary on the crisis and "expert" predictions as to its outcome. In general, the parties are following the same lines as they were last week but there have been some minor developments. The Liberals did not take at all kindly to Parri's remarks (quoted above) and thought the reference to "investiture" and, indeed, the general tone of his discourse was high-handed and "anti-democratic". They recalled that they had previously had their reservations about the President of the Council, occasioned by his silent consent to his party's "factional" (i. e. republican) declaration. On the 22nd *Risorgimento Liberale* went further and said that not only Parri but the whole Action Party apparently wanted something like the powers of a Duce or Fuehrer to be conferred on the head of the Government. Cattani, secretary of the Party, was quoted on the 22nd as saying that the Liberals would like Orlando to head the new Government and adding further that such a nomination was acceptable to the Christian Democrats. Later the same day came the party meeting and the decision to leave the Government.

The Christian Democrats themselves have made no further move save to take part in the

view, make mandatory the resignation of the whole Government. Last week it was felt that the Labor Democrats would follow the lead of Liberals and Christian Democrats, but *Ricostruzione* of the 22nd announced that if the enlargement of the Government meant a move to the Right, then Labor Democracy would be opposed to it. Ruini's last statement before the opening of the crisis seemed to indicate a desire to "strengthen" but not to change the coalition.

On the Left side of the coalition, the Action party has remained militantly faithful to Parri and has strenuously rejected the idea that any change is necessary. Ciancа, however, writing in the first number of the reborn *Mondo* (once the champion of the Socialist group represented by Amendola and suppressed in 1926) conceded there would be no harm in bringing a few independent technicians into the Government so long as the general basis and orientation of the coalition remained unchanged. The most interesting development on the Left was the suggestion of Nenni that the whole matter should be discussed by the *Consulta*, thus giving opportunity for clarification and open discussion. To this end he recommended the *Consulta* be called into session at once. (Earlier in the week the convocation of the *Consulta* had been officially postponed.) This suggestion is said to have been supported by Togliatti and Lussu and opposed by Bonomi.

What will happen now is pure conjecture. Consensus of opinion before the opening of the crisis was that a "broadening" of the Government would be politically practicable but that if that term were interpreted to mean a change in the presidency, no one could tell where it would all end. The papers of the 23rd mention three names as likely successors to Parri: Orlando, Nitti and De Gasperi. It is said that the Christian Democrats themselves would prefer not to expose their leader to the hazards of preeminence in a new Government. What the Leftist parties would like or could be persuaded to take in place of the Parri Government is not easy to say. As we go to press, no other party has yet followed the Liberals example nor has Parri offered his resignation.

Though much of its time was necessarily given

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The Christian Democrats themselves have made no further move save to take part in the various deliberations and conferences. So far, all indications are that they would welcome a broadening of the Government but are not particularly anxious to dismiss Parri, though Foreign Minister De Gasperi did go so far as to say (according to *Giornale della Sera*) that the departure of one of the parties in the coalition would, in his *some* of the 22nd announced that if the enlargement of the Government meant a move to the Right, their Labor Democracy would be opposed to it. Nitti's last statement before the opening of the crisis seemed to indicate a desire to "strengthen" but not to change the coalition.

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Though much of its time was necessarily given to political discussion, the Council managed to get through a considerable amount of work as well. The meeting on the 21st approved a draft law fixing the "juridical and legal position of the Alto Adige", at the same time drawing up the regulations affecting citizenship in that region. A later session of the same week ironed out

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Throughout the North one is impressed by the steady work of the Displaced Persons staff. Their organisation runs with a smoothness which their own officers would perhaps hardly admit. Their camps even in this odd weather are remarkably well run. They have provided effective relief from suffering for many thousands of human beings and the A. C. can be proud of the camps' achievement as their inhabitants and travellers must, perhaps inarticulately, be grateful.

VENEZIA-GIULIA SIDELIGHTS

The arrival last week in Trieste of fifteen British Members of Parliament and journalists caused much fluttering in local political dovecotes. The much awaited visit, second only in importance to the even more awaited arrival of the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers, took most people, with the exception of the city's *Unione Antifascista Italo-Slovena*, by surprise. Delegations from the army, from AMG and from Local Slovenes awaited the visitors at every possible entry into Zone A (Allied-controlled), but all were disappointed as the Parliamentarians and their journalist colleagues lost their way and arrived, somehow or other, by way of Gorizia and Monfalcone. How they managed this, no one, least of all the distinguished delegation, has managed to discover, but arrive they did and hot on their heels came anxious and grim Slovene representatives.

Their one hectic evening in Trieste was followed by an equally hectic Saturday morning at AMG's Headquarters. As guests of Lieutenant General Sir John L. Harding, Commanding 13 Corps, the eminent visitors were subject to a full dose of indoctrination, and not an inconsiderable amount of it from UAIS. (Note-UAIS should not be confused with AIS—Allied Information Service, recently produced child of parent PWB. UAIS is the *Unione Antifascista Italo-Slovena* and many in the city, it is said, were much embarassed when PWB's non-partisan child received some weeks ago permission to hold a political demonstration in Trieste's now famous Piazza). At ten o'clock in the evening the dining room of the Savoia Hotel, where the delegation was staying, had been occupied and the arrival of for a two-hour grilling of the Colonel, who emerged at midnight, tired but victorious, having convinced the energetic visitors that Trieste was governed adequately by AMG.

The visitors included Mr. Zilliacus, Mr. Platts-Mills, Mr. Popplewell, Mr. Ohlfield, Mr. Dodds, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Tiffany, Mrs Lea Manning, all Labour Members, and Squadron Leader Roberts (Liberal) and Mr. MacPherson (Liberal National). Journalists were represented by Kingsley Martin (*New Statesman and Nation*), Lt. Col. Basil Davidson M. C., (*The Times*) Mr. Syers (*News Chronicle*) and Miss McLurg (BBC). Mrs Lloyd, Secretary of the Jugoslav Emergency Committee, was the only non-parliamentarian or journalistic representative. Also accompanying the party was a member of the Jugoslav Foreign Office.

ODDS AND ENDS

Bronze Stars have been awarded to Lieut. William W. Wotherspoon, USNR, Lance Corporal H. E. Hanscomb and Major A. C. Holland both British... Navy Sub-Commission reports that seven Italian crews have started training to learn to operate the first of 32 minesweepers lent by the Royal British Navy... An Italian cruiser may go help evacuate Italians from Tunisia, the sub-commissions adds... U. S. strength in the A. C., as of 1 December, is expected to be 231 officers and 218 EM... The new T.O. now under consideration by MTOUSA, calls for 228 officers... By 15 December, officer strength is calculated to be 204 U. S., and 100 U. K., officers... Perhaps—300 replacements may arrive by the same date... The consolidation of Liguria, Piemonte and Lombardia Regions into one Northern Region (like the old Southern Region) is being studied... More promotions: To Colonel—John A. Arnold; to Lieutenant-Colonel—Eliot J. Bocchino, Harold V. Reilly and Fred O. Mavis... The Italian Prisoners-of-War Division reports that in the last two months more than 90,000 of the 130,000 Italian POWs held by the Russians in Germany have been repatriated, with the remainder in process of repatriation, while 8,000 of 19,610 Italian POWs in Russia itself have been returned...

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

4355

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when Regional Staffs were more plentiful, indirect administration was definitely the order of the day and the local government administration has been set well into operation from the beginning. The difficulties caused by the clashing interests of the CLN's still remain but in a reduced form and recently Regional and Provincial Commissioners have shown the CLN's and the public that Allied Military, and consequently Italian local, government can be the only executive authority, and that the CLN's must abide by their agreement to assume an advisory capacity only. No all have acquiesced in this policy but public opinion has recently shown signs of helping the local government in this respect.

Secondly, the economic situation, although serious, is showing signs of a certain degree of recovery to which the arrival of coal and other raw materials has given a remarkable psychological filip.

Thirdey, the staff that are left have tackled their multiple jobs with remarkable determination and selflessness. There are a good many cases in the North of officers voluntarily foregoing their LIAP in order that the work can be carried on. The impression that one gathers is definitely that AMG may have lost in quantity but that it has definitely retained the quality.

The uncertainty as to the date of restoration of this territory has, of course, had an unsettling effect on the population and the administration. On the Italian side there is the desire to take over fully (and we hope) effectively; and on the Allied side the frustration of knowing the jobs that ought to be done by military government cannot be completed or must be completed inadequately. However everyone is hoping for restoration before Christmas and are carrying on accordingly. The U. S. staffs are having a hard time with their rations which have to be carried from Udine. The situation on the clerical staff is, of course, the grimmest and one hears of one Regional Commissioner who has to write all his letters out in manuscript block capitals for his Italian typist.

Clothing and equipment of the CC. RR. and other police agencies are really the matters which worry the administration possibly more than anything else. Much of the material is there in the North, the factories are ready to make the [illegible] possible to

made recently. Fuel for cooking and heating is going to be desperately short and the shortage has brought out the old parochial and provincial feelings. 7 AGRA is helping a lot with the CC. RR. in Piemonte and Liguria and the arrival of 60 Sub-Area and some Allied troops in Bolzano has undoubtedly had a stabilising effect. The South Tyrol question, incidentally, remains a problem and De Angelis, the Prefect, is down in Rome pressing the Italian Government to some firm declaration of policy anent this Province.

Colonel Selby was found well in the saddle in Liguria and Colonel McPhee quite happy with his new Piemonte problems, Colonel Miller deep in the intricacies of bilingualism and of ethnic problem in Bolzano and Colonel Bright back in Udine after an obviously beneficial LIAP. The Montecatini building in Milan seemed strangely empty and the inhabitants of it find it difficult to keep warm. One who had been incarcerated long in their lifts almost suggested the building of stairs to run up and down! A newcomer here is the Deputy Regional Commissioner, Colonel Falck. There is talk of amalgamation of these NW Regions and before this happens a testimony must be recorded for each individual Region of a job very well done.

Venezia Giulia has suffered, like everyone else, from LIAP and release. It has not been possible to keep them right up to strength but they have suffered less than any other Region. Unemployment, of course, is their chief trouble and looms probably even more heavily than the lack of cooperation from part of their population. It is difficult for a temporary administration to formulate short-term projects to avoid unemployment in an uneconomic area which has lived on subsidies for so many years. The flow of local produce, too, has been diverted, not so much, perhaps as Venezia Giulia thinks, because of parochialism in the neighboring Italian Provinces, but because there is an all-over shortage which naturally affects a non-producing area more than anywhere else. There are hopeful signs, however, that fuel may be coming in in small quantities. The weekly Sunday demonstrations in Trieste appear to pass off peacefully, thanks no doubt to the stabilising force of military government and the effectiveness of the Allied police system, not forgetting the new local Allied police force

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been set well into operation from the beginning. The difficulties caused by the clashing interests of the CLN's still remain but in a reduced form and recently Regional and Provincial Commissioners have shown the CLN's and the pubblic that Allied Military, and consequently Italian local, government can be the only executive authority, and that the CLN's must abide by their agreement to assume an advisory capacity only. Not all have acquiesced in this policy but public opinion has recently shown signs of helping the local government in this respect.

Secondly, the economic situation, although serious, is showing signs of a certain degree of recovery to which the arrival of coal and other raw materials has given a remarkable psychological fillip.

Thirdly, the staff that are left have tackled their multiple jobs with remarkable determination and selflessness. There are a good many cases in the North of officers voluntarily foregoing their LIAP in order that the work can be carried on. The impression that one gathers is definitely that AMG may have lost in quantity but that it has definitely retained the quality.

The uncertainty as to the date of restoration of this territory has, of course, had an unsettling effect on the population and the administration. On the Italian side there is the desire to take over fully (and we hope) effectively; and on the Allied side the frustration of knowing the jobs that ought to be done by military government cannot be completed or must be completed inadequately. However everyone is hoping for restoration before Christmas and are carrying on accordingly. The U. S. staffs are having a hard time with their rations which have to be carried from Udine. The situation on the clerical staff is, of course, the grimmest and one hears of one Regional Commissioner who has to write all his letters out in manuscript block capitals for his Italian typist.

Clothing and equipment of the CC. RR. and other police agencies are really the matters which worry the administration possibly more than anything else. Much of the material is there in the North, the factories are ready to make the uniforms. But is has not seemed possible to marry the two together and so the "Guardians of Law and Order" in the mountains have to swap overcoats when they come off duty. Armed highway robbery by motorised bandits is another worry. It seems to be increasing although some pretty good hauls (of robbers) have been

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The AC Liaison team in Bologna is much disturbed about the law and order in those parts. Unemployment, too, in Emilia Region is severe and the local administrative machinery is creaking a little bit in the early days of restoration.

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details for the management of the agency for disposal of surplus war materials, to be known as ARAR (*Azienda Ricuperi Alienazione Residuati*).

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wheat ammassing for the past 3 weeks has been doing poorly. The actual percentage collected, as of 17 November, is 72, a gain of one per cent, for the second time in two weeks. Ammassed have been 936,200 tons of the 1,304,000 ton target. Central, Southern and Insular Italy figure for 389,900 tons or 75 per cent. of the goals while AMG Italy gave in 546,300 tons or 70 per cent. of the goals.

One interesting development of the week has been a revised figure in the total estimated production, which is given as 4,226,000 tons, compared with the estimated production of 4,188,588 tons. While this statistical increase in production will, unfortunately, mean little or nothing in the amount of wheat available for ammassing and, thence, for the food ration, it does show that there are several thousand more tons of wheat in Italy, probably in farmers' hoards, whose presence will help relieve possible suffering by that much in the areas where they are located.

The revision resulted as a direct result of A. C. doubts as to the accuracy of previous figures and from personal spot-checks into the procedures of gathering statistics by the Ministry of Agriculture and government field officials. To obtain this more realistic picture, teams of Italian officials were sent out to a large number of areas and local officials quizzed for confirmation or change of their previous estimates. An incidental object of the investigation, carefully watched by the A. C., was to discover just where about 12 per cent. or approximately 1,560,000 hectares of Italian crop land had disappeared to, when one compares 1936 acreage with land cultivated now. The intensive cross-checking of all pertinent figures resulted in the Ministry's increase in its estimate of total wheat production.

The table that follows tells the peculiar story of the wheat estimating game:

ITALIAN MINISTRY ESTIMATES

Year	Area	Production (in quintals)	Quintal per hectare

The Economic Section, has just finished, after consultation with the three service subcommissions, a most laborious job concerning Italian munitions industry. A letter, which is going to AFHQ, provides the groundwork and recommendations for the survey of the situation which AFHQ may desire. The question arose out of the problem of finding a source of equipping the Italian Army. Roughly speaking, there is very little of the Italian armament industry left: it has been bombed out and a considerable portion of what was left has been reconverted to civilian production. Loan of small arms and ammunition to the Italians from Allied stocks takes care of immediate problems. In any event, all AMG staffs have been alerted to investigate and report any arms manufacture in their areas, with the Italian Government similarly ready to provide data on any requests for information about its own bailwick. The problem, of course, becomes important now that the Italian Government has to provide for its army out of its own resources, or rather, will have to supply it after 30 November. To help do so, the Italian Army will get first priority at surplus Allied materials among Italian claimants. Similar arrangements are expected to be made for the Italian Navy and Air Force when Allied control is handed over.

Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, is in the North, inspecting the industrial situation, among other news that we can report. Strikes are still popping up, the latest being one of school teachers in the North. They are asking for better wages and a more secure status. There is a small flock of new appointments: Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), Acting Director of the Finance Sub-Commission; Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper (B), Acting Deputy Director of the Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission; Major S. K. L. Saul (B), Deputy Director of the Commerce (Foreign Trade) Sub-Commission; Mr. W. J. Hayes (A), Deputy Director of the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission.

AMG IN THE NORTH

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Year	Area	Production in quintals	Quintal per hectare
1936-1939	5,141,925	75,852,830	14.8
1938-1942	5,925,536	73,799,699	14.7
1943	5,342,830	64,387,900	12.1
1944	4,788,180	64,353,300	13.4
1945 June	4,363,985	41,273,140	10.1
1945 July	4,456,071	41,885,880	9.3
1945 September	4,473,120	40,339,200	9.0
1945 October	4,456,071	38,748,539	8.7
1945 November	4,498,759	42,241,000	9.4

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AMG IN THE NORTH

Allied Military Government in Northern Italy is being carried on by literally a handful of officers and it is a remarkable achievement on the part of these officers that the 10 million odd people are being governed adequately, according to reports from visitors to the North. This is due to a number of factors.

In the first place the policy laid down in the Chief Commissioner's memorandum of 1 May 1945 has been followed from the outset. Even

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November 17, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Mots, petits clous pour accrocher des idées.
GODIN.

Words rather than deeds have characterized the past week which has been on the whole a rather quiet one in the Italian political world. Comment on the Armistice terms goes on: *Lavoro*, for example, has run a series of articles reviewing, rather caustically, the individual clauses and their manner of application. Prime Minister Parri in his press conference of 10 November took the view that the publication of the terms was the first step towards normalization of Italy's position since they had revealed to international public opinion "Italy's paradoxical situation" and the need for releasing her from it. From the North came the comment of Milan's *Italia del Popolo* (Republican) which used the publication of the terms as a springboard to ask when the Northern provinces would return to Italian administration. "It had been announced", commented the article, "for Sept 1st, then for Sept 15th, then for the first of October or the end of October. Now there is no longer any talk of it...". The writer ends with the comment that "the war of nerves" is being used against the Italians. Along this line *Reynolds News* reported from London that "the dissatisfied middle class is taking advantage of the unrest caused by the continued presence of the Allied military administration". Parri, questioned by the *Gazzettino* of Venice on the meaning of the prolonged stay of AMG, replied that it was occasioned by "military reasons which we cannot judge".

The President of the Council had a busy week. On the 10th he went to Udine where he conferred with General Harding, e.g., XIII Corps, on "military, political and economic matters in the Veneto region". Here, too, he made a speech in view of the imminent elections they must adopt "a neutral attitude". The strength of the Carabinieri would be augmented, he said, and the administrative elections would be held between mid-December and mid-January. Back in Rome on the 14th, Parri held his regular press conference. He took occasion to express his thanks to President Truman for his recommendation on UNRRA funds and he said that the Italians were expecting from the Allies not only a new juridical status but also "economic security" to enable them to get through this crucial winter. He told the press that in Venezia Giulia deportations had been made with an eye to weakening Italian resistance and changing the ethnic character of the region, adding that he was sure that "the Allied Commission would not allow itself to be deceived".

Possible Crisis.

Discussion of the possibility of a governmental crisis – arising out of the attitude of the Liberals on the epuration law – has gone on during the week. It is clear that the parties of the Left do not want one this time, for *Avanti* and *Unità* have both printed editorials (the latter over Togliatti's signature) during the week, affirming that a crisis would be the last thing the people would like, while La Malfa, speaking in Milan and presumably following the Action line, said that the parties of the C. L. N. "represent all aspects and interests of the Italian nation" and their co-existence and control is essential if Italy is to have a democratic life during this pre-*Costituente* period. From the Liberals themselves has come as yet no clear-cut indication of their intention to leave the Government, though *Risorgimento Liberale* remarked ominously on the 14th that "we have always foreseen... that a time would come when we should have to choose between our principles and the coalition". *Giornale della Sera* reported a Na-

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ing, which certainly is the explanation of *Italia Nuova*'s flat statement that "the crisis is open". Only official statement of the Liberals so far is the Order of the Day sent by the Rome provincial committee to the Executive Board, stating that to leave the Government now would mean that the Liberals "had failed in their pledge for the moral reconstruction of the country".

The visit of U. S. Ambassador Kirk to Washington brought from Agence France Presse and A. P. the more or less predictable rumor that a provisional peace with Italy might be in the making. However, at a press conference on the 14th, Secretary of State Byrnes denied that the Ambassador's visit had any special significance. The deporting of a number of Italians (alleged to be Fascists by the French) from Tunis brought some protest from the press. Government action was confined to preparing – through the Ministry of Post-war Relief – moral and material assistance for these new refugees.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Col. H. M. Walker (A) and Mr. R. B. Scriven (B) of the Coal Division should have at least a couple of orchids flung their way for the yeoman work done on the coal situation. Despite the loss of some 20 shipping days caused by strike and port troubles in the States, the full October allocation of 355,000 tons for Italian civilian supply was met by 10 November. When the situation looked bad a few weeks ago, the Italians were called in and asked to revise their bids for November which originally amounted to 420,000 tons which the A. C. then asked for. The revised estimate was 166,000 tons. Due to the efforts and good management, probably 297,000 tons will arrive for November. The best news yet is that probably 500,000 will arrive in December, which is about 50,000 tons more than asked for. To date this month, about 30 shiploads have been allocated, although the Coal Division is keeping about ten others now on the high seas up its sleeve for emergency allocation should the need arise anywhere. Dislocations in industry, too, have been kept to a minimum despite the unsettled situation caused by the infrequent October sailings. When need arose, the coal staff borrowed from Allied military coal stocks to give to Italian

There is a rash of smaller news which promises to develop more fully later. A. C. FEA experts are studying the Italian industrial situation in the North. The Italian Government has published its plan for 1946 imports and its program for industrial rehabilitation in 1946, both extensive, well-conceived documents and a considerable advance in detailed programming over their initial efforts of nearly a year ago. The Italian prospectus calls, roughly, for about 1.3 billion dollars.

The Chief Commissioner has approved the extension of UNRRA supplementary feeding to AMG areas. The idea of making a joint survey of the Italian war materials manufacture situation is being studied by the Economic Section and the three service sub-commissions. The wheat amassing, as of 12 November, is reported the poorest to date, the record to date being only 71 per cent., a gain of one per cent. over last week's report. The wheat import supply situation, however, seems better, it being likely that 70 to 75 per cent. of the extra wheat asked for will be granted. All sub-commissions have been asked to screen Italian requests for materials by first inspecting surplus Allied goods available and making substitutions wherever possible to save in requisitions. Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission reports that Italian production is now 15 billion cigarets a year and 70 to 80 billion matches a year, with match production up to 120 billion possible, if export outlets could be arranged.

NAPLES—TWO YEARS AFTER

Lieut. Col. Guy I. Warren, Acting AMG Commissioner for Naples Commune, brightens our contents this week with a few impressions of Naples, then and now, "for the possible edification of those who passed this way, back in the days when a bath was a major operation, window glass to beat the cold was out of the question and when, just to add to discomfort, Jerry had a way of laying his eggs in a most noisy and untimely manner". Col. Warren's first AMG job was in Naples in the old Region III.

The Colonel has seen a lot of these fellow-travellers making the return journey but as for the others, they might be glad to know that Via Roma is still Via Roma: *soldati* of all nationalities still overflow the sidewalks and spill out into the streets, the peddlars, procurers and certain

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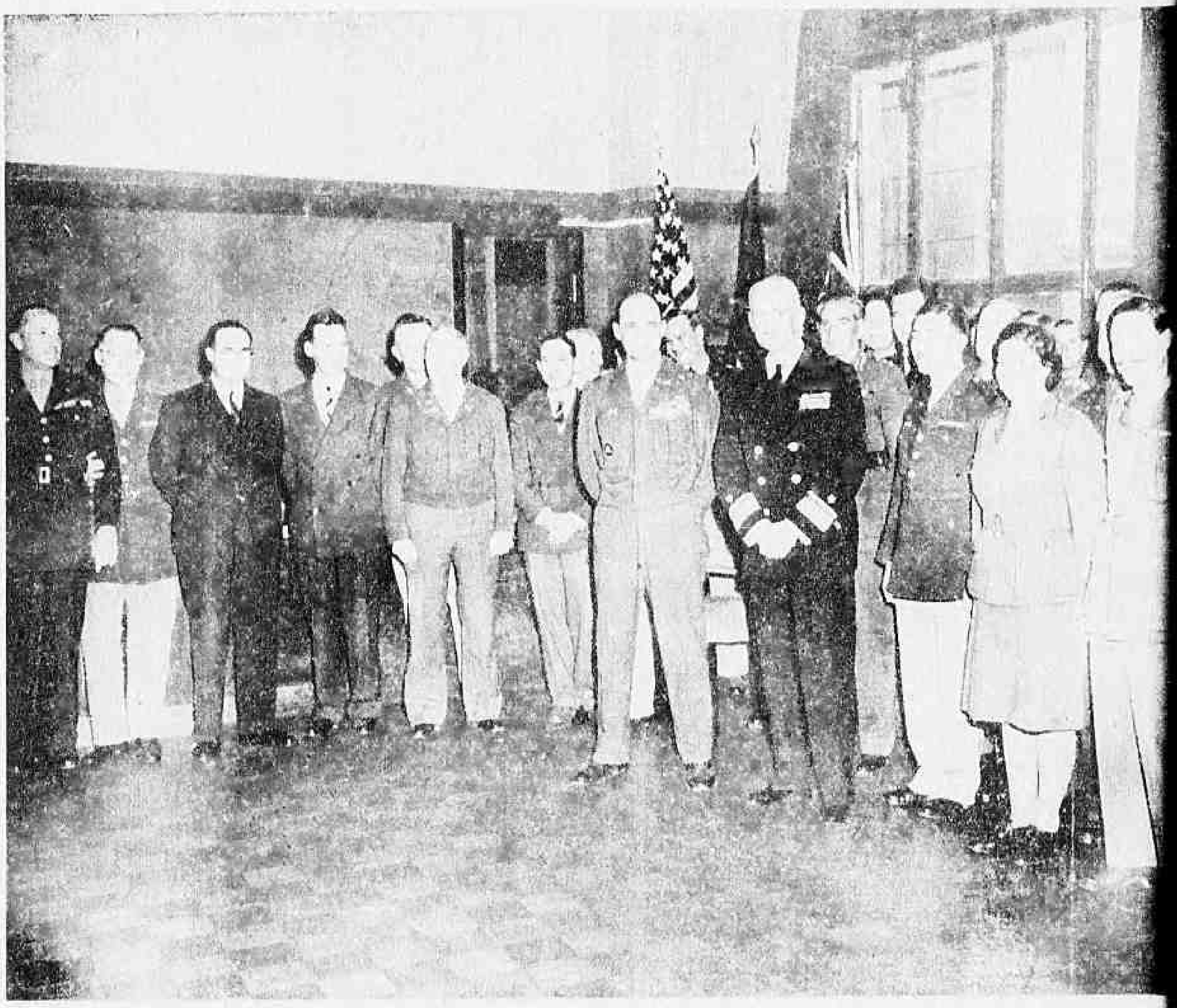
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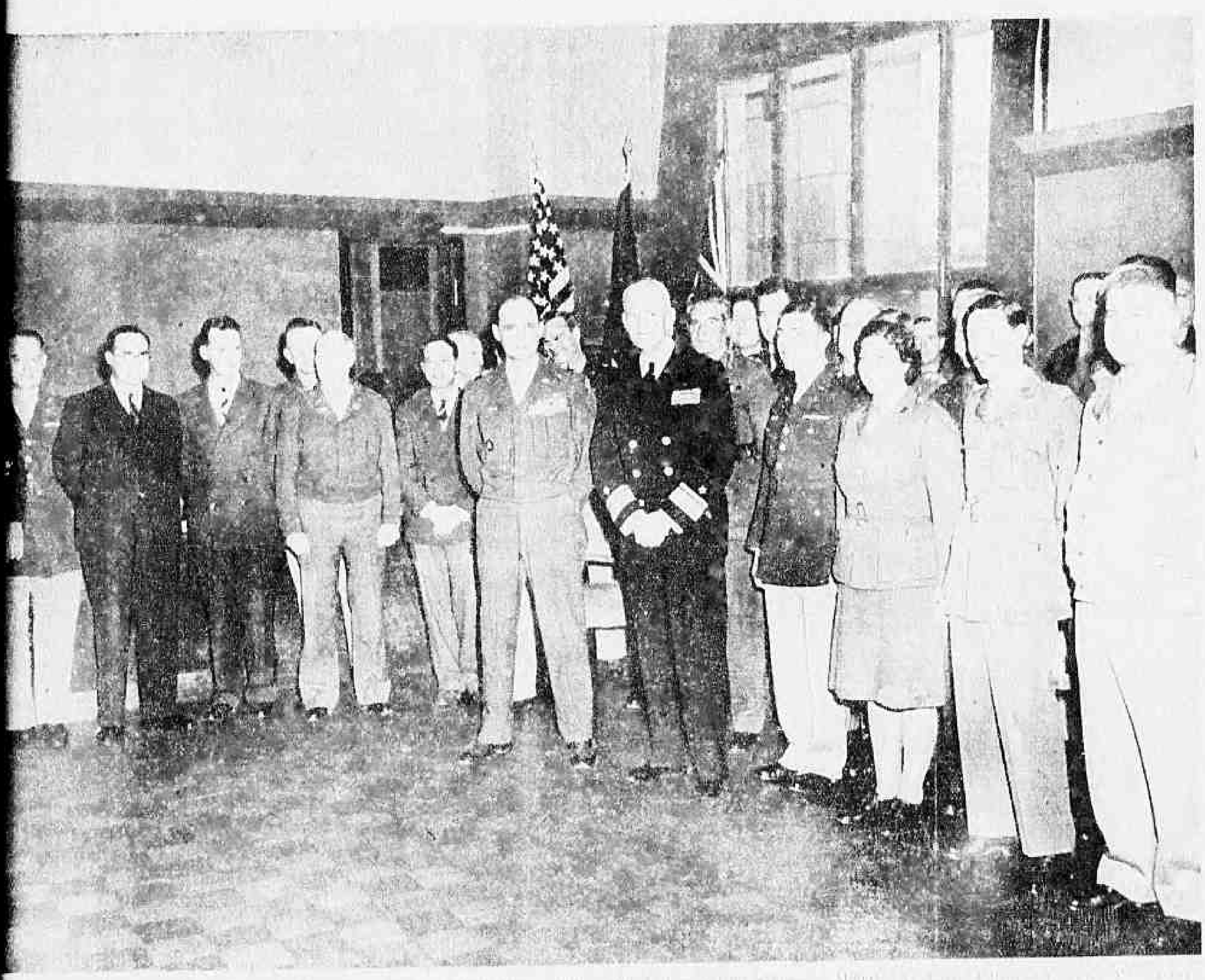
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Naples" Col. Warren reports "in all its squalor and beauty, but there is a difference; the soldier strolling backadaisically, browsing in and out of shops, stopping here and there to *parlare* with a *signorina*; gone is that purposeful look. He seems a boy again, just 1,000 miles from being a civilian again which he feels already. Now and then there is a face with some of that old eagerness—a youngster (replacement) just arrived—buying his first souvenir; and the shops, now with beautifully lighted windows, artistically display their wares; plate glass where there were boards or just holes in the wall; the pinched faces are not as pinched, the shabby are not as shabby, oftener now there is a new frock; cars which would have become a requisition slip before they could run a block, now roam the streets; rocks removed from the pavements to slow Allied trucks, for the convenience of the pilferers, are back in place. Vesuvius is quiet, breathing only now and then, and only a black stripe down her side bears witness to her eruption; boats of every description slither in and out of the grottoes and dot the bay on pretty days. Yes, Naples has changed, but there remain her many ways that are a thousand years old and before they die will live a thousand more."

More formally, the Colonel reports there has been this last month a little more than the usual labor unrest—there was a three-day strike of 12,000 Communal employees, whose sole effect was to leave the streets rather dirtier than usual. Living costs are creeping up again. Shortage of water aggravated by the demands made by the ships which fill up at Naples, is causing some concern, though the recent rains will help a little. A lot of water was also used in fighting a major fire in a salvage depot—damage was ten million lire. Health and law and order are under control and the elementary schools opened with an attendance of nearly 70,000. The orderly and substantial withdrawal of German POW labor has been well-received. Requisitioned properties are being returned wholesale—255 apartments and three whole buildings by PBS and 52 apartments by the Town Major in October. During the six months ending September, 1945, the Italian courts received about 52,000 cases and disposed of 49,000, in the same period. At the end of the [illegible] cases pending, of which

the Crown of Italy to Major Franklin P. Luckman and Capt. Louis T. Montant (Knights) and Lieut. Col. Edmund L. Palmieri (Commander)... Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, has flown to London to meet Mr. Henry Grady, former vice president of the Economic Section, who has been named American observer in the forthcoming Greek elections; Col. Fiske will act as escort to Mr. Grady... Brigadier M. Carr, vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, is on LIAP to England... Col. Charles M. Parkin, c. o., 2675th Regiment, back from the Swiss tour, has sent Major Edward D. S. Sullivan, G-1, to Florence and other places on a personnel-hunting expedition for the A. C.... 120 EM with 60 points and five Class B officers have also been redeployed in the last few days... The Class B exodus thus started will be accelerated at the end of the month when another 27 such officers leave... The Regiment informs us that the only hold-over MOS now applicable to U. S. personnel in the A. C. is No. 8104—civil affairs officer; said officer may be held for six months after the time he would otherwise have been eligible for release... With the exception of Bolzano, Udine and Venezia-Giulia, most AMG provinces in the North now have only two Allied officers—a Provincial Commissioner and a Public Safety officer... If and when AMG withdraws, the present thinking is to leave small liaison groups in Genoa, Turin, Milan and Padua and possibly a representative in the Val d'Aosta and to concentrate all economic representatives in Milan... A recent regional meeting in Piemonte AMG resulted in an interesting paragraph in the minutes, indeed a masterpiece of balanced diplomacy:

"In view of the pending elections, R. C. raised the question as to the population's attitude towards the Monarchy. Replies differed in the various Provinces roughly as follows: *Asti*: The armed forces and police are in favour of the Monarchy, but officials are against. — *Vercelli*: 50 % pro and 50 % contra. — *Turin*: The majority of the people preferred the Monarchy, but not the King. — *Novara*: The majority are against the Monarchy, especially the farmers. — *Cuneo*: The majority are in favour of the Monarchy. — RPSO added his own opinion based on a careful study made for some considerable time past: 25 %

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ODDS AND ENDS

More decorations: Bronze Stars to Lieutenant-Colonels P. Friend-James and Edward J. Bye, both British; Legion of Merit to Lieut. Commdr. Bruno C. F. Mulieri, USCG, and the Order of

will act as escort to Mr. Grady... Brigadier M. Carr, vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, is on LIAP to England... Col. Charles M. Parkin, c. o. 2675th Regiment, back from the Swiss tour, has sent Major Edward D. S. Sullivan, G-1, to Florence and other places on a personnel-hunting expedition for the A. C.... 120 EM with 60 points and five Class B officers have also been redeployed in the last few days... The Class B exodus thus started will be accelerated at the end of the month when another 27 such officers leave... The Regiment informs us that the only hold-over MOS now applicable to U. S. personnel in the A. C. is No. 8104—civil affairs officer; said officer may be held for six months after the time he would otherwise have been eligible for release... With the exception of Bolzano, Udine and Venezia-Giulia, most AMG provinces in the North now have only two Allied officers—a Provincial Commissioner and a Public Safety officer... If and when AMG withdraws, the present thinking is to leave small liaison groups in Genoa, Turin, Milan and Padua and possibly a representative in the Val d'Aosta and to concentrate all economic representatives in Milan... A recent regional meeting in Piemonte AMG resulted in an interesting paragraph in the minutes, indeed a masterpiece of balanced diplomacy:

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

La maladie principale de l'homme est la curiosité inquiète des choses qu'il ne peut savoir.

PASCAL

The Pandora box of the Armistice, so frequently eyed with doubt, suspicion and curiosity by the press of at least three countries over the last two years, was finally opened last Wednesday night. A simultaneous release—the effect of which was slightly marred by the enterprising or indiscreet revelations of an INS reporter in London who got hold of some of the terms a day ahead of time—was issued in Rome, London and Washington 6 November. The eager public was given a substantial portion to digest, for the release included, not only the long and short terms complete, but the commentary (showing to what extent the terms had been modified) as well, and the Cunningham-De Courten naval agreement (with commentary), the letter of General Eisenhower to Marshal Badoglio of 29 September 1943, the statement of De Courten of 17 November 1943 and the aide-memoire of Mr. Macmillan of last 24 February were added for good measure.

The reaction of the Rome press on learning the contents of these documents was one of discontent and resentment. One criticism was that the publication of the terms should have been accompanied by some announcement that they were no longer appropriate to Italy's case. Such was, for example, the opinion of Jacchia writing in the Government's *Giornale del Mattino*. *Unità* commented in like vein: "Most of the terms were justified at the time... But Italy has changed a good deal since then. The time has come to abrogate the Armistice. Even the clauses reflects the comprehensible mistrust of an enemy. But all this is past". *Italia Nuova*, perhaps anxious for the prestige of the monarchy, went even further and complained that "we do not know why the Allies published the document at this time".

From many quarters came the argument that the long life of the regime of the Armistice was not in accord with the "Quebec letter" (of September 1943 over the signatures of the late President Roosevelt and former Prime Minister Churchill). Publication of this letter, which stated clearly that the conditions of the Armistice did not include Italy's active assistance in fighting the Germans and that the conditions might be modified in proportion to the extent of Italian collaboration, was demanded by a substantial section of the press—not including *Lavoro* which quite simply published its version of it. Support for this school of thought came from foreign journals too; the London *Times* said in a leader that the time had come for Italy to be "readmitted to the international company to which she sincerely aspires".

Other Critics.

But there was another school of critics and of a more bitter tone. The Christian Democrat *Popolo* wrote that "we look in vain in these clauses for any attempt to understand the real condition of Italy or the position in which she was placed by the presence of German troops in the country". The independent Catholic *Quotidiano* followed with the comment that "the mere fact such clauses formed part of the Armistice, even if some of them were never enforced, is to the discredit of the Allies" and Antonio Borgoni in *Avanti*, after deploring what seemed to him the "[illegible] humiliation" of Italy, ended by saying

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POLITICAL

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of course headlined the release: "The Italian people crucified by the monarchy". Prime Minister Parri is expected to make a statement at his press conference within the next few days; meanwhile he told reporters that the commentary (indicating modification and relaxation of the clauses) should be regarded as "more interesting" than the clauses themselves.

The epuration law (see last week's *Bulletin*) left a somewhat acrimonious aftermath. The *Consulta* felt that it should have been consulted before the Council sanctioned the decree. At the meeting on the 7th the Liberal, Cattani, expressed himself as not at all satisfied with Parri's statement that the decree could still be discussed after the event. Nenni explained that the reason was that the old law runs out on the 15th and it was felt that time was short, adding that all members of the Government had had ample opportunity to examine the draft before action. This was not good enough for the Liberals either, and one of their *consultori* proposed an order of the day censuring the Council for its tardy presentation of the decree to the *Consulta*. On the advice of Ciasca, who feared such action might cause a Government crisis, this motion was rejected.

The fourth of November is a great day in Italian history, commemorating, as it does, the victory of Vittorio Veneto and the end of the war in 1918. It is an appropriate occasion for speeches and this year a number were made — of a quality and character which are worthy of attention. To Foreign Minister De Gasperi, speaking in Milan, the occasion seemed propitious for a frank examination of conscience for the Italians. Had Italy in a truly democratic fashion respected the minority rights of Slav and Teuton in the period after the first World War, he said, there would be no Trieste or Bolzano problem today. He hoped that the days of "annexationistic" policies were over. He hoped, too, that the Allies would be mindful of Italian co-belligerency as Italians, too, should be mindful of the faults of their Fascist past. As for reparations, he said, there should not be too much talk of them for there were two sides to that question.

More Speeches.

in Bari, recalled how he and Marshal Tito of Jugoslavia had fought shoulder to shoulder in the Spanish civil war and said that Italians wanted a frontier, and not a barrier, between Italy and Jugoslavia. He also said, speaking of the *Costituente*, that he trusted it would lay the foundations for an Italian republic, but, whatever the outcome might be, so long as the decision was reached in freedom, the Socialists would abide by it — an unusually conciliatory comment from the normally intransigent Nenni. Zaniboni (once famous as the man who tried to kill Mussolini and more recently *Commissario* for Prisoners of War) spoke at Verona and, after thanking the Russians for their share in the victory, added politely that Italians did not want to be delivered from one dictatorship into another. He also expressed discontent with the functioning of the Government; a six-party government, he thought, was bound to be inefficient, for it was of necessity a mass of contradictions.

So much for the speeches of the 4th. On the same day the Liberals of Rome and Florence issued orders of the day. In Rome they asked for "elimination" of the C. L. N. from the national life and for a referendum on the electoral law and on the institutional question. In Florence, the Liberals also asked for the referendum and, furthermore, even went so far as to ask the steering committee of the party to abandon the Government. Discontent with the epuration law was voiced as well as concern for the freedom of the press. The Liberals, indeed, have been getting increasingly restive these days, as their action in the *Consulta* indicates. Lupinacci (in *Secolo XX*) made the point that the Liberals, if properly supported by the Christian Democrats, could have nullified the new epuration decree and hinted that the Liberals might have been willing to risk a crisis to do so, had they been supported.

On the 4th, too, the walls of Rome were covered with the *manifestini* of the *Unione Monarchica Italiana*, which admitted proudly that it had been working without publicity for more than a year. This was the proper occasion, said the *Unione*, to remind the Italian people of how much they owed the House of Savoy which had guided them to the triumph of Vittorio Veneto and had symbolized for so many years the sane-

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More Speeches.

Brosio who spoke at Rieti on the same occasion confined himself to economic themes. The Liberals, he explained, were by no means against confiscation of Fascist profits, nor, indeed, against progressive taxation; they were, however, extremely interested in the preservation of private initiative. Nenni, whose speech was made *stilnovo*, that he trusted it would lay the foundations for an Italian republic, but, whatever the outcome might be, so long as the decision was reached in freedom, the Socialists would abide by it – an unusually conciliatory comment from the normally intransigent Nenni. Zaniboni (once famous as the man who tried to kill Mussolini and more recently *Commissario* for Prisoners of War) spoke at Verona and, after thanking the Russians for their share in the victory, added politely that Italians did not want to be delivered from one dictatorship into another. He also expressed discontent with the functioning of the Government; a six-party government, he thought, was bound to be inefficient, for it was of necessity a mass of contradictions.

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The Armistice was not the only revelation of the week. Friday's papers carried the contents of a note from De Gasperi to U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes written last August but hitherto unpublished. In his memorandum, which was accompanied by a message from Parri to President Truman, De Gasperi had asked for establishment of the Wilson line as the proper Italo-Jugoslav frontier. The note also suggested that the Italian Government was willing to cooperate in making Trieste a free port and was further willing to demilitarize Zara if the Jugoslavs would do the same with Cattaro. On the question of colonies, the note stated that the Italian Government "favored a regime which would guarantee the interests of Italian labor".

Two contributions from Allied sources to the political roundup may be noted. Maj. Gen. Ward, Chief of Staff, AFHQ, stated on the 5th that the Allies expected to give complete control of the Italian Army back to the Italians as soon as the Northern provinces reverted to the Government. And the newly-elected Mayor of New York, William O'Dwyer (lately Vice-President, Economic Section, A. C.) took up the mantle of Fiorello La Guardia, declaring on the day of his election (as reported by Overseas News Agency) that he knew from experience that "Italy is in great need of all the help we can give her either through public agencies or privately".

UNRRA AND THE A. C.

Now that the Armistice terms have been published, and there is talk again of a peace treaty for Italy, though but a provisional one, it seems that another milestone has been passed along the road of our gradual liquidation in the A. C. And the biggest step of all, that is, transfer of the supply functions of the A. C.'s Economic Section, are even now in the planning stage. The Economic Section has been officially reorganized to be in a state of readiness for handover to a successor supply agency, a euphemism of our official jargon which covers the probability that, eight will get you one, the agency will be UNRRA.

UNRRA or the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was conceived in the teeming brain, so we have it, of the late Pre- [illegible] Roosevelt. The first and organizational

sonnel, availability of which was sadly lacking since most first-class possibilities were already in government or military service. The remedy came with drafting of key personnel from Government posts and releases from military ranks. In September, 1944, the second meeting of the Council was held in Montreal where the participating nations got down to business and began voting funds.

The money business goes like this: each uninvaded nation – there are 31 of them – pledges to contribute one per cent. of its national income, using the year ending June 30, 1943, as the base year. A total of nearly two billion dollars or more exactly 1.8 billion, is thus available. The U. S. share of the kitty runs approximately 1,350 million or about 70 per cent of the whole. Congress appropriated $800 million of this first contribution last year. The first part of the current UNRRA business before Congress is the action by the House of Representatives in passing the remainder of the U. S. contribution pledged at Montreal, a matter of $550 million. The appropriation bill has now gone to the Senate.

Montreal.

At the Montreal meeting a relief fund of $50,000,000 was voted for Italy, to be spent on a special feeding and welfare program for children and pregnant and nursing mothers, and for care of displaced persons. Of this fund, approximately $20,000,000 already has been turned over to the Italian Government in goods and services. Each UNRRA dollar expenditure is matched by 100 lire of Italian Government money which goes into a special fund that pays all operating expenses of the UNRRA program and complementary welfare and medical programs. Each 100 lire of this Italian Government fund is roughly spent as follows: two per cent. for administrative expenses; thirteen per cent. for care of non-Italian displaced persons, and eighty-five per cent. for, first—labor and transport warehousing costs, and second—for welfare activities. All lire not so spent will be used to extend the relief program after UNRRA relief withdraws, as it hopes to do by the end of 1946. The Italian story of UNRRA goes back to July, 1944, when Mr. S. M. Keeny, 52-year-old social service executive and veteran of relief work with former

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UNRRA or the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was conceived in the teeming brain, so we have it, of the late President Roosevelt. The first and organizational meeting of the UNRRA Council, consisting of representatives of the 44 member nations, was held in Atlantic City, N. Y., in November, 1943. Mr. Herbert H. Lehman, former Governor of New York, was appointed Director-General, and the fledgling began scratching around to get per-

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war raged, shipping was naturally at a premium and UNRRA was somewhat like an orphan. The German surrender and then that of the Japs broke the shipping logjam and supplies have now been arriving for the last several months with few breaks in continuity.

The next momentous chapter for UNRRA-Italy took place in London last August at the third meeting of the UNRRA Council, where another one per cent. contribution of 1943-scale national income was voted (subject to ratification by the contributing Governments), which again would amount to 1.8 billion, with the U. S. cost being again 1,350 million. There, again, it was proposed that: (*a*) UNRRA be authorized to conduct a full-fledged relief and rehabilitation program in Italy, and (*b*) that the Italian share of the total UNRRA fund should amount to, roughly, $450 million or about one quarter of the entire UNRRA fund for 1946. The big catch, of course, is that hard cash from the contributing nations must implement the London decisions. The first installment of paying off this latest U. S. pledge is expected to be considered by the House this month.

The Big If.

The financial catch, in short, is tremendous. The final installment of the 1945 pledge is still in process; the initial installment of the 1946 pledge is about to enter the mill, but the suffering and need and unrest in Europe and Italy on the eve of what all agree will be a critical winter is here and present right now. Further, Congress is expected to recess for about a month around 10 December. These are the facts and it looks like a close call, especially since UNRRA is a spot-cash payer and has no assets beyond those specifically authorized, appropriated and assigned. Ninety per cent. of each nation's contribution must be spent in the contributing country. Some countries, of course, have not much in the way of supplies to contribute, which, in effect, cuts down the actual amount of a particular nation's real contribution. In order to keep the supply pipeline running smoothly for eventual handover to UNRRA, arrangements have been made that 614 million dollars of supplies bought with UNRRA money be at least delivered

rehabilitation program which the A. C. has so arduously worked out. The transition from A. C. supply to UNRRA supply is, therefore, of the utmost organizational importance. For this reason, UNRRA is already using requirement estimates for the first quarter of 1946 as estimated by A. C. to insure continuity of both requisitions and policies.

Part of the background for this A. C.-recommended program was developed by a special UNRRA analyst, Dr. William G. Welk, and adopted practically in toto. The program calls mainly for the import of coal, wheat, petroleum products, rubber, cotton, wool, raw materials and agricultural machinery, with the aims of meeting minimum clothing requirements, feeding the nation on its present below-normal ration and increasing self-sufficiency in the raising of food as much as possible. (Speaking of food, if the Italians do not get an extra import of 334,000 tons for December and January, they face the threat of having later to cut their bread ration.) Products which the Italian Government arranges to buy from other funds are omitted from the UNRRA program naturally. Coal is one of the biggest items under the 1946 program and UNRRA officials think the A. C. has recently been "astonishingly" successful on behalf of Italy. Although strikes and port difficulties in the U. S. cut down November arrivals temporarily, the October allocation was actually met and, in fact, 59 ships are now loading coal in the States for December arrival in Italy, arrivals of which will bring the monthly allocation for December to about 500,000 tons, a new high. Attempts are also being made by A. C. through AFHQ to get from the Ruhr for Italy 200,000 tons of German coal.

The Tie-in.

The tie-in of the A. C. and UNRRA on the supply program closely affects the personnel picture also. The reorganization of the Economic Section just approved by the Chief Commissioner was effected solely to put in one basket all the supply functions of A. C. which will be willed to the successor agency, that is, presumably, UNRRA. At present UNRRA has about 200 employees on its staff and expects to expand to a strength of approximately 600, one third of [illegible] to be displaced persons, one third in

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breaks in continuity.

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The financial catch, in short, is tremendous. The final installment of the 1945 pledge is still in process, the initial installment of the 1946 pledge is about to enter the mill, but the suffering and need and unrest in Europe and Italy on the eve of what all agree will be a critical winter is here and present right now. Further, Congress is expected to recess for about a month around 10 December. These are the facts and it looks like a close call, especially since UNRRA is a spot-cash payer and has no assets beyond those specifically authorized, appropriated and assigned. Ninety per cent. of each nation's contribution must be spent in the contributing country. Some countries, of course, have not much in the way of supplies to contribute, which, in effect, cuts down the actual amount of a particular nation's real contribution. In order to keep the supply pipeline running smoothly for eventual handover to UNRRA, arrangements have been made that 61½ million dollars of supplies bought with UNRRA money be at least delivered to shipside at ports and be ready for loading the moment Congress passes the appropriation.

Thus, contingent upon when and if the new one per cent. contribution is available, UNRRA in Italy will take over A. C. supply functions and merge its present relief program with the estimates for the first quarter of 1946 as estimated by A. C. to insure continuity of both requisitions and policies.

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nel familiar with the Italian supply, production, and distribution picture. Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, for example, has accepted *in future* the position of Deputy Chief of Mission for Supply when A. C. winds up and if UNRRA takes over. Col. W. J. Legg, former director of the Food Sub-Commission, likewise has agreed to go to UNRRA as head of food, agriculture, and miscellaneous consumer goods and activities under Mr. Cleveland. Of the 200 now employed by UNRRA, about half are working in the displaced persons field. Keeping the financial contingencies in mind, UNRRA plans to take over the A. C. supply functions with January loadings of supplies (February arrivals).

Besides Mr. Cleveland, there will be two other Deputy Chiefs of Mission for the combined relief and rehabilitation program UNRRA is expected to administer. They are, in fact, already in office. The first is Mr. Antonio A. Sorieri, New York State social welfare executive. He heads the Relief Services Bureau. The other is Major C. E. Hodgetts, an Englishman, who until last January was an accountant with the Allied Commission, and before that was Senior Finance Officer to the British Military Administration of Cyrenaica. He is chief of UNRRA's Finance and Administration Bureau.

Reorganization.

The reorganized Economic Section consists primarily of a Supply Group (the unit prepping for UNRRA) and three independent sub-commissions—Finance, Labor and Commerce (Foreign Trade), whose functions are not directly tied into the UNRRA future. The set-up in detail is as follows: Mr. Cleveland heads the show as Acting Vice President. Col. Leonard D. Densmore is Deputy Vice President. Mr. Elwood W. Holstein is Chief Staff Officer, under whom come an Administration and Personnel Branch and a Special Staff. A Price Control Branch, headed by Mr. Kenneth E. Stauffer, reports directly to the Acting Vice President. The three non-supply sub-commissions also report directly to the Acting Vice President. The director of the Finance Sub-Commission is Col. Robert B. Menafee. Supply Group is headed by Mr. Harold Graves. Its sub-commissions (Food and Agriculture, Industry and Utilities, Transportation and Shipping, Coal and POL) are the old Supply Council (with the Army-Navy Liquidation Commission) and Captured Enemy Materials (the old War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission). The three sub-commissions of the Supply Group involve several consolidations. Food and Agriculture are now one, headed by Mr. James M. Merritt. Industry and Utilities have also consolidated. The director is Mr. A. H. Sullivan. Transportation and Shipping Sub-Commission is captained by Col. P. D. G. Buchanan. The Coal and POL Divisions formerly with the Commerce Sub-Commission go to the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission.

Displaced Persons.

On the displaced persons side, UNRRA has taken over from the A. C. four camps in the South since last spring after an agreement to do so last February. There are 15 more (housing 25,000 persons) to go over. The handover of camps will probably be in groups, the first group to be that in the Emilia area, consisting of centers at Bologna, Riccione, Modena, Reggio Emilia, Forli and Cremona. Next will go the repatriation camp at Genoa. The Ancona group follows on the schedule. These latter camps are at Fermo, Servigliano, Jesi and Fano. The big transit camp at Cinecittà goes next after which comes the Barletta-Bari group of camps. Finally to wind up the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission's activities will be handover of its camps at Bari and Naples proper and the supply depots at Cinecittà and Riccione. The turnover is slated to start as soon as possible and to be completely effected by 1 January in all the camps. UNRRA will take over the Sub-Commission's Records Bureau by 1 December. Most of the voluntary agencies attached to UNRRA work on the displaced persons programs.

Chief remaining problem is the repatriation of approximately one million Italians within Italy itself, a job made all the harder by the fact that nearly 3,000,000 rooms (by UNRRA estimate) have been destroyed in the war. UNRRA, too, has been extending financial aid to about 10,000 United Nations displaced persons.

UNRRA has had good record in Italy with its relief program, and indeed, in Washington the Italian program is considered to be one of the

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Chief remaining problem is the repatriation of approximately one million Italians within Italy itself, a job made all the harder by the fact that nearly 3,000,000 rooms (by UNRRA estimate) have been destroyed in the war. UNRRA, too, has been extending financial aid to about 10,000 United Nations displaced persons.

UNRRA has had good record in Italy with its relief program, and indeed, in Washington the Italian program is considered to be one of the bright spots in the UNRRA world picture. Nine million has been allocated to health work in imported supplies and a 83 million project in lire from the Italian fund to Sardinia to eliminate malaria in that pesthole. The Rockefeller Foundation is co-sponsor. Medical supplies which began arriving about June have been in steady

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supplies since September although only a fragment of the needed supplies have been turned over to the Italian Government to date. Anti-malaria work has been effectively carried out in scores of battle-scarred communities in Lazio Region. The school feeding program now takes care of one million children and is expected to rise to two million by Christmas. Six million pounds of second-hand clothing from the U. S. will shortly be distributed by UNRRA and American Relief for Italy, Inc.

More than 75 motor-cars of relief food have been passed on to the form of supplements to institutions - hospitals, orphanages and schools, particularly in devastated areas and in towns over 10,000. It is estimated that one million Italians in 18 provinces have received such food, with further shipments now arriving for distribution in ten more provinces and plans made to extend the distribution to another 20 provinces. The relief food had other than dietary benefits since schools were kept open this past summer; an innovation in Italy, to facilitate food distribution and summer educational and recreational projects were devised to keep children off the streets. UNRRA also has been responsible for drawing up the first social service agency directory in Italy.

With the A.C. regarding itself to give over supplies and with UNRRA's recent operations conferences recently held in Rome a couple of weeks ago and attended by about 100 persons, UNRRA is now in the throes of an expansion which the A.C., recalling its own first trying days, views with deep sympathy, and to say, with a chuckle of the very best wishes.

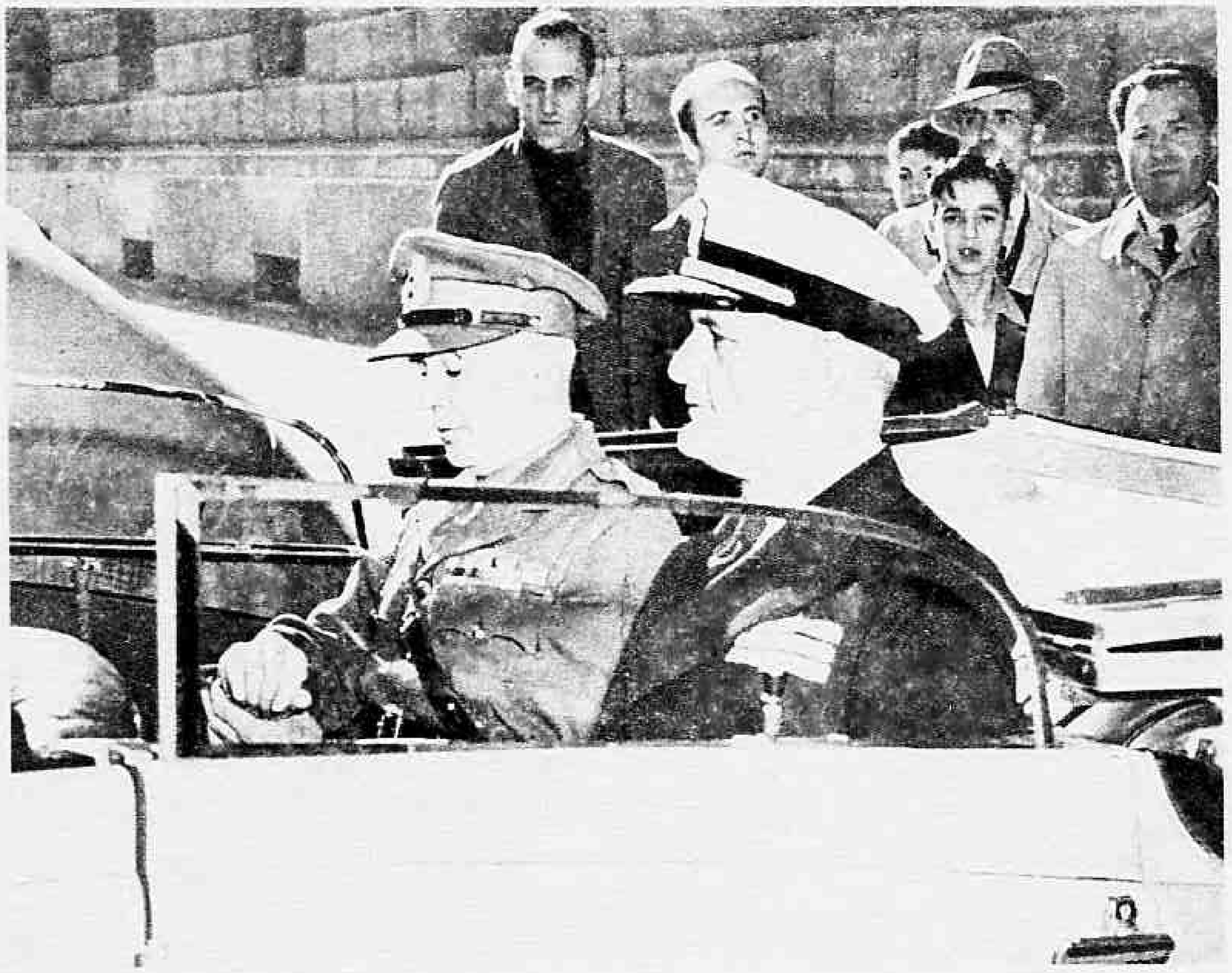


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Lieutenant General Sir William D. Morgan, Chief of Staff, Allied Commission; Ambassador Robert Murphy, Deputy Allied Commissioner; Mrs. Ellen Wilkinson, U.K. Minister of Education; Mr. Charles Poletti, Allied Commissioner; leaving the Ministry of Education on March 2 November

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. Charles M. Parkin, commanding officer, 2675th Regiment, has been awarded the Order of the Crown of Italy (Commander)... The latest redeployment survey of the Regiment, as of 8 November, lists 252 officers as follows: nine Regular Army; 61 Class A; 97 Class B, of whom 45 are due for release before 1 January 1946 and 52 after that date; and 85 officers with point scores of under 75, which is the current bottom limit for going home among Class X (releasable) officers... A few replacements among officers are now beginning to drift in... Some 50,000 sea mines are estimated to be still cluttering up the Italian sea approaches, particularly at the port of Genoa; the British Admiralty is lending minesweepers to the Italians... Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A), SCAO, XIII Corps AMG, is going home on 45-day leave 1 December; he will be replaced by Col. H. P. P. Robertson (B) in the meanwhile... Application of MTOUSA Supply Directive 74, dated 25 October 1945, will be made in behalf of U. S. businessmen visiting Italy so that, upon specific request of the State Department here, they may enjoy the facilities of the U. S. Army and not have to pay 80,000 lire for a civilian lift from Naples to Rome as an American group had to last week... Control over the Italian Army and the Ministry of War in Italian Government territory will be relinquished by the Land Forces Sub-Commission 14 November... The new Italian Army strength is 140,000 plus 65,000 Carabinieri... Getting extra wheat supplies for Italy is complicated by the fact that there have been crop failures all over the world with the exception of in the U. S... Col. G. M. Frizelle (B) has been appointed director of the Public Health Sub-Commission and Major Norman T. Newton (A) of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission... Paper production in Italy the first six months of 1945 amounted to 109,000 tons compared with 500,000 tons pre-war, our industry experts report... Wheat amassing, as of 5 November, totalled 917,900 tons or 70 per cent, of the 1,304,000-ton goal... Mr. George W. Edman, deputy director of PWB, and chairman of the Allied Publications Board, has resigned to return to his peacetime job of managing editor of the Berkshire Evening Eagle at Pittsfield, Massachusetts... Approximately 20,000 tons of copper have been requisitioned in the U. S. for Italian needs, much of it in the electrical industry... The Advisory Committee on Electric Power for North Italy anticipates a shortage of some one hundred kilowatt hours this winter... The similar committee for Southern Italy reports opposition to the changeover to the 50-cycle frequency in its area on the part of industries; the price of progress is hard... The AMG officer in Asti Province in Piemonte reports that shopkeepers are refusing AM currency and that, as of 24 October, not a single AM lira was circulating the province... British and American film companies are now ready to distribute films directly in Italy, PWB giving up the ghost as intermediary on 25 November, though it will still be in the film business in Venezia-Giulia... News on E. M. down to 60 points departing is expected this coming week...

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November 3, 1945 RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

All government, indeed every human benefit and enjoyment, every virtue, and every prudent act, is founded on compromise and barter.

BURKE

"The main task of the present (Italian) government is to organize both local and national elections, and the announcement of their date would put a term to many present uncertainties." Thus *The Times* (London) in an editorial of 29 October. *The Times* must have been pleased by the action of the Government the following day, for the Council of Ministers, mindful of its promise last week, got down to dates and, to a certain extent, to details. The meeting was opened by Nenni, Minister for the *Costituente*, who began by explaining the principles on which the electoral law is based. The salient points are: direct suffrage for women and men (including soldiers), the proportional system (following the 1919 "Hont plan"), and presentation of the lists by groups of 500 to 1,000 electors. Nenni then presented a motion with three clauses: the election for the *Costituente* to take place not later than the last Sunday in March, 1946; administrative elections to be held as soon as the preparation of the lists, "with territorial criteria to be determined by the Government", should be complete; and rules for the functioning of the Assembly to be set up in the law convoking the electoral commissioners for the Assembly.

A debate thereupon ensued, five hours in duration and described as "animated" by the relatively unemotional *Giornale del Mattino*. As reported in the press, Nenni's motion was supported by Actionists and Communists as well as his own party and opposed by the Liberals, not later than the end of April 1946, administrative elections should be held before the end of the year, and "the means of solving the political problems connected with the *Costituente* are to be defined at the time of (the Italian is *correlativamente*) the convocation of the electoral boards". The compromise for once seems to have pleased both sides. Nenni expressed satisfaction with the result, writing in *Avanti* that the meeting had shown clearly that none of the six parties belonged to the reactionary cabal. *Unità* with equal satisfaction made the point that the action of the Council was a refutation of the charge of inefficiency so often hurled at the Government by thoughtless critics.

Brosio, chief spokesman for the opposition to Nenni's motion, was apparently equally satisfied; after the meeting he gave an interview to correspondents in which among other things he said that in his opinion the third clause left the way open to fix the powers of the *Costituente* and the limits of its sovereignty. "Trembling with eager delight" (as *Unità* put it), he added that a referendum on either or both of these points was within possibility. The only discordant note in the symphony of satisfaction was a blast from Pacciardi who professed some doubt of the Government's good intentions and wanted to have the order of the day confirmed by a decree.

Epuration.

Having made a good start on the elections, the hardworking Council later in the week tackled the old matter of epuration. A new law was drafted, differing from the old one in greater simplification, one might almost say streamlining. Only the first eight grades of government employees are to be affected; there is to be only one basis for epuration—"political incom-

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cases are to be brought to justice before the first of April, 1946—an earnest of the Government's desire to get through this unhappy chapter as speedily as possible.

The Council meetings are certainly the main political news of this week. However, the Action Party's statement, published on the 26th, is also worthy of note. It reiterated the usual Action battle-cries and, while admitting the Government had its shortcomings, particularly, in the party's opinion, in the matter of financial policies, the statement stressed that the unity of the coalition must be maintained at all costs and every effort made to keep the Communists within the Government. The party also affirmed (in capitals) its view that the *Costituente* must be convoked as soon as possible and must decree the abolition of the monarchy. The statement added that all members of the party, from the president of the council down to the youngest *compagno*, must fight for these ends—a pronouncement which brought from *Risorgimento Liberale* a rather strong hint that Prime Minister Parri ought to choose between being the head of the Government or leader of the Action party. Lucifero, in *Italia Nuova*, contented himself by saying the outcry from the Action party for a *Costituente* and a Republic was all very well but supposing the Assembly simply preferred a monarchy?

Foreign Minister De Gasperi, speaking at the *Teatro Brancaccio* on November 1, the *Giornata della solidarietà popolare*, made several timely points. He referred to the necessity of fraternal feeling among all Italians at this time and, alluding to those in Venezia Giulia, added that good feeling between nationalities in that region would depend a good deal on the return of deported Italians now held in Jugoslavia. On the matter of war reparations, he stated quite simply that Italy couldn't pay because she had nothing to pay with. On hearing that the publication of the Armistice terms was imminent (as reported from Washington), he expressed the hope that publication would be the first step towards abolition.

On the 28th—once a day of pomp and ceremony in this country since it is the anniversary of the March on Rome—a home-made Fascist flag was found waving from the top of the Torre delle Milizie on Via Nazionale. It was removed by two policemen. *Sic transit...*

economic concern, has had a temporary deterioration, the repercussions of strikes and port tieups. It is estimated that the coal trouble has cost Italy 20 days of October loadings and November arrivals or 200,000 tons, the equivalent here of one million man-hours of work for idle Italian hands. Speaking of coal, efforts are being made to secure stronger representation for Italy in the various European economic organizations, particularly the one on coal, since transport of U. S. coal to Italy costs about three times the value of the coal itself. POL is likewise in a temporarily poor shape because of the oilfield strikes and longshoremen difficulties.

The wheat import situation is still being canvassed. The dozen or so Italian ships appropriated by the Argentines during the war are now ready to be sold back to Italy, but the Italian Government wants them first loaded with 100,000 tons of Argentine wheat. If the loading is too slow or the grain not quickly available, the ships may have to sail without the food. Even with this hypothetical wheat arriving, wheat requirements have soared and to keep merely one month's store of wheat on hand would require an extra shipment of 325,000 tons in the next few months.

The amassing picture was perhaps a little brighter. As of 29 October, the percentage collected was 69 per cent, or 906,400 tons of the 1,304,000-ton target figure. Italian Government territory collections were 379,100 tons or 73 per cent of the goal while AMG area amassing was 67 per cent, or 527,300 tons.

GENERAL RIDGWAY

Lieutenant General Matthew B. Ridway, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander and Commanding General, MTOUSA, in his first official tour of inspection in the Rome area, did the Allied Commission the high honor today (3 November 1945—note the speed of our service) of saying a word of farewell to the draft of 70 U. S. officers who are leaving Rome tomorrow for home. After a brief speech, the General personally shook the hand of each departing officer and spoke a few words of greeting. He lingered to talk to First Lieut. Harold White, who was formerly a member of the 82d Airborne Division that the General commanded in Sicily and on the Western Front, caught by the paratrooper's emblem on the lieutenant's chest.

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ECONOMIC FRONT

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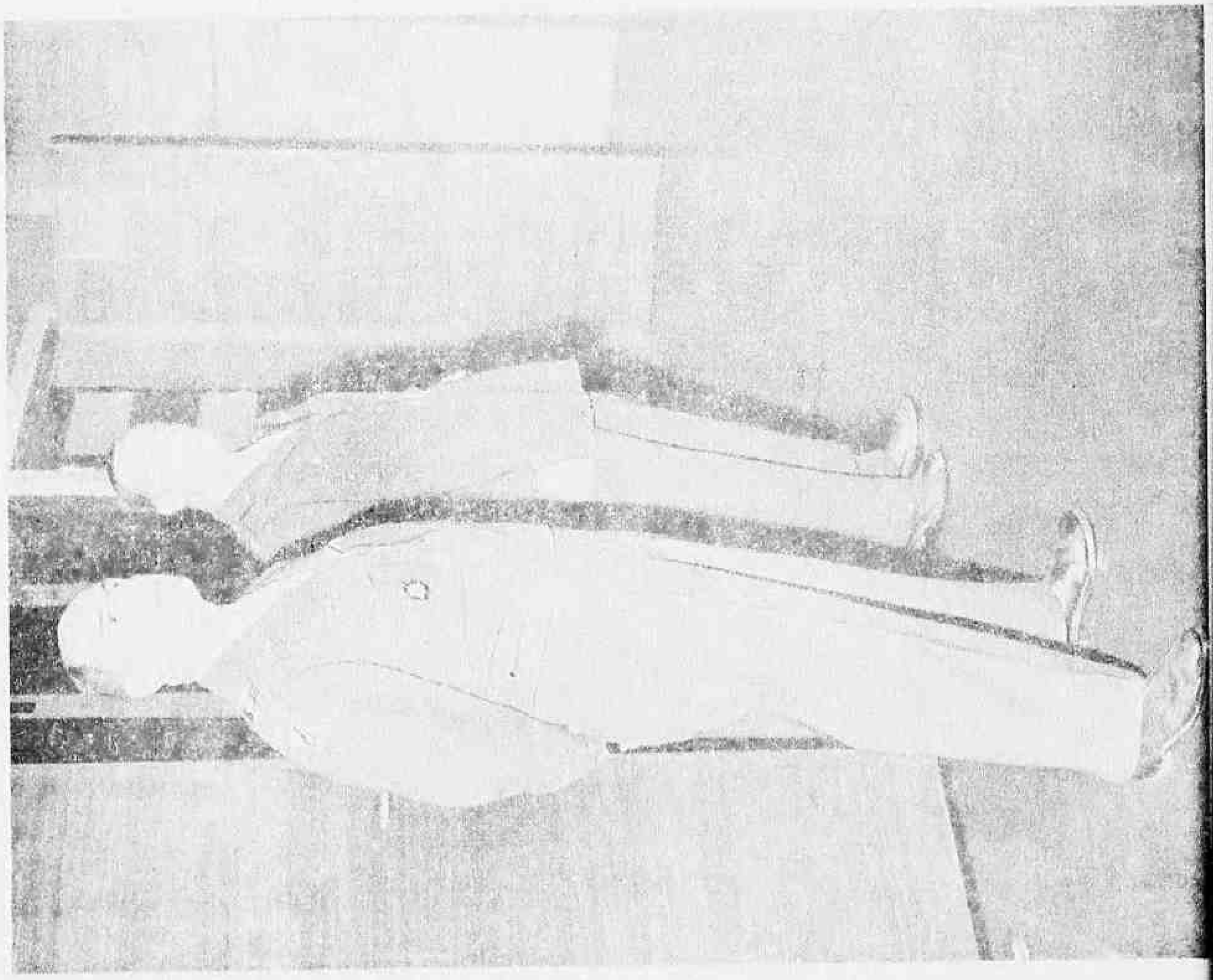
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In his greeting to the assembled officers and in the presence of the Chief Commissioner, of Brigadier General A. J. Hamblen, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, AFHQ, and of Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner and senior U. S.

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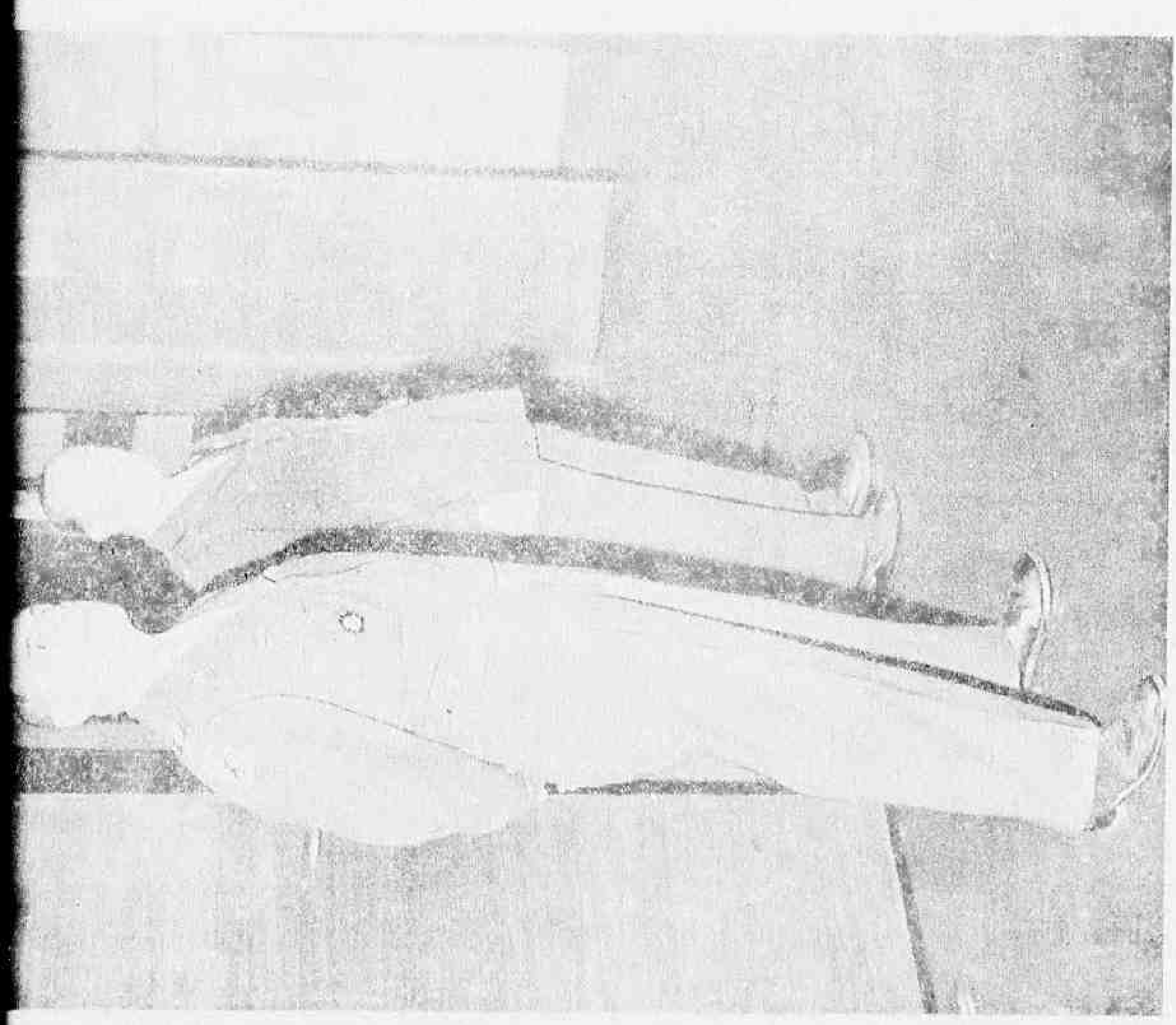
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Army officer of the Commission, General Ridgway bespoke his appreciation of the officers' efforts in military government and congratulated them on the results which their varied talents had attained in the Allied cause.

General Hamblen also spoke to the group, telling them that they had a right to be proud of their accomplishments and that they should be able to go home with the satisfaction of a job well done.

After the departing draft had left, the heads of Allied Commission and 2675 Regiment activities were presented to General Ridgway, including the heads of sections and directors and deputy directors of all Sub-Commissions. The General was afterwards entertained at a luncheon by the Chief Commissioner at his villa.

ODDS AND ENDS

A few more promotions are in: To First Lieutenant—Sam Ratchke; to Major—Richard B. Bullock; to Lieutenant-Colonel—Benson E.L. Timmons and Lloyd W. Stearns; to Colonel—Henry H. Scudder... A.C. recommendations for a new U.S. T/O are going to MTOUSA this week-end... The Transportation Sub-Commission has arranged for A.C. officer, enlisted and civilian personnel travelling on duty to ride on civilian passenger trains with special tickets... The A.C. Super Garage is doing 3d echelon maintenance now, performing motor jobs formerly sent to Ordnance... Venezia-Giulia, like AMG in the North, is feeling the redeployment personnel pinch, its U.S. strength having fallen from 126 to 86 recently, but G-1 has the tough job of keeping manpower spotted throughout the North as well as in the border area... Major Harold V. Reilly, AMG Livorno Commissioner, and Capt. Stanley Beatty, Livorno AMG public safety officer, have come in for a fine and well-deserved bouquet from Brigadier General Francis H. Oxx, commanding general of Peninsular Base Section, who has lauded their "splendid and effective" cooperation... By 10 November, all EM down to 70 points will have been redeployed, leaving the A.C. with 432 remaining U.S. EM while by 6 November, all officers down to 75 points will have been redeployed, leaving the A.C. with 253 U.S. officers... Last flash redeployment: EM down to 65 points will leave 9 November...

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October 27, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Political interest, like a moving spotlight following the gyrations of a ballet, has flitted from scene to scene during the past week but has never strayed very far or very long from the main element in the drama—the *Costituente* and the coming elections. An important development in this field came out of the Socialist party meeting which took place on October 22 and 23. The Socialists reiterated their contention that elections for the *Costituente* should be held as soon as possible, but added that, since these elections could not possibly be held before the end of the winter, they were willing to give precedence to the administrative elections. This represents a noteworthy concession for, until recently, the party has stoutly maintained that the elections for the *Costituente* should be held first. On the matter of the powers of the *Costituente*, however, the Socialist position was unchanged; the party insisted that the "will of the people and the decisions of the first C. L. N. agree in attributing to the *Costituente* a sovereign character". Other declarations of the committee were in line with previous expressions of Socialist views, though in their final statement there was a noteworthy gesture toward the Catholic parties, for the resolution ended with the statement that "the collaboration of the Socialists and Communists will be a still more efficient instrument of democratic development if the Catholic working masses, too, answer this appeal and unify their efforts for the *Costituente*". This is by no means the first appeal of the Socialists to the Catholics but it is the most direct one in recent months and some observers see in it a triumph for the anti-fusion (i.e., Socialist-Communist fusion) group

telegram to the director of *L'Aube*, Paris organ of the Popular Republicans, whose total did indeed run ahead of estimates. The Socialists and Communists, of course, congratulated themselves and each other on the fact that their combined vote represented slightly over 50 per cent. of the total cast. Even Brosio, the Liberal, could—and did—read the elections in a fashion favorable to his party; had all Rightist elements combined, he said—and presumably he included the Popular Republicans—they would have been as strong as the Left.

Armistice terms.

The question of publication and/or revision of the Armistice terms has come in for continued discussion in the press, largely under the stimulus of various rumors from Washington. *Il Popolo*, attacking the broader aspects of Italy's present situation, spoke out freely and asked the Allies to recognize Italy's "legitimate rights" and offer "attenuating" conditions; Allied understanding and sympathy are necessary, said the paper's leader, if the unrest which admittedly exists, is to be allayed. *Secolo XX* (Rightist) said even more frankly that what is needed now is not the cancellation of a few clauses "but a complete revision of the attitude towards Italy". De Gasperi, in an interview in *Il Giornale del Mattino*, stated clearly that the Italian Government was not opposed to the publication of the Armistice. Normally, he added, an armistice would have become a dead letter anyway on the signing of a peace treaty; the delay in drafting a provisional treaty was due to its connection with other peace treaties. The only hope for annulment of the Armistice, in the opinion of the Italian Foreign

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Perhaps the French elections had some part in this shift. For the French elections, which returned Socialists, Communists and Popular Republicans (French for Christian Democrats) in almost equal strength have been carefully studied in Italy. Needless to say, all Italian parties see food for hope in the results. De Gasperi sent a telegram to the director of *L'Aube*, Paris organ of the Popular Republicans, whose total did indeed run ahead of estimates. The Socialists and Communists, of course, congratulated themselves and each other on the fact that their combined vote represented slightly over 50 per cent. of the total cast. Even Brosio, the Liberal, could—and did—read the elections in a fashion favorable to his party; had all Rightist elements combined, he said—and presumably he included the Popular Republicans—they would have been as strong as the Left.

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The Council of Ministers has met twice since our last *Bulletin* number. The first meeting, on the 20th, was given over to discussion of the elections but the meeting of the 24th proceeded to definite action. It was decided that a special

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meeting would be held on the 30th which would fix the date the *Costituente* and examine the plan for political elections. It was further decided to issue a decree to annul sentences against those guilty of anti-Fascist crimes so that they may be eligible to vote when the time comes. A number of economic measures were approved, among them such rather disparate matters as the creation of an autonomous board for the distribution of Allied materiel and the suppression of the once famous Fascist tax on bachelors. The Council embarked on further discussion on the confiscation of Fascist profits; Scoccimarro stated that the amount which could be confiscated would run to 30 billion lire.

The week ended with Prime Minister Parri's press conference on Friday. The President's speech covered a great number of things and the press headlines varied a good deal as each journal picked out the item most interesting to its readers. Parri began by saying that the discussions about the *Costituente* had actually brought the six parties closer together, adding that there was now general agreement that the proportional system would be the best suited to the needs of the occasion. He reminded the journalists that the *Costituente* was a "necessity for the country" and added his comment on the French elections, in which he saw the end of the old régime which had caused the defeat of France.

On the publication of the Armistice, Parri said Italy had nothing particular to gain by such action but bringing the document into the open would be useful in "deflating" the exaggerated suspicions about its contents. He pointed out, too, that obvious concessions had already been made; unconditional surrender was part of the Armistice but had that clause been enforced there would not even be an Italian Government. Further, the permission to contact other nations directly represented another concession. Parri here took occasion to express his gratitude to the Allied Commission for having facilitated this step.

Nonetheless he hoped a provisional peace would soon be arranged for, saying: "Italy needs full freedom in internal affairs, a greater autonomy in foreign affairs and an improved economic situation". Reparations, he thought, would signify merely handing over war materiel and he

ECONOMIC FRONT

Mr. Harlan Cleveland, the FEA Italian expert, has been appointed Acting Vice President of the Economic Section attaining, at the age of 27, one of the most important jobs in Italy, that of helping lay the groundwork for a real rehabilitation program. Col. Leonard D. Densmore, who, as Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section for more than a year has been in the center of economic planning and operating, will be on hand as Deputy Vice President to lend his experience and counsel, well versed in how to get things done, to the new regime. Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley who has been with A. C. since last January, leaves for a new assignment. His sometimes caustic but always penetrating analysis of economic problems will be missed. Succeeding to Col. Densmore's place is Mr. Elwood Holstein, a newly arrived FEA civilian.

Mr. Cleveland's plans are naturally in line with those previously made: that is, to liquidate functions which will disappear with the termination of military responsibility and turnover to the embassies, and to build up and integrate the supply functions eventually to be taken over by UNRRA if and when that organization receives the funds that will put it into business for 1946. Thus, while on one hand, there is a liquidating and finishing-up aspect to the Economic Section, in bare truth, a good 60 or 70 per cent. of the work is building up for the future, and especially since now the basis is laid for a real supply program, all up to the present having been more or less the required palliatives dictated by military necessity and supply shortages.

That the ground is cleared for a sound rehabilitation program is evident from an examination of the most recent facts. The B and A military supplies brought into Italy are now over the dam—no accurate estimate in toto being known but a guess of nearly $450,000,000 being not far off. The Italians also got an American credit of $120 million under the Category B of the joint program (coming as the equivalent of U. S. troop pay) and also a $100 million supply program under the Lend-Lease appropriation. Both these funds have been almost entirely spent or earmarked in the procurement process already. Then there is

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Nonetheless he hoped a provisional peace would soon be arranged for, saying: "Italy needs full freedom in internal affairs, a greater autonomy in foreign affairs and an improved economic situation". Reparations, he thought, would signify merely handing over war materiel and he pointed out that Italy had never had a great industrial war plant. He hoped that all Italian property abroad would not be confiscated. Lastly, he expressed his regret that the North had not yet been handed back to the Government; the delay, he said, had considerably complicated the Government's work.

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31 August was further slashed to only 1,820,255 tons available. The present estimate is 1,471,222 tons. Food requirements for the twelve months were 3,433,092, which has jumped to 3,700,000. After other accounting elements are taken into consideration, such as current ship arrivals, the fact remains that for the next eight months, the Italians are asking for 2,023,912 tons or 253,000 tons a month. The matter in still very much under discussion.

There are a few other economic items of interest. Demobilized Italian soldiers are becoming a labor problem. There is no work for most and they have no unemployment bonus arrangement. AMG labor officers are being asked to give them priority treatment in the labor exchanges. Col. A. N. Hancock, RC of Lombardia, will take on the post of Economic Coordinator for the North when (!) the North is given back. Col. Norman E. Fiske, head of the A. C. office in Milan, is worrying over the problem of inter-regional trade in the North; for instance, how to get wood from Piemonte to Lombardia. The Swiss have made a gift of 2,000 tons of wheat to Genoa, the port city with which they have had close relations in the past and with which they are seeking special arrangements to handle Swiss supplies. Northern Italian factories still producing war material (there are a few so doing) are to be examined by the Land Forces Sub-Commission.

A SAD TALE

It is with heavy heart that we draw our typewriter to our lap to tell this story, for we must describe trust betrayed, confidence misplaced and the faith of a considerable number of AMG officers disastrously shaken. When they recall how eager 22-year-old Alessandro Saddi used to appear to be of service, how his bright, shining face and ready will pleased his AMG bosses in the Lombardia regional office in Milan, where Saddi was chief administrative assistant in the message center, why they simply cannot believe that Saddi is now awaiting trial on charges of theft from the Allied mails. What if all Italians were like that? his former Allied friends ask. But probably such reproaches poured on Saddi's head would

ed a beautiful letter of reference as [illegible] his honesty and integrity, efficiency and zeal, signed by [illegible] of his immediate superiors, a U. S. warrant officer. Saddi, the letter testified, was a lovely character.

The plot now thickens. Things began to be missing, even though message centers immemorially have been message centers... But this was different—specific packages and letters went astray—directly into the pockets of the sly Saddi, as the evidence later proved. It took a contingent of Rome Area Allied Command C. I. D. agents plus the efforts of Major Richard D. Hildebrand, S-2 of 2675 Regiment and a former G-man (now off to Japan duty), three months to catch the rascal. Agents rode the mail planes to Milan, delved into the biographies of all civilian employees—to no avail. Major Hildebrand finally thought up the bait that trapped our *furbo*.

From Rome, the major mailed to himself at Milan several packages—Kleenex, soap, cigarets (with each pack secretly marked). There were 14 such plants. Five arrived safely, three were definitely lost and the rest were found in Saddi's possession. They are still adding up the total value of all the stuff he is charged with taking, but at the current date, the value of goods is figured at more than $300, not counting $100 in cash and a check for £38 sterling.

In Saddi's apartment was also a barracks bag full of merchandise, a suit-case crammed likewise. A number of baby dresses sent to a soldier for the layette of the child of his expectant Italian wife were also found. The backs had been cut out to make handkerchiefs. Saddi's girl friend (who thought he was a real American soldier—and typically generous) was wearing a pair of American shoes sent from the States and had many curios and other missing objects in her home. She gave them all up. Also taken were a wedding ring and a wedding gown sent from America for the prospective marriage of an American soldier here. The nuptial equipment belonged to the warrant officer who had given Saddi the sweet letter of reference.

ODDS AND ENDS

AMG redeployment is no joke, one can see

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After other accounting elements are taken into consideration, such as current ship arrivals, the fact remains that for the next eight months, the Italians are asking for 2,023,912 tons or 253,000 tons a month. The matter in still very much under discussion.

There are a few other economic items of interest. Demobilized Italian soldiers are becoming a labor problem. There is no work for most and they have no unemployment bonus arrangement. AMG labor officers are being asked to give them priority treatment in the labor exchanges. Col. A. N. Hancock, RC of Lombardia, will take on the post of Economic Coordinator for the North when (?) the North is given back. Col. Norman E. Fiske, head of the A. C. office in Milan, is worrying over the problem of inter-regional trade in the North; for instance, how to get wood from Piemonte to Lombardia. The Swiss have made a gift of 2,000 tons of wheat to Genoa, the port city with which they have had close relations in the past and with which they are seeking special arrangements to handle Swiss supplies. Northern Italian factories still producing war matesial (there are a few so doing) are to be examined by the Land Forces Sub-Commission.

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We may as well look at the horrid facts. As described, Saddi was the works in the message center, a place where many articles and documents of value arrive for eventual delivery every day. He had been employed since July. He carried a letter from a responsible officer authorizing him to wear G. I. clothes. He also prominently display-

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ODDS AND ENDS

AMG redeployment is no joke, one can see after a look at the latest figures: in Piemonte, for instance, there used to 154 officers; there are now 42; after the next incursion of LIAP, there will be 28, and the rest of the Northern regions are in the same fix; you have to hand it to the RC and AMG staffs for keeping military government in force at all up there under such condi-

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tates. This "free" fund is as yet unspent and obviously is being hoarded, as it were, for later specialized use.

A 1946 program for Italy has, in essence, already been drafted in Washington, though modifications will be made on the spot here under the direction of Mr. Bruno E. A. Luzzatto, FEA civilian who travelled here with Mr. Cleveland and who did the bulk of the programming and ordering of supplies in Washington. Roughly speaking, it is estimated that one and a half billion dollars will be the initial or 1946 cost of Italian rehabilitation. The basic facts about Italy, her special status (former enemy, first European country to be liberated, co-belligereney, her position as a Western European nation economically akin to France in supply needs but like a Balkan nation financially, that is, broke), all these factors have combined to sell Italy's needs to the United States.

The supplies needed, now that military relief is over, will naturally cost cash, the problem being, therefore, where it will come from for this ambitious program. UNRRA is expecting, though there is many a slip twixt the cup and the lip, a $150 million allocation for Italy, 75 per cent. of the funds for which will have to be voted by Congress. The second big source of operating income may come from the U. S. Export-Import Bank which is authorized to make loans for specific rehabilitation projects. Already preliminary discussions have started on a short-term cotton loan for Italy. Lastly, of course, and not within governmental channels will be such funds as accrue from export sales (which go into the aforesaid $36 million "free" fund) and from private financial circles, as for example, the Giannini Bank of America, whose chairman is now looking over the prospects here.

So, as Mr. Cleveland says, here is something to work with. The new economic head, incidentally, it will be recalled, went to Washington last spring with the original drafts of the joint program and has been working steadily on the program in Washington and also attended the London UNRRA conference. FEA civilians in A. C., who were under the jurisdiction of the Italian division of FEA back home, have now been boss, Mr. A. H. Sullivan, who is director of the Industry Sub-Commission and also runs the new Industry and Commerce Division. Both men were with TVA in America.

Wheat.

One of the current problems Mr. Cleveland will have to study is the new Italian request for more wheat because of the poor crop and the so-so amassing. Mr. Cleveland's first reaction was: What are they going to use for money, a little item the Italians had not thought of up to that moment. But there it is: if more wheat is bought, less coal will be bought, for example. The A. C. has done pretty well by the Italians in this respect, by the way. Starting with allotments of less than 200,000 tons a month, the allocation has now been built to 450,000 tons a month which will come from the States. John L. Lewis' fortunate call-off of the threatened coal strike was a real break for the Italians, although some of the coal shipments that were lost during the strike will never be made up.

But as to the wheat position. The latest amassing report gives a 67 per cent. collection of the 1,304,000-ton goal, or 876,900 tons delivered. Italian Government territory has 71 per cent. collections of 370,900 tons. AMG territory has 65 per cent. collections of 506,000 tons from the richer Po Valley. The collectable amassing total, however, may be revised downward which would naturally make the collections look better, though by the same token, when goals are quickly approached, the amassable total is then raised.

The present rate of import for wheat for Italy – 150,000 tons a month – would be hiked to 250,000 tons a month (a decision not yet recommended by the A. C.), if the U. S. supply authorities acceded to the Italian request. The last-suggested figure for the 12-month program of starting last July 1 was 1,154,656 metric tons. The revision now being examined would raise that total to 2,304,912 tons of gross imports required, more than double previous estimates – 1,150,256 tons extra – and a sizeable alteration to swallow. The factors contributing to the change are listed as reduced availability of cereal crops (618,393

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The crops were poor enough as of 15 July to give an estimate of only 2,089,615 tons of wheat to be collected in Italy. The estimate on

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
...
PUBLICATIONS BRANCH

R26/W29/ PRB

C WEEKLY BULLETIN
Vol. II No. 29
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POLITICAL

The widely-advertised demonstration for the Costituente, which had been heralded by the Left parties for some weeks past the opening of the campaign for a republic, took place Sunday 14 October throughout the country. Held under the auspices of the Communists and Socialist parties the meetings had the support of the Action party as well as of the Left Christian party (not the Christian Democrats) and workers' and women's groups. The warm autumn sunshine gave a kind of picnic atmosphere to the occasion and a crowd of approximately 100,000 (according to Stars and Stripes) gathered on the Palatine hill, in Rome, to ask for immediate elections for the Costituente. Red flags abounded, together with the customary banners and placards demanding elections the Republic, bread and work. The demonstrations have certainly shown one thing, according to VOCE REPUBBLICANA: that not only the truce between the C.L.N. parties has been broken, but also the institutional truce, since all parties which declared themselves for an immediate Costituente have thus shown their republican leanings.

The next day all the leftist papers described the meeting under huge headlines and pointed with pride to the calm and order that characterised the gatherings in all Italian cities proving, according to Prime Minister Parri (in the TRIBUNA DEL POPOLO), "the seriousness and political maturity of the Italian people". AVANTI said that Italians, by their self-discipline, had now acquired the right to democratic consultations. The Sunday assemblies were defined by ITALIA LIBERA as the best answer to Nitti's speech and to the lack of faith of those who would like the people to lose all interest in political parties.

Reactionary or monarchist parties allegedly feared that a "Communist revolution" was to have broken out and, it was

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Reactionary or monarchist parties allegedly feared that a "Communist revolution" was to have broken out and, it was charged, certain persons had gone in hiding already on Friday and did not dare appear again till well on Monday afternoon, according to Candiano Mino in the AVANTI making a reference which was widely interpreted as alluding to Giannini, editor of L'UOMO QUALUNQUE.

In the leading article of ITALIA NUOVA, on the 14th, "scrutator" wondered what was the good of holding a demonstration when Nenni had stated a few days earlier that the date for the elections for the Costituente would be fixed very shortly. SECOLO XX - which, by the way, has shed its preten-

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tensions to being a purely financial paper and is now avowedly a non-partisan political one - suggested that all parties should unite and decide on a common program of revision of Italy's historic constitution, particulary since even those parties which call themselves republican appear almost fearful of undertaking the responsibility of forming a republic.

Electoral ferment

On the 17th, a manifesto appeared in which a number of well known figures asked for the single-member constituency electoral system to be used, rather than the proportional system. The manifesto was signed, according to the Rome press, by such names as Nitti, Orlando, Croce, Bonomi, Labriola, Zaniboni, Einaudi, and others. Interviewed by L. C[illegible]LA, the secretary of this league, which calls itself the League for the Defence of Democratic Freedom, stated that the manifesto was issued because "we don't want the present Government, whose legality we do not discuss, even though it is not a Government elected by the people, to have the power to establish an electoral system which would favour one political current rather than another, as we believe a proportional system would". The secretary of the League went on to explain that, if the League appeared more rightist than leftist, this was not done intentionally.

VOCE REPUBBLICANA promptly pointed out that the single-member constituency system lent itself much more easily to personal camarillas. C.L., in IL POPOLO [illegible], asked out loud what the League wanted to defend democracy against. Perhaps against those same people who had installed democracy in Italy, it added. Orlando stated the next morning in GIORNALE D'ITALIA that he knew nothing about the existence of such a League, and that it was therefore impossible that he should have signed any petition. Sforza, too, made a statement to the press saying he had never heard of the League.

The Council of Ministers met on the 18th to discuss the question of increase of salary to State employees. Though the Council recognised the difficult conditions which employees have to face, it also recognised the difficult situation of the State budget. It was decided to allot, provisionally, 2,000 lire to be paid at the end of this month to each State employees, and that this sum should be considered as a first instalment on the definite increase which will probably be fixed next week. Ways of giving

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ECONOMIC FRONT

Col. Leonard Densmore, Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section, reported on an interesting trip to the Adriatic Coast last week where he had gone to straighten out a warehouse situation and to look into the problems of the independent Republic of San Marino.

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This mite of a democracy-population 4,000, area 60.9 square kilometers- is managing all right and has not complained until recently that it had not received any flour since last May. The Republic's communications with the outside world are simply nil, the telephone line to Rimini being as yet unrepaired, and with winter coming on, there is another problem. Col. Densmore arranged to have six trucks turned over to San Marino, took notes on food requirements and promised to see what could be done to obtain coal for the Republic's industries-some cement and pottery factories. And like everyone else, San Marino is also interested in buying some surplus war materials, another matter for which the colonel will set the wheels in motion.

As a result of a request of the Italian Government, the Economic Section is attempting to trace records and inventories of German-held machinery taken from the Italians and shipped to Germany. The records found at the time of the German surrender in Italy were most complete and exact and some prospect of tracing the material is held out as far as learning the destination of the shipments. What happened to the machinery in Germany, now split into the four Allied zones, is another story. In any event, the Italians are laying the ground to make claims for the stuff. In the interim, they would like to have the material located and guarded. The Communications Sub-Commission already has recovered a considerable quantity of goods on behalf of the Italian Telecommunications Ministry.

American control of the entire dock area of the port of Naples, except for Pier K, which has been under Italian civilian control, as of 20 October, will be split up further among both Italians and British authorities, Peninsular Base Section has announced. Under the new plan, the Italians will operate Piers D, and K, with seven Liberty and four coaster berths. The British Army will control Piers F,G and H, berthing six Liberties and four coasters. Eleven deep-water berths at Piers A,B and C will continue under PBS. UNRRA supplies will dock in the new civilian area of the Italians. PBS employed about 7,200 Italian port workers but will not retain only about 2,500, the rest being made available to the new port authorities.

The wheat amassing, as of 15 October, was 839,900 tons or 84 per cent. of the 1,004,000- ton target figure. Italian Government territory has 70 per cent. collections, with 365,100

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The wheat amassing, as of 15 October, was 850,000 tons or 65 per cent. of the 1,304,000- ton targed figure. Italian Government territory has 70 per cent. collections, with 365,100 tons, while AMG areas reported 62 per cent. collections, with 494,800 tons. The accounting division of the Finance Sub Commission is to be made stronger to catch up with its work, the accounts being about a year behind. Two new officers are coming in while four military personnel are being civilianized and added to the division. Mr. A.H. Sullivan, FEA civilian, has been appointed director of the Industry Sub-Commission. The Transportation Sub-Commission is helping the meeting of Italian women at Florence this week-end by arranging passenger train reservations. Speaking of PBS again, that organization will handle sale of its salvage material directly to the Italian Government, without recourse to the War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission.

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VENEZIA GIULIA

The first 500 of the new Venezia Giulia police force made their initial appearance in the streets of Trieste last Saturday afternoon (13 October) after being reviewed by Lt. Gen. Sir John Harding, GOC XIII Corps. The organization, recruited from local Italian and Slovene men, has been in process of training and equipment for many weeks. Difficulties in securing uniforms and in fixingterms of engagement were finally overcome in September. For some weeks pastMilitary Police and Allied troops, with the aid of the recently reorganized Questura, had carried the entire burden of law enforcement throughout the Allied-occupied area of Venezia Giulia, assisted by a Jugoslav detachment south of Gorizia operating under XIII Corps command. Inauguration of the new force will free the troops in the area for other duties. Further recruits for the Venezia Giulia police are being trained and equipped in the police school in Trieste. Both Italians and Slovenes are offering their services and will work together under the tuition and command of British and American experts. The force draws Italian military rations.

The general strike of 23-24 September, called to protest against the granting by Allied Military Government of permission for employers to discharge employees for whom no work could be found, was called off after 48 hours. Not only was there no violence but considerable good humor was shown by all parties with whom Allied Military Government officers discussed the issues. Registered unemployed in Zone "A" (Allied-held area) number less than 20,000, out of a population of roughly half a million; generous unemployment benefits have been instituted by the Labor and Finance Divisions; and Advisory Economic Council has been set up to evolve work projects for the coming months and to study practical steps to be taken to revive business in the area.

Shortly after the strike collapsed, rumors were incirculation to the effect that Allied Military Government would remain at least six months, a report believed to have originated in a request made by the Economic Section to industrialists that they submit requisitions for materials they will need during the first half of 1946. Within 48 hours local stocks had gone up several points on the Trieste Exchange, the banks loosened up commercial and industrial credits, and individual firms came forward with concrete offers to built new plants or to repair and improve existing ones. The striking effect was seen among industrial

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and in fixingterms of engagement were finally overcome in September. For some weeks pastMilitary Police and Allied troops, with the aid of the recently reorganized Questure, had carried the entire burden of law enforcement throughout the Allied-occupied area of Venezia Giulia, assisted by a Jugoslav detachment south of Gorizia operating under XIII Corps command. Inauguration of the new force will free the troops in the area for other duties. Further recruits for the Venezia Giulia police are being trained and equipped in the police school in Trieste. Both Italians and Slovenes are offering their services and will work together under the tuition and command of British and American experts. The force draws Italian military rations.

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Shortly after the strike collapsed, rumors were incirculation to the effect that Allied Military Government would remain at least six months, a report believed to have originated in a request made by the Economic Section to industrialists that they submit requisitions for materials they will need during the first half of 1946. Within 48 hours local stocks had gone up several points on the Trieste Exchange, the banks loosened up commercial and industrial credits, and individual firms came forward with concrete offers to built new plants or to repair and improve existing ones. But perhaps the most striking effect was seen among industrial workers who are reported by one source to have told their Shop Committees that "political" strikes and "party" manipulations were out from now on and that the time had come to go back to work. Allied press and public relations organizations in the area are making strenuous efforts to discourage any boom atmosphere which might lead to false hopes and later disappointment. Only factual stories of contracts actually let and jobs genuinely in progress are published. The business people are co-operating by stepping up their advertising in the newspapers and by viewing their plans for development from the angle of providing jobs to workers rather than from that of immediate profits.

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Not yet rosy.

All is not yet rosy in Venzia Giulia, of course. The Slovene elements, who admit they are acting under orders from Zone "B" (Jugoslav-held area) and under pressure from the Littoral National Liberation Committees still refuse to co-operate publicly with Allied Military Government under General Order No. 11, as the press reports fully indicate. Much activity, both open and underground, is being expended by the elements which favor annexation of Trieste to Jugoslavia to make it appear to the Deputies to the Foreign Ministers, whom they expect to visit the area, that all Venezia Giulia wants to belong to Jugoslavia. Pressure is brought to bear on Italian business people to have them put up signs in Slovene. Arches and signs on walls proclaim the undying devotion of everybody as far west as the Isonzo to the present Jugoslav Government. Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, has made it quite clear that Allied Military Government considers the display of flags, the signing of petitions, the painting of signs and the building of arches a perfectly legitimate, democratic expression of opinion, provided intimidation is not used to force men's hands. There is, in fact, a great deal of personal friendliness and frank talk in the discussions between Allied Military Government officers and the leaders of all groups and it seems fair to say that the patience, restraint and earnestness shown by the occupying authorities, in a part of Europe where feelings normally run high between conflicting elements, have toned down the bitterness which was so evident in June and July. But causes and symptoms of strain are numerous and it would be risky to call the present improved atmosphere more than a lull.

Living conditions are extremely difficult in Trieste. There is an acute shortage of accommodation, and Italian refugees from Fiume and other Jugoslav-occupied communities are entering the city in a steady stream. Wood for fuel is selling on the black market at 800 lire a quintal. Food prices are very high, partly due to excessive charges for hauling from Italy. Energetic efforts are being made to establish price control machinery, to secure supplies of fuel and to bring in food. Allied Military Government officers who do not work seven days a week and generally far into the night are exceptions, with redeployment and Lisp constantly increasing the burden.

There is a wind which blows down upon Trieste from the [illegible] which they call the Bora. For generations the Triestini have [illegible] of the

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cultivated forests behind the town to moderate the force of the
gales. Chains are strung along the streets for people to hang onto
so they will not be blown away. Tram cars have been known to
overturn when the Bora blows. Automobiles on the coast road are
sometimes swept into the sea by the violence of the wind. This
winter the Bora is feared and dreaded as never before, because
wood thieves have stripped away the trees from the hills to
help meet the fuel shortage, and the small number of personnel
available for police duties so far has made it impossible to check
the thefts.

Under Local Government Order No. 11, all three Areas in
Venezia Giulia Zone "A" now have Area Presidents and Councils.

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Out of 37 communes, only 18 have set up Communal Councils, but the 17 which are not participating represent only 15 per cent. of the population and no town of more than 10,000.... A new Centr Transport Office has been set up to control the Consortio Auto-trasporti of Trieste, Gorizia and [illegible] and eliminate many abu known to exist.... Over 90 per cent of the total sprouting pot of 10,000 quintals has been reached [illegible] of 300 ft horses from Austria has begun.... The greatest barrier to industrial recovery is shortage of raw materials and coal; the latter should come from Arsa but - well it does not now.... Public works plans are being pushed, with urban and road repairs and repairs to war damaged houses and school heading the list.... Water, electricity and sewer services are now normal throughout the territory.... Public Health is good, with no epidemics in the territory, the Chief Public Health Officer, in fact, having had time to plan an anti-rat campaign in Trieste City, but turning a cold shoulder to a Triestino expert who tried to sell him on the attractive value of rat-meat.... In September 4,834 persons passed through the refugee centres, 806 of whom were ex-PCWs.... The currency flow turned during September to an extensive intake as against heavy outflows in the June-August period.... All but one of the regular civil courts are now functioning properly; in September 399 accused were tried in Summary Courts and the Trieste Expropriation Commission received 2,362 Schede Recensite during the last month.

Three new telephone and four new telegraph circuits were opened recently with more coming into operation all the time. Allied Military Government sponsoring weekly radio broadcasts on public affairs over the Trieste and Pola radio stations in Italian, Slovene and Croat and the first Allied Military Government press [illegible] to be established in Italy has been set up in Trieste for the use of local newspaper men; with telephones, typewriters, desks and chairs, but, unfortunately, also with a window [illegible] very unorthodox....

MARGINAL NOTES ON A MISSION

Your PRO, having just returned from a brief - all too brief - but not uneventful mission to Washington, via London, has been persuaded to record his impressions while still fresh and fragrant. For what it is worth - and without prejudice - here they are.

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The neatness of London was curiously impressive. One had somehow expected to see a city battle-scarred and untidy. There are plenty of gaps in the city; any quarter will yield its quota of blank spaces and here and there a whole block is missing. But the craters are enclosed by neat little stone walls and more often than not flowers are growing in the indentations left by the bomb. No rubble, no untidiness; one almost has the impression of little parks deliberately created to vary the monotony of rows of flats or office buildings. Another noteworthy sight was the incessant "queuing" that goes on. People "queue" for taxis, trams, busses, restaurant, theatres and of course hotels. (In vain as far as the

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last item is conce ned, as we foun to our dismay.) Queuing for restaurants is important because if you get to your table too late there is nothing left but spam - the one thing which seems to be abundant in London. Prices are up somewhat since our last visit (1937) particularly in clothing but expense is not nearly so much of a problem as sheer scarcity. True we paid 5 shillings for a Martini in the Ritz but maybe that's what it was in '37; we don't remember. (And it was a real Martini; no Benevento gin). We had the pleasure of seeing our old chief General Mason MacFarlane, M.P., who has come through a series of illness with unimpaired morale and who maintains a lively interest in the affairs of AC.

Washington was pretty much as we remembered it; shortage of space, feverish activity, an air of tention and the Pentagon labyrinth as mysterious as ever to our simple mind. In New York a notable falling off in the proportion of uniforms though many were wearing the discharge button in their tweed lapels. (We wish we had one) New York is experiencing the biggest hotel jam in history and we narrowly escaped sleeping on the floor of the Penn Station. (We wouldn't have been the first either.) On the other hand there seems to be enough of everything and 'points" which have haunted the home front scene in process of dropping into the limbo of forgotten things. It's a good year for oysters.

We stole a few days at home and are happy to report that once away from the big cities America is pretty much as we remember it. People are running around briskly in their cars - perhaps too briskly considering the conditions of most tires - and enjoying the fall weather; where we [illegible] from the maples are just beginning to turn and the air has/health nip of the first frost that we remember so well. We thought we detected signs of a new Jazz age in the boisterous society of the younger generation. Football was in full swing and the T formation is much in vogue. Travel is still unpleasant back home what with lack of space, lack of taxis here and there and complete absence of porters. But if one will stay put it is a pleasant life. We ask ourselves why we came back - and can't really think of an answer.

ELECTIONS, ITALIAN STYLE

Major R.R.Temple, director of the Local Government

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ELECTIONS, ITALIAN STYLE

Major R.R.Temple, director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, gives us the latest report on progress of the electoral lists for the Italian elections, which prompts us to say, first, that recalling the pulling and hauling of politics in our own native lands, and second, that in Italy they have not had a regular parliamentary meeting since 1921, the progress reported is not too bad, though it is certainly nothing to sing about. In any event, the Italians apparently propose to do things in the Italian way, which is their privilege and what we always say we want them to do. The electoral proposals themselves, chiefly centering around the 1915 law, are being studied and will be submitted to the Consulta for approval before being

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made into law.

The report, as of 15 October , has to do with the electoral lists of voters in 44 out of 96 provinces in Italian Government territory and three provinces in AMG territory - Imperia, Verona, and Novara. Each commune has its list, two in fact, one male and one female. There are about 8,000 communes, thus there should be about 16,000 lists. This report lists 3,450 as completed. In the Italian Government area, the breakdown is as follows:

Reported on are 2,845 communes, 3[illegible] since the last report. Lists completed amounted to 3,378. [illegible] were added since the last report. Of the 3,378, male lists numbered 1,138 and female lists 2,240. It is obvious that it is much easier to compile a list of female voters who are relatively settled and usually not involved in extra-curricular activities that need checking. The key figure comes last and is significant: There are 558 lists approved by the Electoral Commissions and that approval is the act which makes the lists legally valid so that the voters can exercise their franchise. Of the lists approved, 320 were male and 238 female. The number of approved lists, however, was 239 more than the month previous. So that's something. In fact, it is expected that as clearances come in from the Central Judicial Records Office, the number of approvals by Electoral Commissions may have a little boom.

In the three AMG provinces (in AMG areas work on the lists started almost six months after the Italian work was commenced in Central, Southern and Eastern Italy), there were 287 communes listed. There were 72 lists completed, three male and 69 female. None as yet had been approved by the Electoral Commissions.

The bottlenecks, analysis showed, are still the judicial records clearances of the Casellario Centrale in Rome and the inertia of the Electoral Commissions. The San Flavio Central files, Major Temple found on a visit there, to put it mildly in a mess, with little order, loose files and bundles scattered everywhere, and with no master index. With records destroyed in many towns, the central Rome office would be the last resort of many communes which wanted to check on the possible criminal records of the prospective voters, a requirement of the Italian law. The Chief Commissioner wrote to Italian Prime Minister

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The Casellario Centrale or judicial records office, in fact, the other day was inadvertently but accurately tagged by an ingenuous translator who rendered an Italian fortnightly report on electoral operations in the province of Vicenza as follows:

"The Prefetture caused all copies of voters' lists of Communes of the Province to be collected, to avoid any of them

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going astray and had them sent to Central Pigeon-Hole Office of Rome through of motor transport on. They include all persons that were born in the Province, whose Pigeon-Hole was not in a position to work."

Fragmentary reports indicate intense activity neverthel in the preparations for the elections, clearly the most urgent business on the Italian calendar. Many communities have started building ballot boxes, with deliveries in some cases expected this month. Official stamps for the ballots are also ready in a large measure, 20,000 having been made to date. In Genoa, the air raids were so successful in destroying official record depositories that almost the entire population register(60,000 in the 1931 census) has had to be reconstructed. The commissio set up for the disfranchisement of the Fascists have been almost completely setup in Central and Southern Italy but have little to do, there being few denunciations. In Rome Province, the Electoral Commission has 30 sub-commission (modies of the A.C.) but 24 of them had to be fired because it was found that their personnel were all state employees, not quite prompt.

ODDS AND ENDS

The Legion of Merit has been awarded to Commander J.J. Lawler, former joint director of the Military Sub-Commission and the Bronze Star to Major Eliot J.Bocchino while higher command has approved Italian decorations for the following American officers; Order of the Crown of Italy - Col. Robert B. Menaspace (Grand Officer), Lieut. Col. Carlton J. Eggstaff (Commander),Lieut. Col. Edward C. King, First Lieutenants Ira Menck and Paul Leos and Tecnical Sergt. Ralph Benomo (all Knights); Order of SS. Maurice and Lazerus (Knight) - Col. John W. Chapman... Allied war and political correspondents will revert to civilian status as foreign correspondents as of 1 November, after which date the military will no longer be responsible for facilities to them unless by special request of their respective embassies and except in covering specific military assignments... The PRO Ville of the A.C.'s thus will close down in the near future and correspondents venturing into AMG areas will have to pay for their keep according to a set schedule of charges... British officers in Group 21

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are leaving right now, 65 having gone on 16 October and 87 slate to report in Naples Monday, 22 October, while another 50 officers (and 310 EM) have to go before 30 October... The strength of the 2675 Regiment on 1 November is expected to be 682, comprising 248 officers and 434 enlisted men... Five Class A officers have signed up to go to Japan and the Far East while Major Gardiner Bump is going to Norway... Major Edwards D.S. Sullivan is the A-1 of A.C.... Class A officers can now apply for a 30-day TD [illegible] in the States; two Venezia Giulia AMG officers will be the first to go, that military government operation having top priority in personnel considerations, especially [illegible] being maintained at full strength and parity with the British... The new MTOUSA rotation circular has come in, which freezes promotions for all but Category I units; the A.C. is in Category IV; efforts are being made to have this changed... The departures of U.S. officers are effecting all sections of the A.C.; for example, the Monday shipment includes 18 from Venezia Giulia, 18 from Piedmonte, 5 from Liguria, 18 from Lombardia, 11 from Veneto, 10 from Headquarters and one each from Defense Command... The British military authorities are making arrangements to allow officers and men of the Regular Army or those whose release has been deferred for at least a year to bring their wives to Italy in the Rome area there is a quota of 10 vacancies, for which the A.C. already has a dozen applications while Rome Area Allied Command has several hundred applications...

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

R26/WB28/PRB

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN

Vol II, No. 28

19 Oct 1945

POLITICAL

L'UOMO QUALUNQUE has been bandied about for some weeks now, but during the last several days the daily press of the capital has made an increasing number of references to him, and it seems a new word has now been added to the Italian vocabulary - "Qualunquismo". This word is supposed to define the policy of Giannini's movement, Giannini being the editor of L'UOMO QUALUNQUE, though ITALIA NUOVA thinks the word stands for the general feeling of discontent and dissatisfaction and dumb rebellion which is spreading, the journal asserts, through all social classes. Qualunquismo has been defined as a reactionary movement by others who, having wondered why Giannini always criticised the Italian Government and all it did, got the answer from Giannini that he criticised because he did not approve of the people who are in power and that, since he never expected to be in the Government himself, he felt that it would be much better to put people in power who had distinguished themselves as capable of doing something. The consensus in this city of carpers is that Giannini's criticisms are often right, but that they have, in this period when everyone should try to be helpful towards the reconstruction of the country, a defeatist effect.

Leonida Repaci, in EPOCA, violently attacked Giannini and accused him of having made use of the innumerable difficulties which the Government had to face to breed popular discontent, and of influencing those many individuals who, Repaci said, having been born to serve, were always ready to avenge themselves on the men who led them. Giannini has shown us, continued Repaci, that the man-in-the-street (L'Uomo Qualunque) is much more Fascist than he realizes, that he was better off under a dictator than he is under Parri and that he might even aspire to a [illegible] with Giannini in Mussolini's place. Repaci, [illegible] since they first

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Second Trend.

And this leads us to a second and somewhat parallel trend which has been noticeable during these last days in the Rome press; that is, a renewed form of awareness of not too friendly feelings on the part of other powers. Russia's claims for war reparations from Italy, coming after Tito's and being followed by Greece's and Albania's, have caused various comments. INDIPENDENTE noted that all these nations - against whom Italy fought in spite of herself and by the will of a dictatorship - seemed to forget that Italy was the first nation to understand her mistake and to redeem herself by fighting at the side of the United Nations. UMANITA expressed the hope that the utterly miserable condition in which Italy had been left by the London conference, by the continued regime of Armistice under which she must struggle, by the fear of losing her colonies and of seeing even her national territory taken away from her, might cause a time of remorse to the victor powers and compel them to look at Italy, for their own sakes, as a possible source of future dangers. Commenting on the order reportedly issued by AMG in Cremona, forbidding all public officials from seeking reference to the local C.L.N., VOCE REPUBBLICANA wrote: "On the eve of the promised liberation, the Allies close their iron glove even tighter round the defeated enemy; we have neither the means nor the will of opposing the Allies, but one thing there is which we can put against them both in the North as in the South, and that is Dignity. And because of this dignity, we should rather abandon our jobs than humiliate ourselves. If they want shoeshines for the AMG Colonels they may choose them among epurated Fascists".

Another AMG order - in Turin this time, ordering all political parties and organisations to evacuate premises which they had illegally occupied - has caused a strike. The Communists of Turin ordered the FIAT workers to go on strike as a sign of protest against this order; the strike took place but representatives of the Socialist, Liberal, Christian Democrat and Action parties proclaimed that they disapproved and were not responsible for this strike. Joining in the querulous chorus was VOCE REPUBBLICANA which wondered aloud why "democratic America" placed so many obstacles to the repatriation of Italian citizens who wanted to leave the United States to return to "democratic Italy". MOMENTO commented on the London TIMES article which said that a result of the possible inclusions of political rights in the peace treaty, the Italian constitution would be placed under international protection. The newspaper found cause for alarm,

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Italy was the first nation to understand her mistake and to redeem herself by fighting at the side of the United Nations. EPOCA expressed the hope that the utterly miserable condition in which Italy had been left by the London conference, by the continued regime of Armistice under which she must struggle, by the fear of losing her colonies and of seeing even her national territory taken away from her, might cause a time of remorse to the victor powers and compel them to look at Italy, for their own sakes, as a possible source of future dangers. Commenting on the order reportedly issued by AMG in Cremona, forbidding all public officials from seeking reference to the local C.L.N., VOCE REPUBBLICANA wrote: "On the eve of the promised liberation, the Allies close their iron glove even tighter round the defeated enemy; we have neither the means nor the will of opposing the Allies, but one thing there is which we can put against them both in the North as in the South, and that is Dignity. And because of this dignity, we should rather abandon our jobs than humiliate ourselves. If they want sheeshines for the AMG Colonels they may choose them among epurated Fascists".

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The Conference.

Comment on the London Conference continues. According to TRIBUNA DEL POPOLO, the stalemate was due to the fact that "the victors will continue to examine the problems of the defeated nations from the point of view of zones of influence". Sforza, in GIORNALE DEL MATTINO, said that all the delegates to the conference had been responsible for its failure because they all preferred secrecy to the healthy interference of world public opinion. Sforza expressed special surprise that the American people - who knew that one of Wilson's fourteen points was "Open covenants openly arrived at"- could put up with the secrecy which had surrounded all these last conferences. Sforza ended by saying that to President Roosevelt's four Freedoms one more must be added, that is, the "freedom of knowing how things stand". ITALIA LIBERA also seemed rather worried that, in the struggle of trying to find a "juste milieux" between the "closed" economic and political system followed by Russia and the "open" one followed by the United States - which allegedly was attempting tu pull Great Britain in its wake - the whole of Europe should be reduced to rubble. But in the rapid succession of explanations and recriminations following the Conference, the Rome press seemed rather at a loss in essaying to fathom Italy's position and apparently had not yet made up its editorial mind.

Nitti's Naples speech has been the subject of further critique. Sandro Pertini in EPOCA said that Nitti confined himself to referring to all the negative aspects of Italy's present situation but did not refer to the positive aspects which could have re-awakened the confidence of Italians in themselves. On 7 October, Prime Minister Parri answered Nitti in his weekly press conference, remarking that Nitti's criticism were due to his insufficient knowledge of the situation and that such a black account could not possibly be based on truth. Neither a Right nor Left Government, said the President of the Council of Ministers, could possibly at the present moment have any power of control over the country. According to UNITA, Nitti's great mistake was to join the enemies of Italian democracy. "We do not know", said the Communist paper, "whether Nitti actually contacted these groups, but he certainly uses their language and their arguments." Enzo Selvaggi in ITALIA NUOVA said that Parri's answer was not an answer, as he gave no figures to prove his arguments.

Parri Again.

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Parri Again.

On the 11th the Prime Minister held his latest foreign press conference. He noted with satisfaction British Foreign Secretary Bevin's statement confirming the statement previously made by American Secretary of State Byrnes, concerning the fate of Trieste. Commenting on Byrnes' words that the new Italian constitution should be subject, to a certain extent, to international guarantees in order to maintain peace in the world, Parri said that, in his personal opinion, should these guarantees li-

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mit Italian sovereignty as well as the sovereignty of all other European countries, then they would not merely be acceptable but desirable. Should Byrnes' words instead, he went on, be applied only to Italy, and perhaps to a few other minor states, then these international guarantees would not be justified. The same thing applied about disarmament, continued Parri, which he termed the best solution for preventing further wars, as long as all nations submitted to it and the disarming was not a one-sided imposition.

Parri expressed Italy's gratitude towards the Allies for the amount of help and relief they had been able to distribute, but pointed out how important it was for Italy's rehabilitation, that this relief be continued and that the food and raw materials which were so necessary be supplied. To obtain this relief more easily, and because it was now evident that the Italian peace treaty would not be signed till Spring or even Summer, Italy must have a temporary juridical peace, he asserted. Parri ended by stressing the necessity of at least modifying the Armistice clauses, so as to allow Italy a greater freedom in dealing with important internal matters, such as public order, armament, demobilisation and epuration.

Questioned at the end of his conference, whether, when he said that the Armistice clauses hindered the speedy carrying out of sanctions against Fascism, he meant that there were in Italy people who could not be touched because of the Armistice clauses, Parri said: "Our hands are tied by some of these clauses. However, this does not mean what you think. Under the Armistice terms, we are not free to proceed against a certain category of arrested persons whom the Allies keep at their disposal. The Allies have their reasons for this, but it means that some of the people whom we consider guilty are removed from our jurisdiction."

ECONOMIC FRONT

Personnel news is the major item in the Economic Section. Brigadier General Edward H. McKinley, Acting Vice President, has orders for a new assignment. Mr. Harlan Cleveland, former Executive Director and at present helping on the Washington end of FEA arrangements for A.C., is expected to return to head up a supply division, preparatory to handing over that function eventually to UNRRA. A minor change has been announced in the form of eliminating the Production Division and creating an Industry and Commerce Division to coordinate these functions in the overall supply picture.

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Good news for Italian business correspondents broke this week: they will be able very shortly to write freely on commercial and financial subjects to any person or firm in the non-enemy world, which at this reading means everywhere except Germany, Austria, Japan, Hungary, Roumania, Bulgaria and Finland. The Italian Treasury and Post Office will give the final word on practical arrangements.

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The wheat amassing continues slow. Collections, as of 8 October, were 838,200 tons or 64 per cent.of the 1,304,000-ton goal. Italian Government territory collections were 66 per cent., with 359,200 tons, while A/G territory had 61 per cent. and 477,000 tons. The gain over last week was a bare two per cent.

A/G IN THE NORTH

Riddled by redeployment but in many cases with much of the work already turned over to Italian authorities, notably in education and fine arts, A/G staffs in the North are awaiting the turnover announcement with an impatience probably as keen as that of the Italians. Things continue stirring in the industrial centers, with the latest symptoms being action by various A/G officers against Italian newspapers who have been sounding off a little too blatantly. The situation has been such that the Chief Commissioner has reminded all RCs that the Allied Publication Board and the press officers attached to each RC should be fully consulted before any drastic action is taken against a newspaper. Retractions for incorrect or intemperate statements can be obtained more easily with sugar. More beauceches for A/G may crop up this week in the nature of political meetings about the Constituente which the Communist and Socialist parties are sponsoring all over Italy. No difficulties are anticipated, of course, but crowds invariably make a public safety officer uneasy and you can't blame him.

Other news of the North includes the fact that the Italian Government has published a decree making part of the Province of Aosta an autonomous area, which decree will not be fully implemented until a council of 35 has been nominated. So long as the northern territories are under A/G, these nominations will require A/G approval. Lieut.Col. Tooby of the Economic Section office at Milan is coordinating a master industrial plan for the North, based on the latest supply possibilities. Brigadier J.T. Dunlop, RC of Venezia, has been boosting Carabinieri morale with a series of colorful parades in his bailiwick. Reviews have been held at Venice, Prato, Padova and Udine among other places. Col.Floyd E. Thomas, RC of Piemonte, is going home.

We might add, editorially, that the PWB is grateful for the fine reports sent in by the various regions and sub-commissions on their activities in the North. The reports will be issued in consolidated press release when the hand-over announce-

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GODS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. J. Turner-Coles and Major A.H.Gardner, both British, have been made Honorary Privates 1st Class of the 23th Regiment of Algerian Tirailleurs... Lieut.Col. A.G.Graham (B)

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has been appointed Headquarters Commandant of the A.C., succeeding Col.R.W. Robertson (B), who is going home after a long tour at that assignment so full of headaches... Lieut.Col. Henry H. Scudder has been awarded the Legion of Merit while the Bronze Star goes to Major Harry T. Downer, Major Frank E. Vecchiolo and T/4 John J. Frescino... Mr.G. Stewart Brown, director of the Public Relations Branch, is leaving the A.C. to take up the combined titles of director of the United States Information Service in Italy, special assistant to the U.S. Ambassador and USIS Coordinator for the Balkans... British ships will soon stop using Italian ship repair facilities, according to the Navy Sub-Commission. ... Col. C. . Parkin, C.O. of 2675 Regiment, reports that 202 U.S. officers in Class A and B and with less than 75 points will be available for duty as of 1 December; plus 206 WAC... To get the record straight on the turnover of Naples and Livorno, here is the final and correct interpretation from the Executive Commissioner: The intention of AFHQ is to turn over the jurisdiction of both communes and ports of Naples and Livorno to the Italian Government whose writ will run in the whole area; this will not affect the technical working of the ports, part of which will remain under Allied military authority... A new American promotion: to full colonel - Eugene R. McPhee... Air mail service from Great Britain to Italy starts 1 October...

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

R26/WB27/PRB

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN

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6 Oct 1945

POLITICAL

The Consulta, the first assembly of popular representatio to be held in Montecitorio since the last meeting of the Italian Parliament about two decades ago, completed its first cycle of plenary sessions 3 October. After Prime Minister Parri's speech on the political, economic and reconstruction plans of the Government, all the parties commented, through their orators, on the various points of these plans and all of them found the occasion notably suitable for making party propaganda. Noteworthy was General Bencivenga's speech on the 28th, particularly because he expressed the strongest criticism of the Government up to that poi Bencivenga is the promoter of a movement of the middle classes. He sat on the extreme right as part of the opposition. His speech was often interrupted by shouts of disapproval till, at a certain moment, in his capacity of President of the Consulta, Count Sforza had to ask him to sum up what he still had to say. Naturally, L'ITALIA NUOVA commented on the incident, saying that after only three days of meetings, the Leftist parties were already doing all they could to prevent the opposition from speaking. The monarchist paper said that the Consultori's duty was to have listened to all that Bencivenga had to say, since his criticism of the Government and of the C.L.N. was absolutely correct, and that no other orators before him had been reminded that their speeches should be shorter.

The next day Foreign Minister De Gasperi, back from London, gave a detailed account of his mission, ending with an appeal to the Allies to remember President Roosevelt's ideals, that is, that this war was fought in order to safeguard the rights of men.

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The next day Foreign Minister De Gasperi, back from London, gave a detailed account of his mission, ending with an appeal to the Allies to remember President Roosevelt's ideals, that is, that this war was fought in order to safeguard the rights of men. He added that Italy believes that a just and constructive peace can be based only on such principles. Finally, on 2 October, Parri spoke again and answered very briefly all the various speeches which had been made during the week. He declared himself satisfied with the first experience of the Consulta which, rather than expressing its own opinion, had pointed out the various problems of the moment. He promised that the date for the elections of the Costituente would be fixed very shortly and asked all Italians not to forget that Italy is still under an Armistice regime and, therefore, in an unsettled situation. There was hope, however, that justice would be respected and that peace

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would be based on constructive principles. He ended by inviting the people to unite and to work.

The press, on the whole, declared itself satisfied with this first "experiment" of the Consulta, though, as almost all newspapers indicated, this was no reason further to delay the convocation of the Costituente. Sub-alpino, in AVANTI, said that the Consulta, being a democratic assembly, should move out of Montecitorio which, somehow, "stinks of the saluto romano", though it was built before Fascism; this is only a proof, said the Socialist writer, that Parri was right in stating that, even before Fascism, democracy did not exist in Italy. RICOSTRUZIONE pointed out that speeches should be "spoken" and not "read", because it was very easy to read somebody else's works. Sforza himself added a jest to the occasion when he announced that microphones would be available for use of the orators, so that their voices might be better heard throughout the large hall, but that he regretted he could not supply microphones to all the "silver-tongued". ITALIA LIBERA said that this first week of meetings had strengthened the union between the anti-Fascist parties, and that the parties must not consider this unity as a goal, but as a means to attain more important goals. The Corriere della Sera said that now we could realize how wide the gap was between the left-wing group and the other parties and that there was no possibility of concord between them.

Nitti Attack.

On 3 October, as the Consulta was ending, former Prime Minister Nitti delivered his long awaited speech in the San Carlo theatre in Naples. The pre-war politician had the courage to say what so many Italians think but dare not pronounce, according to SECOLO XX. At least his words touched to the core the sensitiveness of many, judging by the immediate reaction and comment they evoked. Nitti said that all the energies of a six-party government were spent in trying to maintain order among these parties instead of facing much more vital problems. These parties, he continued, though calling themselves anti-Fascist, were really still imbued with Fascist principles and Fascist mentality. He pointed out how absurd it was to want to have Communists in the same Government with Socialists - whose ideals he described as in absolute conflict - and even Catholics and Liberals, who were the natural enemies of all forms of Communism. He stressed the fact that Italy could not hope to receive help from abroad unless she showed the world that she was at least capable of

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well as for historical and geographical reasons. Would it not be more important, he said, to know what and how we shall eat this winter, than to know when the Costituente is going to be convoked' Nitti ended his long speech by stating: "Should I form a new party, as many of my friends would like me to do, I would form a national party of reconstruction."

UNITA, as might have been expected, immediately attacked Nitti, asserting that all those reactionary forces which did not find in the Consulta a man around whom to group themselves, would now naturally group around Nitti. [illegible] joined the chorus and called Nitti a reactionary, saying that he had kept out of the Consulta because he knew that in that legal assembly his words would have provoked immediate answers. Lecaida Nenni, in AVANTI, approved of the speech in general but defended the necessity of having, at the present moment, a leftist Government, as being the only one which could ask the working masses to accept all those sacrifices which were necessary in order to avoid a complete paralysis of the social structure of the State. The Republicans were naturally stung by Nitti's implication that the solution to the present state of affairs would be a return to pre-Fascist monarchy.

Other Business.

On the fourth the Ministry of the Interior announced officially the arrest or rather the "fermo" of Finocchiaro Aprile, leader of the Sicilian Separatist movement. Spataro, Under-secretary for the Interior, stated that Finocchiaro Aprile "and Company" might be tried, since they were allegedly responsible for concrete crimes covered by law, but that it would perhaps be inadvisable to hold a trial which might give too great a political importance to the matter. Pacciardi at once expressed his disapproval of the procedure; either people must be arrested and tried, according to law, or else they should be free to express their own opinions. Pacciardi added that the Republicans had always disapproved of the Sicilian Separatist movement, and ended by hinting that this belated "fermo" has been carried out because the movement was evolving and becoming something of a Republican movement. ITALIA NUOVA very briefly said: "at last".

The Ministers, too, have been busy, meeting twice in these eight days. On 28 September, an agreement with the [illegible] on the handing over to the Italian Government of surplus war material was approved. It was decided that the agreement drawn be-

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The Ministers, too, have been busy, meeting twice in these eight days. On 28 September, an agreement with the Allies on the handing over to the Italian Government of surplus war material was approved. It was decided that the agreement drawn up between the C.G.I.L. and the industrialists would become legal on the 15th of October. According to this agreement, all workers who once belonged to the OVRA or who have been epurated owing to their Fascist activities, as well as those who have other sources of income apart from their work, will be discharged and paid a daily indemnity of 30 lire during a maximum period of two months; working hours will be reduced to 40 per week; as many veterans as possible will be offered work.

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Commenting on these measures, ITALIA LIBERA said that

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the Government was not really solving the problem of unemployment but merely making a series of compromises. It then suggested that the Government should organise a sort of labor army in which unemployed workers could enlist. They would be housed and fed and sent to various zones to do work not requiring any special training. During the last meeting of the Council, which took place on the third, it was decided to abolish the High Court of Justice and to replace it by a number of special sections of Courts of Assizes throughout the country so as to unify the procedures for sanctions against Fascism.

The papers of 4 October announced in huge headlines the apparent failure of the London Conference. According to AVANTI, this failure shows clearly that international cooperation could be the same in peace as in war. It is no use, said the Socialist organ, to try to decide which of the five Foreign Ministers is to blame. The Conference failed because the delegates tried to solve some of the problems set before them without realizing that all problems were tied up with one another. L'UNITA pessimistically wondered how Italy could have ever hoped to obtain something from the London conference, because, (it said) "Italy is merely an unimportant pawn in the big chess game which is being played in the world". GLOBO, the economic paper, said that, even if the political questions of frontiers cannot be solved now, at least countries which find themselves in a situation as tragic as Italy's should be put in a position to rebuild their economic activity. According to IL POPOLO, Italy is a victim of disagreement among the Big Powers; the Christian Democratic newspaper wondered why at least the question of colonies had not been solved.

"Italian contribution to the war of liberation". This headline, more or less the same in all the papers which mentioned the matter, appeared the other day across two or three columns of the first pages. The A.M.G. and A.C. Review had been released to the press and evidently, according to the Roman journalists, the most important items of the whole booklet were the figures on the Italian contribution to the war against Germany.

THE FUTURE

What's going to happen to all of us is something any one can make his own guess at, but at this writing and from this vantage, the official facts at the moment are nil. There are [illegible] which our own High Command have [illegible]

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THE FUTURE

What's going to happen to all of us is something any of us can make his own guess at, but at this writing and from this vantage, the official facts at the moment are nil. There are however, several factors which our own High Command have been chewing over, factors, moreover, open to the view of anyone who will sit down for a moment and analyze the known situation. First, the A.C., as in the times of original organization and amalgamation with A.M.G in the dear, dead and hectic winter of 1943, is in the throes of change, but it is not merely the dissolution of a military government group aiding combat operations which is the only factor. The paramount factor is the basic responsibility of the Allied Nations active in the Allied Commission, namely, the United Kingdom and the United States, for insuring the peace, a task which already seems much more difficult than bringing with

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the war, when urgent operational reasons provided the necessary justification for any legitimate shortcut to decisions. The question, therefore, of how the peace is obtained and maintained is what fundamentally is now up for action. Diplomatic channels, of course, are the routes to international solutions. The point of the minute is whether military representation is necessary as a sort of traffic guide for the freight travelling the crowded diplomatic highway.

And that is where we, the A.C., begin to figure in the picture. If one reads the newspapers, one knows that the London Conference terminated its sessions without announcing an Italian peace treaty. The delay in the handover of territory in the North it is obvious, has been tied up with the larger diplomatic questions. One knows that the Province of Udine is slated for even later handover than the rest of the North for obvious military reasons. The claiming by Austria of the South Tyrol or Alto Adige in the area of the Province of Bolzano as reported in the press raises another complication of handover. Then, lastly, there is the matter of Venezia-Giulia, now being studied by the deputies of the Big Five's Foreign Ministers. Until the diplomatic air clarifies, military forces will sit on the lid. How long we, as the A.C., go on sitting depends on decisions of the highest policy now being reviewed in Washington as to how far the U.S. wishes to use occupation forces as one means of implementing its foreign policy. That is the issue now being described in the U.S. press as occupying the attention of American officialdom. The British, with several centuries of active experience out from the native isles, apparently already have their policy.

The latest facts about U.S. officer personnel, as brought back from MTOUSA by Col.Charles J.Parvin, Commanding Officer, 2675TH Regiment, are these: No one with 75 points, of course, can be declared essential and retained if he does not voluntarily wish to stay. Therefore, he will be redeployed and probably discharged as soon as the point system gets around to his number. Those who are willing to stay on a long-term basis now have to sign a Class A certificate (unfortunately,the third - and we hope - the last of its kind), which reads that the officer elects to continue on extended active duty unless sooner relieved, until 30 June 1947 or for the duration of the emergency and six months, if this occurs earlier. Incidentally, the call is out for volunteers for Far Eastern civil affairs officers who have signed Class A certificates. As far as anyone knows, there is no sign that officers may be arbitrarily assigned to the Far East, sin -

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Col.Parkin also brought back word that the A.C. will have a top priority in replacements. Col.Parkin was also successful in clearing up what has been a rather muddled situation in the Regiment's T/O and strength. At present, on the U.S. side until 1 November, when a new T/O and strength will be fixed, the Regiment will have 443 officers and 366 enlisted men. It has [illegible]

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ready been announced that, as of 1 December, the Regiment should have a total of 700 persons, figured as 250 officers and 450 enlisted men. The over-worked personnel section of the Regiment will have to bank heavily on the promised replacements since, at present count, for the December 1st date, the known quantities who will be here a very few. In fact, at this running, the figures are 154 officers, consisting of 46 Class A officers, 33 Class B (the six-month class) and the rest in low-score officers. Enlisted men of the Regular Army and with low scores who will be here 1 December now number only 185. One solution has been suggested: that certificates of necessity for officers whose services are essential be issued by the War Department. The Economic and Civil Affairs Sections are even now drawing up such lists of key personnel.

The British will have an equal number of officers and men which they anticipate no trouble in providing. However, the current redeployment is cutting wide swathes through American ranks in the North and in Venezia-Giulia, so there is actual danger of serious lapse from Allied parity, that is, equal numerical representation on the British and American sides. Besides the redeployed officers and men, though at the moment there are orders in from [illegible] ordering any A.C. contingents in to the repple-depple depots, yet a few officers are returning to civil life by application, citing the urgency of their presence in their peacetime business. The steady withdrawal of American personnel, not to mention the large number of British officers going home on UNRRA (leave), prompted regional commissioners of the North to suggest recently the withdrawal of AMG in all except the border provinces. The proposal, of course, had to be rejected for obvious reasons. Administration of provinces is being amalgamated and [illegible] personnel is concentrating in regional headquarters, although AMG have been requested to keep at least a skeleton representation in the [illegible]. In all this redeployment, the most keenly felt blow, naturally, is in the line of technical experts whose loss is irreplaceable. Whole sections of enlisted men, for example, are being redeployed in one fell swoop, as in signals, which has prompted a suggestion that all hands try to keep signal traffic at a minimum to help the hard-pressed staff remaining.

A brighter note as far as retaining some enlisted personnel lies in a MTOUSA circular which says that EM can sign a Class I certificate, that is, to stay in military service for duration and six months, or a Class II, which means to stay on in this theater as long as required but not to exceed the duration plus six months. The official interpretation of the Class II cer-

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PIEMONTE

Col.Floyd E.Thomas, RC of Piemonte, has been continuing the profitable (to us) custom of making minutes of his regional meetings easily available, so we take this opportunity to look more closely at the hills of Piemonte and the gay city of Turin. As usual, things are under control but there are always enough problems to plague a harrassed Provincial Commissioner. For example, the prefect of Alessandria attended the assembly of the Consulta in Rome and upon his return promptly submitted his resignation. The PC is wondering what is the connection. Probably the new democracy. In Turin, 300 representatives of industrial groups told AMG officials that the newly instituted bread ration was inadequate to them. (The North's heavy worker ration has been cut down somewhat to allow a national increase in that category.) In Novara, the local partisan leader, after a huddle with the AMG public safety officer, put out a manifesto asking for the surrender of arms. Approximately 35 truckloads came in. Maybe the idea ought to be copied. Corn amassing, important to the region, came in for special attention. PCs would like to have Italian troops around as an aid to a law-abiding atmosphere. Grain amassing in general has been a success, 41 per cent. of the goal being in as of 1 October. In this latest drive, 110,000 quintals were brought in. Road blocks to control the movement of rice have been ordered. Finally, owing to the shortage of personnel, the Region is trying to work out a system whereby at least two officers will still be stationed in each of the seven provinces.

ODDS AND ENDS

The old, familiar faces are certainly leaving us, one of the latest being Brigadier A.E. Bradley-Smith, joint director of the Finance Sub-Commission, who has, with one exception, probably seen longer service in military government for Italy than any other British officer or OR, in fact, two years and five months of it since he joined the Tirah civil affairs group at Chrea in North Africa after serving with British Army forces in the desert campaign. We will miss the Brigadier, not only for his personal and never-failing charm and friendliness but also for his calm good sense and the cool dispatch with which he handled the intricate problems of his recondite specialty. The wheat mass amassing, sad to relate, had the poorest week for, according to the report of 1 October, which listed a sol-

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The old, familiar faces are certainly leaving us, one of the latest being Brigadier A.E. Trafford-Smith, joint director of the Finance Sub-Commission, who has, with one exception, probably seen longer service in military government for Italy than any other British officer or OR, in fact, two years and five months of it since he joined the Fifth Corps Affairs group at Chrea in North Africa after serving with British tank forces in the desert campaign. We will miss the Brigadier, not only for his personal and never-failing charm and friendliness but also for his calm good sense and the cool dispatch with which he handled the intricate problems of his recondite specialty. The wheat mass amassing, sad to relate, had the poorest week so far, according to the report of 1 October, which listed a collection of 812,800 tons or 62 per cent.of the 1,304,000 ton goal; Italian Government territory reported 67 per cent. of the target while AMG territory 59 per cent... As usual, the Sicilian collections in Italian Government territory are the worst, only 15 per cent. having been gathered and an immediate shortage in the public food stocks being reported, probably resulting in a demand for early diversion of a grain ship to Sicily. AFHQ and the A.C. are cooking up a deal whereby Economic Section representation will be had in London to look after Italian

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requirements before the various European economic organizations now existing for allocation of goods and services... Erratum: The Communes of Naples and Livorno - but NOT the ports - will probably be turned back to the Italians when the handover of the North is announced... Allied political representatives will shortly be set up at Trieste: a British Political Officer and a Representative of the U.S. Political Adviser at Caserta... VIII Corps AMG is proposing that a liaison officer be appointed at Rome to expedite handling of questions between A.C. and Venezia-Giulia, particularly on the economic side... Public Safety and Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub Commissions are running into headaches in the form of certain nationals travelling in the North without proper authorization; 17 of one group have been arrested... Italian Prisoners-of-War Division reports that use of the port of Taranto as a port of ingress for repatriated Italian POWs may have to be abandoned because of the continued presence of the plague, the latest figures being 18 cases with nine deaths... We are happy to congratulate 17 new captains: Frank J. Amoruso, Clarence Anderson, Carl C. Banno, Salvatore A. Casale, Joseph A.Cicala, George T. Clegg, George G. Delmorico, Carl E.Fehr, Ralph F.Germann, Robert J.Lott, George M.Marinkov, Louis Mehr, Blaise J.Opulente, David L. O'Toole, Clement C. Petrillo, Milton Steinberg and Lester H. Weil...

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

P26/EB6/PRB

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN

Vol. II, No. 26
29 Sep 1945

POLITICAL

"Un bon Governo, fiji, nun è
quello che v'abbotta l'orec-
chie in sempiterno."

Belli.

Certainly the reopening of Montecitorio on 25 September has been a great event; not only the journalists' stalls but also the gallery reserved for the public, was full, in fact, packed. The first meeting of the Consulta was awaited with curiosity and axiety by everybody. The whole of Rome seemed to be listening to hear what this new assembly would promise the country. Old politicians, and men who are at their first political essays, and also a few women - about a dozen - are among the Consultori. A few of the Left seats were occupied first, then Bergamini made his appearance and sat on the Right, followed shortly afterwards by Lucifero and a few others belonging to the P.D.I. (Italian Democratic Party). Then more Communists arrived and sat on the extreme Left. Croce sat in the Left Center. It thus happened that the Communists, Socialist and Actionists were immediately followed, topographically by the Liberals, while the Christian Democrats sat in the very center. No one, except the few followers of Bergamini and Lucifero, seemed to want to sit on the Right. This fact was amply commented upon by the whole press the next day, and interpreted, on the whole, as a leftist tendency of the whole of Italy, by others, it was interpreted as a residue of fascist habits, that is, as a fear of appearing to belong to the reaction.

Sforza was elected President with 244 votes, but the 95 ballots which remained blank proved, according to IL LAVORO,

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reaction.

Sforza was elected President with 244 votes, but the
95 ballots which remained blank proved, according to IL LAVORO,
that the feelings of the assembly were evidently not quite as
leftist as the positions in the hall. A Christian Democrat, Ma-
rio Cingolani, and a Socialist, Arnaldo Lucci, were appointed
vice-presidents. Prime Minister Parri then spoke, and said that
the Consulta finds itself in the same position as the Government,
that is of not having been elected by the people, but that it
was its duty to collaborate with the Government in preparing the
Costituente which, being elected by the people, would legally de-
fine the future of the country. The temporary president Agnini,
a 30-year-old Socialist violently accused the Italian monarchy

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of having helped and supported Fascism. His words were greated with shouts of "Viva l'Italia Repubblicana". This cry is a sign, said VOCE REPUBBLICANA the following day, that as soon as the Costituente is formed, Italy will become a Republic. AVANTI, too, said that these words represent a prophesy; the Consulta, the Socialist paper continued, though it has appeared late, indeed at a time the Costituente should be meeting, represents nevertheless a happy beginning by which we can foresee an even happier ending". ITALIA LIBERA wrote that the spontaneous manifestation in favor of the Republic must not be ignored, as it is a sign of the complete renewal of the country and it shows that the spirit of the assembly is turned towards the future. Lince, in ITALIA NUOVA, seemed very proud that the Democrats had not been ashamed of showing their opinion by sitting on the Right.

Second Day.

The next day the Consulta met again, and Parri made a long speech on the political, economic and reconstruction plans of the Government. During his statement, Parri mentioned the fact that Italian pre-Fascist regimes were not democratic; these words aroused mixed shouts of approval and disapproval among the Consultori, and evoked many comments in the press. ITALIA NUOVA called these words a "huge gaffe" and wondered whether the President believed he had invented democracy and had therefore a monopoly of it. IL POPOLO, an independent paper, disapproved entirely and expressed the opinion that, on the contrary, Italian pre-Fascist political life gave very good examples of democratic policy. The Communist paper, UNITA stressed the importance of two points of Parri's speech: that is, Italy's definite abandoning of militaristic and imperialistic aims, and the announcement of the new tax policy by which reconstruction expenses will be born mainly by those who are responsible for the disastrous Axis policy. AVANTI gave whole hearted approval to Parri's words. The Christian Democrat organ, IL POPOLO, was rather the defensive and wondered whether the Consulta would prove to be an active organ or not; it also blamed Parri for his words which only had the effect of setting two generations - the pre-Fascist and the young one - against each other.

SACRED DEPARTS

We would like to take this opportunity to reprint a [illegible] from Marshal Alexander's farewell speech the other

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SACHED DEPARTS

We would like to take this opportunity to reprint a couple of lines from Marshal Alexander's farewell speech the other night at AFHQ. The Allied Commission must deeply appreciate such a tribute from a great leader, a great general, and we know it in our bones, a great Governor-General-to-be of Canada. Here are the Marshal's words:

"The Allied Commission, under the capable direction of Admiral Stone, has been a very corner stone in our whole Allied setup and I owe him an immense debt of gratitude too for his extremely efficient handling of affairs and for the close and friend-

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ly relations we have always enjoyed."

HIDDEN TALENT

With the stress of urgent operations over, more personal [illegible] of our personnel is sifting through. We have it that Capt. Antonino Ciliberti (A), besides being the crack executive officer of Turin Province in Piedmont, is also a song writer. The Captain has written one of the latest song hits on the Italian radio -- Bruenilde - both music and lyrics. He holds an Italian copyright, too. The orchestration was done by a Turin dance-band leader. The profits from the song more than 8,000 lire in six weeks, are going to the "Reifortoria dei Poveri" at Torretta, Sicily. Capt.Ciliberti began his AMG career back in July, 1943, when he landed on the Sicily beaches as a spearhead CAO. This unveils another chapter in the modest captain's tale, for, we learn, that no less than six towns in Sicily now have Piazza Ciliberti as a token of local appreciation for his assiduity in looking after Sicilian welfare. The captain, who is 40, unmarried and a former municipal prosecutor at Port Chester, New York (50 Hobart Avenue), is also writing a book in Italian on his Italian experiences, the proceeds of which will go to the "Circolo Antonino Ciliberti", which he also founded at Carini, Sicily, to give recreation facilities to poor children. Besides spearhead and welfare work, Capt.Ciliberti has been a legal, administrative and provincial officer in AMG.

ECONOMIC FRONT

With everybody somewhat impatiently waiting for the turn-over of the [illegible] and the chance to go home, news is really at a low ebb this week. The Economic Section is busy making reorganization plans under the guidance of Col.Charles W.Walton (A) and dividing functions into (1) those which can be turned over to UNRRA supply officials; (2) those which may be turned over to the Embassies or some type of economic mission attached to the Embassies, and (3) those which can be dispensed with. The work of the Sub-Commissions also has tapered off to a great degree, much of the work in the North having already been virtually handed over to Italian authorities.

For the nonce, the labor scene is quiet, the Naples German POW fracas having subsided itself, with the help of A.C.

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...ith everybody somewhat impatiently waiting for the ...ver of the War h... the chance to go home, news is really ...a low ebb these weeks. The Economic Section is busy making re-...ganizational plans under the guidance of Col.Charles W.Walton (A) and dividing functions into (1) those which can be turned over to UNRRA supply officials, (2) those which may be turned ...r to the Embassies or some type of economic mission attached to the Embassies, and (3) those which can be dispensed with. The work of the Sub-Commissions also has tapered off to a great degree, much of the work in the North having already been virtually handed over to Italian authorities.

For the nonce, the labor scene is quiet, the Naples German POW fracas having adjusted itself, with the help of A.C., and the Trieste general strike petering out after a couple of days. At its peak 100,000 workers were reported involved in the latter event. The chief cause was said to have been suspension of surplus workers especially in shipyards.

The wheat amassing continues fair to middling, collections as of 24 September being 801,500 tons of 61 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal. Italian Government territory collections were 65 per cent. of the target (64 per cent. at the same time last year in the same area) and AMG collections 69 per

/ cent

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cent of the desired amounts, although it should be pointed out that the A.C. total is 464,000 tons against the Italian territory total of 336,600 tons.

Col.Leonard Densmore, Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section, in a visit to five Food Sub-Commission warehouses in Naples, found quantities of goods belonging to Sub-Commissions other than Food. Inasmuch as all the items had been ordered because urgently needed, Sub-Commissions have been jacked up to have their goods to the costumers as soon as possible, particularly from the 17 other warehouses holding A.C. commodities.

Food Sub-Commission transportation liaison officers report a pretty situation in wine movements. Although 12 wine trains from Apulia to the North in the last two weeks have moved 6,600 tons of wine in cistern cars, 90,000 tons of shipping made available to move wine surpluses have hardly been used, less than 20,000 tons having been shipped in the last month. Price speculation is named as the big trouble.

THE GIRLS HE LEFT BEHIND

Meandering through the mazes of A.C. Headquarters building, it might not be immediately noticed that there is something amiss, a je-ne sais-quoi, a trifle perhaps, but definitely an item of lack that somehow changes the atmosphere. For Cpl. Rolando Maiale (A) has been redeployed. Rolando, or Father Maiale, for the last two years has been in charge of the 42 A.C. receptionists and escort guides, the little Italian girls at the information desks and in uniform who conduct the Corporazioni's myriad visitors to their destinations. Maiale was a good soldier and fulfilled the duties assigned to him, even though they involved being a chaperon, a father confessor and a nurse, not to mention a big brother and a bouncer, at various times. And the girls miss him tremendously. When he left, they all cried and all 42 kissed him good-bye. Maiale's charges, not an inconsediroble number of whom are handsome and nubile, have one 100 per cent. record which Maiale boasted of in an interview granted the press upon his retirement. Every one of the girls has been proposed to since being employed by the A.C. And not a few have gotten married to American soldiers. Indeed, stricken G.I.'s were always one of Maiale's problems, which he sometimes had to solve by physical force, i.e. ejection of the suitor. Sometimes, the situation was a little more com-

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/ nostalgic

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nostalgic pang now and then, particularly when he recalls the birdlike chatter of the 42 Italian maidens that fills the A.C. Headquarters building lobby of a morning about 10 a.m. with a high hum like an aviary in springtime.

ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut.Col.Fergus McCleary (B) has been appointed Chief Staff Officer to the Executive Commissioner, succeeding Lieut. Col. Evan Talbot, who is going home... It's proposed that Allied war correspondents will revert to full civilian status as foreign correspondents 15 October and will come under care of the press attaché of the British and American Embassies, although military authorities will give the correspondents what facilities they can while the army is still around... Brigadier M.Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, reports that Bolzano still has the problem of epurating occasional Nazis and that progress in epuration is rather slow, only 500 of an estimated 5,000 required "schede personali" having been received and only one suspension having resulted so far... The latest awards are as follows: Legion of Merit: Maj.Ralph R.Temple and Col.Edmund G.Howell; Bronze Star: Pfc.Joseph A.Mardini, Pfc. Nathan Schiff, T/4 Ernest C.Nusca, First Lieut. Ralph F.Germann, Capt.Guido A. Alascia, Major John M.Ballew, Major Frank Brannigan, Master Sergt. Ido A.Gracis, Major Clayton C. Craig, Pfc. James I. McCormick, T/5 Charles A.Palmer, T/5 Rembert F.Swilling, T/4 Paul J. Furlani, T/4 Robert E. Middlekauff, Staff Sergt. Bernards M. Peebles, First Lieut. Carl C. Banno, Lieut.Col. Thomas G.Borgin, Major John P. Lascacos, Major Franklin E. Luckman and Col. Clarence P.Bolick, First Lieut. Joseph E.Amoruso, Capt. Louis T. Montant... Lieut. Col. E.L. Palmieri (A) is acting as observer for the Civil Affairs Section at the current meeting of the Consulta in Rome... Now that any U.S. officer may be released from military service and redeployed home if he has 75 points or more and can be retained only if he volunteers to stay, the Establishment Section will shortly ask American officers to sign up under two classifications: (1) For the duration plus six months; (2) for six months but not later than 5 March 1946 and not earlier than 31 December 1945, although release from this latter clause may be obtained if the A.C. declares such an officer surplus in the interim....

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