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POLITICAL

The Costituente adjourned on 25 July after approving by 388 votes to 53, with seven abstentions, the government's programme, which it had discussed for a fortnight. It is not expected to reassemble until after the President has returned from Paris.

Many of the committees appointed by the Costituente will, however, continue to work, notably the 75-man committee appointed to prepare the new constitution. This committee has elected the following officers: president, M. Ruini (UDN); vice-presidents, U. Tupini (CD), G. Ghidini (Soc), U. Terracini (Com); secretaries: T. Perassi, G. Grassi (UDN), F. Marinaro (BNL). Ruini pointed out very firmly that the committee could not go on holiday until it had done some work and that they would have to complete their draft by 20 October next. The committee has subdivided itself into three subcommittees.

Corbino.

The discussions on the government's programme this week were often interesting and occasionally heated. Probably the most important intervention was that of E. Corbino, the Minister of the Treasury. He said that there was a deficit of 350 milliard lire on the 1945-1946 budget and is likely to be one of 222 milliards this year; that it was possible that normal income and expenditure would balance in the year 1947-1948, and certain that they would balance in the year 1948-1949 provided the economic life of the country were not upset by grave internal or external disturbances—without increasing the monetary circulation by a single lira. He said that prices would have to fall for monetary reasons and would fall until they reach parity with buying power on the maximum depended on the maximum possible incomings; there had been talk of a total of three or four hundred milliard lire, but the government had no camel's hump from which to draw such enormous sums, and it was better to talk of a "flow of means" which in a year might permit such outgoings. The sources from which these means could flow to the State were only two—firstly notes in circulation surplus to the needs of the citizens, secondly sums lying in bank deposits. He agreed that a part of the notes in circulation were being hoarded but thought the total much exaggerated by many and also that it was better to let these hoards lie except in such cases where they could arrange for their definite transfer to the treasury, notably in the case of fascist regime or speculative profits which they would deal with firmly.

The minister urged that it is by making better use of capital in circulation by its transfer to permanent productive investments and by the formation of new capital through savings that the Treasury can find funds for its extraordinary needs. He spoke of the need to reduce to a minimum the amount of capital wandering about the country in the form of goods of all kinds, and of how this could only be accomplished by seeing that real goods on the market are not bought up as a form of deposit investment for fear of monetary devaluation; he added that in his opinion not less than one hundred and fifty milliard lire are so tied up at present, with a loss to the holders of interest to the tune of some ten milliard lire yearly; this is dead capital which must be brought out of hiding; it is hidden at present because of fear of political upheavals and monetary devaluation and a great part of it will return into circulation if the owners are given a sense of tranquillity, and so would enable the State to effect a part of its extraordinary programme. The government,

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The one thousand lire AM notes will be replaced, he said, by five and ten thousand lire metropolitan notes.

To provide for at least a part of the floating debt a Consols Issue would be made in the near future, but until the date of the loan he felt sure that the flow of means was and would be sufficient to enable the State to meet its commitments. He personally felt that the worst was passed and that they could rest tranquil. At the same time he spoke of the urgent need for foreign loans to enable Italy to buy goods, and of the need to prove to the possible lenders that Italy was herself behaving in a serious manner.

Messaggero gives outright support to Corbino's remarks, saying his policy is the oldest, the classical, and has always been right. *Avanti!* concentrates on the two points of avoiding financial speculations and reducing prices of essential goods. *Risorgimento Liberale* claims to see discrepancies between the plans of the government and those of its Minister of the Treasury and thinks them serious.

Lombardo, Finocchiaro Aprile, Nobile.

Among interesting speeches were those of I. M. Lombardo, secretary of the Socialist Party, U. Nobile (Com), B. Bianchi, a young Socialist woman member, and A. Finocchiaro Aprile, leader of the Sicilian Independents.

Lombardo claimed that although there were points in the government's programme which were not consistent with Socialist ideals the participation of the Socialist Party was in the interests of the working classes, in order not to weaken Italy's position at the Peace Conference and to avoid reducing the prestige of the first government of the Republic. He agreed that wages should have a real and not a nominal value and that the working classes should be warned against an uncontrolled race for wage increases and deprecated inflation which would lead to the abyss. He said his party believed the country should remain free from any tie with the foreigner, criticised those who played the anti-Russian card as well as those who played the pro-Russian one, and claimed that the fate of Trieste would have been the same even if Italy had made an alliance with Russia; as to the colonial question the demand that Italy renounce her rights was

Finocchiaro Aprile informed the house that he was not satisfied with the government's declarations as they contained the usual promises that nobody would ever keep and lacked any reference to Sicily. This drew cries of dissent from both Right and Left. He then proceeded to attack collectively and individually almost all and sundry in round terms and drew down thunder on his head from the President of the Council, the President of the Costituente, Minister Aldisio, late High Commissioner of Sicily, and others, brought the resignation of A. Varvaro from his post as secretary general of the Movimento Indipendentista Siciliano, and won even a quiet denial from Col. Poletti in New York.

When Nobile, who became a Communist candidate instead of a Christian Democrat one not long before the elections, took the floor the Centre and Right immediately left the house and when Minister Cingolani (CD) rose to reply the Communists returned the compliment. Nobile complained that while in 1938-1939 military expenses amounted to 21.9 per cent. of the budget the funds allotted by the government today amounted to 25.6 per cent. despite reduction in establishments, whereas public works represent only 7.1 per cent.; that an army of 142,000 men has 15,255 officers, including 5,090 senior officers, many of whom have been recalled to service and could well be sent home to their jobs; that an air force of 30,000 had about 3,000 officers with an inordinate number of genrals—forty "*in ruolo navigante*" for only 228 aeroplanes. He also strongly criticised agreements with foreign air lines which he said forced Italy to buy aeroplanes overseas and allowed the export of the money earned in Italy by the foreign corporations.

Togliatti.

Towards the end of the debate P. Togliatti made a long speech in which he promised to support the government for the same reasons as Lombardo had given for the Socialists' support. Referring to foreign policy he agreed that Italy should not belong to any block, and emphasized that the Communist Party, though conscious of the great role which Russia had played in the fight for victory, had asked that this great and powerful country be treated with the same cordiality as others were, and added that "the ridi-

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with Yugoslavia. As for home policy he rejected the charge that his party wanted inflation, asked that severe measures be taken against the black market and speculators, and denied vigorously accusations that had been made that the Communist Party had organised disorders and was preparing revolution, when the truth was that their only aim was to renew from the bottom the economic structure in order to secure a greater social justice and a stronger solidarity among the various classes.

De Gasperi's Reply.

In replying to the debate De Gasperi referred to criticisms of the appointments of non technicians to some posts and said that it would be extremely difficult for the Costituente to adopt a policy of always appointing men on the grounds of technical ability; he spoke of the great value to the government of Corbino's skill and experience. Addressing Togliatti by name he spoke of the need for quiet during these few months of the present Costituente's life and appealed for order and peace and sacrifices by the parties in their political struggle. He spoke of instructions being sent to prefects that both the form and the substance of the republic must be faithfully served and its authority, prestige, and decorum preserved on pain of severe penalties. He then refered to recent happenings at Mantua and Rovigo and said that the situation at Mantua where "permission to enter or leave the city had to be asked for from the camera del lavoro" was the same as that which had brought them to the fascist squads; this was greeted with huge applause from the Centre and Right and protests from the Left, where the Socialist party secretary was observed calming down some of his more irate companions. After quiet had been restored De Gasperi spoke of the danger of illegal activities driving men to arms and providing them with excuses for reviving fascism and said that where prefects had decided to arrest the disturbing elements in hardly a single case did their documents show them to have been genuine workers, but rather very often common ruffians; he concluded this part of his speech with an appeal to all parties, classes, and newspapers to help in this important work of keeping the peace.

As regards new decrees, the president said the government would take every opportunity for them to be discussed by the Costituente before

said was in vain. He would go to Paris feeling sure of the backing of the whole country in his efforts to sustain the Italian Government's views.

The house before voting to approve the government's programme passed an order of the day, stating that the Constituent Assembly is the free and sovereign expression of the whole Italian people; reaffirming the indissoluble unity of the country as regards people and territory, inviting the government to persevere tenaciously in the defence of Italy's fair right to a just and honourable peace which can set the country on the way to internal recovery and international cooperation; and inviting the President of the Assembly to be the interpreter of such united sentiments of the assembly at the meeting of the United Nations and associates.

International.

In the international field the Italian Government has been preparing its opposition at the Peace Conference, which starts at Paris on 29 July, to the decisions put forward by the Big Four Foreign Ministers at Paris, and both Italy and Yugoslavia have expressed their views to the four-power commission set up in Paris to prepare a statute for the proposed Trieste Free Territory.

Judged by newspaper reports the representatives sent to the Trieste commissions's meeting spent a lot of their little time expressing opinions on the decision to set up the Free Territory rather than on how to run it. For example Bettiol, the Italian representative, is said by *Avanti!* to have made no proposals, but to have spoken at length on how unjust to Italy the Big Four's solution was, being contrary to ethnical considerations and the conclusions of the enquiry commission sent to Venezia Giulia; whereas Bebler, the Yugoslav vice-minister for Foreign Affairs is reported to have taken three hours to elaborate a thesis that the territory should be represented diplomatically by Yugoslavia "to which it should also be tied by strict financial and customs bonds", the Governor should be a Yugoslav, and Yugoslavia should have a military garrison in the city.

Meanwhile P. Nenni, who is to take over the Foreign Ministry after the Peace Treaty, left Rome by air on 20 July for a quick visit to Norway, Holland, and Belgium to confer with their Foreign Ministers about, according to the Rome press, the Peace Conference and the proposed

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Every effort had been made to approach Yugoslavia directly over Trieste, but every effort he

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Meanwhile P. Nenni, who is to take over the Foreign Ministry after the Peace Treaty, left Rome by air on 20 July for a quick visit to Norway, Holland, and Belgium to confer with their Foreign Ministers about, according to the Rome press, the Peace Conference and the proposed Italian Peace Treaty. He was to go on from Brussels to Paris to confer with the Czech and Polish Foreign Ministers on the eve of the conference. Almost simultaneously Count Sforza left for South

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America on a similar errand to Brazil, which alone of the South American States had armed forces fighting in Italy during the war, and several others.

A Paris correspondent of *Messaggero*'s writes, summing up the prospects for the conference, that Italy can count as regards Trieste at any rate on the full comprehension and union of the South American Republics "who have given Brazil the duty of defending Italy's cause in the name of all the South American Republics", and on the sympathy not only of England and the United States but of some European States such as Belgium, Holland, Norway, etc. De Gasperi is reported to have had during the week a long and cordial discussion with the Brazilian Ambassador in Rome with particular regard to the peace discussions.

In a statement in the United States, Secretary of State Byrnes said that the primary task of the four foreign ministers comprising the Council of Foreign Ministers will be to explain to the representatives of the other 17 governments the treaties which have been drafted; and that after the conference had submitted recommendations as to either amendments of the treaties as now drafted or additional matters to be included in the treaties, the four foreign ministers must meet to consider the recommendations and agree upon the final texts of the treaties.

What are alleged to be some of the conditions of the Italian Peace Treaty have been published first in the United States and later in Italy, but they have not been confirmed by the deputies of the Foreign Ministers concerned in drawing up the draft treaties.

ECONOMIC FRONT

A further table is published giving the latest figures for wheat amassing announced by the Sub-Bureau of Relief Supply of the UNRRA Mission to Italy. The figures for wheat collected are corrected on average to 19 July; the estimated production figures are those of 30 June, and the amassing goal figures those of 10 July; all quantities are in metric tons.

Pesaro and Ancona provinces in Marche have easily exceeded the original estimate of amassable wheat and revised estimates are being calculated not only for this area but for the whole of Italy. The Italian Government hopes to have half its wheat amassed by 31 July and to close the amassing of wheat at the end of September; this will not only free staff to deal with the amassing of other produce, but will make the work of the

COMPARTMENTS	Estimated Production	Amassing Goal	Collected previous week	Total Collected at latest Report	Percentage of Goal Collected
Piemonte	403,650	91,274	15,979	18,515	20.3
Liguria	20,250	1,024	77	80	7.8
Lombardia	592,200	359,312	128,576	141,902	39.5
Venezia Tridentina	15,200	2,931	3	3	0.1
Veneto	693,400	405,634	215,595	233,112	57.5
Venezia Giulia	10,600	1,693	—	57	3.4
Emilia	1,028,000	520,537	320,652	378,031	72.6
Northern Italy	2,763,300	1,382,405	680,882	771,700	55.8
Toscana	461,400	172,757	45,426	59,234	34.3
Marche	385,500	172,294	156,146	181,688	105.5
Umbria	212,000	80,986	25,603	39,412	48.7
Lazio	244,500	70,721	31,925	45,053	63.7
Abruzzi e Molise	325,000	75,926	27,523	34,973	46.1
Campania	263,470	37,007	4,414	6,180	16.7
Puglie	301,350	104,545	39,342	46,919	44.8
Lucania	164,000	48,836	11,515	14,750	30.2
Calabria	138,000	27,346	5,661	6,408	23.4
Sicilia	570,100	178,184	15,226	18,755	10.5
Sardegna	145,000	38,430			

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Sicilia	570,100	178,184	15,226	18,755	10.5
Sardegna	147,000	30,538	3,244	5,998	19.6
Central, Southern and Insular Italy	3,212,320	999,140	366,025	459,379	46.0
GRAND TOTAL	5,975,620	2,381,545	1,046,907	1,231,079	51.7

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police easier, for after September a person caught transporting wheat about the country will not be able to produce the old chestnut that he was on his way to amass it.

The latest contraband wheat story is that it is being exported from Puglie in submarines in exchange for arms and ammunition—such is progress!

The latest report from the United States Agriculture Department has again included increases in estimates of United States cereal crops; the estimate of wheat production is up about 42,000,000 bushels from the figures given last week to a new high record of 1,132,075,000 bushels, and that of corn is up about 146,000,000 bushels to a new record of 3,487,976,000 bushels.

Reports of the sugar beet crop in Italy are encouraging, and it is now proposed to raise the ration from 100 gms to 200 gms, part locally produced part imported, during August, and to 300 gms, all locally produced, in September; previously it had been thought that the new season's locally produced sugar would not be available before October.

It is calculated that new electrical plants under construction will produce up to 270 million kw a year this year and reach a production of a milliard kw. next year.

The Italian ship *Pescara* of 1500 tons has been refloated at Torre del Greco and will be towed to Naples for repairs.

Another ship, the 12,000-ton *Rovello*, has been raised at La Spezia after nearly a year's work.

Foreign trade slowly but surely shows improvement. During the week a trade agreement was signed with Norway, by which Italy will export fruit, vegetables, raw hemp, hemp yarn, textiles and salt in exchange for dried cod, fresh and salted fish, raw hides, cellulose, and iron cast with vanadium for special steel. Up to 30 June 220,540 tons of phosphates had arrived from Tunisia and during July a total of 45,000 tons from Tunisia and 15,000 from Morocco were expected. The first trainload of fruit sent to England since the war was a success, and *Globo* reports that about 65 wagon-loads daily of fruit and fresh vegetables are now leaving Milan for Switzerland, Belgium and England.

A preliminary meeting of Italians and Swiss is reported by *Globo* to have taken place at Genoa to discuss the prospects of improving mutual trade and of Genoa being used as the chief port for

LABOUR DIFFICULTIES

The Italian General Confederation of Labour's special National Council Meeting in Rome ended late on 19 July, when after five days of long and often passionate discussion of the cost of living and the standard of wages a motion was passed by 19 votes to none, with 8 members abstaining, which, according to *Unità*, "shows the line of action to be followed in combatting unemployment, developing national production, improving the disastrous living conditions of the working class, and fixing the attitude of the workers to the intransigence of the employers..."

The motion calls for immediate improvement in the pay of categories at present worst placed; an improvement generally in the living conditions of the workers bearing in mind the necessity to balance payments with the cost of living and to make wages, salaries, pensions, and unemployment benefit sufficient to cover the bare necessities of life; a reduction of the difference between the rates of the lower and higher paid classes; vigorous action to reduce prices and to control speculators; speedier conclusion by the various national Federations of their respective collective trade agreements on working conditions.

The minority of eight who abstained did not vote against the motion, according to Achille Grandi, quoted in *Unità*, because they wished to show that all currents of union opinion wanted to collaborate for the success of the workers efforts, to vindicate trades union unity.

CGIL Policy.

G. Di Vittorio sums up the work of the meeting in a long article in *Unità*. He says that everyone was agreed that the present miserable condition of the workers was insupportable and that it was necessary to have big and urgent improvements in their lot; but that there was divergence of opinion as to how this was to be done. [This seems similar in many respects to the position in which the political parties were when De Gasperi was trying to form an agreed government programme for Christian Democrats, Socialists, and Communists.] He said that according to various highly arguable theories the CGIL was faced with the dilemma of having either to abandon wage increases and seek to improve the miserable tenor of the workers' lives by reducing the cost of living;

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progress!

The latest report from the United States Agriculture Department has again included increases in estimates of United States cereal crops; the estimate of wheat production is up about 42,000,000 bushels from the figures given last week to a new high record of 1,132,075,000 bushels, and that of corn is up about 146,000,000 bushels to a new record of 3,487,976,000 bushels.

Reports of the sugar beet crop in Italy are encouraging, and it is now proposed to raise the ration from 100 gms to 200 gms. part locally produced part imported, during August, and to 300 gms. all locally produced, in September; previously it had been thought that the new season's locally produced sugar would not be available before October.

It is calculated that new electrical plants under construction will produce up to 270 million kw a year this year and reach a production of a milliard kw. next year.

The Italian ship *Pescara* of 1500 tons has been refloated at Torre del Greco and will be towed to Naples for repairs.

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A new railway bridge over the Po has been opened at Santa Maria Maddalena on the main Ferrara–Rovigo line.

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lemma" by deciding to agitate both for a reduction in the cost of living and for the raising of salaries, wages, pensions, and unemployment benefits to cover the bare necessities of life. [This again appears practically what was also announced as the government plan.]

Di Vittorio appeals to both government and workers; to the government to decide quickly on a plan to reduce the cost of living and stop speculation and so automatically reduce the urge towards higher pay proportionately with the success of these efforts; to the workers to show a sense of balance, to remember that while the CGIL is doing everything to secure sufficient wages to cover the necessities of life pursuit of impossibly high salaries would certainly lead to bitter disillusion and the danger of diminution of the real value of pay as fast as it went up theoretically. He points out that this does not mean that there should be no strikes, but that strikes should be for precise and attainable objectives.

Premio della Repubblica.

The Inter-Ministerial Council for Reconstruction next invited the employers' representatives to inform the government on or before 23 July of their reactions to the *Premio della Repubblica*. *Messaggero* states that Ing. Segre of the Confindustria replied at once that the industrialists were disposed to grant the premio provided the ban on dismissals was raised; *Avanti!* adds that the Confindustria made two other conditions—a block on the raising of wages and salaries and the cessation of strikes.

On 22 July the CGIL and the Confindustria began meeting to discuss such problems as the *Premio della Repubblica*, a 40-hour week, removal of the ban on dismissals, revision of the rates of sliding scale salaries, holidays, midweek festivals, and conditions for pregnant women. However, *Avanti!* claimed that immediately before these talks began the Management Committee of the Confindustria had decided "not to grant the *Premio della Repubblica* unless the ban on dismissals is raised", and that the CGIL had announced through Di Vittorio that it was firmly determined to secure the premio at once, and that if agreement was not reached between the two within the next day the government would enforce

organization, saying that their attitude meant that they are completely insensitive to the sufferings of the working masses and do not intend to make the smallest sacrifices themselves; that they have learned nothing from the tragedy of Italy in recent years, "a tragedy for which they are largely responsible"; that they do not recognise the authority of the government and wish to sabotage it; that the industrialists are ready to go to any lengths to win a victory over the workers, the progressive forces of the nation.

The Confindustria argued that Italian industrial firms cannot subject themselves to this latest heavy sacrifice without some concrete proof of intention to pursue effectively a political economy against inflation, and that the only way to real improvement of the workers' position is by increase of production whereas the firms will not be able to support new increases in wages and will be forced to a reduction rather than an increase in production.

Ministers Corbino, Campilli, Ferrari, Segni, Scoccimarro, and Morandi duly met the representatives of both employers and employees and heard their views. Last night it was reported in the evening papers that the Council of Ministers had met yesterday morning and after full discussion had decided to make a decree enforcing the payment of the *Premio* in two parts, the first between 1 and 15 August and the second between 1 and 15 September.

Labour Unrest.

Meanwhile, the general strike at Turin had ended when it was agreed that the employers should pay on account of the *Premio della Liberazione* 1,600 lire to each head of a family, 1,200 to each person not head of a family, and 800 to each minor. Short general strikes had taken place at Milan (for one hour), Novara, Asti, Alessandria and Varese. A national strike of hotel, restaurant, and cafe workers was arranged to begin on 24 July, apart from hotels requisitioned by the Allies; they claim an 8-hour day, minimum wages and recognition of internal committees, whereas at present they say they have to work at least a 12-hour day often under very bad conditions as a result of a fascist trade agreement of 1937.

The petrol workers strike had ended on 20

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Di Vittorio appeals to both government and workers; to the government to decide quickly on a plan to reduce the cost of living and stop speculation and so automatically reduce the urge towards higher pay proportionately with the success of these efforts; to the workers to show a sense of balance, to remember that while the CGIL is doing everything to secure sufficient wages to cover the necessities of life pursuit of impossibly high salaries would certainly lead to bitter disillusion and the danger of diminution of the real value of pay as fast as it went up theoretically. He points out that this does not mean that there should be no strikes, but that strikes should be for precise and attainable objectives.

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Consultations broke down quickly, neither side yielding from the position it had taken up and the question was referred to the government. *Unità* made a strong attack on the employers' [illegible] learned nothing from the tragedy of Italy in recent years, "a tragedy for which they are largely responsible"; that they do not recognise the authority of the government and wish to sabotage it; that the industrialists are ready to go to any lengths to win a victory over the workers, the progressive forces of the nation.

The Confindustria argued that Italian industrial firms cannot subject themselves to this latest heavy sacrifice without some concrete proof of intention to pursue effectively a political economy against inflation, and that the only way to real improvement of the workers' position is by increase of production whereas the firms will not be able to support new increases in wages and will be forced to a reduction rather than an increase in production.

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The petrol workers strike had ended on 20 July after the two sides had been called together by the Minister of Industry and Commerce, and the postal and telegraph workers had come to agreement with the ministries of Industry and Commerce and the Treasury.

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Vigorous and sometimes turbulent demonstrations by unemployed had also darkened the situation in many parts of the country, especially in the Puglie, where blood had been shed; at Florence, where on 20 July public transport was suspended, a barricade of sorts was set up in the Piazza S. Giovanni against the police, and the ordinary commercial life of the city was paralysed; and at Milan, where on 22 July there were ugly scenes in which the Questore was hit over the head and the leaders of the unemployed were reported in the press and over the wireless to have announced that if they did not get satisfaction within 24 hours they would appeal to the employed to hold a general strike and would accept no responsability for any violence on the part of the unemployed.

Newspaper comment varies a good deal. *Tempo* criticizes the many strikes and says that even of it is true that the workers' conditions are not satifactory those of the middle classes are possibly even worse, and that as the people elected the De Gasperi Government they should have trusted their leaders and awaited the application of the " De Gasperi Plan " which had been agreed to by the three popular parties and which in the main was to reduce the cost of living, increase the rations of bread and pasta, raise the wages of the more depressed classes, and give the *Premio della Repubblica*; in the same article the paper pointedly draws attention to the absence of P. Togliatti from the government due to his desire " to devote himself more closely to the cares of his party ".

On the other hand Mario Montagnana writing in *Unità* under the heading " The Voice of the Masses ", says that when the Communists recently were insisting that the situation of the working classes had become intolerable and immediate steps were necessary they were accused of being demagogues; when they demanded inclusion in the government's plan of the raising of wages and salaries in view of the tremendous rise in the cost of living they were told the workers could, and must, await a reduction in the cost of living, and they were called bad patriots and accused of wanting the collapse of the lire and inflation; today, however, the results can be seen; and nobody now will dare to say that the working masses who have gone on strike in Milan, Turin, Rome, Tuscany, and Southern Italy were all Communists' words will now listen to the voice of the Italian workers and adopt urgently the necessary measures in order that they may get the indispensable for living.

It was announced in Paris on 20 July that the French Government had finally accepted a request from the *Confédération Générale du Travail* for a 25 per cent. increase in wages, and this has received considerable publicity in Italy.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMISSION'S RECORD

Yet another branch of the Allied Commission is closing its doors as Col. G. M. Frizelle, Director of the Public Health and Welfare Sub-Commission and last of a clan that included such wellknown figures of AC/AMG as Brigadier Parkinson, Col. King, and Lt. Cols. Bizzozero, Birt, and McDonald, quietly folds his tent and moves over the road to continue the good work with the UNRRA Mission to Italy. Pursued remorselessly by the editor Col. Frizelle has furnished material for an obituary notice of the department which surely includes much that will be news even to those who worked closely alongside and put its whole work in perspective.

The primary function of the Public Health Division of AMGOT during the invasion of Sicily and Italy, and of its successor—AMG/ACC later A. C.—was to preserve the health of Italian people, thus protecting the health of the Allied Armies in the field.

During the summer and autumn months of 1943, apart from malaria which always has had a high incidence in Sicily, and which took a heavy toll of our troops, no major outbreak of communicable disease was encountered. The health of the civil population was on the whole excellent in 1943 and initially there was no evidence of starvation or even of undernourishment. Shortages of wheat did occur now and again, but were overcome, even if sometimes tardily, by the arrival of much needed cargoes. Destitution was apparent in Catania, Messina, and Palermo, but was no greater than in any other large city directly in the path of war.

Typhus.

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Typhus.

The first problem of major proportions confronting the sub-commission was the outbreak of the Naples Typhus Epidemic. This began in December 1943 and was stamped out by May 1944. The administrative and organizational problems alone, arising from the epidemic, were enormous and the work was carried out jointly by AC/AMG, the

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Rockefeller Foundation, the United States of America Typhus Commission, the Naval and Military Authorities, and the Italian Public Health Authorities. A total of 3,265,788 dustings with anti-louse powder were given in the course of several months. Fifty dusting stations were manned by some 700 and flying squads were sent to approximately 50 centres outside Naples to check the spread of the disease. In all, 2020 cases occurred and 429 persons died.

For a year or more after the Naples epidemic, small localized outbreaks and sporadic cases occurred in Italy and Sicily, but were quickly controlled by flying squads of the Typhus Control Unit and by the local health authorities, while much valuable help was later rendered by the Health Division of UNRRA. The sporadic cases nearly always occurred among repatriated prisoners of war. The sub-commission also organized educational demonstrations in every province in the mainland of Italy, Sicily, and Sardinia at which the medici provinciali and local personnel were trained in typhus control methods.

The closest possible control liaison was maintained between the sub-commission and the governmental health department which was, in 1945, at the instigation of the Public Health Sub-Commission, changed from a subordinate division of the Ministry of Interior to a High Commissariate directly responsible to the Council of Ministers. In the field, similar liaison existed between the Medical Officers of the Sub-Commission and the medici provinciali. At one time it was possible to assign a Medical Officer to every province, but this soon became impracticable, and each Medical Officer had several provinces under his control, each Region being directed by a Regional Medical Officer.

Careful planning in the light of past experience ensured that each Region, as it was opened up, was allotted a medical and sanitary staff familiar with the particular health problems of that area and capable of dealing with all emergencies as they arose. Problems of the utmost variety and diversity did arise, many of which could only by the greatest possible stretch of imagination be put in the category of public health, but all were dealt with faithfully.

Malaria Control.

In addition to typhus, special emphasis was able experimental work in new methods. Smallpox epidemics were checked by mass vaccination, and when in September 1945 an outbreak of bubonic plague occurred in Taranto, the sub-commission immediately sent there 1,500 blankets, 180 lbs of DDT, and other necessary supplies.

The Italian Red Cross was also afforded every assistance, hospitals were aided, special attention was given to V. D. control, typhoid epidemics were checked, and innumerable public health problems were met.

A project of major importance was the organization of the Merano Hospital Centre in 1945. Because of the difficulty in finding hospital accommodation for sick repatriated prisoners of war, the majority of whom were tuberculous, the Centre, in Bolzano Province, was organized by the Public Health Sub-Commission. It was staffed by members of the Italian Red Cross under the supervision of AC/AMG which also provided the rations and medical supplies. By 7 February 1946, 12,222 cases had been admitted and 10,450 evacuated and when the project was running smoothly it was handed over to the Italian Red Cross.

As has been noted, the incidence of tuberculosis was high amongst repatriated prisoners of war and is also above the pre-war level in the population as a whole. The problem of providing sufficient hospital beds to accommodate all the patients is a serious one and does not at present show signs of complete solution. The sub-commission pressed for the provision of 1,000 beds in the Sanatorium of Sondalo, but because of the lack of essential materials, the reorganization of this large colony is proceeding slowly.

Work of the Branches.

Through the Medical Supply Branch approximately 6,800 tons of supplies worth millions of dollars were imported and distributed.

The Veterinary Branch repaired and reopened damaged laboratories, thus enabling the production of important biological preparations to be restarted. In 1944 an outbreak of hog cholera occurred and 50,000 doses of vaccine were flown from the United States, while local production of Crystal Violet vaccine, never before manufactured in Italy, was began. By April 1945, 120,000 swine had been inoculated against this disease.

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In addition to typhus, special emphasis was placed upon malaria control, and the work of the Malaria Control Unit was outstanding. In addition to helping and advising all the Regions in their malaria problems, it carried out much valuable assistance, hospitals were aided, special attention was given to V. D. control, typhoid epidemics were checked, and innumerable public health problems were met.

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By June 1945, a million and a half animals had been protected against anthrax, 50,000 swine had been inoculated against erysipelas, and 50,000 cattle against black-leg.

The Welfare Branch dealt with the emergency feeding of people in new liberated towns and

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devastated areas, and in cooperation with the Vatican authorities food was provided for 110,000 people in industrial messes, and for 100,000 persons a day in popular kitchens in Rome; 42,000 a day were fed in Papal refectories in stricken villages, while milk, in powdered or evaporated form, was given to children and expectant mothers. The infant mortality rate for the Commune of Rome then fell from 22 per cent. in July 1944 to 7 per cent. in January 1946. The Welfare Branch also distributed clothing, blankets, in all a total of 11,713 tons, handled problems of juvenile delinquency, assisted orphanages and welfare societies, imported artificial limbs and settled children whose mothers were being treated in V. D. hospitals. In all these activities the branch was ably assisted by Members of the American and British Red Cross.

It was found that the major public health problems existed in the big cities and these were made more difficult by the overcrowding resulting from the destruction of houses. While no evidence of gross malnutrition, such as famine oedema was ever discovered, there is no doubt that a certain amount of malnutrition existed and still exists in urban centers, particularly among the poor. This was aggravated always in the early days after liberating particular areas by the lack of transport to move food. On the other hand, no such evidence was to be found amongst the agricultural population.

"As far as present conditions are concerned", writes Col. Frizelle, "the superficial observer of the big cities obtains the impression that Italy is a land of plenty. Shop windows offer tempting delicacies unobtainable in England, and everything one can wish for as regards food can be procured, *but only at a price*. The prices are such that they can only be afforded by the rich, and the average man in the street, existing on small rations and a diet short of fats and proteins, has a very difficult time to feed both himself and his family, while many people have to exist on two very slender meals a day. In other words, Italy is probably one of the best countries in Europe today for the rich man to live in, but the poor man finds it difficult to keep body and soul together."

In concluding this brief survey of the activities of the Public Health Sub-Commission during the years 1943-1946, it is no overstatement to say [illegible] outstanding contribution every one of whose members will be able, in after years, to look back with satisfaction to what he has done in the field of international public health.

FIORELLO LA GUARDIA'S VISIT

Fiorello La Guardia, the Director General of UNRRA, made a five-day visit to Italy during the week which received great publicity in the Rome press, especially in the newspapers of the Centre and Right.

During his visit to Rome he had interviews with the Pope, the Prime Minister, the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, and many other leading figures; he had conferences with the UNRRA Mission to Italy and with an Interministerial Committee and the High Commissioner for food, became a Freeman of the City of Rome, made a speech to the Costituente, took a few hours off in Milan, and made another speech on the wireless. He later paid a flying visit to Sicily.

In welcoming the visitor G. Saragat, the President of the Costituente, recalled how dear to the hearts of Italians was the voice of their friend La Guardia during the critical periods of the war. In his address La Guardia made a brief survey of the relief sent to Italy by UNRRA and said it was expected to close down officially on 31 December 1946 but would cooperate until all the four million tons of goods allotted to Italy had arrived. He urged the government to study the error's and mistakes made by other republics in forming new constitutions in order to avoid them, and stressed that the interests of the country were superior to those of the parties. He affirmed that the Italian people had really been dragged into the war against their will, and that there could not be a happy world with an unhappy Italy.

During his visit La Guardia stressed his strong opposition to all forms of black marketing, and while he was in Rome it was noticeable that the more obvious of the usual irregular street bread markets suddenly disappeared.

NEW U. S. AMBASSADOR TO ITALY

President Truman has sent to the Senate the nomination of James C. Dunn, Assistant Secretary of State for Political Affairs, as United States

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Rome then fell from 22 per cent. in July 1944 to 7 per cent. in January 1946. The Welfare Branch also distributed clothing, blankets, in all a total of 11,713 tons, handled problems of juvenile delinquency, assisted orphanages and welfare societies, imported artificial limbs and settled children whose mothers were being treated in V. D. hospitals. In all these activities the branch was ably assisted by Members of the American and British Red Cross.

It was found that the major public health problems existed in the big cities and these were made more difficult by the overcrowding resulting from the destruction of houses. While no evidence of gross malnutrition, such as famine oedema was ever discovered, there is no doubt that a certain amount of malnutrition existed and still exists in urban centers, particularly among the poor. This was aggravated always in the early days after liberating particular areas by the lack of transport to move food. On the other hand, no such evidence was to be found amongst the agricultural population.

"As far as present conditions are concerned", writes Col. Frizelle, "the superficial observer of the big cities obtains the impression that Italy is a land of plenty. Shop windows offer tempting delicacies unobtainable in England, and everything one can wish for as regards food can be procured, *but only at a price*. The prices are such that they can only be afforded by the rich, and the average man in the street, existing on small rations and a diet short of fats and proteins, has a very difficult time to feed both himself and his family, while many people have to exist on two very slender meals a day. In other words, Italy is probably one of the best countries in Europe today for the rich man to live in, but the poor man finds it difficult to keep body and soul together."

In concluding this brief survey of the activities of the Public Health Sub-Commission during the years 1943-1946, it is no overstatement to say that it has made an outstanding contribution to the health of the Italian nation, and by doing so has been of incalculable value to the Allied Armies. In consequence the Allied Commission in Italy can view with legitimate pride the achievements of the Public Health Sub-Commission,

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President Truman has sent to the Senate the nomination of James C. Dunn, Assistant Secretary of State for Political Affairs, as United States Ambassador to Italy to succeed Alexander Kirk, who has resigned. Dunn, who has been in Europe serving as deputy to Secretary of State Byrnes during the Paris Foreign Ministers' Conferences, has been in the State Department for 27 years

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and most of his experience has been in connection with European affairs or in the handling of political and economic relations. He has had experience in Legations at Madrid, Haiti, and Brussels and in the Embassy at London, and has also been Director of Ceremonies at the White House, Chief of the State Department's Division of International Conferences and Protocol, Secretary General to the United States Delegations at the General Disarmament Conferences at Geneva and the International Conference of American States, and Chief of the State Department's Divisions of Western European and European Affairs. During the war he served in various capacities and on various war committees, became Director of the Office of European Affairs in 1944 and in the same year was a member of the United States Delegation to the Dumbarton Oaks Conference.

C. E. M. BRANCH STILL BUSY

The number of releases to the Italian Government of Captured Enemy Material during June was smaller than in May (79 against 95), but the value and the amount were considerably higher and in July again large quantities of valuable captured telephone equipment have become available. As there was still much material and many vehicles to be disposed of in the Bolzano area and it was essential to get this area cleared quickly a special officer was sent to Bolzano early in the month with an ARAR representative to list and hand over the readily accessible bulk, including many ammunition dumps.

Recent releases in the South include such a mixture in one month as 613 assorted vehicles, 130 assorted road-making machines, 50 tons of light ferrous metal, 28 kilometres of telephone and high tension wire, 500 industrial gas cylinders and 700 wooden telegraph poles.

Much material has, however, been destroyed this week in an ARAR dump at Torre Annunziata, where what the papers call a terrifying fire broke out and strained the resources not only of the local fire brigade but also of those of Naples and Castellammare; Allied Military fire pumps assisted and matters were made worse by an almost simultaneous big fire at Aversa.

ODDS AND ENDS

During July the following British officers have left the Allied Commission on proceeding for release from the Army: Lt. Col. R. T. Millhouse (LO Rome, lately of Public Safety), Major J. Powell (MMIA, lately of Public Safety), Major C. E. Bolt (Venezia Giulia, Public Safety), Major C. G. R. Williams (Local Government Sub-Commission), Col. G. M. Frizelle (Director of Public Health Sub-Commission), Major R. Bond (Public Safety Sub-Commission), and Captain P. Ouranovsky (Venezia Giulia, Public Health). Captain J. O. Dare (LO, Lombardia) has left the Commission on proceeding on Python, Major V. R. Johnston (Venezia Giulia) on transfer to MMIA, and Captain G. M. West (LO, Venezie) on transfer to GHQ.

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August 3, 1946 Vol. III, No. 16

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

POLITICAL

The Peace Conference at Paris duly opened on 29 July 1946, and shortly afterwards the proposed terms for the Peace Treaty with Italy were announced. The seventy-eight articles fill some hundred typewritten pages, and they cannot, therefore, be reprinted in full in the *Weekly Bulletin*. The following is only a summary of the articles as published in the Press.

Articles 1 to 13 are territorial clauses dealing with the cession of four small areas at the Little St. Bernard Pass, Moncenisio, Monte Thabor-Chaberton, and Tenda-Briga to France; of Venezia Giulia east of the "French Line", Zara, and various Adriatic Islands to Yugoslavia; and of the Dodecanese to Greece. They also include clauses giving Italians resident in these areas before 10 June 1940 the opportunity to decide whether they wish to become citizens of the countries acquiring the areas or they desire to remain Italians; and establish the Free Territory of Trieste.

Articles 14 and 15 bind Italy to afford all persons under her jurisdiction fundamental human rights and liberties and to recognise the other Peace Treaties to be made or other agreements establishing peace between the Allies and Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Finland, Austria, Germany, and Japan.

Article 16 deals with Trieste, giving the solutions as announced by the Four Foreign Ministers in July, and article 17 takes all Italian colonies in Africa away from Italy and leaves them under the present administration while their position is considered by the Big Four. In articles 18 to 20 Italy renounces all her special concessions in China at Tientsin, Shanghai, and Amoy in favour of China.

In articles 21 to 26 the independance of Albania is recognised and she receives the island of Saseno; Italy renounces all her special rights and properties except diplomatic and consular buildings. Articles 27 to 31 deal similarly with the case of Abyssinia, to whom all works of art etc., removed are to be restored.

Articles 32 to 37 deal with recognition and denunciation of past treaties and a possible future agreement on the Congo Basin, and article 38 provides for the handing over of war criminals to the Allies.

The Italian Armed Forces and War Material are dealt with in articles 39 to 58, which are to remain in force until agreement between the Allies and Italy or, after Italy has become a member of the United Nations, between the United Nations Security Council and Italy.

Permanent fortifications are not to be permitted within 20 kilometres of the new French border, and new naval bases are not to be constructed within an area 15 kilometres deep between the French border and 9° 30′ east (approximately Levanto). Similarly permanent fortifications are not to be permitted within 20 kilometres of the new Yugoslav border, and new naval bases are not to be constructed between the Yugoslav border and 44° 50′ north (approximately Comacchio). No new permanent military, naval, or air bases are to be established or old ones expanded on the Puglian Peninsula east of 17° 45′ east (approximately S. Vito de' Normanne). Pantelleria, Lampedusa, Lampione, Linosa, and Pianosa Islands are to be and remain demilitarised. In Sardinia all coastal artillery positions and naval bases within 30 kilometres of French territorial waters are to be dismantled on the spot and the material either destroyed or removed to the mainland. In both Sicily and Sardinia all permanent launching spots and stores of torpedoes, sea mines, and bombs, are to be destroyed or removed to the mainland. Reconstruction, improvement, and extensions of existing installations and permanent fortifications in Sicily and Sardinia are prohibited; however apart from the northern part of Sardinia already mentioned normal upkeep of such existing installations and permanent fortifications is permitted. In Sicily and Sardinia construction of any military or air force in-

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stallation or fortification is prohibited apart from such as may be required for the preservation of internal security.

Italy may not possess, construct, or experiment with self-propelled rockets or mines controlled by influence, torpedoes capable of being manned, or guns with a range of more than 30 kilometres. The acquiring of war material of German or Japanese origin or design within or outside Italy and the manufacture of same are prohibited. Italy is forbidden to work on or possess any war material different from or in quantity exceeding the needs of the armed forces allowed by the treaty.

The Italian Navy is to be reduced to 2 battleships, 4 cruisers, 4 destroyers, 16 torpedo boats, 20 corvettes, and such number of auxiliary vessels as will require not more than 2,500 men to man and maintain. The remainder of the present fleet will in part be handed over at the disposition of the Big Four and for the rest be either transformed into ships for civilian use or, where this is not possible (for example submarines), be sunk at specified depths; warships at present sunk in harbours and canals will be either blown up or floated and sunk at sea. Ships in construction will be dismantled. No battleships, aircraft carriers, or submergible vessels or assaul craft are to be constructed or acquired. Apart from the two battleships the total tonnage is not to exceed 67,500 tons. The manpower of the Navy is to be reduced to 22,500, plus 2,500 temporarily employed in mine clearance.

The strength of the army is to be limited to 185,000 plus 65,000 carabinieri, but the total of each of these two forces may vary up to 10,000 provided the joint total does not exceed 250,000. No other personnel may receive military instruction. Armoured vehicles are limited to a total of 250 light and medium.

The strength of the air force is to be limited to 200 fighter and reconnaissance planes and 150 for transport, sea rescue, and supply, and to 25,000 men.

All war material exceeding that permitted for the armed forces under the treaty will be put at disposition of the Big Four.

In articles 59 to 61 Italy undertakes to cooperate with the Allies and their Associates to ensure that Germany and Japan are incapable of rearming themselves, undertakes not to employ ex-Germans or ex-Japanese in their military or civil air braneches and not to acquire or make civil aeroplanes of German or Japanese type.

In articles 62 and 63 arrangements are made for the rapid return of Italian POW and for the withdrawal of Allied troops from Italy within ninety days of the treaty coming into force.

Reparations are dealt with in article 64. Italy is to pay to Russia one hundred million dollars within seven years through: *A*) Italian war plants over and above those necessary to equip the permitted armed forces and which cannot be converted quickly to civilian goods production; *B*) Italian property in Rumania, Bulgaria, and Hungary with certain exceptions; *C*) Normal Italian industrial production, the handing over of which will not handicap Italian economic reconstruction and will not take place in the first two years after the treaty comes into force and for which Russia will supply the raw materials against valuation. Claims for reparations by other countries, particularly France, Yugoslavia, Greece, Albania, and Ethiopia, are to be considered by the conference. By article 65 Italy agrees to the return of property taken from the United Nations.

Articles 66 and 67 compel Italy to renounce all government or individual claims against the Allies or their Associates arising out of the war or actions due to the state of war in Europe after September 1939; to recompense those who have given service to the Allies in Italian territory in the form of requisitions or who make claims for non war damage; and to take full responsibility for the Allied military currency published in Italy; they compel her also to renounce all claims, including those for debts, against Germany or German citizens which were suspended on 8 May 1945 and which were not due or the result of rights acquired before September 1939. The next article restores to the United Nations and their citizens rights and interests existing before 10 June 1940.

It is established by article 69 that property of the Italian Government or citizens in the territories of the Allied and Associated Powers may be held to satisfy the claims of their citizens against Italy or Italians, and that the Italian Government will be responsanle for recompensing any of its citizens who are thus deprived of property. Article 70 recognises prewar debts as legally binding on all parties. Article 71 arranges for provisional reciprocal trade rights.

Article 72 includes alternative British and Russian proposals for settlement of any disputes regarding application of articles 65 and 68. Articles 73 to 78 are final clauses, establishing among other points that the Ambassadors of the Big Four in Rome shall jointly represent the Allied and Associated Powers for the application and interpretation of the treaty for a period not exceeding 18 months.

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COMPARTMENTS	Estimated Production	Amassing Goal	Collected previous week	Total Collected at latest Report	Percentage of Goal Collected
Piemonte	403,650	91,274	18,515	22,925	25.1
Liguria	20,250	1,024	80	86	8.4
Lombardia	592,200	359,312	141,902	160,863	44.8
Venezia Tridentina	15,200	2,931	3	6	0.2
Veneto	693,400	405,634	233,112	247,439	61.0
Venezia Giulia	10,000	4,000	57	3,700	92.5
Emilia	1,028,000	520,537	378,031	417,536	80.2
Northern Italy	2,752,700	1,384,712	771,700	852,555	61.6
Toscana	461,400	172,757	59,234	83,966	48.6
Marche	385,500	172,294	181,688	203,768	118.3
Umbria	212,000	80,986	39,412	55,170	68.1
Lazio	244,500	70,721	45,053	56,455	79.8
Abruzzi e Molise	325,000	75,926	34,973	42,380	55.8
Campania	263,470	37,007	6,180	8,114	21.9
Puglie	301,350	104,545	46,919	54,467	52.1
Lucania	164,000	48,836	14,759	18,806	38.5
Calabria	138,000	27,346	6,408	7,693	28.1
Sicilia	570,100	178,184	18,755	22,807	12.8
Sardegna	147,000	30,538	5,998	9,687	31.7
Central, Southern and Insular Italy	3,212,320	999,140	459,379	563,313	56.4
GRAND TOTAL	5,975,020	2,383,852	1,231,079	1,415,868	59.5

First steps have been taken in what may prove to be most important negotiations with Argentina, according to a *Messaggero* report from Buenos Aires, which says that the daily newspaper *La Epoca* there has announced that Italo-Argentine trade negotiations are progressing well and that as soon as sea communications improve the results will be seen in an exchange of foodstuffs and raw materials from Argentina for clothing and manufactured goods. Ing. Umberto Camillo, representative of Northern Italian industrial groups, is reported to have told the Argentine press that Italy is in a position to export a considerable quantity of goods right away as many Italian factories have continued to produce goods in spite of a lack of internal demand and so have large stocks. At the same time Camillo has made contacts regarding emigration of Italian labour and a committee has been formed to consider all the circumstances and conditions under which this emigration may take place. A representative of the Banco del Rio de la Plata was due to leave Buenos Aires by air today for a European tour including London, Paris, Zurich, Genoa, Milan, and Rome with a view to expanding trade.

The importance of emigration as a contribution to the reconstruction of Italy has been stressed in an article in *Avanti*, but the paper insists that it must be done on a proper and organised basis and not haphazardly as in the recent cases where men and families emigrated from one province to another of Italy and arrived in the case of a group of Sicilians at Milan hungry, without shoes or boots, and with little idea of what they were going to do. Some six hundred Sicilian miners from Agrigento recently left for Belgium to work in the coal mines on an organised basis, one of the terms of which was that a certain part of the coal they hewed should be sent to Italy, but this is a drop in the ocean when one considers the pre-war figures, the present total of over a million and a half unemployed, and a population in Sicily and many parts of Southern Italy far bigger than the present resources and production can occupy or support at a reasonable standard. Emigration from Italy reached its peak in 1913, but then received a sharp check from the circumstances of the 1914-1918 war and the laws limiting immigration into the United States passed in 1921 and 1924. A yearly average of 266,220 Italians emigrated to the United States between 1906 and 1910, but in the thirties the annual figure was down to only just over 13,000. Total emigrants in 1913 were 873,598, and even in 1938, the last approximately normal year before the war over sixty thousand persons emigrated.

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The terms have aroused fresh hostility in the Italian Press, which on the whole has greeted them with no more courtesy than it did the announcements from the Foreign Ministers Conference in June. *Italia Sera* says: "Italy is great, the Four are small"; *Avanti* reproaches the victors with exaggerated nationalism, and says the renunciations by Italy create only reasons for new disorders; *Buonsenso* calls it a gallows peace treaty; *Risorgimento Liberale* says that those who refuse to call the Paris Conference a Peace Conference are right as after Italy, Rumania, Bulgaria, Finland, and Hungary have accepted the will of the victors there will remain more reasons for war than for peace.

Minister Gonella writing in the *Popolo*, of which he was formerly editor, says that the Italian delegates will go to Paris to listen to the sentence passed on their country and must act, therefore, as an accused person who can put forward endless arguments to show that he is not guilty, while the terms of the judgment is already drawn up. "Do you want to condemn Italy? Do you want to turn a deaf ear to right and justice? Do so and you will realise that it is not in your own interest. But if the treaty must have, as it actually has, the character of a judgment, what is the use of Italy's signature and acceptance? All that a person who has been found guilty need do is to lodge an appeal at once. The Italian representatives are leaving for Paris to listen to a judgment which the whole Italian people regards as unjust; if our chances to exercise any influence are slight it is our duty to concentrate all our attention on the appeal which will free Italy from the burdens of peace if they prove to be unbearable". He claims that a possible refusal on the part of Italy to sign an absurd peace treaty would be "an act of dignity" and will not have any offensive character, because in the procedure laid down by the victors it is stated that the treaty will enter into force three months after the ratification of the victorious Great Powers, independently of the adhesion of the vanquished.

De Gasperi declared that the treaty was harsh beyond all forecasts and that he shares with all citizens the sorrow and hope of these very serious circumstances, and has no doubt that the Italian Delegation will be able to voice completely the feelings and will of the Italian people. The Council of Ministers had a long and gloomy sitting, at which all parties represented were in full agreement about the terms. The meeting later announced that the delegation to Paris would consist of President of the Council De Gasperi, President of the Costituente and former Ambassador to Paris G. Saragat, and President of the Committee for Foreign Treaties I. Bonomi. A number of ministers and experts would assist either at Paris or in Rome and representatives of all sides of Italian life would be consulted at appropriate moments.

Meanwhile the Yugoslavs are reported to be qually indignant and the Serbian Assembly to have passed a resolution protesting that Italy is being rewarded after being an enemy state whereas Yugoslavia, always an ally, is being punished.

Much speculation has taken place in Italy over the absence of Foreign Minister Bevin from the British Delegation due to his illness. Prime Minister Attlee's opening speech was received calmly, and several papers feel that it was expected that Secretary of State Byrnes would uphold the right of smaller nations to modify the Big Four decisions but not anticipated that he would do so with such vigour. Chief early interest however, was shown in the Australian proposal that the decisions of the conference be taken by a simple majority and in the Australian delegates firm words to Yugoslavia.

HEAVIER PENALTIES FOR CRIME

The Council of Ministers has approved two important decrees increasing the penalties for crime. The first deals with those who fail to deliver cereals to the ammassi, providing for the impounding by the state of all vehicles being used for transport of undelivered cereals, and making the penalty for smuggling cereals out of the country eighteen years imprisonment. The second increases penalties for robbery, extortion, kidnapping, and acts of banditry, and restores the death penalty for the most serious cases. This last has aroused vigorous opposition from *Italia Libera*'s writer Mario Berlinguer, who reckons that apart from the question as to whether human beings should arrogate to themselves the right to take each other's lives the moment hardly seems suitable as the death penalty was suspended at a time when the crimes mentioned were more prevalent, whereas they have now been greatly reduced by the tenacious and often heroic work of the carabinieri and other police forces; furthermore he considers the matter was so important that it should have been discussed by the Costituente before action was taken and hopes that when the Costituente reassembles, members will bring up this undemocratic method of governing.

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RESIGNATIONS REFUSED

After his wordy battle with A. Finocchiaro, the Sicilian Separatist leader, in the Costituente, Minister Aldisio, himself also a Sicilian, offered his resignation from the post of Minister for the Merchant Navy, but the Council of Ministers refused to accept his offer.

Admiral De Courten, former Navy Minister, also offered his resignation from the post of Chief of Navy Staff, as he was so distressed by the difference between the peace terms regarding the Navy and the pledges which he said were given him at the time the Italian Navy sailed to join the Allies; he has been asked to remain at his post and has (as we go to press) agreed to do so temporarily.

The resignation of Colfari from the High Commissionership for Sicily has, however, been accepted as he has been appointed Secretary General of the Presidential Offices Civil Affairs Section.

PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME

G. Romita, the Minister for Public Works, has laid before the Council of Ministers a plan for public works involving the expenditure of two hundred thousand million lire, and other plans have been put up by the Ministers for Agriculture, Transport, and Posts and Telegraphs. Nearly nine thousand millions have already been allocated to repair of tele-communication facilities, and other large sums are being allotted daily up and down the country by various authorities.

THE NEW COSTITUTION

The work of the Costituente sub-committees drafting the new constitution has gone on steadily. There was a long session during which various types of autonomous federations were discussed, and the regional setup was favoured by a majority. About twenty deputies, mainly members of the National Democratic Union, are reported to have presented to the President of the Costituente a motion that the new constitution should be referred to the Italian people for approval or rejection in a popular referendum, as was done in France this year.

FASCIST NEWSPAPERS

In the last two weeks there has been considerable talk both in the Costituente and in the Roma press of "Fascist" newspapers and journalists, and while no one appeared to want a censorship there was general agreement that there was a tendency to confuse liberty of the press with licence. The Communist Party made a special report to De Gasperi of a publication producing offensive articles and cartoons directed against a friendly power; De Gasperi expressed his strong disapproval of such publications and a circular was sent to all prefects inviting them to call the attention of all newspapers to the fact that freedom of the press brought in its train certain obligations. Next the Prefect of Rome ordered the suppression of an issue of a new review entitled *Rosso e Nero* and reported to the Commission for *Confino di polizia* the editor, formerly editor of a fascist paper at Bologna, for having praised in the first issue fascist institutions and personages. The main body of the press has received the news with approval, but points out that it should not have been left to the prefect of Rome, rather the Procuratori should be more active in prosecuting persons under the law against neo-fascism.

POOR QUALITY OF BREAD

For many months there have been complaints all over Italy against the quality of bread supplied under the bread ration. The government has now authorised the prefects to permit the extraction rate for milling to be reduced from 91 % to 85 %, with a corresponding reduction in the bread ration from 250 grms to 235 grms. The reaction of press and public has not been altogether favourable. Many fear that the net result will only be a reduction in quantity and not an improvement in quality, for they point out that a perfectly good bread is made with whole meal; they urge instead much stricter control of bakeries, in some cases the institution of municipal bakeries, to prevent the manufacture of bread such as an example quoted in *Unità*, where a certain loaf bought in Rome is said to stink worse than a rotten fish within 24 hours and turn to an indescribable colour.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The weekly table giving the latest figures for amassing is now based on joint information of UNRRA and the Economic Section. Previous figures given for Venezia Giulia were considerably below what they ought to have been. The figures for wheat collected are corrected on an average to 27 July; the estimated production figures are still those of 30 June and amassing goals generally those of 10 July; all quantities are in metric tons.

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COMPARTMENTS	Estimated Production	Amassing Goal	Collected previous week	Total Collected at latest Report	Percentage of Goal Collected
Piemonte	403,650	91,274	18,515	22,025	25.1
Liguria	20,250	1,024	80	86	8.4
Lombardia	592,200	359,312	141,902	160,863	44.8
Venezia Tridentina	15,200	2,931	3	6	0.2
Veneto	693,400	405,634	233,112	247,439	61.0
Venezia Giulia	10,000	4,000	57	3,700	92.5
Emilia	1,028,600	520,537	378,031	417,536	80.2
Northern Italy	2,752,700	1,384,712	771,700	852,555	61.6
Toscana	461,400	172,757	59,234	83,966	48.6
Marche	385,500	172,294	181,688	203,768	118.3
Umbria	212,000	80,986	39,412	55,170	68.1
Lazio	244,500	70,721	45,053	56,455	79.8
Abruzzi e Molise	325,000	75,926	34,973	42,380	55.8
Campania	263,470	37,067	6,180	8,114	21.9
Puglie	301,350	104,545	46,919	54,467	52.1
Lucania	164,000	48,836	14,759	18,806	38.5
Calabria	138,000	27,346	6,408	7,693	28.1
Sicilia	570,100	178,184	18,755	22,807	12.8
Sardegna	147,000	30,538	5,998	9,687	31.7
Central, Southern and Insular Italy	3,212,320	999,140	459,379	563,313	56.4
GRAND TOTAL	5,975,020	2,383,852	1,231,079	1,415,868	59.5

First steps have been taken in what may prove to be most important negotiations with Argentina, according to a *Messaggero* report from Buenos Aires, which says that the daily newspaper *La Epoca* there has announced that Italo-Argentine trade negotiations are progressing well and that as soon as sea communications improve the results will be seen in an exchange of foodstuffs and raw materials from Argentina for clothing and manufactured goods. Ing. Umberto Camillo, representative of Northern Italian industrial groups, is reported to have told the Argentine press that Italy is in a position to export a considerable quantity of goods right away as many Italian factories have continued to produce goods in spite of a lack of internal demand and so have large stocks. At the same time Camillo has made contacts regarding emigration of Italian labour and a committee has been formed to consider all the circumstances and conditions under which this emigration may take place. A representative of the Banco del Rio de la Plata was due to leave Buenos Aires by air today for a European tour including London, Paris, Zurich, Genoa, Milan, and Rome with a view to expanding trade.

The importance of emigration as a contribution to the reconstruction of Italy has been stressed in an article in *Avanti*, but the paper insists that it must be done on a proper and organised basis and not haphazardly as in the recent cases where men and families emigrated from one province to another of Italy and arrived in the case of a group of Sicilians at Milan hungry, without shoes or boots, and with little idea of what they were going to do. Some six hundred Sicilian miners from Agrigento recently left for Belgium to work in the coal mines on an organised basis, one of the terms of which was that a certain part of the coal they hewed should be sent to Italy, but this is a drop in the ocean when one considers the pre-war figures, the present total of over a million and a half unemployed, and a population in Sicily and many parts of Southern Italy far bigger than the present resources and production can occupy or support at a reasonable standard. Emigration from Italy reached its peak in 1913, but then received a sharp check from the circumstances of the 1914-1918 war and the laws limiting immigration into the United States passed in 1921 and 1924. A yearly average of 266,220 Italians emigrated to the United States between 1906 and 1910, but in the thirties the annual figure was down to only just over 13,000. Total emigrants in 1913 were 873,598, and even in 1938, the last approximately normal year before the war over sixty thousand persons emigrated.

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One of Italy's greatest troubles is lack of raw materials, but according to a most interesting article in *Avanti* there are great hopes of discovering valuable petroleum deposits in the Po Valley. The whole chain of the Appenines is full of traces of petroleum, but it is said that the violent motions which accompanied the throwing up of the mountains have not only made it very difficult to calculate the exact substructure, but also probably have made the conditions unsuitable for large deposits of petroleum to form. However, the Po Valley was not, says the article, so badly affected by these motions and new methods of calculating the site of likely deposits have already led to notable quantities of methane gas (which usually lies above petrol deposits) and small quantities of petroleum. Now a test near Lodi is thought by many experts, not only Italians, to be likely to result in big finds any time in the near future. The difference which such a success would make to Italy's industry and foreign trade balance can well be imagined. Oil fields so far actually discovered in Italy have given a yield of between ten and twenty tons a year, whereas her annual imports before war were about three million tons a year.

Yet another Italian crop as reported to be much bigger than last year's; this time it is tobacco, up from 16,400 tons to 55,000 tons; so perhaps before long cigarettes may come off the ration and such horrors as the Indigene and the Popolare be decently interred with the V that moved even the House of Commons to anger.

For some months there has been a good deal of havering about the price to be paid manufacturers for converting the raw cotton imported by UNRRA into goods. The government has now come to an agreement with the trade as a result of which 31 million kilograms of imported cotton will be manufactured into 160 million metres of garments, which will be sold at a price of between 60 and 70 lire a metre, including cost of distribution; a number of the garments may be distributed free to the more needy classes; the types of article will be very limited in number to decrease costs of production and distribution.

Negotiations are also in progress with the woollen trade for the manufacture of clothing from some 55 million kilograms of wool and wool scraps imported by UNRRA.

During his tour of Northern Europe and his visit to Paris, P. Nenni has explored a number of possibilities for expanding foreign trade, and it is reported that he has been invited by Byrnes to go to the United States in the autumn to continue such discussions.

TRIAL OF POLICE AT TRIESTE

The trial before an Allied Military Court at Trieste of seven members of the Venezia Giulia Civil Police who were charged under four sections of the Italian Penal Code that acting in concert and with aggravating circumstances they caused grave injuries to a number of people and preterintentionally caused the death of one man and one woman, ended in their acquittal. The court ruled that in the case of three men there was no case for the defence to answer, and acquitted the other four after full hearing of both sides.

ODDS AND ENDS

Three more British officers have left the Allied Commission on proceeding to the United Kingdom for release from the Army; they are Major A. C. Holland (Communications Sub-Commission), Major T. P. Cotton (Venezia Giulia, Public Safety) and Captain T. W. Glasspool (Venezia Giulia, Public Safety).

* * *

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, yesterday presented at the Headquarters of the Commission the Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer, to Lt. Col. T. W. J. Walters (B) and the Bronze Star to Major Louis W. Laughlin (A).

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

The long discussions between the Prime Minister, A. De Gasperi, and the representatives of the Christian Democrats, Socialists, and Communists have finally brought forth an agreed programme for the new Government, and late on the evening of 12 July agreement was reached on its composition in the sense that it was agreed which party should hold which ministry, but the names of the ministers were not known officially at the time of going to press. It was known that Togliatti would not take part in the Government, and *Messaggero* stated that Nenni will take over the Foreign Office after the Peace Conference, before and during which De Gasperi will act as Foreign Minister in addition to being Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs. The papers were agreed that Corbino will remain at the Treasury. The distribution announced is:

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS: Presidency, Home Affairs, Agriculture, Education, Foreign Trade, Posts and Telegraphs, Navy, Merchant Marine, Air.

SOCIALISTS: Foreign Affairs (after the Peace Conference), Industry and Commerce, Public Works, Labour.

COMMUNISTS: Justice, Finance, Transport, Post-war Assistance.

REPUBLICANS: War and one minister without portfolio.

INDEPENDENTS: Treasury.

Economic Problems.

The biggest problem was as regards finance. First a plan proposed by Minister Corbino was put forward by De Gasperi, which contained, according to *Momento*, the following points: first, abandoning the currency conversion programme; of the "political price" of bread, which would cost from 40 to 50 lire a kilo, with an increase in the ration.

This plan was not accepted by the Communists, whose position was summarized by Scoccimarro in *Unità*. They demanded an immediate adjustment of wages, salaries, and pensions because an immediate reduction in the cost of living does not appear possible and the miserable condition of the workers calls for urgent measures. They demanded a production policy because Italy's economic system is so disorganized that the intervention of the State is essential to see that the general interests of the State are safeguarded; a clear-cut distinction between ordinary and extraordinary revenue and expenditure; and an extraordinary budget of several hundred milliards to be derived from an internal loan; an extraordinary tax on capital, the proceeds of confiscated fascist and war profits, possible foreign loans, etc.

The Socialists appeared to be much closer to the Christian Democrats. Alberto Morandi, one of their negotiators, said in an interview with *Avanti!* that contrary to the Communists they did not think that raising wages would solve the situation as it would immediately be absorbed by an increase in prices; they urged an immediate high tax on capital. According to *Giornale d'Italia*, but not confirmed in *Avanti!*, many socialists were said to "condemn the political demagogy, which has been followed till now by means of the trade union organization, designed to impose upon the industries the employment of unproductive labour".

Agreed Policy.

Agreement was reached on 9 July. The Christian Democrat view against increasing wages

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Economic Problems.

The biggest problem was as regards finance. First a plan proposed by Minister Corbino was put forward by De Gasperi, which contained, according to *Momento*, the following points: first, abandoning the currency conversion programme; second, pledge not to allow increases of wages or salaries; third, lifting of the ban on dismissal of workers as from 1 August; four, increase in the price of public services; five, reduction in the number of State employees; six, abandonment of the "political price" of bread, which would cost from 40 to 50 lire a kilo, with an increase in the ration.

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Agreed Policy.

Agreement was reached on 9 July. The Christian Democrat view against increasing wages and salaries was upheld and the Government will have a chance to prove that it can instead bring the cost of living down; as a first step it was agreed in a preliminary way that the bread ration should be raised to 250 gms daily and the

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pasta ration to 3,000 gms a month, the political price to be retained; various estimates say that this would reduce the cost of living by from 10 to 18 per cent. Whether it would be possible to maintain this ration is another matter. A rough estimate of the amount of wheat required to cover it until the harvest of 1947 is 1,200,000 tons; the total wheat crop is estimated at nearly six million tons, but the final estimate of the amount to be amassed, i.e. available to cover the bread and pasta ration, is not yet published; preliminary estimates were 2,100,000 tons, but whether this was what was expected to be amassed after allowing for wheat illegally detained or what should legally be amassed is not clear; nor is it clear how much higher improved crop prospects have taken the total; but in any case the total is not likely to be above 3,000,000 tons. The estimated UNRRA imports for the remainder of the period of UNRRA imports comes to little more than half the remainder required to cover the new ration.

Discussions have already taken place between the Prime Minister and the Head of the UNRRA Mission regarding the wheat supply. It was decided to refer the Italian request to UNRRA headquarters.

The Government has in fact announced an increase of the bread ration to 250 gms per day and the pasta ration to 2,000 gms per month.

In order to help during the period when the cost of living is still in process of being reduced a *Premio della Repubblica* will be declared giving to each head of a family a single payment of 3,000 lire and to a person who is not head of a family 1,500 lire; pensions and aid to unemployed will also be raised. Simultaneously it was announced that the last date for the 300 lire a quintal early amassing bonus has been put off to 31 July; this should encourage amassing, especially in those areas where the harvest is late and however willing a producer might be he could not amass within the old limit of time to earn the bonus.

Other points of agreement reported are on foreign policy, industry, agriculture and public works.

All the parties taking part in the Government will be jointly bound in the defence of Italy's interests concerning the frontiers, colonies, re- [illegible] and all the ministers will

of the electric power industry and semi-nationalization, State control or State partnership of some other industries.

In the agricultural field the principle of reform in the near future was accepted; the land distribution provided for by the Gullo decree will be confirmed and the State will allot ten milliard lire to the farmers and cooperatives to develop the land they have acquired.

The Government is also to develop as much as possible a sound programme of public works aimed at easing unemployment and creating the necessary conditions for the economic revival of the country. There will be an extraordinary budget for expenditure on public works and reconstruction, to be financed by a national loan to be floated in September, a progressive tax on personal property to be enforced at an economically convenient time, and by the impounding of fascist, war, and speculative profits.

Opposition to the Peace Proposals.

Invitations have now been sent by France to the other twenty powers concerned to attend a Peace Conference in Paris on 29 July 1946, and the Italian Government is preparing for a vigourous opposition to the decisions taken with regard to the peace treaty with Italy by the Big Four Foreign Ministers.

The Italian press at first was unanimous in its outcry against the reported decisions, and some of the comments were very bitter, such as the following: *Giornale d'Italia*—the French are not Latin and have always been hostile to us; in the West we see only the enmity of the French and the revengeful rancour of the British; *Giornale della Sera*—the exploits of the Big Four Hypocrites; fascism has not been defeated after all; it has merely emigrated westward and is still against Italy; *Voce Repubblicana*—M. Bidault, a militant Catholic, the ally of Molotov, an intransigent Communist, has decided to wipe out the results of the Italian victory of 1918, won exclusively by the Italian forces, whilst French resistance on the Marne would not have been possible without Italy's neutrality; *Italia Nuova*—the proposed plan throws a strange light upon Great Britain's efforts to reduce us to impotence in the name of the security of the imperial lines of communications; *Tempo*—the British Govern-

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Other points of agreement reported are on foreign policy, industry, agriculture and public works.

All the parties taking part in the Government will be jointly bound in the defence of Italy's interests concerning the frontiers, colonies, reparations, and the fleet, and all the ministers will be equally responsible for the direction of this policy.

There is to be general adoption of the workers' councils on the pattern of the council recently set up at Fiat's, and perhaps nationalization

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The Government is also to develop as much as possible a sound programme of public works aimed at easing unemployment and creating the necessary conditions for the economic revival of the country. There will be an extraordinary budget for expenditure on public works and reconstruction, to be financed by a national loan to be floated in September, a progressive tax on personal property to be enforced at an economically convenient time, and by the impounding of fascist, war, and speculative profits.

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and in Africa: *Momento*—the foulest international transaction the world ever saw has been achieved by the Four at Paris. There is little individual criticism of the United States, but *Messaggero* speaks of "the sense of uneasiness which is spreading through the United States over the feeble resistance offered by the State Department to the pressure of a foreign country in regard to the Italian peace treaty".

A considerable number of minor incidents have also taken place in Rome, where missiles were thrown at Allied military cars in the Piazza Venezia and insults and whistling resounded outside the French Officers' Hotel; at Padua where an Allied Officers' Club was invaded, and at Trieste where American and British soldiers whose fortune it is to have to try to keep the peace between rival factions in that city have been hooted by both sides. There have been also a number of peaceful anti-Allied demonstrations and at least one strike.

Excesses Regretted.

At times not only friends of Italy but many Italians clearly felt that public reaction was going a little far, and the Prime Minister has urged the people to confine their reactions within limits of great seriousness and has expressed his regret at incidents involving Allied personnel. He has also pointed out to the people that the decisions of the Big Four Foreign Ministers are not irrevocable until after the Peace Conference and that though their decisions have prejudiced Italy's position gravely it is wrong to be carried away by panic and abandon positions of Italianity they are called on to defend. Of all the newspapers *Unità*, and *Avanti!* appear to be in chief agreement with him on this, and the latter has pointedly rebuked the participants in certain disorders.

The Italian Ambassador in Paris is reported by *Messaggero* to have visited Mr Byrnes and Mr Bevin to explain Italy's feelings and to have had "very cordial" talks with them before returning to Rome to report. The Associated Press reports from Washington that the Italian Government has delivered an informal protest against the decisions of the Paris Conference to the Acting Secretary of State but the Italian Ambassador had no comments to make on his conversation with the American State Department.

tries of Latin America have made a common approach to the Big Four in favour of a "right and just peace" with Italy; the statement says the move has been explained to the diplomatic representatives of Russia, Great Britain, and the United States as well as to the Secretary General of the United Nations.

The Italians of Trieste are said to have asked the United Nations that a plebiscite be held in Venezia Giulia before any decision is taken on the fate of the region, and the CLN of Venezia Giulia has sent a telegram to Britain, France, the United States and twelve other nations (not including Russia), arguing that the Big Four's decisions at Paris are violations of the Atlantic Charter, the Yalta agreements and the London resolution and saying that two hundred thousand Italians have thus been unjustly assigned to Yugoslavia.

Benedetto Croce has made a long statement of protest against the Paris decisions to a Brazilian newspaper *Correjo Paulistano*, which was republished in full in *Risorgimento Liberale*, and *Giornale d'Italia* has quoted freely from an article by Leon Blum in the French paper *Populaire* in which he questions the wisdom of the decision to cede Briga and Tenda to France.

TRIESTE DISORDERS

The situation in Trieste has remained troubled ever since the disorders which followed the ambushing of competitors in the *Giro d'Italia* bicycle race on 30 June. A general strike was ordered by the philoslav unions, and this was declared illegal by the Allied Military Government. Many of the strikers have persisted in their action, and there have been unpleasant scenes between strikers and anti-strikers who have kept the Venezia Giulia police and the Allied military police, aided by detachments from military units, extremely busy. It has been announced officially from Trieste that police have been controlling approaches to the city of Trieste from the Morgan line to prevent food from being sent across the line for distribution among the strikers, and that many truck loads, mostly of flour and pasta, have been stopped and confiscated. Transport of food in this manner is against the food rationing laws, for Yugoslavia and the Yugoslav-controlled Zone B are receiving UNRRA supplies

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The Argentine Foreign Ministry is reported to have announced in Buenos Aires that the countries of South America will not recognise the Paris decisions.

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seized bore UNRRA markings. During the disorders tram and railway lines were damaged by explosives.

It is noticeable that of the Rome papers *Unità*, the Communist organ, still speaks of the strike as being by the workers against the violence of fascist and antidemocratic squads, and always describes their opponents as fascists whereas the other newspapers are united in speaking of the strikers as Slovenes and the anti-strikers as Italians. According to *Unità* the strikers demand the disbanding of the Venezia Giulia Civil Police and the protection of popular organizations and newspapers.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The news concerning the food situation continues to be excellent. Amassing of wheat is still going on at a great pace, and the good weather conditions for harvesting and threshing in almost all parts of the country have led to increases in the estimate of the yield; on May 1 the wheat crop was estimated at 5,713,000 tons, but it has now gone up to 5,900,000 tons; oats are estimated at double the 1945 crop and potato production at about 3 million tons also is doubled; the acreage of tomatoes is bigger and here again double last year's crop is anticipated. Only rice of the important crops is not doing well; after heavy rains and low temperatures in many places farmers had to replant or resow, adding greatly to their costs, and also there have been labour troubles, especially at Vercelli. Looking forward to next year the Ministry of Agriculture has issued special instructions for the selection and collection of seed supplies; special field inspections will be made to determine the purity of the variety, freedom from weeds and other important points; the basic price for seed that passes the government tests will be 20 per cent. above the *ammasso* price.

The final totals for the amassing of cereals of the 1945 crop show that in the regular programme 1,033,000 tons or 66.3 per cent. of the announced goal, were amassed and in the supplementary programme 39,900 tons or 58.2 per cent. of the announced goal.

How important early amassing was this year is illustrated once more by a report from Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick, the CLO at Naples. He says that at the beginning of June there were also caused a rapid fall in the price of blackmarket bread— from 140 lire a kilo to 90 in Naples, from 140 to 80 at Nola, 135 to 85 at Avellino; from other districts prices were reported as low as 60 lire a kilo, not far off the new economic price of bread based on the new wheat price. The Naples authorities have issued notices in the Press announcing their intention to control more strictly the sale of bread, pasta, etc. in what they call the "free" and others the "black" market.

"Hunger" Strike.

There was an interesting strike at the Caputo flour mill recently which led to sympathetic strikes in other mills and jeopardized the bread supply for Naples. The labourers alleged malpractices by the management and adulteration of the flour, and as their price to continue work demanded 40 kilos (about 90 lbs) of white flour each a week; at present mill labourers receive 4 to 13 kilos (8 to 30 lbs) of flour per week per head apart from the normal basic ration as part of their emoluments; bakers receive 2 kilos (4½ lbs) of bread per day similarly, pastry workers extra and so on; each profession in its own centre, writes Col. Pennycuick, excuses this practice on the score that individually in its own centre the additional drain on the ration is small.

Estimates of coal imports for July have been reduced by 50,000 tons to 400,000 tons, but the railway coal situation is now in order; all services suspended for lack of coal have been restored from 1 July and the repair shops now have ample supplies.

There was a drop of 11,000 tons in the Sardinian coal production during June to 77,975 tons; this was due not only to miners staying at home to assist in the harvesting of wheat but also to the mobilization of manpower to fight the plague of *cavallette*. Lignite production continues at about 160,000 tons a month.

The reservoirs on which so much of the northern electricity supplies depend are now about 64 per cent. full, the same as at this time a year ago, and are still filling up as Alpine snows continue to melt. Water is again causing anxiety in the South, however, notably at Naples, where the Serino springs show the lowest yield recorded in fifty years and work on new supplies from the Bolla springs has hardly begun.

Derequisitioning of industrial premises goes ahead slowly, but as various military requirements

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describes their opponents as fascists whereas the other newspapers are united in speaking of the strikers as Slovenes and the anti-strikers as Italians. According to *Unità* the strikers demand the disbanding of the Venezia Giulia Civil Police and the protection of popular organizations and newspapers.

ECONOMIC FRONT

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How important early amassing was this year is illustrated once more by a report from Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick, the CLO at Naples. He says that at the beginning of June there were sufficient stocks to maintain the bread ration for only one week in Campania and for even less in Calabria; however local production not only enabled the authorities to maintain the ration but

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Derequisitioning of industrial premises goes ahead slowly, but as various military repair units disappear progress is made; the latest place being vacated is the Eternit asbestos sheeting plant at Bagnoli. Several months ago also at Bagnoli PBS cooperated in a proposal to build workers

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flats and derequisitioned an area quickly so that work might begin in time for the first houses to be ready before winter; the work has not yet begun.

According to *Globo*, the Rome daily commercial newspaper, the loss of Venezia Giulia will cost Italy annually 150,000 tons of cast iron, 60,000 tons of steel, 62,000 tons of mineral oil, 260,000 tons of cement, 34 per cent. of her coal production, 400,000 tons of bauxite, 274 tons of mercury, and the production of 54 per cent. of her shipyards.

Electricity Vagaries.

For a long time inhabitants of Rome have been irritated by the vagaries of the electricity supply, which by some quirk always seems to fail on the hottest days at about noon so that one returning from the morning's work to his abode on the fourth or fifth floor without aid of lifts thinks very dark thoughts. The companies concerned have spoken of unexpected faults in a 20,000 kilowatt transformer at Magliana which transforms current coming from the Edison Company in the North, and on the line from Bressanone to Rome. This 130,000 volt transmission line from Bressanone in the North to Tavernuzze substation near Florence has only recently been restored and the discovery of faults and weaknesses is but natural, though annoying. The installation of an additional transformer at Orte sub-station north of Rome is expected daily and will improve the flow from the North to Central Italy by 15,000 kw., bringing the total to about 130,000 kw. In Central Italy itself the first generator of the four Pescara plants to come into service since their destruction by the Germans in May 1944 was an 8,500-kw. unit at Pescara No. 4 in the last few weeks. The addition to the resources of Central Italy should be of considerable value to industries in the South, to which the Pescara output will be transferred.

Exports and Imports.

Italy is most anxious to resume as soon as possible and on as large a scale as possible her trade with her former colonies and discussions towards this are progressing. These colonies owing to the war were in some cases industrially hamstrung by being cut off, and many of their

The stranger is struck immediately on arrival in Italy at the right season by the great fruit produce of Italy, but here too there is an urgent problem, that of providing sufficient industrial sugar for the preservation of this fruit before it goes to waste. Italy's sugar beet crop will produce sugar in October and November, but that will be too late for the fruit crop. The Italian Government is supporting an effort to save the situation by what are well described as "temporary imports"—sugar being imported from a country for the manufacture of liqueurs, conserves, etc., and these products being re-exported containing the original quantity of sugar imported. Normally Italy exported large quantities of fruit to Germany and other European countries; this year exports are almost confined to supplies for American forces in Germany.

Before the war many truck loads of peaches left Canale, in the Province of Cuneo, daily for London in the season; the first train load of fruit to leave Italy for England for more than six years left Milan on 27 June, crossed the channel on a ferryboat and arrived in London on 1 July.

Reports from various sources suggest that there is a brisk trade in illegal export of wheat from Rovigo and Udine Provinces to Yugoslavia; the prices quoted by *Globo* for this trade are six or seven thousand lire a quintal to the Italian farmer and thirty thousand gold lire to the seller in Yugoslavia and beat even the prices of the palmy old days of the Foggia-Naples trade in 1943-1944, when the Foggiano normally received about three or four thousand lire a quintal and the seller in Naples twelve to eighteen thousand lire. The Provincial Commissioner of Udine has been told to look into the matter and take action. Reading this many an old Public Safety Officer will snort like the warhorse who smelleth the battle afar off and wish he were a' Udine now.

A GENERAL STRIKE?

A week ago it appeared possible that in addition to its other troubles Italy would have a general strike for higher wages, and though with the main political parties in agreement the prospects are better, the situation is not yet clear.

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A wave of strikes has spread down from the North as far South as Bari. In Naples metallurgical workers have demanded an increase in both the bread ration and pay; in Bari brewers have struck for shorter hours and millers and pasta workers have been in semi-strike; at Bologna the DUCATI workers demanded a 30 per cent. increase in pay and the Council of the Provincial Union

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of State Employees passed an order of the day against the possible return to the Treasury of Corbino, whom they considered clearly an enemy of the workers and especially of the State employees; at Rome metallurgical workers had a token strike in support of their demand for higher pay and protest against dismissals; in Verona all land workers declared a general strike, 60,000 being involved; at Padua the regional committee of commercial workers protested against the pegging of salaries.

The big national unions of the printing and paper trades, the miners, the bricklayers, and the radio workers have all been making drives for higher pay. Representatives of the Camera di Lavoro at Turin, Milan, Genoa, and many other cities listened to a speech from G. Di Vittorio expressing the views of the C. G. I. L. secretariat and agreed to await final instructions on their line of action.

Meanwhile the Confederation of Industry, the employers' association, complained on their side that at Brescia industrial directors had been subjected to impositions and violence that were intolerable in any civilized country; that at Biella industrialists had been kidnapped by night and held to induce them to agree to illegal requests; that at Venice they had been prevented by force from entering their own premises; and that at Parma and Pescara they had been threatened with personal violence.

The *Premio della Repubblica* has been welcomed but only as a temporary aid, and today every union in Italy is waiting for the next meeting of the Managing Committee of the C.G.I.L. in Rome on 15 July, when special representatives from the most important towns and unions will be present and the C. G. I. L. will decide what attitude it will take towards the economic and financial proposals of the new Government. According to reports in *Unità* in many places such as Turin, Verona, Naples, and Bologna the unions are determined to have a rise in wages.

Commenting on the situation Riccardo Lombardi in the Action Party's paper *Italia Libera* says that the arguments on the question go round and round in a circle, but he wishes to appeal to political courage, courage which a true democracy must have; he calls on the workers to remember that even though their wages are miserably low a general increase in wages at this time will

In announcing the agreement between the Christian Democrats, Socialists, and Communists on the policy of the new government, *Nenni* said pointedly that the government programme is based on a decrease in the cost of living and that the workers' unions would be invited to adapt their activities accordingly, as this was the only real way to improve the living conditions of the workers. Judged by reports the unions are by no means all in agreement with the political parties' decision, but whether they will come out into the open against them at once or will give the Government a chance to implement its intentions is yet to be decided—at Rome on 15 July.

ODDS AND ENDS

Approval of the plan for the new Naples port road is still held up as the Rome Fine Arts Department wishes to preserve the gutted Bianchini barracks. These barracks are said to be celebrated for two things—for having been designed by Vanvitelli and for the size and ferocity of their bed bugs which are spoken of with awe by members of the Italian forces who were quartered there before they were bombed out.

* * *

During the week the dissolution of the International Agricultural Institute at Rome was voted unanimously. The functions of the institute and its famous collection of agricultural literature of all countries will be taken over by the "Food Agriculture Organisation".

* * *

UNRRA Mission to Italy has published a small booklet *UNRRA Aids Italy*, describing the work done here in the past and what it is doing or intends to do in 1946, with a total target expenditure of $425,000,000 apart from shipping charges. Wherever possible raw materials are being imported rather than manufactured goods in order to give impetus to Italian industrial recovery. As the author writes there is hardly one aspect of Italian life today in which UNRRA's aid and UNRRA's activities do not exert a profound influence. It is the aim of UNRRA, wherever and however it can, to re-

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"but you will find it here in Italy, and will be able to use it as a contribution to the peace of the world."

* * *

Items of news concerning the dropping of the atomic bomb at Bikini still roll in from all parts of the world. Seismograph experts in Rome reported a quiver which might have been the bomb. In Naples some of little faith in the scientists took to the air-raid shelters for security. And the indefatigable "Reuter" has reported one small item from Bikini Lagoon which can hardly have been foreseen. One pig which was present on board the Japanese cruiser *Sakawa* during the explosion of the atomic bomb survived and when the ship sank 24 hours later took to the ocean; scientists cruising in the area several hours later observed him swimming "furiously"; he was rescued and is now "under observation". We have been told in song of a time when pigs had wings, but as trans-Pacific swimmers they have no great record. Before calling for some Mike Jacobs to manage this new champion, it would be wise to clarify one point, the sense in which the word "furiously" is used. Was the stalwart swimming with great energy and enjoying a light training dip or was he so angry that he kept afloat through desire to speak sharply to his quartermaster—for he can hardly have fed for a considerable time and the good books on pig-keeping speak with feeling of the tantrums into which a pig will go if his lunch and dinner are not served at the correct hour!

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WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

The last ten days would in any case have been notable in Italian internal politics, but everything in the home field has been overshadowed by news and rumours from the Paris Conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers; even at the first meeting of the Costituente, the election of its president, and the election of the provisional Head of the State, foreign affairs were always in the foreground.

The Costituente met on 25 June and elected Giuseppe Saragat, a leading Socialist, to be its first president. In the speeches that day every party expressed its anxiety about the intentions of the foreign ministers. V. E. Orlando, the last of the Versailles Big Four after the last war, made what he wanted to be his last big speech, and said that if the reports from Paris were to be confirmed the peace would be a scandalous offence to the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and partisans who fought and died by tens of thousands, because it would transform them into mercenaries of the foreigner who considered the Italians—and consider them—enemies. The Prime Minister, A. De Gasperi, then said that the Italian community would never be able to endure certain mutilations, and the Associated Press reports that the same day the head of the Italian delegation to the Paris Conference stated that "it will be impossible to find a democratic Italian government disposed to sign a treaty which would detach Trieste from the Italian nation". The newspapers were of the same mood.

Yugoslav Reply.

This hardening of Italian opinion met with a reply from a Yugoslav spokesman in Paris that Marshal Tito's government would never sign a peace treaty with Italy which did not accept the Yugoslav solution of creating a seventh Yugoslav republic for Trieste; and other Yugoslav speakers

The next few days were spent in much discussion and speculation about who should be the provisional Head of the State and what would be the first hard news from Paris. The answers came almost simultaneously. On 29 June Enrico De Nicola was elected Head of the State with 396 votes out of 504, and the same day Italians received what was clearly a great shock to the majority in the decision of the Paris Conference to uphold France's claims on the Piemonte border, particularly at Briga, Tenda, and Mont Cenis. The Prime Minister called the news bitter and unexpected and, apart from being an injustice against Italy, a very great error against Italo-French friendship; he spoke of efforts made to prove to France that democratic Italy had repudiated Mussolini's aggressive policy—"Italy renounced her privileges in Tunisia—undertook to repair ten French ships sunk in Italian waters—signed a commercial agreement extremely considerate of French requirements—signed an agreement for the emigration of 20,000 Italian miners reducing to the minimum the guarantees usually required in such agreements—and declared that she was ready to give to France the upper Tinea and Vesubio valleys, Chaberton and the Stretta valley in the Bardonecchia zone and the Little St Bernard Pass; as for Mont Cenis she proposed an Italo-French cooperation for the common use of water power resources."

Newspaper Reaction.

Newspaper reaction was more violent and less courteous. Some headlines are as follows; *Capitale*—the stab in the back has been repaid; *Italia Sera*—always the same, the French rob us of Briga and Tenda; *Giornale della Sera*—the preparation of the third world war in Paris; *Messaggero*—Briga and Tenda sacrificed exclusively for political reasons; *Momento*—Italy without a strategic frontier in the west.

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This hardening of Italian opinion met with a reply from a Yugoslav spokesman in Paris that Marshal Tito's government would never sign a peace treaty with Italy which did not accept the Yugoslav solution of creating a seventh Yugoslav republic for Trieste; and other Yugoslav speakers later confirmed this. Both parties have thus put themselves in a position in which agreement between them seems impossible without one or the other or both losing face.

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The Milan Scala Opera House orchestra led by Signor Toscanini promptly cancelled visits to Paris and London as their sorrow was "too deep".

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In the United States Luigi Antonini, president of the Italo-American Trade Union stated that the reaction of Italo-Americans will be immediate and violent, that six million Italo-Americans will not hesitate to voice their indignation at their government's weakness, and that the Paris decision would poison relations between sister republics and would put an end for ever to the dream of the Latin Union. On the other hand, reports the International News Service from New York, the *New York Herald Tribune* wrote that the Italian indignation over the cession of Briga and Tenda to France was pathetic and absurd; and Luigi Longo in *Unità* said that Briga, Tenda, and what is expected for Trieste are the bill which has fallen due and the expiation of all crimes committed by fascism against humanity and the rights of the people; according to Longo the threat "we will not sign the peace treaty" impresses nobody.

Riots at Trieste.

With Italian opinion already in an excited state came the riots at Trieste on 30 June and 1 July, which appear to have originated in an ambush of bicycle riders in the *Giro d'Italia* race near Trieste and culminated in attacks on Slovene shops and organisations and bloodshed among military, police, and civilians. *Unità* declared that the riots were caused by fascists; others appear to be agreed that it was another simple case of Italians and Slovenes.

At such an uneasy moment on 2 July Enrico De Nicola arrived in Rome, and received De Gasperi, Saragat, Orlando, Sforza—former president of the Consulta—and other deputies. He also received Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, chief commissioner of the Allied Commission. De Nicola's election has received general approval. He is 69 years old, but does not look it; is an eminent jurist; and has great parliamentary experience, having had among other posts that of President of the Chamber of Deputies from 1920 to 1923 when he retired from political life rather than support fascism.

The Government Resigns.

The old government at once resigned, and after the Head of the State had seen the various party leaders De Gasperi was again charged with

cialists want a reduction from twenty-one to ten, but a bigger difficulty is likely to be finding a joint policy on the question of salaries; difficult because a coalition government appears certain and whereas one body has declared itself in favour of pegging salaries to prevent inflation others insist on higher wages.

Press Attack on De Gasperi.

The formation of a new coalition government may not have been made easier, either, by an attack on the Prime Minister which is being conducted by *Unità*. The paper says that he is not only Prime Minister, but also the recognised head of the Christian Democrat party and the Church's *uomo di fiducia*; that during the election campaign lay and clerical speakers, journalists and preachers, from his party conducted a campaign against not only the Communists but against Russia which was "indecent, vulgar, anti-national"; that De Gasperi himself in a conference with the Foreign Press had said there was no liberty in the Soviet Union and found means to defend the monarchist and fascist provocateurs who had attacked a Russian Youth Delegation at Padua.

An important technical point as regards the powers of the new government was indirectly referred to by the president of the Costituente in his opening speech. Under the decree of March which lays down the functions of the assembly there is a division of labour; certain powers are delegated to the government, but, whereas the government can if it wants submit any decision to the assembly, it must submit any electoral law or international treaty such as a revised armistice or the peace treaty.

To cap a week of difficulties for the Prime Minister and of strong emotions for all Italians has come at the last moment the news that late on the evening of 3 July the Big Four Foreign Ministers made an agreement for the Giulian marches and the Italian colonies—they proposed internationalization for the former under the United Nations, and that the colonies should be left under the present administration for a year from the signing of the treaty and that a commission shall during that year study the problem.

Plan for Trieste.

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lies and would put an end for ever to the dream of the Latin Union. On the other hand, reports the International News Service from New York, the *New York Herald Tribune* wrote that the Italian indignation over the cession of Briga and Tenda to France was pathetic and absurd; and Luigi Longo in *Unità* said that Briga, Tenda, and what is expected for Trieste are the bill which has fallen due and the expiation of all crimes committed by fascism against humanity and the rights of the people; according to Longo the threat "we will not sign the peace treaty" impresses nobody.

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The Government Resigns.

The old government at once resigned, and after the Head of the State had seen the various party leaders De Gasperi was again charged with forming a government. Consultations began at once with a view to this and continue at the time of writing. Among points under discussion are a reduction in the number of ministries—the So-

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Plan for Trieste.

As regards Trieste first reports are: firstly the free State of Trieste shall include that part of Venezia Giulia to the west of the French line from

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Duino to the south of Cittanova; secondly the integrity and independance of the State shall be guarranteed by the Security Council of the United Nations; thirdly a special commission representing the four big powers on the Security Council shall present to the Peace Conference a plan for the administration of that territory after consulting with Yugoslav and Italian representatives; fourthly the statute of the territory shall be approved by the Security Council which will report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the basis of Article 15 of the United Nations Charter; fifthly the proposals for the provisional government and for the permanent statute of the free territory shall be laid before the Peace Conference; sixthly the general principles for the provisional government and the permanent statute of the free territory shall be as follows: the governor of the free territory shall be nominated by the Security Council after consultation with representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia; the legislative and judicial branches of the provisional government shall be established in accordance with democratic principles; the rights of the citizens shall be respected as regards religion, language, press, schools, and access to public services; the governor shall make an annual report to the Security Council.

Article 15 of the United Nations Charter requires that the General Assembly shall receive and study annual and special reports from the Security Council covering steps which they have decided upon or put into practice for the maintenance of peace and international security.

The full reaction of the Italians and Yugoslavs to this reported decision are not yet to hand, but first Italian comments are that the ethnical principle has been "completely ignored" and that it is a "punitive peace" and *Messaggero* speaks of threequarters of the population of Pola trying to emigrate into Italy; *Avanti!* carries a long letter from the vice-secretary of the Istrian socialist party proposing a free state of the whole of Venezia Giulia.

Reparations.

While the four foreign ministers were discussing the subject of Italian reparations, *Messaggero* stated that "Molotov shows himself [illegible] it is Bevin who is prepared to renounce the claims to reparations provided the other Powers do the same".

On the other side of the fence, *Unità* asserted: "The Italian memorandum on reparations seems to coincide with Molotov's standpoint", and that "it is more advantageous that she (Italy) should pay a part of the reparations with her industrial production than be deprived of all property abroad, in accordance with the Anglo-American proposals".

Finally, it was announced on the night of 4 July that the conference had reached an agreement on the reparations for Russia; she is to receive goods to the value of one hundred million dollars made up as follows: plant and machinery for manufacture of warlike stores prohibited in the peace treaty and which cannot be rapidly converted to civilian goods production; Italian property in the Soviet Union; property and rights of the Italian government and Italian citizens in Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Russian occupied Germany with certain exceptions; the Italian ships *Saturnia* and *Vulcania* (after refitting by the Italian government); consumer goods in the second period of three years after the treaty comes into force to a total sufficient to bring the grand total up to the hundred million dollars.

The Amnesty Decree.

The three amnesty decrees were approved by the Council of Ministers on 21 June. *Messaggero* refers to the action as "the amnesty of pacification" and a "valid contribution to national solidarity". *Unità* calls it "Republican justice", and states that it is an "act of generosity, and at the same time an act of faith, that is, of faith in itself (the Republic) and its function of pacifying and unifying all the Italians".

Italia Nuova, on the other hand, refers to it sarcastically as the "Pardon of the Republic" and a "Peace without peace". Says that paper: "The Republican amnesty, destined to celebrate the definite 'break with the past', and the beginning of a 'really democratic' order of civil life, reveals itself in substance, instead, as an avaricious concession of limited, conditional and revocable pardons to a limited category of persons", and a "political game" of Togliatti.

The decree, consisting of 14 articles, grants amnesty for political prisoners convicted between

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While the four foreign ministers were discussing the subject of Italian reparations, *Messaggero* stated that "Molotov shows himself uncompromising and would like to mortgage our industrial production, our property in the Balkans, as well as the *Saturnia* and the *Vulcania*". *Minuto* said: "France insists on her claims to the Western frontier", and "this time that "it is more advantageous that she (Italy) should pay a part of the reparations with her industrial production than be deprived of all property abroad, in accordance with the Anglo-American proposals".

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The decree, consisting of 14 articles, grants amnesty for political prisoners convicted between the date of the Italian liberation, 5 May, 1945, and 18 June, 1946, for all common offenses punishable with imprisonment not exceeding 5 years, and a remission of 3 years for longer sentences.

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It also includes political offences committed after 8 Sept., 1943, even if punishable with longer sentences. As for Fascist crimes, death sentences will be commuted to life imprisonment, life terms will be cut to 30 years, and lesser sentences will be reduced by one-third.

The amnesty will not apply to the following crimes: premeditated murder, criminal conspiracy, corruption of public officials, incest, offences against the Allied Forces or foreign States, kidnapping, armed robbery, embezzlement and extortion. It applies to Fascist political crimes and to collaboration with the enemy only if the offenders did not have an " elevated responsibility of civil or military command ", and did not participate in massacres, atrocities, murders, plundering, and when their motives were not based on gain.

THE REFERENDUM - FINAL SCORES

The final scores in the institutional referendum show that neither the decisions of the Court of Cassation upon objections nor the figures from the 118 sections which had not reported on 10 June affect the result. On objections the Republicans won 18 votes and lost 4, and the Monarchists won 25 and lost 30; on the additional sections the Republicans gained 14,758. At first sight it seems remarkable that so few objections should have been lodged with the Court. The Court's declaration, however, takes no account of objections registered at lower levels: probably many were settled at the polling stations or the central offices of the constituencies or were not pressed forward as they were not seriously maintainable. The final score by regions is as follows:

REGION	TOTAL VALID VOTES	REPUBLIC		MONARCHY		REPUBLIC (majority +) (minority —)
		Votes	%	Votes	%	
1. – Piemonte	2,180,150	1,244,171	57.2	935,979	42.8	+ 14.4 %
2. – Liguria	917,420	633,601	69.1	283,819	30.9	+ 38.2 %
3. – Lombardia	3,559,337	2,281,252	64.0	1,278,085	36.0	+ 28.0 %
4. – Trentino	226,150	192,204	85.0	33,946	15.0	+ 70.0 %
5. – Veneto	2,345,115	1,389,976	59.3	955,139	40.7	+ 18.6 %
6. – Emilia	1,981,872	1,527,404	77.6	454,468	22.4	+ 55.2 %
7. – Toscana	1,789,833	1,281,462	71.6	508,371	28.4	+ 43.2 %
8. – Marche	712,483	499,087	70.0	213,396	30.0	+ 40.0 %
9. – Umbria	406,378	293,138	72.1	113,240	28.9	+ 43.2 %
10. – Lazio	1,557,787	756,572	48.5	801,215	51.5	— 3.0 %
11. – Abruzzi	808,876	348,932	43.1	459,944	56.9	— 13.8 %
12. – Campania	1,863,289	436,773	23.4	1,426,516	76.6	— 53.2 %
13. – Puglie	1,428,514	469,739	32.8	958,775	67.2	— 34.4 %
14. – Lucania	266,436	108,321	40.6	158,115	59.4	— 18.8 %
15. – Calabria	851,788	339,161	39.8	512,627	60.2	— 20.4 %
16. – Sicilia	2,013,520	709,177	35.2	1,304,349	64.8	— 29 6 %
17. – Sardegna	528,244	206,939	39.2	321,305	60.8	— 21.6 %
Add/Subtract for decisions of Court of Cassation upon objections	..	+ 14	..	— 5	..	..
	23,437,207	12,717,923	54.2	10,719,284	45.7	+ 8.5 %

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* Or 1,998,639 votes.

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ECONOMIC FRONT

Almost everyone from the Italian Prime Minister to Fiorello La Guardia, the *Parish Magazine* to the *Weekly Bulletin* has been filled for months with gloomy prognostications about the food situation in Italy (and elsewhere), and even as recently as 24 May UNRRA and the Italian Government earnestly enquired as to the possibility of a loan of some twenty thousand tons from military stocks of wheat or flour. The reports were like the recordings on the temperature charts in a malaria ward, and the return to something more nearly normal in fact has been almost as great a shock as that of the fever stricken patient—to hear the Economic Section reporting that with the aid of this and that last reserve of previously unamassed wheat the crisis has been passed and that the general food situation in Italy today is better than it has been for two years, especially as regards distribution. Except for temporary shortages of flour in two or three of the larger cities the bread crisis is over. The payment of a premium for early amassing of wheat has had a marked effect in speeding deliveries; official figures give 2,100,000 quintals amassed by 27 June, unofficial newspaper figures over 4 million quintals by 30 June, against a previous high record for June of 1,392,000 quintals in 1943. Whether the producers will continue to amass with such enthusiasm when the premiums decline and finally cease naturally is uncertain, but in the main they do appear to consider the basic price a fair one. It is to be hoped that strikes by the *mondine* in the Vercelli rice fields and by harvesters in Verona Province have been settled without damage to the crops.

Coal and Petrol.

June was a bad month for coal imports. The total was only 129,550 tons against allocations in Italy of 425,000 tons. Stocks dropped heavily and in many places, especially at Trieste, great anxiety was felt about the prospect of almost complete stoppage of whole industries. However prospects for July are better; stocks now stand at approximately 370,000 tons and imports are expected to be about 450,000 tons against allocations in Italy of 390,000 tons.

The dispute between the directors of CIP and the petroleum workers has not yet been

Railway Wagon Shortage.

The Italian State Railways in spite of the presence of much German equipment are short of about 40,000 wagons. A number are still in the service of the Allied forces, but many are out of action solely because the repair shops are short of material, especially coal (Giulio Canali, writing in *Messaggero*, gives another explanation, asserting that the Yugoslavs take all the Italian railway wagons arriving from Trieste loaded with UNRRA goods and cancel their identity marks; in this way he claims twenty wagons a day, and so far in all ten thousand, have disappeared from Italian ken.)

Mechanizing Agriculture.

Those who have watched in the last three years the primitive machinery with which agriculture is carried on in many parts of Sicily and Southern Italy, even in the wheatfields of Foggia, the wooden ploughs, the slow oxen, and the handthreshing, will sympathize with the writer of an article in *Capitale* when he says: "To industrialize agriculture and solve the question of wine are the first duties of the Costituente towards Southern Italy." It should help in the former that the military authorities have finally derequisitioned the "Fusaro" plant in Naples, which formerly built torpedoes for the Italian Navy and is to be converted for production of agricultural machinery. The tractors purchased on the F.C.A. account have all been put into the hands of the Federazione Consorzi Agricoli and almost all of them are now in use. It was suggested that the Allied Commission had delayed distribution of these tractors by insisting on high prices for them; in fact, Colonel C. W. Walton, acting vice-president of the Economic Section, points out that the price was fixed by the Italian Government and that the prices paid by the Italian farmer are slightly below the selling prices of the same tractors in the United States.

"The question of wine" is enough to turn the poet Horace in his sleep, not to mention such outlanders as Anacreon and Fitzgerald. Let the Costituente verily beware that they solve this dire problem wisely; let but a single litre of good wine turn to vinegar or run forth upon the

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The dispute between the directors of CIP and the petroleum workers has not yet been solved in a formal meeting, but informal meetings have brought amicable agreement on many points and a general accord is anticipated. POL stocks are satisfactory.

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UNUSUAL POPULARITY OF THE POLICE

Probably few apart from the old AMG Public Safety Officers fully understand the difficulties under which the Italian police forces have laboured since liberation, and it is therefore a special pleasure for Public Safety Officers to hear in these days instead of the usual disparaging criticisms and complaints general commendation for the conduct of the police before, during, and after the elections and referendum. Remembering that there were some 36,000 polling stations requiring four men apiece for at least 48 hours, and that the total effective strength of PS *agenti* and Carabinieri was not more than 110,000, one can assess, what was only one problem, the strain on manpower; in spite of having to work very long hours the police generally showed great patience and good humour.

In the early days in South and Central Italy we found these forces dispirited, badly equipped, in many cases without leaders, invariably without transport or communications, and with pay which by American or British standards was so low as to be almost a direct incentive to petty corruption; in the North instead we found no police proper but some remarkable *polizia del popole*, remarkable in that they included not only many honest, hardworking and intelligent patriots but also many ex-criminals and persons inserted purely for political reasons.

Today these forces have been sieved repeatedly, their discipline has been tightened beyond recognition, training schools are in full swing, and slowly but surely arms of more suitable type, ammunition, uniform, and military transport turned over to the Italian Government have become available. The Carabinieri section of public safety officers attached to Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA), after the PS Sub-Commission had once more drawn attention to the desperate state of the Carabinieri in Emilia last autumn, has been able to persuade higher authority of the need for turning over much surplus military Allied transport, and today this police body is better motorized than ever before.

Much remains to be done, notably as regards pay and communications, but a proof of progress is to be found in the great increase in percentage of crimes solved to crimes reported; even in the wildest parts of Sicily many a zealous brigand has burden of political meetings and elections the united police forces of Trapani, for example, have cleaned up seven bands in a few days, and Allied Military and Italian police near Pisa are reported to have captured about two hundred deserters and their camp-followers. Many policemen have given their lives in the struggle, perhaps the most notable example being that of eight Carabinieri murdered in Caltanissetta Province after the successful siege of their lonely *caserma* by bandits. They died, and others will die, fighting for freedom in their country as surely as did many Italian policemen attached to the Fifth and Eighth Armies.

ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

Repatriation of all of the 38,000 Italian prisoners of war who were in French North Africa has been completed, with the exception of a few sick in Algerian hospitals, according to figures supplied by the Italian Prisoners of War Division, MMIA (Land Forces Sub-Commission), of which the Lt. Col. James E. Regis (A), is Chief.

Out of a total of 1,285,121 Italian prisoners of war at the beginning of repatriation by the Allies, only 159,580 still await shipment back to their homeland. This means that 87.6 per cent. have already been returned. IPW are now being repatriated, under an intensified program spurred by Col. Regis, at an average rate of about 10,000 a week, principally from England and Scotland, the Middle East and East Africa.

All IPW have been repatriated, excepting a few isolated cases, from North and West Africa, the United States, France, Germany and Switzerland. Remaining to be shipped home are 25,565 out of an original 158,029 in England and Scotland; 21,481 out of 42,504 in East Africa; 27,322; out of 40,791 in South Africa; 34,170 out of 70,091 in the Middle East; 16,513 out of 33,302 in India; 17,024 out of 17,657 in Australia; 2,000 from Iran (Persia), 8,374 from Russia and 10,296 from the Balkans. Only 15 out of 541 remain in Gibraltar.

At the present rate of repatriation, the work of the IPW Division should be completed in about four months, but it is doubtful if some of the prisoners from the more distant lands—Australia, India and South Africa—can be completed in that time. It is hoped, however, that by the

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Safety Officers fully understand the difficulties under which the Italian police forces have laboured since liberation, and it is therefore a special pleasure for Public Safety Officers to hear in these days instead of the usual disparaging criticisms and complaints general commendation for the conduct of the police before, during, and after the elections and referendum. Remembering that there were some 36,000 polling stations requiring four men apiece for at least 48 hours, and that the total effective strength of PS *agenti* and Carabinieri was not more than 140,000, one can assess, what was only one problem, the strain on manpower; in spite of having to work very long hours the police generally showed great patience and good humour.

In the early days in South and Central Italy we found these forces dispirited, badly equipped, in many cases without leaders, invariably without transport or communications, and with pay which by American or British standards was so low as to be almost a direct incentive to petty corruption; in the North instead we found no police proper but some remarkable *polizia del popolo*, remarkable in that they included not only many honest, hardworking and intelligent patriots but also many ex-criminals and persons inserted purely for political reasons.

Today these forces have been sieved repeatedly, their discipline has been tightened beyond recognition, training schools are in full swing, and slowly but surely arms of more suitable type, ammunition, uniform, and military transport turned over to the Italian Government have become available. The Carabinieri section of public safety officers attached to Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA), after the PS Sub-Commission had once more drawn attention to the desperate state of the Carabinieri in Emilia last autumn, has been able to persuade higher authority of the need for turning over much surplus military Allied transport, and today this police body is better motorized than ever before.

Much remains to be done, notably as regards pay and communications, but a proof of progress is to be found in the great increase in percentage of crimes solved to crimes reported; even in the wildest parts of Sicily many a zealous brigand has found an unhappy home in goal, and it is believed the gay free life of Giuliano, brigand of brigands, is nearing the appointed end. Freed from the threat of Fascist and Nazi interference, and with the help of the Allied Military Government, the Italian police have made a good start on the road to democratic policing. Their task is not an easy one, for they have to deal with the remnants of Fascist and Nazi gangsters and their camp-followers. Many policemen have given their lives in the struggle, perhaps the most notable example being that of eight Carabinieri murdered in Caltanissetta Province after the successful siege of their lonely *caserma* by bandits. They died, and others will die, fighting for freedom in their country as surely as did many Italian policemen attached to the Fifth and Eighth Armies.

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At the present rate of repatriation, the work of the IPW Division should be completed in about four months, but it is doubtful if some of the prisoners from the more distant lands—Australia, India and South Africa—can be completed in that time. It is hoped, however, that by the end of this year all PWs will have been returned home.

This has not been achieved without a great deal of effort on the part of the IPW section.

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Lt. Col. Regis, for example, has made several journeys the length and breadth of the Mediterranean and Western Europe, smoothing out difficulties here, spurring on sluggards there and in between times retiring unwillingly twice into hospital when even his unquenchable enthusiasm could not overcome a reluctant body.

SHOE SHINE BOY

Every Allied soldier who has visited Rome knows 'Shoe Shine' boy, but few know anything about the background of his life. However, he has many friends in the 2675th Regt and here 'Joe' writes to tell us about him:

«'Shoe Shine' boy and his brothers one hundred strong are unique, and live in a redecorated basement in Rome. The walls are muraled, the floors spotless, the rooms clean. He and his buddies bunk on double deckers. His abode the 'Shoe Shine' hotel is a masterpiece of good government and a haven of peace and contentment. He fits into this scheme of government and elects his own representatives, and they in turn form the laws. In the group you will find singers, artists, future lawyers, doctors, seminarians, and a great many other professions. Why, there is even a future Caruso in the group, and we sincerely believe that in time he will rival the work of the great Italian. Yes, these little friends of ours are truly wonderful personalities. They do not have the best of clothing, but what they do have, is neat and clean. 'Shoe Shine' boy and his companions are orphans, motherless and fatherless, with no place to call home, except the 'Shoe Shine' hotel.

«'Shoe Shine' boy became our friend on a Sunday afternoon. The Shinola Express pulled out of Rome with the first group of fifty boys and their instructors the Salesian fathers, and a weapons carrier loaded with GIs, Coca Cola, baseballs, softballs, and boxing gloves. Before the return trip the lads acquainted themselves with these weapons of sport and learned several lessons in team play. They were happy going out and coming back, and a lump came into our throats as we watched them board the buses cheering and singing and riding along the streets of Rome into true aristocratic style.

«The second Sunday afternoon was a little sunnier and the boys had a chance to do some swimming. It was wonderful watching them

«Some day these ancient monuments will ring to the sound of a new spirit that these 'Shoe Shine' boys are forming.»

ODDS AND ENDS

Special Orders No. 142, dated 20 June, contain, in cold military terminology, an announcement that is bound to interest everyone who has served with the Allied Commission or Allied Military Government. It reads:

"2. Brig. J. K. DUNLOP, OBE, MC, 16547, Gen Staff (B), is reld fr atchmt w Lombardia Liaison Grp, all further asgmt and dy w the Allied Commission on proceeding to UK, eff 15 June 46."

The scores of friends of the Brigadier will receive this bit of official news, if they haven't already done so, with the definite feeling that they and Allied Commission have lost a cherished associate of long standing.

The Italian people, too, with whom Brigadier Dunlop came often into intimate contact "from the toe to the top of Italy—not to mention Sardinia", will regret the departure of a sincere friend who, in his close to three years' service in this country, came to appreciate and love them for their good qualities.

On the same orders with that of the Brigadier was also a paragraph relieving Maj. H. A. Symons (B) from assignment and duty with the Lombardia Liaison Group, as well as with the Allied Commission. He is proceeding to the United Kingdom for release from the Army. Other British officers going home for release include: Lt. Col. W. H. Green, Communications Sub-Commission; Maj. J. H. Lloyd-Davies, Liguria Liaison Group; Maj. H. J. D. Utley, Office of the Executive Commissioner; Capt. N. J. D. Evans, Venezie Liaison Group; Capt. W. King, AMG Venezia Giulia, and Capt. W. A. Balfour.

On 1 July came orders announcing the release also of Colonel A. N. Hancock from assignment and duty with Lombardia Liaison Group, and all further assignment and duty with the Allied Commission on proceeding for release from the Army, effective 15 June 1946. Colonel Hancock is now attached to the British Embassy in Rome as an economics adviser.

* * *

The "R" Civilian Internee Camp at Terni,

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«The second Sunday afternoon was a little sunnier and the boys had a chance to do some swimming. It was wonderful watching them enjoy themselves and truly a pleasure to see them playing together, working together, and building toward a secure and solid future, rid of hate and injustice.

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* * *

The "R" Civilian Internee Camp at Terni, which had been under the jurisdiction of the Security Division of Public Safety Sub-Commission, has been closed and the internees have been transferred to Riccione.

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* * *

Col. Norman E. Fiske (A), Deputy Commander of MMIA, on 19 June presented the American Bronze Star Medal to Brigadiere Celestino Bottello at the Carabinieri barracks in Via Legnano, Rome, "for meritorious service in connection with military operations, Counter-Intelligence Corps of the 1st Armored Division from 10 September 1944 to 2 May 1945." Brigadiere Bottello interrogated hundreds of German prisoners, thereby materially aiding the security of the Division.

* * *

A few more awards have come through: *Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* – (*Commander*) Col. Charles W. Walton; (*Knight*) Maj. Edward D. S. Sullivan; *Crown of Italy* – (*Commander*) Lt. Col. G. G. Webster, Jr.; (*Knight Officer*) Majs. Richard B. Bullock and Kenneth J. Curran; (*Knight*) Capts. Harry Galkin, Max K. Johnson and Charles T. Kurlan, and Lt. James M. Arensberg... *Mentions in Despatches* (British personnel) – Col. G. M. Frizelle, Lt. Col. G. A. Campbell.

* * *

The Italian Government does not want any more Allied ammunition turned over to it. The Government suggests that the remaining ammunition which the Allies do not want be dumped into the sea. Meanwhile, the question of guarding the ammunition dumps is providing a headache.

* * *

One is well accustomed to the inconsistencies and selfcontradictions of the Irish, and how many Allied soldiers have wondered at the Italians' insatiable appetite for *feste*. But surely not even the Irish have produced such a beatiful thought or the Italians conjured up so ingeniously a *festa* as have the British in CMF in celebrating American Independence Day on 4 July this year with a whole holiday. How wonderful a thing that alliance in two later crises should enable two peoples to make up so completely an old quarrel.

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May 25, 1946 Vol. III, No. 8

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785027

POLITICAL

The week of politics just passed seemed more or less a lull while the parties girded their loins for their final pre-election efforts in the next few days before the June 2 balloting. Charges and counter-charges of attempts at intimidation, plots to overthrow the state—depending on who won the elections, accusations that the Monarchists were tampering with the Navy or that the Communists were allegedly subverting the loyalty of the Army, filled the party newspapers. Minister of Interior Romita held numerous conferences on the state of public order, with which he declared himself satisfied.

May 24, the date of Italy's entry into World War I, was celebrated in Rome fairly quietly. General Bencivenga (Monarchist) spoke at Piazza del Popolo while the Council of Ministers led by Prime Minister De Gasperi paid tribute at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Gasparotto doing the oratorical honors. Much of the Piazza del Popolo crowd later made its way to the Quirinal where it cheered King Umberto II and brawled a bit with the police, nearly 40 persons, mostly youngsters, being arrested and later released after severe reprimands.

The Monarchist press, led by *Italia Nuova*, made hay of the apparent electoral initiative being shown by the King who made surprise visits to Sardinia (the 19th), Naples (the 20th) and Turin (the 22nd). In Naples the republicans organized a counter-demonstration the day after the King left while the Leftist papers in general, *Unità* in particular, loudly deprecated whatever significance the King's movements may have had. Early in the week, too, was published King Victor Emanuel's farewell abdication letter to his son, Umberto, in which he said that he "always in-

president, who will address the assembly on the next day. If the republicans win the referendum, the 26th will be devoted to choosing a provisional head of the State, which will take some time. If the monarchy wins, the assembly will proceed at once to studying a new constitution. The *Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican organ, also this week published the declarations of the Umbrian and Calabrian episcopates on the elections which were quoted as prohibiting any adherence by Catholics " to ideologies condemned by the Church, such as those inspired by Marxism, notwithstanding their much-claimed respect for religion ".

De Gasperi gave the United Press an interview in which he suggested placing the Trieste dispute before the United Nations and denounced what he termed French and Austrian attempts to transform " minor frontier rectifications " (as approved in principle by the Big Four Foreign Ministers) into large territorial annexations. He stressed again that no Italian Government could stand which signed a treaty giving up Italian rights in Venezia Giulia including Pola, Rovigno and other towns " which are more Italian than Trieste itself". It is expected that De Gasperi will go to Paris again to present Italy's case on Austrian and French claims.

The Council of Ministers, which met twice on the 23rd, of course, had its fingers in all the pies. Nenni voiced concern over possible infringement of Italian rights in allowing TWA to help in setting up Italian internal air lines. The recent seizure of Italian fishing boats by the Yugoslavs was discussed. A spirited exchange took place over the presence of alleged " action squads " of some parties in Milan, De Gasperi asking if it were true and pointing out that private elements should not be allowed to interfere with the action of the State organizations in matters of public

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Messaggero discussed future developments after the elections, saying that the new *Costituente* will meet for the first time on June 24 to elect its president, who will address the assembly on the next day. If the republicans win the referendum, the 26th will be devoted to choosing a provisional head of the State, which will take some time. If the monarchy wins, the assembly will proceed at once to studying a new constitution. The *Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican organ, also this week published the declarations of the Umbrian and Calabrian episcopates on the elections which were quoted as prohibiting any adherence by Catholics "to ideologies condemned by the Church, such as those inspired by Marxism, notwithstanding their much-claimed respect for religion".

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matter, the Council passed the following resolution, which reads in part:

"The Council of Ministers, recalling that the (Election) Law which was approved by the *Consulta*, passed by the Council of Ministers itself, and confirmed and promulgated by the Head of the State, pledges everybody to respect the result of the popular referendum; reaffirms its decision with the utmost energy and objectivity so that the voting may be carried out in an atmosphere of liberty and under the full authority of the State, which alone has the task and the right to safeguard public order which is its exclusive responsibility. The Government, therefore, intends to prevent and repress any intimidation or violence and to impede any possible attempt to prepare or to constitute any armed party organization, and appeals to the parties and the press to support its efforts to instill in the people the sense of responsibility and self-discipline which they proved to have during the recent administrative elections".

The Council also approved a declaration of confidence in the armed forces in which it also warned against illegal partisan activity. Finally, decrees were also approved for the periodical increase of wages for temporary State employes, abrogation of Fascist rules concerning magistrates, increasing by 20 billion lire the economic rehabilitation fund and putting Partisans on the same civil footing as persons who volunteered for the War of Liberation (against Germany).

ECONOMIC FRONT

The Italian grain situation remains extremely grave. Press reports that the bread ration will be cut or will not be cut succeed each other devastatingly. As we are informed by Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper (B), director of the Food and Agriculture Branch, from his UNRRA sources, the position is as follows: The danger period looks to be the first half of June. On June 1, the estimated stock position is expected to be 40,600 tons. This includes the special amassing results (whose goal is 68,500, set by the Italian Government, instead of the 150,000 tons originally recommended by UNRRA). In the period from May 1 to May 20 inclusive, the special drive brought in some 18,000 tons or nearly 27 per cent. of the target. (Rice amassed under the same program brought in 9,300 tons up to May 18.) actual delivery to Italian ports may occur very late in June. Consumption in May is figured at 9,000 tons a day or 279,000 for the month. But the first week of Junew ill find the cupboard quite bare in several regions.

Col. H. R. Walker (A), director of the Industry and Utilities Branch, gives us more hopeful news from his UNRRA pipelines. Through assiduous scrounging for the month of June, it is estimated that as much as 336,000 tons of coal will arrive in Italy from all sources and despite the recent coal strike in the States. This includes 133,000 tons from the Ruhr, 18,000 from South Africa, 36,000 from the U. K., 94,000 from the U. S., 32,000 from the Persian Gulf and 33,000 for British military use, from which stocks some is usually left over for civilian use. Col. Walker also reports that the POL situation is better, there being a 60-day reserve in all except diesel oil.

The Mixed Advisory Committee on Italian International Trade held its third meeting this week and is going through the ritual of setting up procedures and plans. The committee is composed of Italian Government, American Embassy, British Embassy, UNRRA and Allied Commission representatives and in a measure takes the place of the once-suggested Tri-partite Economic Council (of Italy, U. S. and the U. K.) as an instrument for spurring Italian foreign trade. The importation of sugar was considered, among other matters, at this last meeting, there being available 20,000 tons in Switzerland. The problem is to get allocation authority from the Combined Food Board.

In the general expediting of the distribution of imported supplies undertaken by A. C., Brigadier Matthew Carr, vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, reports on a plan which should solve the difficulty in medical supplies if applied with dispatch. The plan envisages (1) immediate credits to needy hospitals (for which the Italian Treasury will advance 200 million lire), (2) a request to all provinces to submit hospital medical supply needs at once, 3) listing of the needs of welfare and beneficial societies which supply drugs to an estimated 18,000,000 workers, and (4) a promise to put all that remains at the disposal of public drug stores. The priorities of reception are in the order just stated. All ENDIMEA warehouses, it is hoped, will be emptied of their supplies by December, 1946, the date being thus fixed to allow Italian [illegible]

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consisted of stuff imported on AC-FEA or Italian Government account, since the first UNRRA imports of fertilizer (240 tons of ammonium nitrate) did not arrive in Italy until April 30.

There are various odd pieces of news: The Italian trawler *Aringa* got into port recently with 50 tons of refrigerated fish caught off West Africa. Lieut. Col. F. W. Tooby (B) is back from LIAP and at work on Economic Section Special Projects. Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis (A), CLO in Venezie, reports that the average cost of living for a family of three in his area is 18,000 lire a month. Free and black market prices in representative Italian cities, as of May 19, are reported as follows from sources tapped by Col. Cowper's Food and Agriculture staff:

White bread – 175 lire a kilo in Rome, 190 in Palermo, 120 in Florence, 160 in Naples and 140 in Milan; *white pasta* – 230 in Rome, 150 Palermo, 160 Florence, 145 Naples and 170 Milan; *olive oil* – 450 Rome, 330 Palermo, 800 Florence, 450 Naples, 630 Milan; *sugar* – 1,300 Rome, 1,100 Palermo, 1,200 Florence, 1,300 Naples, 1,300 Milan; *butter* – 700 Rome, 700 Palermo, 850 Florence, 750 Naples, 660 Milan; *eggs* – 18 lire each in Rome, 15 Palermo, 14 Florence, 20 Naples, 15 Milan.

ELECTION NOTES

With eight days to go before the climacteric national elections of Italy's new political era, it is of interest to report several developments in the preparations for the voting, as given to us by Major Ralph R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, who is keeping constant liaison with the Ministry of Interior in order to be kept completely informed. Here are the latest available facts on various points:

POWs – With repatriation of POWs proceeding at an accelerated rate, the problem of insuring that the returnees get their vote has been preoccupying the authorities. POWs, we are told, are in the same position as any resident Italian since electors' lists are based on the permanent population registers in which the name of all Italians, including POWs, are inscribed at birth and which remain there until the resident himself gives notice of a permanent change of residence. Relatives of POWs looked after their interests in many cases. Thus, theoretically a POW *should* and for obvious reasons of getting ready for the elections, it may be too late to do anything about getting unregistered POWs on the electoral lists. Even those returned POWs who were on registers and were therefore listed on the electoral rolls had better make sure to call for their certificates since many could not be found at their pre-war place of residence when the town messenger called. Town halls will stay open from 9 a. m. to 7 p. m. every day up to and including election day so that anyone can call and obtain his voting certificate.

Military Personnel – Active members of the Italian armed forces are also having their own difficulties on the same subject, about which steps are being taken. Under the law, military commanders were required to apply to the sindacos of their soldiers' towns. This requirement was fulfilled quite carefully by the commanders. However, in many cases the sindacos replied that the soldier in question was not on the lists, for which there are several cogent reasons: many soldiers, sailors and airmen have been serving with the armed forces for years and have been out of touch with their native towns or their hometown records were lost or their homes destroyed and families moved. Remedies have been fashioned by allowing such cases to be registered in communes where they are stationed after having affidavits filed by the commanders where soldiers were unregistered through no fault of their own. In this manner some 13,000 such soldiers were inscribed on the electoral rolls in Rome alone by 18 May when the additional lists were closed. The same procedure has applied in Naples and other Italian cities. Military commanders have been instructed to handle the matter through the prefects of the provinces. The Ministries of War, Marine and Air are all cooperating.

Protection Arrangements – The Electoral Service of the Ministry of Interior plans to have at least four guards at each polling place no matter how many polling places are located in the same building. Two of the four guards will be Carabinieri and Agents of Public Security and the other two will be drawn from forest guards, finance guards, fire brigade, municipal police and troops. Arrangements have been made with the Ministry of War to obtain the service of several thousand troops. Further, each political party has the right to appoint two "representatives of

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with 50 tons of refrigerated fish caught off West Africa. Lieut. Col. F. W. Tooby (B) is back from LIAP and at work on Economic Section Special Projects. Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis (A), CLO in Venezie, reports that the average cost of living for a family of three in his area is 18,000 lire a month. Free and black market prices in representative Italian cities, as of May 19, are reported as follows from sources tapped by Col. Cowper's Food and Agriculture staff:

White bread – 175 lire a kilo in Rome, 190 in Palermo, 120 in Florence, 160 in Naples and 140 in Milan; *white pasta* – 230 in Rome, 150 Palermo, 160 Florence, 145 Naples and 170 Milan; *olive oil* – 450 Rome, 330 Palermo, 800 Florence, 450 Naples, 630 Milan; *sugar* – 1,300 Rome, 1,100 Palermo, 1,200 Florence, 1,300 Naples, 1,300 Milan; *butter* – 700 Rome, 700 Palermo, 850 Florence, 750 Naples, 660 Milan; *eggs* – 18 lire each in Rome, 15 Palermo, 14 Florence, 20 Naples, 15 Milan.

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police and troops will be regrouped to form escorts for the convoy of the ballots to the nearest Tribunale, thence to the Central Office of the constituency and again lastly to the Court of Cassation in Rome.

DELIVERY OF ELECTORAL CERTIFICATES – In Naples, there were some 60,000 certificates undelivered as of 14 May. Out of the 547,133 electoral certificates in that city, 155,133 had been undelivered by 2 May. Many had been so because of the negligence of messengers, several since punished. Further, 12,000 were found to be those of prisoners or deceased persons. In Rome by 2 May there were 256,000 certificates not delivered. However, by 14 May, nearly 80,000 had been called for at the big electoral office in Via Nazionale. Other deliveries will be made following checks of tax records and food cards being made to trace owners of certificates still not called for. Another difficulty was the assignment of voters to sections distant from their residence which, however, had been adjusted in part by a sindacal manifesto allowing complainants to apply for rectification, though when the names of the 960,000 registered electors of Rome were publicly posted for inspection and complaint in February, only 123 appeals were made then by voters against their assignment to distant voting sections. The original errors in mal-assignments had been made, it was explained, because Rome registers were woefully out-of-date because of the lack of adequate quarters for polling stations in many parts of the city and because of the distribution at random and without plan of voters' names to sections several kilometers away.

NATIONAL CONSTITUENCY – Under the Italian proportional system of voting and counting ballots, there is a national college or constituency where unused votes and seats are proportionally redistributed. The business works as follows: There are 32 constituencies. All will vote except none of Venezia Giulia and only Trento Province in the Alto Adige constituency, Bolzano not being ready to vote. There are 573 seats to be contested among the 30 ½ election districts and the seats assigned by law to each district are distributed among the contending parties in proportion to votes gained. The arithmetic of this proportional representation, however, often results in not filling every one of the seats assigned to the election district and in leaving a certain number of unused votes from the field going to party candidates in the national college. Eleven parties have registered for the national college – Communists, Unionist Movement, Uomo Qualunque, Republicans, Social Christians, Christian Democrats, Socialists, Democratic Republican Concentration, Action, National Democratic Union and National Bloc of Liberty. The candidates on the national constituency lists must have already been nominated for seats in the field but if elected on the national ticket must give up their local seat. All the well-known political leaders of Italy are represented on the national ticket except Prime Minister De Gasperi who is a candidate in Trente, his birthplace. In the national lists, each party has listed its candidates numerically in order of preference and the proportion of unused party votes accruing from the field will thus go to each national candidate in the order of his listing.

INSTRUCTIONS TO A. C. LIAISON OFFICERS – Observation of the national elections by Allied Commission liaison officers in the field will follow the same lines taken at the administrative elections, according to a directive sent out by the Civil Affairs Section. The A. C. officers will report on law and order, any unusual incidents, how the proceedings went, whether many electors had to apply to the town Municipio for their electoral certificates on voting day, whether there was any electioneering within 200 meters of a polling station (which is prohibited by law), guarding of the ballot boxes, etc. A. C. officers MUST NOT ENTER polling stations. Officers of the Local Government Sub-Commission will observe elections in Rome, Milan and Naples.

THE "OLD MAN" SCORES AGAIN

Feeling almost as if we were sharing in the kudos, we are proud to report that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, has been awarded the United States Navy Distinguished Service Medal, which, as is only natural, must be dear to his heart, coming from his own service. He received the United States Army Distinguished Service Medal last fall.

The Admiral was decorated with the prized honor by Rear Admiral Jules James, Commander, United States Naval Forces, Mediterranean, in a ceremony yesterday (May 24) at Villa Emma in

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The Admiral was decorated with the prized honor by Rear Admiral Jules James, Commander, United States Naval Forces, Mediterranean, in a ceremony yesterday (May 24) at Villa Emma in Naples, famed as the abode in the Napoleonic era of Lord Nelson's Lady Hamilton and incidentally, the scene of a previous ceremony last year when the Admiral got the C. B. E. from the British Government.

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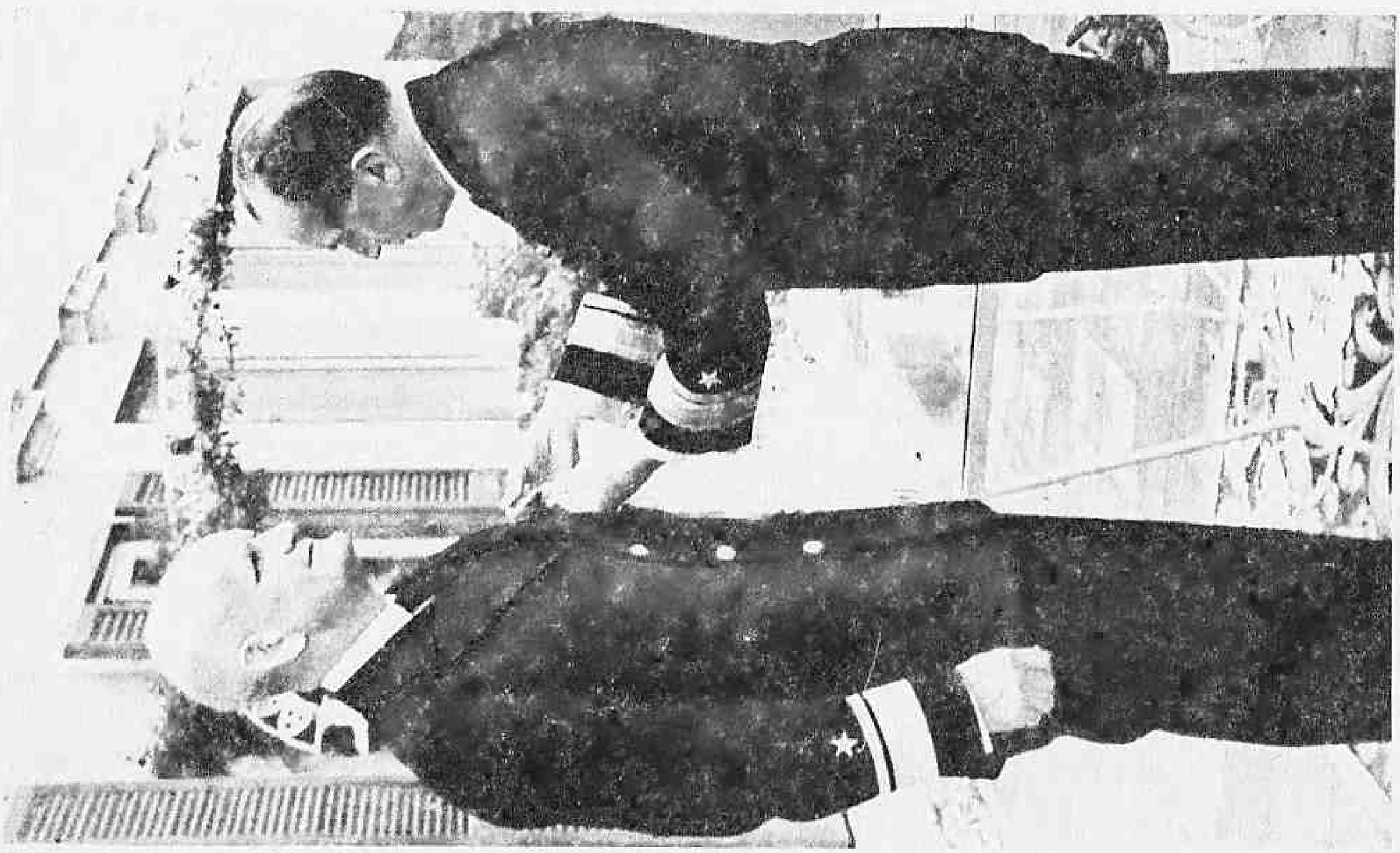

Rear Admiral [illegible] W. [illegible] (USN) receives the United States Navy Distinguished Service Medal from Rear Admiral Horace James, USN, commander United States Naval Forces, Mediterranean, at Naples, Italy.

The document from the U. S. Secretary of Navy accompanying the award reads as follows:

"The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the *Distinguished Service Medal* to

REAR ADMIRAL ELLERY WHEELER STONE
UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE

for service as set forth in the following

Citation:

'For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission for Italy, and Chief Civil Affairs Officer of Occupied Territory under Allied Military Government in Italy from May 1, 1945, to May 1, 1946. Assuming full executive responsibility for the activities of the Allied Commission in connection with all relations with the government of Italy, the interpretation and execution of the surrender terms between the Allied Nations and the Italian government, Rear Admiral Stone also served with distinction in supervising the many involved aspects of civil affairs within those parts of Italy under Allied Military Government. Called upon to coordinate the activities of various nations, to face and solve the most difficult political problems and to represent the Allied Nations before the Italian people, he displayed the highest qualities of intelligence, tact, administrative ability, sound judgment, broad vision, exceptional energy and diplomatic skill. As a result of his wise leadership and his keen understanding of the varied problems confronting him, the relations between the Allied Nations and the government of Italy have steadily progressed toward a satisfactory conclusion. His distinguished service in the fulfillment of a mission of international importance reflects the highest credit upon Rear Admiral Stone and the United States Naval Service.'

For the President,
(*Sd.*) JAMES FORRESTAL
Secretary of the Navy"

P. S. — Last night the "Old Man" was wearing his Navy DSM *before* his Army one. He insisted it was Navy regulations but we had our own mind about it—and we don't blame him.

DISPLACED PERSONS

UNRRA took over from Allied Commission in January and February of this year have been found outside the UNRRA Charter and are being thrown back into the arms of the very depleted A. C. Displaced Persons Sub-Commission to hold them until some other organization can be found to take care of them.

Fortunately for D. P. R. S. C. some of the former camp staff, and more especially, it is hoped, the British Red Cross Welfare Section, are comig back also. To those who do not realize the devotion of the Welfare worker to the Displaced Persons in their care, the letters and requests received by Headquarters D. P. R. S. C. and the British Red Cross would seem strange but very pleasing in this somewhat money-minded post-war world. The hope is to get the DPs to go home to their own kindred and countries and to see those who, unfortunately, have too strong political ideas to go home, well on their way to resettlement in other lands beyond the seas.

As to UNRRA's Charter, it is somewhat difficult for many to comprehend, but it involves a dead-line and unfortunately many of the DPs now in Italy did not enter this country until after the 2 May 1945, the date of the German surrender, which is the period covered by the UNRRA Charter. For those of Jewish faith who have suffered so much, no such date exists.

Thus our sub-commission, whose W/E at present calls for administration of only five camps, with about 4,000 inhabitants, must now take over about 10 others, with the 12,000 UNRRA "unacceptables", plus two Polish camps with 7,000 Poles at Barletta-Trani which were also slated for UNRRA. This means a load of about 20,000 refugee DPs in 15 camps again under A. C. By fast action, Col. C. B. Findlay, the director, got military commanders back into all the camps by last Saturday.

This is not all of the strange story. The DPRSC has been having a devil of a time getting supplies and stores even before the new old load returned. Col. Findlay has been getting materials from the Italian Government that had been turned over by the Allied Commission from captured enemy goods. This and the whole problem of the DPs was throughly discussed with several DP representatives last week in a conference called by the Executive Commissioner to try to

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DISPLACED PERSONS

After many months of endeavor to unite all the Displaced Persons in Italy under the care of UNRRA, the pendulum has now been swung to top speed in reverse. Some 12,000 DPs whom [illegible] former camp staff, and more especially, it is hoped, the British Red Cross Welfare Section, are coming back also. To those who do not realize the devotion of the Welfare worker to the Displaced Persons in their care, the letters and requests received by Headquarters D. P. R. S. C. and the British Red Cross would seem strange but very pleasing in this somewhat money-minded post-war world. The hope is to get the DPs to go home to their own kindred and countries and to see those who, unfortunately, have too strong political ideas to go home, well on their way to resettlement in other lands beyond the seas.

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We might add a postscript on the sub-commission's adventures with the repatriation of

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Italians to Tripolitania. Many Italians left Tripolitania for Italy prior to Italy's entering the war. Of these persons the largest group consisted of children sent to Italy to be educated in the purest Fascist Educational methods. These children whose return to Tripoli was asked for, because of the length of the war, have become adult persons. Of these so-called children, 1,671 have been returned in four groups between August 1945 and April 1946.

On humanitarian grounds BMA in Tripoli agreed to accept back certain compassionate cases and the head of the family if a breadwinner. Under this category 100 persons have returned. At present no movement to Tripoli is permitted and some 800 Italians under the breadwinner scheme are held up, not to mention the "children".

Actual natives of Tripoli have been repatriated between August 1945 and April 1946 as follows: 250 Lybian Jews and 45 Arabs.

AWARDS

After recording the award of many Italian decorations to American personnel, we are happy to report that several officers and men of the Italian Army have been awarded American decorations. On a recent tour of Northern and Central Italy Colonel Clayton P. Kerr, Senior American Officer with Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA), presented awards at impressive ceremonies in the cities of Turin, Novara, Bolzano and Florence.

The awards given on this tour are as follows: *Distinguished Service Cross* – Lieut. Col. Giuseppe Izzo; *Silver Star* – Lt. Michele Pericoli and Mar. Nicola di Lella; *Bronze Star* – Lieutenants Carlo Casati (posthumous), Silvestro de Simone, Vincenzo Rosato, Oberdan Ruggi and Omero Scaroni, and Sergeants Emanuele Anedda and Egidio Turrini.

At a ceremony which took place this morning at the Regina Margherita Barracks, Rome, Col. Kerr also awarded *Bronze Stars* to Colonel Canani Berni, who "as Commanding Officer of the 20th Italian Pack Mule Group rendered outstanding services in support of the Fifth Army from April 1944 to May 1945", and to WO II Cesare Simoni, of the San Marco Regiment of Marines, and Private Luigi Palazzo, of the Cremona Infantry Group, both for heroic service in Humbert II at a ceremony held in the Quirinal Palace. These awards are as follows: Commodore H. W. Ziroli, Deputy Chief, *Grand Cross, Crown of Italy;* Captain G. F. Mentz, Chief Staff Officer, *Knight Officer, Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus;* Commander W. F. Bahlman, Admin. Officer, and Lieut. Commander J. C. Risk, Liaison Officer, *Knight Officer, Crown of Italy;* and Lieut. A. R. Conklin, Aide to Commodore Ziroli, *Knight, Crown of Italy.*

Other awards announced are: *Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* – (*Commander*) Col. Henry M. Walker; (*Knight*) Lieut. Col. Lloyd W. Stearns. *Italian Cross of War Merit* – Sgt. Samuel Salinsky. *Crown of Italy* – (*Knight Officer*) Major C. C. Craig and Capt. Michael Tor; (*Knight*) Captains Almond M. Allyn, Frederick C. Barr and William W. Sampson, and Lieutenants W. Haase and Frank N. Spencer.

ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Green (B) has been named CLO in Piemonte... Col. C. M. Parkin, former CO of 2675th Regiment and now with G-5, was looking over the Regiment this week as to how WD civilian employes could replace officers and men... Major Joseph C. Rively (A) has succeeded Lieut. Col. Lloyd W. Stearns as CSO to the CC... Col. C. P. Kerr (A), deputy director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, has just returned from a 17-day swing through the North where he inspected Italian Army installations; he reports quiet and order, the troops confident of being able to handle any matters of public safety, the combat divisions in peak trim but the territorial regiments, except those stationed in Milan and Turin, rather less up to snuff... Up to 19 May, the month saw 23,235 POWs return to Italy from Britain. Land Forces S/C reveals... We are in receipt of a chatty note from L/Cpl. J. Munro stationed with Lieut. Col. A. H. Gardner (B) at Tenda in Piemonte, 3,000 feet up in the Alps near the French border, from which we lift the following tidbits: the nearest Allied troops are 145 kilometers away; the nearest bath (for H & C) is in Cuneo, 45 kms. away; for relaxation, the team goes, when transport is available, to the nearest Italian movie 30 miles distant or to a dance in Tenda once a week or plays billiards with the *Sindaco* or other local notables, for which play the Tenda pres-

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May 24, 1946 Vol. I, No. 19

ECONOMIC NOTES

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ITALY'S BREAD RATION AND WORLD FOOD SUPPLY

World production is not expected to return to normal before 1950, and it is therefore imperative that every country should make its own long-term plans to reduce the gap between food supply and demand.

Results to date of the emergency amassing campaign show that from 1 May to 17 May, 14,095 of the 68,500 tons wheat target had been brought in, plus 8,280 tons of rice. The accompanying table shows comparative data between the amounts delivered to the people's granaries in response to the Government's appeal, and the amounts imported by UNRRA.

The provinces of Novara and Sondrio have exceeded their target, while Cremona has already reached 90 per cent. of its target figure. The provinces of Bergamo, La Spezia, Reggio Emilia, Leghorn and Taranto have already brought in more than 60 per cent of the emergency quota.

The grain situation today in Italy is self-evident. Domestic production—notwithstanding the highly satisfactory results so far achieved in the above provinces—has not yet fulfilled minimum expectations and the allocations by the Combined Food Board have not come up to UNRRA Italy Mission's requirements.

World Production Slump

According to the White Paper published by the British Government in April 1946 the

SUPPLEMENTARY AMASSING PROGRESS

COMPARTMENT	STOCKS April 30	AMASSING TARGET	ACTUAL AMASSING 1 - 17 May 1946	UNRRA ARRIVALS 1 - 17 May 1946
Piemonte	42.510	59.000	9.617	98.690
Liguria	81.397	2.700	741	76.420
Lombardia	89.384	73.400	24.668	169.170
Veneto and Venezia Tridentina	166.671	89.900	15.337	66.680
Emilia	89.316	118.000	36.939	31.910
Toscana	91.110	60.500	16.863	42.000
Marche	130.813	58.000	7.305	—
Umbria	87.826	27.000	6.348	—
Lazio	133.046	27.500	5.279	95.330
Abruzzi e Molise	56.422	37.000	1.655	8.080
Campania	96.754	27.500	2.321	132.000
Puglie	35.687	16.200	7.411	133.240
Lucania	36.174	14.000	2.189	3.240
Calabria	50.804	13.000	500	101.630
Sicilia	111.622	49.500	2.768	83.860
Sardegna	25.579	12.000	1.012	50.000
Total	1.325.115	685.200	140.953	1,092.250

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estimated 1945-46 crop in the four main exporting countries compares with their respective pre-war averages as follows (figures in millions of tons): U.S. 30.1 (19.2 pre-war average), Canada 8.1 (7.1); Argentina 4.0 (6.5); Australia 3.0 (4.1).

In Continental Europe, excluding U.S.S.R., production of bread grains (wheat and rye) during last autumn amounted to only 31 million tons compared with 46 million a year earlier and a pre-war average of 59 million tons.

The rise in production of pre-war averages in North America, Argentina and Australia of 9.2 million tons was therefore more than counter-balanced by the tremendous drop in European production of 28 million tons.

Rice Crops

Estimated stocks in all four countries have declined, especially in the U.S.

While the world supply has fallen, demand has become proportionately acute. Continental Europe's stated import requirements for the year July 1945 to June 1946 amount to 15.6 million tons of bread grains as compared with a pre-war total of 3.7 million tons. Even if these quantities could be obtained, total supplies in Europe would be about 25 per cent. less than during an average pre-war year.

The other deficit countries (India, China, French North Africa, South Africa and certain others) present a similar picture, stated import requirements for 1945-46 amounting to 10.7 millions tons compared with a pre-war import of 2.4 million tons.

In the two principal rice-exporting countries, Burma and Siam, 1946 production is estimated at only 4.9 million tons against a pre-war average of 8.4 million tons. According to United States estimates, rice production in China has fallen by 6.5 million tons (17 per cent.) and in Japan by 2.5 million (20 per cent.) below pre-war average.

World-wide droughts have further contributed to lower crops. Europe, particularly the Mediterranean area, and French North Africa, suffered considerably in 1945. Wheat production in the Union of South Africa fell from 0.5 to 0.3 million tons. New Zealand was hit during late 1945 and early 1946, while India's drought, still in progress, constitutes a veritable calamity which will probably reduce grain crops alone by some 7 million tons.

Future Prospects

The White Paper emphasizes the fact that present difficulties are unlikely to disappear with the next harvest. An expected increase in production in the former war zones, and the unlikelihood of a repetition of last season's disastrous droughts will be offset by a heavy fall in exportable supplies, due to virtual exhaustion of stocks accumulated during the war. One new factor which might afford considerable relief would be good crops and a large exportable surplus in the U.S.S.R.

Far Eastern production of vegetable oils and sugar has declined to a point where imports for relief are required in certain areas, whereas before the war, the Far East exported substantial quantities to Europe and America.

Before the war about 1.75 million tons (in terms of oil) were imported into Europe and America from Manchuria, the Netherlands East Indies, the Philippine islands and Malaya. It is not expected that these countries will be able to export more than 250 to 300 thousand tons, owing to reduced production, difficulties of collection and increased local consumption. Declines have been registered in European, Indian and tropical Africa production.

No Delay

The urgent need for a combined effort by every nation must be realised before it is too late. Only by careful planning and the fullest co-operation on the part of governments and farmers can an adequate food supply be ensured. Italy, like every other country, has now three months left in which to decide on agricultural policy in regard to next year's crops. That policy, and the means to implement it, must be ready by autumn.

FISHING INDUSTRY REHABILITATION

Initial assistance provided by the Allied authorities to Italian fishing industry, which the war had brought to a standstill, has now developed into a comprehensive long-term plan drawn up by UNRRA in cooperation with the Italian authorities. Italy's 5,300 miles of seaboard has always afforded wide spread seafaring activity and a means of livelihood to many thousands of fishermen and merchant sailors.

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Though the Mediterranean is one of the poorest fishing grounds in Europe, the Italian fishing industry with its large and up-to-date fleet, provided as much as 200,000 tons of food annually. Power fishing was carried out by some 1,400 units of which approximately 1,300 were engaged in deep-sea trawl-fishing and fitted with 50 to 300 H.P. engines. Coastal or mid-water fishing with fixed nets, bow nets and fish lines gave employment to about 30,000 sail and row boats.

Ocean Fishing

There was also a small but efficient ocean fishing fleet, consisting of about 25 units with a gross tonnage of 12,000 tons, which operated off the coast of North West Africa (Mauretania), Newfoundland and Iceland. The official annual yields were stated as follows:

	Tons
Coast fishing	130,000
Tuna	3,000
Pond	7,000
Shellfish bridings	8,000
Fresh waters fishing	10,000
North Western Africa (frozen fish by trawlers)	5,000
Newfoundland and Iceland (salted fish by trawlers)	6,000
Total	169,000

Many Italian authorities give the total catch as nearer 200,000 tons, on the grounds that fishermen would report lower figures in order to evade harbour dues and other liabilities. About 130,000 men were employed in the industry, and the value of the total catch was estimated at over 8,490,000 dollars (£2,122,500).

After the 8th September 1943, the Italian fishing activities were greatly reduced. The smaller craft had largely been damaged or destroyed; the larger fishing vessels had been requisitioned for mine-sweeping. Equipment such as nets, hemp and cotton twines, steel cables, and other essential gear were either looted or destroyed and could not be replaced. Many fishermen had sunk their craft so as to avoid seizure by the Germans. Shipyards, workshops, net factories and refrigerating plants had been rendered useless by bombing or sabotage.

Extent of Damage

Access to fishing grounds was made very difficult, either because of restrictions imposed by the Allied Naval Authorities for military reasons, or because mines and wreckage made sailing unsafe. Havoc had been caused to inland waters, where during the war period, fishing by explosives and poisons had been extensively practised, with the consequent destruction of stock and particularly of minnows.

Rehabilitation of the fishing industry is now proceeding. Mined beaches are being cleared and obstructions of ports and channels removed. Sunken motor fishing vessels, rowing and sails boats are being salvaged and repairs carried out on damaged and partially destroyed craft. Steps have been taken to secure de-requisition of units of the fishing fleet as military necessities have ceased.

Reconstruction Imports

Over 1,000 tons of supplies provided by the Allies substantially contributed to the re-equipment and repair of fishing craft. Rehabilitation of net factories, workshops and shipyards has been planned, and petroleum products imported by UNRRA are supplied to fishermen through local agencies of the Comitato Italiano Petroli.

Large quantities of raw cotton have been supplied by the Allied Commission and later by UNRRA. UNRRA has requested an allocation of 500 tons of manilla fibre and 500 tons of coir yarn, which are still in considerably short supply. UNRRA is also importing 300 tons of linseed oil for the manufacture of paints.

The chief handicap to rehabilitation of power-driven fishing craft was fuel shortage. Allocations of UNRRA procured fuel through the Italian Government Agency, CIP, have now reached approximately: Diesel oil 62 %, Kerosene 68 % and Gasoline 35 % of demand, enabling craft to operate on an average of some 16 days a month.

Inland Waters

After a lapse of six years, an Italian ocean-going trawler has been able to operate outside Mediterranean water. The rebuilding, refitting and fuelling of larger units is now under consideration and plans in this connection have

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been submitted to UNRRA. Re-stocking of lakes and rivers has been materially assisted by one consignment of 70,000 rainbow trout eggs flown to Italy from the United States. UNRRA has already arranged for a second load of 70,000 trout eggs to be flown from Wisconsin during the month of May. The minnows have been distributed to experimental breeding ponds throughout Italy.

Self-Help

Staff members of UNRRA Fisheries Branch, working in close conjunction with local authorities, are at present making inspections of all Italian fishing ports.

Apart from the fact that the high nutritive value of fish proteins and fats help to make up the deficiencies of the average diet, it is essential that Italy should be given every opportunity to produce her own food, so as to relieve the acute shortage and ease her dependency on imports. Such fish, or portions of it, as are not consumed directly as food, may be converted into essential by-products such as industrial oils, vitamin A and D bearing oils, livestock and poultry feeds and fertilizers.

THE PETROL STRIKE

The end of the eight-day petrol strike was greeted with relief by the Italian people in the area affected, no less than by the officials of UNRRA Italy Mission. Appreciation was also felt at the strikers' action in agreeing to UNRRA's request that petrol workers be allowed to continue operating in connection with supplies for UNRRA's essential services. This instance of cooperation was a gratifying sign that the task which UNRRA is endeavouring to carry out on behalf of Italy's relief and rehabilitation is fully realised.

The smooth operation of ports and transport throughout the country is vital to Italian economy. The flow of imported goods must on no account be checked if the country is to progress towards normality. During the recent strike, UNRRA Italy Mission was compelled to request suspension of all kerosene loading in the United States till further notice, so as to avoid excessive pressure on Italy's limited tank storage accomodation. Complete stoppage of petroleum imports might have been necessary had the strike continued.

Speed Essential

The feeding of Italy's population and the country's long-term reconstruction depend on the speed with which goods can be imported and distributed. Battered ports provide insufficient berthing and warehousing accommodation. The task of unloading and clearing ships is immensely difficult, and Italian dock workers rose splendidly to the occasion in April when record clearance times were achieved.

Bottlenecks arising from delay in transferring goods from quays to transit warehouses and finally removing them from port areas entail financial and shipping space losses. Railroad haulage is entirely inadequate.

Tonnage lying idle in ports means so much less shipping space for supplies to devastated areas throughout the world, the revival of seaborne trade, repatriation of prisoners, and possibilities of ocean travel.

About 50 per cent. of all UNRRA imports —with the exception of coal and cotton—are unloaded in the area affected by the recent strike. This means that the distributing of food, cereals, fertilizers, raw materials and other essential commodities might have been delayed to the point where they could not have been used to the fullest advantage.

The harvesting period is now approaching, when speed in gathering in, amassing and marketing crops will be a major factor in the battle against hunger. UNRRA has succeeded in increasing its procurements to meet seasonal requirements, and the extent of the Administration's effort may be judged by the following figures for July totals:

Petrol (barrels)	210,000
Kerosene (June: 140,000 barrels)	190,000
Diesel oil (June: 210,000 barrels)	240,000

If Italy is unable to make use of these supplies, the nation's low food level may have to undergo still further adjustments.

Vital Needs

It has already been emphasized in *Economic Notes* that the world supply situation in regard to some petroleum products is still critical. These products, like other supplies imported into Italy under the UNRRA program, are delivered free of charge to the Italian Government. They are paid for by the contributing nations of the United Nations Relief and

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Rehabilitation Administration, many of which have themselves to accept supply restrictions in order to provide assistance elsewhere.

Months of careful planning in Rome and Washington may well be nullified, should fuel not be immediately and plentifully available during the next few critical weeks. Transport of agricultural labor and machinery, the timely application of fertilizers to the major crops of rice and corn and to the summer vegetable crops, and the use of power-driven farm machinery, will all be jeopardised.

Petroleum products are the sinews of war in the struggle now being waged against plant parasites throughout Italy. Any halt in the flow of supplies may jeopardise this and next year's crop.

Sardinia's entire population, aided by UNRRA personnel, fuel, transport and supplies, is fighting day and night in a desparate attempt to crush the unprecedented plague of grasshoppers.

The petrol strike caused delays in round-the-clock delivery of vital supplies urgently needed for transport of reconnaissance units and grasshopper fighters, and the operation of chemical warfare devices, flame-throwers and other technical apparatus. Italian and UNRRA experts had to postpone inspection of the campaign's progress, through lack of transport from Rome. Nor is Italy's mainland secure, for there are sporadic infestations throughout central and southern Italy. Grasshoppers are also reported in Sicily.

Insecticides and fungicides are vital for the protection of Italian agriculture which has suffered seriously as a result of inevitable neglect and war-damage in the past few years. Lack of liquid fuel would deny these materials to the farmer. It would also react on Italy's renascent fishing industry and hence on the general food situation.

The effect of transportation shortage on UNRRA's relief activity materialised during the recent strike, when milk for nursing mothers could not be collected. This is one more reminder that hundreds of thousands of mothers, babies and school-children, now receiving UNRRA food, will go hungry if transport is not available. Hence the need for unremitting co-operation on all sides, so that no undue share of the present burdens shall fall on any one section of the population to the detriment of all.

COMPARATIVE COSTS AND WAGES

Recent statements in the United States and British Press purporting to show that the cost of living is low and wages adequate in Italy are not borne out by official or private evidence.

Comparative data compiled by UNRRA Division of Operations Analysis from British and Italian sources prove that the bulk of the Italian population for the past few years has been living on a bare subsistence level. Income of weekly wage earners, lower-salaried officials and the white collared class in general does not even cover food requirements.

The monthly salary of an Italian Cabinet Minister is about £25, plus a monthly cost-of-living allowance of £10.0.0; the corresponding figures for an Undersecretary of State are £20 and £8. A skilled worker with three dependents receives an average weekly wage of £2.4.5, including all allowances and bonuses.

In Great Britain the average weekly wage for an adult was £6.1.4. in July 1945 (according to the Ministry of Labour Gazzette for March 1946) since when it has increased rather than diminished.

When dealing with the cost of living in Italy it should be remembered that the official ration provides about 690 calories per day and consists of:

Bread	7	oz	per day
Pasta	17,5	"	" month
Oil	6,5	"	" "
Sugar	3,5	"	" "

Medical authorities hold that 2000 calories per day is the minimum essential for basic subsistence. The average calorie intake per person per day in the United States is 3000 calories.

The Italian must therefore secure the food equivalent of calories additional to the official 690 on the open or black market, where prices compare with official British figures as follows:

		LONDON (Official) s. d.	ROME (Black Market) s. d.
Bread	4 lbs.	0.9	6.4
Flour	6 "	1.3	9.1
Sugar	per lb.	0.4	11.6
Bacon	" "	1.10 1/2	4.8
Milk	" qt.	0.9	1.3 p. litre
Butter	" lb.	1.8	7.4
Pasta	" "	—	2.3
Oil	" litre	—	10.5

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			(Open Market)
Potatoes	7 lbs.	0.8 1/2	3.10
Eggs	each	0.2	0.4
Meat	per lb.	—	4.6
Beans	" "	—	1.8

With the serious setbacks the country's economy has suffered and the stoppage of normal imports, the excess of demand over supply has entirely upset the balance between income and expenditure during the past few years. Clothing, medicines, sanitary supplies, footwear, building materials and other daily-use commodities virtually disappeared. Controls came to be regarded as an anachronism, there being nothing left to distribute or allocate.

At present, with UNRRA supplies reaching the country, limited quantities of food and essential materials are providing a foundation for recovery. Industry, agriculture, transport and communications are gradually recovering from the chaos of war, and a system of controls is being re-established and enforced.

Nevertheless, as pointed out in a recent report of the UNRRA Welfare and Repatriation Division, "it is generally recognised that courage and energy are dependent upon a reasonable diet."

Wage increases vary according to regions. The following representative figures show an average increase of 11 times over the 1938 earnings (1938=1):

	MILAN (March)	GENOA (Feb.)	FLORENCE (Jan.)
Labourer	15.6	10.1	18.8
Skilled labourer	11.8	—	12.2
Clerical employee	8.3	9.5	
Technical employee	7.3		
Executive	8.7		

Food prices on the other hand have increased over 30 times. The following figures show increases by February 1946 (1938=1):

North Italy	32.3
Central Italy	33.7
South Italy	35.7
Italian islands	29.8

In a disrupted economy, the few available commodities inevitably tend to accumulate uneconomically in certain places or in certain hands.

Superficial impressions gleaned by casual visitors are an unsatisfactory criterion by which to assess the true state of affairs. The foregoing study of conditions existant throughout Italy will afford a more accurate picture of the real state of the nation's economic life.

MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(MAY 13 - 19 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO	TONS
Patrick Henry	Bari	13 May	UNRRA	Wheat	7,998
Sidney Sherman	Genoa	" "	"	Wheat / Food	8,230
Alexander Park	Naples	14 "	UNRRA & Comm'l	Food	750
Runswick	T. Annunziata	" "	UNRRA	Fertilizer	5,600
Bravo	Genoa	" "	"	Fish	1,742
Canvasback	"	15 "	UNRRA & Comm'l	Food	180
Robert Broussard	Civitav. - Leghorn *	" "	UNRRA	Sugar	8,300
Dansborg	Castellammare	" "	"	Oats	8,149
Nicholas Bidole	Genoa	" "	"	Flour / Cotton	7,335
James Oliver	"	" "	"	Wheat	8,350
Webb Miller	Naples	17 "	"	Soap	1,450
Hickory Isle	"	19 "	"	Ambulances / Sulphates	1,324
Lucien Labaudt	Genoa	" "	"	Wheat	8,160
Clyde L. Seavey	Castellamm. - T. Annunz. *	" "	"	"	8,175
Sutherland	Naples	" "	"	Rubber	92

** Arrived at first-named port on the date shown; discharging at the second port later*

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

20 MAY 1946

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POLITICAL

Furious activity on both foreign and domestic scene characterized the political picture of the week. The revision of the Italian Armistice, practically sole fruit of the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers (who, on Italian matters, had reached tentative and informal agreements, press reports said, on the payment of $100,000,000 reparations to Russia, division of the Italian fleet, retention of the Alto Adige by Italy, administration of Tripolitania by Italy under the UN, but flat deadlock on Trieste and indecision on French border claims), was greeted by the Rome press as at least better than nothing and as "the first act of justice" of the Conference.

The actual signing of the revised Armistice is some time off, of course, only the preliminary documents for study having been delivered to Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi from Paris, according to *Il Messaggero*, which sums up the points of the proposed revision as follows: abolition of the Allied Commission; establishment of a military committee under AFHQ; discussions between Italy, the United States and Great Britain as to payment of occupation costs; non-prejudice of Italy's territorial position pending a final peace treaty; Italy to hand over all war criminals requested; an Italian pledge to hold free, democratic elections; immediate repatriation of all Italian POWs; recognition of Italian co-belligerency, and some further economic easements.

De Gasperi, in a statement to *Orbis* agency, stressed that Italy's contributions to the war against Germany were thus officially recognized for the first time and that the chance to discuss occupation costs would be a boon. He added that the revision would probably be discussed and authorized by the Council of Ministers. On the Trieste question, De Gasperi reiterated, on the occasion of a visit by Venezia Giulia representatives, that the Italian Government could not consider the French line of demarcation in Venezia Giulia (giving four fifths to the Yugoslavs) as a subject for discussion and that it would stubbornly insist that no Italian nucleus of population in Istria be abandoned to Yugoslavia.

Domestically, the past days have witnessed a campaign of high-pressure lobbying whose object was to postpone the referendum and which in great measure was directed at the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR. The Admiral finally issued a statement on May 16th completely disassociating himself and the Allied Commission from the question of postponement on the grounds that the matter had not been raised with him by either the King or the Italian Government and that, further, any move by the Allied Commission in the matter would be an "unwarranted intervention in Italian internal affairs". The Leftist press naturally seized upon the statement with whoops of glee while the conservative organs printed it, for the most part, with no comment, although on the 18th (today), however, *Buonsenso* asserted that Allied non-interference in the present political scene was a mistake, adding that the Allies should be concerned with whatever may occur in Europe, and that "instructed by experience, they have not done the same in Japan, where they have left the old regime," allegedly profiting by "the tragic Italian example".

The campaign of republic versus monarchy burned brighter than ever, not only as a result of the postponement pressure, but as a result of the amnesty proposal which King Umberto II sent the Government on the 11th. The Council of Ministers, after two sessions on the 15th, finally accepted the suggestion but enacted revisions that would make the amnesty effective immediately but to be published only after the June 2 elections. The decree does not cover Fascist crimes, amassing offenses or violations of Allied ordinances; in fact, it deals only with unpremeditated crimes. *Italia Nuova* charged the Government with postponing the amnesty while the Left cried that the King's idea was another electoral device. The mounting institutional issue

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also resulted in a major fracas at Naples where a monarchist demonstration and Communist spectators clashed to the tune of exploding bombs.

De Gasperi himself came under heavy personal attack for the first time from the Left, *Avanti's* leader this morning calling him "two-faced" as the consequence of recent speeches by the Prime Minister (in Rome, Trento and Verona) in which De Gasperi had warned republicans not to vote for those parties, who, as in France, want a republic dominated by a single assembly that might lead to the a "Commitee of Public Safety" and the dictatorship of a single party or individual. "We respect" he said, "the freedom of conscience of the elector concerning the referendum, even if he does not vote at all." *Avanti* called the speeches among the "most alarming symptoms in the present political tension" and wondered if the reason for De Gasperi's alleged reversal of his party's position (in favor of a republic) lay in his knowledge of some plan of the monarchy which he presumably thought hopeful of success.

While parties met and speakers sounded off all through Italy, the Council of Ministers, besides taking full part in the major political decisions of the day, also disposed of other business in their two meetings of the 15th and 16th. The Council resolved to forbid open-air electoral meetings on May 31 and June 1 but left unchanged other discretionary powers of Minister of Interior Romita. It approved a non-political demonstration on May 24 by veterans and POWs to the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and also passed decrees reforming the Courts of Assizes, allotting 1,300 million lire for a railway line between Naples and Cuma and five billion for land reclamation, protecting the job tenure of veterans and authorizing publication of the OVRA lists, names of dead persons and public safety officials being excluded; studied the coal and food situations, on the latter approving a communiqué which stated that the Government hoped again to win over the new grain crisis by speeding up amassing.

NEW NAPLES SHORELINE

Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick, CLO, Naples, reports that the proposed town plan and reconstruction of the Naples waterfront is almost rivalling politics in interest in that always lively town. The colonel is giving the project his full support. As everyone knows, by both Allied and German bombardments and by German demolitions, Naples was severely damaged during the war. Most of the damage was done to the port and industrial area, east of the main railway station. Also deliberately destroyed were the large ILVA steel works at Pozzuoli and other factories, and some historic buildings and churches.

The first step in reconstruction was to get damaged areas and roads cleared and this has been going on steadily. The clearing was at first somewhat haphazard, but a year ago AMG took a firm hand and got the Municipality to organize clearing on a proper basis. Aid was also given in getting transport, the Ministry of Public Works also helping in this matter. By this means employment has been given to a steadily increasing number of men who now number over 3,000, and a huge dump has been formed in the sea near Santa Lucia for the purpose of forming a new esplanade.

At the same time the Sindaco of Naples—Avv. Fermariello—appointed one of his engineers, Ing. Isabella, to plan a new and dignified waterfront, to replace the destroyed docks area. Naples has one of the most beautiful bays in the world, so the point was made that the destruction of war provided an opportunity for really good planning and architecture. Neapolitans remembered that past Italian architects had been world famous, design of the celebrated Taj Mahal at Agra in India being attributed to the Italian architect Geronimo Verroneo.

Engineer Isabella's planning team of architects and artists includes over 50 persons. They have produced plans for a new circular road round the docks area, with alternative proposals for blocks of office buildings, new appartments, hotels, etc. which look good on paper. They have also produced plans for moving the freight railway station further east and lowering the level of the railway so that the passenger station could be cleared and a large and valuable area now occupied by unsightly buildings thus freed for new developments. Plans have also been prepared for improving the water supply and drainage systems, road circuits and so forth. A big plastic model of the plans has been put on view for the public. The financing of the project is expected to come from Government and Municipal loans which eventually will bring a good return from rents. Most of the materials needed are available in Italy, besides providing many jobs.

There are the inevitable pros and cons of the planning enthusiasts. The clergy noticed that no new churches had been provided for. This, of course, will be rectified though there are already a large number of churches in Naples. The

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circular road also passes through the site of the Caserma Bianchi opposite the fish market. This edifice was built by the architect Vanvitelli (who also built the Royal Palace at Caserta) and is a national monument. It was, however, hit by bombs and completely gutted so there seems to be no point in rebuilding it, though there are some anguished pleas to do so. Finally, as a long term project, the rebuilding of Naples should help bring trade and cash, not only to Naples itself, but also to Southern Italy of which Naples is the capital.

ODDS AND ENDS

Ten U. S. officers of A. C. are being redeployed on the ship that leaves Livorno this coming week... Each Section and independent sub-commission of the A. C. must appoint a Records Officer to work with the Archives Branch on preparing the old files, and now that the show is about to fold up some day soon, this becomes an operational matter... About 600 civilian internees were released from Allied (AFHQ) internment camps during April, of whom about 10 per cent. were re-arrested by Italian authorities on collaboration charges, the Public Safety Sub-Commission reports... Superior Court cases in Venezia Giulia jumped from 35 in March to 135 in April while Summary Court cases went from 518 in March to 82 in April, the Legal Sub-Commission reveals... Civilian telephone lines were opened in April between Milan, Bologna, Trieste and Vienna while new telegraph circuits were put into operation between Milan and London and Milan, Turin, Genoa, Rome and Paris... Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse, CLO, Rome area, reports a measles epidemic in Terni Province—511 cases, of which 123 are in the city of Terni... The Public Health Sub-Commission states that the infant mortality rate for Rome for March was 66.9, a decrease from 84.8 in February while tuberculosis in the latter month resulted in 312 deaths compared to 188 in March... ADD to romance in the Chief Commissioner's household: the butler, Piero Villani, and CC. RR. guard, Giuseppe Jacono, got married, respectively, to Miss Lilia Zini and Miss Annunziata Boccanera; the dog had four pups and the cat three kittens; what next?... The following U. S. awards have been made: *Legion of Merit*—Colonels A. N. Hancock and Harry M. Walker; *Bronze Star*—Lieut. Col. Walter P. Scoggins, Major Daniel J. Mahoney, Captains Rosario A. Gaziano and Charles E. Perry, CWO Sexson E. Humphreys and Pfc. Albert V. Di Martino; *Soldier's Medal*—Lieut. Col. Robert A. Martino; *Army Commendation Ribbon*—Lieutenant Colonels Paul S. Andrews and Howard K. Seith, Majors Richard B. Bullock, Simeon R. Holmes, Norman I. Shapiro and Arthur M. McPhail, Captains Lester Bern and Ward D. Carpenter, jr., and CWOs Humphreys and Henry Ellenbast...

May 11, 1946 Vol. III, No. 6

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

0081
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

POLITICAL

Despite the rumor buzzing of preceding weeks, the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and the succession of King Umberto II when it finally came dramatically overshadowed all developments of the week and in fact gave the national electoral campaign, which "officially" opened last Sunday May 5, its first great climax. The historic event developed as follows:

On the 9th King Victor Emanuel, who had signed over his royal powers to the Crown Prince, as the *Luogotenente del Regno* in April, 1944, signed the decree of abdication at Naples and left aboard the Italian cruiser, *Duca degli Abruzzi*, (which was going to Port Said to bring back POW repatriates) for exile in Egypt, probably at Alexandria. Prime Minister De Gasperi, who had returned from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers the evening before, conferred with Umberto before the latter left for Naples to bid farewell to his father. Umberto, under what he stated was legal and constitutional succession, then sent a letter to De Gasperi, and also a draft of a proclamation to the Italian people, the first of which read in part thus:

"My father's abdication has brought me *ope legis* to inherit his title. This action does not bring any change to the powers I already exercise as Lieutenant General, and in no way modifies the pledge I took concerning the referendum and the *Costituente*. Trusting that the Government will continue to collaborate with me in the interest of the Country until election day, I send you, Mr. President, my most cordial regards."

After a series of inter-party conferences, the full Council of Ministers met on the 10th and after a five-hour session of storm and stress finally decided to accept the new King, though on a referendum. The Prime Minister suggested that the whole matter could be disposed of by a one-sentence decree simply altering the heading of State bills and using the name of Umberto II. Togliatti formally protested on behalf of the Communist party to the "breaking" of the institutional truce by the Monarchy and asseverated that Umberto should not be King of Italy until the people and the *Costituente* so decided. Togliatti added that he feared serious demonstrations in view of the initiative now taken by the House of Savoy, on which count he was at once attacked by Cattani and Corbino, Liberals, who said that if the Communists meant to move on to revolutionary tactics, they would have to resign from the Government. The saving formula, plus the reassurances of the new King's intentions, was offered by Bracci (Action) who proposed that Umberto should be King of Italy but without the title "by the grace of God and the will of the Nation". The Council thereupon approved a decree stating that the limits of the royal powers were those fixed in the Decree No. 98 of March 6, 1944, and that the heading of bills would be, "Umberto II, King of Italy".

In the proclamation addressed to the people at large, King Umberto paid tribute to the fallen, commiserated with the suffering, pledged again to respect the will of the electorate and called upon Italians to "all get close around the flag under which Italy accomplished her unity and four generations of Italians learned to live industriously and die gallantly".

The monarchist campaign, which had also opened on the 5th with several meetings and a demonstration in front of the Quirinal, of course, took on new life. *Italia Nuova* crowed that Umberto II was the inheritor of a "glorious tradition" representative of "the only institution which will be able to save Italy from a new dicta-

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

0082

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Despite the rumor buzzing of preceding weeks, the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and the succession of King Umberto II when it finally came dramatically overshadowed all developments of the week and in fact gave the national electoral campaign, which "officially" opened last Sunday May 5, its first great climax. The historic event developed as follows:

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After a series of inter-party conferences, the full Council of Ministers met on the 10th and after a five-hour session of storm and stress finally decided to accept the new King, though on a strictly limited basis. De Gasperi early pointed out that the new King's letter was quite reassuring as to the temporary character of the powers of the Crown and its reaffirmation of respect for the results of the June 2 elections and referendum. The Prime Minister suggested that the whole matter could be disposed of by a one-sentence decree simply altering the heading of State bills and using the name of Umberto II. Togliatti formally protested on behalf of the Communist party to the "breaking" of the institutional truce by the Monarchy and asseverated that Umberto should not be King of Italy until the people and the *Costituente* so decided. Togliatti added that he feared serious demonstrations in view of the initiative now taken by the House of Savoy, on which count he was at once attacked by Cattani and Corbino, Liberals, who said that if the Communists meant to move on to revolutionary tactics, they would have to resign from the Government. The saving formula, plus the reassurances of the new King's intentions, was offered by Bracci (Action) who proposed that Umberto should be King of Italy but without the title "by the grace of God and the will of the Nation". The Council thereupon approved a decree stating that the limits of the royal powers were those fixed in the Decree No. 98 of March 6, 1944, and that the heading of bills would be, "Umberto II, King of Italy".

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The Leftist parties and press did not take the monarchist moves lying down. They immediately scheduled a big meeting for the republic at the *Piazza del Popolo* today (as we go to press), the manifesto, according to *Unità*, being signed by the following parties: Action, Communist, Socialist, Christian Democrat, Republican, and the CGIL. *Avanti* termed the whole abdication business a "gesture" and an "electoral diversion" while *Italia Libera* simply referred to King Umberto as the new "King of 23 days," that is, for the period up to the referendum.

The campaign, everybody expected, would now go into high gear. Police and armed forces representatives have been meeting Undersecretary of Interior Spataro on plans for 150,000 men on duty to preserve public order. In last Sunday's speechmaking, Togliatti expressed a desire to take in and convert Neo-Fascist youths and Nenni stated that Italy should remain neutral in the big power play, drawing prolonged cheers.

On the international front, De Gasperi reported to the Council on the results of his trip to Paris, where he had also pressed Italy's case in private to all four of the Foreign Ministers. He said that the "rigidity" of the Yugoslav position on Venezia Giulia and general deadlock might make a postponement of the issue advisable and indeed more favorable to Italy if re-examined later.

RETROSPECT

(In response to our frantic appeals for articles we have the good fortune to get another piece from our amiable and esteemed superior, Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, now functioning as CLO at Milan. He called the opus "*From the Toe to the Top of Italy—Not to Mention Sardinia.*" but we put in the short title because of the classic publishing reason—space. Now to the rolling periods of our good Brigadier.—*Ed.*)

The *Bulletin* has asked me to pass in review the two years and more spent in the service of the Allied Commission. That is a clear excuse to sit back in the armchair and think. There can be no doubt what the first thought will be—gratitude to Providence for having, in the afternoon of my life, such a marvellous experience.

Commissioner's conference; the day I got the Chief Commissioner shelled, wandering in my jeep in sight of Cassino... True it was only a small shell and not too near, but the responsibility was heavy and we went down the next hill faster than the old jeep has ever travelled before. Then, one remembers the wonderful sight of the almond groves of the Apulian plain in blossom in the Spring of 1944; mount Etna, three quarters covered with snow, seen across the blue straits of Messina on a brilliant day of February. Later on came the North; the first Te Deum in the church of the *Santo* in Padova, packed with citizens come to thank God for the deliverance of their city... The festival of the *Redentore* at Venice, the illuminated gondolas, and the soft summer night... The *partigiani* of the Dolomites, tough and battle-worn.

Just about a year ago today I was travelling North with the advancing Fifth Army. I had left my caravan camp at dawn, driving my faithful jeep "Pertinax", determined to see if I could get to Verona. We crossed the Po near Ostiglia over an American pontoon bridge and went on in the middle of the Bren carriers of the Italian Legnano Division and in the middle of a cheering countryside. Something made me look right ahead. There, away on the far horizon, were mountains flecked with snow. Then, I knew that, at long last, I was looking on the foothills of the Alps. We had waited so long for that moment: all the days at Tizi Ouzou, the days before the Cassino line, the days of disappointment when the armies were bogged down north of Rimini; now at last it was true.

It was a few days later that I was able to fulfill a somewhat boyish wish and complete the final miles of distance, Reggio Calabria to the Brenner; every yard of which I had covered at the wheel of Pertinax.

Out of all this welter of memories emerge one or two salient impressions. First, one has a deep and abiding personal hatred of Mussolini and all his gang. When one saw what Italy needed: sound finance, simplification of government, revival of the South, and then one saw the fruits of Mussolini's madness, one was almost too sad to be angry. One tenth of the money squandered in Africa or Albania would have transformed the backward South. The pompous facade of Fascismo was covering every part of

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to the Italians, courage to go on with the struggle to put their country on its feet. By the nature of things it was the better brains and the better spirits who were the most depressed. The jobbers, and the black market operators, were happy enough grubbing for spoil amid the wreckage of a nation. It was the decent professional men or young army officers who felt the future too dark for Italy and for themselves, and who talked of going to the States or to the Argentine. They were the people whom we have had to spur with the faith of a second *Risorgimento*.

Impressions.

Then there was the realization that the world could not face the prospect of a derelict Italy, that this people—so friendly, so exasperating, so talented, so inexact, so generous, so self-centred—represented something the preservation of which was vital to the world. Most of us, I think, got our first feeling of confidence from the peasantry. Especially was that the case if one had a chance of speaking to our Allied prisoners of war who had been helped by the *contadini* to hide and escape. One began to realize that the commonly held idea that the Italian is lazy is very mistaken—at any rate in respect of the *contadino*—still more so in respect of his wife. We saw that to keep a small family fed and housed on a half share of the produce of a ten-acre holding did not give much margin for *dolce far niente*. We saw that the coastwise fishermen were hardy and hardworking, even if their fishing methods were sometimes a bit irregular. Gradually some of us felt that a people who could get such obvious enjoyment, a real sense of harmony of life, out of a game of *bocce* at the local trattoria, a dance on the tar macadam of the main road on a summer evening to the music of a single accordion, who could be happy with little expense, with a minimum of alcohol, that such a people had a hidden reserve of vitality, an age-old sense of living, which must not perish from the world.

We all felt the existence of an almost overwhelming desire for friendship and for understanding. If it be true, and I think it so, that the typical Italian is always tending to dramatize himself or his current situation, then it is all the more understandable how intolerable was the feeling, to a cultured and proud people, that Italians were outcasts from the world of free

tenuous and unnatural bond. It was to the United States with its generous acceptance of Italian emigration, it was to the England of Browning and Shelley, to the traditional friendship of the *Risorgimento* that the thoughts of the sick Italy turned. As a man emerging from delirium fastens onto every sane and kindly sound or sight, so Italy was striving desperately to secure some mental basis for a new way of spiritual alliance with the democratic nations. The comradeship of the last war was one obvious mental salve. How often have I found, in meetings in small townhalls, or among chance-met groups of business or professional men, that the one gambit which was sure to secure cooperation and mutual confidence, was to find one or more among the company who had fought on the Piave or on Monte Grappa. Then would come out the stories of General Cavan or of the Prince of Wales, of where the British troops were billeted or of how the narrator guided the Grenadier Guards to their assault position. Then the bad years between disappeared from sight and Italy was fighting alongside the armies of America, Great Britain and France.

Finally, at the end of it all I think we can say without boasting that the officers and men of the Allied Commission have great reason to be proud of our work. I have seen something of Germany and Austria and have followed closely military government in those parts. It is certain that we have been most fortunate in that we have been able to operate as an integrated mission in an Italy without zones. I know full well that, elsewhere, such an integration might well have been impossible; too many nations were involved. So A. C. Italy remains a unique experiment and it worked very well.

In operations I have nothing but heartfelt thankfulness for the complete cooperation of my own Allied staff which became a long roster of very good friends.

ODDS AND ENDS

On the heels of the marriage of Chief Yeoman Joseph Doran while with the Chief Commissioner in the States comes another bit of romantic news that another of the Admiral's entourage, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn, USNR, has become engaged to Signorina Francesca B. Sanzone

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00866

awarded to Capt. Rosario A. Gaziano... Allied news agencies are beginning to press for providing their private services to newspapers in Zone A, a function now handled by AIS... Mr. W. J. Legg, our former A. C. food director who now holds down the same post in UNRRA, told the Vice Presidents at their meeting the other day that studies are being made to start a national drive on false ration cards and perhaps to permit only three-course meals in public restaurants... The Piemonte CLO reports that the Fiat works at Turin are employing 60,000 persons, with a similar number working in the many small firms supplying parts; Fiat production, as of the report, is 20 per cent. of capacity or about 40 trucks and passenger cars a day... The Communications Sub-Commission tells us that U. S. gift parcels up to 20 kilograms can be sent to Italy but gift parcels up to only five kilograms can go through the Italian mails; the packages over five kilos have to come as freight through import firms or other means...

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10/26

11 MAY 1946

ECONOMIC NOTES

— Published by The Public Information Division, UNRRA Italy Mission, Via di San Nicolo da Tolentino, 78, Rome —

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1. Italy's Emergency Wheat Amassing Program
2. UNRRA Price Policy
3. Italian Dockers Break Records
4. Movements of Ships

ITALY'S EMERGENCY WHEAT AMASSING PROGRAM

Target figures for wheat to be collected in the emergency amassing program have now been prepared for each province by the Italian Government, and are published in full in this issue. For the country as a whole, the amassing target is 68,560 tons of wheat, and, in addition, a quantity of rice in excess of 15,000 tons. This represents substantially less than the target figure of 150,000 tons urged upon the Government by UNRRA, as the minimum at which it should aim. UNRRA officials are now studying the target figures province by province, and until such time as they have been closely examined no statement can be made by the Italy Mission.

Task of the Provinces

It must, however, be emphasised that whatever the figure finally decided upon as the target for each province, this will be the amount of grain which *must* be amassed, if the ration is to be maintained in that particular province. Grain allocations for each province will take full account of what is to be amassed. No more grain will arrive from outside sources than is necessary to make up the deficiency after every quintal of the amassing quota allocated has been brought into the people's granaries. If amassing falls short, the ration for that province must be cut.

The situation facing Italy at this moment can be briefly summarised as follows: Estimated consumption is 273,000 tons of bread cereals per month. On the assumption that no change is made in the existing bread and pasta ration during May, the only grain stocks of which UNRRA is at present reasonably assured will amount on May 31 to no more than 48,000 tons. (To this will be added the amount amassed during May.)

June Grain Deficit

There is, thus, a theoretical net deficit of 225,000 tons, which must be met if the ration is to be kept at its present level in June. In fact, the deficit is substantially larger, since a working margin of at least 120,000 tons is required to maintain supplies, particularly in view of the fact that stocks are unevenly distributed throughout the country.

The amount of grain to be shipped to Italy, for delivery in June, is (as this issue goes to Press) still unknown, since no decision has yet been arrived at by the Combined Food Board, which makes these allocations. It is, however, already quite certain that no hope whatever exists of the Board being able to meet in full UNRRA's bid of 250,000 tons of bread grains for shipment to Italy. The best estimate of May loadings is that all bread grains from all sources for Italy will not exceed 220,000 tons, and is likely to be about 180,000 tons. The higher figure will be achieved, if all present UNRRA efforts are successful, and there are no diversions from Italian ports.

There is, therefore, urgent need for Italy to amass every ton available, if the ration is to be maintained during the next few critical weeks before the harvest starts to come in.

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GOVERNMENT AMASSING CAMPAIGN

(Provincial Collection Figures - In Quintals)

	QTLS.
Alessandria	18,000
Aosta	2,000
Asti	9,000
Cuneo	16,000
Novara	2,000
Torino	9,000
Vercelli	3,000
PIEDMONT	59,000
Genova	800
Imperia	100
La Spezia	800
Savona	1,000
LIGURIA	2,700
Bergamo	6,000
Brescia	12,000
Como	1,200
Cremona	10,000
Mantova	14,000
Milano	13,000
Pavia	16,000
Sondrio	200
Varese	1,000
LOMBARDY	73,400
Bolzano	800
Trento	800
VENEZIA TRID.	1,600

	QTLS.
Belluno	300
Udine	10,000
Padova	18,000
Rovigo	13,000
Treviso	12,000
Venezia	10,000
Verona	15,000
Vicenza	10,000
VENETO	88,300
Trieste	400
VENEZIA GIULIA	400
Bologna	18,000
Ferrara	18,000
Forlì	10,000
Modena	18,000
Parma	13,000
Piacenza	13,000
Ravenna	14,000
Reggio E.	14,000
EMILIA	118,000
Apuania	500
Arezzo	12,000
Firenze	15,000
Grosseto	7,000
Livorno	2,000
Lucca	2,000
Pisa	9,000
Pistoia	2,000
Siena	11,000
TUSCANY	60,500

	QTLS.
Ancona	14,000
Ascoli	14,000
Macerata	15,000
Pesaro	15,000
MARCHE	58,000
Perugia	22,000
Terni	5,000
UMBRIA	27,000
Frosinone	3,000
Litteria	2,000
Rieti	4,500
Roma	9,000
Viterbo	9,000
LAZIO	27,500
Aquila	6,000
Campobasso	12,000
Chieti	8,500
Pescara	4,000
Teramo	6,500
ABBRUZZI	37,000
Avellino	7,000
Benevento	6,500
Napoli	6,000
Salerno	8,000
CAMPANIA	27,500

	QTLS.
Bari	3,000
Brindisi	500
Foggia	10,000
Taranto	1,500
Lecce	1,200
PUGLIE	16,200
Matera	6,000
Potenza	8,000
LUCANIA	14,000
Catanzaro	6,000
Cosenza	5,500
Reggio Calabria	1,500
CALABRIA	13,000
Agrigento	9,000
Caltanissetta	9,000
Catania	5,000
Enna	5,000
Messina	1,500
Palermo	8,000
Ragusa	3,000
Siracusa	3,000
Trapani	6,000
SICILY	49,500
Cagliari	6,000
Nuoro	2,000
Sassari	4,000
SARDINIA	12,000
TOTAL	685,600

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UNRRA PRICE POLICY

Price policies, to ensure stable prices at lower levels, have lately been under discussion between the Italian Government and the UNRRA Italy Mission. Specific price programs have been formulated for coal and seed potatoes. Much preliminary work has also been done to create a joint Italian Government-UNRRA policy committee which will fix stabilising prices for other commodities.

Methods of price stabilisation vary according to whether or not UNRRA imports form the chief source of supply. Prices of imported coal, for instance, all of which is supplied by UNRRA, have been set at levels in line with those which Italy will probably have to pay at the end of the UNRRA program, when she will have to buy on her own account in the world market.

The probable landed cost this autumn—not of United States coal, but of coal from the Ruhr and Silesia, Italy's normal sources of supply—has been taken as the yardstick for present prices (adjusted according to relative thermal-unit value) of coal from the United States, and Sardinia, and also of home-produced lignite. To ensure the lowest possible charges to the consuming public, coal for the State railways, for gas works and other utility services subject to rigidly controlled price rates, is sold at a figure 26 per cent. below that charged to industrial users.

Probable Coal Costs

While there is no assurance that actual costs of coal imports in the autumn will be the same as the "probable" costs used as a base in this stabilization program, they are the best estimates possible in the light of present conditions. UNRRA has been buying coal for Italy from the United States at the rate of about 22 dollars (£5.10s. sterling) per ton, landed cost. The expected lowering of European freight rates, and especially the savings to be effected by bringing in coal from the Ruhr, Poland and other normal supply sources of Italy's coal, will place the cost of coal imports at about 15 dollars (£3.15s. sterling). Therefore, prices of that order, rather than the present landed costs of United States coal, are being used as the base point for fixing present coal prices in Italy.

Sardinian coal and lignite are being sold at prices, that are lower, in view of their lower calorific value, than those of imported coal. Since production costs of Sardinian coal and lignite are at present higher than this "stabilization price," the difference is to be subsidized out of the rehabilitation fund derived from the sale in Italy of UNRRA imports delivered free of charge to the Italian Government.

Where UNRRA is not the chief supplier, as in the case of imported seed potatoes, another method of price stabilization has been adopted. The Italian Government early this year secured some 20,000 tons of seed potatoes by barter and commercial deals with the United Kingdom and Holland. These imports were supplemented by UNRRA imports of 10,000 tons, bought at a lower price. The costs of all three groups were averaged to arrive at a single national price. It was also determined that a portion of the crop should be set aside at harvest time for distribution to relief centres, free of charge.

Price Control Committee

The proposed joint Government-UNRRA price policy committee will extend the benefits of this type of price stabilization to other commodities, as part of the program to reduce Italian prices which, on the average, are now more than twenty times the 1938 level.

While the aim of this program is to help to put Italian industry and agriculture in a position to deal in the international market at the end of the UNRRA program, further measures are necessary on the part of the Italian Government if the Italian people are to receive the benefit of lower prices on essential goods. Until domestic production and imports raise the level of the supply of goods to something approaching the need, thus permitting normal economic forces to lower the cost of living, the Italian Government will need to take strong measures to enforce price controls.

At the present time, UNRRA and the Italian Government are reviewing the prices of bread-cereal and petroleum products which, together with coal, constitute about 40 per cent. of all UNRRA imports in money value and over 90 per cent. in tonnage.

In accordance with UNRRA Basic Resolution No. 7 (a summary of which appeared in

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Economic Notes of March 29), the Italy Mission is concerned not merely with the provision of immediate relief and physical aid in the task of reconstruction, but also with the restoration of Italian economy, at present disorganized by vastly inflated prices.

ITALIAN DOCKERS BREAK RECORDS

Italy's port and dock workers have achieved exceptionally fast unloading rates during April, states the Ports and Shipping Division of the UNRRA Italy Mission. They have broken many port records for tonnage discharged per day from bulk cargo ships. Throughout the whole of its operations, the Division is receiving the closest co-operation from the Ministry of Marine—and downwards, to the labourers unloading the ships at the ports.

During April, a total of 148 ships arrived at Italian ports, with UNRRA and Italian Government cargoes. Of these 95 discharged 791,927 tons of coal (including coal imported from Sardinia), and 53 discharged 198,614 tons of grain as well as 155,520 tons of general cargo. A total of 1,146,061 tons of cargo was discharged at Italian civil ports during the month. No fewer than 111 ships from overseas carried UNRRA cargoes.

Improvement in Smaller Ports

Last month's big improvement was chiefly in the smaller ports, where, in spite of limited facilities, very high daily rates of discharge were established. A survey of 12 of these smaller ports showed that no fewer than 11 increased their average, in some cases by as much as 60 per cent., compared with January and February. Ports discharging by mechanical equipment also improved. At Savona, according to unofficial records, 9,300 tons of coal were discharged in 22 hours.

Of the other ports, Bari increased its average daily discharge rate for coal from 1,170 tons in February to 1,429 tons in March and to no less than 1,856 tons in April. One coal ship of 8,089 tons was discharged in four days—an all-time record for the port. The greatest tonnage of bulk cargo discharged by ship's gear during any period of 24 hours last month was 2,409 tons of coal, which is a port record, both pre-war and post-war.

Brindisi established a port record of 2,000 tons of coal unloaded in 24 hours, and discharged one shipload of 6,323 tons of general cargo in less than four-and-a-half days. Taranto, another port to break records, with 2,016 tons of coal cleared in 24 hours, increased its average discharge rate from 900 tons to 1,400 tons a day. Ships arriving at Ancona during April were cleared at almost double the average rate maintained during March. Ancona, too, achieved an all-time record for one day's discharge of wheat. Other ports which during April broke all previous records for the discharge of coal, or wheat, were Messina, Reggio di Calabria, Catania, Palermo, Piombino and Torre Annunziata. The April discharge rate at Civitavecchia improved considerably, compared with March. Throughout the month not a single hour of demurrage was lost at this port.

Survey of Requirements

The UNRRA Ports and Shipping Division is now aiding the Italian Government in a survey of port requirements with a view to re-equipment from army surplus. UNRRA is not providing the funds for the purchase of this equipment, but is assisting in locating and procuring it. Thanks to the liaison now established by UNRRA between the army surplus disposal authorities and the Italian Ministry of Marine, a 72-ton crane and a 30-ton crane have recently been installed at Leghorn, where, for the first time since the War, civilian facilities are now available for loading blocks of marble.

Good Prices

Tugs, barges, stevedore gear and port equipment of every sort are now being procured at very good prices. UNRRA has been instrumental, too, in arranging the transfer of skilled personnel to operate the new equipment procured. Rome itself has recently benefited. Wheat and coal are now being delivered by water to the river port of San Paolo on the southern outskirts of the city, following the procurement of additional shallow-draft tugs and barges to operate between San Paolo and the port of Fiumicino, at the mouth of the Tiber.

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MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(APRIL 29 - 5 MAY INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO	TONS
Skogness	Naples	29 April	UNRRA	Fish	2,226
Rolf Jarl	"	" "	"	General	—
Noesaniwi	Naples - Genoa	" "	"	Copper	1,400
Samtana	Genoa	30 "	"	Food (cases)	393
Lawton Evans	"	" "	Commercial	Cotton	6,480
Peter Desmet	"	1 May	It. Govt.	Flour	7,921
Solon Turman	"	" "	UNRRA & Comm'l.	Cotton (bales)	5,100
John Clarke	"	" "	UNRRA	Rye	8,411
Elisabeth Blackwell	"	2 "	It. Govt.	General	6,744
Bragerness	Leghorn	" "	UNRRA	Fish	2,372
Del Ouro	Civitavecchia	4 "	" "	General	5,120
Henry Middleton	Messina - Reggio Cal. *	5 "	" "	Wheat	8,229

* *Arrived at first-named port on the date shown: discharging at the second port later*

LATEST COAL SHIPMENTS

(APRIL 28 - 5 MAY INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
Joseph MacKenna	Catania / Messina	28 April / 3 May	UNRRA	Stanridge	Venice	30 April	UNRRA
Eldbridge Gerry	Palermo	29 April	"	Ina Coolbrith	Savona *	" "	"
Amy Lowell	Ancona	30 "	"	Edwin Meredith	T. Annunziata	1 May	"
Woodrow Wilson	Venice	" "	"	George Davidson	Bagnoli / T. Annunziata	" " / 3 "	" / "
Fort Frobisher	"	" "	Brit. Army	Emily Berliner	Genoa	" "	"
Francis Smith	Genoa	" "	UNRRA	Mary A. Livermore	Bagnoli	" "	"
Edward Bellamy	"	" "	"	Susan Colly	Genoa	5 "	"
				John Drake	Venice	" "	"

* *Arrived Savona instead of Genoa.*

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May 4, 1946 Vol. III, No. 5

ALLIED COMMISSION WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

POLITICAL

The news from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers discussing the Italian peace treaty evoked this week spiritual agonies, soul-searchings and wide and profound unease in the press, compounded over the degree of Italy's redemption from her Fascist past and that of the aid which Italy gave the United Nations war effort against Germany. The item which touched off the black editorials referred to the reported partition of the Italian Navy among the Big Four and Greece and Yugoslavia. "Bitter epilogue of an honorable surrender", cried *Tempo*. "Italy's fate and property on the bargaining counter in the Big Power game", said *Il Messaggero*.

The gloom was little lifted by the report that the Conference had decided against Austria's claims to Bolzano and by reports of the apparently good impression that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi made in his personal presentation of the Italian case concerning Venezia Giulia to the Big Four personages at Paris on May 3. De Gasperi praised the unanimously approved report of the Allied Investigating Commission of experts as accurate and objective. He spoke after Kardelj, the Yugoslav spokesman who had attacked the experts' report and asked for the 1914 frontier, by saying that Italy favored the Wilson Line. U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes explicitly thanked De Gasperi for the concision of his explanations at the end, dispatches said.

Earlier in the week (on the 29th) De Gasperi had cabled the Conference of Italy's deep disquiet over the handling of Italy's case after the navy news came out, while the newspapers (*Espresso*, *Mondo*, *Italia Nuova*, among many) published headers that Italian sailors would scuttle their own ships rather than accept "this supreme disgrace". In the ebb and flow of public feeling, the arrival of another expert commission at Briga and Tenda in Northwest Italy, dispatched by the Conference to find the facts on the French-Italian frontier rectification, was reported to have been received with demonstrations in favor of the Italianity of the areas concerned. Foreign news agency dispatches of a *modus vivendi* for Italy, now supposedly promised speedily, produced little reaction, the consensus being that it was way overdue. Another foreign affairs item, for the record, was the appointment of Ambassador Meli Lupi di Soragna as head of the Italian delegation to the Peace Conference (if invited). Soragna and Carandini, ambassador to London, accompanied De Gasperi to the Conference.

Italy's painful climb back to international good graces was the subject of acrid comment at the Liberal Party congress which opened in Rome April 29 and closed May 3. Bonomi, Nitti and Orlando, three of the four elder statesmen of the National Democratic Union, were guests of the Liberal Party and all deplored the Allies' treatment of Italy, Bonomi most bitterly. Croce, the fourth of the Union's leaders and Liberal party head, opened the congress with a speech in which he said that the Liberal party was principally interested in preserving liberty under no matter what type of institutions. Speeches and analysis of the party's positon were made by Brosio, who reaffirmed his republican sentiments; Cattani; Carandini; Corbino; Parente, who advocated a noncommital stand on the institutional question; Zanetti, who declared monarchy was the only means available to avoid dictatorships, and De Caro, whose speech on the Italian Navy elicited the dignified gathering's only demonstrations of prolonged enthusiasm.

The party congress adjourned after coming out for the monarchy, as expected, the Monarchist motion winning with 412 votes, to 121 for the republican one. Parts of the latter motion, however, were adopted as concerned political, economic and social matters while the majority motion itself stated that the "continuity of the (monarchical) institution in the present political crisis offered the greatest guarantee for public freedom, democratic setup of the state, juridical order and social progress, leaving its members an

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absolute freedom of propaganda and vote". Croce was elected party president and Carandini and De Caro vice presidents.

The Christian Democrat congress was closing as the Liberals convened, with its getting off the fence on the republican side understandably throwing dismay in monarchist ranks. De Gasperi, who in his concluding speech had asked the Communists to "speak openly of the whole of Communism" as he said he had done of Catholicism, finally drew searching fire (but also pats on the back) from the Left. *Unità and Avanti* praised the party's republican stand but again deprecated talk of a "Red peril", while *Unità* went a step further and said De Gasperi's handling of Italy's foreign affairs had undermined the nation's position by lip service to anti-Fascism, encouragement of nationalist propaganda and siding with the Anglo-Saxons against the Slavs. The party congress re-elected De Gasperi secretary general and Piccioni vice secretary.

Among the *ordini del giorno* that marked a week that included May Day on the 1st (which saw a large but peaceful meeting in the Piazza del Popolo), was that of the Communists who announced a membership of 1,870,707, a party loan subscription of 50 million lire and a program of constitutional, land and industrial reform, including nationalization of big industries and banks, expropriation of abandoned large estates and a republic parliamentary (not presidential, like the American) in character. *Unità* also revealed Communist preoccupation with Monarchist-Liberal plans, alleging that the conservatives were plotting a *coup de main* by an early announcement of the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and a renunciation of the throne by Prince Umberto in favor of his son, the Prince of Naples.

The Council of Ministers met May 3 with Nenni presiding as Vice Premier. Several decrees reducing staffs of the armed forces were passed, eleven million lire awarded to St. Cecilia Musical Academy, permission granted to use saccharine instead of sugar in pastry making, instructions drawn up for distribution of relief goods to state employes, final decision taken to publish the full list of 727 OVRA agents, approval given to a decree re-establishing people's juries of ten registered electors for the Courts of Assizes and a message of solidarity drafted for dispatch to De Gasperi at Paris.

ECONOMIC FRONT

UNRRA now estimate that the total expected arrivals for May will be 190,000 tons of wheat, our Food and Agriculture Branch relays to us. The balance to meet the 200-gram bread ration is to be found by the Italian Government by their additional amassing scheme. In future weekly arrivals of wheat tonnage, with the figure of grain amassed during the same week, will be published. The May crisis thus seems to be in hand. Now eyes are turned toward June, when, on the 1st, apart from whatever may be the balance of the amassing scheme on that date, there will be an anticipated stock position (as of present calculations) of 48,000 tons.

Non-distribution of fertilizers is still giving considerable concern at the moment. Roughly about 50,000 tons of fertilizer have been imported into Italy between January and April and although a certain small quantity of this has now been distributed, a considerable balance still remains in the warehouses. There are various reasons for this, the principal one being delay in producing a plan for distribution and the high price set by the Italians which makes the farmer loathe to take up his allocation, especially with regard to nitrogen fertilizer, as this is somewhat in the nature of a gamble. The farmer tends to hold off using this fertilizer during periods of drought such as has prevailed this spring, as fertilizer used during dry weather does more harm than good.

Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), director of the Finance Branch, Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner and Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section—to name all his titles—is being redeployed after two and a half years with the A. C., all in finance, in which he has been known as the "works" of the staff and for his grasp of technical detail and lucid exposition of complicated policies. Before he left yesterday, the Colonel was telling us about the problem that has arisen concerning lire spent in Italy by Allied troops on leave from Germany and Austria and by Allied forces buying fruits and vegetables in Italy. The question is: whether and how to give the Italian Government equivalent foreign exchange credits. Speaking of Germany, the Commerce Branch has been meeting recently with Italian fruit growers from the North who wish to resume their pre-war export trade with Germany. It is questionable if such export for civilian use can be arranged under present conditions.

THE ADMIRAL'S TRAVELS

We announced last week that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, had arrived safely in Rome on April 27 after having been away since April 4. On the 29th,

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the "Old Man" officially was back on board and you could practically see the old A. C. ship snap ahead at full speed on its course as orders issued, conferences met in his quarters and reports were made to SACMED. What the course of the A. C. will be was one of the matters which the Admiral discussed in the States in his first trip there in nearly three years. What has been decided will be known in the coming days as directives on reducing the size and scope of the Allied Commission are awaited from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

As to the trip itself, it was made both ways on TWA Skymasters. With the Admiral were his aide, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn and Chief Yeoman Joseph Doran, who, by the way, got married while in the States and had to leave his bride in Attleboro, Mass., after two days' bliss, to return to Italy. On the flight over, bad weather grounded the party at Paris for one night, the U. S. shore being finally touched on April 6 at 7 a.m. in New York. The Admiral then went on to Washington and started his official round of calls on April 8, which, it might be said, like the plane's flight, also took place in the stratosphere, as can be seen from the list of personages he saw.

The most important, of course, was President Harry S. Truman, who was described as a keenly interested listener as the Admiral stressed that Italy needed speedy succor in (1) food, (2) fuel and raw materials, and (3) a just peace. In his talks with high officials of the War, Navy and State Departments and the Combined Chiefs of Staff, the Admiral made the point over and again of the necessity of a just recognition for Italy's contribution to the war on the side of the Allies and itemized the contributions of the Italian Army, Navy, Air Forces and Partisans, the Chief Commissioner terming the aid of the Italian Partisans as second to none among the guerillas who fought for the Allies in all countries.

Besides the President, Admiral Stone saw Fleet Admiral Nimitz, Chief of Naval Operations; Fleet Admiral Leahy, Presidential Chief of Staff; Vice Admiral Denfeld, Chief of the Navy Bureau of Personnel; Vice Admiral Ramsey, Vice Chief of Naval Operations; Rear Admiral Inglis, director of Naval Intelligence; Major General Lemnitzer, former AFHQ Chief of Staff and now on the CCS; Mr. Dowling, who used to be one of the Political Advisors of the Allied Commission and now holds down the Italian desk in the State Department; Dr. Saccerdoti, chief of the Italian commercial mission now in the States on a purchasing program; Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson; Major General Hilldring, Assistant Secretary of State for Occupied Territories; Mr. Ben Cohen, Counsellor of the State Department and former brain truster for the late President Roosevelt· Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States; Field Marshal Wilson, head of the British Joint Staff Mission on the CCS and former SACMED here; Major General Al Gruenther, formerly Chief of Staff of the 5th Army; Mr. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of State; Major General Echols, director of the War Department's Civil Affairs Division; Col. Ed Foley, formerly Joint Director of the A. C. Finance Sub-Commission, now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Brigadier General Holmes, former head of G-5 at AFHQ and now back in civilian life; and Signor Tarchiani, Italian Ambassador to the United States. Among ex-A. C. officers whom the Admiral saw were Col. Poletti, Col. Wilmer, and Lt. Atkinson—all keenly interested and active in promoting American support for Italy.

The Admiral's party left the United States April 25 but had to stop at Newfoundland for a whole day because of fog. The journey thenceforwards was uneventful.

REFERENDUM PLANS

The decree describing the procedure to be followed in voting for the referendum on the institutional question has been signed and will be published in a few days. We are indebted (as usual) to Major R. R. Temple (A) for a description of its highlights. The ballot, which is marked simply at the top "Referendum on the institutional form of the State", has no question *per se* to be interpreted or misinterpreted but simply two emblems over which are the words, "Republic" and "Monarchy". The republican emblem is the head of a woman surrounded by oak and laurel leaves and that of the monarchy a crown and below, the coat of arms of the House of Savoy. Both emblems are superimposed on outline maps of the Italian peninsula.

Voting for the *Costituente* representatives and for the referendum will take place simultaneously. Separate boxes will hold the two ballots, which will be deposited in separate urns after voting. The added complications will need eight observers in each polling station (instead of five, as previously), which, with the president and secretary of the voting district, will make ten officials in the booths. In places of 500 voters or less, polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, the day of the vote. In places of larger populations, polls will open at 7 a.m. and

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close at 10 p.m. and then will reopen on June 3 at 7 a.m. and close at noon.

The ballot boxes will be opened and counting of the votes begun at noon on June 3 in *all* polling districts. Results must be completed and announced by noon June 4. The ballots and documents will then be forwarded to the central offices of each college or constituency, which will tabulate the totals for the constituency and forward the results and file of papers to the Court of Cassation in Rome by special courier as soon as possible (it is hoped by June 7). At each level the *Costituente* votes are counted first.

The Court of Cassation will tot up the reports from the colleges and announce the final results of the referendum not later than the fifteenth day after the election or by June 17. The time given is also for the Court to consider objections filed on the conduct of the elections. Press reports should have the results, however, by June 5 or 6.

STRAIGHTENING OUT THE RECORD

If one will peer beneath what may appear the sometime somnolence of the Allied Commission at headquarters, one is apt to find all kinds of jobs quietly going on, one of which is a monumental review of AMG court cases by the Legal Sub-Commission, whose director, Col. John Weber (A), the former San Antonio (Texas) judge, is devoting practically his whole time to the matter. In brief, Col. Weber is cleaning up for posterity the A. C. legal record in its administration of military government jurisprudence.

The work, according to the Colonel, has three objectives: (1) To review the status of all persons held in Italian jails under the authority of AMG courts; (2) to adjust AMG court sentences on a uniform basis, for persons still in jail and (3) to apply to all cases possible a mitigation based on time earned for good behavior and for contributions to prison service. Under the first heading, cases of all persons in jail are reviewed to make sure they are there under legal authority and to release them if no justifiable grounds can be found to hold them.

The second rubric, that of adjusting AMG sentences, is the biggest problem. Violation of AMG proclamations and ordinances were punished on a deterrent basis on the grounds of military security. In practically all cases some part of the Italian civil code also was applicable to the same offense and the policy was early instituted of switching the prosecution over to the Italian courts as much as possible. In Sicily and Naples, for example, severe 10- and 20-year sentences were common in the early days, while as the armies moved North, as Italy became co-belligerent, and as the North was liberated and the Partisans and the population were openly helpful to the Allied armed forces, sentences became lighter until the early-day heavy sentences got down as low as 18 months. The job now is to adjust the earlier sentences in light of the later ones.

The entire task has been complicated by lack of records or confusion in the varying kinds of records kept by the different AMG regions. In all, Col. Weber estimates that AMG courts have handled approximately 75,000 cases, of which some 30,000 were in Naples alone and 21,000 in Tuscany, which includes Livorno, the port cities always showing the greatest incidence of AMG crimes, naturally. The great bulk of all cases were of sentences of under two years, which in the normal course of time have since expired or are doing so every day. Indeed, as of February 1, there were only 1,315 prisoners in jail with sentences of less than two years to serve and it is expected that all but about 80 of these will be free by the end of this year through the normal running out of their short-term sentences.

The problem, therefore, has become one of reviewing the sentences where there are *more* than two years to serve. This type includes 603 prisoners. Of these, Col. Weber has reviewed about 250 *cases*. Sentences have been altered in 251 instances (where there was more than two years to serve), which means that the sentences of these 251 persons were lowered to be in line with the norm of sentences. In general, about 65 per cent. of the deterrent sentences are being thus adjusted while 35 per cent. are not, the latter because they represent crimes which are *mal per se* and felonious violations of the civil code as well, such as counterfeiting, robbery with arms, murder, mail thefts, etc. The majority of the adjusted sentences refer to military crimes such as black marketeering, possession of Allied goods and possession of firearms, a violation, incidentally, which once used to draw ten years in Sicily and later only one year in the North.

All of the 251 sentences adjusted will further benefit by the allowances granted for time off for good behavior—to amount to 2½ days a month—and for contribution to prison service such as labor in the prison workshops, kitchen or administration, which, in effect, is an Allied effort to parallel the Italian system of grace and amnesty granted to prisoners. [redacted]tured prison escapees and prison rioters will not of course benefit by this latter adjustment.

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CLEANSING THE AUGEAN STABLES

The deadline just passed on April 30 in the North (by which time epuration proceedings must have been initiated), makes a report at hand on the subject of epuration from Brigadier Matthew Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, timely reading. Inevitably the statistics are somewhat old but represent the latest information available to the Allied Commission. All in all, Brigadier Carr said, although it is difficult to assess the degree of success of epuration, it can be considered that the Italian Government has made a genuine and effective effort to carry out its obligations of defascistization as called for by the Armistice terms.

Fascist epuration began way back on August 2, 1943 when Decree No. 704 was issued by the Italian Government in Rome before the Armistice, suppressing the National Fascist Party. Under Marshal Badoglio, epuration after the Armistice became the responsibility of a minister later known as the High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism. Only after the Government was installed in Rome was Decree No. 159 issued, on July 27, 1944, setting up an epurative machinery, including a High Court for the Fascist big shots and Court of Assize trials for lesser fry. Commissions were set up in every ministry and in every province to try the national and local suspects, a legion of a generation under Fascism. Some 120 supplementary decrees and 300 special commissions eventually buttressed the defascistization plan.

To speed up the process and remove the atmosphere of uncertainty from public administration, Decree No. 702 was issued on November 9, 1945, limiting epuration proceedings to the first seven grades of civil servants but widening the scope of action possible against industrial concerns who may have supported Fascism. Professions were expected to purge their own ranks, the High Commissionership was to be abolished and each Ministry was made responsible for cleaning out its staff.

The actual defascism reports comprise those received directly by the Allied Commission subcommissions from their Italian Government counterparts and from the Italian Government central epuration office. The A. C. report covers employees in the first seven grades, as of February 28, and includes returns by the following sub-commissions: education, legal, local government, public safety, agriculture, finance, industry and commerce, transportation, communications and public relations. The number of Italian ministry employes represented was 30,084. Of these, 23,213 were investigated and epuration proceedings initiated against 4,765 and concluded against 3,817. Appeals were filed by 1,343, of which appeals 728 were dismissed while 640 employes were retired.

The report of the Italian Government (dated January 16, 1946) as to epuration in its central ministries covering all grades shows that of 394,641 employes, 219,613 were investigated. Proceedings were begun against 27,451 and concluded against 17,387, of whom 4,307 lodged appeals. Sanctions included dismissal of 1,580, retirement of 531 and lesser punishment for 8,803. Provincial commissions, reporting from all of Italy outside of the North, as of January 15, 1946, reveal that of 276,843 local officials, 144,728 were investigated, 14,076 were proceeded against, cases being concluded in 4,818 instances and 1,569 persons being dismissed as a result.

Abolition of Fascist organizations was another aspect of the epurative process taken up early in 1944 but not prosecuted until Rome fell. The first type of organization was that of a statal character whose objects were deemed objectionable, the second, that whose objects were partially beneficial but whose methods were reprehensible, and lastly, the type which, not exactly a statal enterprise, being indeed often private concerns, was partly useful and partly a racket. Of 27 principal Fascist organizations on record, nine were abolished, eleven have been epurated, one was non-political or semi-religious and in six epuration is still in progress.

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. C. B. Findlay (B), director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, tells us some items as follows: the La Spezia Jews seem to have been taken care of by 679 of them receiving certificates for legal entry into Palestine while the rest are going to take advantage of the A. C. camp nearby until their cases are settled; some 200 to 300 illegal entrees into Italy are getting across the frontiers, with Col. Findlay hazarding a guess that the number may rise to 2,000 a week as soon as the snow melts from the passes; talk of 100,000 certificates for entry into Palestine being distributed through Central Europe and a definite assignment of ports to be used may cut down the Italy rush... Mr. Joseph Silber (A), former Red Cross worker attached to Col. Findlay's outfit and now director for Austria of the American Joint Distribution Committee (Jewish relief) was in town the other day... Another regimental party, again a success, was held last

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night at the Grand... Brigadier General William L. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, has been awarded the French *Croix de Guerre* and Legion of Honor... A. C. officers and men who are expecting their families from the States will be glad to learn that they will begin to arrive the first weeks of May... Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis, CLO, Venezie, reports (through Col. R. C. Ross, regimental CO who saw him on a recent visit) that A. C. officers and former A. C. civilians now with other agencies, have an uncanny faculty of having their automobiles break down near Treviso during week-ends, which has forced Col. Mavis to run an impromptu hostelry for guests until every Monday, not to mention providing transport into nearby Venice... The complete story of the Education Sub-Commission, plus a review of Italian education, is well worth reading for anyone who wants to know how democratic ideals were put across to the Italians; the *Closing Report*, dated April 19, is on file in the Library Section of PRB for those interested... The U. S. Army demotion policy, to keep in line with the reduced U. S. war establishment, has begun to touch the 2675th Regiment, worse luck: As is their privilege, Colonels George F. Parker and John S. Arnold will retire at once from active duty, Col. H. H. Scudder will do the same on May 30, all so acting instead of accepting demotion for being the most recently made colonels in the A. C.; and lastly, the Regiment's CO himself, Col. R. C. Ross, a Regular Army and West Point man, will be affected, becoming a lieutenant colonel on June 1... G-1 (A) announces that, under the new MTOUSA policy, only those American officers on assignments whose principal duty is in connection with civil affairs and military government in occupied areas (Venezia Giulia and Udine) can now be held six months beyond the time they were originally eligible for redeployment... The following new awards have come in: *Bronze Star* – Colonel Robert B. Menapace, Lieut. Col. Richard L. Lollar, Major Donald C. Little... Major General L. Browning (B), Commander of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, reports that, as of the most recent report, 262,855 Italian POWs are still abroad in all areas, including 8,400 in Russia; repatriation is proceeding at the rate of 10,000 a month or better... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, CLO, Lombardia, sends this postscript on the recent Milan prison riot: The whole affair has been the subject of very great exaggeration, rumor having it that there were 2,000 well-armed criminals, whereas our Public Safety Officer's reasoned opinion is that the number of prisoners who used firearms throughout the action did not exceed 50. There was a good deal of unnecessary firing on the part of the police, with resultant inaccurate return fire. The riot collapsed at 1525 April 24, ten minutes after the Bersaglieri commander sent in an ultimatum to the prisoners...

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May 3, 1946

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ECONOMIC NOTES

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2. Future Coal Supplies
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4. Movements of Ships

ITALY'S TASK IN THE FOOD CRISIS

May will be a month of battle for food, and in that battle Italy herself will play a major part. Maintenance of the bread ration depends very largely upon the success of the supplementary amassing campaign announced by the Government at the end of last week.

The present grain situation, taking into account UNRRA shipments during March and April and the actual amassing of indigenous grain achieved last month, is as follows:—

	Tons
April	
Actual stocks of bread cereals at 1 April	220,000
Estimated arrivals during April	177,000
Amassing of indigenous grain during April	7,000
Total estimated stocks available during April	404,000
Estimated monthly consumption (bread and pasta)	273,000
May	
Estimated stocks of bread cereals at 1 May	131,000
Estimated arrivals during May	190,000
Total estimated stocks available during May	321,000
Estimated monthly consumption (bread and pasta)	273,000
June	
Estimated stocks of bread cereals at 1 June	48,000

This analysis is based on the assumption that the bread ration will remain at its present figure of 200 grams (approximately 7 oz.) per person per day and that the pasta ration will continue at 500 grams (approximately 18 oz.) per person per month. But it does not include any estimate of the quantity of grain to be collected through the Government's emergency amassing campaign, the target figure for which should—in the opinion of the UNRRA Italy Mission—be not less than 150,000 tons.

Even if this target is achieved, there will—without heavy imports of grain—still be insufficient to meet the normal monthly ration in June, or the working margin, which is essential if the ration is to be maintained. It is assumed that Italy may safely rely upon substantial imports arriving during June, but at the present moment no figures are available of what shipments can be expected, since the allocations for May loadings have not yet been decided. UNRRA has, in fact, submitted a bid of 250,000 tons for Italy. A further factor which will relieve the situation in June will be the early amassing of grain in Sicily, where the harvest is due to begin towards the end of this month.

Ration Saved By "Good Team Work"

"The necessity for a reduction in the bread ration has been averted, for the time at least, by very good team work," said Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief of the UNRRA Italy Mission in a statement on the food situation in Rome last week. "We are very grateful to the United Kingdom for having released grain from its own stock-pile, and to Mr. La Guardia for his energetic action in getting ships diverted on the high seas."

The importance of these diversions should not, however, be over-estimated. Up till last Saturday, no more than two ships, carrying a total of 16,000 tons of grain had, in fact, been diverted. The bread ration was *not* saved by diversions, valuable though the extra shipments

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will be. The most significant element in the import situation, as shown by the estimates of arrivals during April and May, is that UNRRA's program of sailings from the United States and Argentina is being maintained better than was at one time anticipated.

Imports are, however, only one factor. The other factor—and one which from now onwards will be of fundamental importance—is the action to be taken by Italy herself. "The writing of a headline, that the ration need not be cut, does not mean that the battle is won," states Mr. Keeny. "The battle is just beginning. The battle must be fought in Italy—and the battle is to make real the Government's supplementary amassing program. Success in holding the bread ration at its present level rests squarely on the co-operation of the Italian people. If they play their part, the plan will succeed.

"The triumph will be a double one: The ration will be assured for the month of May: and the rest of the world will know that Italy is able and willing to do her share. There is great good-will towards Italy in the world at large, and great efforts are being made to help her; but Italy must show that she is able to discipline herself."

Up-to-date figures of the Government's amassing campaign will be given weekly in *Economic Notes*. These figures will, so far as possible, indicate the progress of the campaign, both in Italy as a whole and also in the different regions. If during the next few weeks an additional five per cent. of last year's crop could be brought into the people's granaries, Italy would have approximately 200,000 tons more grain in June.

It will be the responsibility of each province to collect its own quota, and those provinces which *fail* to amass the quota prescribed may find themselves forced to introduce a local reduction in the ration. The issue of instructions to the provinces is the sole responsibility of the Italian Government—not of UNRRA. On the other hand, UNRRA is concerned that the Government's program should be carried out, and that leakages should be stopped at provincial, and lower, levels. In particular UNRRA is gravely concerned over the large amount of grain that is lost in distribution and expended on over-issues in certain provinces. During the last three months these losses and over-issues have averaged about 20,000 tons a month. If the Government's rationing plan is to succeed, these leakages must cease.

FUTURE COAL SUPPLIES

Settlement of the coal stoppage in the United States will not relieve immediately the present coal shortage in Italy, since there must be a delay of at least six weeks between the return of the miners to the pits and the arrival of coal shipments at Italian ports. If shipments are not re-started before the middle of this month, there is danger of a coal famine early in July when present stocks will be practically exhausted. "Unless the flow of coal is maintained, basic transport, industrial activity and Italy's program of economic rehabilitation will grind to a halt in two months, with widespread unemployment, and further suffering for the Italian people," states Mr. Keeny in a warning issued a few days ago.

All through April, more United States coal ships—rather than fewer—were arriving in Italy, although the mines stopped work on 1 April. Reference to the "Movements of Ships" table on page 4 of this issue will show that coal is still coming into the country. Further cargoes are on their way.

But the significant fact is that loadings in the United States were brought to a standstill some little while ago; and this must inevitably cause a break in the flow of supplies. Of the 1,000,000 tons shipped by UNRRA during March and the early part of April in anticipation of the crisis, approximately 650,000 tons remain. This, at the present severely restricted rate of consumption, will be sufficient for May and June; but by 30 June stocks will have fallen to about 50,000 tons—unless shipments have by then been resumed.

Stern Conservation Measures

"The Italian people have accommodated themselves to stern coal conservation measures," says Mr. Keeny. "It is now up to the coal supplying areas to help to avoid a breakdown of Italy's economic life."

Since the middle of March, coal imports and domestic production have been carefully stock-piled and rigidly allocated by a Coal Emergency Committee, consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the UNRRA Italy Mission and representatives of the Confederations of Industry and Labour. Every alternative source of coal supply has been investigated. The miners of Carbonia, in Sardinia, have risen to the emergency by

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increasing output to nearly 100,000 tons a month.

Coal has been allocated to a preferential list of consumers, consisting of the railways, gas works, bakeries producing rationed bread, cokeries, electric power plants, shipping, hospitals and drainage and sewage plants. Sugar and tomato processing factories have received special allocations. All other industrial users have been allotted severely limited supplies, according to their national importance and according also to the employment they provide.

Even consumers on the preferential list have had their coal allotments substantially reduced from those in effect prior to the emergency. Railway supplies were reduced by 20 per cent. in April and a similar reduction has been ordered for May. Since the beginning of April, more than 100 passenger trains have been withdrawn. The April-May allotment to the gas-works has been reduced to 45 per cent. of their coal consumption in 1939. Supplies for the cokeries have been strictly controlled.

Coal For Pasta Factories

Coal consumption by food processing plants has on the average been reduced by 40 per cent. Particular emphasis has been placed on keeping pasta and cheese factories in production. For other essential industries, the fuel reductions ordered in April and May range from 10 to 65 per cent.

Many hospitals, bakeries and other coal consumers have been ordered to convert to wood and lignite wherever possible. Extensive briquetting experiments have been conducted, in order to make the greatest possible use of inferior coals. Some industrial plants are converting to fuel oil, but present possibilities in this direction are limited.

According to estimates of the Italian Government, coal requirements to maintain essential services, operate transport and restore industry were put at 2,270,000 long tons for the first quarter of the year. Actual imports under the UNRRA, FEA and Military programs to meet those requirement totalled no more than 1,284,200 long tons, while Italy was able herself to produce only 219,000 tons of Sardinian coal. The gap between need and supply will clearly be even greater during the second quarter. In addition to the small first UNRRA consignments from the Ruhr, Italy hopes on her own account, outside the UNRRA program, to secure 43,000 tons of coal per month from Poland.

AFFORESTATION PROGRAM

Assistance is being given by UNRRA to the Italian Government in its plans for the rehabilitation of the country's forests. Emphasis is laid by the Italy Mission upon the restoration of nurseries as a basis for an intensive afforestation program, beginning in 1948. As an initial step UNRRA is importing a small quantity of forest seed for the nurseries and is requesting considerably more. The seed is chiefly Douglas fir which is particularly suited to the Italian soil and climate. Douglas fir growth in Italy compares very favourably with growth in the United States.

Cypress, Eastern white pine and lodgepole pine are also in the program. Cypress is intended primarily for water control, lodgepole pine for telephone poles and similar uses, Douglas fir and Eastern white pine for timber, and for industrial uses. The world supply of forest seed is short, however, since many other war-damaged countries have similar afforestation programs, and it may not be possible to secure all the seed for which UNRRA has provided funds.

Under the Italian Government's long-range afforestation program, it is proposed to plant before the end of this year about 20,000 acres in timber, half of which will be in Northern Italy. Most of the new stock will be conifers—pines, firs, larch and spruce—with some locust and other species primarily intended for the control of soil erosion.

UNRRA Timber Imports

To meet Italy's immediate timber needs UNRRA has allocated in the program for the first six months of this year 1,500,000 dollars (£375,000 sterling) for the importation of 20,000 metric tons of timber. These imports will consist chiefly of pitch pine, oak, larch and other species not available in Italy, for use in the production of rail-cars and in shipbuilding, as part of UNRRA's plan to help Italian transport and industry.

Prior to the war, Italy provided about 60 per cent of its own timber requirements from indigenous sources. This was supplemented by imports from Norway, Sweden, Yugoslavia and Austria. Heavy demands for war-damage repairs are resulting in serious depletion of timber reserves.

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MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(APRIL 22 - 28 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO	TONS
Thomas Walsh	Genoa	22 April	UNRRA	Wheat	8,500
Ulisse	Piombino	" "	It. Govt.	Phosphates	3,550
Twin Falls Victory	Naples	" "	" "	Nitrates	9,000
Terre Haute Victory	Genoa	23 "	" "	General	5,197
Hilton R. Helper	Messina	" "	UNRRA	Wheat	8,270
Drury Victory	Genoa	24 "	It. Govt.	Nitrates	8,750
Royal S. Copeland	Civitavecchia	25 "	UNRRA	Wheat	8,304
Del Rio	Leghorn	" "	"	General	5,972
Sarpfoss	Genoa - Naples *	" "	"	Fish	400
John Murray Forbes	Genoa	" "	"	Wheat	8,063
Gaspesian Park	"	" "	"	General	3,217
Sand-Vicken	"	26 "	"	Sugar and Corn	1,783
Foreland	Naples - Genoa *	" "	"	Medical Supplies	—
John T. McMillan	Genoa	27 "	"	General	5,388
Coulgurn	"	" "	Commercial	Cotton and Wool	2,084
Bates Victory	"	" "	It. Govt.	Cotton Copper	3,038 4,527
John Robin	Naples	28 "	UNRRA	General	7,340

* *Arrived at first-named port on the date shown; discharging at the second port later*

LATEST COAL SHIPMENTS

(APRIL 21 - 28 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
Robert Lansing	Taranto	21 April	UNRRA	Ina Coolbrith	Genoa	24 April	UNRRA
Mary Pickersgill	Leghorn	" "	"	William J. Brian	Catania	" "	"
Samuel French	Palermo	" "	"	Josephine Lowell	Genoa	25 "	"
William Hawkins	Genoa	22 "	"	Anthony Ravalli	Venice	" "	"
Ralph Barnes	"	" "	"	Florence Critterton	Savona	26 "	"
Freemont Older	Savona	" "	"	George Bellows	Venice	" "	"
Rhoda Seam	"	" "	"	William Watson	"	" "	"
Samuel Aske	Genoa	23 "	"	Amy Lowell	"	" "	"
Admiral Hudson	"	" "	"	Elihu Root	Savona	27 "	"
Francis Newlands	Naples	" "	"	Edwin Meredith	Bagnoli	" "	"
	T. Annunziata	24 "	"	Frank Evers	Savona	" "	"
Robert Randall	Venice	23 "	"	Ole Bull	Genoa	" "	"
	Ancona	26 "	"	John Brackenridge	"	28 "	"
John Vining	Bagnoli	24 "	"	Charles Russell	Venice	" "	"
	Naples	27 "	"	Russel Sage	Piombino	" "	"

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Convening in what most observers termed a spirit of fervent solidarity, the Christian Democrat party, which emerged from the administrative elections (see *Costituente Preparations* in this issue) as the largest single party, opened its national congress in the halls of the University of Rome April 24 to hear Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi, as secretary-general of the party, come out definitely and clearly against what he called the dangers to Italian civilization represented in the programs of the Socialist and Communist parties. The presence, incidentally, of a French delegation of the similar MRP party in France, which has been having its own difficulties with the Social-Communist bloc, had evoked considerable press comment on the eve of the congress on the parallel dangers of Christian Democracy being out-maneuvered by the Left bloc (as expressed by *Minuto*). De Gasperi, who made his address after the French delegate had given his fraternal greetings, answered criticism of both the Left and Right.

The Christian Democrats have had a real program, even in the days of underground activity, but one which has had to be readjusted according to the pressures of immediate action, he said. He declared that violence and intimidation would not affect Christian Democrat views and called on all parties and citizens to disarm. He went on to deny existence of secret documents (as charged by *Italia Nuova*) concerning the Royal House and the crisis at the fall of Fascism in July, 1943. He said: "We are neither for Socialism nor for Communism but for solidarity of groups of opposing interests attained through a system allowing emphasis on work above everything". He asked for "equality of treatment in social life" and said "we need another system ... freedom". He said reforms should be made region by region and asserted that industrial reforms could not be decided solely on Marxist principles which aimed at transforming economic matters into political ones. He deprecated the "accomodating statements of the Leftist parties concerning religion" as "nothing but tactical maneuvers". He ended by saying that "should we lose the battle we are fighting at present, we should lose not a mere electoral battle but the battle for the civilization and education of the Italian people".

Avanti and *Unità*, organs of the parties De Gasperi attacked, made surprisingly moderate replies, the tenor of both being that the Prime Minister was not specific in his charges. *Momento* charged that De Gasperi's inexplicit references to arms and money "misteriously" reaching Italy and his repeated affirmation of the "irreconcilability between Christian Democrat doctrine and Marxist materialism" was driving the Christian Democrats into an open position of anti-Communism and into the arms of the conservatives of the Right, an act, the paper said, which "purposely aggravates the discord that has arisen between Communists and Christian Democrats".

Declaration.

The Thursday meeting dealt with Christian Democrat plans for the new Constitution, to be drafted on the principles of freedom (a word used over and over), but without much itemization. The important announcement of the day was to reveal the results of the party's private referendum on the institutional question: Voting were 836,812 members; republicans 503,085 (60 per cent. of the vote), monarchists 146,061 (17 per cent.) and opposers to any statement on the question, 187,666 (23 per cent.). The debate

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from Monarchist Genna from Turin who asked: "I should like to know how many of you were a black shirt". The ensuing fracas ended when Genna apologized. Finally, the motion for the party to declare itself won and the republican solution was victorious in results announced early Saturday as follows: Out of 1,051,000 members, 739,000 for the republic, 254,000 against, or 75 per cent. for the republic.

The bread crisis (see *Economic Front*) was the headline news of the week, marked by repeated Cabinet meetings, transatlantic telephone calls and conferences with UNRRA. The upshot, after a meeting of the Cabinet Council of Ministers on April 23, was possibly to reduce the ration to 150 grams a day temporarily but not to touch the supplementary rations, but on the 26th, a communique was issued announcing the ration would NOT be cut. All the press picked up De Gasperi's remark at a meeting where he said, "What is the *Costituente* and the referendum without bread?" The political attacks on the bread issue were headed as usual by *Italia Nuova* which charged that Communist cooperatives were concealing their grain stocks with the alleged complicity of the Communist Minister of Agriculture Gullo, while the Leftist press called upon the country to make "solidarity of sacrifices" to withstand any temporary cut.

A fillip to international news was given by the declaration of the French Communists, attacking Togliatti and the Italian Communists on their ideological integrity and for their stand on Trieste, which the French Communists said should go to Yugoslavia. The Italian Communists, on the 22nd, met in executive meeting and issued an invitation to their French comrades to come to Italy to discuss the matter and also a statement declaring that, although the Italian Communist party was against all forms of nationalism, it believed that giving Trieste to Yugoslavia would revive nationalist tendencies in Italy and thus slow up the evolution of Italian democracy.

The main foreign attraction, of course, was the Paris conference of the Foreign Ministers which opened on the 25th and which most Italian editorial eyes viewed somewhat darkly, chief stumbling blocks listed being reparations, Trieste, colonies and disposal of the Italian fleet, though hope picked up one or two points after the first day when it was reported that Russia had agreed to giving first place on the agenda to the Italian

ECONOMIC FRONT

The bread situation has appreciably improved in the last few days by the announcement of a diversion of 16,000 tons of wheat in two ships of extra UNRRA allocation to Italy, plus the fact that 121,000 tons have now been cleared for April loadings with a firm promise of an additional 46,000 tons to be cleared by the end of the month in another six ships. The Government's scheme for increased local production in short is to allot a definite amassing target to each province and only sufficient bread grains will be supplied over and above this target to meet the established ration scales. This will throw the obligation of retaining the 200-gram bread ration on to the Provinces. It may, of course, possibly lead to local reductions, but it will avoid the official cut in the ration scale by the Government.

For many months the Economic Section has been disturbed by the slow movement of imported commodities to the consuming public and in the last couple of weeks has been waging an all-out campaign to locate idle stockpiles and to bring their existence to the attention of the Italian Government. Prices set too high or merely oversight have apparently prevented the flow of goods to those who need them as originally intended. Among the non-moving items have been 664 tractors (in Italy since February), 10,000 tons of medical supplies (from last years' military import program), mining machinery (here since July, 1945), 16,235 tons of fertilizer (from February and March arrivals), considerable used clothing (turned over last year), 45,000 tons of miscellaneous foods, which, however, will probably begin to move out shortly.

There also is the news of Mr. Harlan Cleveland, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section and now Deputy Chief of the Italy UNRRA Mission, going to Washington tomorrow with the UNRRA program for the second half of 1946, which was originally planned for the first half but which never went into effect because of the non-delivery of supplies. Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, has made a resumé of the Italian Government's memorandum to the Big Four Foreign Ministers' Deputies concerning economic-financial questions related with the Italian peace treaty. The document among other things lists

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Saturday as follows: Out of 1,061,000 members, 739,000 for the republic, 254,000 against, or 73 per cent, for the republic.

The bread crisis (see *Economic Front*) was the headline news of the week, marked by repeated Cabinet meetings, transatlantic telephone calls and conferences with UNRRA. The upshot, after a meeting of the Cabinet Council of Ministers on April 23, was possibly to reduce the ration to 150 grams a day temporarily but not to touch the supplementary rations, but on the 26th, a communique was issued announcing the ration would NOT be cut. All the press picked up De Gasperi's remark at a meeting where he said, "What is the *Costituente* and the referendum without bread?" The political attacks on the bread issue were headed as usual by *Italia Nuova* which charged that Communist cooperatives were concealing their grain stocks with the alleged complicity of the Communist Minister of Agriculture Gullo, while the Leftist press called upon the country to make "solidarity of sacrifices" to withstand any temporary cut.

A fillip to international news was given by the declaration of the French Communists, attacking Togliatti and the Italian Communists on their ideological integrity and for their stand on Trieste, which the French Communists said should go to Yugoslavia. The Italian Communists, on the 22nd, met in executive meeting and issued an invitation to their French comrades to come to Italy to discuss the matter and also a statement declaring that, although the Italian Communist party was against all forms of nationalism, it believed that giving Trieste to Yugoslavia would revive nationalist tendencies in Italy and thus slow up the evolution of Italian democracy.

The main foreign attraction, of course, was the Paris conference of the Foreign Ministers which opened on the 25th and which most Italian editorial eyes viewed somewhat darkly, chief stumbling blocks listed being reparations, Trieste, colonies and disposal of the Italian fleet, though hope picked up one or two points after the first day when it was reported that Russia had agreed to giving first place on the agenda to the Italian treaty and to French participation in the discussions on Italy (Bidault had stated he would try to mediate in Anglo-American-Russian differences over Italy).

diversion of 15,000 tons of wheat in two ships of extra UNRRA allocation to Italy, plus the fact that 121,000 tons have now been cleared for April loadings with a firm promise of an additional 46,000 tons to be cleared by the end of the month in another six ships. The Government's scheme for increased local production in short is to allot a definite amassing target to each province and only sufficient bread grains will be supplied over and above this target to meet the established ration scales. This will throw the obligation of retaining the 200-gram bread ration on to the Provinces. It may, of course, possibly lead to local reductions, but it will avoid the official cut in the ration scale by the Government.

For many months the Economic Section has been disturbed by the slow movement of imported commodities to the consuming public and in the last couple of weeks has been waging an all-out campaign to locate idle stockpiles and to bring their existence to the attention of the Italian Government. Prices set too high or merely oversight have apparently prevented the flow of goods to those who need them as originally intended. Among the non-moving items have been 664 tractors (in Italy since February), 10,000 tons of medical supplies (from last years' military import program), mining machinery (here since July, 1945), 46,235 tons of fertilizer (from February and March arrivals), considerable used clothing (turned over last year), 45,000 tons of miscellaneous foods, which, however, will probably begin to move out shortly.

There also is the news of Mr. Harlan Cleveland, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section and now Deputy Chief of the Italy UNRRA Mission, going to Washington tomorrow with the UNRRA program for the second half of 1946, which was originally planned for the first half but which never went into effect because of the non-delivery of supplies. Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, has made a resumé of the Italian Government's memorandum to the Big Four Foreign Ministers' Deputies concerning economic-financial questions related with the Italian peace treaty. The document among other things lists contributions of 400 billion lire toward the United Nations' war effort, 300 billion lire claims against Germany, 15 billion as spent in developing Albania and seven billion for Ethiopia. Italian

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coastwise shipping last month amounted to 204,146 tons.

The Italian Government has asked for permission to supplement the present AMG public works program in Venezia Giulia in order to relieve unemployment and the housing situation. The Government's plans have been forwarded for c. k. to 13th Corps, whose public works officer, by the way, points out that one of the handicaps to execution of housing projects is the lack of skilled workmen such as carpenters and bricklayers. The A. C. on 21 April turned over to the Italians the operating responsibility for screening items on the Reserved Commodity Lists for world trade and now the Government has direct access to the Combined Food Board and Combined Commodity Committees in Washington in order to obtain allocation of goods falling outside the scope of the UNRRA program.

The principles originally laid down by the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission of the A. C. have been adopted as the basic policy of the Government's Inter-Ministerial Price Committee in determining future price increases for power, water and gas, Col. George F. Parker, chief of the Utilities Division, reports. Charges had been allowed as follows: *No* changes permitted in rates in effect in 1942; companies allowed to apply a temporary flat percentual surcharge to the *total* bills for power consumed; this surcharge computed from a book-keeping formula of profit and loss in recent operations; only actual "out-of-pocket" expenses were allowed to be covered in the surcharge and no allowances made for depreciation, amortization, interest, dividends or cost of repairs of war damage; for further increases, the companies had to make new application, which involved re-examination of operating costs.

The following representative percentage surcharges are now in effect in Italy:

	South	Central	North
Electricity .	350	350	200
Water . . .	250 (Naples)	385 (Rome)	500
Gas	500 (Naples)	425 (Rome)	
	250 (Salerno)	600 (Florence)	350
	200 (Bari)		

COSTITUENTE PREPARATIONS

With the administrative elections over on [illegible] Local Government Sub-Commission assures is the final, complete, official returns from the Ministry of Interior on the administrative elections. Unfortunately, reliable figures on actual votes cast are not yet available. The administrative elections, which, by the way, are said to have cost the Italian Government 16 million lire in stationery charges alone, saw 66 provincial capitals vote and 49 other cities over 30,000 population. Involved was a population estimated at 7,258,764, of which 5,064,150 were registered voters, a little more than half being women. At least 4,000,000 are reported to have voted.

Communes which did not vote, according to our experts, were not ready to vote, the electoral lists being in arrears. Many large cities were among this group, including Rome, Naples and Palermo in the group over 250,000 and La Spezia and Messina in the group under. Milan, the largest city which voted, did so by an all-out effort to get ready by April 7. Rome got ready a few days after April 7. In Naples, there were, as of April 16, still 42 communes to get ready and as of latest report, three laggard communes are still not ready. In Northern Italy, .8 per cent., in Central Italy .4 per cent., in Southern Italy 4.6 per cent. and in insular Italy, 2 per cent. of the lists were not ready, as of the April 15 report. These figures do not include Venezia Giulia or Bolzano, of course. The table for the administrative elections (on the calm and order of which the acting Chief Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, sent a congratulatory letter to the Italian Prime Minister) here follows:

PARTY	Majorities in Communes			Seats		
	A	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total
Left Concentration .	8	2,008	**2,016**	386	35,901	**36,287**
Communist . . .	28	122	**150**	1,024	2,262	**3,286**
Socialist	8	136	**144**	894	2,804	**3,698**
Republican . . .	6	33	**39**	239	722	**961**
Action	—	7	**7**	30	249	**279**
Christian Democrat.	54	1,944	**1,998**	1,634	35,049	**36,683**
Center Concentration	2	310	**312**	115	5,963	**6,078**
Right Concentration.	—	125	**125**	118	2,458	**2,576**
Liberal	—	95	**95**	106	1,810	**1,916**
Labour Democrat	1	77	**78**	45	1,379	**1,424**
Uomo Qualunque	1	22	**22**	48	447	**495**
Italian Democrat	—	5	**5**	1	76	**77**
Independents . . .	—	466	**466**	23	8,553	**8,576**
Local Parties . .	1	172	**173**	63	2,878	**2,941**
Veterans	—	55	**55**	24	1,072	**1,096**
No majority or unaccounted for	7	32	**39**	—	—	—

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COSTITUENTE PREPARATIONS

With the administrative elections over on April 7 (no further such elections are expected until the autumn) and the filing date for candidates for the *Costituente* elections closed on April 18, we might usefully review the elections just past and those coming up. Below we run what the cost the Italian [illegible] stationery charges alone, saw 66 provincial capitals vote and 19 other cities over 30,000 population. Involved was a population estimated at 7,258,764, of which 5,064,150 were registered voters, a little more than half being women. At least 4,000,000 are reported to have voted.

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No majority or unaccounted for	7	32	**39**	—	—	—
TOTALS . . .	115	5,609	**5,724**	4,750	101,623	**106,373**

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals (proportional representation).
B = Communes under 30,000 (majority system).

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Constituencies.

For the *Costituente* elections, there are 32 constituencies but only 30 of these are presented for analysis (by the Local Government S/C), Venezia Giulia being again excluded, and for purposes of tabulation, also Aosta, which is a single-member district, where two candidates have been nominated. Only four parties or groups will present lists of candidates in all 30 constituencies or colleges. These are the Communists, Socialists, Christian Democrats and the National Democratic Union (of Bonomi *et al.*). The Republican party will offer itself in 29 constituencies, the Action party in 26, Uomo Qualunque in 25, National Bloc of Liberty (Rightists and Monarchists) in 19 and the Democratic Republican Concentration (Parri, etc.) in nine, among the better-known parties. There are also several lists with limited programs such as those of war veterans and refugees, a Sicilian independence movement and also a party which advocates federation with the United States — the *Movimento Unionista Italiano* — which presents itself in seven colleges and has the crossed flags of the United States and Italy as its party emblem, though there is some diplomatic doubt as to whether this latter symbol should be allowed. Thirty-one local groups presented candidates in one college only. Although 59 parties registered their symbols, only 56 parties offered lists of candidates by the filing date.

As for the *Costituente* elections themselves, an excellent analysis has been made by Major R. R. Temple (A), the Local Government's director. The chief points are as follows: Voting is not compulsory but abstainers will be officially but mildly reprimanded by being publicly noticed and by having "did not vote" written on their good conduct certificates for five years. The elections may be postponed and later held in sections where they cannot be held now so as to meet the cases of Venezia Giulia and possibly Bolzano. The ordinary voting mechanics are like those in force for the administrative elections. To be elected are 573 deputies. All preference votes will be counted and affect the total result instead of the previous arrangement whereby they would not count unless they amounted to 20 per cent. of the ordinary votes given for any one list. The list of all 32 constituencies is given herewith:

Constituency * and Provinces member	Seats
GENOVA – Imperia-La Spezia-Savona	20
MILANO – Pavia	36
COMO – Sondrio-Varese	14
BRESCIA – Bergamo	18
MANTOVA – Cremona	10
TRENTO – Bolzano	9
VERONA – Padova-Vicenza-Rovigo	29
VENEZIA – Treviso	16
UDINE – Belluno	12
TRIESTE e Venezia Giulia-Zara	13
BOLOGNA – Ferrara-Ravenna-Forli	24
PARMA – Modena-Piacenza-Reggio Emilia	20
FIRENZE – Pistoia	14
PISA – Livorno-Lucca-Apuania	15
SIENA – Arezzo-Grosseto	10
ANCONA – Pesaro-Macerata-Ascoli Piceno	17
PERUGIA – Terni-Rieti	12
ROMA – Viterbo-Latina-Frosinone	33
L'AQUILA – Pescara-Chieti-Teramo	16
BENEVENTO – Campobasso	9
NAPOLI – Caserta	30
SALERNO – Avellino	15
BARI – Foggia	21
LECCE – Brindisi-Taranto	15
POTENZA – Matera	7
CATANZARO – Cosenza-Reggio Calabria	24
CATANIA – Messina-Siracusa-Ragusa-Enna	27
PALERMO – Trapani-Agrigento-Caltanissetta	26
CAGLIARI – Sassari-Nuoro	14
VAL D'AOSTA	1
	573

* Seat of central office in capitals.

LA SCALA

With the first concert of the new *La Scala* slated for May 11, Arturo Toscanini, the old maestro conducting, the story might be told about how AMG in Milan put reconstruction of the world-famed opera house on an A-1 priority basis, a project which from the start has been assisted by Capt. Clement C. Petrillo (A), himself a musician. To him we are indebted for the word that the acoustics of the new *La Scala*, for which the old house was particularly noted, will again be excellent, thanks to the exact rebuilding of the cupola.

Just before the war, Capt. Petrillo tells us, an Italian Government inspector insisted that the cupola was about to collapse, whereupon the Milan Communal Architect made immediate and accurate drawings of the entire cupola. These have come in providentially handy and the restored cupola is now complete and a replica of the one which stood from August, 1778 when

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Election districts or Constituencies.

Constituency * and Provinces member	Seats
TORINO – Novara-Vercelli	28
CUNEO – Alessandria-Asti	18
TRENTO – Bolzano	9
VERONA – Padova-Vicenza-Rovigo	29
VENEZIA – Treviso	16
UDINE – Belluno	12
TRIESTE e Venezia Giulia-Zara	13
BOLOGNA – Ferrara-Ravenna-Forli	24
PARMA – Modena-Piacenza-Reggio Emilia	20
FIRENZE – Pistoia	14
PISA – Livorno-Lucca-Apuania	15
SIENA – Arezzo-Grosseto	10
ANCONA – Pesaro-Macerata-Ascoli Piceno	17
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ROMA – Viterbo-Latina-Frosinone	33
L'AQUILA – Pescara-Chieti-Teramo	16
BENEVENTO – Campobasso	9
NAPOLI – Caserta	30
SALERNO – Avellino	15
BARI – Foggia	21
LECCE – Brindisi-Taranto	15
POTENZA – Matera	7
CATANZARO – Cosenza-Reggio Calabria	24
CATANIA – Messina-Siracusa-Ragusa-Enna	27
PALERMO – Trapani-Agrigento-Caltanissetta	26
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The opera house was virtually destroyed in a heavy Allied air raid of August, 1943 when two hits of incendiary bombs and a direct blast of an explosive bomb left nothing but the stage

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(by a miracle) and the four walls standing. Gone were the ballet school, workshops, the scenery warehouse, including 71 sets and 22,000 pairs of shoes. Many of the tapestries, seat coverings and mirrors, however, had been removed to safety in time.

AMG authorized expenditure of 37,000,000 lire for rebuilding immediately, unblocked all necessary materials, provided 80 tons of coal during the past winter to enable work to continue during the bitter weather (the new plaster, etc. had to be kept from freezing). Toscanini himself contributed $10,000 to help and a friend of his matched the gift of the great conductor who began his career at *La Scala*. Toscanini last conducted there in 1929. The new *La Scala*'s season will run until June 28. Toscanini will conduct six performances, three of them encores.

ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО СССР В СОЮЗНОЙ КОМИССИИ В ИТАЛИИ

We are happy to publish an account of the Russian representative's history in the A. C., following that of the French representative (in French) some months ago. The title in Russian above means simply "The USSR Representation to the Allied Commission in Italy". We have seen our Russian friends pursue their quiet and courteous ways for the past two years and more, asking for information in most punctilious fashion and serving as superb hosts at their vodka-caviar receptions, and we take this opportunity to pass on the comradely greetings of the *Bulletin* (which they tell us is translated faithfully every week and dispatched home) and to wish Colonel Victor V. Savko and his staff the best of everything. The story that follows comes from Col. Savko:

In November 1943 Major General N. S. Solodovnik, nominated by Moscow as the Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Allied Commission for Italy, accompanied by his assistant, Lieutenant Commander M. V. Golubev, arrived in Algiers. After two months stay in Allied Force Headquarters in Algiers, the USSR Representative came to Naples at the end of January 1944. In August 1944 General Solodovnik, being unwell, was obliged to return to USSR for treatment.

When the Allied Control Commission was officers of his staff, composed of Colonel V. V. Savko, Red Army, Art.; Major-Engineer N. G. Leonidov, Red Army, Aviation; Captain M. F. Vedmich, Red Army, Art.; Senior Lieutenant G. S. Filatov, Red Army, Inf., and Lieutenant S. D. Zubkov, Red Army, Art.

In the war against Germany all the above-mentioned officers participated in military operations on various battle-fields and have been decorated with different military awards.

At the end of January 1945, General Susloparov was given a new assignment and the duties of the USSR Representative to the A. C. were passed to Major General A. P. Kislenko.

At the time of the successful military operations of the Red Army on the East and of the Allied Anglo-American and French Forces in the West against Nazi Germany, the Allied Military Authorities organized a parade in Piazza Venezia in Rome on 23rd February 1945 to honor the 28th Anniversary of the Red Army. In this parade officers of the Soviet Representation to the AC took part.

General Kislenko remained with the Allied Commission until August 1945 and then returned to Moscow. In his absence his duties are being carried out by his deputy, Colonel Savko, now the Acting USSR Representative to AC.

During the period of the past two years, the officers of the USSR Representation have maintained a continuous contact with all the sub-commissions of the A. C. This contact with the directors, deputy directors and the leading personnel of the sub-commissions has given the USSR Representative the opportunity to keep informed on the work of the Allied Commission in Italy.

The staff of the USSR Representation would like to mention gratefully the former liaison officers of A. C. — Major Magnus, Lieut. Col. E. Brown, Capt. the Earl of Ranfurly, Capt. A. Arnoldy, Capt. W. Newburg and Capt. Reggio — for their constant assistance to the Russian officers in various matters. Appreciation is also expressed to Capt. V. L. Oddi, the present liaison officer, who pays prompt attention to all the problems arising for the Soviet Representation.

BACK ON THE JOB

The Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery

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When the Allied Control Commission was transferred to Rome, the newly appointed Soviet Representative to ACC, Major General I. A. Susloparov, came at once to the Italian capital. A few days later there also arrived a group of officers of the Soviet Representation to the AC, Red Army, Air.

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BACK ON THE JOB

The Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, returned to Rome this afternoon by air after a mission in Washington. The Admiral left Rome April 4. We will tell you about his trip next week.

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PAZIENZA, AMICO! PAZIENZA!

The Adjutant passes the following letter to us, which we in turn relay to the Economic Section for action:

14 April 1946

To: *Headquarters*
Region 3, Allied Control Commission
APO 394, U. S. Army.

On the 5 July 44, I received a letter from this Command of which I make a copy:

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394 U. S. ARMY

Es. 738. PB. 12B. 5 July 1944

SUBJECT: *Diesel Oil at Caianello.*
TO: *Sindaco of Caianello* (Naples)

1. The Teano Dist. (Major Richard L. Lollar) has informed us that several hundred litres of diesel oil left in the vicinity of Caianello by the Società Italiana Bonifiche Acquedotti of Rome, have been put in your charge.

2. Will you please communicate to us the exact quantity available.

W. G. BIRT, *Major*
Economic Supply Section
Industrial Controller

EC/MAS

To this letter I answered that the quantity available was of litres 1900 in charge of Pettoruto Pietro.

In the same letter I asked what I had to do of that Diesel oil because the Compagnia Italiana Petroli (C. I. P.) asked to have returned the empty barrels and in order to stop the payment of the rent that I am still paying. But till to-day I have not got any answer.

I pray you to give me exact orders and as soon as possible because the barrels lose diesel and the quantity is less than before.

I had to put that diesel left in other good barrels.

On other side, I pay 500 lires per month for rent. For that authorize me to sell that said diesel oil at current price and I will keep the amount of the sale, at your disposal, keeping for me the amount of the expenses.

Will you please reply to me quicly.

ODDS AND ENDS

L/Cpl. J. Munro, one of the original wallahs of the early AMG days in Foggia through which have passed most military government officers in this last war, has been invited to be a judge May 19 at a dog show (English, Irish and Gordon setters) at Asti in Piemonte; the corporal used to look over the doggies back home... Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the Allied Commission, passed through Rome this week... The Colonel's lady, Mrs. C. R. Ross, wife of the Regiment's CO, is arriving in Naples to join the Colonel April 30... PRB this week has been in receipt of three letters from as many Italian groups (two in Foggia and one in Calabria) who want to organize Friends of America Association: we referred them to the U. S. Embassy Cultural Attaché... Since operations began in Sicily in July, 1943, 1,700 Italian vehicles have been requisitioned by AMG, of which 1,558 have been derequisitioned, leaving a balance of 142 vehicles on the books of the Allied Commission for all of Italy, Major Clayton Craig, G-4 (A), reports, adding that further derequisitions will be made only as the vehicles become surplus to the needs of the A. C.... Public safety conditions in Emilia, says Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters, CLO at Bologna, are still not satisfactory: in March, there were 15 cases of murder or attempts ascribed to political motives, five kidnappings, 11 ordinary murders, 96 robberies or attempts, one try at a prison break (two got killed as a result) and 29 arrests for the above serious crimes... The following U. S. awards to British personnel have been made: *Legion of Merit* — (*Commander*) Brig. G. R. Upjohn; (*Officer*) Brig. A. P. Grafftey-Smith, Colonels P. R. Evans, J. L. Jones and W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters; (*Legionnaire*) Col. A. N. Hancock. *Bronze Star* — Col. T. Parr, Lieutenant Colonels L. R. Battensby and H. Mighall, Capt. T. March. *Medal of Freedom* — (*Silver Palm*) Col. G. M. Frizelle; (*Bronze Palm*) Col. W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper, Capt. G. H. Ryper; (*without Palm*) Major E. J. P. Scicluna, W. Os 1 R. H. L. Angibault and L. McNeil, Staff Sergt. A. Cash (our old PRB stand-by), Sergts. A. E. Papps and W. C. White... Other awards are: *Crown of Italy* — (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Col. Walter D. Stump; (*Knight*) Captains Lawrence C. Becker, Arber Johnson,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785202

14 April 1946

To: *Headquarters*
Region 3, Allied Control Commission
APO 394, U. S. Army.

On the 5 July 44, I received a letter from this Command of which I make a copy:

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394 U. S. ARMY

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My best regards.

(PETTORUTO PIETRO)

Here is my address:
Pettoruto Pietro
(Caserta) CAIANELLO.

in this last war, has been invited to be a judge May 19 at a dog show (English, Irish and Gordon setters) at Asti in Piemonte; the corporal used to look over the doggies back home... Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the Allied Commission, passed through Rome this week... The Colonel's lady, Mrs. C. R. Ross, wife of the Regiment's CO, is arriving in Naples to join the Colonel April 30... PRB this week has been in receipt of three letters from as many Italian groups (two in Foggia and one in Calabria) who want to organize Friends of America Association; we referred them to the U. S. Embassy Cultural Attaché... Since operations began in Sicily in July, 1943, 1,700 Italian vehicles have been requisitioned by AMG, of which 1,558 have been derequisitioned, leaving a balance of 142 vehicles on the books of the Allied Commission for all of Italy, Major Clayton Craig, G-4 (A), reports, adding that further derequisitions will be made only as the vehicles become surplus to the needs of the A. C.... Public safety conditions in Emilia, says Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters, CLO at Bologna, are still not satisfactory: in March, there were 15 cases of murder or attempts ascribed to political motives, five kidnappings, 11 ordinary murders, 96 robberies or attempts, one try at a prison break (two got killed as a result) and 29 arrests for the above serious crimes... The following U. S. awards to British personnel have been made: *Legion of Merit* — (*Commander*) Brig. G. R. Upjohn; (*Officer*) Brig. A. P. Grafftey-Smith, Colonels P. R. Evans, J. L. Jones and W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters; (*Legionnaire*) Col. A. N. Hancock. *Bronze Star* — Col. T. Parr, Lieutenant Colonels L. R. Battensby and H. Mighall, Capt. T. March. *Medal of Freedom* — (*Silver Palm*) Col. G. M. Frizelle; (*Bronze Palm*) Col. W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper, Capt. G. H. Ryper; (*without Palm*) Major E. J. P. Scicluna, W. Os 1 R. H. L. Angibault and L. McNeil, Staff Sergt. A. Cash (our old PRB stand-by), Sergts. A. E. Papps and W. C. White... Other awards are: *Crown of Italy* — (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Col. Walter D. Stump; (*Knight*) Captains Lawrence C. Becker, Arber Johnson, Frank J. Moran and Thomas A. Morris... Major Richard B. Bullock, Adjutant of the Allied Commission and of the 2675th Regiment, is being married today to Miss Roberta Wollenhaupt, former FEA employe of the A. C.; the reception

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afterward is being given by the Regiment's CO, Col. Robert C. Ross; good luck and a long life to the happy couple... Colonels Ross and Charles Walton and Lieut. Col. G. G. Hannaford represented the A. C. in a conference with Brigadier General A. J. Hamblen aboard a train in Udine concerning arrangements to tie in Udine AMG with 13th Corps... Two (now rare) promotions are announced: Arthur McPhail to Major and William R. Thomson to Captain... In the biggest A. C. redeployment clean-up since last fall, 35 officers got aboard the ship that left Leghorn April 26... New release group dates for British officers and OR have come through, starting with Group 32, which is to be complated by 2 July, to Group 40, which starts 27 September... Good news (perhaps!) for Italian brides of GIs and American officers:

Starting Monday evening (the 29th) at 8:30 p. m., classes in the English language, as it's spoken in the United States, will be held every Monday and Friday at the Hotel Nord Nuova Roma, and classes in American citizenship will be conducted every Wednesday evening at the same time; Capt. H. Armand de Masi, of the Italian Prisoners of War Division, Land Forces Sub-Commission, and CWO Sexson E. Humphreys, Assistant Adjutant of 2675 Regiment, will be the teachers...

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April 27, 1946 Vol. III, No. 4

29 APR 1946 RBE

ALLIED COMMISSION
WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

POLITICAL

Convening in what most observers termed a spirit of fervent solidarity, the Christian Democrat party, which emerged from the administrative elections (see *Costituente Preparations* in this issue) as the largest single party, opened its national congress in the halls of the University of Rome April 24 to hear Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi, as secretary-general of the party, come out definitely and clearly against what he called the dangers to Italian civilization represented in the programs of the Socialist and Communist parties. The presence, incidentally, of a French delegation of the similar MRP party in France, which has been having its own difficulties with the Social-Communist bloc, had evoked considerable press comment on the eve of the congress on the parallel dangers of Christian Democracy being out-maneuvered by the Left bloc (as expressed by *Mondo*). De Gasperi, who made his address after the French delegate had given his fraternal greetings, answered criticism of both the Left and Right.

The Christian Democrats have had a real program, even in the days of underground activity, but one which has had to be readjusted according to the pressures of immediate action, he said. He declared that violence and intimidation would not affect Christian Democrat views and called on all parties and citizens to disarm. He went on to deny existence of secret documents (as charged by *Italia Nuova*) concerning the Royal House and the crisis at the fall of Fascism in July, 1943. He said: "We are neither for Socialism nor for Communism but for solidarity of groups of opposing interests attained through a system allowing emphasis on work above everything". He asked for "equality of treatment in social life" and said "we need another system freedom". He said reforms should be made region by region and asserted that industrial reforms could not be decided solely on Marxist principles which aimed at transforming economic matters into political ones. He deprecated the "accomodating statements of the Leftist parties concerning religion" as "nothing but tactical maneuvers". He ended by saying that "should we lose the battle we are fighting at present, we should lose not a mere electoral battle but the battle for the civilization and education of the Italian people".

Avanti and *Unità*, organs of the parties De Gasperi attacked, made surprisingly moderate replies, the tenor of both being that the Prime Minister was not specific in his charges. *Momento* charged that De Gasperi's inexplicit references to arms and money "misteriously" reaching Italy and his repeated affirmation of the "irreconcilability between Christian Democrat doctrine and Marxist materialism" was driving the Christian Democrats into an open position of anti-Communism and into the arms of the conservatives of the Right, an act, the paper said, which "purposely aggravates the discord that has arisen between Communists and Christian Democrats".

Declaration.

The Thursday meeting dealt with Christian Democrat plans for the new Constitution, to be drafted on the principles of freedom (a word used over and over), but without much itemization. The important announcement of the day was to reveal the results of the party's private referendum on the institutional question: Voting were 836,812 members; republicans 503,085 (60 per cent. of the vote), monarchists 146,061 (17 per cent.) and opposers to any statement on the question 187,666 (23 per cent.). The debate

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from Monarchist Genna from Turin who asked: "I should like to know how many of you were a black shirt". The ensuing fracas ended when Genna apologized. Finally, the motion for the party to declare itself won and the republican solution was victorious in results announced early Saturday as follows: Out of 1,061,000 members, 739,000 for the republic, 254,000 against, or 73 per cent. for the republic.

The bread crisis (see *Economic Front*) was the headline news of the week, marked by repeated Cabinet meetings, transatlantic telephone calls and conferences with UNRRA. The upshot, after a meeting of the Cabinet Council of Ministers on April 23, was possibly to reduce the ration to 150 grams a day temporarily but not to touch the supplementary rations, but on the 26th, a communique was issued announcing the ration would NOT be cut. All the press picked up De Gasperi's remark at a meeting where he said, "What is the *Costituente* and the referendum without bread?" The political attacks on the bread issue were headed as usual by *Italia Nuova* which charged that Communist cooperatives were concealing their grain stocks with the alleged complicity of the Communist Minister of Agriculture Gullo, while the Leftist press called upon the country to make "solidarity of sacrifices" to withstand any temporary cut.

A fillip to international news was given by the declaration of the French Communists, attacking Togliatti and the Italian Communists on their ideological integrity and for their stand on Trieste, which the French Communists said should go to Yugoslavia. The Italian Communists, on the 22nd, met in executive meeting and issued an invitation to their French comrades to come to Italy to discuss the matter and also a statement declaring that, although the Italian Communist party was against all forms of nationalism, it believed that giving Trieste to Yugoslavia would revive nationalist tendencies in Italy and thus slow up the evolution of Italian democracy.

The main foreign attraction, of course, was the Paris conference of the Foreign Ministers which opened on the 25th and which most Italian editorial eyes viewed somewhat darkly, chief stumbling blocks listed being reparations, Trieste, colonies and disposal of the Italian fleet, though hope picked up one or two points after the first day when it was reported that Russia had agreed to

ECONOMIC FRONT

The bread situation has appreciably improved in the last few days by the announcement of a diversion of 16,000 tons of wheat in two ships of extra UNRRA allocation to Italy, plus the fact that 121,000 tons have now been cleared for April loadings with a firm promise of an additional 16,000 tons to be cleared by the end of the month in another six ships. The Government's scheme for increased local production in short is to allot a definite amassing target to each province and only sufficient bread grains will be supplied over and above this target to meet the established ration scales. This will throw the obligation of retaining the 200-gram bread ration on to the Provinces. It may, of course, possibly lead to local reductions, but it will avoid the official cut in the ration scale by the Government.

For many months the Economic Section has been disturbed by the slow movement of imported commodities to the consuming public and in the last couple of weeks has been waging an all-out campaign to locate idle stockpiles and to bring their existence to the attention of the Italian Government. Prices set too high or merely oversight have apparently prevented the flow of goods to those who need them as originally intended. Among the non-moving items have been 664 tractors (in Italy since February), 10,000 tons of medical supplies (from last years' military import program), mining machinery (here since July, 1945), 46,235 tons of fertilizer (from February and March arrivals), considerable used clothing (turned over last year), 15,000 tons of miscellaneous foods, which, however, will probably begin to move out shortly.

There also is the news of Mr. Harlan Cleveland, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section and now Deputy Chief of the Italy UNRRA Mission, going to Washington tomorrow with the UNRRA program for the second half of 1946, which was originally planned for the first half but which never went into effect because of the non-delivery of supplies. Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, has made a resumé of the Italian Government's memorandum to the Big Four Foreign Ministers' Deputies concerning economic-financial questions related with the Italian peace

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coastwise shipping last month amounted to 204,146 tons.

The Italian Government has asked for permission to supplement the present AMG public works program in Venezia Giulia in order to relieve unemployment and the housing situation. The Government's plans have been forwarded for o. k. to 13th Corps, whose public works officer, by the way, points out that one of the handicaps to execution of housing projects is the lack of skilled workmen such as carpenters and bricklayers. The A. C. on 21 April turned over to the Italians the operating responsibility for screening items on the Reserved Commodity Lists for world trade and now the Government has direct access to the Combined Food Board and Combined Commodity Committees in Washington in order to obtain allocation of goods falling outside the scope of the UNRRA program.

The principles originally laid down by the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission of the A. C. have been adopted as the basic policy of the Government's Inter-Ministerial Price Committee in determining future price increases for power, water and gas, Col. George F. Parker, chief of the Utilities Division, reports. Charges had been allowed as follows: *No* changes permitted in rates in effect in 1942; companies allowed to apply a temporary flat percentual surcharge to the *total* bills for power consumed; this surcharge computed from a book-keeping formula of profit and loss in recent operations; only actual "out-of-pocket" expenses were allowed to be covered in the surcharge and no allowances made for depreciation, amortization, interest, dividends or cost of repairs of war damage; for further increases, the companies had to make new application, which involved re-examination of operating costs.

The following representative percentage surcharges are now in effect in Italy:

	South	Central	North
Electricity	350	350	200
Water	250 (Naples)	385 (Rome)	500
Gas	500 (Naples)	425 (Rome)	
	250 (Salerno)	600 (Florence)	350
	200 (Bari)		

COSTITUENTE PREPARATIONS

With the administrative elections over on April 7 (no further such elections are expected until the autumn) and the filing date for party lists for the Constituent Assembly elections on 31 March, attention is now focused on the latter. The Local Government Sub-Commission assures is the final, complete, official returns from the Ministry of Interior on the administrative elections. Unfortunately, reliable figures on actual votes cast are not yet available. The administrative elections, which, by the way, are said to have cost the Italian Government 16 million lire in stationery charges alone, saw 66 provincial capitals vote and 49 other cities over 30,000 population. Involved was a population estimated at 7,258,764, of which 5,064,150 were registered voters, a little more than half being women. At least 4,000,000 are reported to have voted.

Communes which did not vote, according to our experts, were not ready to vote, the electoral lists being in arrears. Many large cities were among this group, including Rome, Naples and Palermo in the group over 250,000 and La Spezia and Messina in the group under. Milan, the largest city which voted, did so by an all-out effort to get ready by April 7. Rome got ready a few days after April 7. In Naples, there were, as of April 16, still 42 communes to get ready and as of latest report, three laggard communes are still not ready. In Northern Italy, .8 per cent., in Central Italy .4 per cent., in Southern Italy 4.6 per cent. and in insular Italy, 2 per cent. of the lists were not ready, as of the April 15 report. These figures do not include Venezia Giulia or Bolzano, of course. The table for the administrative elections (on the calm and order of which the acting Chief Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, sent a congratulatory letter to the Italian Prime Minister) here follows:

PARTY	Majorities in Communes			Seats		
	A	B	Total	A	B	Total
Left Concentration	8	2,008	**2,016**	386	35,901	**36,287**
Communist	28	122	**150**	1,024	2,262	**3,286**
Socialist	8	136	**144**	894	2,804	**3,698**
Republican	6	33	**39**	239	722	**961**
Action	—	7	**7**	30	249	**279**
Christian Democrat.	54	1,944	**1,998**	1,634	35,049	**36,683**
Center Concentration	2	310	**312**	115	5,963	**6,078**
Right Concentration.	—	125	**125**	118	2,458	**2,576**
Liberal	—	95	**95**	106	1,810	**1,916**
Labour Democrat	1	77	**78**	45	1,379	**1,424**
Uomo Qualunque	—	22	**22**	48	447	**495**
Italian Democrat	—	5	**5**	1	76	**77**
Independents	—	466	**466**	23	8,553	**8,576**
Local Parties	1	172	**173**	63	2,878	**2,941**
Veterans	—	55	**55**	24	1,072	**1,096**
No majority or unaccounted for	7	32	**39**	—	—	—
Totals	115	5,609	**5,724**	4,750	101,623	**106,373**

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	200 (Bari)		

COSTITUENTE PREPARATIONS

With the administrative elections over on April 7 (no further such elections are expected until the autumn) and the filling date for candidates for the *Costituente* elections closed on April 18, we might usefully review the elections just past and those coming up. Below we run what the elections, which, by the way, are said to have cost the Italian Government 16 million lire in stationery charges alone, saw 66 provincial capitals vote and 49 other cities over 30,000 population. Involved was a population estimated at 7,258,764, of which 5,064,150 were registered voters, a little more than half being women. At least 4,000,000 are reported to have voted.

Communes which did not vote, according to our experts, were not ready to vote, the electoral lists being in arrears. Many large cities were among this group, including Rome, Naples and Palermo in the group over 250,000 and La Spezia and Messina in the group under. Milan, the largest city which voted, did so by an all-out effort to get ready by April 7. Rome got ready a few days after April 7. In Naples, there were, as of April 16, still 42 communes to get ready and as of latest report, three laggard communes are still not ready. In Northern Italy, .8 per cent., in Central Italy .1 per cent., in Southern Italy 4.6 per cent. and in insular Italy, 2 per cent. of the lists were not ready, as of the April 15 report. These figures do not include Venezia Giulia or Bolzano, of course. The table for the administrative elections (on the calm and order of which the acting Chief Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, sent a congratulatory letter to the Italian Prime Minister) here follows:

PARTY	Majorities in Communes			Seats		
	A	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total
Left Concentration .	8	2,008	**2,016**	386	35,901	**36,287**
Communist . . .	28	122	**150**	1,024	2,262	**3,286**
Socialist	8	136	**144**	894	2,804	**3,698**
Republican . . .	6	33	**39**	239	722	**961**
Action	1	7	**7**	30	249	**279**
Christian Democrat.	54	1,944	**1,998**	1,634	35,049	**36,683**
Center Concentration	2	310	**312**	115	5,963	**6,078**
Right Concentration.	—	125	**125**	118	2,458	**2,576**
Liberal	—	95	**95**	106	1,810	**1,916**
Labour Democrat	1	77	**78**	45	1,379	**1,424**
Uomo Qualunque	—	22	**22**	48	447	**495**
Italian Democrat	—	5	**5**	1	76	**77**
Independents . . .	—	466	**466**	23	8,553	**8,576**
Local Parties . .	1	172	**173**	63	2,878	**2,941**
Veterans	—	55	**55**	24	1,072	**1,096**
No majority or unaccounted for	7	32	**39**	—	—	—
TOTALS . . .	115	5,609	**5,724**	4,750	101,623	**106,373**

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals (proportional representation).
B = Communes under 30,000 (majority system).

Constituencies.

For the *Costituente* elections, there are 32 constituencies but only 30 of these are presented for analysis (by the Local Government S/C), Venezia Giulia being again excluded, and for purposes of tabulation, also Aosta, which is a single-member district, where two candidates have been nominated. Only four parties or groups will present lists of candidates in all 30 constituencies or colleges. These are the Communists, Socialists, Christian Democrats and the National Democratic Union (of Bonomi *et al.*). The Republican party will offer itself in 29 constituencies, the Action party in 26, Uomo Qualunque in 25, National Bloc of Liberty (Rightists and Monarchists) in 19 and the Democratic Republican Concentration (Parri, etc.) in nine, among the better-known parties. There are also several lists with limited programs such as those of war veterans and refugees, a Sicilian independence movement and also a party which advocates federation with the United States — the *Movimento Unionista Italiano* — which presents itself in seven colleges and has the crossed flags of the United States and Italy as its party emblem, though there is some diplomatic doubt as to whether this latter symbol should be allowed. Thirty-one local groups presented candidates in one college only. Although 59 parties registered their symbols, only 56 parties offered lists of candidates by the filing date.

As for the *Costituente* elections themselves, an excellent analysis has been made by Major R. R. Temple (A), the Local Government's director. The chief points are as follows: Voting is not compulsory but abstainers will be officially but mildly reprimanded by being publicly noticed and by having "did not vote" written on their good conduct certificates for five years. The elections may be postponed and later held in sections where they cannot be held now so as to meet the cases of Venezia Giulia and possibly Bolzano. The ordinary voting mechanics are like those in force for the administrative elections. To be elected are 573 deputies. All preference votes will be counted and affect the total result instead of the previous arrangement whereby they would not count unless they amounted to 20 per cent. of the ordinary votes given for any one list. The list of all 32 constituencies is given herewith:

Constituency * and Provinces member	Seats
GENOVA – Imperia-La Spezia-Savona	20
MILANO – Pavia	36
COMO – Sondrio-Varese	14
BRESCIA – Bergamo	18
MANTOVA – Cremona	10
TRENTO – Bolzano	9
VERONA – Padova-Vicenza-Rovigo	20
VENEZIA – Treviso	16
UDINE – Belluno	12
TRIESTE e Venezia Giulia-Zara	13
BOLOGNA – Ferrara-Ravenna-Forli	24
PARMA – Modena-Piacenza-Reggio Emilia	20
FIRENZE – Pistoia	14
PISA – Livorno-Lucca-Apuania	15
SIENA – Arezzo-Grosseto	10
ANCONA – Pesaro-Macerata-Ascoli Piceno	17
PERUGIA – Terni-Rieti	12
ROMA – Viterbo-Latina-Frosinone	33
L'AQUILA – Pescara-Chieti-Teramo	16
BENEVENTO – Campobasso	9
NAPOLI – Caserta	30
SALERNO – Avellino	15
BARI – Foggia	21
LECCE – Brindisi-Taranto	15
POTENZA – Matera	7
CATANZARO – Cosenza-Reggio Calabria	24
CATANIA – Messina-Siracusa-Ragusa-Enna	27
PALERMO – Trapani-Agrigento-Caltanissetta	26
CAGLIARI – Sassari-Nuoro	14
VAL D'AOSTA	1
	573

* Seat of central office in capitals.

LA SCALA

With the first concert of the new *La Scala* slated for May 11, Arturo Toscanini, the old maestro conducting, the story might be told about how AMG in Milan put reconstruction of the world-famed opera house on an A-1 priority basis, a project which from the start has been assisted by Capt. Clement C. Petrillo (A), himself a musician. To him we are indebted for the word that the acoustics of the new *La Scala*, for which the old house was particularly noted, will again be excellent, thanks to the exact rebuilding of the cupola.

Just before the war, Capt. Petrillo tells us, an Italian Government inspector insisted that the cupola was about to collapse, whereupon the Milan Communal Architect made immediate and accurate drawings of the entire cupola. These have come in providentially handy and the restored cupola is now complete and a replica of the one which stood from August, 1778 when

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Election districts or Constituencies.

Constituency * and Provinces member	Seats
TORINO – Novara-Vercelli	28
CUNEO – Alessandria-Asti	18
BRESCIA – Bergamo	18
MANTOVA – Cremona	10
TRENTO – Bolzano	9
VERONA – Padova-Vicenza-Rovigo	29
VENEZIA – Treviso	16
UDINE – Belluno	12
TRIESTE e Venezia Giulia-Zara	13
BOLOGNA – Ferrara-Ravenna-Forli	24
PARMA – Modena-Piacenza-Reggio Emilia	20
FIRENZE – Pistoia	14
PISA – Livorno-Lucca-Apuania	15
SIENA – Arezzo-Grosseto	10
ANCONA – Pesaro-Macerata-Ascoli Piceno	17
PERUGIA – Terni-Rieti	12
ROMA – Viterbo-Latina-Frosinone	33
L'AQUILA – Pescara-Chieti-Teramo	16
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BARI – Foggia	21
LECCE – Brindisi-Taranto	15
POTENZA – Matera	7
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The opera house was virtually destroyed in a heavy Allied air raid of August, 1943 when two hits of incendiary bombs and a direct blast of an explosive bomb left nothing but the stage

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(by a miracle) and the four walls standing. Gone were the ballet school, workshops, the scenery warehouse, including 71 sets and 22,000 pairs of shoes. Many of the tapestries, seat coverings and mirrors, however, had been removed to safety in time.

AMG authorized expenditure of 37,000,000 lire for rebuilding immediately, unblocked all necessary materials, provided 80 tons of coal during the past winter to enable work to continue during the bitter weather (the new plaster, etc. had to be kept from freezing). Toscanini himself contributed $10,000 to help and a friend of his matched the gift of the great conductor who began his career at *La Scala*. Toscanini last conducted there in 1929. The new *La Scala*'s season will run until June 28. Toscanini will conduct six performances, three of them encores.

ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО СССР В СОЮЗНОЙ КОМИССИИ В ИТАЛИИ

We are happy to publish an account of the Russian representative's history in the A. C., following that of the French representative (in French) some months ago. The title in Russian above means simply "The USSR Representation to the Allied Commission in Italy". We have seen our Russian friends pursue their quiet and courteous ways for the past two years and more, asking for information in most punctilious fashion and serving as superb hosts at their vodka-caviar receptions, and we take this opportunity to pass on the comradely greetings of the *Bulletin* (which they tell us is translated faithfully every week and dispatched home) and to wish Colonel Victor V. Savko and his staff the best of everything. The story that follows comes from Col. Savko:

In November 1943 Major General N. S. Solodovnik, nominated by Moscow as the Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Allied Commission for Italy, accompanied by his assistant, Lieutenant Commander M. V. Golubev, arrived in Algiers. After two months stay in Allied Force Headquarters in Algiers, the USSR Representative came to Naples at the end of January 1944. In August 1944 General Solodovnik, being unwell, was obliged to return to USSR for treatment.

officers of his staff, composed of Colonel V. V. Savko, Red Army, Art.; Major-Engineer N. G. Leonidov, Red Army, Aviation; Captain M. F. Vedmich, Red Army, Art.; Senior Lieutenant G. S. Filatov, Red Army, Inf., and Lieutenant S. D. Zubkov, Red Army, Art.

In the war against Germany all the above-mentioned officers participated in military operations on various battle-fields and have been decorated with different military awards.

At the end of January 1945, General Susloparov was given a new assignment and the duties of the USSR Representative to the A. C. were passed to Major General A. P. Kislenko.

At the time of the successful military operations of the Red Army on the East and of the Allied Anglo-American and French Forces in the West against Nazi Germany, the Allied Military Authorities organized a parade in Piazza Venezia in Rome on 23rd February 1945 to honor the 28th Anniversary of the Red Army. In this parade officers of the Soviet Representation to the AC took part.

General Kislenko remained with the Allied Commission until August 1945 and then returned to Moscow. In his absence his duties are being carried out by his deputy, Colonel Savko, now the Acting USSR Representative to AC.

During the period of the past two years, the officers of the USSR Representation have maintained a continuous contact with all the sub-commissions of the A. C. This contact with the directors, deputy directors and the leading personnel of the sub-commissions has given the USSR Representative the opportunity to keep informed on the work of the Allied Commission in Italy.

The staff of the USSR Representation would like to mention gratefully the former liaison officers of A. C. — Major Magnus, Lieut. Col. E. Brown, Capt. the Earl of Ranfurly, Capt. A. Arnoldy, Capt. W. Newburg and Capt. Reggio — for their constant assistance to the Russian officers in various matters. Appreciation is also expressed to Capt. V. L. Oddi, the present liaison officer, who pays prompt attention to all the problems arising for the Soviet Representation.

BACK ON THE JOB

The Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery

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When the Allied Control Commission was transferred to Rome, the newly appointed Soviet Representative to ACC, Major General I. A. Susloparov, came at once to the Italian capital. A few days later there also arrived a group of Soviet Red Army, Air

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BACK ON THE JOB

The Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, returned to Rome this afternoon by air after a mission in Washington. The Admiral left Rome April 4. We will tell you about his trip next week.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778502

PAZIENZA, AMICO! PAZIENZA!

The Adjutant passes the following letter to us, which we in turn relay to the Economic Section for action:

14 April 1946

To: *Headquarters*
Region 3, Allied Control Commission
APO 394, U. S. Army.

On the 5 July 44, I received a letter from this Command of which I make a copy:

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394 U. S. ARMY

Es. 738. PB. 12B. 5 July 1944

SUBJECT: *Diesel Oil at Caianello.*
To: *Sindaco of Caianello* (Naples)

1. The Teano Dist. (Major Richard L. Lollar) has informed us that several hundred litres of diesel oil left in the vicinity of Caianello by the Societa Italiana Bonifiche Acquedotti of Rome, have been put in your charge.

2. Will you please communicate to us the exact quantity available.

W. G. BIRT, *Major*
Economic Supply Section
Industrial Controller

EC MAS

To this letter I answered that the quantity available was of litres 1900 in charge of Pettoruto Pietro.

In the same letter I asked what I had to do of that Diesel oil because the Compagnia Italiana Petroli (C. I. P.) asked to have returned the empty barrels and in order to stop the payment of the rent that I am still paying. But till to-day I have not got any answer.

I pray you to give me exact orders and as soon as possible because the barrels lose diesel and the quantity is less than before.

I had to put that diesel left in other good barrels.

On other side, I pay 500 lires per month for rent. For that authorize me to sell that said diesel oil at current price and I will keep the amount of the sale, at your disposal, keeping for me the amount of the expenses.

Will you please reply to me quicly.

My best regards.

ODDS AND ENDS

Lt Cpl. J. Munro, one of the original wallahs of the early AMG days in Foggia through which have passed most military government officers in this last war, has been invited to be a judge May 19 at a dog show (English, Irish and Gordon setters) at Asti in Piemonte; the corporal used to look over the doggies back home... Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the Allied Commission, passed through Rome this week... The Colonel's lady, Mrs. C. R. Ross, wife of the Regiment's CO, is arriving in Naples to join the Colonel April 30... PRB this week has been in receipt of three letters from as many Italian groups (two in Foggia and one in Calabria) who want to organize Friends of America Association; we referred them to the U. S. Embassy Cultural Attaché... Since operations began in Sicily in July, 1943, 1,700 Italian vehicles have been requisitioned by AMG, of which 1,558 have been derequisitioned, leaving a balance of 142 vehicles on the books of the Allied Commission for all of Italy, Major Clayton Craig, G-4 (A), reports, adding that further derequisitions will be made only as the vehicles become surplus to the needs of the A. C.... Public safety conditions in Emilia, says Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters, CLO at Bologna, are still not satisfactory: in March, there were 15 cases of murder or attempts ascribed to political motives, five kidnappings, 11 ordinary murders, 96 robberies or attempts, one try at a prison break (two got killed as a result) and 29 arrests for the above serious crimes... The following U. S. awards to British personnel have been made: *Legion of Merit* — (*Commander*) Brig. G. R. Upjohn; (*Officer*) Brig. A. P. Grafftey-Smith, Colonels P. R. Evans, J. L. Jones and W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters; (*Legionnaire*) Col. A. N. Hancock. *Bronze Star* — Col. T. Parr, Lieutenant Colonels L. R. Battensby and H. Mighall, Capt. T. March. *Medal of Freedom* — (*Silver Palm*) Col. G. M. Frizelle; (*Bronze Palm*) Col. W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper, Capt. G. H. Ryper; (*without Palm*) Major E. J. P. Scicluna, W. Os 1 R. H. L. Angibault and L. McNeil, Staff Sergt. A. Cash (our old PRB stand-by), Sergts. A. E. Papps and W. C. White... Other awards are: *Crown of Italy* — (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Col. Walter D. Stump; (*Knight*) Captains Lawrence C. Becker, Arber Johnson,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785022

14 April 1946

To: *Headquarters*
Region 3, Allied Control Commission
APO 394, U. S. Army.

On the 5 July 44, I received a letter from this Command of which I make a copy:

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394 U. S. ARMY

Es. 738. PB. 12B. 5 July 1944

SUBJECT: *Diesel Oil at Caianello.*
To: *Sindaco of Caianello* (Naples)

1. The Teano Dist. (Major Richard L. Lollar) has informed us that several hundred litres of diesel oil left in the vicinity of Caianello by the Società Italiana Bonifiche Acquedotti of Rome, have been put in your charge.

2. Will you please communicate to us the exact quantity available.

W. G. BIRT, *Major*
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EC/MAS

To this letter I answered that the quantity available was of litres 1900 in charge of Pettoruto Pietro.

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Will you please reply to me quicly.

My best regards.

(PETTORUTO PIETRO)

Here is my address:
Pettoruto Pietro
(Caserta) CAIANELLO.

in this last war, has been invited to be a judge May 19 at a dog show (English, Irish and Gordon setters) at Asti in Piemonte: the corporal used to look over the doggies back home... Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the Allied Commission, passed through Rome this week... The Colonel's lady, Mrs. C. R. Ross, wife of the Regiment's CO, is arriving in Naples to join the Colonel April 30... PRB this week has been in receipt of three letters from as many Italian groups (two in Foggia and one in Calabria) who want to organize Friends of America Association: we referred them to the U. S. Embassy Cultural Attaché... Since operations began in Sicily in July, 1943, 1,709 Italian vehicles have been requisitioned by AMG, of which 1,558 have been derequisitioned, leaving a balance of 142 vehicles on the books of the Allied Commission for all of Italy, Major Clayton Craig, G-4 (A), reports, adding that further derequisitions will be made only as the vehicles become surplus to the needs of the A. C.... Public safety conditions in Emilia, says Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters, CLO at Bologna, are still not satisfactory: in March, there were 15 cases of murder or attempts ascribed to political motives, five kidnappings, 11 ordinary murders, 96 robberies or attempts, one try at a prison break (two got killed as a result) and 29 arrests for the above serious crimes... The following U. S. awards to British personnel have been made: *Legion of Merit* — (*Commander*) Brig. G. R. Upjohn; (*Officer*) Brig. A. P. Grafftey-Smith, Colonels P. R. Evans, J. L. Jones and W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters; (*Legionnaire*) Col. A. N. Hancock. *Bronze Star* — Col. T. Parr, Lieutenant Colonels L. R. Battensby and H. Mighall, Capt. T. March. *Medal of Freedom* — (*Silver Palm*) Col. G. M. Frizelle; (*Bronze Palm*) Col. W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper, Capt. G. H. Ryper; (*without Palm*) Major E. J. P. Scicluna, W. Os 1 R. H. L. Angibault and L. McNeil, Staff Sergt. A. Cash (our old PRB stand-by), Sergts. A. E. Papps and W. C. White... Other awards are: *Crown of Italy* — (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Col. Walter D. Stump; (*Knight*) Captains Lawrence C. Becker, Arber Johnson, Frank J. Moran and Thomas A. Morris... Major Richard B. Bullock, Adjutant of the Allied Commission and of the 2675th Regiment, is being married today to Miss Roberta Wollenhaupt, former FEA employe of the A. C.; the reception

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afterward is being given by the Regiment's CO, Col. Robert C. Ross: good luck and a long life to the happy couple... Colonels Ross and Charles Walton and Lieut. Col. G. G. Haunaford represented the A. C. in a conference with Brigadier General A. J. Hamblen aboard a train in Udine concerning arrangements to tie in Udine AMG with 13th Corps... Two (now rare) promotions are announced: Arthur McPhail to Major and William R. Thomson to Captain... In the biggest A. C. redeployment clean-up since last fall, 35 officers got aboard the ship that left Leghorn April 26... New release group dates for British officers and OR have come through, starting with Group 32, which is to be complated by 2 July, to Group 40, which starts 27 September... Good news (perhaps!) for Italian brides of GIs and American officers:

Starting Monday evening (the 29th) at 8:30 p.m., classes in the English language, as it's spoken in the United States, will be held every Monday and Friday at the Hotel Nord Nuova Roma, and classes in American citizenship will be conducted every Wednesday evening at the same time; Capt. H. Armand de Masi, of the Italian Prisoners of War Division, Land Forces Sub-Commission, and CWO Sexson E. Humphreys, Assistant Adjutant of 2675 Regiment, will be the teachers...

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Enrico Martella, who when not reading detective stories is a whirlwind of efficiency, and his two stalwart aides, Sergio Antinori and Gaetano Loquenzi.

People.

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April 20, 1946 Vol. III, No. 3

ALLIED COMMISSION

23 APR 1946

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

POLITICAL

We are frankly caught with our hands down this week. Normally, this particular column is written Saturday morning, the day of issue, in order to have the very latest facts and comments at our disposal. However, tomorrow is Easter —we wish everybody *buona Pasqua*—and our printers give word that they go off at 1 p.m., which means the *Bulletin* must be entirely off the press by that time. Which further means that this week our readers and the editor will have a respite from extended politics. We at least will try to cover the highlights.

The Socialist congress, which heard a strong anti-Nenni speech by Saragat, former ambassador to France, on April 13, closed in the early hours of April 17 after lively polemics and proceeded to vote a new Executive which, in effect, promoted Nenni upstairs to the post of President of the Socialist Party and elected Ivan Lombardi as secretary-general. While Nenni, according to the *Giornale del Mattino*, got a solid majority (338,346 votes to 300,062 for the Silone-Pertini group) as the result of the victory of his cohorts' motion—the *mozione di base*—the more conservative and anti-fusion bloc showed enough strength to make predictions on future developments dangerous at this time. The Executive includes, besides Nenni and Lombardi, the following: Valcarenghi, Simonini, Saragat, Pertini, Silone, Chignoli, Zagari, Basso, Cacciatore, Morandi, Jacometti, Foscolo Lombardi, Lina Merlin, Lizzadri, and Matteo Matteotti.

The deadline for filing for the national elections of June 2 passed at 1 p.m. April 18, with all parties scrambling to submit lists of candidates and party symbols. In Rome there were 27 different lists filed. The Christian Democrat party will open its national congress in Rome April 24. Nothing much happened in foreign affairs. The Council of Ministers, in their first meetings since April 6, convened on April 17 and 18 (twice that day) to discuss the food situation and other matters.

WIRE STRINGERS' SWAN SONG

Many of the monthly reports emanating from sub-commissions and branches these days (which it is our chore to plough through) are full of almost nostalgic references to past days when everyone was busy as the devil. A report at hand from the Commmications Sub-Commission, which was originally the Commmunications Section of the Allied Military Mission and headed by Rear Admiral (then Captain) Ellery W. Stone, USNR, now the Chief Commissioner, offers some interesting highlights of a complicated and arduous technical job well done. We are indebted to Col. H. H. Scudder (A), its present head (who is the second director in the history of the subcommission, Col. J. L. Henderson (B) having been the first).

In those first confusing days in Puglie, Col. Scudder recalls, there was no central Italian telecommunications authority and one did not get started until the Italians complained that the Allied troops were removing stores and equipment without notice, whereupon they were given the gleeful answer that there was no one to give notice to. An Italian Ministry of Communications was consequently set up on November 5, 1943, headed by Dr. Mario Fano, the present Undersecretary for Posts and Telecommunications. Dr. Fano attended every meeting with the Allied authorities and when asked why he did not sometimes send a representative, he successfully concealed the fact he was the Ministry *in toto* himself. He did have a staff of one secretary who, however, objected to getting up early in the morning and came and went as he saw fit. The sub-commission considers itself lucky to have found Dr. Fano from the first and to have had his efficient and loyal help since.

From the beginning, too, and continuing to date, there has always been the problem of the A. C. sub-commission maintaining liaison with the innumerable Allied Signal organizations, for example, the Chief Signal Officers of AFHQ, AAI, L of C, Districts, PBS, Air Corps, RAAC and occa-

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sionally outfits with unidentifiable initials. Early in 1944, April, in fact, in addition to responsibilities for civilian postal, radio and telecommunications matters, the sub-commission took over the Civilian Censorship Group from AFHQ, which added burden was perhaps eased a little by the fact that the Group's extensive marine contacts often resulted in the procurement of essential supplies such as Bourbon, said to be a basic necessity of telephone linemen working in the cold, cold air.

Tales.

The tale of the accomplishments of the Communications Sub-Commission can be read, complete with statistical detail, in the *Review of the Allied Commission and Allied Military Government in Italy* which PRB published last year. Omitted in that account is one anecdote about the rebuilding of the overhead telephone lines, in which Major J. Leitzner (B) of MMIA, known in Catanzaro as the Uncrowned King of Calabria, virtually dragooned the bulk of the Italian Army in those parts to help out his friends, particularly Lieut. Col. H. G. W. Millar (B), on the sub-commission.

There is also the account of the Civil Censorship Group U. S. Captain who, on his way to Rome, somehow got ahead of the troops (a circumstance in which many AMG officers have found themselves, moving as they often had to on detached orders), and ran into a German tank at a sharp corner. The Captain backtracked his jeep before the surprised Germans could open fire, ran into an upper room of the house on the corner and proceeded to censor the tank out of circulation with a few grenades.

Telephone restoration, incidentally, has been one of the sub-commission's brighter spots. The Naples experience showed the need of a central telecommunications authority for every major city. Advance boards were then planned for Rome, Florence, Bologna, Milan, Genoa and Turin, composed of Signal Corps and A. C. officers. In Rome, where the telephone system was restored to service within a few days after liberation, was also found a telephone factory which was put to work at once manufacturing equipment and is even now one of the chief supply points for long-distance communications material. That equipment was direly needed may be appreciated by the following itemization of telecommunications equipment seriously damaged in Italy: 21 per cent. of telephone pole routes, 10 per cent. of the wire, 53 per cent. of amplifier station equipment, more than 20 per cent. of underground cable, 50 large and hundreds of small telephone exchanges and 15 broadcast transmitters.

Florence.

In Florence, where German demolition squads had been thorough, within two weeks a 500-line automatic exchange was set up from parts salvaged from the damaged exchanges. In Florence, too the army authorities decided it was more practicable to permit wide use of telephone and postal facilities under firm control rather than have to combat clandestine uncontrolled operations. As a result postal and telephone services were from then on authorized to within short distances from the Army control line.

When the North was opened up, A. C. experts rushed to Milan and were holding a planning meeting with their Signal Corps colleagues for an hour in the main telephone exchange before they discovered that 25 unsurrendered German soldiers were still guarding the building. *Sic itur ad astra*, breathed one of the conferees afterward. In Milan also, which had not had public telegraph service for more than a year, an emergency system was put into immediate operation whereby 18 telegraph channels could function simultaneously over one telephone circuit. A telegraph net was thus rapidly built up which covered eleven Italian towns and even took in some Swiss cities. Another problem in the North was postage stamps, the dies for which were all of Fascist design. Finally, a non-controversial picture of Ceasar (55 B.C.) was adopted.

Today nearly all telephone exchanges and telegraph offices in Italy are working on the national network, even though at reduced capacity. The civil telephone network has been restored 40 per cent. of pre-war between large centers and will be greatly extended as Allied military telecommunications requirements are reduced. Postal services and telegraph servies are in effect to all countries of the world except Germany, Japan, Korea and Manchuria. Air mail from the United States to Italy for civilians has been operating for months and civilian air mail from Italy to the United States will shortly be available.

Recent difficulties in the postal service have had to do with, first, parcels, and then, diversion of mail deliveries from abroad. Last Christmas, the U. S. Post Office was swamped with one and a half million parcels to Italy, which they were unable to sort out province by province. Picture then what the Italian Post Office had to contend with. As to the other headache, it seemed that

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on any ship leaving the States for Italy there was always loaded some Italian mail. However, many of these ships, mostly freighters, did not stop at Naples went on to Genoa, from which place would come sudden, frantic calls that there was a mountain of mail awaiting disposition. By obtaining UNRRA's cooperation on pre-advice of ship movements, advance arrangements are now made to get the mail processed to all parts of Italy no matter what port the mail ships dock in. And speaking of difficulties, there was, and unfortunately still remains, the lack of transport or spare parts or petrol or tires. Indeed, it is slightly risky to ask Col. Scudder about the matter; the answer comes in a startled look, a helpless gesture, as the colonel departs without a word, only his bitter laugh echoing out the door.

GREEK ELECTORAL MISSION

Col. Norman E. Fiske, former Deputy Executive Commissioner, who left the Allied Commission last November to become MTOUSA representative on the Allied mission observing the Greek elections of March 31 and who is slated to return to us soon to replace Col. C. P. Kerr (who's going home) as deputy director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, came into the office the other day and told us some interesting stories about his Greek job.

The mission was headed by our old friend, Mr. Henry F. Grady (A), former Vice President of the Economic Section, and comprised about 1,500 persons in all, soldiers and civilians. Approximately 600 were American, an equal number British and about 300 French. The men were organized into 240 observation teams of one officer, one EM and one Greek interpreter, plus jeep and trailer. For covering the myriad islands of the Aegean Sea, three C-47s, three PBYs and ten Cub planes were also used. The transport, by the bye, was later disposed of as surplus property to the Greek Government.

The elections were fair and in the opinion of the mission, taking all factors into account, truly reflected the will of the Greek people, the Colonel said, repeating in fact the statement that Mr. Grady, who held the rank of ambassador, gave to the press. As to the campaign of abstention from voting, Col. Fiske revealed that it affected only 9.3 per cent. of the registered votes and that this factor, plus any irregularities found, were not sufficient to alter the result.

The observers' party was organised in Italy and transported to Greece in two ships and several planeloads. The body of the mission was likewise disbanded in Italy—at Naples, Leghorn and Rome—and the last of the Greek electoral observers left April 18. The mission is disbanded and could not be used to observe the Italian election even if there were any plans to do so. It can be stated flatly here that there is no intention afoot to use an Allied mission to observe the national elections in Italy.

ABOUT US

The Allied Commission *Weekly Bulletin* which you are reading has been called, we are vain enough to pass on, "the best piece of paper to come out of the A.C." and we ourselves think it is a unique enough document in army public relations to waste a little space and become frankly immodest in telling our dear readers about the *Bulletin*, how it started, how it gets done and who reads it. We might start by relating that the *Bulletin* is the original brainchild of the Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush (who, after some badgering, quite respectful, of course) sometimes takes pen in hand and gives us vivid reports on his excursions to the field.

Calling in Major Lionel Fielden (B), the first director of the Public Relations Branch, the Brigadier directed that a weekly report be prepared of current events of interest at headquarters and in Italy for the benefit of the officers stationed in the field regions who might find such a quick, informal synopsis of use as a coordinating medium of information. Fielden balked a bit that it was perhaps not properly the task of PRB but set to work and produced the first issue of April 1, 1944 almost single-handed, though it was evident at once that the job of covering the twenty-odd sub-commissions at headquarters, the news from various regions and Italian events themselves should have had a full-time staff who could also use the same material for press releases and background information for the correspondents.

Today, two years and 20 days older, the *Bulletin* not only goes to every officer in all sections of headquarters and to the field liaison groups and to Venezia Giulia AMG but also to the War and State Departments, War and Foreign Offices, (indeed, they sent for it), AFHQ, the British and American Embassies, PBS and all British Districts, Moscow and Paris through the Russian and French representatives to the Allied Commission, to all fellow PROs, to the BMA in Tripolitania and to Allied intelligence offices in Germany and Austria. While the *Bulletin* from the beginning

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April 19, 1946 LOC Vol. I, No. 14

ECONOMIC NOTES

— Published by The Public Information Division, UNRRA Italy Mission, Via di San Nicolò da Tolentino, 78, Rome —

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2. Record Deliveries in March
3. UNRRA Inter-Mission Trade
4. UNRRA and the Black Market
5. Movements of Ships

ITALIAN RAILWAY PROGRESS

Impressive progress towards normality can be claimed by the Italian State Railways, since the liberation of Northern Italy just under a year ago. To-day 85 per cent. of Italy's total mileage of railway track is once more in service. Freight traffic has increased, the number of passengers carried has steadily risen, and there has been a substantial increase in the number of serviceable locomotives and goods wagons.

Fundamentally this progress continues, in spite of the purely temporary reduction in services imposed by the coal stoppage in the United States. In the vital matter of coal supplies, every effort is being made by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilition Administration to ease the present situation by reopening trade channels with the Ruhr and Silesia, and by personal appeals from Mr. La Guardia himself to the miners of America to maintain the flow of coal supplies.

Coal Imports

Of the 432,000 tons of coal per month allocated for imports into Italy recently, some 125,000 tons have been for the railways. Severe as are the temporary cuts in passenger and goods traffic made necessary by the United States coal stoppage, those cuts are far less drastic than would have been necessary, but for the timely shipping to Italy during March of approximately 50 per cent. more coal than the normal monthly quota, and the maintenance of unusually heavy shipments during the first half of April.

The Italian State Railways increased goods traffic from 530,605 tons in May last year to 2,543,762 tons in February. This compares with an average freight traffic of about 4,000,000 tons per month before the war. Huge war losses in goods wagons have still to be replaced. According to figures corrected to 13 April, there were 85,786 serviceable goods wagons of all types, or about 64 per cent. of the total just prior to the Allied landings three years ago. Shortages are, furthermore, uneven. The situation in regard to box cars is particularly difficult. With no more than 2,819 steam and electric locomotives at present available for service, the Italian State Railways are faced with an over-all deficiency of slightly more than 10 per cent., compared with June, 1943.

Train Mileage

Train mileage (both goods and passenger, and including military trains), amounted last December to 3,143,000 miles (5,000,000 kilometres)—approximately 60 per cent. of the average monthly train mileage before the war. April will show a heavy reduction in train mileage compared with December, owing to the curtailment of passenger and goods services recently brought into operation to save coal.

All Italy's main lines are now open to traffic. The 15 per cent. of track still to be restored is limited to lines of secondary importance. But, although open, much of the track is not yet at full operational efficiency. Much of the reconstruction is either frankly temporary or only semi-permanent, and this in itself will make travel slow for some time to come. The emergency bridges put up to

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replace those destroyed during the war are not designed to carry heavy trains at express speeds.

Wartime destruction is still an important limiting factor. In all 4,142 masonary bridges were damaged or destroyed, of which a total of 216 had been permanently reconstructed and 631 temporarily repaired by August, 1945. Of the 698 iron or steel bridges damaged or destroyed, 101 had at the same date been permanently reconstructed and 292 temporarily repaired.

Reconstruction Program

To make good present deficieneies of rolling stock, the Italian State Railways have since the beginning of the year been turning out from their workshops an average of 117 new and repaired wagons per week. In view of Italy's own industrial resources it is not UNRRA's policy to import either locomotives or rolling stock into the country. UNRRA's contribution to railway reconstruction continues to be the importation of fuel, and essential raw materials for the production of railway equipment, including such items as steel, and copper of which the railways are in particular need owing to heavy German looting of Italian electrical railway equipment. According to the most recent revision of the UNRRA program for industrial rehabilitation, it is planned to allocate funds to the purchase, if available, of 15,000 tons of new steel rails and 10,000 tons of used steel rails.

UNRRA'S Function

UNRRA's function in relation to Italian railway administration is to advise and assist. In view of the present state of the railway system and the urgent need for rapid distribution of UNRRA supplies, rail clearance at the ports is a matter of immediate concern to the UNRRA Italy Mission. Traffic disabilities demand a careful balance between rail clearance and port acceptances of shipping. During March UNRRA traffic handled at the

Continued on page 3

RECORD DELIVERIES IN MARCH

March was a month of records both in the international sphere of UNRRA activities and in Italy itself. Civil supplies imported into Italy during the month totalled 840,000 tons—the highest figure achieved since the liberation of the country. UNRRA supplies totalled 694,000 tons—which was also a record figure. The remaining 146,000 tons were F.E.A. and Italian Government imports. In one week, 10-17 March, 37 ships arrived carrying more than 300,000 tons. At the end of the month an additional 466,000 tons of UNRRA supplies were at sea, bound for Italy.

Coal arrivals during March were the highest recorded since the Armistice. From all sources 600,000 tons were received. More coal was produced also in Sardinia where the month's output totalled 88,660 tons, compared with about 73,000 tons in February. March 31 output, of 3,825 tons, was the highest daily production figure recorded for over two years.

Coal Reserves

As already reported in last week's issue of *Economic Notes*, March loadings of coal for Italy (as distinct from March deliveries) reached a new record of 648,000 tons. But, owing to the stoppage in the United States, coal is being reserved from current shipments for later use by the railways, power plants, bakeries and other essential undertakings. On the other hand, the electric power situation has so far improved that rationing in the North has been lifted this month.

In the international field, UNRRA shipments to liberated areas during March were the highest in the history of the Administration. These shipments, totalling 1,526,200 gross long tons—the equivalent of more than seven ship cargoes a day—were as follows:—

	Tons
Albania	2,300
Austria	14,400
Byelorussian SSR	11,800
China	115,000
Czechoslovakia	77,000
Dodecanese Islands	1,900
Finland	1,200
Greece	99,000
Italy	856,700
Poland	192,200
Ukranian SSR	25,100
Yugoslavia	127,300
Other operations	2,300

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Supplies other than food, particularly coal, accounted for a large proportion of the tonnage. Food shipments, including bread grains, oils and fats fell far below minimum needs. Prior to January this year, food made up more than 70 per cent. of UNRRA cargoes. In February only about 16 per cent. of the shipments were foodstuffs and this reduced ratio of foods to other commodities was also reflected in the figures for March. "A ton of food is infinitesimal when millions are to be fed," states UNRRA's Director-General, Mr. Fiorello H. La Guardia. "We were about 11 per cent. short on food shipments during March. This shortage during the months of January, February and March has created a dangerously critical food situation in all countries dependent on UNRRA."

UNRRA INTER-MISSION TRADE

Assistance in the negotiation of trade deals between Italy and Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia is being given by the UNRRA Italy Mission and the UNRRA Missions in Prague and Belgrade. Czechoslovakia plans to buy salt, lemons and sulphur. Jugoslavia requires sulphur. The quantities and terms of payment are not yet fixed. These transactions are comparatively small, both in regard to the quantities involved and the value they represent. While they are useful, their importance should not be exaggerated.

Facilities Are Limited

Since the first information concerning inter-Mission trade was published in *Economic Notes* of 1 March, there has been, in some quarters, an impression that UNRRA could handle an unlimited number of foreign transactions in a very wide range of commodities. This is not the case. It must be repeated that UNRRA exists as a relief and rehabilitation, and not as a trading, organisation. UNRRA facilities are made available only as an emergency measure where—and only where—normal trade relationships through regular Consular facilities have broken down, or have not yet been resumed.

UNRRA is not responsible for exporting goods from Italy, except in a relatively few specialised instances; and when such an occasion does arise all arrangements are made by the Government. Offers by exporters should, therefore, be made to the Italian Government —and not to UNRRA.

Payment Problems

Payment presents considerable difficulty. Various methods have been adopted in different transactions. Of greatest advantage to the Italian Government is a deal in which payment is made in free exchange. Another method is direct barter. A further means of payment is for the credit established by sales abroad to be added to the UNRRA supply budget for Italy. Up to the present the Italy Mission has experienced difficulty in arranging payment, except in free foreign exchange, and occasionally by barter. Policy in regard to budget credits has not yet been finally decided, and supplies of free exchange available for inter-Mission deals are strictly limited.

UNRRA AND THE BLACK MARKET

In view of the continued publicity given to unfounded reports of an UNRRA "threat" to the Italian Government in regard to the Black Market, the following official denial is re-published:—

> The UNRRA Italy Mission denies the inaccurate statement, published in a number of newspapers, that it has informed the Italian Government that it will be compelled to suspend delivery of relief supplies if action is not taken against the Black Market.

ITALIAN RAILWAY PROGRESS

(Continued from page 2)

ports reached record figures. Port clearances are steadily improving. At one northern port, capable normally of a daily clearance of 8,000 tons, the railways have, thanks to efficient handling, moved on occasion as much as 13,000 tons in a single day.

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MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(APRIL 8 - 14 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO	TONS
G. L. Stone	Civitavecchia	8 April	UNRRA	General	6,563
Walter Flemming	Venice	" "	It. Govt.	"	7,749
Alfred Victory	Naples	10 "	UNRRA	"	6,482
Thomas Nelson	"	" "	"	Wheat	7,166
D. Houston	Venice	" "	"	"	8,545
James Barbour	Bari	12 "	It. Govt.	"	7,808
Dodekanisos	Genoa	13 "	UNRRA	"	8,223

LATEST COAL SHIPMENTS

(APRIL 7 - 14 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
Jeremiah Rusk	Genoa	7 April	UNRRA	Jack London	Palermo	10 April	UNRRA
Clarence Darrow	Venice	" "	"	Richard Randall	Catania	11 "	"
William Ashling	"	8 "	"	Dolly Madison	Savona	" "	"
Raymond Ingersoll	Piombino	" "	"	Vitus Beering	Genoa	12 "	"
John Todd	Genoa	" "	"	Walt Whitman	"	13 "	"
Beltram Goodhue	Savona	9 "	"	Edwin Stanton	Savona	" "	"
Morgan Robertson	"	" "	"	Benjamin Rush	Bagnoli	" "	"
Harry Wilson	Genoa	" "	"	Peter Daniel	Bari	" "	"
P. S. Farrar	Leghorn	" "	"	Luther Kelly	Civitav.	" "	"
Roy Johnson	Ancona	" "	"	William Kamaka	Cagliari	14 "	"
Albert Nicholson	Bari	" "	"	Frank Wiggins	Venice	" "	"
Charles Sumner	Genoa	" "	"	Printz Campbell	"	" "	"
Anson Jones	Bagnoli	" "	"				

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16 APR 1946

ALLIED COMMISSION
WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

POLITICAL

Flushed with their Milan victory, the restless hosts of the Socialist party gathered on the banks of the Arno during the week to open their national congress on April 11. In typical political convention style, the delegates were astir over the two big questions before the Florence congress: that of Nenni's leadership and the Communist alliance. And traditionally, there was the *leitmotif* of a Socialist International, the creation of a bloc of Socialist states, which was argued by both idealist and realist, while bending an attentive ear were several foreign delegations (nine had arrived or were arriving). The most prominent of the visitors were the British headed by Mr. Harold Laski, who bore a personal letter from Foreign Secretary Bevin to Nenni in which Bevin said he was greatly pleased that the order and enthusiasm of the elections had confirmed his confidence in the Italian people.

Prof. Laski spoke on the first day of the sessions, prophesying that Italy would have a good peace and stressing that British policy was to give the greatest freedom to all countries. Togliatti, who had led the list of speakers, denied what he called the fable of the Communists having swallowed up the Socialists and declared that it was necessary for the Socialists and Communists to be permanently united for reasons of domestic and foreign politics. Nenni, as secretary general of the party, then gave his report, which, as given in the *Giornale del Mattino*, can be summarized as follows:

After the liberation of Italy, there were three forces in the country—the Allies, the monarchy and the CLN; the Socialists joined the CLN to fight the Rightist trends. The *Costituente* is the problem of problems, which "we have almost won". "Almost", Nenni added, "because many things may happen before June 2. But now we are on the side of right and law. If among the Monarchist Right, there are some who think of a *coup d'état*, they need not be feared." He flourished the statistics of the recent elections, citing Socialist-Communist victories in 2,153 out of 5,614 communes against 1,907 for the Christian Democrats.

The Socialist program, he continued, is for a democratic republic of united states, whose power will be made more flexible by liberal use of local autonomy. There should be a single legislative chamber or House and an associated chamber of economic councils. The president of the republic should be elected by the House to which the Government should be responsible. The constitution should guarantee freedom of conscience, thought, press, speech, organization, the right to work, home, livelihood, and education; limit the right to property by nationalization of public services, and repudiate war.

On foreign policy, the Socialist leader was against joining any big power bloc—American, British or Russian. He advocated regional agreements with France, Greece, Spain and Yugoslavia. The just frontier with Yugoslavia is that known as the "Wilson line" of 1919 and the Italian character of Trieste and the west coast of Istria must be recognized by Yugoslavia. The colonies should have a trusteeship administration. Italians must be allowed raw materials and freedom to emigrate. He termed the Lateran Pact "a well-established fact".

On the ticklish question of the Communist pact, Nenni asserted the unity of the working classes is needed to develop the republic either by a pact of united action or by fusion. Polemics on fusion he called artificial. What mattered, he said, was that unity of action between the Socialists and the Communists should gain the majority in the *Costituente*.

Debates.

The next day, the 12th, the delegates began unburdening themselves on Nenni's speech, with no indication as yet, according to the latest press reports, of the consensus. Zagari and Mandolfo

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spoke for an international Socialist bloc to prevent power blocs, the latter speaker also hitting out at Nenni as ambiguous on the question of the Socialist-Communist merger. Pertini maintained that the Socialist party must be absolutely autonomous because, he said, the Communists are influenced by Russia and the Christian Democrats by clericalism. He ended, however, by saying a common policy with the Communists was necessary in the present political struggle.

While the Socialist confabulation took most of the press headlines, prominence during the week was also given to the cereal shortage and the bread ration emerged as a political issue. *Acquti* decried "alarmist critics" and the Italian Government officially declared in a communique that the ration of 200 grams was to be maintained, the communique being issued after a transatlantic telephone conversation between Prime Minister De Gasperi and La Guardia, the new Director-General of UNRRA. This prompted *Giornale della Sera* to make cutting remarks about "last-minute telephone calls to avoid the horrible threat of starvation".

New groupings and counter-groupings, manifestoes and *ordini del giorno* continued through the week in heightened preparation for the national elections. The Central Committees of the Action and Republican parties published statements, the former on its general reform program and the latter proclaiming that the republic will be the real rebirth of Italy. A National Bloc for Freedom was announced, composed of Bergamini and Benedetti's Demo-Liberal Concentration, Beneivenga's Democratic Center Movement, and Selvaggi's Italian Democrat party. Selvaggi, in his *Italia Nuova* (which continued, by the bye, its charges of electoral fraud) criticized the newly formed National Democratic Union (of the elder statesmen) for having refused his alliance on the grounds of alienating its republican sympathizers. In so doing, Selvaggi charged, the Union was allowing a fatal dispersion of democratic votes. *Buonsenso*, the *Uomo Qualunque* organ, in turn, denied that the U. Q. Front had been excluded from the latest Rightist bloc, that of the National Bloc for Freedom, because, it said, the U. Q.'s policy was to refuse all alliances which were not strictly necessary. In speaking of joining groups, speculation ranged around Sforza again, *Voce Repubblicana* announcing he had joined the Republican party while *Giornale del Mattino* reported he would "certainly" join the National Democratic Union and *Momento* stated that Sforza would head the national Action Party list of candidates.

In foreign affairs, all papers played up a UP dispatch from Washington that if the meeting of the Big Four Foreign Ministers at Paris April 25 did not produce an agreement on an Italian peace treaty, which was reported No. 1 on the agenda, the United States and the British Governments would take their own initiative in regard to Italy, which was described in the dispatch as follows: abolition of the Allied Commission; no war reparations; no change in the present status of the Italian colonies; Dodecanese Islands to Greece; Trieste to Italy. All papers also carried a Tass Agency report from Moscow which said that the Russian demand for Italian reparations was for $300 million dollars, not three billion.

The Council of Ministers did not meet during the week. At its last meeting on April 6 it raised to 15 billion the amount of money to be advanced to industrial concerns by national banks, increased the cost-of-living bonus for state employes and allotted 10 billion lire for jobless and poor relief, 16 billion for harbors, another six billion for housing and five billion for land improvement.

ECONOMIC FRONT

There are a few driblets of economic news this week. Mr. W. J. Legg, former A. C. Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission head and now chief of the UNRRA Sub-Bureau of Relief Supply, was a visitor to the last Vice Presidents' meeting on the invitation of the Acting Chief Commissioner. Mr. Legg, just returned from a mission to Washington, reported a black cereal situation but surprisingly good results on obtaining miscellaneous food products (meat, sugar, powdered milk) for Italy. Incidentally, the A. C. is in the process of turning over 18,000 tons of blocked foodstuffs in its possession. The Finance Branch hears there is a possibility that the U. S. Government may place the non-troop pay suspense account (for U. S. military expenditures in Italy outside of troop pay) to the account of the Italian Government, which would give Italy another $120 million or thereabouts in U. S. credit. The troop pay credit to date has amounted to approximately $140 million with more to come.

Black market prices of food were rising with the *pasqua* season, experts report. Bread, as of recent weeks, cost 155 lire a kilo in Rome, 180 in Naples and 110 in Palermo. Other prices in the respective cities are: white pasta—190, 210 and 125; olive oil—450, 410 and 305; sugar—850, 800 and 600; butter—900, 690 and 700; eggs (each)—19, 19 and 14, and beef—500, 450 and 300.

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Sardinian coal production last month rose to a new high—88,000 tons. French and Italian power companies are talking over renewal of a contract exporting 3,000,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month from the Piemonte area to the Nice-Menton area.

Unemployment dots the reports from the field liaison officers: in Naples, U. S. Army and Navy, the biggest employers, have pratically shut down all of their labor activities, but the British Army still employs about 30,000 Italians. In Lombardia, there are 112,000 registered unemployed in Milan, 45,000 in Como and 50,000 in Bergamo. In the eight provinces of Venezia region, there are 166,000 jobless.

ELECTION RESULTS

The five-week run of Sunday administrative elections was over last Sunday, April 7, and the country could now catch its breath until the national elections on June 2. A table of cumulative results for the five Sundays accompanies this article, based on incomplete returns from the Ministry of Interior. In our next issue we will present a detailed analysis and the latest official—and we hope, complete—figures. Following the pattern of previous weeks, the LOs in the field again made telegraphic reports of order and heavy polling throughout Italy while the technical experts of the Local Government Sub-Commission,

PARTY	MARCH 10						MARCH 17						MARCH 24				
	Majorities in Communes			Seats			Majorities in Communes			Seats			Majorities in Communes				
	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	
Left Concentration	—	129	**129**	20	2,401	**2,421**	—	362	**362**	21	6,368	**6,389**	2	534	**536**	83	9
Communist	2	4	**6**	81	86	**167**	1	19	**20**	31	419	**450**	9	30	**39**	284	
Socialist	2	6	**8**	50	112	**162**	—	23	**23**	34	422	**456**	1	33	**34**	218	
Republican	1	4	**5**	31	72	**103**	—	8	**8**	17	178	**195**	2	10	**12**	47	
Action	—	1	**1**	—	33	**33**	—	1	**1**	1	70	**71**	—	4	**4**	6	
Christian Democrat	3	131	**134**	77	2,476	**2,553**	4	338	**342**	78	6,181	**6,259**	10	529	**539**	383	9
Center Concentration	—	44	**44**	21	768	**789**	—	76	**76**	1	1,479	**1,480**	1	65	**66**	31	1
Right Concentration	—	6	**6**	6	150	**156**	—	36	**36**	2	672	**674**	—	30	**30**	17	
Liberal	—	19	**19**	2	326	**328**	—	15	**15**	8	339	**347**	—	27	**27**	18	3
Labour Democrat	—	10	**10**	6	176	**182**	—	25	**25**	—	376	**376**	—	17	**17**	5	
Uomo Qualunque	—	3	**3**	5	63	**68**	—	7	**7**	6	120	**126**	—	7	**7**	9	
Italian Democrat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	**2**	—	33	**33**	—	1	**1**	1	
Independents	—	42	**42**	4	715	**719**	—	109	**109**	—	1,980	**1,980**	—	97	**97**	5	1
Local Parties	—	8	**8**	9	173	**182**	—	28	**28**	11	475	**486**	—	43	**43**	14	
Veterans	—	8	**8**	8	158	**166**	—	15	**15**	—	253	**253**	—	7	**7**	9	
No majority or unaccounted for	—	1	**1**	—	—	—	—	8	**8**	—	—	—	2	5	**7**	—	
TOTALS	8	416	**424**	320	7,709	**8,029**	5	1,072	**1,077**	240	19,365	**19,575**	27	1,439	**1,466**	1,130	26

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial
B = Communes under 30,000 (majority sys

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as should be expected, brought back fuller descriptions of their own tours and some interesting tales to boot.

The sub-commission virtually spanned Italy in its coverage of the April 7 elections, Major Ralph R. Temple (A), the director, observing in Milan; Major C. G. R. Williams (B), the executive officer, spending his time in Sicily, while Capt. J. V. Vella (B) looked at Perugia and vicinity. Capt. Vella reported the discovery of a sham bomb (that is, without explosive) in the offices of the Liberal party at Perugia (also headlined in the press) and of meeting Signor Romita, Minister of Interior in the Italian Government and the official in general charge of the electoral machinery, who with reason bragged a little about the order and calm of the poliing as an evidence of the political maturity of the Italian people.

In Milan, where Fascism was born and where politics was its hottest in the recent electoral campaigns, Major Temple described the city as literally covered with placards, manifestoes, wall signs, sidewalk printing, emblems, pictures and the hundred and one symbols of the politicoes. Huge crowds congregated in the Piazza del Duomo to hear political speeches, with one gathering giving way in orderly fashion to the next, when the time showed another party was scheduled to rally. Electoral certificates were delivered by some 1,000 functionaries five days before the

		MARCH 31						APRIL 7						TOTAL TO DATE					
ats		Majorities in Communes			Seats			Majorities in Communes			Seats			Majorities in Communes			Seats		
B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total
432	9,515	3	517	520	158	9,455	9,613	3	447	450	100	7,897	7,997	8	1,989	1,997	382	35,553	35,935
518	802	11	48	59	340	826	1,166	4	20	24	186	374	560	27	121	148	922	2,223	3,145
709	987	1	41	42	286	888	1,174	2	32	34	171	576	747	6	135	141	759	2,767	3,526
200	247	—	8	8	38	186	224	2	3	5	85	86	171	5	33	38	218	722	940
83	89	—	—	—	9	29	38	—	1	1	12	28	40	—	7	7	28	243	271
425	9,808	18	568	586	571	9,856	10,427	12	364	376	360	6,735	7,095	47	1,930	1,977	1,469	34,673	36,142
967	1,398	1	74	75	48	1,385	1,428	—	46	46	17	866	883	2	305	307	113	5,865	5,978
557	574	—	14	14	53	335	388	—	38	38	20	738	758	—	124	124	98	2,452	2,550
3	481	—	23	23	27	436	463	—	10	10	33	227	260	—	94	94	88	1,791	1,879
333	338	—	17	17	17	326	343	1	8	9	13	168	181	1	77	78	41	1,379	1,420
117	126	—	4	4	13	104	117	—	1	1	13	42	55	—	22	22	46	446	492
13	14	—	1	1	—	18	18	—	1	1	—	12	12	—	5	5	1	76	77
23	1,928	—	126	126	6	2,263	2,269	—	93	93	8	1,676	1,684	—	467	467	23	8,557	8,580
668	682	1	51	52	25	820	845	—	41	41	—	723	723	1	171	172	59	2,859	2,918
187	196	—	18	18	4	283	287	—	7	7	2	182	184	—	55	55	24	1,063	1,086
—	—	4	12	16	—	—	—	1	4	5	—	—	—	7	30	37	—	—	—
955	27,185	39	1,522	1,561	1,599	27,210	28,800	25	1,116	1,141	1,020	20,330	21,350	104	5,565	5,669	4,270	100,669	104,939

Capitals (proportional representation).
sem).

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voting. However, due to the usual causes of changes in addresses, nobody at home to accept delivery, etc., Major Temple said there were some 70,000 certificates undelivered by election day. Large crowds of voters then gathered around the distribution offices on April 7 and by special order certificates were handed over personally by 150 clerks and special assistants to qualified electors right up to almost the time the polls closed at 10 p.m., thus reducing considerably the total number of undelivered documents.

Party workers were present in large numbers to direct voters to the correct locations of voting booths in places where the locations had been changed. All of the 903 election districts had official *scrutatori* or party observers. Out of a population estimated at 1,244,049, there were 835,781 electors, of whom 445,327 were women and 300,454 men. Approximately 80 per cent. cast a ballot. In the battle for the 80 council seats, the six competing lists finished in the following order: 1 – Socialists, 2 – Christian Democrats, 3 – Communists, 4 – *Madonnina* ticket of Liberals and Rightists, 5 – Mazzini ticket of Republican and Action Party, and 6 – *Esercente* ticket of shopkeepers. The Socialists ran more than 60,000 ahead of the next party, according to incomplete returns.

Major Williams' report shows he had a good time in Sicily, where personal rivalries counted more in the voting, apparently, than did political divisions. He looked in at Marsala and Trapani among other places. At Marsala, he tells us, he arrived the day before the elections to find the *Municipio* in an uproar. Throngs of poor in rags were yelling for relief aid. The election official in charge was not around. The electoral lists were in a room *senza* clerk or guards while the public leafed through the registers. The arrival of the major and the Italian inspector-general who accompanied, however, soon got around and order and efficiency were put into effect rather quickly and the next day the polling went off in fairly good order. Marsala, Maj. Williams says, was beflagged and plastered with election slogans such as no place he had yet seen in Italy. One item not remedied in time in Marsala, which is a large commune with several country villages within its limits, was the proper provision of voting booths for town and country folk. There were 27 booths in town and 12 in the country and, somehow, many town people were forced to go to the country to vote while many country dwellers had to come to town to vote.

Trapani was a model of efficiency, the major said. Electric light for night voting was provided on a priority basis but, to be on the safe side, the officials had placed in every booth an oil lamp and extra oil—in the event of a power failure. Extra sub-offices for the distribution of electoral certificates had been set up. A last-minute emergency problem was also solved in short order. For some reason or other, the community of Paceco in Trapani got the right to become a separate commune as of April 1, which necessitated a fast sorting out of the commune's voters from those of Trapani itself and arrangements had to be made to hold separate balloting. Sixty-six per cent. of the electors voted in Marsala and 64 per cent. in Trapani.

Major Williams has one more tale to pass on: at Sperlinga in the heart of Sicily, the villagers for generations have been known as rabid individualists (which must be gilding the lily for Sicily) and as traditional "agin'ers". Although the Italian Government has made woman suffrage the law of the land, the men of Sperlinga must have had their own ideas. In the elections just held, not a single wife, mother, daughter or sister showed up at the polls. The only women who voted were two spinster schoolmarms.

LA SPEZIA

Col. C. B. Findlay, director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, gives us the latest facts about the Jews at La Spezia, the story of which broke on the unsuspecting heads of the authorities last week. About 0400 on 4 April, the story goes, 1,200 young Jewish men and women, riding in 38 lorries and provisioned with 12 days' rations, appeared at a small fishing port near La Spezia on the gulf of the same name. Awaiting them there was a schooner (later pronounced unseaworthy in case of storm by the naval authorities) which was to transport them to Palestine.

Italian police, however, stopped the embarkation since the caravan had no Allied or Italian permit. Col. Findlay explains that none of the 1,200 came from Allied Commission or UNRRA displaced persons camps. It is believed they gathered near Genoa from farm training camps and hostels in the North operated by private organizations. In any event, the group of would-be travellers proceeded to go on a 72-hour hunger strike, which ended April 10. The Displaced Persons S/C immediately had made available an emergency camp for those of the party who wished to avail themselves of it and who were not held by Italian authorities at Chiavari north of La Spezia. So far none has done so.

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TRIESTE IMPASSE

Lieut. Col. Carleton W. Washburne, director of the Education Sub-Commission, who has been acting as a special adviser on Venezia Giulia education problems, brings the following anecdote back to Rome concerning the merry tug-of-war between AMG and the PNOO (Slovene Committee of Liberation):

The PNOO beat the School Administration to the punch recently by publishing a primer in Slovene, liberally interlarded with propaganda and with a full-page portrait of Tito as frontice-piece, before AMG could get its primer printed. PNOO ordered all parents to buy these for their children; AMG banned their use from the schools. As soon as the AMG primer was published last month it was distributed free through the civil affairs officers and any of the PNOO primers found in the schools or in possession of the children while in school were confiscated. At Aurisina the irate Slovene mothers then proceded to confiscate the AMG primers, and presented them to the CAO.

Result: A draw and Aurisina children have no books.

Col. H. H. P. Roberston (B), Acting SCAO, has decided to let the school remain bookless for a while and then, if the parents refuse to allow the use of the AMG primer (lily-white in its freedom from propaganda of any kind), recognition and its material perquisites will be withdrawn from the school.

DECLASSIFICATION

This paragraph constitutes notice to all holders of classified issues of the Allied Commission *Weekly Bulletin* that it has been properly declassified and downgraded by competent authority of this headquarters under U. S. Army regulations (AR 380-5, Paragraph 15) and British Army rules (Classification and Handling of Protected Documents, 1944).

ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Harold V. Reilly (A), CLO at Livorno, is in the 64th General Hospital for a short stay... Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A), SCAO, Venezia Giulia, is back from the States... As a result of a survey now going on, with the aim to reduce civilian personnel to a minimum, these figures have emerged: A. C. civilian (mostly Italian) employes of all kinds (messes, garages, office, laborers) at peak operations in June, 1945, totalled 5,928, of whom 4,060 were in the regions and 1,868 at headquarters; reports from the field have not come in as yet but at headquarters there are now 1,246... Venezia Giulia AMG recently sent an officer to Rome to study election preparations, though it will be some time before elections can be held in Zone A... The first officers' party ever held of the 2675th Regiment last Tuesday was a great success... PRB is making arrangements for 25 French journalists to visit Trieste on a tour of Italy sponsored by the Italian Government... Speaking of Trieste public relations, which have had their full in recent weeks, nearly 60 correspondents of Allied, neutral and Central European countries (as well as from Yugoslavia) visited the area last month... Col. Charles M. Parkin, former commanding officer of 2675th Regiment, has left the A. C. for G-5 after staying on to accompany the MTOUSA Inspector General on the latter's annual tour of this unit; to Col. Parkin, a Regular Army officer who came overseas with the first U. S. forces in Northern Ireland in 1942 and has been associated with U. S. military government in the MTO since Tizi-Ouzou, which he commanded, we wish the best of luck on his future assignments... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop is succeeding Lieut. Col. Fergus McCleary (B) as CLO in Lombardia... All wives of U. S. EM have been moved to the Nord Roma Hotel in Rome... Four hotels now under A. C. direction will be taken over by Rome Area Allied Command (though, with no change affecting the occupants) in the near future; they are the Grand, Inghilterra, Bella Vista and California... Approximately 45 U. S. families of officers and EM are slated to come to Italy, of which about 18 are of A. C. personnel; the first wives and children are expected in early May... U. S. officers slated to be redeployed on April 1 are still waiting for orders... The latest awards: *Crown of Italy* – (*Commander*) Colonel G. F. Parker; (*Knight*) Major Anthony P. Nugent, Captain Lester C. Bern, Lieuts. Joseph W. Durber and John J. Ward... Incidentally, since last December, when MTOUSA authority to accept Italian awards was received, there have been to U. S. officers 144 awards of the Order of the Crown of Italy, 11 of the Order of SS. Maurizius and Lazarus and 19 of the Italian Cross of War Merit... Col. Robert C. Ross, CO, 2675th Regiment, is happy to report that the MTOUSA Inspector General, Col. C. H. Middleton of Rome Area Command, has given Headquarters Company (the American side of A. C. headquarters) an "excellent rating" after his annual tour of inspection... A slight correction to a recent Bulletin statement in this department: Five hotels (not eight) once occupied by A. C. personnel in Rome have been given up by this command...

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2 APR 1946

ECONOMIC NOTES

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WASHINGTON REVIEWS ITALY'S FOOD PROSPECTS

A forecast of Italy's food position during the second quarter of the year has been submitted this week to the Chief of the UNRRA Italy Mission by Col. W. J. Legg, Head of the Sub-Bureau of Relief Supply, who has just returned to Rome from Washington, where for the past few weeks he has been engaged in studying supply prospects and explaining Italy's needs. Col. Legg is the bearer of a special message for the Italian Government and the Italian people from Mr. La Guardia.

"I have just assumed office as Director-General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration," states Mr. La Guardia. "I cannot perform miracles: but I am going to work right away. If there is food in any place, I will get it—and if prevented, I will tell them the reason why."

Grain Supply is Critical

Emergency steps that are being taken in the United Stated and elsewhere to secure additional cereals cannot, in UNRRA's view, change the grain situation in Italy before about 1 June. Italy's grain supply continues to be critical and, according to present advices shipments during April are likely to be short.

The special problem, therefore, arises of how to tide over the six weeks between the middle of April and the beginning of June—bearing in mind, however, that, while cereals are short, Col. Legg's mission has resulted in the procurement of substantial tonnages of sugar (the first to be procured by Italy this year), fats, meat, fish and pulses.

To maintain the ration as it is would require a minimum of 250,000 tons of grain a month; and, as has already been stated in *Economic Notes*, for every 1,000 tons of this total *not* received the individual bread ration may have to be reduced by one gram per day. Rather than continue the present uncertain, hand-to-mouth policy, with stocks down to very low levels, and rather than run the risk of acute local shortages, due to uneven internal distribution, it would (in UNRRA's view) be preferable to reduce the cereal ration for the short critical period—balancing the reduction, as far as possible, with the additional foods secured in the course of Col. Legg's visit to Washington. This reduction is suggested purely as a short-term emergency measure to carry the country through the next few weeks.

Due to the world shortage, the actual procurement of fats to meet Italy's needs during the second quarter of the year is below the figure originally programmed. But although it falls short of requirements, it is nonetheless one that is reasonably secure.

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Promise of Sugar

With regard to sugar, the third major food item in critically short supply, the news which Col. Legg brings back from Washington is unexpectedly cheering. Of the 56,000 tons asked for, it is estimated that Italy may obtain as much as 55,000 tons this quarter. This latter figure is the "anticipated procurement." It is, in other words, not based on signed contracts, but is an estimate, based on the latest

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available statistics of world supply and demand. While every effort has been made to ensure that "anticipated procurement" figures represent a realistic assessment of the present position, they must be regarded as "target" indications of what it is hoped to achieve.

Of the 27,000 tons of pulses programmed for the second quarter of the year, 20,000 tons of beans and lentils will probably be shipped, and, in addition, if acceptable to the Italian Government, some thousands of tons of garbanzos (split peas). It has not proved possible to procure any of the 2,000 tons of semolina required for the Welfare Division's supplementary feeding program. Of the milk required, procurements at present indicated total 15,000 tons. With stocks on hand, this quantity is sufficient to meet all programmed requirements.

The total of 10,548 tons of fish asked for by the Italy Mission is the quantity actually procured. Fish, in fact, represents one of the important food items where procurements fully meet requirements. The situation is almost as satisfactory with meat, where of the 8,130 tons programmed, some 8,000 tons are likely to be available, leaving a deficit of no more than 130 tons.

The primary object of Col. Legg's protracted discussions in Washington was to submit, and justify, to UNRRA Headquarters the Italy Mission's food budget for the April-June quarter, and to discuss at first hand the cereal situation, as it affects both the basic ration and the UNRRA welfare program, by virtue of which 1,800,000 of the neediest mothers and children in Italy are at present daily receiving supplementary food. During his visit Col. Legg called on the present Mayor of New York, General O'Dwyer, who in 1944 was Vice-President of the Economic Section of the Allied Commission, and has, therefore, a close personal interest in Italy's food and economic problems. General O'Dwyer has promised to do all in his power to urge Italy's food needs.

UNRRA URGES STRICTER CONTROLS

New effort on Italy's part to meet the present difficulties in the supply of food and raw materials was urged upon the Italian Government at last week's conference between the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Alcide De Gasperi and the Head of the UNRRA Italy Mission, Mr. S. M. Keeny, who was accompanied by Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Deputy Chief of Mission for Requirements and Distribution. The conference discussed the need for (1) the strictest possible control of the consumption of food, (2) rigorous amassing of the new harvest, (3) speedy action in establishing the new procedure for the allocation of industrial raw materials, in accordance with the decree that has recently been approved, but has not yet been published, and (4) economy in coal consumption to meet the temporary shortage, due to the stoppage in the United States.

Great Britain's Example

The UNRRA representatives suggested that the rationing procedure successfully adopted in Great Britain, particularly as it affects restaurants, might usefully be studied in Italy. A further point raised was the need to hold each province strictly to the amount of food supposed to be issued on the ration card. It was pointed out that in three provinces, Catania, Potenza and Genoa, the bread ration allowed during February was in excess of the regulation 200 grams per day; while in no fewer than 50 per cent. of the provinces the pasta ration allowed during January and February was above the authorised amount. In one province, Ravenna, the amount issued was considerably more than twice the legal ration.

Emphasis was also laid upon the need for an immediate increase of imports of rock phosphate from Tunisia to 60,000 tons a month, in order to ensure better crops next year.

Central Industrial Commission

The UNRRA representatives strongly recommended to the Prime Minister that the decree, already approved by the Council of Ministers, for the establishment of a central industrial commission to control the allocation of industrial raw materials (including those imported by UNRRA), should be promulgated, and put into effect as soon as possible. National control of the allocation of essential raw materials is believed by UNRRA to be essential to the proper use of these materials in the rehabilitation of Italy.

Reporting on the coal situation, the representatives of UNRRA informed the Prime Minister that March sailings of coal for Italy (mostly to arrive in April) had reached the record-breaking total of 648,000 tons. Latest

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advices from the United States indicate that a good level was maintained during the first week of April.

But in view of the continuance of the coal stoppage in the United States, much of this coal will have to be held in reserve and strictly rationed to meet essential requirements during the three months, April, May and June. In spite of record shipments, therefore, it will be necessary to reduce actual monthly consumption, in order to conserve fuel.

Mr. Keeny particularly praised the efforts of the miners at Carbonia, in Sardinia, where output has now reached 3,500 tons per day. He also praised the work of the dockers who in one recent week received 37 UNRRA ships and cleared them on schedule.

DELIVERY OF UNRRA CARGOES

All UNRRA goods imported into Italy for the civilian economy become the property of the Italian Government the moment they are landed on the quayside—according to the new agreement just signed between the Italy Mission of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and the Italian Government which has delegated I.C.E. (Istituto Commercio Estero) to act as its agent. The agreement is limited to supplies imported for transfer to the Italian Government. It does not apply to UNRRA administrative supplies, to supplies for the non-Italian displaced persons' program or to UNRRA supplies to other areas, in transit through Italy.

By a subsidiary contract, the Mission has appointed Sorveglianza (Società Italiana per Azioni Assistenza agli Sbarchi e Spedizioni) to be its agent at all Italian ports. Sorveglianza is to superintend the discharge of all UNRRA overseas cargoes destined for Italy and is to report daily to UNRRA Headquarters in Rome the amount of tonnage and types of cargo discharged. Since Sorveglianza began operating for UNRRA at the beginning of the month, there has been a notable speeding up in the administration of shipments.

In respect of all cargoes imported by UNRRA for the civilian economy, transfer of ownership to the Italian Government takes place at the end of ship's tackle or at ship's side, according to the type of cargo and port facilities. The tallying of general cargo is to be done at the end of ship's tackle and simultaneously with discharge. The Italian Government will accept the ship's manifest weight in respect of bulk cargoes, such as wheat or coal. Cases and packages are to be checked, as soon as possible, after delivery to the Italian Government jointly by Sorveglianza, the designated representatives of UNRRA, and I.C.E. Where necessary, Sorveglianza is to sample bulk cargoes, in accordance with the usual commercial practices.

To facilitate the exchange of information and expedite the necessary instructions to the ports, an I.C.E. liaison office has been established at UNRRA Headquarters in Rome. All information received by UNRRA concerning cargoes, shipping, loading plans, ports of arrival and landed costs is notified to I.C.E., which in turn notifies the interested authorities.

Payment to I.C.E. for these services is a charge against the Italian Government—at a scale to be fixed in agreement with UNRRA. Sorveglianza is paid by UNRRA, at rates already fixed by contract. Payments to Sorveglianza are a charge against the special lire fund created by the sale in Italy of UNRRA goods delivered free to the Italian Government.

Security of cargoes in the holds during discharge is the responsibility of Sorveglianza. It is also the responsibility of Sorveglianza to ascertain and survey any shortages or any damage to the cargo. Goods are to be handled, warehoused and distributed through agencies, designated by the Italian Government (in agreement with UNRRA) as sub-agents of I.C.E. In special circumstances I.C.E. may collect the goods directly.

PETROLEUM RATIONING MUST REMAIN

The announcement of the UNRRA petroleum supply program in a recent issue of *Economic Notes* has given rise to the wholly erroneous impression that rationing might be relaxed. Although it remains true that imports during the present year have been requested in amounts which represent a very substantial percentage of normal imports before the war, the figures are a forecast of what is planned, not a promise of what will, in fact, be forthcoming.

Realisation of the program depends not only on the availability of exportable surpluses

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of commodities that are in short supply, but also on the availability of tankers to ship the fuel to Italy. The present United States coal stoppage is a reminder that the supply situation in general is subject to factors that cannot be readily foreseen and are wholly outside UNRRA's control.

The immediate petroleum stock position in Italy requires that extreme care should taken to ensure that supplies are allocated only to those activities directed towards national recovery. Present stocks, especially of gasoline and diesel oil, do not justify any relaxation of the measures now in force to conserve supplies.

MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(APRIL 1 - 7 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO	TONS
Gabriel Franchere	Castellammare - Torre Annunziata *	1 April	UNRRA	Wheat	8,143
H. Bernard	Messina - Catania *	2 "	"	"	8,143
H. Williamson	Bari - Ancona *	3 "	"	"	8,437
St. Claud Victory	Genoa	" "	It. Govt.	General	1,605
Elmira Victory	Naples	" "	" "	"	7,304
E. Cornell	Genoa	" "	UNRRA	Wheat	7,993
H. T. Andrews	Venice	4 "	"	"	8,223
C. Nordhoff	Genoa - Naples *	" "	It. Govt.	Cotton & Nitrates	6,505
Cape Meredith	Genoa	" "	" "	General	6,416
Luis Arguello	Genoa - Leghorn *	6 "	UNRRA	Wheat	8,116
Sarah O. Jerwett	Genoa	" "	"	"	8,027
Ph. Knox	Palermo - Reggio C. *	" "	It. Govt.	"	8,107
W. MacKee	Civitavecchia	" "	" "	"	8,317

* *Arrived at first-named port on the date shown; discharging at the second port later*

LATEST COAL SHIPMENTS

(APRIL 1 - 7 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
William Carson	Civitav.	1 April	UNRRA	Knute Nelson	Venice	2 April	UNRRA
James H. Goodhue	Bagnoli	" "	"	William Coleman	Ancona	3 "	"
William Clark	Savona *	" "	"	Henry Adley	Venice	" "	"
William Brewater	Naples	" "	"	Raymond Ingersoll	Genoa	" "	"
John Gallup	Savona *	" "	"	P. S. Farrar	"	4 "	"
John Evans	Reggio C.	2 "	"	John Gorrie	Savona *	" "	"
Elwood Mead	Venice	" "	"	Henry Lomb	Bari	" "	"
William Ayer	Venice	" "	"		Taranto	7 "	"
	Ancona	6 "	"	Roy K. Johnson	Venice	5 "	"
Benjamin Coston	Piombino	2 "	"	Merton 3	"	" "	Br. Army
Fort Normand	Civitav.	" "	Br. Army	Ralph W. Emerson	Savona	6 "	UNRRA

* *Arrived Savona instead of Genoa*

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ECONOMIC NOTES

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1. 1,675 Million Lire for Relief
2. De Gasperi Appeals for Food
3. Future of UNNRA
4. Movements of Ships

1,675 MILLION LIRE FOR RELIEF

Expenditure on relief and rehabilitation projects, totalling more than 1,675 million lire, has been approved by the Joint Committee, representing the Italian Government and UNRRA. Included in this sum is the allocation of 1,000 million lire for the C.A.S.A.S. scheme, details of which were announced in last week's issue of *Economic Notes*. The Joint Committee has also approved the expenditure of:— (1) 457,667,508 lire on the manufacture of cotton goods for the High Commissariat of Health and Hygiene and the Ministry of Post-War Assistance; (2) 112,500,000 lire on processing clothing for relief services; (3) 100,000,000 lire on malaria control in Sardinia; and (4) 5,500,000 lire on assistance for cave dwellers in Naples. This expenditure will be made from the special lire fund created under the UNRRA Agreement with Italy. It will be supplemented by expenditure in foreign exchange from UNRRA funds, chiefly on the C.A.S.A.S. project, and also on malaria control in Sardinia.

Cotton for Sheets and Towels

As part of its health and welfare program, UNRRA last December imported 2,000 tons of raw cotton for manufacture into sheets, pillow cases, towels, shirts, linen cloths and babies' napkins. Allocation of the raw cotton for manufacture was made by the Milan office of the Italian Government Delegation for Relations with UNRRA, in consultation with the Italian Cotton Institute and the Milan Chamber of Commerce. From these 2,000 tons of cotton approximately 10,000,000 square metres of cloth have been obtained, states Mr. S. M. Keeny, Head of the UNRRA Italy Mission. The cost is slightly lower than the corresponding cost in the United States. Thus, manufacture in Italy has served the double purpose of giving work to Italian mills and at the same time providing much needed supplies at a reasonable figure.

Allocation of Cloth

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A total of 4,580,000 square metres will be allocated for Public Health services, and to hospitals and other kindred institutions. The Displaced Persons' Services will receive 4,900,000 square metres, which are being made up partly in ordinary industrial undertakings and partly in camps and charity workshops. For these supplies, the Joint Committee has voted 457,667,508 lire — a sum which, however, refers only to manufacturing costs.

The Processing Section of the UNRRA Bureau of Relief Services has already manufactured 120,000 pieces of underwear from its share of UNRRA cotton cloth. Expenditure is approved for the manufacture of 1,600,000 items of underwear and 300,000 items of bed linen, for distribution among Displaced Persons. These figures represent about half the proposed quantity to be manufactured. The second part of the program will be undertaken in the latter half of the year. Work has also begun on spinning and knitting a small quantity of Italian raw wool to produce approximately 6,200 pullovers. Some 3,000 blankets have already been made from salvaged Army neck cloths. A further 4,000 are still to be manufactured.

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For the period 15 December, 1945, to 30 June next, the UNRRA Bureau of Relief Services is authorised by the Joint Committee to spend 112,500,000 lire on clothing processing. Reporting on the work done in the used clothing departments, the Head of the Bureau of Relief Services, Mr. A. A. Sorieri, informed the Joint Committee that more than 30,000 bales of clothing, representing some 4,000,000 garments, had been sorted and repaired, and 600,000 pairs of shoes processed, of which 452,000 had needed repair.

The Section, at the moment, has on hand for sorting and repair, some 940 tons of used clothing from United States and Canadian clothing drives, while a further 160 tons are still to arrive. This represents very nearly 2,000,000 garments, of which it is anticipated nearly 500,000 will need repair. The average cost of repair has worked out at the very low figure of 15 lire per garment. Shoe processing has hitherto been chiefly confined to the repair of new, damaged shoes. At the present moment the Section has on hand some 300,600 pairs of such shoes, of which all but 60,000 are expected to need repair. From Army sources the Section expects to receive 395,000 pairs of mismated boots, from which, it is anticipated, 240,000 serviceable pairs of boots will be available.

Work for Displaced Persons

The Section at present employs in its 67 workshops 1,691 people, the great majority of whom are themselves Italian Displaced Persons. It has developed from the workshops first started in Southern Italy by the Voluntary Societies Refugee Section of the Italian Displaced Persons' Branch of UNRRA.

Good progress has been made on the practical work in connection with the project for malaria control in Sardinia, stated Mr. Keeny, in recommending to the Joint Committee an appropriation of 100,000,000 lire as an advance for further operations. This allocation is inclusive of the 15,000,000 lire already voted by the Joint Committee last November. Of the 200 vehicles required, 40 have already been sent to Sardinia; all materials have been ordered; and the two Stearman PT-17 aircraft needed for spraying purposes have arrived in Italy.

Continued on Page 4

DE GASPERI APPEALS FOR FOOD

The following message has been transmitted by the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Alcide De Gasperi, to Mr. Harry Truman, President of the United States:

"The Italian people have noted with grateful appreciation your personal interest in overcoming the serious food crisis which threatens Europe and, most of all, Italy. We are hopeful that the action you are taking will truly relieve the sufferings which the world food situation has imposed on Italy to a greater degree that any other country of Europe.

Grain Stocks nearly Exhausted

"Italy's own stocks of grains, decimated especially by lack of rain and fertiliser, are nearly exhausted. We are, therefore, compelled to depend very heavily on imports of cereals until the next harvest. Therefore, the inability of UNRRA to secure sufficient grains to maintain our basic ration is a source of great concern to the Italian Government and people.

"As early as last December my Government had to suspend the monthly distribution of 'pasta' and rice in most provinces of Southern and Central Italy; then at the end of January we felt able to restore one quarter of this ration. The monthly ration of 'pasta' and rice is now 500 grams per month per person, instead of the 2,000 grams, which has been the basic ration for the last year. If the situation deteriorates further we shall have to cancel this ration again.

Bread and Pasta

"I would stress particularly, Mr. President, that the Italian people, unlike some other peoples, depend for their food very largely on bread and 'pasta'—especially since most other food items simply are not available these days. I must point out further that the amount of food which an Italian can buy on his ration-card is barely 700 calories a day. This amount is obviously insufficient to prevent serious malnutrition, disease and other dangerous physical consequences to the whole Italian population, and particularly to children and young people.

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"The prospect that this situation might get even worse, judging from everything we can learn about the supplies available and the allocations of those supplies made in Washington, prompts me to appeal directly to you. Our minimum need is for 300,000 tons of imported bread grains each month from now until the next harvest. We place our trust, Mr. President, in your intervention to prevent a continuation, or worsening of a situation which is already unbearable. I am grateful to you and I have faith in the generosity of the American people."—DE GASPERI.

The gravity of the present wheat shortage throughout the world is emphasized by recent advices received by the UNRRA Italy Mission from Headquarters in Washington. During the first six months of 1946 the world need for imported wheat is estimated to be 19,500,000 tons. To meet this, the grain exporting countries, notably the United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina, have available no more than 11,500,000 tons, leaving a deficiency of 8,000,000 tons.

UNRRA Cuts Wheat Demand

UNRRA requirements of wheat during the first six months of the year for Europe and China have been cut to approximately 8,200,000 tons, on the understanding that an additional million tons of substitute grains, such as rye, barley, oats and corn (maize) will be available. In January, in spite of this reduction, no more than 56 per cent. of the deliveries requested were made available to UNRRA by the supplying countries.

A series of crop disasters—almost without precedent in modern times— has vastly increased the needs of hundreds of millions of people, in scores of countries, for imported food. Exports from the producing countries have been stepped up well beyond normal; but in face of overwhelming need, they still fall far short of what is required, after the most destructive war in history.

"In these circumstances, no nation which imports grain—not even Great Britain herself—can hope to receive supplies that are in any way near enough to satisfy pressing and legitimate needs," states Mr. S. M. Keeny, Head of the UNRRA Italy Mission. "A few days prior to the announcement of his retirement, I was asked by the Director-General of UNRRA, Mr. Herbert H. Lehman, to say how much he—and every member of UNRRA—deplores our tragic inability to deliver larger amounts of food and other supplies to the countries receiving UNRRA aid. It is a matter of deep concern to all of us that available supplies are so small in relation to the need. Italy's grain shortage is the gravest problem which we in this Mission have to face.

"I can assure the people of Italy that we are doing our utmost to meet her needs. But I must repeat the warnings given many times during the past three months to the Governments which UNRRA serves, that the outlook is highly critical, and deliveries are certain to fall far below the level UNRRA would wish to attain."

Low Ammassing Figure

Italy's wheat shortage is aggravated by the comparatively low percentage of wheat actually amassed. It is estimated that no more than 65 per cent. of the supplies theoretically available for the country's 35,000,000 non-producers have, in fact, been available for distribution through the national rationing system. UNRRA has repeatedly impressed upon the Italian Government the urgent need of a vigorous amassing policy.

In respect of rice also, there has been similar lack of success in the Government's amassing program. Of the 300,000 tons considered to be a reasonable target figure, no more than 180,000 tons have so far been amassed. This is all the more unfortunate, since in normal times Italy is not only able to produce all the rice she needs, but has available a surplus for export. In 1938 this surplus amounted to approximately 21,000 tons of polished and semi-polished rice.

World Shortage of Rice

A world shortage of rice, as grave as that of wheat, not only rules out any attempt to supplement wheat rations by using rice, but has, in fact, increased the world demand for wheat itself. So great is the demand for rice in the Far East that no rice whatsoever is being imported into European countries. In spite of this, the supplies available for India, China, Ceylon and the Philippines are still 500,000 tons short of their requirements for 1946.

Strenuous efforts have been made by UNRRA in Italy to procure substitute grains. As announced in *Economic Notes*, it has

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already been agreed to include a substantial proportion of corn and barley in the monthly grain shipments, and to mix 20 per cent. of oatmeal in the standard flour for bread. Up to the present, one ship has arrived with a cargo of oats for milling in Italy. Some low-fat-content soya flour has also been procured, but none has yet arrived.

So far, no barley or corn has been obtained since, in fact, the world shortage of these grains is almost as great as it is for wheat. Although, as the result of big importations of seed potatoes in January and February, this year's potato crop is expected to show a substantial increase, transportation difficulties may preclude extensive use of potatoes as a substitute for grain.

In an effort to secure the maximum allocation to meet Italy's urgent needs, Mr. W. J. Legg, Head of UNRRA's Sub-Bureau of Relief Supply in Italy, is now in Washington negotiating future procurements.

FUTURE OF UNRRA

References to the future of world relief by Mr. Herbert H. Lehman, is his letter to the Central Committee announcing his resignation from the position of Director-General of UNRRA, have raised the question, as yet unanswered: What is to follow, when UNRRA ceases to function? So far as Italy is concerned, the existing program is due to be completed at the end of 1946, and no extension is at present contemplated.

In Mr. Lehman's view, the general world situation will not have been restored to normal by the time UNRRA is due to end. "It is my earnest hope," he states in his letter of resignation, "that at the Council meeting that is about to convene, and at the next meeting which will be held during the summer, action will be taken to provide for the transfer to other organisations of those activities of UNRRA which will inevitably be left unfinished if, as at present is indicated, UNRRA will cease to function in a little more than a year from now. It is probable, in my opinion, that further assistance—particularly in providing food and agricultural rehabilitation—will have to be extended beyond this year."

UNRRA has already sent more than 6,000,000 tons of supplies to the distressed peoples of the world, he says. It has been the "only thing that has stood between millions of people and starvation." In addition to providing food and other supplies, it has rendered countless—and valuable—services in the field of health, welfare and agricultural and industrial rehabilitation.

"UNRRA has not only provided material aid to many millions of people," Mr. Lehman adds, "but, in so doing, has given fresh hope to those millions of men and women—a hope that the United Nations, by continuing to work together effectively, can, in fact, establish good will and understanding amongst men. Much has already been accomplished to justify the hopes that countless suffering human beings have placed in this organization. Much remains to be done."

1,675 MILLION LIRE FOR RELIEF

Continued from Page 2

The Sardinia malaria control project, a combined operation in which UNRRA, the Italian Government and the Rockefeller Foundation are collaborating, is estimated to cost a total of 300,000,000 lire. Arrangements with the Rockefeller Foundation and the High Commissariat for Health and Hygiene are now being completed, and a Decree, establishing the Government agency to operate the project, is expected to be published within one month.

Homes for Cave-Dwellers

The Joint Committee's vote of 5,500,000 lire represents an important step in the project to re-house 500 war-homeless Neapolitans who have been living under appalling conditions in caves. This project, initiated by the Congregational Service Committee and helped in its early stages by a loan of 1,500,000 lire from the UNRRA Italy Mission, will be completed by May 31. By that time, the cave dwellers will be re-housed in decent homes built from Army salvage material on a plot of land given by the City of Naples. The work goes further than the mere provision of homes. The Congregational Service Committee in the United States has voted 15,000 dollars to maintain a staff of welfare workers, who, in association with Italian medical and other workers, will carry out a program of social regeneration among the re-housed cave dwellers, so long as UNRRA remains in Italy.

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MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(MARCH 11 - 18 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO
Eli Whitney	Genoa	11 Mar.	UNRRA	Wheat
Frank Gilbreath	Venice	" "	"	"
Lucy Stone	Genoa	12 "	FEA/It. Govt.	General
Rebecca Boone	Genoa - Leghorn *	" "	UNRRA	Wheat
Marina Raskova	Civitavecchia	13 "	"	"
Jos. Lee	Castellammare	14 "	"	"
Henry Blood	Messina - Crotone *	" "	"	"
Leslie Shaw	Castellammare	15 "	FEA	"
John Eaton	Civitavecchia	" "	It. Govt.	Flour
John Morton	Genoa	17 "	UNRRA	Wheat
Jos. Story	Castellammare	" "	It. Govt.	"
Juliet Lowe	Naples	18 "	UNRRA	General
John G. Hibben	Palermo	" "	"	Wheat
Thos. Bickett	Bari	" "	"	"

** Arrived at first-named port on the date shown; discharging at the second port later*

LATEST COAL SHIPMENTS

(MARCH 10 - 17 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
John S. Williams	Venice	10 Mar.	UNRRA	Lawrence D. Tyson	Genoa	13 Mar.	FEA
Joseph Wing	Genoa	11 "	"	Henry Sibley	"	" "	UNRRA
	Piombino	16 "	"	Jeremiah S. Black	Venice	" "	"
Daniel Drake	Salerno	11 "	"	Grant Wood	"	" "	"
Jean P. Chateau	Piombino	" "	"	Sylvester Gardner	Bari	14 "	"
Richmond Hill	Savona	" "	Brit.Army	W. D. Bloxam	Taranto	" "	"
Ocean Vagrant	Bagnoli	" "	"	Thomas B. Reid	Civitav.	" "	"
	Torre Annunz.	14 "	"	Janet Lord Reper	Bagnoli	" "	"
Henry Thoreau	Genoa	12 "	UNRRA	Thomas Sully	Genoa	" "	"
Joseph Pulitzer	Catania	" "	"	James Lane	"	16 "	"
Robert Forbes	Venice	" "	"	Knute Rockne	"	" "	"
Kenneth A. J. Mackenzie	Genoa	" "	"	Arthur Davis	Palermo	" "	"
Benjamin Williams	Savona	" "	"	Richard Hobson	Genoa	17 "	"
Hoke Smith	Ancona	13 "	"	Philip Barbour	"	" "	"
Sam M. Jackson	Genoa	" "	"				

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C Spaire 18 APR 1946

April 6, 1946 Vol. III, No. 1

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

POLITICAL

Invoking the spirit of the Italian *risorgimento* and making the basis of its appeal the "guarantee of the freedom of the individual Italian citizens", the old guard of Italian elder statesmen, namely, Croce for the Liberal party, Bonomi for the Labour Democrats, Orlando for the Independents, and Nitti for his National Union for Reconstruction, on April 1st published a manifesto announcing the National Democratic Union as an alliance of the forces therein represented for the battles of the coming political elections. The reception of the statement itself was generally restrained, the conservative press, *Tempo*, for one, voicing satisfaction that the experience of the former prime ministers (all have held that position except Croce) would be put to effective use in the current political discussions, while *Lavoro*, the CGIL organ, plaintively asked what did it all mean and why do all elder statesmen use such "tortuous language".

But the ink on the signatures of the agreement had hardly dried before the press quite eagerly rushed in to report that already there were dissidents within the new Union, it being reported that the Labour Democrats had not yet formally approved the pact and that the republican sympathizers of the Liberal party were openly against the Union. The upshot was that Bonomi, who had engineered the Union from the start, succeeded in calming his own cohorts, notably Molè and Cevelotto, by pointing out that they were free to vote for the republic and asking for party unity, but the "liberal" Liberals fared otherwise: in a letter to the party Executive, they deplored the "ever stiffening" attitude of the Directorate of the party and its monarchist trend, likewise deprecated the party's election alliance with the *Uomo Qualunque* Front and subsequently 18 of them resigned from the Liberal Party. They are reported to be holding conversations with Parri and La Malfa's Democratic Republican Concentration. The dissident Liberals have also objected to the postponement of the party's national congress in Rome to April 29th at which time the concensus is that the party will come out for the monarchy (the Rome section plumped for the monarchy on the 3rd) according to the *Giornale del Mattino*.

The Rome congress of the Christian Democrat party also postponed this week to the 24th, apparently for tactical reasons. The Socialists went ahead with plans for their own national congress at Florence on the 11th at which a sizeable British delegation, headed by Harold Laski, and a French and Bulgarian delegation, will be present. The Florence meeting is expected by the press to be a rip-roaring event, with four main resolutions coming up for debate, not to mention an attempt by the anti-Nenni faction to oust him as the chief Socialist proponent of close liaison with the Communists. The four resolutions are said to be the *Basso-Cacciatore* reaffirming the pact of united action with the Communists; the *Matteotti-Calosso-Zagari* demanding party autonomy and a new executive; the *Modigliani-Greppi* asking for a Socialist International, and the *Silone-Saragat-Pertini* resolution distinguishing clearly between the Socialists and Communists. There was a fifth resolution of Lizzadri asking for outright fusion with the Communists, but the press reports the this one has received little support and may be considered in limbo.

The chief of the Italian Communists, Togliatti, in the meanwhile, spoke at Milan on March 31st, where he asserted that the Communists have no religious bones to pick, adding moreover, that a majority of the Communist party were Catholics. In Milan he gave an important interview to the *Sera*, in which he continued his critique on the Christian Democrats, disclaiming the nonce that he was engaging in a "personal duel" with Prime Minister De Gasperi, who, Togliatti said, has always found it easier to reach an agreement with him (Togliatti) than with any other member of the Government. The current elections, he continued, indicate that the Communists and Christian Democrats, will be two of the parties in the forefront, and

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thus making a coalition government necessary. For that reason, he maintained, it is necessary for all parties to clearly define their political programs. He pointed to what he described as the inconsistency of progressive Cristian Democrats of the CGIL in Naples alongside aristocratic landowners in the South and conservative industrial magnates in the North as all sharing the Christian Democrat lists of candidates. In brief he asked, will the Christian Democrat party "become a factor of social and political progress ... or a factor of conservatism and retrogression, as most of those who give it their votes would like". Togliatti had also a parting shot for the Liberals whom he termed "a factor of confusion and disorder, above all because not even they know what they are after".

The report of the imminent abdication of King Victor Emanuel, which touched off the republican charge (in *Avanti*) that it was only a monarchist maneuver to "suppress the chief culprit of the House of Savoy", was the highlight, as it were, of the monarchist news of the week during which the opposition press grew more pointed but not any less vocal in their counter-charges against the Left. *Secolo XX* commented that the Leftist trend was nothing less than towards disguised forms of dictatorship and that the monarchy would be the guarantee of a "hereditary democratic republic". *Italia Nuova* charged that the Government was withholding documents of value in clearing the King's name during the time of the fall of Fascism.

For the first time since the administrative elections began, the week saw charges of electoral fraud aired (by *Italia Nuova* again) which listed alleged irregularities—personal violence, excessive use of funds, voting by the dead, non-delivery of electoral certificates, intimidation. A one-day flurry in the press was also caused by the publication of a rumor by the *Italia d'Oggi* press agency (immediately denied by the Ministry of Interior) which asserted that the Allied Commission was making an inquiry into the election. This was flatly untrue, of course, the A. C. having had nothing to do with the elections other than the routine observations made by its liaison officers (see *Election Results* in this issue) whose duty is to report all matters of public interest occurring in their bailiwicks. The entire press made capital of the disorders at Florence, Naples and near Bari, occasioned allegedly by returning Italian prisoners-of-war from Russia, the Left charging that they were monarchist-inspired, the Right attacking the Government for not maintaining order.

On the international front, developments affecting Italy were few. The Allied Commission of Experts concluded its business and left Venezia Giulia today for London where it will report to the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers. It had visited a portion of Udine Province before its departure, which visit drew a note from the Italian Government (according to the *Giornale del Mattino*), pointing out that the Allies had clearly stated at the time of the hand-over of the North to Italian administration that the Province of Udine had been retained under AMG for purely military reasons and not in any sense because it was a disputed area. *NIDI* also reported that the British Government intended to press for a *modus vivendi* pending ratification of the formal peace treaty.

The Council of Ministers met on the 5th in its only meeting of the week and discussed the food situation, revision of the amassing laws, and approved decrees on mine clearing; extending the press law until 31 July (leaving it to the *Costituente* to decide the press problem); continuing for six months more the present requisition regulations, and raising the living bonus of state officials living in touristically important towns (where the cost of living is higher). The Council then returned to talk about speeding up the machinery for the *Costituente* elections and the referendum and, finally, the ministers were each given copies of the first list of about 1,000 OVRA members, whose names will be published shortly.

(The above column is NOT for *direct* attribution.)

ECONOMIC FRONT

With major supply responsibilities taken over by UNRRA and the Economic Section whittled down, economic news these days results from inquiries to the Italian Government and UNRRA. Mr. Harlan Cleveland, former Acting Vice President of the Section and now Deputy Chief of the Italian UNRRA Mission in charge of the Bureau of Requirements and Distribution, is, however, a regular visitor to the Vice Presidents' meetings every Wednesday on the invitation of the Chief Commissioner, and thus we learn the highlights of what UNRRA is doing, mainly, concerning the nip-and-tuck battle to keep the supply of grain flowing to Italy.

There are several other incidental facts which it may be of interest to record. The quondam Labor Sub-Commission told us of a matter some time ago which now seems about to jell. This

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was the proposed emigration of 6,000 Italian miners to France and Belgium to work in the mines there. To date, 1,500 miners have gone to Belgium where they used to work prior to the war and the rest are slated to leave soon for both countries. Belgium, in fact, has asked for 30,000 more miners. The French, in all, would like 60,000 miners, of whom a third are said to be readily available. The CGIL, of course, is helping at all stages of the negotiations to protect the interests of the Italian workers.

Capt. G. A. F. Rothey (B) has been appointed director of the Commerce Branch. The $100,000,000 FEA program (minus one ship) is practically completed, to date 1,549,821 long tons having been delivered to Italy in wheat (389,176 tons), sugar (17,109), coal (1,138,894), flour (13,603), dried milk (5,670), dried peas (2,735), coffee (225), cotton (9,157), wool (936), farm tractors (960) and oleomargarine (1,051). Food and Agriculture Branch reports that 70,000 trout eggs imported by air in January from the U. S. Agriculture Department's fisheries at La Crosse, Wis. are doing nicely in the lakes around Tivoli. Fifteen FEA employes, transferred from the Economic Section to the U. S. Embassy to man its proposed industrial projects division, have been ordered back to the States as a result of budgetary difficulties. Funds chargeable to the Italian Government in Venezia Giulia for transport of UNRRA supplies to other countries will be reimbursed as a result of a meeting in Trieste of UNRRA mission heads from four nations. A stock of 300 tons of powdered eggs was found in a Northern warehouse. Customs controls have been established on the Morgan Line between Zones A and B to clear economic transactions and expedite resumption of normal trade. A 30 per cent. increase in productivity and 4.6 per cent. increase in acreage is anticipated in Italian wheat crop prospects.

The Food and Agriculture Branch estimates that the Italian consumer is getting 600 calories on his official daily ration, with a supplement of perhaps another 1,000 found on the free market. A recent survey of prices on the uncontrolled market shows some interesting variations. Prices naturally vary from one city to another as transport availability varies. Bread was costing about 60 lire a kilo in the large northern cities, 116 in Rome and 137 in Naples. Rice likewise was 60 lire a kilo in the North and 225 in Rome and 255 in Naples. Fats cost more in the North, too, butter being priced at 800 lire up North, while olive oil was 500 lire in Rome and about 300 in Palermo. Black market bread cost three times the legal price (18 lire a kilo) in Milan, six times the legal price (19 lire) in Rome and eight times the legal price (17 lire) in Naples.

DISPLACED PERSONS

Col. C. B. Findlay, our roving director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, whose energy and affability are more than equal to his tremendous height, is back in Rome after a month's tour to, first, London, and then refugee camps in Austria and Germany, where he observed the problems of the pulsating millions of DPs and calculated their future effect on the displaced persons' problem in Italy, for which land's sunny clime and easier controls many, the colonel feels, are bent, legally or not.

The main objective of the trip was to inquire as to how the transfer of the care of displaced persons in Italy could entirely and speedily be turned over to UNRRA, keeping in mind that UNRRA has already taken over much of the task here but remembering that the problem for the future appears to lie in the possible large influx of DPs from Germany. The Colonel, who tells of using a variety of transport—plane, train with sleepers and heat (in fact, too much heat, he says) and automobiles of all kinds but usually driven by demon drivers, —visited Berlin, Frankfurt (where he talked with Lieut. Gen. Fred Morgan, head of UNRRA in Germany), Munchhausen (where he saw the steeple to which the famous Baron allegedly tied his horse), Munich, Mittenwald, Innsbruck and came back into Italy by way of Bolzano. He boasts that besides the data he picked up, he has come back to headquarters richer by four pieces of soap and three packets of Lux, which he feels is quite a haul.

As a result of his talks with UNRRA officials and army military government officials in charge of displaced persons (all UNRRA units, incidentally, operate within the military framework in Germany), Col. Findlay said that the Italian DP problem was better understood and appreciated and that progress has been made in attempting to insure that, first, all persons coming into Italy from Germany are properly screened and, second, that only bona fide Italians be permitted to re-enter Italy (that is, outside of persons with specially authorized Italian transit permits).

The Colonel further related that 80 per cent. of the DP camps are run by UNRRA, though overall supervision has not yet been assumed by that organization in the British zone. At present about 50 per cent. of the food for DPs comes from

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German civilian sources and 50 per cent. is imported. Food prospects, as might be expected, are not good. The U. S. Zone has had thousands of illegal entrees continually on the move and expects more when the passes are clear of snow. This zone also is taking care of some 2,500,000 Sudeten Germans from Czechoslovakia. In all, six and a half million Sudeten are expected to enter Germany.

As for Italy, the Colonel tells us that the agreement between UNRRA and the A. C. for the former to take over most of the DP camps is awaiting the O.K. of CCS. As soon as UNRRA assumes control of four more camps, they will have taken over 20 camps in all, five in the South and 15 in the North. This will leave the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission with seven camps still on its hands; three in the North, two in Central Italy, and two in the South which are Polish camps from which several hundred DPS have been repatriated but whose population is expected to be increased shortly by virtue of the presence therein of approximately 600 expectant mothers. The other main issue under discussion is that of UNRRA policy concerning the taking over of certain DPS, it being estimated that there is a considerable figure, who, according to the UNRRA charter, would not be entitled to UNRRA care. This problem is being taken up on higher levels.

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PARTY	MARCH 10						MARCH 17						MARCH 24				
	Majorities in Communes			Seats			Majorities in Communes			Seats			Majorities in Communes			Seats	
	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B
Left Concentration	—	129	**129**	20	2,401	**2,421**	—	362	**362**	21	6,368	**6,389**	2	534	**536**	83	9,432
Communist	2	4	**6**	81	86	**167**	1	19	**20**	31	419	**450**	9	30	**39**	284	518
Socialist	2	6	**8**	50	112	**162**	—	23	**23**	34	422	**456**	1	33	**34**	218	769
Republican	1	4	**5**	31	72	**103**	—	8	**8**	17	178	**195**	2	10	**12**	47	206
Action	—	1	**1**	—	33	**33**	—	1	**1**	1	70	**71**	—	4	**4**	6	83
Christian Democrat	3	131	**134**	77	2,476	**2,553**	4	338	**342**	78	6,181	**6,259**	10	529	**539**	383	9,425
Center Concentration	—	44	**44**	21	768	**789**	—	76	**76**	1	1,479	**1,480**	1	65	**66**	31	1,367
Right Concentration	—	6	**6**	6	150	**156**	—	36	**36**	2	672	**674**	—	30	**30**	17	557
Liberal	—	19	**19**	2	326	**328**	—	15	**15**	8	339	**347**	—	27	**27**	18	463
Labour Democrat	—	10	**10**	6	176	**182**	—	25	**25**	—	376	**376**	—	17	**17**	5	333
Uomo Qualunque	—	3	**3**	5	63	**68**	—	7	**7**	6	120	**126**	—	7	**7**	9	117
Italian Democrat	—	—	**—**	—	—	**—**	—	2	**2**	—	33	**33**	—	1	**1**	1	13
Independents	—	42	**42**	4	715	**719**	—	109	**109**	—	1,980	**1,980**	—	97	**97**	5	1,921
Local Parties	—	8	**8**	9	173	**182**	—	28	**28**	11	475	**486**	—	43	**43**	14	668
Veterans	—	8	**8**	8	158	**166**	—	15	**15**	—	253	**253**	—	7	**7**	9	187
No majority or unaccounted for	—	1	**1**	—	—	**—**	—	8	**8**	—	—	**—**	2	5	**7**	—	—
TOTALS	8	416	**424**	329	7,709	**8,029**	5	1,072	**1,077**	210	19,365	**19,575**	27	1,439	**1,466**	1,130	20,055

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals (proportional repre
B = Communes under 30,000 (majority system).

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ELECTION RESULTS

A. C.'s liaison officers in the seven field groups again did yeoman work for the fourth successive Sunday of the administrative elections in looking at what went on and reporting their obervations to headquarters. Col. John S. Arnold (A), back from leave in the States and now CLO of Piemonte, organized his staff of nine to observe electoral conditions and reported general good order, good weather and *bocce* and soccer games acting as rival attractions to the polling. Indeed, quiet and order, with no untoward incidents anywhere within observation of the liaison officers, was the uniform news received by the Local Government Sub-Commission. Venezie—Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis (A), the Naples area—Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick (B), Tuscany—Lieut. Col. Harold V. Reilly (A), and Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse (B)— Rome, were among those who reported similarly. The self-explanatory table below shows the latest official, corrected, though not yet complete results up to and including the March 31 elections.

The Local Government Sub-Commission's director, Major P. R. Temple (A), and executive officer, Major C. G. R. Williams (B), also made field trips, the former to the Bari-Brindisi area and the latter to Terni. Major Temple visted four communes near Bari—Bisceglie, Corato,

	MARCH 17			MARCH 24						MARCH 31						TOTAL TO DATE					
	Communes			Majorities in Communes			Seats			Majorities in Communes			Seats			Majorities in Communes			Seats		
Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total
362	21	6,368	6,389	2	534	536	83	9,432	9,515	1	498	499	70	9,106	9,176	3	1,523	1,526	194	27,307	27,501
20	31	419	450	5	30	39	284	518	802	6	45	51	220	796	1,016	18	98	116	616	1,819	2,435
23	34	422	456	1	33	34	218	769	987	1	40	41	184	857	1,038	4	102	106	483	2,160	2,643
8	17	178	195	2	10	12	47	200	247	—	8	8	11	186	197	3	30	33	106	636	742
1	1	70	71	—	4	4	6	83	89	—	—	—	2	29	31	—	6	6	9	215	224
342	28	6,181	6,259	10	529	539	383	9,425	9.808	10	553	563	331	9,571	9,902	27	1,551	1,578	869	27,653	28,522
76	1	1,379	1,480	1	65	66	31	1,367	1,398	1	65	66	37	1,254	1,291	2	250	252	90	4,868	4,958
36	2	672	674	—	30	30	17	557	574	—	13	13	22	320	342	—	85	85	47	1,699	1,746
15	8	339	347	—	27	27	18	463	481	—	22	22	12	402	414	—	83	83	40	1,530	1,570
25	—	376	376	—	17	17	5	333	338	—	16	16	8	296	304	—	68	68	19	1,181	1,200
7	6	120	126	—	7	7	9	117	126	—	3	3	9	80	89	—	20	20	29	380	409
2	—	33	33	—	1	1	1	13	14	—	1	1	—	18	18	—	4	4	1	64	65
109	—	1,980	1,980	—	97	97	5	1,923	1,928	—	123	123	5	2,194	2,199	—	371	371	14	6,812	6,826
28	11	475	486	—	43	43	14	668	682	—	50	50	1	808	809	—	129	129	35	2,124	2,159
15	—	253	253	—	7	7	9	187	196	—	17	17	1	273	274	—	47	47	18	871	889
8	—	—	—	2	5	7	—	—	—	3	12	15	—	—	—	5	26	31	—	—	—
1077	210	19,365	19,575	27	1,439	1,466	1,130	26,055	27,185	22	1,466	1,488	910	26,190	27,100	62	4,393	4,455	2,570	79,319	81,889

Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals (proportional representation).
Communes under 30,000 (majority system).

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Terlizzi and Ruvo di Puglie, where on March 14 had been an incident during which a bomb was thrown. Happily, nothing occurred during the major's visit and ordinary calm prevailed. Incidentally, with the promulgation of the political elections law, soldiers and welfare inmates now may vote and many did so, although a considerable number of electoral certificates for soldiers were undelivered because of the soldiers' absence away from the commune.

Maj. Williams similarly described Terni as quiet despite the fact that on March 23 an election crowd, said to be waiting for the appearance of the Republican leader, Pacciardi, at 1730, had shouted down Brosio, the Liberal leader, when he appeared to make a speech at 1700 at what apparently was the same meeting place. At Terni, 1,000 certificates were undelievered because of changes in voters' addresses in the town, which had been heavily bombed and 50 per cent, destroyed during the war. At nearby Narni, Maj. Williams tells us, some electors declined to accept delivery of their certificates despite arguments that there was no delivery charge attached thereto.

CAPTURED GERMAN GOODS

There is little doubt that the Captured Enemy Materials Branch is the busiest of all Economic Section units currently, making inventories of vast stocks and turning them over as fast as possible to the Italian Government's ARAR (*Azienda Filivo Alienazione Residuati*).

Lt. Col. J. A. Campbell (B) reports three major turnovers in recent days as well as progress in tidying up the invaluable and mountainous RUK files. The latest turnover was one of title, the others being actual physical transfers of control. The title transfer refers to the 12,500 vehicles of original German and Fascist Republican ownership which have been used since the liberation of the North in the *Autotrasporti* groups organized by AMG.

Probably the most impressive stocks turned over were those of the 360-acre medical depot at Merano, which Col. Campbell roughly valued at millions of dollars. The materials included fine instruments brought from Germany as well as nearly 3,500 tons of raw materials for drugs, enough to keep the plant at full production for three months. Among the manufactured drugs were large quantities of cocaine, morphine, opium and caffeine. The turnover of the vast store was completed in the record time of less than two days. Incidentally, another dump at Merano gave the Italians large quantities of other materials—500 pack saddles, 30,000 meters of sail linen, 2,500 pairs of women's shoes, 136 cases of phonograph records, 25,000 rubber heels and soles, 200,000 meters of men's clothing and 400,000 meters of women's clothing, 1,500 kilos of silverware, 125,000 other articles of clothing, 25,000 candles, 12,000 watch straps and stocks of wool, threads and yarns.

The other major transfer was that of the depot at Bolzano where the Germans had accumulated enormous quantities of loot. A partial inventory lists tons of wool, electrical equipment, telephone wire, radio material, machinery, 67 rolls of printing paper, cement, asbestos, 30,182 bicycle tires, zinc, aluminum, brass, plumbing equipment, motor parts. Other turnovers included one of 6,500 tons of truck vehicular spare parts at Laives, 172 ammunition dumps, 257 general clearances, 88 small consumer goods dumps and 23 car parks full of salvage. In all cases, the materials were turned over to the Italians after the Allied military forces had had first crack at taking what they could use.

More than 8,000 negatives have already been forwarded to London for printing of the microfilmed RUK files, Col. Campbell also reports. RUK or *Kustung und Kriegsproduktion* was a German parastatal organisation. The files represent the clues to information about a tremendous store of assets whose value unofficially has been estimated at billions. Ultimate disposal has not yet been determined.

The files give data on German equipment, operations with foreign firms, German war exports and war production and German handling of their supply operations with the Fascist Republicans. Further, and currently of interest, the files provide a basis for claims and refunds of loans and payment for advances made by German and Austrian companies in goods and machinery.

The Italian Government has begun making lists of such property removed for tracing its whereabouts in Germany and Austria and has asked permission to examine the RUK files to expedite its task. A directive of the U. S. Military Government in Austria has just been issued which lays down the procedure for obtaining return of looted art and industrial property, which may be the first step toward the return of some of the property.

Already, on the basis of information unearthed in the RUK correspondence, AMG claims have been made against Italian firms who anted up promptly to the tune of approximately 5,000,000 lire. Such claims may possibly run to an eventual two and a half billion lire.

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VENEZIA GIULIA

We get a sidelight on the ferment in Venezia Giulia these days during the visit of the Allied Investigating Commission from a telephonic report by Lieut. Col. G. Richardson (B), commanding officer of the Venezia Giulia AMG Civil Police, to the Public Safety Sub-Commission at headquarters which indicates the trying time the AMG authorities have had to maintain the peace and at the same time reflects credit on the operations of the native police commanded by Allied officers.

The report, telephoned April 1 (incidentally, just as another demonstration was about to start), reveals that from March 24 to April 1, there were twelve demostrations of a major kind, one a day in Gorizia and Trieste and one at Monfalcone on the 28th. AMG police arrested 548 persons, practically all of whom will be charged with assault on police or carrying weapons. In the course of the melées, Col. Richardson reports that 150 civilians were injured, nine native police officers and one Allied officer. No firearms were used by the AMG police at any time, only truncheons, whereas there were three cases of shots being fired by the demonstrators against the police. Only the Venezia Giulia police were used at all times to handle the disturbances, the Allied military police not being called at all.

A large store of weapons of all kinds was seized during the demonstrations, including firearms, knuckledusters, hatchets, knives, handbags filled with stones, swords, rubber tubing filled with lead, light bulbs filled with corrosive fluid, dockers' hooks, and an interesting arrangement of bags filled with graphite and powdered stone, which acts like pepper when thrown. There was an additional stock of armament seized separately on March 30 when a *Culture Club* was raided after shots were fired from its premises. Twenty-five persons were arrested as a result and confiscated were three sub-machine guns with 250 rounds of ammo, one loaded pistol, nine knives, four hatchets, 21 catapults or slingshots, many sacks of fine stones and one coffin (new).

NOTICE

With this first and unclassified number of Volume III, the *Bulletin* is being made freely available to Allied, neutral and Italian correspondents, newspapers and agencies for the first time since it got started back in April, 1944. For the last year, under agreement with the Executive Commissioner, parts of the *Bulletin* have been passed on to correspondents for background reference and, all have testified to its value. The *Bulletin*, however, remains primarily as an information coordinating agent for A.C. officers at headquarters and in the field who may read therein a quick, informal synopsis of the week's happenings of interest to the A. C. Thus, from now on, the entire *Bulletin's* contents will be at the disposal of journalists to use or not as they see fit, with one exception: we are asking them not to make direct attribution in their writings to the *Political* column, for the obvious reason that that weekly column is merely a summary taken from the Italian press itself of reports on the political scene and not an original A. C. survey. Incidentally, in an early issue, we propose to give you the inside history of the *Bulletin*, how it was born, its throes and triumphs. The line for copies forms on the right...

ODDS AND ENDS

Some further awards: *Crown of Italy* – (*Commander*) Major R. C. Van Kirk, sr.; (*Knight officer*) Majors William Everett Scotten, Norman R. Smith and Robert C. Warren, Captain Alver A. Simpson and Lieut. Peter W. Rodino, jr.; (*Knight*) Lieut. Peter Sauro and Master Sergt. Michael A. Cardone; *Bronze Star* – Major Stanley Beatty... Land Forces Sub-Commission has several items to report: The first PRO in Italian Army history has just been appointed, Col. Fiori-Vernazza, to whom PRB has been asked to pass on some tips on the PRO business; a uniform system of issuing supplies and equipment to the CC. RR. in the same manner in which other Italian Army units draw their issue, is being worked out and, it is hoped, will end the past catch-as-catch can system of obtaining supplies for the CC. RR... Air Vice Marshal I. S. Brodie, director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, is giving a lecture on military government at the Haifa Staff College in Palestine this week... The problem of getting gas on long road trips, now that petrol points are few and far between, is being studied, with a voucher payment system being one recommendation... For heads-up work on a ticklish emergency situation and producing a superior report thereon while acting as duty officer the night of 30 March, CWO S. E. Humphreys has received a warm official commendation from the Chief Commissioner... Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, will be Acting Chief Commissioner during the two- or three-week absences in the States of the Chief Commissioner

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who left Rome by TWA Thursday for conferences in Washington on Italian matters and the future of the A. C... Communications Sub-Commission tells us that radio hams will be allowed shortly to resume operations in Italy for the first time since 1931... Brig. Gen. Ernest Draper, of the U. S. Military Government in Germany, has been a visitor to headquarters... The Italian Prisoners-of-War Division of the Land Forces S/C reports that there are currently 318,000 Italian POWs still held abroad by Allied powers... Air Forces Sub-Commission throws some light on the reports of mysterious radio transmitters dropped from planes in the Rome area by explaining that they were probably meteorological instruments attached to weather station balloons... The same sub-commission gives the information that approximately 14 Italian air routes may soon be in operation between Rome, Milan, Turin, Bologna, Treviso, Sardinia, Lecce and Bari... Lieut. Col. Fergus McCleary is replacing Col. A. N. Hancock as CLO in Lombardia while the latter takes a well-earned Liap... USIS is intensifying its service to provide Italian voters with democratic literature in connection with the elections: Mr. G. Stewart Brown, USIS director, reports: Talks have been given before women's clubs, special articles distributed on voting methods and woman suffrage, 250,000 U. S. election procedure booklets have been printed and more than half already distributed, and special radio programs are planned...

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April 5, 1946

Vol. I, No. 12

5 APR 1946

ECONOMIC NOTES

— Published by The Public Relations Division, UNRRA Italy Mission, Via di San Nicola da Tolentino, 78, Rome —

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UNRRA ANNOUNCES ITS ITALIAN BUDGET

Estimates of how it is planned to spend 359,440,100 dollars (£89,860,025 sterling) voted by the Central Committee of UNRRA for the first six months of 1946 were announced by the Italy Mission this week. These estimates, which have been agreed with the Italian Government, have been submitted to UNRRA Headquarters in Washington for procurement. How far this program will be met is now limited only by the extent to which world shortage of supplies makes it impossible to procure in full the commodities Italy has requested.

The total sum available for the purchase of supplies until June 30 under the 1946 Agreement with Italy will be 325,440,100 dollars (£81,360,025 sterling). The remainder, namely 34,000,000 dollars (£8,500,000 sterling) represents payments for goods delivered, or ordered, during 1945 on a program of direct relief. The money voted covers the actual cost of supplies, delivered free on board. Shipping charges are covered by a separate appropriation.

Expenditure on Food

Expenditure during the second half of the year to complete the program by the end of 1946 has been tentatively set at 57,599,900 dollars (£14,399,975 sterling); but this estimate will be subject to further consideration at a later meeting of the Central Committee.

Substantially more than half the 325,000,000 dollars budgeted for the first six months of 1946 is allocated for the purchase of food. The other main categories are industrial rehabilitation, agricultural rehabilitation and medical and sanitary services. Allocations under these four headings are approximately as shown in the following table:—

	Dollars
Food	176,147,000
Industrial rehabiliation (including textiles and hides)	124,522,000
Agricultural rehabilitation	15,686,000
Medical and sanitary	6,035,000
	322,390,000
Not yet allocated	3,050,100
	325,440,100

Includer under the heading of " food " is the sum of 10,500,000 dollars for the Welfare Program. The textile appropriation which forms part of the vote for industrial rehabilitation, also includes provision for welfare services.

While the vote of the Central Committee has fixed the total budget appropriation available to the Italy Mission until June 30, 1946, the Mission—in collaboration with the Italian Government—can make periodic adjustments of the proportion to be spent under any particular heading. The budgetary allocations take into account present needs, experience of deliveries during the past three months and the best estimates of the availability of supplies. But many factors may operate to cause radical modifications in the allocation of funds —within the total appropriation—before June 30 next.

Most of the money voted for food will be spent on bread-stuffs. The present figures are

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based on Italian needs up to the end of June, 1946. In view, however, of the uncertainty of supplies, due to world shortage, modifications are inevitable. The over-riding consideration throughout will be availability of supplies. The negotiations on food, which Mr. W. J. Legg (Head of the UNRRA Italy Mission Sub-Bureau of Relief Supply) has been conducting in Washington are not yet complete. In the light, however, of the warnings by the Director-General of UNRRA, by Mr. Hoover and others, actual procurement during the first half of this year of such critical food commodities as cereals, fats and sugar will probably fall short of the estimates. The funds thereby released will be available for re-allocation.

Coal and Liquid Fuel

Among the largest items of expenditure in the program of imports for industrial rehabilitation are the appropriations for coal and liquid fuel (comprising gasoline, diesel oil, kerosene and fuel oil). It is planned to spend 16,800,000 dollars on importing 2,395,000 tons of coal during the first six months of this year. Expenditure on liquid fuel during the same period will amount to 18,185,000 dollars.

It must be emphasised that coal imports may be seriously affected by the coal strike in the United States. Negotiations are now in progress to re-establish imports of coal from the Ruhr, and also from Silesia; and it is anticipated that 36,000 tons of coking smalls and 3,000 tons of anthracite for electrodes will come from the Ruhr during April, May and June. By the end of May, 18,000 tons should have arrived. A major problem is that of transportation. Negotiations for rail delivery are now being conducted with E.C.I.T.O., the body concerned with all international rail movement in Europe. It is possible, however, that some at least of the coal will be delivered by barge to Antwerp or Rotterdam, and thence by ship to Italy.

Ruhr Coal will not Fill Gap

By whatever means they arrive, these deliveries will, however, represent no more than three per cent. of the supplies programmed to reach Italy during the next three months. Under no circumstances could they fill the gap, should the coal strike cause a serious reduction in shipments from the United States. The significance of the Ruhr deliveries lies not in the quantity of coal Italy is to receive, but in the fact that they mark the recommencement of trade with one of Italy's major sources of fuel supply in normal times.

Procurement for Italy of finished and semi-finished steel, as well as pig-iron, during the first half of 1946, is to be considerably greater than was originally planned. The figure now proposed is 230,000 tons, at a cost of approximately 11,100,000 dollars. The budget allows for the importation of 12,000 tons of copper, 1,200 tons of tin and 1,500 tons of nickel. Industrial chemicals are included at a total cost of 3,200,000 dollars, and asbestos, clays and refractories at a total cost of over 2,000,000 dollars.

Bigger Rubber Imports

In the original estimates of Italy's minimum requirements, prepared at the end of last year, a figure of 12,000 tons was suggested for rubber imports on UNRRA account, with a possible increase to 15,000 tons. Under the revised program, it is now proposed to import 20,000 tons of rubber, at a cost of 11,000,000 dollars, and at the same time to increase imports of carbon black and other industrial raw materials required for the processing of synthetic rubber in Italy.

The textile program, providing for the import of raw cotton and wool (some of which has already arrived) will enable goods to be produced for those needy sections of the Italian population which cannot buy adequate clothing and textiles at present prices.

Of particular significance, in view of the world food situation, is the greater emphasis now given to agricultural rehabilitation. Expenditure under this heading has been increased by approximately 50 per cent., since the first estimates were prepared at the end of 1945. The chief increase is the very much larger appropriation now made for the purchase of fertiliser. Under this heading alone, expenditure has been set tentatively at 7,500,000 dollars—or about half the total allocation. But actual deliveries, especially in the case of nitrates, will depend upon availability. More is allocated also to oil-seed cake for livestock, although this item will be extremely difficult to get; and a sum of approximately 1,750,000 dollars has been allocated for the purchase of agricultural sprays and pesticides.

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Included in the budget allocation for medical and sanitary supplies is the item of 500,000 dollars for the purchase of equipment to manufacture penicillin in Italy, under the auspices of the Italian Government. The plan is still under discussion, but if it is successful a considerable quantity of Italian-made penicillin should become available in 1947. Distribution of penicillin imported by UNRRA will be increased in April from 5,000 to 10,000 vials per month.

For the Sardinia anti-malaria program, UNRRA's contribution in foreign currency has been put tentatively at 100,000 dollars. This figure is in addition to the 300,000,000 lire to be provided for the project from the special lire fund created, under the UNRRA agreements with Italy, to finance relief and rehabilitation. Expenditure on malaria control in Sardinia, and also on the penicillin project, is likely to extend into the second half of the year; but with these exceptions, it is intended that the six months' medical budget included in the present vote should cover operations for the whole year. To stimulate Italy's own pharmaceutical industry, emphasis is placed upon the importation of raw materials, wherever that is practicable.

DOCK SPEED-UP ORDERED

Clearance of Allied shipping at the maximum possible speed is ordered in an urgent directive issued to Port Commandants by the Merchant Shipping Department of the Italian Ministry of Marine. "Public interest must in the present emergency be given absolute priority over all private interests," states the directive. "Port Commandants, as long as the present abnormal conditions prevail, are at all times to exercise over-riding authority in the regulation of port traffic whenever the action of interested parties might disturb, or not sufficiently safeguard, important national interests.

"This is more than ever necessary at the present time, since it has been decided by the Allied Authorities that, from now onwards, demurrage in foreign currency at the rate of 1,700 dollars per day must be paid whenever vessels are not discharged within the fixed number of lay-days. As this payment would be made out of UNRRA funds for Italian relief, the result would be a corresponding reduction of our imports."

[The above statement is not strictly accurate. Shipping costs—including such items as demurrage—are not a charge against the budgets of individual nations, but are met from a general fund in which freight charges are pooled. Savings in freight charges, however, will increase the total amount available for the purchase of supplies—EDITOR.]

Bulk cargoes, such as wheat or coal, must be discharged at the accepted rate of 1,000 tons a day, and Port Commandants are ordered personally to ensure that this is done. The Ministry deplores recent instances in which ships with no more than 150 or 200 tons of cargo still to be unloaded have had to wait in port an extra day, when a few hours' overtime and a greater sense of responsibility on the part of the dockers would have cleared them the day before. The directive ends with a stiffly worded demand for action by Port Commandants and "explicit assurances" on their part that action has been taken.

It is to be added that, in the experience of UNRRA officials, the criticism implied in the letter from the Ministry of Marine should be directed only to certain ports. In general, according to UNRRA observations, Italian dock labourers have a good record for expeditious handling of cargo.

ARGENTINA SENDS MAIZE

By special arrangement made in Washington, UNRRA will pay both the ocean freight and the loading charges, totalling approximately £68,000 sterling (272,000 dollars), on the shipment of 15,000 tons of maize (corn) due to be despatched from Argentina to Italy about 10 April in the *Vittorio Veneto* and *Voluntas*, two of the seven cargo vessels sold to Argentina early in the War, and now bought back by the Italian Government. These supplies are being delivered to Italy on UNRRA account. The *Vittorio Veneto* and the *Voluntas* are the first of the seven ships to return to Italy.

Italy will, in the first instance, be responsible for the ocean freight charges, but a corresponding amount will be credited to the UNRRA Italian fund, and payment will be made to the Italian Government in the form of extra supplies for relief and rehabilitation.

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MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(MARCH 25 - 31 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO	TONS
Franklin H. King	Bari - Ancona *	25 Mar.	UNRRA	Wheat	8,223
F. A. C. Muhlenburg	Castellammare - Salerno *	26 "	"	"	7,982
John Bartram	Venice	27 "	"	"	8,114
L. A. Sengteller	Venice	28 "	"	"	8,170
Pierre Soule	Bari - Crotone *	29 "	"	"	7,848
Stephen Girard	Genoa	30 "	"	"	7,942

** Arrived at first-named port on the date shown; discharging at the second port later*

LATEST COAL SHIPMENTS

(MARCH 23 - 31 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
Billy Sunday	Genoa	23 Mar.	UNRRA	John Evans	Catania	28 Mar.	UNRRA
James Shureman	Palermo	24 "	"	John Gorrie	Genoa	" "	"
Benjamin Chew	Savona	25 "	"	George Eldbridge	Venice	" "	"
Benjamin Coston	Genoa	" "	"	William Brewster	Bagnoli	29 "	"
Cushing Eelis	Bagnoli	" "	"	Mary Dodge *	Savona	" "	"
Cyrus Brady	Bari	26 "	"	William S. Clark	Genoa	" "	"
Henry Clay	Genoa	" "	"	Francis Jenkins	Genoa	" "	"
George Read	Genoa	" "	"	John Gallup	Genoa	" "	"
William R. Davies	Reggio C.	" "	"	William T. Coleman	Venice	" "	"
Empire Sumner	Civitav.	27 "	Brit. Arm.	Earl Lyman	Ancona	30 "	"
Floyd Bennet	Civitav.	" "	UNRRA	Nathan S. Davis	Genoa	" "	"
Richmond P. Hobson	Piombino	" "	"	Samuel Ingham	Bari	31 "	"
Jesse Applegate	Taranto	" "	"				

** Arrived Savona instead of Genoa*

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March 30, 1946

RESTRICTED

1 APR 1946

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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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 Molè (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 fashionable with Communists since the dissolution of the Comintern, the Prime Minister continued, is justified only in war. He called the proposed merger of Socialists and Communists a great tactical mistake and further criticized Togliatti by asserting that he was introducing into Italy the polemics of the outside world now 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 Casstion will announce the result of the referendum within five days of the balloting. Reports were heard on the coal situation and prisoners of war. The date on which the epuration process in the North was to be completed was postponed to April 30, a decree approved seizing excessive war profits and another taxing de luxe expenditures. An allocation of 328 million lire for reconstruction of war-damaged state properties was pas-

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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. T. 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 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 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 month 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

PARTY	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
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	17,668	**17,747**
Communist	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**
Socialist	2	6	**8**	50	112	**162**	—	23	**23**	34	422	**456**	—	29	**29**	97	680	**777**	2	58	**60**	181	1,214	**1,395**
Republican	1	4	**5**	31	72	**103**	—	8	**8**	17	178	**195**	1	10	**11**	28	200	**228**	2	22	**24**	76	450	**526**
Action	—	1	**1**	1	32	**33**	—	1	**1**	1	70	**71**	—	4	**4**	3	76	**79**	—	6	**6**	5	178	**183**
Christian Democrat	3	132	**135**	77	2,491	**2,568**	4	338	**342**	78	6,181	**6,259**	5	482	**487**	181	8,725	**8,906**	12	952	**964**	336	17,397	**17,733**
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	3,468	**3,506**
Right Concentration	—	6	**6**	15	141	**156**	—	36	**36**	2	672	**674**	—	27	**27**	3	496	**499**	—	69	**69**	20	1,309	**1,329**
Liberal	—	19	**19**	8	320	**328**	—	15	**15***	8	339	**347**	—	25	**25**	7	415	**422**	—	59	**59**	23	1,074	**1,097**
Labour Democrat	—	10	**10**	6	176	**182**	—	25	**25**	—	376	**376**	—	16	**16**	5	306	**311**	—	51	**51**	11	858	**869**
Uomo Qualunque	—	3	**3**	5	63	**68**	—	7	**7**	6	120	**126**	—	7	**7**	9	117	**126**	—	17	**17**	20	300	**320**
Italian Democrat	—	—	**—**	—	8	**8**	—	2	**2**	—	—	**—**	—	1	**1**	1	13	**14**	—	3	**3**	1	21	**22**
Independents	—	42	**42**	4	715	**719**	—	109	**109**	—	1,980	**1,980**	—	92	**92**	2	1,781	**1,783**	—	243	**243**	6	4,476	**4,482**
Local Parties	—	8	**8**	9	173	**182**	—	—	**—**	—	—	**—**	—	39	**39**	10	630	**640**	—	47	**47**	19	803	**822**
Veterans	—	8	**8**	8	168	**176**	—	15	**15**	—	253	**253**	—	6	**6**	9	168	**177**	—	29	**29**	17	589	**606**
			424			**8,049**			**1,041**			**19,056**			**1,344***			**24,765**			**2,809**			**51,870**

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals. — *B* = Communes under 30,000.
* = 8 communes where no majority was gained.

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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 10 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 44 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. Ristedt; *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...

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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 Assembly was promised but never held. The plebiscites, it asserted, were not pacts but merely votes which did not discuss or agree to any charter. *Momento* also took the royal letter writer to task for saying that it would be the monarchy's charge to make social justice operative. That mission, *Momento* declared, belonged to the political parties.

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 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

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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 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 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
Veterans	—	8	8	—	112	112
Independents	—	42	42	—	622	622
Center Concentration	—	44	44	—	636	636
Right Concentration	—	6	6	—	106	106
Left Concentration	—	120	120	—	1946	1946
			424			6253

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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 commmunes 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. 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 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 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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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 Italians list fruit (as ever), nuts, flower seeds, wines, talc, pumice, salt, hemp, silk, rayon, oils and chemicals, men's and women's hats, marble, glassware, accounting machines and various spare parts.

Belgium. — This agreement, yet to be signed, was screened while in process of negotiations, with the happy result that allocations of RCL items 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 as a whole. The Italian list of exports is virtually the same as many printed above, in addition to which there are included accordions (Poles love them), tractors, nautical instruments, presses, telephone and telegraph apparatus and a wide range of machinery. Poland, incidentally, might also provide some of the raw materials, such as

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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 *lavorazioni 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 Italy fresh beef and pork, poultry and eggs, potatoes, tomatoes, coffee, farinaceous foods, hides and boots, buttons, matches, beer, timber and so forth. It would take from Italy, however, only wines and vermouth, motors and machinery and parts, and seeds. Egypt, he added, could use wines, liquors, glassware and artistic ceramics, 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 wool 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 B. 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; Attention! clocks go back thirty minutes tonight; Attention! Pfc. McCloskey, report to mess Hall; Attention! do not throw razor blades in the latrines; Ships carpenter, report to Transport Commander; Attention! Pfc. McCloskey, report to Mess Hall immediately. We are giving your name to MPs if you do not answer this call; Attention! dog five,*

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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 20 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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ECONOMIC NOTES

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1. Hoover studies Italy's needs
2. UNRRA votes 359,000,000 dollars
3. Italian petroleum supplies
4. Use of UNRRA Goods
5. Movements of Ships

HOOVER STUDIES ITALY'S NEEDS

Mr. Hoover's visit to Italy in the course of his fact finding survey has served to emphasise the world-wide nature of the present food crisis. The dangers which threaten Italy's 45,000,000 people threaten also 500,000,000 men, women and children in 19 countries throughout the world during the next 120 days, until the new harvest is gathered in. Mr. Hoover repeated the warning that in the critical first six months of this year cereal supplies throughout the world, available for export, would amount to no more than approximately 11,000,000 tons, while requirements are computed to be 20,000,000 tons. Mr. Hoover did not touch upon the rice situation, but here also there exists a shortage proportionately even greater than with wheat. To satisfy an estimated total need of 3,500,000 tons, not much more than 900,000 tons are available for export.

UNRRA is Intimately Concerned

Mr. Hoover is visiting Europe as the Honorary Chairman of President Truman's Famine Emergency Committee, to study the problem at first hand, with the object later of presenting recommendations to the President and the people of the United States. His task, and the task of the Emergency Committee, is to investigate the need, not to administer relief. UNRRA is represented on the President's Famine Emergency Committee by the Director-General himself, and is thus intimately concerned both in the investigations which Mr. Hoover is making and in the conclusions which will result.

Mr. Hoover has emphasised that the day-to-day organisation of food supplies remains a responsibility of the governments of the countries concerned, and is not the task of international organisations. "The administration of food in Italy," he said, "is, of course, the responsibility of the Italian Government. They are being wonderfully assisted by UNRRA; and under the very able leadership of my old friend Mr. Keeny, every effort is being made."

Italy's Present Grain Stocks

Italy's present grain situation is grave. It has become increasingly so since the summer of 1945, partly owing to world conditions and, partly owing to the severe drought last year. Inclusive of all available indigenous grain and imported supplies, stocks on March 1, 1946, amounted to only 143,000 tons. This represents slightly less than half a month's supply, in terms of the standard 1945 rations, and even on the basis of the present reduced rations, is sufficient for no more than 18 days' supply. Moreover, the stocks are not evenly distributed, since they include indigenous grain held in the self-sufficient provinces.

From now until the harvest, a minimum of 250,000 tons of wheat per month is required to maintain even the present reduced ration rate and for every 1,000 tons *not* received out of this total, the bread ration will have to be decreased by one gram per day.

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Early forecasts of the 1946 crop indicate that Italy's food situation should improve considerably after the harvest this year. In 1946-47 there will still be, however, a deficit which will have to be made up by food imports, the cost of which is estimated to be as high as 150,000,000 dollars. This year, the factor limiting Italy's ability to eat is the world grain shortage.

With fats, as with cereals, the shortage is critical. Partly owing to a lower yield in the autumn of 1945, and partly owing to difficulties of amassing, only 40,000 tons of olive oil are expected to be available for non-producers during 1946. In addition, another 10,000 tons of animal fats can be counted upon for distribution on ration cards. The reserve stocks on March 1, 1946, amounted to no more than 3,000 tons; the monthly consumption on the present ration scale is 9,000 tons. Thus, existing available stocks, together with the amount expected to be collected during the remainder of the year, are sufficient only for two months' supply, at the present rate of consumption.

Oil and Fat Ration

The olive oil, or fat ration is not being distributed evenly throughout the country, since the available olive oil is mostly in the extreme south of Italy, and cannot be transported for distribution to the northern provinces. If imports of fats had been forthcoming as requested last year, these would have been distributed in North Italy to bring the small local availability of pig fats and butter up to the ration level of 180 grams per month, while olive oil would have been distributed in the South. Owing to the failure to procure supplies of imported fats since November, 1945, the northern provinces have been receiving considerably less than 180 grams of fats distributed on the ration card.

In regard to sugar, the only other item of food at the moment issued on ration cards, stocks are sufficient only for the present month. This extreme shortage should end in October when the new crop of sugar-beet will be available.

In a special message to the people of Italy, Mr. Hoover explained the measures that are being taken to meet the urgent world demand, particularly for grain. "We hope to bridge the gap," he said, "first, by drastic measures which have been introduced in the United States, where we have suggested that American consumption of bread-stuffs be reduced to a figure equal to 200 grams per day." Consumption of fats, he added, is to be reduced in the United States by an amount equal to about 600 grams per person per month.

Supplies from South America

The other main source from which it is hoped to secure supplies is South America, where the Famine Emergency Committee have set in motion an appeal to save food and to "scrape the bottom of the barrel" of export supplies.

"It is our determination to make every last effort to maintain Italy's ration as at present," Mr. Hoover went on to say. "We should like to see it increased. There have been difficulties with shipping hitherto; but shipping is now ample to move all the food that we can secure."

Investigation by UNRRA into the present export situation in the United States indicates that, for the year ending June 30 next, United States wheat exports will achieve an all-time record of 10,000,000 tons. This figure includes the results of voluntary rationing in the United States, which may release for export anything up to 2,500,000 tons by the next harvest. Of the 11,000,000 tons of wheat available throughout the world during the critical first six months of this year, about half will come from the United States, 30 per cent. from Canada, 10 per cent. from Argentina and 10 per cent. from Australia.

In regard to fats, world requirements are estimated to be approximately 4,600,000 tons while available supplies at present visible total about 2,800,000 tons. The reduction in fat consumption asked of the United States is estimated to yield approximately 100,000 tons.

Voluntary Rationing in U.S.A

While rationing both of cereals and fats in the United States is voluntary, in so far as the individual is concerned, it is not voluntary for the manufacturing and distributing trades, which are subject to drastic federal controls, that by their nature impose a measure of compulsory restriction upon individual consumption.

Among these measures is the order by which slaughter-houses must set aside 40 per cent.

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of lard for export. Fats and oils for shortening in cooking are limited to 78 per cent. of the previous normal consumption. Flour mills must increase their extraction percentage from 71 to 80 per cent; and, with effect from March 2, the use of grain for livestock has been cut by 15 per cent. No wheat at all is to be used for the manufacture of alcohol, and even though other grains are used, distilleries may operate for no more than five days a month. Grain consumption in the manufacture of beer has been cut by 30 per cent.

To expedite shipments of wheat from the United States, complete rail priority has been given to grain transport by order of the Federal Government, and an appeal has been issued to farmers to deliver their grain to the elevators as promptly as possible—an appeal which has met with great success during the recent weeks.

Not only in the United States, but in Argentina also, a determined effort has been made to overcome delays in delivering supplies to the ports for shipment abroad. Transportation difficulties, which have been particularly acute in Argentina, are now being met by special shipments of coal for the railways and of petrol and tyres to assist road haulage.

Black Market is not Large

There remains the problem of internal distribution within the receiving countries. World shortage has produced the world phenomenon (existing even in the United States) of the black market. While in Rome, Mr. Hoover had much to say in respect of the black market, but, as he explained, his remarks were not directed to Italy alone. "The quantity of food going into the black market is not believed by our experts to be very large," he said. "It makes a good deal of show, but taking the whole food supply of Italy during the year, the proportion is probably very small." One specific suggestion was an increase in communal feeding. "We should all like to see," continued Mr. Hoover, "a greater expansion in the number of kitchens available to children and the lower income groups, and in the distribution of food supplementary to the Government ration. UNRRA is already expanding in that field, but this is the type of effort which requires the goodwill and service of everybody."

UNRRA VOTES 359,000,000 DOLLARS

Accompanying the announcement in Atlantic City last week that the Central Committee of UNRRA had approved a budget of 359,440,100 dollars for Italy, was a warning from the Director-General that "recipient countries must be prepared for substantial modifications." This figure covers all UNRRA supplies for Italy from the beginning of operations until June 30, 1946.

Six Months' Program

The budget meets 1945 needs, and requirements for the first half of this year only, because, in the opinion of the Central Committee, it is not yet possible to forecast accurately the relative needs of the receiving countries after July 1. The program for the second half of the year will be determined at a later date. But to enable Missions to place orders now for supplies which will require some months for delivery, the Central Committee has authorised the expenditure—by all Missions—of 250,000,000 dollars for the procurement of "long-lead" items for shipment after June 30.

The grand total of import requirements of all the receiving countries amounts to almost twice the financial resources available to the Administration for the procurement of supplies. The Administration has, therefore, had to request individual receiving contries to indicate those supplies to which they attach the highest degree of urgency. Heavy emphasis on food has meant that a relatively smaller proportion of UNRRA's resources can be devoted to the rehabilitation of agriculture and industry.

Supreme Effort Needed

Describing the program as an austerity one, providing only for minimum needs, the Director-General states that its success depends upon a number of factors outside the control of the Administration. Procurement of supplies depends upon availability, he points out. A supreme effort on the part of the supplying countries will be required to provide more of those supplies of which the need is desperate.

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ITALIAN PETROLEUM SUPPLIES

Responsibility for civilian petroleum requirements in Italy has been assumed by UNRRA. The program for the eleven months from February, 1946, when UNRRA first undertook this task, until the end of the year, is estimated to cost between 28,500,00 dollars and 30,000,000 dollars plus freight and insurance.

The following table indicates the quantities UNRRA has requested, and the percentage these supplies represent of actual consumption for civilian purposes during the year ended August, 1939:

	Tons.	Percentage of consumption, 1939
Gasoline	300,000	72.6
Diesel Oil	300,000	100
Kerosene	160,000	94.7
Fuel Oil (excluding Bunker Fuel)	950,000	95
Lubricants and Greases .	60,000	63
Wax	20,000	80
Petroleum Coke . . .	39,000	75

Because of the shortage of tankers and tanker crews, receipts during the month of January were not good. It was possible, however, to tide over the month with supplies in stock. Receipts during February showed a very great improvement, and it is expected that by March 31 the stock position will be built up to about 21 days supply and by April 30 to 35 days supply. Thereafter, it is hoped, the improvement will continue, so that by the end of May the target of 60 days' supply of fuels and 90 days' supply of lubricants will be achieved.

This represents a further stage in Italy's return to normality. Delivery of oil to Italian ports is still the responsibiity of the military authorities. The chosen instrument set up by the Italian Government and AMG to handle distribution within the country of petroleum supplies for the civilian economy, namely C.I.P. (Comitato Italiano Petroli) continues to perform this function with respect to UNRRA supplies. The system of monthly bids for supplies by the provinces also continues.

These supplies are allocated according to the number of cars and trucks operating and the needs of agriculture, fishing fleets and so forth—no longer, however, by AMG, but by the Italian Ministry of Industry and Commerce, working in collaboration with UNRRA. With the end of the military period, allocations which had formerly to take second place to military necessities, are now gradually being stepped up to keep pace with the continued growth of civilian requirements.

A small quantity of crude petroleum is recovered from Italian home sources in the provinces of Potenza, Frosinone, Pescara, Firenze, Piacenza and Parma, and also Ragusa, in Sicily. The quality of the crude oil found in Italy is of an extremely high grade naphthenic type; and some of it can be used in vehicles without refining. Production, which reached an average of nearly 128,000 barrels in the pre-war period, will, it is estimated, amount to some 90,000 barrels this year.

At the present time the production of natural methane gas is of considerably more importance to Italy than that of crude petroleum. Intensive exploitation of methane, both from seepages and from drilled wells, is, however, a development of recent growth. The most important of the gas producing areas is that embracing the greater part of the delta of the Po River from Venezia to Ferrara and Ravenna. Total present production is equivalent to 780 barrels of gasoline per day, or 520 barrels of fuel oil if burned for industrial purposes.

Oil Refining May Be Restarted

As a result of Government action in the period immediately before the war, Italy's total crude refining capacity approximated very closely to total Italian consumption. Of the eight major refineries all but one were designed to handle a variety of imported crude oils, and for the most part Italian refinery equipment was comparatively modern and good. But as the result of Allied bombing and German sabotage, the only large refinery at present remaining undamaged is the A.N.I.C. installation at Bari, which in 1942 handled 155,000 tons. During the military period, it was not considered practical to refine oil in Italy; and up to the present no crude oil has been imported. UNRRA, however, is now investigating the possibility of importing crude oil for refining in Italy.

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USE OF UNRRA GOODS

UNRRA policy on the uses to which relief and rehabilitation supplies may be put has been re-stated and clarified in a special directive issued by Headquarters in Washington to all Chiefs of Mission. UNRRA goods are not to be re-exported, states the directive. UNRRA will not supply any goods which the receiving country is itself exporting in substantially the same form.

UNRRA will not supply raw materials for the production of finished goods for export, unless such exports are for UNRRA's account, or unless they fulfil needs which UNRRA would otherwise be called upon to meet. UNRRA, on the other hand, is anxious that recipient countries should re-establish their export trade and urges that, for this purpose, they should import the necessary raw materials through the use of their own foreign assets or credits, or through any other arrangements.

UNRRA goods are not to be used to supply the armed forces of the receiving country, or those of other nations which may be temporarily, or otherwise, within the receiving country's borders. In special circumstances, however, exchange deals with the armed forces are permitted. provided each exchange benefits the civilian population at least as much as UNRRA supplies would have done. In assessing a country's needs, the entire population, both military and civil, is to be considered, and the entire resources used. Priority is not to be given to military needs, nor are members of the armed forces of other countries to be included in the population when assessing import requirements for relief and rehabilitation.

MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(MARCH 19 - 25 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO
Ferdinando Gorges	Naples - Genoa *	19 Mar.	UNRRA	General and Oats
Joel Chandler Harris	Genoa	22 "	It. Govt.	General
Wm. MacArthur	Venice	23 "	UNRRA	Wheat
Orient City	Naples	" "	"	General
Salmon P. Chase	Cagliari	24 "	"	Wheat
Horace Lurton	Genoa	" "	"	"
Button Gwinette	Civitavecchia	25 "	"	"

** Arrived at first-named port on the date shown; discharging at the second port later*

LATEST COAL SHIPMENTS

(MARCH 18 - 23 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
Hiram Bingham	Venice	18 Mar.	UNRRA	Leeds City	Genoa	21 Mar.	Brit.Army
	Ancona	23 "	"	Arthur Davis	Cagliari	" "	UNRRA
Grant Wood	"	19 "	"	Zachary Taylor	Savona	22 "	"
Benjamin Chew	Genoa	20 "	"	Terry E. Stephenson	Venice	" "	"
Richard Yates	Venice	" "	"	Jessie Applegate	Bari	23 "	"
James Lane *	Savona	" "	"	Earl Lyman	Venice	" "	"
Knute Rockne *	"	" "	"	William Duval	Genoa	" "	"
Philip Barbour *	"	21 "	"	Mary Dodge	Genoa	" "	"
William R. Davies	Catania	" "	"				

** Arrived Savona instead of Genoa*

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1. 1,675 Million Lire for Relief
2. De Gasperi Appeals for Food
3. Future of UNNRA
4. Movements of Ships

1,675 MILLION LIRE FOR RELIEF

Expenditure on relief and rehabilitation projects, totalling more than 1,675 million lire, has been approved by the Joint Committee, representing the Italian Government and UNRRA. Included in this sum is the allocation of 1,000 million lire for the C.A.S.A.S. scheme, details of which were announced in last week's issue of *Economic Notes*. The Joint Committee has also approved the expenditure of:— (1) 457,667,508 lire on the manufacture of cotton goods for the High Commissariat of Health and Hygiene and the Ministry of Post-War Assistance; (2) 112,500,000 lire on processing clothing for relief services; (3) 100,000,000 lire on malaria control in Sardinia; and (4) 5,500,000 lire on assistance for cave dwellers in Naples. This expenditure will be made from the special lire fund created under the UNRRA Agreement with Italy. It will be supplemented by expenditure in foreign exchange from UNRRA funds, chiefly on the C.A.S.A.S. project, and also on malaria control in Sardinia.

Cotton for Sheets and Towels

As part of its health and welfare program, UNRRA last December imported 2,000 tons of raw cotton for manufacture into sheets, pillow cases, towels, shirts, linen cloths and babies' napkins. Allocation of the raw cotton for manufacture was made by the Milan office of the Italian Government Delegation for Relations with UNRRA, in consultation with the Italian Cotton Institute and the Milan Chamber of Commerce. From these 2,000 tons of cotton approximately 10,000,000 square metres of cloth have been obtained, states Mr. S. M. Keeny, Head of the UNRRA Italy Mission. The cost is slightly lower than the corresponding cost in the United States. Thus, manufacture in Italy has served the double purpose of giving work to Italian mills and at the same time providing much needed supplies at a reasonable figure.

Allocation of Cloth

A total of 4,580,000 square metres will be allocated for Public Health services, and to hospitals and other kindred institutions. The Displaced Persons' Services will receive 4,900,000 square metres, which are being made up partly in ordinary industrial undertakings and partly in camps and charity workshops. For these supplies, the Joint Committee has voted 457,667,508 lire — a sum which, however, refers only to manufacturing costs.

The Processing Section of the UNRRA Bureau of Relief Services has already manufactured 420,000 pieces of underwear from its share of UNRRA cotton cloth. Expenditure is approved for the manufacture of 1,600,000 items of underwear and 300,000 items of bed linen, for distribution among Displaced Persons. These figures represent about half the proposed quantity to be manufactured. The second part of the program will be undertaken in the latter half of the year. Work has also begun on spinning and knitting a small quantity of Italian raw wool to produce approximately 6,200 pullovers. Some 3,000 blankets have already been made from salvaged Army neck cloths. A further 4,000 are still to be manufactured.

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For the period 15 December, 1945, to 30 June next, the UNRRA Bureau of Relief Services is authorised by the Joint Committee to spend 112,500,000 lire on clothing processing. Reporting on the work done in the used clothing departments, the Head of the Bureau of Relief Services, Mr. A. A. Sorieri, informed the Joint Committee that more than 30,000 bales of clothing, representing some 4,000,000 garments, had been sorted and repaired, and 600,000 pairs of shoes processed, of which 452,000 had needed repair.

The Section, at the moment, has on hand for sorting and repair, some 940 tons of used clothing from United States and Canadian clothing drives, while a further 160 tons are still to arrive. This represents very nearly 2,000,000 garments, of which it is anticipated nearly 500,000 will need repair. The average cost of repair has worked out at the very low figure of 15 lire per garment. Shoe processing has hitherto been chiefly confined to the repair of new, damaged shoes. At the present moment the Section has on hand some 300,600 pairs of such shoes, of which all but 60,000 are expected to need repair. From Army sources the Section expects to receive 395,000 pairs of mismated boots, from which, it is anticipated, 240,000 serviceable pairs of boots will be available.

Work for Displaced Persons

The Section at present employs in its 67 workshops 1,694 people, the great majority of whom are themselves Italian Displaced Persons. It has developed from the workshops first started in Southern Italy by the Voluntary Societies Refugee Section of the Italian Displaced Persons' Branch of UNRRA.

Good progress has been made on the practical work in connection with the project for malaria control in Sardinia, stated Mr. Keeny, in recommending to the Joint Committee an appropriation of 100,000,000 lire as an advance for further operations. This allocation is inclusive of the 15,000,000 lire already voted by the Joint Committee last November. Of the 260 vehicles required, 40 have already been sent to Sardinia; all materials have been ordered; and the two Stearman PT-17 aircraft needed for spraying purposes have arrived in Italy.

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DE GASPERI APPEALS FOR FOOD

The following message has been transmitted by the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Alcide De Gasperi, to Mr. Harry Truman, President of the United States:

"The Italian people have noted with grateful appreciation your personal interest in overcoming the serious food crisis which threatens Europe and, most of all, Italy. We are hopeful that the action you are taking will truly relieve the sufferings which the world food situation has imposed on Italy to a greater degree that any other country of Europe.

Grain Stocks nearly Exhausted

"Italy's own stocks of grains, decimated especially by lack of rain and fertiliser, are nearly exhausted. We are, therefore, compelled to depend very heavily on imports of cereals until the next harvest. Therefore, the inability of UNRRA to secure sufficient grains to maintain our basic ration is a source of great concern to the Italian Government and people.

"As early as last December my Government had to suspend the monthly distribution of 'pasta' and rice in most provinces of Southern and Central Italy; then at the end of January we felt able to restore one quarter of this ration. The monthly ration of 'pasta' and rice is now 500 grams per month per person, instead of the 2,000 grams, which has been the basic ration for the last year. If the situation deteriorates further we shall have to cancel this ration again.

Bread and Pasta

"I would stress particularly, Mr. President, that the Italian people, unlike some other peoples, depend for their food very largely on bread and 'pasta'—especially since most other food items simply are not available these days. I must point out further that the amount of food which an Italian can buy on his ration-card is barely 700 calories a day. This amount is obviously insufficient to prevent serious malnutrition, disease and other dangerous physical consequences to the whole Italian population, and particularly to children and young people.

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"The prospect that this situation might get even worse, judging from everything we can learn about the supplies available and the allocations of those supplies made in Washington, prompts me to appeal directly to you. Our minimum need is for 300,000 tons of imported bread grains each month from now until the next harvest. We place our trust, Mr. President, in your intervention to prevent a continuation, or worsening of a situation which is already unbearable. I am grateful to you and I have faith in the generosity of the American people."—DE GASPERI.

The gravity of the present wheat shortage throughout the world is emphasized by recent advices received by the UNRRA Italy Mission from Headquarters in Washington. During the first six months of 1946 the world need for imported wheat is estimated to be 19,500,000 tons. To meet this, the grain exporting countries, notably the United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina, have available no more than 11,500,000 tons, leaving a deficiency of 8,000,000 tons.

UNRRA Cuts Wheat Demand

UNRRA requirements of wheat during the first six months of the year for Europe and China have been cut to approximately 3,200,000 tons, on the understanding that an additional million tons of substitute grains, such as rye, barley, oats and corn (maize) will be available. In January, in spite of this reduction, no more than 56 per cent. of the deliveries requested were made available to UNRRA by the supplying countries.

A series of crop disasters—almost without precedent in modern times— has vastly increased the needs of hundreds of millions of people, in scores of countries, for imported food. Exports from the producing countries have been stepped up well beyond normal; but in face of overwhelming need, they still fall far short of what is required, after the most destructive war in history.

"In these circumstances, no nation which imports grain—not even Great Britain herself—can hope to receive supplies that are in any way near enough to satisfy pressing and legitimate needs," states Mr. S. M. Keeny, Head of the UNRRA Italy Mission. "A few days prior to the announcement of his retirement, I was asked by the Director-General of UNRRA, Mr. Herbert H. Lehman, to say how much he—and every member of UNRRA—deplores our tragic inability to deliver larger amounts of food and other supplies to the countries receiving UNRRA aid. It is a matter of deep concern to all of us that available supplies are so small in relation to the need. Italy's grain shortage is the gravest problem which we in this Mission have to face.

"I can assure the people of Italy that we are doing our utmost to meet her needs. But I must repeat the warnings given many times during the past three months to the Governments which UNRRA serves, that the outlook is highly critical, and deliveries are certain to fall far below the level UNRRA would wish to attain."

Low Ammassing Figure

Italy's wheat shortage is aggravated by the comparatively low percentage of wheat actually amassed. It is estimated that no more than 65 per cent. of the supplies theoretically available for the country's 35,000,000 non-producers have, in fact, been available for distribution through the national rationing system. UNRRA has repeatedly impressed upon the Italian Government the urgent need of a vigorous amassing policy.

In respect of rice also, there has been similar lack of success in the Government's amassing program. Of the 300,000 tons considered to be a reasonable target figure, no more than 180,000 tons have so far been amassed. This is all the more unfortunate, since in normal times Italy is not only able to produce all the rice she needs, but has available a surplus for export. In 1938 this surplus amounted to approximately 21,000 tons of polished and semi-polished rice.

World Shortage of Rice

A world shortage of rice, as grave as that of wheat, not only rules out any attempt to supplement wheat rations by using rice, but has, in fact, increased the world demand for wheat itself. So great is the demand for rice in the Far East that no rice whatsoever is being imported into European countries. In spite of this, the supplies available for India, China, Ceylon and the Philippines are still 500,000 tons short of their requirements for 1946.

Strenuous efforts have been made by UNRRA in Italy to procure substitute grains. As announced in *Economic Notes*, it has

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already been agreed to include a substantial proportion of corn and barley in the monthly grain shipments, and to mix 20 per cent. of oatmeal in the standard flour for bread. Up to the present, one ship has arrived with a cargo of oats for milling in Italy. Some low-fat-content soya flour has also been procured, but none has yet arrived.

So far, no barley or corn has been obtained since, in fact, the world shortage of these grains is almost as great as it is for wheat. Although, as the result of big importations of seed potatoes in January and February, this year's potato crop is expected to show a substantial increase, transportation difficulties may preclude extensive use of potatoes as a substitute for grain.

In an effort to secure the maximum allocation to meet Italy's urgent needs, Mr. W. J. Legg, Head of UNRRA's Sub-Bureau of Relief Supply in Italy, is now in Washington negotiating future procurements.

FUTURE OF UNRRA

References to the future of world relief by Mr. Herbert H. Lehman, is his letter to the Central Committee announcing his resignation from the position of Director-General of UNRRA, have raised the question, as yet unanswered: What is to follow, when UNRRA ceases to function? So far as Italy is concerned, the existing program is due to be completed at the end of 1946, and no extension is at present contemplated.

In Mr. Lehman's view, the general world situation will not have been restored to normal by the time UNRRA is due to end. "It is my earnest hope," he states in his letter of resignation, "that at the Council meeting that is about to convene, and at the next meeting which will be held during the summer, action will be taken to provide for the transfer to other organisations of those activities of UNRRA which will inevitably be left unfinished if, as at present is indicated, UNRRA will cease to function in a little more than a year from now. It is probable, in my opinion, that further assistance—particularly in providing food and agricultural rehabilitation—will have to be extended beyond this year."

UNRRA has already sent more than 6,000,000 tons of supplies to the distressed peoples of the world, he says. It has been the "only thing that has stood between millions of people and starvation." In addition to providing food and other supplies, it has rendered countless—and valuable—services in the field of health, welfare and agricultural and industrial rehabilitation.

"UNRRA has not only provided material aid to many millions of people," Mr. Lehman adds, "but, in so doing, has given fresh hope to those millions of men and women—a hope that the United Nations, by continuing to work together effectively, can, in fact, establish good will and understanding amongst men. Much has already been accomplished to justify the hopes that countless suffering human beings have placed in this organization. Much remains to be done."

1,675 MILLION LIRE FOR RELIEF

Continued from Page 2

The Sardinia malaria control project, a combined operation in which UNRRA, the Italian Government and the Rockefeller Foundation are collaborating, is estimated to cost a total of 300,000,000 lire. Arrangements with the Rockefeller Foundation and the High Commissariat for Health and Hygiene are now being completed, and a Decree, establishing the Government agency to operate the project, is expected to be published within one month.

Homes for Cave-Dwellers

The Joint Committee's vote of 5,500,000 lire represents an important step in the project to re-house 500 war-homeless Neapolitans who have been living under appalling conditions in caves. This project, initiated by the Congregational Service Committee and helped in its early stages by a loan of 1,500,000 lire from the UNRRA Italy Mission, will be completed by May 31. By that time, the cave dwellers will be re-housed in decent homes built from Army salvage material on a plot of land given by the City of Naples. The work goes further than the mere provision of homes. The Congregational Service Committee in the United States has voted 15,000 dollars to maintain a staff of welfare workers, who, in association with Italian medical and other workers, will carry out a program of social regeneration among the re-housed cave dwellers, so long as UNRRA remains in Italy.

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MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(MARCH 11 - 18 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO
Eli Whitney	Genoa	11 Mar.	UNRRA	Wheat
Frank Gilbreath	Venice	" "	"	"
Lucy Stone	Genoa	12 "	FEA/It. Govt.	General
Rebecca Boone	Genoa - Leghorn *	" "	UNRRA	Wheat
Marina Raskova	Civitavecchia	13 "	"	"
Jos. Lee	Castellammare	14 "	"	"
Henry Blood	Messina - Crotone *	" "	"	"
Leslie Shaw	Castellammare	15 "	FEA	"
John Eaton	Civitavecchia	" "	It. Govt.	Flour
John Morton	Genoa	17 "	UNRRA	Wheat
Jos. Story	Castellammare	" "	It. Govt.	"
Juliet Lowe	Naples	18 "	UNRRA	General
John G. Hibben	Palermo	" "	"	Wheat
Thos. Bickett	Bari	" "	"	"

** Arrived at first-named port on the date shown; discharging at the second port later*

LATEST COAL SHIPMENTS

(MARCH 10 - 17 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
John S. Williams	Venice	10 Mar.	UNRRA	Lawrence D. Tyson	Genoa	13 Mar.	FEA
Joseph Wing	Genoa	11 "	"	Henry Sibley	"	" "	UNRRA
	Piombino	16 "	"	Jeremiah S. Black	Venice	" "	"
Daniel Drake	Salerno	11 "	"	Grant Wood	"	" "	"
Jean P. Chateau	Piombino	" "	"	Sylvester Gardner	Bari	14 "	"
Richmond Hill	Savona	" "	Brit.Army	W. D. Bloxam	Taranto	" "	"
Ocean Vagrant	Bagnoli	" "	"	Thomas B. Reid	Civitav.	" "	"
	Torre Annunz.	14 "	"	Janet Lord Reper	Bagnoli	" "	"
Henry Thoreau	Genoa	12 "	UNRRA	Thomas Sully	Genoa	" "	"
Joseph Pulitzer	Catania	" "	"	James Lane	"	16 "	"
Robert Forbes	Venice	" "	"	Knute Rockne	"	" "	"
Kenneth A. J. Mackenzie	Genoa	" "	"	Arthur Davis	Palermo	" "	"
Benjamin Williams	Savona	" "	"	Richard Hobson	Genoa	17 "	"
Hoke Smith	Ancona	13 "	"	Philip Barbour	"	" "	"
Sam M. Jackson	Genoa	" "	"				

file

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

Ref.605/PRB

22 March 1946

22 MAR 1946

SUBJECT : A.C. Weekly Bulletin

TO : See distribution.

It is requested that Chiefs of Sub-Commissions, Branches, etc., who have files of the A.C. Weekly Bulletin which, as stipulated in Executive Memorandum No. 7 of 5 January 1946, para. 5, do not have to be sent to Archives, hand over their files to Public Relations Branch, so that a number of complete sets of the Bulletin may be made available. The earlier issues are particularly required.

JOHN P. LEACACOS,
Major, MIB,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

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Office of Executive Commissioner
Message Centre
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Local Government S/C
Public Safety S/C
Security Division
Public Health S/C
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Education S/C
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Land Forces S/C
Air Forces S/C
Communications S/C
Signal Message Center
Civil Censorship Group
A.C. CLO Naples
" " " Livorno
" " " Bologna
" " " Liguria
" " " Piemonte
" " " Lombardie
" " " Bolzano
" " " Venezia
" " " Sicily

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Executive Officer (A)
Executive Officer (B)
G - 1 (A)
G - 1 (B)
G - 4 (A)
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HQ Commandant
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" " " Piemonte
" " " Lombardia
" " " Bolzano
" " " Venezia
" " " Sicily
" " " Bari
A.M.G. 13 Corps
A.M.G. Udine

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All copies of "Bulletin" up to end of 1945 sent PRO to-day
22/3/46.

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March. 15, 1946 Vol. I, No. 9

ECONOMIC NOTES

— Published by The Public Relations Division, UNRRA Italy Mission, Via di San Nicola da Tolentino, 78, Rome —

CONTENTS

1. C. A. S. A. S. Housing Scheme
2. UNRRA Price Policy
3. Movements of Ships

C. A. S. A. S. HOUSING SCHEME

A minimum of 1,000 million lire is to be spent on a program of house-building and house repair in the war devastated regions of Emilia, Tuscany, Lazio and Abbruzzi. The program is to be financed by an allocation from the special relief and rehabilitation fund created by the sale in Italy of UNRRA supplies delivered free to the Italian Government. In addition, substantial foreign currency expenditure has been approved by UNRRA for transport, and other charges involving payments abroad. The new housing project represents the logical next step in UNRRA's program of assisting war-displaced and homeless Italians to return to real homes. By these measures, it is planned to empty the barracks, camps and dispersal areas where the homeless are now congregated. The experience of UNRRA in Italy has clearly demonstrated that such a program is essential to meet the special needs of the existing emergency situation.

Homes for More Than 100,000

The work will be undertaken by C.A.S.A.S. (Centro Autonomo Soccorsi ai Senzatetto), a joint autonomous body composed of UNRRA, the Italian Government and official Government agencies. Within the next six months, it is planned to build about 1,800 four-roomed dwellings, estimated to provide accommodation for approximately 10,000 persons, and to repair at least 20,000 war-damaged houses, estimated to provide accommodation for a further 100,000 people. The largest number of new houses to be built in any one area will be erected at Cassino.

The areas to receive assistance will be those that suffered most during the prolonged fighting on the Gothic and Gustav Lines. In general, it is proposed to limit the work to the following provinces:—

Emilia: Ravenna, Bologna, Forlì.
Tuscany: Apuania, Lucca, Livorno, Pisa.
Lazio: Frosinone, Latina, Roma.
Abbruzzi: Chieti, Campobasso, Aquila.

Method of Finance

The first six months' program will be financed by the allocation of 1,000 million lire from the special relief and rehabilitation fund, and also by those grants normally payable from Government funds under the Italian War Damage Act. In accordance with Decree No. 305, of 9 June, 1945, a war damage grant may be made up to a maximum of 50 per cent. of the cost, according to a householder's means, and subject to a limit of 300,000 lire. As an essential feature of the C.A.S.A.S. program is to provide houses for needy persons, it is anticipated that, in practice, Government grants will be the maximum allowable.

UNRRA will provide the necessary transport, consisting of approximately 1,000 vehicles; and will procure as much as possible of the materials, equipment and machinery as are required for the development of the program, and are obtainable from war salvage, Army surplus or other sources. Finally, UNRRA will make available such of its own and Voluntary Society personnel as may be found necessary to assist in the effective execution of the program.

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C.A.S.A.S. is a combined operation by the following bodies:— UNRRA Italian Mission, the Italian Government Delegation for Relations with UNRRA, the Ministry of Post-War Assistance, the Ministry of Public Works, the Treasury and the National Council for Research and Reconstruction. At the head of C.A.S.A.S. is Prof. Gustavo Colonnetti, President of the National Council for Research and Reconstruction. The work will be organised through a Central Council and an Executive Committee, on both of which all the above bodies will be represented.

C.A.S.A.S. will be created by Decree, but will be a special Government agency, possessing the necessary authority and freedom of action effectively to carry out its program without undue delay. The organisation and operation of the program is an Italian responsibility. A number of foreign staff, including members of voluntary agencies, will assist in getting the project under way. While, however, C.A.S.A.S. exists as a special agency to meet the needs of the present emergency, Italian Government agencies concerned with reconstruction are an integral part of it, and its program is co-ordinated with the Government's over-all housing plans.

Homeless and Homes Destroyed

The urgency of this and similar undertakings is clearly indicated by the following figures of homeless and of homes destroyed. It is estimated that:—

Needy, homeless war-displaced Italians	total	854,000
Rooms destroyed	"	1,706,587
Rooms heavily damaged .	"	939,750
Rooms lightly damaged . .	"	3,201,508

The official Government estimate of the number of persons who previously occupied rooms destroyed or too severely damaged to be habitable is 3,150,000. But, in estimating the number of homeless, regard has been paid to those who are in *real* need; and, in default of alternative accommodation, are living under conditions of severe hardship in camps or in billets. To these must be added those, still more unfortunate, who are sheltering in caves or in semi-destroyed houses.

What is new to be done by C.A.S.A.S. represents a development and an extension of the work done by the UNRRA Voluntary Society units attached to the Italian Displaced Persons Branch. Their work has been limited to house repair; they have not engaged in new construction. Since last June these units have made possible the repair of 5,334 rooms and have rehoused 16,228 persons. The repair work they are now carrying out in Abbruzzi, Frosinone, Latina, Apuania and Bologna will be absorbed into the C.A.S.A.S. program. The valuable work of the Friends' Devastated Area Group in the Abbruzzi, hitherto undertaken independently of UNRRA by members of the American Friends' Service Committee and the British Friends' Ambulance Unit, is also being incorporated in the C.A.S.A.S. program.

House Repair First

Emphasis will continue to be laid upon house repair, wherever that is practicable, rather than upon new construction, since by this means more people can be rehoused in permanent homes in less time. It is a fundamental principle of the C.A.S.A.S. project to provide *permanent* homes. The money will *not* be spent upon so-called temporary barracks, since it is almost certain that these unsatisfactory, emergency shelters would become permanent and would thus perpetuate the abnormal, and often unsanitary, conditions under which so many thousands of Italians are at present living.

"Homes—and Work" are the twin objectives of this housing program. The aim is to provide houses where families may live normal lives and where, above all, those now condemned to idleness in camps may once more earn their living by following their ordinary trades. In assessing the number of *needy* war homeless, one factor of considerable importance is that lack of houses is stopping many from going back to work. The new rehousing scheme is designed further to help employment in the devastated areas by the use, as far as possible, of local materials and by the employment of local craftsmen.

Aid for « Little » Men

The C.A.S.A.S. program is one of self-help. To the fullest possible extent the labour of war-displaced persons will be used. Those to be rehoused will be "little" men with insufficient resources to re-establish themselves on their own account, but who—once they are re-established—will themselves contribute towards the work of rehabilitation and reconstruction.

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Where houses can be repaired for less than the 300,000 lire maximum prescribed by Decree No. 305, the owners will receive assistance from C.A.S.A.S., on the understanding that they and the able-bodied members of their families actively participate in the work. C.A.S.A.S. will collaborate with the Genio Civile in making the State war-damage grant, normally payable only on the completion of repairs, quickly available, in the form of building materials. C.A.S.A.S. will choose the areas where it is to operate and, in consultation with the local authorities, select the needy persons to be helped. The building materials will be purchased by the Genio Civile, or the owners themselves; and these materials will be delivered in C.A.S.A.S. trucks, free of road transportation charges, from railhead to the towns or villages where they are needed. Owners will thus benefit to the extent of the difference between purchase and local delivery prices.

Classes Eligible for Homes

All those who, before the War, rented the houses they lived in, and own neither house nor land, and, in addition, deserving persons who formerly owned small houses now so far damaged as to be beyond repair, will be eligible to occupy the new houses to be built by C.A.S.A.S. They will pay a nominal rent, and will have the right later to buy their houses on an amortisation basis. C.A.S.A.S. will pay the building costs; the ground will normally be provided by the Commmunes concerned. It is intended that the houses shall be turned over to the Commmunes and the occupants chosen by the communal authorities, in collaboration with C.A.S.A.S.

Prospective owners, wherever possible, will help in building their own homes. The work will be done through local co-operative building societies, or through local contractors on a competitive basis, with the proviso that, where prices and terms are approximately equal, preference will be given to local co-operatives. On present estimates, new houses will cost approximately 400,000 lire each. While they will in all parts of Italy be uniform in regard to accommodation and services provided, they will be adapted to suit the localities in which they are built. They will be homes and not eyesores.

The houses will be either separate cottages or composite blocks to accommodate two or, at the most, four families. The unit for each family will in every case consist of three rooms and a kitchen, together with the normal services. In general design they will be similar to the 32 houses built last year with UNRRA assistance at Velletri, Cisterna and Ortona under the experimental program inaugurated by the High Commissariat for Refugees, which has now been absorbed into the Ministry of Post-War Assistance. It is hoped, however, to introduce various improvements such as better windows, pre-fabricated plumbing units and, wherever possible, dual purpose fire-places for cooking and general heating, all designed not merely to add to the general comfort of the house but also to increase the "home" atmosphere.

Economy and Simplicity

Construction is simple, and does not call for skilled technicians. Rubble from ruined buildings can be used; wood can be salvaged. For the 32 experimental houses built last year the wood was recovered from air-raid shelters in Rome and made into doors and window-frames at the Italian Displaced Persons camp at Cinecittà. Hinges and similar metal-work were made in part at Forte Aurelia, and other camps for Italian Displaced Persons, from metal salvage and scrap obtained from the Allied Forces.

UNRRA PRICE POLICY

What prices are to be charged for UNRRA goods? With this issue, it is proposed to publish the first of a series of short articles, re-stating the principles on which UNRRA policy is based. Price policy is governed by Basic Resolution No. 7, passed at the first session of the UNRRA Council in November, 1943, and specifically "written into" the Agreement signed with Italy this year.

This Resolution lays down "that at no time shall relief and rehabilitation supplies be used as a political weapon, and no discrimination shall be made in the distribution of relief supplies because of race, creed or political belief." Responsibility for the distribution of supplies should be borne by the government of the country concerned; and should be "so conducted that all classes of the population, irrespective of their purchasing power, shall receive their equitable shares of essential commodities. When supplies are sold to consumers, prices should be set at such levels as

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to facilitate the flow of supplies into proper hands, and to avoid maladjustments in the price structure of the areas."

On the question of Black Market control, the Resolution specifically requires that the "distribution of relief and rehabilitation supplies should take place under effective rationing and price controls. The suppression of Black Markets should not be left to general pronouncements and decrees, but should be the subject of active measures of enforcement applied vigorously and unremittingly."

Where distribution is made through private trade, the Government must ensure that the earnings of private traders are "no more than is fair and reasonable." The fullest possible use must be made of the normal agencies of distribution, "to the particular ends of combating inflation and restoring normal economic activity"—provided, however, that this can be done without sacrifice of adequate control.

The final paragraph of the Resolution lays down as a fundamental principle that in the distribution of relief and rehabilitation supplies there should "under all circumstances" be the fullest working co-operation between UNRRA and the government of the country receiving supplies.

MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(MARCH 5 - 11 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO
James Kimball	Palermo	6 Mar.	UNRRA	Wheat
John Isaacson	Venice	" "	"	"
Ford Nichols	Naples	" "	It. Govt.	General
Thomas Johnson	Civitavecchia	8 "	UNRRA	Wheat
Laura Keene	Naples	9 "	"	"
F. Willard	Catania	" "	FEA	"
Joseph Lee	Castellammare	*10 "	UNRRA	"

Confirmation of arrival not yet received.

LATEST COAL SHIPMENTS

(MARCH 3 - 10 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
John W. Meldrum	Genoa	3 Mar.	UNRRA	David Lubin	Venice	5 Mar.	FEA
Benito Juarez	"	" "	"	Kirby Smith	Genoa	" "	UNRRA
Brand Whitlock	Bari	4 "	FEA	Dudley Hughes	Ancona	8 "	FEA
	Taranto	8 "	"	W. D. Bloxham	Bari	9 "	UNRRA
Daniel Drake	Civitav.	4 "	UNRRA	Thomas McDonough	Venice	" "	"
Hoke Smith	Venice	5 "	"	Thomas Power	Genoa	" "	"
Maris Sigman	Civitav.	" "	"	John Paul Jones	"	10 "	"
Jean P. Chateau	Genoa	" "	"				

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March 16, 1946

RESTRICTED

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, Commmnists and Action Party, who ran common lists. As of 15 March, the returns of 414 out of 434 commmnes 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 Commmnist one.

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 commmnes". *Unità* 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".

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 the international situation.

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 *démarche* 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 go through the usual frontier formalities to get there, the place is indubitably Italian and as such voted. Of the 900 inhabitants, 582 cast a ballot. Three independent lists were offered, the winning one being that which favored autonomy for the commune. The town has a famed casino, 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 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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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 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 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 6,400. 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, living privately in the larger towns, is mainly dependent for relief on UNRRA.

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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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, 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 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 negotiations for the Italian armistice and helped acquire the Azores as Allied bases from Portugal. This brings us to where we came in.

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. Weden; to First Lieutenant – Sheridan Crumlish... 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. B. 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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POLITICAL

Italian political lines in the past week began openly to melt, shift and newly coalesce as party leaders experimented with tentative battle formations for the coming elections. With the gist of the decisions on the bills on the electoral code and powers of the *Costituente* 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 nation 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 from London that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi might soon be invited to present Italy's case in person before the Deputies of the Big Four's Foreign Ministers drafting the Italian peace treaty or an interim *modus vivendi*.

The *Consulta* sessions on the *Costituente* 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 major 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 results 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 now concluded its political phase, and praising De Gasperi as the man who could guarantee the democratic development of the present critical situation and Togliatti for the breadth of view and "political genius" of his speeches. Hearings continued through the 8th and 9th, with the draft bill to be returned to the Council of Ministers on Monday, the 11th.

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 institutional question. The Rome press speculated freely on possible attitudes, *Giornale del Mattino* 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; *Unità* similarly analysed a Genoa provincial congress of the De Gasperi party and asserted 91 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 Demo-Liberal Concentration of Bergamini. A Liberal bloc also seemed in the offing—a juncture of Liberals, Labour Democrats and others—which would unite all the older statesmen such as Orlando, Nitti, Bonomi, Croce and De Nicola. Where Count Sforza came in was uncertain. In effect, then, the paper concluded, there would be five blocs—

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qualunquista-monarchist on the extreme right. Christian Democrats, the Liberal aggregation, the Republican alliance of Pacciardi, Lussu and Parri and the Socialist-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 Christian Democrats, Liberals, Labour-Democrats and *qualunquisti* withdrew its common list because of alleged acts of violence laid to Communists. Rumors and alarums of disorder, present and anticipated, filled the party papers of the right, an incident at Badolato, where hand grenades were supposedly used, causing editorial unease. National convocations of the political organizations were scheduled: Liberals on 1 April, Christian Democrats on 12 April, Action Party later yet in April.

De Gasperi held one of his few press conferences with foreign journalists in recent weeks and told them, 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 *Consulta* heard several ministers report on technical matters—industry, shipping, insurance and repatriation of prisoners (in which keen 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.

ECONOMIC FRONT

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 EM/OR and 12 officers in the field. By this week-end, most of the Allied civilian personnel going to UNRRA will have physically moved into their new offices, changing billets and messes at the same time. The new line-up then is as follows.

Acting Vice President—Col. Charles W. Walton (A); Deputy Vice President—Lieut. Col. R. E. L. Timmons (A); Chief Staff Officer—Major Norman R. Smith (A); and the following branches 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. E. 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. Arensberg (A), and Finance Branch, Col. Timmons, who is also Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner.

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 derequisitioning, 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 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

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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 that hot spot. We will skip over the tangled 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 organisations 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.

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.

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.

Admidst 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-Slovena*, and the *Sindicati Unici*, which is the Communist pro-Slovene trades union organisation, and on the other side by the Italian CLN and the *Sindicati 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. Bowman (A), SCAO to the CG, 13 Corps, Lieut. General Sir John Harding:

Legal.

The Legal Division has had almost overwhelming difficulties. The first problem that faced it 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.

By January 1946 seven proclamations had been drawn up, 11 general orders, 65 orders, 23 administrative orders, and many minor notices and appointments 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 and civil courts and tribunals were set up in Trieste, Gorizia and Pola under the di-

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vision'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 Commissions 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 154 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 accommodation 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 Mena, Rubbia, Sago and Stanovische.

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 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 labor 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, shipbuilding 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 Gorizia cotton mills during December turned out 330,000 yards of finished cotton, increasing the output in January to 459,377 yards.

The port of Trieste itself was soon 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 has 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.

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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 were also many thousands of Yugoslavs. Trieste became a clearing house for all these homeless victims of the Germans. Two refugee centers were set up in the city in June and until recently these two places handled all movement to and from the Balkans and Italy. In all, a total of 46,000 civilians and POWs have passed through the centers and have been returned to their homes.

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 Organisations in Europe and 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 local 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 by the *Opera Orfani di Guerra* and wounded and crippled war veterans can receive advice and help when they are in need.

The Welfare Division further acts as an agent of sorts for people who wish to move household goods from Yugoslavia to Italy or vice versa. Old 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 20,000 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 happily few problems in terms of infectious disease. The water supply was carefully examined and sewage systems repaired, where necessary, by the military. Port sanitary services were established. Problems dealt with by the Division included the licensing of motor vehicles for medical services and an anti-rat campaign. Medical services for refugees were provided, prison conditions improved and maternity and child welfare services strengthened.

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 elementary schools 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

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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 teacher candidates, 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 Slavic schools and completed in two months, a job which normally would have taken a complete academic year. Competent 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 finances 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.

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 it did not happen) there was no police force that compelled general recognition. The only police organisation was the Yugoslav para-military force known 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 2,482 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 adopted. 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. 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. P. P. 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

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are Jean Phillippe Wolfram, French; M. Geraschenko, Russian; C. H. M. Waldock, British, and Philip Mosely, American.

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 ever-present nuisances. But today the nuisances are coming home to roost with a vengeance on the heads 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, surrounded by the symbols of his terrifying task, sits Major Harrisson, with his staff, Captains Rowlands and Cannings, British, and Lieutenants Taylor and Weeden, American. The main working room itself is frighteningly 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 it, 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 8,000,000 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 30 employes several years to complete. Documents are stored, catalogued and cleaned for micro-filming.

After the filming of necessary documents they are replaced in their respective files, card indexed for cross reference and the record 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 relevant files extracted by consulting the card index.

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 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 and 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 Harrisson and his colleagues, our admiration and deepest apologies.

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. R. C. Ross (A) succeeds Col. W. R. Jordan (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 Galkin to Captain... The T/O of 2675 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; the MTOUSA ruling is being protested on the grounds that A. C. functions would have to be dropped in order to comply... Duty officers at A. C. Hq. during off hours will henceforth consist of one each 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 of property accountability have now come into force... A special Italian military courier plane between Rome and London and Paris for official business has been approved, to be used as need arises... At a ceremony in Rome attended by Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general, MTOUSA, the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, presented the Legion of Merit to the two leading British officers of the Commission—Major General L. Browning (degree of Commander) and Brigadier M. Carr (degree of Officer); Col. C. B. Findlay (B) also has

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been awarded the latter decoration but is away in Germany; Gen. Lee himself presented the same medal to Brigadier Alban Low of R.A.A.C... Other awards include: *Order of the Knights of Malta* — Flag Lieut. Edward Behn; *Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* — Lieut. Joseph A. Cicala (Knight); *Order of the Crown of Italy* — Col. Hannibal M. Fiore (Grand Officer), Col. J. W. Chapman and Capt. H. St. J. Butler (Commander); Lieut. Col. James R. Regis and Capt. Anthony Ciliberti (Knight Officer), and Captains Carl Banno and L. Ciros (Knight)... With 5,311 Italian communes slated to hold administrative elections, as of the latest reports, beginning 10 March (when 432 communes will vote), the Local Government Sub-Commission is busy preparing to observe the proceedings, Maj. R. R. Temple (A), the director, inspecting the North, while Capt. J. V. Vella (B) is looking at Calabria this week; all A. C. LOs have also received a directive instructing them to keep a discreet eye on what goes...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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March. 8, 1946 Vol. I, No. 8

UNRRA

ECONOMIC NOTES

— Published by The Public Relations Division, UNRRA Italy Mission, Via di San Nicola da Tolentino, 78, Rome —

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2. UNRRA Takes over
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ITALY'S ECONOMIC NEEDS

Italian Government negotiations with the Export-Import Bank for a 25,000,000 dollar loan for cotton, reported this week to have reached the final stages, are a reminder that Italy is taking active measures of self-help over and above the aid that is coming to her from UNRRA. Another recent example of the same trend is the conclusion of the agreement with France for the supply of 500,000 tons of Tunisian phosphate rock during 1946, for the production of superphosphate fertilizer. Reference to the weekly "Movements of Ships" table in these Notes will show that a substantial proportion of the vessels now unloading at Italian ports are carrying cargo on Italian Government account.

UNRRA Imports

Vital as is the assistance to be provided by UNRRA in the 1946 program, the 375,000,000 dollars' worth of imports which Italy is to receive do not represent all that is needed from abroad, nor was it ever intended that they should do so. In the supply of foodstuffs, UNRRA is responsible for as high a proportion as 70 per cent. of the country's total requirements (and nearly 100 per cent. of actual imports). In coal it also provides the major proportion. But in all the other main branches of imports UNRRA's share is substantially less than half the total requirements. To enable Italian industry to make its full contribution to national reconstruction, "normal" imports about twice those anticipated through UNRRA shipments will be required.

The most optimistic estimates of what Italy can herself export in payment for these necessary "normal" imports indicate that in 1946 they are unlikely to exceed 150,000,000 dollars, and that equilibrium between imports and exports will not be achieved before 1950. During the period of rather more than three years, from the first landings in Sicily until the completion of the UNRRA program at the end of this year, Italy will have received, from Allied sources and from UNRRA, help to the value of approximately 1,000 million dollars.

Subsidies Must End

But, with the completion of this year's program, will come the end of the subsidy period. From then onwards Italy's economy must pay its own way. Four measures of self-help have been suggested by Mr. Harlan Cleveland, now UNRRA Deputy Chief of Mission for Requirements and Distribution:

1. Italy must ensure that the limited quantities of imported supplies which she receives are put to such use as will best serve national reconstruction.
2. Every effort must be made to lower internal price levels.
3. There must be adequate foreign financing of imports of basic reconstruction materials.
4. There must be the fullest participation of private and commercial interests, here and abroad, in Italy's international trade.

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It is specifically laid down by the UNRRA Council that supplies—not only in Italy but in all countries receiving assistance—shall contribute directly to the relief of the people, and that whatever steps are taken to rehabilitate production shall be those that are directly or indirectly necessary to provide the population with the essentials of civilised living, without discrimination. UNRRA cotton, for instance, must be used, not for the production of fancy

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goods in the luxury market, but to make clothes for those who really need them and at prices they can afford to pay.

Such a policy further implies that food must be distributed in the fairest possible way, and at prices that will enable a family to spend on food at most only 50 per cent. of its legitimate income (as in pre-war days) instead of possibly 150 per cent. or 200 per cent.—which forces the family on to the Black Market both to earn money and to buy food. In so far as supplies of coal, petroleum products and industrial raw materials are concerned, it is a cardinal point of UNRRA policy that these supplies shall be allocated strictly according to the ability of each industry and each individual undertaking to contribute to the work of national rehabilitation.

Lastly, in respect of agriculture—which will be largely helped by UNRRA during the present year—it is in accordance with basic UNRRA principles that aid in the form of seed and fertilizers should go to those farmers who observe their country's laws on arassing and rationing. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the use to which supplies are put is a matter of absorbing interest in the countries which are contributing them.

Economic Price Levels

There are signs that internal price levels in Italy are falling from "pathological" to more economic levels. At some stage it will be necessary for Italy to decide on the level at which those internal prices are eventually to be stabilised. The flow of free imports provided by UNRRA during the next few months should provide an opportunity systematically to "break" the excessive free market prices now prevailing for so many key commodities.

Italy's need for foreign credits has still to be met. The gap between her minimum import requirements for 1946 and what UNRRA can supply, together with the small amount Italy can herself pay for, is in the order of half a billion dollars. Where, however, it can be demonstrated that, project by project, foreign financing now will not only contribute to the reconstruction of Italy's economy but will place that economy in a position where it can pay the interest, and eventually, the principal on the loan—then foreign financing is not out of reach.

UNRRA TAKES OVER

Full responsibility for the delivery of basic relief and rehabilitation supplies to Italy has been assumed by UNRRA, with effect from March 1. The principles on which the program is to be administered have been restated by the Head of the Italian Mission, Mr. S. M. Keeny. UNRRA is a civilian organisation, he says, operating on the basis of a civilian agreement with the Italian Government. UNRRA operates *through* the Italian Government. But, Mr. Keeny adds, "we shall ask, if necessary, for quick action to get the supplies to the people who need them most, at fair prices.

No Supply Bottlenecks

"UNRRA will not tolerate goods being brought into the country and held in warehouses for long periods for any reason whatever. The purpose of UNRRA supplies is to help people—and help them in 1946."

Everything brought by UNRRA into Italy is delivered free to the Italian Government. The Government is under no obligation to pay either now, or in the future. Wherever the recipients can pay for goods, they will do so; and all funds derived from these sales (after the deduction of distribution costs) will be credited to a special account and used only for rehabilitation projects. These funds are to be spent by the Government within three years. "The emphasis is *not* on what UNRRA will do, but on what the Italians themselves will do. The basic responsibility is that of the Italian Government, but UNRRA will help as much as it can."

What New Program Means

With its new responsibilities UNRRA this year will spend on supplies for Italy approximately 10 times the amount spent on the limited program of relief last year. This, Mr. Keeny points out, does not represent a great new body of relief assistance. It is merely a method of financing the same kinds of supplies that were coming in last year, at approximately the same level, until normal credit and normal trade can be restored.

Although UNRRA has assumed the responsibility for importing the commodities essential for Italy's relief, the last few shipments under the Allied Commission's program (mostly the F.E.A. 100,000,000 dollar interim program) have still to arrive. Owing to shipping and

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other transportation difficulties, for example, there has been a considerable overlap of F.E.A. and UNRRA wheat deliveries. Some 109,000 tons of UNRRA wheat had been shipped by the end of February. During March, deliveries, both on FEA and UNRRA account, are expected to exceed 200,000 tons.

In a situation where the whole world is gravely short of wheat, Italy is "getting a good break," states Mr. Harlan Cleveland, formerly Acting Vice-President of Allied Commission in charge of the Economic Section and now UNRRA Deputy Chief of Mission for Requirements and Distribution. "We are doing everything we can to bring the maximum amount of wheat and other grains into the country during this critical period."

In respect of fuel, Mr. Cleveland points out that the last loadings of coal under the Allied Commission FEA program have been completed. Approximately 84,000 tons of UNRRA coal destined for Italy are now on the high seas. During March Italy should receive about 400,000 tons. Imports of petroleum products for civilian requirements are still being handled by the Military Authorities at UNRRA's request. They are, however, paid for by UNRRA.

UNRRA REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Regional offices, to take local charge of UNRRA activities, have now been established throughout Italy, Sicily and Sardinia. Eight regions have been created. They cover the whole country, except Venezia Giulia and Zara, which remain outside the jurisdiction of UNRRA in Italy. Directors have been appointed to every region, with the exception of the Rome Region, which for the moment remains under the control of UNRRA Italian Mission Headquarters.

This measure of decentralisation has been made necessary by the increase in the size and scope of the UNRRA program in Italy. The regional directors will act as the chief representatives of UNRRA in the provinces under their control. They will supervise and direct all local UNRRA activities and are empowered to negotiate direct with local government and administrative officials. They will maintain close liaison with officials of the Italian Delegation, within their regions.

These powers are limited in two important respects. The Bureau of Requirements and Distribution will maintain strict, centralised control, since the allocation of supplies must, of necessity, be decided in consultation with the Italian Government. The operation of the camps for Displaced Persons also remains under central control.

The new UNRRA regional offices are an extension and a development of the district offices organised originally to undertake UNRRA's limited welfare program. Their purpose is solely to carry out UNRRA's task of relief and rehabilitation, in accordance with the vastly extended program under the 1946 agreement with the Italian Government.

Below are the eight regions and the names of the directors:

ROME REGION:
Comprising: Lazio, Abbruzzi-Molise (less the province of Campobasso), Umbria, and Marche.
Headquarters: Rome.
Director: Not yet appointed.

MILAN REGION:
Comprising: Lombardy.
Headquarters: Milan.
Director: Mr. A. L. Raffa.

NAPLES REGION:
Comprising: Campania, Lucania, Puglie, Calabria and the province of Campobasso.
Headquarters: Naples.
Director: Mr. C. Hanson-Abbott.

FLORENCE REGION:
Comprising: Tuscany and Emilia.
Headquarters: Florence.
Director: Mr. A. Ellison.

GENOA REGION:
Comprising: Piedmont and Liguria.
Headquarters: Genoa.
Director: Mr. L. Koenigsbert.

PADUA REGION:
Comprising: Venezia Tridentina and Veneto (and later such parts of Venezia Giulia as may be allocated to Italy after the Peace Treaty).
Headquarters: Padua.
Director: Mr. D. Morley-Fletcher.

SICILY REGION:
Headquarters: Palermo.
Director: Mr. C. B. Moses.

SARDINIA REGION:
Headquarters: Cagliari.
Director: Mr. F. Collins.

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MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 4 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO
William McLennan	Civitavecchia	26 Feb.	UNRRA	Wheat
Benjamin Bonneville	Genoa	" "	"	"
Elisha Otis	"	" "	It. Govt.	General
Henry George	Cagliari	27 "	UNRRA	Wheat
Thomas Hill	Catania	" "	"	"
John Bidwell	Genoa	" "	FEA	"
George Pope	"	28 "	UNRRA	"
Alex Shephard	Naples	1 Mar.	"	Foodstuffs
George Mackay	Genoa	" "	It. Govt.	Wheat
Stephen Gambril	Bari	2 "	UNRRA	"
Robert Stuart	Catania	" "	It. Govt.	Flour
Notre Dame Victory	Genoa	" "	It. Govt. FEA	General
William Hoard	"	" "	It. Govt.	General
Richard Gatling	Venice	3 "	UNRRA	Oats
Nick Stoner	Castellammare	" "	FEA	Wheat
Stephen Beasley	Genoa	" "	It. Govt. FEA	General
Ford Nichols	Naples	*4 "	" " "	"
Lica Maersk	Genoa	*" "	UNRRA	"
Julius Rosenwald	Naples	*" "	UNRRA	Wheat

** Confirmation of arrival not yet received.*

COAL

(FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 3 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
James O'Kelly	Savona	24 Feb.	FEA	Philip C. Shera	Reg. Cal.	27 Feb.	FEA
Horace Williams	Venice	25 "	"	Moses Cleveland	Genoa	28 "	"
Samaustral	"	" "	Brit. Army	Van Louis	Naples	" "	"
Erastus Smith	"	" "	FEA	Thomas Kearns	Palermo	1 Mar.	UNRRA
Fort Kutney	Civitav.	26 "	Brit. Army	Paul Hamilton Hayne	Savona	" "	FEA
George Chaffey	Bari	" "	FEA	Roger Shermann	Genoa	2 "	"
Mingo Seam	Savona	" "	"	Anne Howard Shaw	Venice	" "	"
Charles G. Coutant	Genoa	27 "	"	James Manning	Bagnoli	3 "	"
Rachel Jackson	"	" "	"				

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March 1, 1946 Vol. I, No. 7

UNRRA

ECONOMIC NOTES

— Published by The Public Relations Division, UNRRA Italy Mission, Via di San Nicola da Tolentino, 78, Rome —

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2. Welfare in the North
3. Movements of Ships

UNRRA HELPS EXPORTS

Trade deals, with the assistance of UNRRA, between Italy and Greece, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Poland are now being actively discussed. One substantial deal with Greece has gone through. In some cases payment will be by barter; in others Italy will acquire foreign credits. The majority of the deals are with Greece and Yugoslavia. While this inter-Mission trade between Italy and the Balkan States has not so far reached large proportions, it is expected to expand considerably, since, in the absence of normal trade and diplomatic relations, UNRRA, through its Local Resources Division, provides a channel by which trade can be conducted.

Work for Italy

Even where normal trade relations exist, UNRRA in its capacity of a buyer and distributor of supplies, provides a natural channel for much international trade. The surpluses of one nation—even though that nation is itself in receipt of relief—represent the relief goods needed by another. The possibility of using part of Italy's industrial potential to produce manufactured goods required by UNRRA in other countries has been the subject of preliminary discussions in Washington. In at least one case the principle has been accepted, namely, in the decision to employ Italian mills to make fishnet twine from Egyptian cotton for the Balkans and China.

Trade deals are negotiated through the Italian Government, which is responsible for paying the producers, and in its turn receives either foreign credits or barter goods for sale on Government account in Italy. Prices of goods sold in UNRRA inter-Mission trade deals are those charged by the producers, plus normal transportation costs. Before agreeing the prices, UNRRA requires to see the actual quotations submitted by the producers. No profits are earned either by UNRRA or the Italian Government.

Balkan Trade Deals

Italy has already, as a gift to UNRRA, made available 10,000 tons of salt, for which there exists a substantial demand in Czechoslovakia, and more especially in Yugoslavia. Negotiations are now proceeding, through the respective UNRRA Missions, for the sale to these two countries of further quantities.

By means of a barter deal, Greece has received from Sicily 4,000 tons of sulphur, valued at 40,000,000 lire. The account is to be settled by Greek shipments of colophony (resin) required for such purposes as the manufacture of soap and varnish. (So far the return shipments from Greece have not arrived). Another trade deal with Greece—in which negotiations are almost complete—is for 10,000 press pads, to re-equip olive oil extraction plant. This deal, when completed, will bring business worth 4,000,000 lire to manufacturers in and around Naples.

In furtherance of UNRRA's agricultural rehabilitation program in Greece, negotiations are now proceeding to obtain from Italy supplies of carbon bisulphide. Cork, for the rehabilitation of the fishing industry in Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania and also in Poland, is yet another commodity which, it is hoped, Italy will be able to supply. This will benefit Tuscany and Sardinia. The total value of the shipments is expected to be about 35,000,000 lire. Payment for some of the cork will be by barter, tobacco being one of the commodities which Italy may secure in exchange.

Czechoslovakia is negotiating to buy lemons. From a number of countries enquiries have

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been received for vegetable seeds, but discussions have so far not advanced beyond the preliminary stage. Yet another enquiry—of interest to manufacturers in Terni—is for some 30,000 fire-bricks required by the gas-works at Piraeus, in Greece.

These isolated deals are looked upon merely as beginnings. They represent a healthy aspect of post-war reconstruction, since they aid in the work of national—and international—rehabilitation, and are the first signs of a return to normal trade.

It is not UNRRA's policy to supplant normal trade and commerce between the various countries receiving UNRRA assistance. It should be clearly understood that UNRRA exists as a relief, and not as a trading organization. Intervention by UNRRA is regarded merely as an emergency measure where—and only where—normal trade relationships through regular Consular facilities have broken down, or have not yet been resumed. Thus, it is hoped, the day will be hastened when active international trading becomes normal rather than exceptional.

WELFARE IN THE NORTH

Welfare services for the most needy mothers and children are now being rapidly extended throughout the 30 northern provinces which were restored to Italian Government control at the beginning of the year. By the end of February plans for supplementary feeding, with UNRRA supplies, had been approved in 29 provinces. Once plans are approved, feeding begins immediately.

In the North—as elsewhere throughout Italy, Sicily and Sardinia—UNRRA welfare feeding is supplementary only. Its purpose is to make good the major food deficiencies of expectant and nursing mothers and of children up to 15, by additions to the basic rations. Limitation of supplies makes it necessary to restrict the feeding program to those mothers and children who are in greatest need.

It was not until December that the work of organising UNRRA welfare services began in the North, while it was still under Allied Military Government. By Christmas Eve provincial committees had been set up in all of the 30 provinces. Assessing the needs of the individual communes and organising distribution systems have necessarily involved some delay. But already in January some 25,000 mothers and children in the four provinces of Cremona, Mantua, Pavia and Turin had begun to receive supplementary UNRRA food.

Needy Mothers and Children

They were the advance guard of nearly half a million needy mothers and children in the North to whom UNRRA plans to bring relief. Estimates of those in urgent need of relief are as follows:—

Lombardy .	160,500	mothers and children
Venezia . .	152,000	" " "
Piedmont . .	74,400	" " "
Liguria . .	42,200	" " "
	429,100	

The number of mothers and children in all Italy receiving UNRRA supplementary food rose from 1,015,314 in November last to 1,127,990 in December; and in January was substantially higher than 1,200,000. These figures are approximate only, in view of the difficulty of obtaining complete statistics from the thousands of communes where feeding is now in progress.

For February, rations have been allocated to feed 1,989,505 mothers and children per day. The whole of Italy will now be covered, with the exception of Venezia Giulia and Zara, which are outside the scope of UNRRA's welfare program in Italy.

Meals in Schools

When supplementary welfare feeding was first begun last year, the greater part of the food was distributed raw to mothers, for home consumption. To-day, emphasis is being laid increasingly upon the provision of midday meals in schools. School feeding programs are now in operation in many hundreds of State schools, Church schools and private schools. UNRRA food is distributed also to 1,500 residential institutions of all kinds throughout Italy for orphans, foundlings, mental and physical defectives and juvenile delinquents. Children of all nationalities and all religious denominations are included in the UNRRA welfare program.

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Not only has school feeding served as a convenient means of distributing food to needy children, but the promise of food has been an effective inducement to local authorities to secure the earlier de-requisitioning of school buildings and the restoration of educational facilities. The promise of a midday meal has brought back to school children who for the past three years have been without education and without direction or discipline.

In some provinces there is evidence that the offer of supplementary food has been the means of re-starting social services. At Leghorn, the UNRRA welfare representative in co-operation with the Town Major succeeded in having an institution for deaf and dumb children de-requisitioned and restored to its proper function.

In the central provinces of Chieti and Pesaro, two child welfare experiments have been started. One is the organisation of the Villaggio dei Fanciulli della Strada at Lanciano, Chieti, where delinquent boys are being cared for in cottage homes under a system in which the boys themselves largely manage their own affairs and organise their own discipline. The other is the establishment, under the supervision of the Anti-Tubercular Association, of a feeding and occupation centre for children in the parish of St. Lucia, Pesaro.

UNRRA Supplementary Food

Italy's basic ration for those of four years and upwards is estimated to provide about 630 calories a day. Children under four receive approximately 810 calories. UNRRA's supplementary food represents an addition of approximately 750 calories. It includes powdered and condensed milk, semolina, sugar, fats, dried or tinned fish and dried egg.

Lack of fats—due to world shortage—is at the moment causing grave concern, since without the essential fats it is impossible to provide cooked meals in schools and institutions. The possibility was even discussed of discontinuing the supplementary child-feeding program: but, at the request of the Italian Government, the present program will continue at least until the end of June this year. After that date the whole question of future welfare activities will once more be examined. While the need for a special assistance program has been agreed, the extent to which it can be carried out will depend upon the availability of supplies.

As at present organised, five ration scales are in operation. Children up to one year receive daily between five and six ounces of condensed or evaporated milk, a little semolina and a minute quantity of sugar. From one year to three they receive almost the same amount of milk, less sugar, but some bread, fats and vegetables. The next age group is four to eight. For this group the ration includes a small quantity of fish, and still a substantial quantity of milk. The last age group for children is from eight to 15. Even for the eldest children, there is an allocation of dried or condensed milk.

The final class comprises nursing or expectant mothers. They have a daily milk ration roughly equal to that of the babies and, in addition, receive sugar, extra bread, fats, vegetables, fish and dried egg.

Metod of Distribution

UNRRA does not itself distribute the food, except in camps which it directly administers. UNRRA's policy is to work through the Italian Government, which in turn organises the actual distribution of the food through public or private bodies. Food is distributed in bulk to the responsible authorities in each province. UNRRA's task is to advise and supervise. A close watch is, in fact, kept over every phase of food distribution right down until a bowl of soup, a mug of milk or a ration of bread is handed to a needy mother or child.

Food for babies and very young children is supplied either as uncooked rations for home consumption, or as cooked meals at centres maintained by welfare organisations, the chief of which are the *asili* (kindergartens) both public and private, day nurseries and maternity clinics and public and private babies' homes. Pre-natal and post-natal food is provided for the mothers at centres specially set up by provincial and communal committees.

Day Nurseries

Some tens of thousands of young children, up to the age of six, are cared for at nurseries and kindergartens, where a midday meal is provided, thanks to UNRRA food supplies. Wherever possible, the children receive, in addition, something light in the morning and again in the afternoon. With UNRRA help

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many factories are now able to maintain nurseries where women employees may leave their children during the day. These factories are now to be found in the most of the big industrial centres. But for the food supplied by UNRRA, the day nurseries maintained by welfare organisations and in the factories could scarcely operate.

MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(FEBRUARY 18-25 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	ESTIMATED DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO
Jefferson City Victory	Genoa	20 Feb.	FEA It. Govt.	General
Meroe	Naples	" "	It. Govt.	Wool
Samindora	"	" "	" "	"
Attleboro Victory	"	" "	FEA It. Govt.	Steel, Wheat
Furnifold Simmons	Bari Ancona	21 "	FEA	Wheat
Frank Gilbreath	Venice	22 "	UNRRA	"
Benjamin Bonneville	Genoa Leghorn	23 "	"	"
Wm. McClennan	Civitav. Castellammare	" "	"	Oats
Mahlon Pitney	Palermo	24 "	"	Wheat
George Pope	Genoa Leghorn	" "	"	Wheat, Oats
Rutgers Victory	Genoa	" "	FEA It. Govt.	Cotton, Ammonium Nitrate, Soup
Henry George	Cagliari	25 "	UNRRA	Wheat
Francis Willard	Venice	" "	It. Govt.	"

COAL

(FEBRUARY 18-24 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
John Carlisle	Cagliari	18 Feb.	FEA	John Hanson	Venice	22 Feb.	FEA
Johan Printz	Bagnoli	19 "	"	Philip C. Shera	Catania	23 "	"
Albert Ryder	Civitav.	" "	U. S. Army	Dudley Hughes	Venice	" "	"
Lyman Stewart	Venice	21 "	FEA	Beckley Seam	Genoa	24 "	"
Elihu Root	Savona	" "	"	John Gordon	Genoa	" "	"

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March 2, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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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 *Minuto* 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 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?" Cianca 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 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 Christian Democrats and *qualunquisti*".

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 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". 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.

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 communiqué 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

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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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 all of you have played a great part in the economic survival of the country.

Sincerely,

(signed) ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

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 1 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 band, returned to the scene of his captivity and while engaged in appropriating a modicum of guns and bullets, became involved in the violent demise of a couple of Eritrean guards.

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

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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 ccurred 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 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 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 Minister of Marine, thirty-two British minesweeping vessels are being loaned to the Italian Navy and are now in process of being taken over by Italian crews at Malta, Messina and Naples. They include sixteen M/S Trawlers, used for sweeping contact mines, and sixteen Motor Minesweepers with apparatus for dealing

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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...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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March 1, 1946 Vol. I, No. 7

UNRRA

ECONOMIC NOTES

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UNRRA HELPS EXPORTS

Trade deals, with the assistance of UNRRA, between Italy and Greece, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Poland are now being actively discussed. One substantial deal with Greece has gone through. In some cases payment will be by barter; in others Italy will acquire foreign credits. The majority of the deals are with Greece and Yugoslavia. While this inter-Mission trade between Italy and the Balkan States has not so far reached large proportions, it is expected to expand considerably, since, in the absence of normal trade and diplomatic relations, UNRRA, through its Local Resources Division, provides a channel by which trade can be conducted.

Work for Italy

Even where normal trade relations exist, UNRRA in its capacity of a buyer and distributor of supplies, provides a natural channel for much international trade. The surpluses of one nation—even though that nation is itself in receipt of relief—represent the relief goods needed by another. The possibility of using part of Italy's industrial potential to produce manufactured goods required by UNRRA in other countries has been the subject of preliminary discussions in Washington. In at least one case the principle has been accepted, namely, in the decision to employ Italian mills to make fishnet twine from Egyptian cotton for the Balkans and China.

Trade deals are negotiated through the Italian Government, which is responsible for paying the producers, and in its turn receives either foreign credits or barter goods for sale on Government account in Italy. Prices of goods sold in UNRRA inter-Mission trade deals are those charged by the producers, plus normal transportation costs. Before agreeing the prices, UNRRA requires to see the actual quotations submitted by the producers. No profits are earned either by UNRRA or the Italian Government.

Balkan Trade Deals

Italy has already, as a gift to UNRRA, made available 10,000 tons of salt, for which there exists a substantial demand in Czechoslovakia, and more especially in Yugoslavia. Negotiations are now proceeding, through the respective UNRRA Missions, for the sale to these two countries of further quantities.

By means of a barter deal, Greece has received from Sicily 4,000 tons of sulphur, valued at 10,000,000 lire. The account is to be settled by Greek shipments of colophony (resin) required for such purposes as the manufacture of soap and varnish. (So far the return shipments from Greece have not arrived). Another trade deal with Greece—in which negotiations are almost complete—is for 10,000 press pads, to re-equip olive oil extraction plant. This deal, when completed, will bring business worth 4,000,000 lire to manufacturers in and around Naples.

In furtherance of UNRRA's agricultural rehabilitation program in Greece, negotiations are now proceeding to obtain from Italy supplies of carbon bisulphide. Cork, for the rehabilitation of the fishing industry in Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania and also in Poland, is yet another commodity which, it is hoped, Italy will be able to supply. This will benefit Tuscany and Sardinia. The total value of the shipments is expected to be about 35,000,000 lire. Payment for some of the cork will be by barter, tobacco being one of the commodities which Italy may secure in exchange.

Czechoslovakia is negotiating to buy lemons. From a number of countries enquiries have

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been received for vegetable seeds, but discussions have so far not advanced beyond the preliminary stage. Yet another enquiry—of interest to manufacturers in Terni—is for some 30,000 fire-bricks required by the gas-works at Piraeus, in Greece.

These isolated deals are looked upon merely as beginnings. They represent a healthy aspect of post-war reconstruction, since they aid in the work of national—and international—rehabilitation, and are the first signs of a return to normal trade.

It is not UNRRA's policy to supplant normal trade and commerce between the various countries receiving UNRRA assistance. It should be clearly understood that UNRRA exists as a relief, and not as a trading organization. Intervention by UNRRA is regarded merely as an emergency measure where—and only where—normal trade relationships through regular Consular facilities have broken down, or have not yet been resumed. Thus, it is hoped, the day will be hastened when active international trading becomes normal rather than exceptional.

WELFARE IN THE NORTH

Welfare services for the most needy mothers and children are now being rapidly extended throughout the 30 northern provinces which were restored to Italian Government control at the beginning of the year. By the end of February plans for supplementary feeding, with UNRRA supplies, had been approved in 29 provinces. Once plans are approved, feeding begins immediately.

In the North—as elsewhere throughout Italy, Sicily and Sardinia—UNRRA welfare feeding is supplementary only. Its purpose is to make good the major food deficiencies of expectant and nursing mothers and of children up to 15, by additions to the basic rations. Limitation of supplies makes it necessary to restrict the feeding program to those mothers and children who are in greatest need.

It was not until December that the work of organising UNRRA welfare services began in the North, while it was still under Allied Military Government. By Christmas Eve provincial committees had been set up in all of the 30 provinces. Assessing the needs of the individual communes and organising distribution systems have necessarily involved some delay. But already in January some 25,000 mothers and children in the four provinces of Cremona, Mantua, Pavia and Turin had begun to receive supplementary UNRRA food.

Needy Mothers and Children

They were the advance guard of nearly half a million needy mothers and children in the North to whom UNRRA plans to bring relief. Estimates of those in urgent need of relief are as follows:—

Lombardy .	160,500	mothers and children
Venezia . .	152,000	" " "
Piedmont . .	74,400	" " "
Liguria . .	42,200	" " "
	429,100	

The number of mothers and children in all Italy receiving UNRRA supplementary food rose from 1,015,314 in November last to 1,127,990 in December; and in January was substantially higher than 1,200,000. These figures are approximate only, in view of the difficulty of obtaining complete statistics from the thousands of communes where feeding is now in progress.

For February, rations have been allocated to feed 1,989,505 mothers and children per day. The whole of Italy will now be covered, with the exception of Venezia Giulia and Zara, which are outside the scope of UNRRA's welfare program in Italy.

Meals in Schools

When supplementary welfare feeding was first begun last year, the greater part of the food was distributed raw to mothers, for home consumption. To-day, emphasis is being laid increasingly upon the provision of midday meals in schools. School feeding programs are now in operation in many hundreds of State schools, Church schools and private schools. UNRRA food is distributed also to 1,500 residential institutions of all kinds throughout Italy for orphans, foundlings, mental and physical defectives and juvenile delinquents. Children of all nationalities and all religious denominations are included in the UNRRA welfare program.

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Not only has school feeding served as a convenient means of distributing food to needy children, but the promise of food has been an effective inducement to local authorities to secure the earlier de-requisitioning of school buildings and the restoration of educational facilities. The promise of a midday meal has brought back to school children who for the past three years have been without education and without direction or discipline.

In some provinces there is evidence that the offer of supplementary food has been the means of re-starting social services. At Leghorn, the UNRRA welfare representative in co-operation with the Town Major succeeded in having an institution for deaf and dumb children de-requisitioned and restored to its proper function.

In the central provinces of Chieti and Pesaro, two child welfare experiments have been started. One is the organisation of the Villaggio dei Fanciulli della Strada at Lanciano, Chieti, where delinquent boys are being cared for in cottage homes under a system in which the boys themselves largely manage their own affairs and organise their own discipline. The other is the establishment, under the supervision of the Anti-Tubercular Association, of a feeding and occupation centre for children in the parish of St. Lucia, Pesaro.

UNRRA Supplementary Food

Italy's basic ration for those of four years and upwards is estimated to provide about 630 calories a day. Children under four receive approximately 810 calories. UNRRA's supplementary food represents an addition of approximately 750 calories. It includes powdered and condensed milk, semolina, sugar, fats, dried or tinned fish and dried egg.

Lack of fats—due to world shortage—is at the moment causing grave concern, since without the essential fats it is impossible to provide cooked meals in schools and institutions. The possibility was even discussed of discontinuing the supplementary child-feeding program: but, at the request of the Italian Government, the present program will continue at least until the end of June this year. After that date the whole question of future welfare activities will once more be examined. While the need for a special assistance program has been agreed, the extent to which it can be carried out will depend upon the availability of supplies.

As at present organised, five ration scales are in operation. Children up to one year receive daily between five and six ounces of condensed or evaporated milk, a little semolina and a minute quantity of sugar. From one year to three they receive almost the same amount of milk, less sugar, but some bread, fats and vegetables. The next age group is four to eight. For this group the ration includes a small quantity of fish, and still a substantial quantity of milk. The last age group for children is from eight to 15. Even for the eldest children, there is an allocation of dried or condensed milk.

The final class comprises nursing or expectant mothers. They have a daily milk ration roughly equal to that of the babies and, in addition, receive sugar, extra bread, fats, vegetables, fish and dried egg.

Metod of Distribution

UNRRA does not itself distribute the food, except in camps which it directly administers. UNRRA's policy is to work through the Italian Government, which in turn organises the actual distribution of the food through public or private bodies. Food is distributed in bulk to the responsible authorities in each province. UNRRA's task is to advise and supervise. A close watch is, in fact, kept over every phase of food distribution right down until a bowl of soup, a mug of milk or a ration of bread is handed to a needy mother or child.

Food for babies and very young children is supplied either as uncooked rations for home consumption, or as cooked meals at centres maintained by welfare organisations, the chief of which are the *asili* (kindergartens) both public and private, day nurseries and maternity clinics and public and private babies' homes. Pre-natal and post-natal food is provided for the mothers at centres specially set up by provincial and communal committees.

Day Nurseries

Some tens of thousands of young children, up to the age of six, are cared for at nurseries and kindergartens, where a midday meal is provided, thanks to UNRRA food supplies. Wherever possible, the children receive, in addition, something light in the morning and again in the afternoon. With UNRRA help

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many factories are now able to maintain nurseries where women employees may leave their children during the day. These factories are now to be found in the most of the big industrial centres. But for the food supplied by UNRRA, the day nurseries maintained by welfare organisations and in the factories could scarcely operate.

MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

(FEBRUARY 18-25 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	ESTIMATED DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO
Jefferson City Victory	Genoa	20 Feb.	FEA It. Govt.	General
Meroe	Naples	" "	It. Govt.	Wool
Samindora	"	" "	" "	"
Attleboro Victory	"	" "	FEA It. Govt.	Steel, Wheat
Furnifold Simmons	Bari Ancona	21 "	FEA	Wheat
Frank Gilbreath	Venice	22 "	UNRRA	"
Benjamin Bonneville	Genoa Leghorn	23 "	"	"
Wm. McClennan	Civitav. Castellammare	" "	"	Oats
Mahlon Pitney	Palermo	24 "	"	Wheat
George Pope	Genoa Leghorn	" "	"	Wheat, Oats
Rutgers Victory	Genoa	" "	FEA It. Govt.	Cotton, Ammonium Nitrate, Soup
Henry George	Cagliari	25 "	UNRRA	Wheat
Francis Willard	Venice	" "	It. Govt.	"

COAL

(FEBRUARY 18-21 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
John Carlisle	Cagliari	18 Feb.	FEA	John Hanson	Venice	22 Feb.	FEA
Johan Printz	Bagnoli	19 "	"	Philip C. Shera	Catania	23 "	"
Albert Ryder	Civitav.	" "	U.S. Army	Dudley Hughes	Venice	" "	"
Lyman Stewart	Venice	21 "	FEA	Beckley Seam	Genoa	24 "	"
Elihu Root	Savona	" "	"	John Gordon	Genoa	" "	"

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February 22, 1946 Vol. I, No. 6

UNRRA

ECONOMIC NOTES

— PUBLISHED BY UNRRA ITALIAN MISSION, VIA DI SAN NICOLA DA TOLENTINO 78, ROME, ITALY —

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2. Rubber Production
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ITALIAN AGRICULTURE

The shipments of seed potatoes which have been arriving from the United Kingdom in recent weeks represent the beginning of a substantial program of agricultural rehabilitation to be undertaken jointly by the Italian Government and UNRRA during the present year.

Under the 1946 Program proposed by the Italian Government and A. C. it was originally planned to allocate approximately 10,000,000 dollars (£ 2,500,000 sterling) to the purchase of seed, fertiliser, oilseed cake and other agricultural supplies. Requirements have now been considerably increased. The new schedule of agricultural supplies to be imported by UNRRA at an estimated cost of 12,269,250 dollars (£3,067,312 sterling) has this month been submitted to Washington, and is now under consideration. In addition, deliveries have yet to be completed of some 4,000,000 dollars' (£1,000,000 sterling) worth of tractors, reapers and binders, combine harvesters and other agricultural machinery ordered prior to the 1946 UNRRA program.

Imports of Fertiliser

The revised figure includes the expenditure of 900,000 dollars (£225,000 sterling) on 50,000 tons of superphosphate and 1,600,000 dollars (£400,000 sterling) on 40,000 tons of potash fertiliser, neither of which were included in the original UNRRA allocations. By far the largest item of expenditure is 5,070,000 dollars (£1,267,500 sterling) on 78,000 tons of ammonium nitrate, which—in conjunction with phosphate fertilisers—is an essential to maximum crop production. It is probable that not all of the 78,000 tons will be available by the end of March, which is the latest date for its use this spring. (All figures of expenditure are dollar *equivalents* of all foreign currencies available to UNRRA.)

As an index of what these imports mean in any program of agricultural rehabilitation, it is conservatively estimated that one ton of superphosphate, when properly balanced with nitrate, will increase the crop yield of wheat per hectare (about two-and-a-half acres) by at least three tons. With adequate supplies of fertiliser, potato yields can be increased by 130 per cent.

Effects of War

During the War Italian consumption of fertilisers was heavily reduced, partly owing to interruption of imports and partly owing to the fact that Italian fertiliser factories were engaged in war production. In 1942 imports of rock phosphates had fallen to 44 per cent. of the 1939 figure. Imports of sodium nitrate had ceased. No figures are available for the years following 1942, but it is well known that farmers were able to secure only a very small fraction of their requirements.

This has inevitably resulted in a serious decline in soil fertility. In 1943, although the area under wheat was five per cent. higher than the average for the five pre-war years, 1935 to 1939 inclusive, the total harvest was smaller, since the actual yield per hectare was no less than 19 per cent. below pre-war average.

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Lack of fertiliser is but one of the many factors which have produced the present serious decline in Italian agricultural output. Not least of the causes was last year's disastrous drought. As for direct war damage, much of the devastated farmland has already been restored, although it will be years before replanted olive groves, vineyards and orchards become productive.

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The total area of farmland which has been, or still is, unproductive as the result of bombing, shelling or requisitioning for military purposes is estimated by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture to be several thousand acres. The exact amount is difficult to ascertain.

Littoria Province received the greatest damage; but, on the other hand, most of the Po Valley suffered very little from war operations, while, in general, the areas most seriously damaged were in the mountains and consequently, from the agricultural point of view, the poorest. Land reclamation schemes suffered much as the result of the war; but reconstruction operations, which were started, with Allied assistance, immediately after the fighting had finished, have been so far successful that a considerable part of the damage has been made good.

Fewer Draught Animals

The War was responsible for a serious reduction in the number of draught animals. Between 1942 and 1944 the number of horses in all Italy fell from 770,000 to 667,000, the decline being proportionately much more severe in Central and Southern Italy than in the North. Oxen declined by 120,000 and draught cows by 228,000. In certain of the war areas—along the Gothic Line, and more especially in Emilia, in the province of Frosinone and in Littoria—losses were far higher than the national average. In Littoria they amounted to 78 per cent. The position has now, however, been greatly relieved, thanks to re-stocking by the Allies and the Italian Government.

Yet another severe handicap to Italian agriculture is the present shortage of livestock concentrates. In the revised estimate of requirements it has, therefore, been proposed that **UNRRA** should import 50,000 tons of oilseed cake, or two-and-a-half times the quantity originally suggested. It is not yet known whether this amount will actually be available.

It is in the light of these deficiencies that figures of agricultural production last year must be viewed. How far it fell short of what is possible is clearly indicated in the following comparative table which shows the average production for some of the more important crops and food products during the pre-war period, 1936-38, and the actual production for 1944-45. It must be borne in mind, however, that two specially adverse factors affecting production in 1944-45 were (1) that fighting was actually in progress in certain areas during the sowing season, and (2) that Italy, in common with other Mediterranean countries, suffered one of the worst droughts of modern times.

Home Food Production

	Average for 1936-38 Metric Tons	Actual for 1944-45 Metric Tons
Wheat	7,453,083	4,206,333
Rye	138,300	78,944
Barley	224,596	124,299
Rice	780,700	415,446
Corn (Maize)	3,128,800	1,415,823
Potatoes	2,931,123	1,526,034
Olive oil	251,553	96,325

Production figures for the following food commodities are for the pre-war period only, since no reliable figures are available for the year, 1944-45.

	Metric Tons
Sugar	316,603
Butter	52,586
Eggs	328,860
Milk	1,583,100

Present production of these commodities is also very low in relation to pre-war figures.

Planned restoration of Italy's agriculture would go a long way not only towards relieving the domestic food situation, but also towards restoring the national economy. Italy is essentially an agricultural country. More than 40 per cent. of her population is rural, while nearly half of all those gainfully employed are engaged in agriculture. By large-scale land reclamation, and by increasing crop yields per acre through more careful selection of seed, and better methods of farming, Italy, in the years immediately preceding the War, so far increased domestic food production as to become 90 per cent. self-sufficient.

While, in some respects, this intensive agricultural drive was economically unsound, agricultural exports, nevertheless, accounted for two-fifths of Italy's total export trade, and thus created substantial foreign credits for the purchase of essential imports.

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RUBBER PRODUCTION

Slowly as yet, but already with notable effect, the wheels have begun to turn once more in the rubber industry.

At Tivoli the Pirelli works, using American synthetic rubber, have been producing passenger-car tyres since October last, and output is now in excess of 100 tyres per day. At their works in Milan where production began in January of tyres of all types (including a substantial proportion of heavy-duty tyres), output is expected very shortly to exceed 200 tyres per day. Rayon plants are now once more at work producing the rayon fabric which is essential in synthetic rubber tyres. Michelin have not yet begun production of automotive tyres, but it is anticipated that they will start shortly.

Both Michelin and Pirelli are already producing tyres for bicycles from reclaimed rubber. Output has now been stepped-up almost to normal production. An incidental, but by no means negligible, activity has been the production of rubber soles and heels, also from reclaimed rubber. Output is now very substantial and the availability of this alternative to leather has helped considerably to relieve the acute foot-wear shortage.

These developments have been made possible by imports received under the Military and Transitional Programs. Supplies ordered in accordance with those programs are now only just beginning to arrive in quantity. Substantial imports of synthetic rubber and the essential supplementary materials at an estimated cost of more than 8,000,000 dollars have been included in the new UNRRA program, but it is expected that some time yet will elapse before these supplies start to arrive.

Urgent Tyre Needs

Italy's need of tyres and tubes is immense and urgent, since lack of them is causing serious bottle-necks in distribution by truck transportation. Rubber is at present being allocated almost entirely to their manufacture, to meet essential needs. It is estimated that the minimum requirements this year are in the order of 400,000 to 500,000 tyres and tubes for passenger-cars and cars that have been converted to goods-carrying, rather more than 200,000 tyres and tubes for medium-size trucks and approximately 400,000 tyres and tubes for large trucks and trailers.

The target figure for bicycle sizes is 6,500,000. Motorcycle requirements total 35,000 tyres and tubes. Of paramount importance also, is the production of such industrial equipment as transmission belting and conveyor-bands and communications material, such as insulated cables. As with tyres, this equipment is an essential pre-requisite to large-scale rehabilitation.

Priority in the distribution of tyres for private passenger vehicles is given by the Italian Authorities to doctors, industrial executives and establishments engaged in work of special importance. Truck tyres are available only to those concerns engaged in work of national importance. Bicycle tyres are issued only to those who can prove their need to use a bicycle to go to and from their work or for transportation in connection with their business.

Import Program

It is in view of the key character of the rubber industry in Italy that UNRRA's share of the 30,000 tons of natural and synthetic rubber which it is planned to import during 1946 has been set at the higher of the two alternative estimates considered, namely, 15,000 tons. Last year under the Transitional Program provision was made to import 4,000 tons of rubber. Some has already arrived but deliveries are not yet complete. The great bulk of these imports will comprise synthetic rubber imported from the United States, but it is hoped that a proportion will be made up of natural rubber derived from British sources of supply. It is, in fact, essential that some natural rubber should be included in the imports since tyres cannot be made wholly of synthetic rubber but must include a proportion of natural rubber.

The import program is a "rounded" one, that is to say, it includes delivery not only of natural and synthetic rubber, but of such essential manufacturing ingredients as carbon black and cellulose for high-tenacity rayon. The policy throughout will be to import the raw materials. Not only is this more economical of money, time and materials, but it has also the obvious advantage of helping Italian industry to begin work once more.

In view of the present world situation, it is fortunate that production of synthetic rubber, which was only at the experimental stage before the war, was, under the stress of wartime conditions, extensively developed in the

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major warring countries. In such essential ancillary ingredients as carbon black, Italy has never been self-supporting. Under war conditions home production of carbon black reached 1,500 tons in 1942, but even this figure is far below the total of 12,000 tons of carbon black and lamp black needed if the full 1946 production program is to be carried out.

No general statistics of what the Italian rubber industry achieved during the war are available and in the absence of such statistics no estimate can, at the moment, be made of present-day production capacity, particularly in view of the set-blacks inflicted upon the industry by Allied bombing and German looting and sabotage. Broadly speaking, however, the principal rubber-manufacturing plants have survived the war with their production capacity intact. In normal times the industry was not only capable of meeting Italian requirements, but of providing a surplus for export. Given an adequate flow of raw materials it can be effectively re-established.

WOOLLEN INDUSTRY

Under the 1946 UNRRA Program 14,000 tons (scoured) of raw wool are scheduled to be delivered during the early months of the year, on UNRRA account. In all, on UNRRA and other account, it is hoped to import during 1946 a total of 18,700 tons (scoured) of raw wool, while home production is expected to yield a further 1,500 tons.

In addition to raw wool, it is planned to import some 24,000 tons of wool rags of which approximately half—11,000 tons—will be supplied on the UNRRA program. As with cotton, so with wool, the urgent clothing needs of the Italian population are to be met by the importation of raw materials, since Italy's large productive capacity can fully supply home needs. After Italy's own essential needs have been met there will remain a substantial number of spindles for both worsted and carded wool and some thousands of looms which, it has been suggested, might be employed in producing essential woollen goods for relief in other areas.

Under the 1945 Transitional Program 2,911 metric tons (scoured) of raw wool have so far been imported. These imports represent the first beginnings in the long process of re-establishing an industry, which in 1938 had established a net export balance of some 8,965 metric tons of pure wool fabric and 1,864 tons of wool yarns, and a favourable, although much smaller, export balance of mixed fabrics.

The woollen mills have survived the war virtually intact. Only in comparatively small spinning centres in Calabria, Campania and Abruzzi and Molise has serious damage been sustained. Spindles—all carded wool and none worsted—in these provinces account altogether for less than two-and-a-half per cent. of the total, while the number of looms is no more than one-half per cent. In Piedmont, Veneto, Tuscany and Lombardy, where virtually the entire industry—both worsted and woollen—is concentrated, the potential exists for full-scale production—given the raw materials, the coal and the necessary electric power to work the mills.

Italy's woollen industry was hampered by shortage of raw materials, *before* the war, while, of course, during the war all imports ceased. This was particularly so of the worsted section of the industry which, owing to "starvation," except for such domestic supplies as were available, has had to endure a long period of inactivity.

Interference with normal sources of supply began as long ago as 1934 when the Fascist Government inaugurated its campaign for textile self-sufficiency. In accordance with that policy, raw wool imports, which in 1933 rose as high as 91,838 metric tons, fell in 1938 to as low as 37,649 tons—with a corresponding sharp increase in production of mixed woollen cloth and artificial wool fibres. In order to operate under this cramping policy of self-sufficiency which, in the war years was, of course, forced upon the industry, much machinery has had to be adapted for use with artificial fibres.

Present Policy

Present policy with regard to the allocation of imports is designed to correct the unnatural tendencies of recent years and to stimulate the worsted section of the industry. With that end in view the first 1,200 tons of raw wool imported has, experimentally, been allocated in the ratio of 55 per cent. to the worsted spindles and 45 per cent. to the carded wool spindles, after the deduction of small amounts for the knitting, hat and felt industries. All wool imported comes under the control of the Associazione Laniera Italiana, which is itself a member of the Comitato delle Fibre Tessili,

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in the North. The Associazione was responsible for the original allocation, and now has the whole question under review.

Allocations of UNRRA wool will, of course, be subject to special considerations because of the necessity of making certain that the finished products are such as to provide essential goods needed by the Italian people, at prices which they can afford to pay. Discussions on the best way to follow this policy will be carried on in the next few weeks before the first UNRRA shipments arrive.

MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS

(CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL)

(FEBRUARY 1-18 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO
J. C. Blackburn	Genoa	11 Feb.	FEA	Wheat
Harry Gluckman	Genoa	12 „	For Switzerland	„
Henry Rainey	Genoa	13 „	For Switzerland	„
Joseph Emery	Castellamare Salerno	16 „	UNRRA	„
Arthur Riggs	Civitavecchia	16 „	UNRRA	„
James Devereaux	Genoa	16 „	FEA	„
Thos. Hill	Catania Syracuse	*17 „	UNRRA	„
Geo. Mackay	Leghorn	*18 „	It. Govt.	„
Francis Smith	Genoa	11 „	Commercial	Cotton
Jose Benitez	Genoa Naples	11 „	It. Govt., Commercial	Cotton, Steel
Nancy Lykes	Genoa	12 „	It. Govt., Commercial	„ „
Geo. Flanders	Genoa Leghorn	15 „	It. Govt.	Copper, Nitrate

* *Expected date of arrival*

COAL

(FEBRUARY 11-17 INCLUSIVE)

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT
James McHenry	Bari	11 Feb.	FEA	Stephen Furdeck	Venice	15 Feb.	FEA
	Ancona	17 „		Orland Loonis	Genoa	16 „	U. S. Army
Benjamin H. Bristow	Civitav.	11 „	„	Henry M. Rice	Venice	„ „	FEA
Brander Matthews	Genoa	12 „	„	Fort Brandon	Civitav.	17 „	British Army
Fort Sennoville	Genoa	„ „	British Army	Finley P. Dunne	Bari	„ „	FFA
Anson Burlingam	Genoa	„ „	FEA	R. S. Wilson	Genoa	„ „	FEA
John Carlisle	Savona	„ „	„	Nelson Dingley	Venice	„ „	FEA
Andrew Carnegie	Palermo	13 „	„	William Rayburn	Venice	„ „	FEA
Carter B. Axton	Genoa	14 „	„				
Pittsburg Seam	Savona	15 „	„				

NOTE: Several coal shipments for which only estimated dates of arrival could be given last week are included in the above table, in view of the more detailed information now available.

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February 23, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 47

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 if 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 Cianca—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. n 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. Cianca 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 at Foreign Trade. As these first meetings on the *Costituente*'s powers were begun, a report in *Ricostruzione* asserted that De Gasperi was biding his time to resign and form a new Government on a broader basis. Other rumors had it that Nitti would be the one to form a new administration. In any event, *Giornale del Mattino*, in a semi-official communique, the next day termed such 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 specific referendum on the latter question unnecessary. The discussions continue as we go to press.

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 and of a few anticipated arrivals under the British program; railroad and road supervisory activities have been entirely reassumed by the Italian Government.

The Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission's personnel are also in the UNRRA Industry Department, with which work they are almost 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 over-all 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 if 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 commercial enterprises can move with dispatch and ease and compete effectively in the world markets.

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 casings 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, 12,512 in Florence, 13,733 in Genoa, 14,003 in Milan, 12,948 in Naples, 14,451 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 5,134,900 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, 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 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.

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 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 $4,500,000,000) depends on provision of enough transport for the necessary short hauls of materials to building sites and on rehabilitation of the construction 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, 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 seing 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 over-all 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, 4,498 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 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	7.6
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, Forlì, 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 1,462 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 hold office, of course.

Anyone is eligible to run for communal councillor 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 Fascists, 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 *giunte* 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 local election laws has to do with preventing unseemly electioneering at the doors of the voting booths. The law forbids such propaganda within 200 feet of the polling places and precautions are also taken against preventing all but those who have registration certificates from entering the voting places. This applies even to members

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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 5,000 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 1921, approximately 12,000,000 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. Lancianise; *Crown of Italy* – (*Knight Officer*) Major D. Chapman, Major J. Lund; (*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; *ORs* – 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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POLITICAL.

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 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 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".

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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 concentrtion 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 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 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 300-gram ration which the Allied Commission fought for and finally achieved from the Combined Chiefs of Staff has already gone by the board. Already there is talk of having to cancel entirely the new reduced pasta ration (500 grams a month) next month and even the possibility of again

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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 outs 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 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 $70,000,000 (*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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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 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 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; 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 40 minutes from the Pareo (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 307? 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 sergeant would lean over and pick something out of the little traveller's library the Regiment gave me as a going away present and say: "There it is"— almost adding, I felt, "Don't cry Colonel". Well, actually that was no so bad.

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

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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, Valpack, 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 evidence to support any of these tales but it's all good clean fun... Emotionally one can sense the 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. Elliman, Armando Ferrari and Sidney C. Hall, First Lieut. P. A. Daugert and Sergt. Clemente Barone...

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February 15, 1946 Vol. I, No. 5

UNRRA

ECONOMIC NOTES

— PUBLISHED BY UNRRA ITALIAN MISSION, VIA DI SAN NICOLA DA TOLENTINO 78, ROME, ITALY —

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SHIPPING PROBLEMS

To provide a week by week picture of what ships are arriving at Italian ports and what goods are coming into the country, these Notes will in future include a weekly summary of ship movements and principal imports. The first of these summaries covers the period from February 1 until Monday, February 11, but with subsequent issues the period will be one week only—from Monday noon to Monday noon.

For January, the shipping and import situation was, briefly, as follows:—

Number of ocean-going ships arrived at Italian ports with civilian supplies . . 71

Principal Imports:

Wheat	186,811	metric tons
Other Foods	9,271	» »
Coal	289,832	» »
Miscellaneous Non-food	39,042	» »

Principal Ports of Discharge:

Genoa	21	ships
Venice	11	»
Savona	6	»
Naples	5	»
Bari	5	»
Castellamare	5	»

According to present estimates, ships loading in the Western Hemisphere during February, for delivery in March, will total 89—counting both those on FEA account and those on UNRRA account. Of the 89 ships, 51 will carry coal, estimated at about 400,000 tons. Of the FEA ships (other than coal) seven will load with flour, one with cotton and nitrates and five with general cargo, details of which are not at present available. The UNRRA ships (other than coal) will, according to tentative program estimates, load approximately 227,000 metric tons of supplies for delivery during March, of which 170,000 metric tons will be bulk wheat, 16,000 tons wheat flour, another 15,500 tons oats and approximately 4,500 tons rye flour, rolled oats and cornmeal. UNRRA shipments are expected also to include approximately 10,500 tons of condensed and dried milk, as well as 1,000 tons of sardines. Supplementing FEA deliveries of coal from the Western Hemisphere, will be approximately 16,000 tons of coal shipped on UNRRA account from South Africa. It must be emphasised that these figures are *tentative*.

February loadings, for delivery during March, are expected to clear the bulk of the outstanding FEA supplies. March loading on FEA account will be small. From then on, the bulk of Italy's basic supplies will be shipped by UNRRA.

Availability of Supplies

What UNRRA can achieve will, to a considerable extent, depend upon factors over which UNRRA as an international body, has only limited control—or sometimes none at all. Over-riding all else is the question of availability.

The discussions which have just been completed in London regarding the future of the

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shipping "pool," which is to end on March 2, must by their very nature have a most intimate bearing upon the whole future of Italian rehabilitation. As this issue goes to Press, details of the decisions arrived at in London are not available in Rome. How far the individual nations will exercise control—as is recommended—in the interim period, which will follow the winding up of the United Maritime Authority—the so-called "pool"—cannot be stated, but one fact is incontestable: Orderly availability of the world's shipping is as much a matter of international concern as the orderly availability of such basic commodities as grain. For Italy in particular, shipping availability is of special importance since her imports are at the present time almost 100 per cent sea-borne, and they reach Italy in largely non-Italian shipping.

The availability of shipping depends in its turn upon factors, some temporary some permanent, of great diversity. Securing actual shipping tonnage is by no means the only problem to be solved. Indeed, shortage of shipping tonnage is not at the moment the most pressing of those problems. Of greater urgency are such questions as whether the cargo a particular ship is chartered to carry can, in fact, be made available for loading at the port, when required; whether a ship can, in fact, be manned and whether at the port of discharge facilities exist for the proper handling, and onward despatch, of the cargo.

Manning Difficulties

Unprecedent snow-storms, for instance, in the United States during December reacted immediately upon loading schedules at the ports. As mentioned in a previous issue, inland transportation difficulties have prevented delivery to the seaboard of the grain which the Argentine Government has promised as a gift to Italy. Another serious consideration at the present time is the shortage of crews to man the ships that are available to carry the cargoes. In some cases this shortage is a passing phase. In December, for example, a substantial number of men were not available for duty because they were spending the holidays with their families at home. Also, with the end of the War, the United States Mercantile Marine has lost a considerable number of men, too old for combatant service, who as a wartime duty manned the merchant ships, but have now returned to shore jobs.

A further serious difficulty which hampers the orderly movement of shipping is the inability of all war ravaged importing countries to clear the ships quickly, owing to war damage in the ports themselves, and, above all, owing to the inadequacy of internal transportation systems. This is undoubtedly true of Italy. Lack of railway wagons, lack of locomotives and lack of fuel all combine to cause delay in the "turn-round" of ships at the ports—delay which is aggravated further by the destruction of port facilities. Yet another cause of delay in "turn-round" is the uneven flow of shipping. A port's capacity depends not so much on what it can handle per year, but on the number of ships it can accommodate at any one period of time. In Genoa, recently, three Swiss ships, which arrived within a week, could not discharge their cargo because no berths were available. But while these difficulties remain serious, it must be recorded that strenuous and effective efforts have been, and are being, made by the Italian Authorities to overcome them.

Reducing Road Haulage

In view of the present serious state of road and rail transportation in Italy, the aim is always to deliver cargo to the port nearest to where the supplies are needed, thereby reducing inland haulage to a minimum. Practical considerations make it impossible always to carry out such a policy. Phosphates from Chile, for example, consigned to provinces for which Ancona was the obvious port could not be landed there direct, owing to the fact that Ancona, a comparatively shallow-draught port, could not accommodate fully-laden, ocean-going freighters.

A much asked question is: What is to be done with the merchant shipping tonnage which prior to the War belonged to Italy? How far it can be used to serve Italian needs depends, first, upon the final settlement of treaty terms between the United Nations and Italy and, secondly, upon the adjustments which will result from the London decision to wind up U. M. A.

Italian—or former Italian—shipping can be divided into three classes:

(1). Ships under 300 tons gross, comprising schooners and other coastal vessels.

(2). Ships over 300 tons gross employed in Italian coastwise traffic and

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(3). Ships over 300 tons gross employed in the shipping "pool" under the control of U. M. A., outside Italian waters.

Coastal ships in Class I, totalling 50,000 tons gross have, since July 1 last, been operated under the direct control of the Italian Ministry of Marine through "Cogena," i.e. the Comitato Gestione Navi. Ships in Class II, totalling some 100,000 tons gross, are at the present time operated under the control of the Italian Government working in collaboration with U. M. A. Their future is obviously dependent upon the arrangements which will follow the winding up of U. M. A. Ships outside Italian waters, of which the gross tonnage is somewhat over 150,000, are, with few exceptions, in the U. M. A. shipping "pool."

Argentine Deal

So far, no practical results have come of the deal with Argentina, by which the Italian Government bought back seven ships, of an average of 5,000 tons gross, which were sold to Argentina at the beginning of the War. On paper, all the negotiations are complete and for one of the ships a charter party has already been signed for the trip from Argentina back to Italy; but the exact date of departure is not known. Some of the other ships have still to complete voyages under the Argentine flag before they become available for transfer. It is, further, a condition of sale that the ships must be handed back to Italy in the same condition they were in when they were sold to Argentina. The necessary surveys and repairs are expected to involve substantial delays before the ships are physically in a condition to sail for Italy. On the other hand, it is certain that their return to the Mediterranean for use in the Italian trade would be a substantial gain.

The destiny of Italian shipping is not controlled by UNRRA; but UNRRA will look with a benign eye on any increase in the ships available to Italy. For to the extent that Italian ships can carry the hundred or so shiploads of UNRRA supplies that will come into Italy monthly, UNRRA (and the United Nations) are saving good money, that can be spent on relief and rehabilitation if it does not need to be spent on freight.

SUGAR, FATS AND MEAT

Sugar supplies are likely to be a cause of anxiety during the coming months until domestic production brings relief in October. With sugar, as with wheat, the reason for anxiety is the same; world shortage. In compiling their import requirements for 1946, the Italian Government based their figures on a tentative monthly ration of 500 grams per person and an allotment of 60,000 tons for special concessions and the manufacture of fruit preserves. Even at the time, however, when this figure was first put forward, the world shortage was such that import requirements were at once pruned from a theoretical optimum of 238,000 tons to 152,000 tons, of which UNRRA was asked to contribute a total of 82,000 tons.

On this basis, it was hoped to increase the monthly ration to 300 grams a month, and maintain it at this figure until October, when distribution of home-grown, and home-processed sugar could begin. (Although the harvest is in mid-August, it is estimated that none of the new season's sugar can be on the market before October at the earliest.) In present circumstances, however, not only must any thought of increasing the sugar ration be put aside, but the possibility must also be faced of a cut in the existing ration (200 grams per month per normal consumer) before the new harvest is processed and on the market. The necessity for this, it must once again be emphasised, is due entirely to world shortages. The reduction in imports during 1946, now seen to be inevitable, will apply not only to Italy but to all those countries bidding for a share in the depleted world stocks of sugar. Early forecasts of the 1946 domestic sugar crop are satisfactory and present estimates point to a yield of 130,000 tons—just sufficient to maintain the present ration after the harvest without recourse to imports.

Ration Fluctuations

A point to be noted in regard to the rationing of sugar and of other subsidiary foods is that the actual value of the ration will necessarily have to be based on a month to month allocation. Unlike the bread ration, where plans are laid far ahead to ensure a fixed scale, rations of subsidiary foods are likely to show month to month fluctuations, according to the availability of supplies.

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Fat Ration

In respect of another of the subsidiary foods included in the UNRRA program, namely fats, it now seems probable that the level of imports tentatively planned for 1946 will not be reached, although reductions are unlikely to be as proportionately drastic as in the case of sugar. This should cause little surprise, since as with sugar, preliminary estimates put forward by the Italian Government were reduced as it seemed "very unlikely that such a large import program could ever be fully implemented, because of the world-wide shortage of fats, oils and oil-bearing seeds."

Import Requirements

Total requirements on the basis of a monthly ration of 250 grams for each of the 36,000,000 non-producers in the country, plus higher rations for certain special classes, would represent 150,000 tons a year. This would involve importing some 108,000 tons, on the assumption that 42,000 tons would be available from domestic sources for distribution to ration card holders. Total home production of fats and oils is estimated to be 190,000 tons—or more than four times what is available for distribution in the general ration. The difficulty lies, however, in collecting animal fat, while olive growers are by law allowed to retain 15 kgs. per person. Of the 2,300,000 pigs which, it is estimated, will be killed this year, some 2,000,000 will be slaughtered on individual farms and smaller establishments, where no practicable means exist of securing the by-products for general distribution. Only 300,000 pigs will be processed in industrial establishments where fats *can* be recovered. So far as olive oil is concerned, the only possible emergency measure for increasing output—and one that can only be applied to a severely limited extent—would be to secure more intensive extraction.

Meat

With regard to meat, it is to be emphasised that not only is there no official ration, but it is Government policy to stop the slaughter of livestock, in order to make good the severe losses incurred during—and after—the war. Under Ministry of Agriculture Order, it is an offence to slaughter cattle, except where animals are sick or too old for work.

The German Army policy of living off the land was responsible for large-scale slaughter, and as the Germans retreated from Southern Italy they drove large herds along with them. The inclusion of Indian troops among the British Forces fighting in Italy necessitated the slaughter of large quantities of sheep, in order to meet the special food requirements prescribed by Indian religion and custom.

The British Army authorities have replaced most of the meat they took in the form of live sheep with equivalent supplies of preserved meat; but, while such an exchange satisfies immediate food requirements, it does nothing to restock depleted flocks. Not the least of the causes of a reduction in livestock was last year's severe drought, which involved heavy enforced slaughter of sheep and goats, particularly in Southern Italy and Sardinia.

In the very limited program of meat importation envisaged in 1946 it is proposed tentatively to import a total of some 52,000 tons of meat, of which UNRRA's share will be 24,000 tons in the form of canned meat to facilitate distribution. It is also hoped to import a total of some 7,000 tons of frozen meat (of which UNRRA's quota wil be 2,330 tons) to serve the double purpose of reviving the preserved meat industry and at the same time providing a means of utilising meat scrap which would otherwise be wasted.

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Movements of Ships

(PERIOD FEBRUARY 1-11 INCLUSIVE)

CARGOES OTHER THAN COAL

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	DATE OF ARRIVAL	ACCOUNT	CARGO
John W. Davis	Venice	4 Feb.	It. Govt., FEA	Steel, Food and General
George Baker	Messina Reggio	6 Feb.	UNRRA	Wheat, Bulk
Benj Grierson	Castellamare	10 Feb.	FEA	" "
Joel Palmer	Palermo	11 Feb.	It. Govt.	" "
Julia Shaw	Genoa	6 Feb.	FEA	" "
Cleveland Forbes	Naples	11 Feb.	FEA	" "
Billy Mitchell	Bari Ancona	3 Feb.	FEA	" "
Wm. Fargo	Genoa	2 Feb,	It. Govt.	Cotton, Copper
John McMillan	Naples Savona	8 Feb.	It. Govt.	" "
Adoniram Judson	Venice	2 Feb.	It. Govt.	" "
Cetus	Catania Bari	2 Feb.	UNRRA	Seed Potatoes
Rutenjell	Leghorn	7 Feb.	UNRRA	" "
Mitchell Palmer	Savona	4 Feb.	It. Govt.	Manganese
Jas. Wilder	Naples Catania	7 Feb.	It. Govt.	Sodium Nitrate
Wm. Dobson	Naples	4 Feb.	It. Govt., FEA	Food, Steel, General
Sidney Edgerton	Genoa Naples	8 Feb.	It. Govt.	Rails
Purdue Victory	Genoa	7 Feb.	It. Govt.	Food and General
St. John Victory	Civitavecchia	10 Feb.	UNRRA	" " "
Rufus Peckham	Venice	9 Feb.	It. Govt, FEA	" " "
Becket Bend	Naples	2 Feb.	UNRRA	Codfish
Joyce Kilmer	Bari Ancona	2 Feb.	FEA	Wheat, Bulk

COAL

SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	ESTIMATED DATE OF ARRIVAL	SHIP	PORT OF ARRIVAL	ESTIMATED DATE OF ARRIVAL
Wilfred R. Bellevue	Civitavecchia	1 Feb.	Robert S. Bean	Genoa / Savona	7 Feb.
John Marshall	Leghorn		Carter B. Axton	Genoa / Savona	
Samuel Blatchford	Genoa Savona		Glamorgan Seam	Genoa / Savona	
Redstone Seam	Genoa / Savona	2 Feb.	Robert Y. Hayne	Bagnoli	8 Feb.
John Ross	Venice		Zarembo	Piombino	
Norman E. Mack	Genoa Savona	3 Feb.	Henry M. Rice	Bari	9 Feb.
Atlanta City	Venice		Fort Seneville	Bari	
Gaeta	Genoa Savona		Samgalleon	Ancona	
Wm. Bryan	Venice	4 Feb.	Edera	Genoa Savona	10 Feb.
Henry Waterson	Civitavecchia		Teresa Schiaffino	Genoa Savona	
Edwins Nettleton	Genoa Savona		Eugene Field	Venice	
Ocean Wayfairer	Venice		Edwin W. Scripps	Reggio	
Wm. Bradford	Venice		Chilton Seam	Genoa Savona	
Banner Seam	Genoa / Savona		John R. McQuigg	Genoa / Savona	
John Chandler	Genoa / Savona	5 Feb.	Benj. H. Tristow	Civitavecchia	11 Feb.
Ocean Verity	Venice		Mitchell J. Stone	Leghorn	
Woodrow Wilson	Bagnoli	6 Feb.	James McHenry	Bari	
Thomas Condon	Ancona		Andrew Carnegie	Palermo	
Colabee	Reggio				

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February 9, 1946

Vol. I, No. 4

UNRRA

ECONOMIC NOTES

PUBLISHED BY UNRRA ITALIAN MISSION, VIA DI SAN NICOLA DA TOLENTINO 78, ROME, ITALY

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COAL POSITION

As even every *scugnizzo* must know by now, Italy's economic recovery rests on coal. The country's limited natural resources of low-quality, high-cost coal and lignite compelled Italy in pre-war years to import 85 per cent. of her requirements or approximately 12,000,000 tons a year. This was a heavy drain on foreign exchange which in turn necessitated a heavier industrial production for export (to obtain foreign exchange), which stepped-up production always needed more coal. Virtually all of the imported coal came from Europe, eliminating ocean freight charges, which, incidentally, must now be paid for U. S. coal. Germany supplied 58.5 per cent. of the coal imported in 1938, for example, with the United Kingdom, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Belgium and Luxemburg being the other chief suppliers, in the order named.

Most of the coal was used for essential industries and only 5.7 per cent. (in 1938) for household purposes. In fact, per capita consumption of coal in Italy for the home has always been one of the lowest in the world. The largest users were first, coke plants; second, railroads; third, gas works; fourth, metallurgical and mechanical industries; fifth, construction material plants (cement, glass, bricks). Others included thermo-electric plants, food industries and bakeries, chemicals and textiles. Domestic production was a poor drop in the coal bucket—about 262,000 tons a month, including 75,000 tons of Sardinian coal, 8,000 tons of Val d'Aosta anthracite, 85,000 tons of somewhat better grade coal from the Arsa mines on the Istrian peninsula and 90,000 tons of lignite.

The Allied Commission took immediate cognizance of this situation when the Allied Armies came to Italy. Domestic production was at a standstill and efforts were made to resume production, key mining supplies being imported on a priority basis. The vital importance of importing coal for Italy was stressed on the highest levels. Enormous difficulties have been faced in obtaining the amounts of coal imported, not only because of competing demands from all of the liberated countries of Europe and of world-wide shipping difficulties but also because of depleted European sources of coal, namely the Ruhr, which was devastated in the war, and further because of the war damage to Italian ports, whose port reception capacity was drastically reduced, causing long delays in discharging coal cargoes.

Allied Sources.

The story of the supply of coal to Italy from Allied sources since July, 1943, covers three phases. The first, that of Allied military responsibility, saw, according to accounts thus far tabulated, 1,017,988 tons of coal imported into Italy by the military for exclusively essential civilian use, not counting coal used for hauling civilian freight, a substantial additional amount. About half of this coal came from the United States and the rest from the United Kingdom, South Africa and India. Until the spring of 1945, the amount of coal allotted each month to Italy was comparatively small, in the neighborhood of 50,000 tons. But with the liberation of the industrial North, the rate of coal imports was increased. In July, 1945, 98,200 tons were imported; in August, 203,000 tons; in September, 249,000 tons as the period of military responsibility ended.

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Coal next began to arrive in Italy under the FEA program in October, when 358,588 tons

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(from 42 ships loaded in September) were received. Strikes in the United States resulted in fewer shipments—only 15 ships sailing in October—and in November only 131,433 tons were received, although it had been planned to send 420,000 tons. The next month plans were set up to receive 450,000 tons (since 50 ships sailed in November), but actually only 391,831 tons came into Italy in December. The January program was also set up to receive 450,000 tons but further difficulties, particularly in obtaining crews for ships—13 ships from Hampton Roads, Virginia, alone, for example, could not sail until early January— allowed the dispatching of only 335,000 tons of coal in December. Arriving here finally were 323,000 tons in January, carried in 40 ships. Consequently, coal allocations last month had to be concentrated among railroads, gas and electricity works, hospitals and bakeries, while industrial demands were temporarily subordinated.

For February, the coal picture looks better. Fifty ships sailed from the United States in January loaded with 400,000 tons of coal while another 28,000 tons were coming from South Africa, which makes a prospective total of 428,000 tons for February. Ironically enough, the steel strike in the United States has had a beneficial effect on coal shipments to Italy since it released coal otherwise taken by the steel mills. When the total FEA coal program is completed shortly, it is estimated that approximately 1,687,000 tons of coal will have been imported, at a cost figured roughly of 840,000,000. The European Coal Organization, which recommends coal allocations, has been given full details of Italy's position, and adjustments have already been made to increase shipments in order to make up for the previous allocations which failed to arrive. Speaking of the ECO, the Italian Government, through the medium of the Allied Commission, has been invited to become an associate member of the Organization, an invitation extended under the joint sponsorship of the United States and British Governments. The acceptance of the invitation is now being awaited.

UNRRA Coal.

With the end of the FEA program, the largest 1946 supply of imported coal for Italy is being arranged under the UNRRA supply program. Preliminary studies of coal requirements made by the Allied Commission recommended that UNRRA import 5,250,000 tons for 1946, with monthly shipments starting at 500,000 tons, rising to about 700,000 tons a month in mid-year and ending before the end of the year. This contemplated amount covers about half of what were estimated to be Italy's requirements of 11,692,000 tons, of which 8,692,000 were for industry and the rest for the railroads. Of the coal required for industry, 5,132,000 tons should be general use coal, 1,700,000 tons coking coal, 1,000,000 tons gas coal and 860,000 tons anthracite and slack coal. The table below gives an indication of the suggested allocation of total coal requirements by users in 1946, including allocation of the estimated production of domestic coal and cokes:

Consumers	Tonnage Allocation
Metallurgy	1,337,000
Pig-iron smelters	140,000
Non-ferrous metals	310,000
Mechanical engineering	393,000
Electrical engineering	74,000
Building materials	1,510,000
Pottery and glass	422,000
Chemicals	945,000
Textiles	621,000
Food	550,000
Paper	175,000
Rubber	130,000
Leather and tannic extracts	40,000
Chemical and metallurgic coke plants	1,700,000
Gas works	1,150,000
Thermo-electric plants	625,000
Domestic uses	890,000
Bakers	240,000
Hospitals	360,000
Agriculture	80,000
Total requirements	11,692,000
Domestic production (including cokes)	3,000,000
Import requirements	8,692,000

The 11,692,000-ton figure of coal requirements, incidentally, does not include coal needed for the manufacture of goods for export. This same figure in some calculations has been trimmed down to 10,000,000, considered as strictly essential. Where the rest of the needed coal over and beyond the prospective 5,250,000 tons of UNRRA coal (an estimate, by the way, not yet definitely fixed in certain details), will come from is another question. It depends on restoration of Italian foreign trade and obtaining of credits for the import of the extra coal. In this connection, negotiations are going on between the Italian and Polish Government relative to

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the importation of 720,000 tons of Polish coal in exchange for Italian products. Conversations are also being held with Czechoslovakia for the same purposes.

An increased rate of coal imports also depends heavily on port restoration, including repairs and installation of adequate equipment and facilities not only for unloading cargoes but doing so with dispatch, since present port capacity for coal discharge is, at best, capable of receiving only 600,000 tons a month. Steps have been taken further to increase Italian coal production itself, but transportation difficulties hamper distribution of the mined coal. The average monthly production in Sardinia is now 60,000 tons while shipping difficulties caused a stockpile of approximately 70,000 tons to accumulate. This problem has now been temporarily solved by putting more ships on the Sardinia run. Lignite production is now about 110,000 tons a month, which is, in some respects, better than the pre-war figure and which could be increased considerably more if many of the mines, including the large Valdarno group, were connected by rail to main lines (which at present they are not) to avoid the high costs and mechanical difficulties of road transportation.

GRAIN FUTURE

As the press has reported, a decision has been reached by the Italian Government to restore a general pasta ration at the reduced scale of 500 grams a person a month throughout Italy as of February 1. This is the best indication of improvement in the situation which developed during December and January, when, first, as the result of local action in many provinces and later by general order of the Italian Government, the use of pasta in the *generi di minestra* ration was suspended, in order to ensure the maintenance of the 200-gram bread ration. Only in the regions of Marche and Umbria and the six provinces of Grosseto, Matera, Rieti, Siena, Teramo and Viterbo, where sufficient indigenous stocks of Italian grain existed for local maintenance until the next harvest, was it possible to allow the continuance of the regular pasta ration.

According to the latest information, it is certain that no immediate prospect exists of restoring the ration of *generi di minestra* generally throughout Italy to the figure at which it stood in December, namely 2,000 grams a person a month, nor can anyone tell at this time when such a full restoration will be possible.

Local action in suspending the pasta ration (which saved an estimated 62,000 tons of grain a month) was responsible for a slight improvement in the overall figure of actual stocks of cereal held on January 1. Reserve stocks estimated to be 208,000 metric tons, were found to be 232,000 tons. This latter figure represents sufficient grain for no more than 21 days normal rations (inclusive of pasta) for the 35,000,000 non-producers that have to be fed, and is still too low. Further, these stocks are not evenly distributed over the country, but are largely made up of the indigenous grain concentrated in four lucky regions of the Marche, Umbria, Emilia and Toscana.

Rice Issue.

For the present, that proportion of the *generi di minestra* ration which was given in December in the form of rice is still being issued as such in North Italy. This is considered an equitable adjustment, since during last June, July and August, when Southern Italy was receiving a full pasta ration, many provinces in Northern Italy were without either pasta or rice. By establishing a nation-wide 500-gram ration, the existing disparity in the *generi di minestra* ration in the North and the South will now disappear.

Whether rations in the South (apart from the Marche, Umbria and the six provinces) will be made up entirely of rice to be brought from the North, or partly of pasta is still to be decided. Some such arrangement will have to be made to insure as fair a distribution as possible of all available cereals. Difficulties are, however, likely to be experienced both as to transportation and as to local reluctance on the part of rice-producing provinces to reduce rations in order to export to other parts of Italy.

So far as bread is concerned stocks in hand, or in ships scheduled to arrive, give assurance to all regions of Italy that rations will be maintained for a longer period than was assured a few weeks ago. Happily, also, the question of diverting ships to meet emergency needs has recently not been so acute.

New Totals.

Thanks to reduced consumption during January following the suspension of the pasta ration and recent increases in the rate of arrival of imported grain, reserve stocks in hand at the end of January are estimated to have totaled just under 236,000 tons. The January import figure totaled some 192,000 tons, while the estimated amassing during the month was 20,000 tons.

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Import figures for February, provided ships arrive on time, should reach a total of approximately 228,000 tons. This, together with an estimated amassing of 20, 00 tons should result in a further slight improvement in the reserve stock situation by the end of February, during which month 240,000 tons of cereals (including rice) will have been consumed. By the end of March, the reserve stock figure, it is hoped, will have improved to 255,000 tons. These estimates pre-suppose not merely the maintenance of shipping schedules, but also the re-adjustment of the *generi di minestra* ration, of course. All this is projected on the basis of close and constant coordination of effort on the part of the food authorities.

The Future.

At this stage it is not yet possible to discuss shipments of grain later in the year. UNRRA now tentatively plans to import for Italy a total of 1,620,000 tons of grain, but the UNRRA cereal program ends with June loadings. UNRRA grain will begin to arrive in February. All this, however, must be regarded as a wished-for plan rather than as a certain program. Its actual realization will be dependent upon world availability of grain—and present indications point to so great a demand from all wheat-importing countries that some scaling down will undoubtedly be necessary. With the action taken here in Italy to conserve stocks and the action taken in Washington to accelerate loadings, the stock situation will continue steadily to improve, it is hoped. But in view of the acute world demand, the extent of improvement is inevitably limited.

Some slight easing of the position in Italy would result if, and when, the 100,000 tons of grain offered as a gift by Argentina could, in fact, be shipped to this country. The grain is there and the ships to move it are available, but the problem which has yet to be solved is how the grain is to be moved to the ports in Argentina. Argentina's internal transportation system, too, is run down and needs, notably, 50,000 motor tires.

So great are world demands for wheat, that Italy's cereal imports will henceforth include 55,000 tons a month of wheat flour substitutes, in the form of oats, barley, corn and—up to a maximum of three-and-a-half per cent.— low fat content soya flour. Following baking and milling tests, the Italian Government has agreed to an admixture of 20 per cent. of oat flour in the standard bread for the first time in Italian history.

Italy's local grain prospects are at the moment better than might have been expected. Autumn-sown wheat is looking well, and, given good weather, there are prospects of a satisfactory harvest. Since spring sowing has yet to be completed, no estimate is possible of the total acreage, though it will be a long while before domestic production again reaches the peak of 8,000,000 tons of the pre-war years. Last year, owing to war and drought, production fell to 4,000,000 tons.

COTTON OUTLOOK

Perhaps the most interesting fact about the textile market in Italy is the existence of large stocks of finished textiles, particularly in North Italy, which are still in warehouses. The stocks amount to an estimated 75,000 to 100,000 tons, adequate to supply the domestic requirements of the country for about one year under normal conditions. These stocks include everything from high-grade cotton goods to autarchic goods of inferior quality produced during the Fascist regime. In spite of heavy domestic needs, these goods are not moving to consumers due to excessively high prices which have been established in the retail market in an effort to realize large profits under existing conditions. In this field some businessmen are apparently about to relearn the lesson that it does not pay to hold large inventories in a falling market, especially since it is one of the objectives of the 1946 Italian program to move textile goods into the home market at prices which the average customer can afford to pay.

The cotton industry, largest of the textiles group in Italy, has been well established as part of the Italian economy since the middle of the last century when cotton plants were started in the North. Today the industry is still concentrated in Piemonte and Lombardia, with other centers in Liguria, Veneto, Tuscany and Naples. Although dependent almost entirely on foreign imported materials (cotton, for example, from the United States, Egypt and India), the industry provides a major source of Italian national income and forms part of the largest single employment group (textiles) in Italy.

Pre-war importation of cotton before the Fascists began their uneconomic attempts at self-sufficiency (with terrific costs in imported coal and cellulose), amounted to an average 209,714 tons a year. Italy itself produced an average piddling 550 tons a year, though the current crop will be an estimated 2,000 tons.

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The cotton was worked by some 1,400 firms, as well as by thousands of tiny family handicraft units. Six hundred companies comprise the bulk of the industry, but only 35 employ more than 1,000 workers each. Three firms, for instance, produce practically all the cotton prints.

Consumption.

Internal consumption used to amount to about 86,000 tons a year, although the clothing needs of the nation are now among the most urgent the population faces. In any event, the problem remaining after domestic needs are met is that of maintaining full employment for the 220,000 persons employed in the industry, which means export markets must again be found before this goal is realized.

In order to procure the necessary cotton for substantial employment in the industry there were ordered, under the troop pay and FEA import programs, 45,000 tons of cotton, which had been originally slated to arrive last year but has only just begun to come in. To date, 29,928 tons have arrived and 13,725 tons are en route. Distribution to the small firms of the North was begun only within the last six weeks.

The Italian Government proposed that UNRRA import 18,000 tons, of cotton all of which was requested to arrive in the early part of the current year. This small amount at least would get the cotton machinery spinning, even though these imports would use only about 10 per cent. of Italy's productive capacity and fill only about 20 per cent. of the year's needs for internal consumption. Not counting the accumulated (and enormous) demands for clothing but figuring normal yearly consumption of cotton articles at about 2.2 kilos a person, the UNRRA imports should give some cotton products to approximately 8,000,000 persons.

Considering existing stocks on hand plus the imports under the troop pay, FEA and UNRRA programs, the domestic demand for 1946 should be satisfied. Prices should drop as a result of increased production at low costs. Some export business is anticipated for the textile industry in 1946 which will further increase employment in the industry. Payment for finished goods will generally be made in cotton to be converted to textiles for sale on the domestic market on the *lavorazioni per conto* system, for example, possible use of UNRRA cotton for manufacture here of fishnet twine for Greece, Jugoslavia and China.

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10/86 T.L.

February 9, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Non consiste tanto la prudenza della economia nel saperni guardare dalle spese, perchè sono molte 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 Alto Adige problem and included Corbino's report on the agreement between the Banca d'Italia and Allied Authorities on the cessation of printing of AM lire. The veterans came in for further attention; a decree was approved to ensure them employment in public administrations and providing that the allottment 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 Luzzato (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 coatings (such as a free port on the Danube) to make the pill acceptable. De Gasperi's reply was to send—through the American, British, French and Russian Ambassadors—a special memorandum to the deputy foreign ministers in London. As reported in *Il Popolo*, the memorandum

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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 —and remember that their official ration is now well below the 300-gram mark. In any event, the Italian Government has decided to restore a general pasta ration throughout Italy, effective as of 1 February. This pasta ration or rather the *generi di minestra* ration will be 500 grams a person a month instead of the previous 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 400,000 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 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, 131,133 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 here for making fishnet twine for Greece, Jugoslavia and China.

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 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, 4,000 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, 45,000 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 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 FRANÇAIS

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 *Représentation 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 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 contre l'ennemi commun. Auparavant, le Capitaine de Vaisseau Moullec 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 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 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 *Représentant Français*; he finds it invaluable « *pour se tenir au courant* ». *Mille remercîments, 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 Valor – 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. Muffle, Knute R. Nelson and E. H. Richardson, Captains W. B. 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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tenants 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 RC—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 "fantail", 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 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.

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 conditions of perfect lighting and background, had been hidden for years, high on the dark walls of churches, or darkened by the smoke of altar candles. The Exhibition remained open till October.

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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 night up Route 16 from Ancona and Rimini, carrying stores for the Eighth Army, rapidly fell away. By mid-autumn one could drive southward across the Adige and the Po and see more civilian than military transport.

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 friend he has made among the British and American officers of the A. C.—will miss the *camaraderie* and the kindness with which he treated everybody. Our *auguri di buon viaggio* will accompany him across the ocean.

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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. Condiet, 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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WEEKLY BULLETIN

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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 communiqué, "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 of her mistakes.

He made a special appeal to England, recal- [illegible] British Prime Minister Attlee had once 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 demands of other peoples but he was speaking of Italians and towns that that are indisputably

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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 decided to give priority to the drafting of Italy's treaty and finally UP (from London this time) *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.

Ammenda: 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 to be that private trade between the United States and all parts of the British Empire and Italy will

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tunity 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 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*.

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.

Ammenda: 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 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 *Lomassi*. 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 40,000 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 618 ORs, which figures include many on LIAP or in the way to surplus; the American T O 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 W E 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. 48

POLITICAL.

Λέγεται δ' ὡς δεῖ τὸν νομοθέτην πρὸς δύο βλέποντα τιθέναι τοὺς νόμους, πρός τε τὴν χώραν καὶ τοὺς ἀνθρώπους. Ἔτι δὲ καλῶς ἔχει προσθεῖναι καὶ πρὸς τοὺς γειτνιῶντας τόπους, εἰ δεῖ τὴν πόλιν ζῆν βίον πολιτικόν.

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 development of the Po Valley can depend. As for Austria, speaking of the necessity of keeping the Brenner "for security", he asked "when did invasion ever come from the South?"

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.

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 route to India... We are opposed by a propaganda which is very ably carried on."

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 14 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 *Consultore'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.

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* 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.

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 4,000 more to come); 570 tons of rubber is being shipped;

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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 cele* 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 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) 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 polities 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 to start this month after delay through lack of coal, will, it is hoped, enable food reserves to be built up. Another hitch concerns payment for fish delivered by Lampedusa fishermen (the whole population of the island except for about a score) to Malta. With the departure of AMG a new channel for payments is still to be found,

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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 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. (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." Bet 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... Our readers might spare us a bit of sympathy: the *Bulletin* is getting harder to get out every time, the news being as scarce as it is; there is also a power shortage and last week we had to get changed the power schedules for a whole section of Rome so that the printer could run off our issue; lastly, the printer is now having a

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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. Pankraty, John A. Kitner, Thomas D. Morgan and Louis B. 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.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

February 2, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

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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 communiqué, "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 of her mistakes.

He made a special appeal to England, recalling that Italy had been the first country to receive aid from UNRRA and that the second instalment would 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 demands of other peoples but he was speaking

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 communiqué, "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 of her mistakes.

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 decided to give priority to the drafting of Italy's treaty and finally UP (from London this time) *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 banditi 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.

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"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 to be that private trade between the United States and all parts of the British Empire and Italy will

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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. 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 *Ammassi*. 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 40,000 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 618 ORs, which figures include many on LIAP or in the way to surplus; the American T/O 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 W/E is also now in process of being reduced...

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January 30, 1946

Vol. I, No. 3

UNRRA

ECONOMIC NOTES

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1. UNRRA in Italy.
2. UNRRA Agreement.
3. UNRRA Supply Program.

UNRRA IN ITALY

The story of UNRRA in Italy starts out in July, 1944 when Mr. S. M. Keeny, 52-year-old social welfare executive and veteran of relief work in Russia after World War I with former U. S. President Herbert Hoover, arrived in Italy to investigate possible relief needs. Mr. Keeny is now Chief of the UNRRA Mission to Italy. In September, 1944, the UNRRA Council, meeting at Montreal, Canada, through Resolution 58, authorized a limited program of assistance to Italy, to cost up to $50,000,000 in foreign currency and covering provision of medical aid and sanitary supplies (for which approximately $9,000,000 was later budgeted); aid in the care, and return to their homes, of displaced persons (for which $5,000,000 was set aside), and care of, and welfare services to (including provision of extra food) children and nursing and expectant mothers (for which $36,000,000 was earmarked). This was the proposed program for 1945.

For 1946, incidentally, outside of the general import program, up to $10,000,000 is marked for expenses of the displaced persons program while another $15,000,000 will be spent for continuation of the 1945 relief program, expenditure of which funds will then exhaust the original $50,000,000 allotted to the first UNRRA program in Italy.

Each dollar of UNRRA expenditure in 1945 was matched by 100 lire of Italian Government money which went into a special fund that paid all UNRRA operating expenses and for complementary welfare and medical programs established by the Italian Government. Each 100 lire and second, for welfare activities. Among the projects aided by this fund in 1945 were repair of more than 6,000,000 pounds of used clothing sent from the United States, construction of shelters for homeless families, anti-tuberculosis measures and a special 300,000,000-lire campaign to eliminate malaria in Sardinia, in which the Rockefeller Foundation was also assisting.

Beginnings.

The program got started after the First Agreement was signed between the Italian Government and UNRRA on March 8, 1945 and after the Allied Commission had loaned a month's supplies to UNRRA to enable it to commence operations. Shipping difficulties faced in the early months of 1945, when the war was still on, gradually disappeared with the surrender of Germany and Japan and by the end of 1945, three fourths of the supplies intended for Italy under the limited program had arrived.

A total of 116,000 tons of supplies was imported by UNRRA in 1945, of which more than 101,000 tons had been transferred to the Italian Government by the end of the year. The Italian Government administered the services made possible by these UNRRA supplies. Practically all of the supplies were for use of Italians, only 1,778 tons or about one per cent. having been for the use of non-Italian displaced persons. Speaking of displaced persons, UNRRA in 1945 helped return 90,000 Italians to their homes, a job being taken over from the Allied Commission.

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Each dollar of UNRRA expenditure in 1945 was matched by 100 lire of Italian Government money which went into a special fund that paid all UNRRA operating expenses and for complementary welfare and medical programs established by the Italian Government. Each 100 lire of this Italian Government fund was roughly spent as follows: two per cent. for administrative expenses of UNRRA; 13 per cent. for care of non-Italian displaced persons, and 85 per cent. for, first, labor, warehousing and transportation costs, and second, for welfare activities. Among the projects aided by this fund in 1945 were repair of more than 6,000,000 pounds of used clothing sent from the United States, construction of shelters for homeless families, anti-tuberculosis measures and a special 300,000,000-lire campaign to eliminate malaria in Sardinia, in which the Rockefeller Foundation was also assisting.

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Of the total supplies, 1,100 tons were medical of which 890 tons have been transferred to the control of the Italian Government. Most of the medical suplies were finished products for immediate use, which went primarily to hospitals and institutions taking care of nursing and expectant mothers and children. Since June,

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a monthly issue of penicillin has been made, 15,042 life-saving vials having been released up to the end of December.

Food.

The most important part of the UNRRA relief program was the provision of supplementary food to the most needy nursing and expectant mothers and to children up to 15 years of age. About 97,000 tons of the imports were food, sufficient to feed an estimated 1,200,000 persons a supplementary meal of about 750 calories a day for one year. UNRRA food was distributed only in territories under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government, which meant that all the feeding in 1945 was south of the Rimini line.

Various difficulties in distribution, particularly in transport, made it impossible at first to reach all the people eligible to receive UNRRA supplies. The number fed was gradually increased from 250,000 in June and 850,000 in September to the present figure of 1,100,000 mothers and children estimated to be receiving UNRRA supplies at the close of 1945 in Central and Southern Italy. Food was also in warehouses ready to be issued to 450,000 persons in Northern Italy as the year ended.

As said, the program was not operated directly by UNRRA; operating responsibilities rested with the Italian Government and was administered by the Government's Delegation for Relations with UNRRA, which, in turn, established, in all Italian provinces, provincial committees for UNRRA assistance. The Delegation Office in Rome decided on the allocation of food for each province, and the provincial committees divided it among the communal agencies and individuals eligible to receive UNRRA supplies.

UNRRA AGREEMENT

No clearer understanding of what UNRRA proposes to do in Italy can be had than by a careful analysis of the Agreement signed on January 19, 1946 between the President of the Italian Council of Ministers, Signor Alcide De Gasperi, and the Chief of the UNRRA Mission to Italy, Mr. S. M. Keeny. The Agreement makes explicit what UNRRA proposes to provide for Italy in the way of supplies and services and, and as essential as those of the supplier, that is, UNRRA.

Technically, this last Agreement is known as a Supplementary Agreement, following the original or First Agreement of March 8, 1945, under which UNRRA agreed to supply Italy with supplies and services costing up to $50,000,000 in foreign exchange for help to nursing and expectant mothers, children and displaced persons and for medical supplies. Throughout both agreements but particularly in the Supplementary or most recent one, there will be noticed references to Resolutions passed by the Council of UNRRA in its three meetings at Atlantic City, New Jersey, in the United States; at Montreal, Canada and at London. These resolutions are the written authority for the policies and rules under which UNRRA has to operate and must be taken into consideration in understanding the provisions of any individual agreement between a single nation and UNRRA as the representative of an organization containing 47 member nations.

Exposition.

An exposition of the chief points of the Supplementary Agreement follows. Article I says that in addition to the program already provided for under the First Agreement, "UNRRA will furnish Italy with relief and rehabilitation supplies and services to meet the urgent needs of the Italian population." The Italian Government agrees to cooperate with UNRRA for this purpose. Supplies and services will be furnished in accordance with UNRRA Council policies.

Article II relates that UNRRA relief and rehabilitation services will be administered in accordance with plans agreed upon between UNRRA and the Italian Government and in conformity with UNRRA Council Resolutions 2 and 7 to 13. Wherever necessary, the Government will take measures to insure that such policies are followed throughout the country. The Government will administer the services but UNRRA will assist when asked to, particularly as regards relief services and Italian displaced persons outside Italy. Relief services for non-Italian nationals in Italy will be handled by UNRRA but the Government may also be asked to assist.

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It may perhaps be interesting to elaborate on the interpretation given to some of the UNRRA phraseology. The Preamble of the original agreement, signed by all the member nations that established UNRRA, emphasized that the task of the new organization was to provide relief for the war-suffering people of invaded na-

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tions and to give such rehabilitation as may make that people capable of providing their own further relief supplies or making such supplies for other liberated countries. The stress was consistently on the urgency of the immediate need. Economic reconstruction of a nation is not properly deemed an UNRRA aim.

Distribution.

Article III declares that supplies will be transferred to the Government, which, having the responsibility for the distribution within Italy of these supplies, will take appropriate measures to ensure that distribution will be governed by the policies of the UNRRA Council. The Government will ensure that UNRRA supplies will be adequately guarded in ports, warehouses, centers of distribution and during their movement within Italy.

The Government will sell the supplies in such a manner as to insure that distribution is so conducted that all classes of the population, irrespective of their purchasing power, shall receive their equitable shares. The Government will also discuss and agree with UNRRA on its policies and plans for the distribution of UNRRA supplies covering the following subjects:

Agencies and channels of distribution.

Allocation of supplies by regions and main groups of consumers.

Price policies and specific prices for such supplies and their relationship to prices for similar supplies produced domestically.

Rationing and price controls by commodity, by region, and by classes of consumers for each of commodities supplied by UNRRA.

Facilities and methods for handling, moving and storing the supplies.

Further, the Government will afford representatives of UNRRA opportunities to observe the distribution of supplies furnished by UNRRA at each stage, to consult with the appropriate governmental authorities with respect to such distribution, and generally to satisfy themselves that the system is operating in accordance with UNRRA policy.

The paraphrased text of this key Article III is self-explanatory. The Resolution 2 referred to states that distribution must be fair and without discrimination because of race, creed or political belief while Resolution 7 goes into greater (that is, governmental, commercial and cooperative) and that private channels used for distribution must not make undue profits.

The most important part of this resolution urges that distribution "should take place under effective rationing and price control. The suppression of black markets should not be left to general pronouncements and decrees but should be the subject of active measures of enforcement applied vigorously and unremittingly."

The remaining articles of the Agreement—there are seven all told—deal with housekeeping and other details of the UNRRA program. Article IV, for example, states that the supplies are given to Italy free of charge but Article V points out that the Italian Government will set up a lira fund made up of the proceeds of sales of UNRRA supplies, which fund will be used for further rehabilitation measures in Italy, and for general expenses.

UNRRA SUPPLY PROGRAM

The proposed UNRRA supply program for Italy in 1946 is popularly known as the $375,000,000 program, though, to be accurate, the figure that will finally be alloted to Italy by the UNRRA Council is not yet officially fixed. It is likely to be around $375,000,000, supply cost, plus freight charges, which would bring the total amount to something more than $450,000,000. (Out of the $375,000,000 must also be paid the cost of finishing the 1945 welfare program—around $15,000,000—and the care of non-Italian displaced persons—around $10,000,000.)

The table which accompanies this article shows in parallel columns the total 1946 Italian requirements, as estimated by the Allied Commission, and the recommended UNRRA program for 1946, as developed by the Italian Government in agreement with the Economic Section of the Allied Commission. The relative percentages of the various commodity categories in the total and UNRRA programs are also shown.

The final estimate of the UNRRA program for Italy is now being developed in Washington, based on what amounts of each commodity are actually available for shipment to this country during 1946.

Essentials.

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Distribution.

Article III declares that supplies will be transferred to the Government, which, having the responsibility for the distribution within Italy of these supplies, will take appropriate measures to ensure that distribution will be governed by the policies of the UNRRA Council. The Government will ensure that UNRRA supplies will be adequately guarded in ports, warehouses, centers of distribution and during their movement within Italy.

The Government will sell the supplies in such a manner as to insure that distribution is so conducted that all classes of the population, irrespective of their purchasing power, shall receive their equitable shares. The Government will also discuss and agree with UNRRA on its policies and plans for the distribution of UNRRA supplies covering the following subjects:

Agencies and channels of distribution.

Allocation of supplies by regions and main groups of consumers.

Price policies and specific prices for such supplies and their relationship to prices for similar supplies produced domestically.

Rationing and price controls by commodity, by region, and by classes of consumers for each of commodities supplied by UNRRA.

Facilities and methods for handling, moving and storing the supplies.

Further, the Government will afford representatives of UNRRA opportunities to observe the distribution of supplies furnished by UNRRA at each stage, to consult with the appropriate governmental authorities with respect to such distribution, and generally to satisfy themselves that the system is operating in accordance with UNRRA policy.

The paraphrased text of this key Article III is self-explanatory. The Resolution 2 referred to states that distribution must be fair and without discrimination because of race, creed or political belief while Resolution 7 goes into greater detail on distribution policies. This latter resolution lays down the rule that distribution of UNRRA supplies must not upset the existing price structure of a nation, that distribution channels, in general, should be the normal ones be the subject of active measures of enforcement applied vigorously and unremittingly."

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Essentials.

There are two essential matters to keep in mind in order to appreciate fully the importance of the UNRRA supply program. The first is this: the UNRRA supplies definitely are coming to Italy. In other words, the supplies are certain

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and economic plans can be made with this assured knowledge. The second matter is based, in part, on this certainty. UNRRA supplies will serve as the initial force to spin the wheels of the Italian economic machine. In brief, the fact that UNRRA supplies can be banked on will be used to give the impetus for production to industry and agriculture that, in turn, may then increase production from supplies later arranged from other sources, that is, from foreign commerce and from credits and loans from other governments.

This can readily be seen in any analysis of the distribution of the proposed UNRRA allocation among various commodities. Food (unfortunately because of the disastrous harvest) comprises 55.6 per cent. of the entire proposed amount to be spent by UNRRA for imports. This expenditure will cover 70 per cent. of the total estimated food requirements made by the Allied Commission for 1946. Fuels were proposed to be allotted 13.8 per cent. of the UNRRA funds but 43.5 per cent. of total fuel requirements, including 52.5 per cent. of coal needs and 30 per cent of petroleum requirements were recommended to be met in the UNRRA plan. One hundred per cent. of medical supply needs have been included, while total agricultural supplies would be 42.2 per cent. filled by the recommended UNRRA program.

Industrial materials are earmarked for only 25.2 per cent. of the entire UNRRA allocation, will fill only 22.1 per cent. of total industrial needs. While the bulk of the UNRRA supply program deals with the import of maintenance supplies, that is, food, medicine and fuels, the order of these imports' shipment will be arranged so that industrial supplies will arrive early in 1946 and thus start the chain of reactivation in industry, in what the atom bomb experts call a chain reaction, or more simply, an accelerated rate of continued expansion.

ITALIAN IMPORT REQUIREMENTS 1946

A.C. / Italian Government Recommendation for 1946 UNRRA Program, Compared with A.C. Estimate of Total Italian Import Requirements for 1946

COMMODITY	Total 1946 Requirements Estimated by A.C. (In dollars)	Proposed 1946 UNRRA Import Program (Agreed by A.C. and Italian Government) (In dollars)	Percentage of Commodity Value in proposed UNRRA Program	Percentage of Commodity Value in Total Program
Foodstuffs	293,610,000	204,177,000	55.6	70.0
Coal	70,000,000	36,750,000	10.0	52.5
Petroleum products	46,688,000	14,072,000	3.8	30.0
Fats and oils	24,856,000	12,760,000	3.7	51.5
Textile materials	123,570,000	33,880,000	9.2	27.5
Hide and related products	28,300,000	13,700,000	3.7	48.5
Rubber and allied products	20,858,000	8,262,000	2.2	39.5
Paper industry materials	4,875,000	1,312,500	0.4	26.8
Lumber	69,000,000	4,500,000	1.2	6.5
Building industry materials	8,320,000	1,950,000	0.5	23.6
Steel industry materials	42,280,000	6,900,000	1.8	16.3
Non-ferrous metals	29,480,000	4,320,000	1.2	14.6
Agricultural supplies	23,567,000	9,967,000	2.7	42.2
Chemical products	3,000,000	—	—	—
Miscellaneous industrial supplies	3,200,000	—	—	—
Medical and health supplies	10,000,000	10,000,000	2.7	100
Industrial and utilities equipment	60,000,000	5,000,000	1.3	8.3

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Medical and health supplies	10,000,000	10,000,000	2.7	100
Industrial and utilities equipment	60,000,000	5,000,000	1.3	8.3
TOTAL	861,604,000	367,550,500	100	100
Reserve fund	100,000,000	7,449,500		
TOTAL (excluding freight)	961,604,000	375,000,000		

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JAN 1946

January 26, 1946

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Λέγεται δ' ὡς δεῖ τὸν νομοθέτην πρὸς δύο βλέποντα τιθέναι τοὺς νόμους, πρός τε τὴν χώραν καὶ τοὺς ἀνθρώπους. Ἔτι δὲ καλῶς ἔχει προσθεῖναι καὶ πρὸς τοὺς γειτνιάντας τόπους, εἰ δεῖ τὴν πόλιν ἔχειν βίον πολιτικόν.

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 development of the Po Valley can depend. As for Austria, speaking of the necessity of keeping the Brenner "for security", he asked "when did invasion ever come from the South?"

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.

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 route to India... We are opposed by a propaganda which is very ably carried on."

Press Comment.

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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 *Consultore'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.

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* 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.

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 4,000 more to come); 570 tons of rubber is being shipped;

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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 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) 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 to start this month after delay through lack of coal, will, it is hoped, enable food reserves to be built up. Another hitch concerns payment for fish delivered by Lampedusa fishermen (the whole population of the island except for about a score) to Malta. With the departure of AMG a new channel for payments is still to be found,

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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 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. (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." Bet 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... Our readers might spare us a bit of sympathy: the *Bulletin* is getting harder to get out every time, the news being as scarce as it is; there is also a power shortage and last week we had to get changed the power schedules for a whole section of Rome so that the printer could run off our issue; lastly, the printer is now having a

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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. Pankraty, John A. Kitner, Thomas D. Morgan and Louis B. 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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January 19, 1946

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ALLIED COMMISSION

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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-Nera—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 opinion that Italy's sacrifices on behalf of the common cause and her unique status of co-belligerency should assure her an early peace treaty 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 situation cannot be allowed to continue much longer.

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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.

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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 delgates—except the Communists. The rest of his speech dealt with other aspects of Italy's international problems. Bonomi 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.

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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 Carthrope, Sergt. Walter Epstein, Sergt. Louis F. Tozzi, Cpl. Ernest J. Lamatice, Sergt. Joseph Previte, Pfc. Henry R. De Paullis, 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. London Snedeker, Major Francis J. Burns, Major Andrew J. Malatesta, 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 M. Young. (Knight) Lieut. Marino Pierattini, [illegible] Scattini, Capt. William Scully, 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.

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Our Old Boys' Column this week is amply filled by a letter from Col. Charles Poletti, former RC of Lombardia, written to Lieut. Col. G. G. Hannaford of the Legal S/C, 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) Hershouson 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 2675 Regiment has received 20 replacements from the Persian Gulf Command... Excluding the 11 Regular Army officers on the roster of the Regiment, the signatures on the cer-

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ADRIATIC PORTS

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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 & ESC.

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: Taranto, 5,000; Lecce, 59,000; Foggia, 27,000. Unemployment is increasing partly through workers being dismissed by the Allied Military authorities, inevitable with Allied withdrawal. Government-subsidized public works schemes, which are being inaugurated in all provinces, are absorbing the

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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 32,248 employed and 13,080 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 18,938.80 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 7,705,000 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 triptickets 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 their gyrations on the merry-go-round of trying to fit on Italy a series of new conceptions, are 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 "*Dirty Gertie from Bizerte*" (and we don't suppose for a minute they told us all), as well as sundry other examples of G-1 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 our tongue to stay, but for the moment our patois is freely sprinkled with such terms as "*macchina*",

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THE CHILDREN

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

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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 "rockets", 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 "*cabbene*" 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 R. 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			Definitive Lists		
			Male completed	Female completed	Total	Male completed	Female completed	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 19 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.)

AWARDS

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 hand 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

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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 hand 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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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. Lamatice, Sergt. Joseph Previte, Pfc. Henry R. De Pantilis, 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 McBrainey, 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. Bosson, 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. Malatesta, 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 M. Young. (Knight) Lieut. Marino Pierattini, Capt. Z. M. Santini, Capt. William Scully, 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 RC of Lombardia, written to Lieut. Col. G. G. Hannaford of the Legal S/C, 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) Hershonson 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 2675 Regiment has received 20 replacements from the Persian Gulf Command... Excluding the 11 Regular Army officers on the rosters of the Regiment, the signatures on the cer-

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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 LLAP 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... AFHQ 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 (B) and Miss Lena Passerini, 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 guards 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 Vol. 1, No. 1

ALLIED COMMISSION UNRRA

ECONOMIC NOTES

CONTENTS

1. Greetings.
2. Supply Background.
3. Economic Section Future.
4. Wheat Situation.

GREETINGS

In this, the first issue of the Allied Commission-UNRRA *Economic Notes*, we would like to explain to our readers the purposes and scope of our publication. We hope to be informative, technically accurate and simple to read, though of necessity literary style will regularly have to give way to the precision of statistics. With the tapering off of the Allied Commission's economic activities, this publication will be produced by UNRRA alone at some time within the next two months.

The *Economic Notes* are planned primarily to be an aid in the operations of the supply programs which the Allied Commission—and now UNRRA—have undertaken on behalf of Italy. Allied Commission officers have found an unfortunate but all too understandable lack of information about economic plans, facts and figures on the part of many Italians with whom they have had to deal. This general lack of information has often imposed on Allied officers the necessity of explaining the background of points of policy which should have been common knowledge in the first place.

The *Economic Notes*, therefore, are chiefly addressed to the associations of industrialists, to the labor unions, to the chambers of commerce, to all officials, whether in the central government or in the field, who have a technical interest in the program of imported supplies being arranged for the reconstruction of Italy.

More widely, the *Notes* should have an interest for all Italians, through the medium of the press, in learning what is planned, how priorities are fixed, why certain items are being imported in preference to others, so that Italian citizens can participate in an economic as well as a political democracy by knowing the facts upon which decisions are made.

Reason for Publicity.

There are several specific reasons why it is considered useful to call the attention of the public as a whole to the supply programs. It is hoped that adequate publicity and free discussion about imports will help promote confidence in the economic future of Italy and that this will tend to encourage dehoarding and consequently promote lowered prices. The information we shall make available should be a concrete aid in planning for the importation of further supplies as well as in the allocation and use of supplies already imported.

The planning work on which the Allied Commission has been engaged with the Italian Government, the North Italy Industrial Council and the Northern Price Board, for example, has involved detailed work by literally thousands of persons, in which decisions have been made affecting the lives of 45,000,000 Italians.

We may perhaps conclude this introduction with a word about future contents and how the publication will be distributed. In future issues, we plan to talk about coal and Italy's relationship with the European Coal Organization; about details of the proposed industrial allocation program; about surplus property, and to give full summaries to date of imports made into Italy, made under the military responsibility program, under the "troop pay" credits granted by the United States Government, and under the FEA/CLAC interim program of $100,000,000. We will print monthly allocation recommendations, monthly summaries of imports arrived and, later, what production resulted from the raw materials. At an early date we shall discuss in detail the complete UNRRA program.

The *Economic Notes* in Italian will be distributed largely through the Italian agencies most interested to receive them. These include the

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Confindustria, the *Confederazione Generale del Lavoro*, the Chambes of Commerce (through the Ministry of Commerce) and all members and technicians of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Reconstruction. We shall also send the *Notes* directly to all Italian news agencies, Roman daily newspapers and any others who express an interest in receiving them, as well as to a selected Allied list.

SUPPLY BACKGROUND

The history of the attempts and successes to plan and import supplies for Italy's essential relief and reconstruction have been so swift, and perhaps so technically complicated to a layman's eye, that it might be useful to paint a brief picture of what the Allies, in cooperation with the Italian Government, and now the United Nations, through UNRRA, have done and are doing for Italy.

The first program naturally was that of military responsibility for the importation of civilian supplies in order to prevent disease and unrest that might affect the operation of combat troops. Under this military policy, approximately $450,000,000 worth of supplies, mostly food and medicines, have been imported into Italy since D-Day, Sicily, July 10, 1943 until August 31, 1945.

The stalemate in the tactical situation in Italy towards the end of 1944, however, brought to sharp focus the plight of the 20,000,000 or more Italians in Southern and Central Italy, whose land had been ravaged by the fighting and whose possessions were worn out, destroyed in the war or pillaged by the Germans. Normally, this part of Italy looked to Northern Italy for its manufactured supplies; but the North was still in the hands of the enemy. The Allied Commission then suggested that the Italian Government prepare a plan showing the minimum essential requirements for relief and, it should be emphasized, for merely a start at economic rehabilitation for that part of Italian territory which had been liberated. This was in November, 1944.

Joint Program.

In February, 1945, the revised Allied policy for Italy, as embodied in the Macmillan aide memoire to the Italian Government, formally promised further economic assistance. Hard, detailed work by Allied Commission and Italian Government technicians finally resulted in March, 1945, in the joint "Program of Essential Italian Imports—1945", the first planned supply program since the fall of Fascism.

This plan had two parts: goods to be imported under Category A, which was a liberalized formula of Allied military responsibility for disease and unrest and whose cost was paid out of military appropriations; and goods under Category B, which was a list of imports to be bought and paid for by the Italian Government. The Government foreign credit was nil, so the funds needed were provided by the United States Government through an arrangement by which the U. S. Treasury advanced in dollar credits the equivalent of the Italian lire paid to troops in Italy and spent in Italy. This "troop pay" credit has amounted to approximately $140,000,000, most of which has been spent, although not all the goods ordered have arrived.

The chief feature of the joint program was the predominance of finished goods, plant and machinery on the list of imports requested. There were almost no raw materials since he great mass production centers were in the North and in enemy hands. But before much action could be taken on this program, action translated into terms of ships unloading with supplies at Italian ports, the war came to a sudden end, the North was opened up, the great plants found 90 per cent. undamaged but lacking fuel and raw materials. It was obvious that the import program would have to be revised wholesale from a nation-wide viewpoint. It was also clear that it was cheaper for the Northern factories to manufacture goods needed in Italy rather than for the Government to buy finished articles abroad at a great expenditure in foreign currency.

In the North, during the German occupation, the Committee of National Liberation for Northern Italy had set up a Central Economic Commission to supervise an undercover regulation of the economy of the North until the Allied Military Government could arrive and establish controls. This Commission had in its files all the necessary information about the industries, power installations, transportation facilities and stocks of raw materials existent in the North. The Northern Commission, too, was acquainted with the original joint program, for a copy had been smuggled to it through the lines.

Transitional Program.

With the liberation of Milan, representatives of the Allied Commission's Economic Section, and the Italian Government's Inter-Ministerial Committee for Reconstruction (which had been

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meeting weekly with Economic Section executives to thrash out common problems since the fall of 1944), went North and obtained the new data necessary for quick revision of the first joint program. Until a more exhaustive study could be made, what was required was a list of essential supplies, in the form of fuel and raw materials, to get the factories into operation as quickly as possible. To that end, a "Transitional Program" was drafted. These requests were sent to Washington in May, 1945, while further emergency requests were made in July.

In the meantime in Washington, the Combined (U. S.-British) Liberated Areas Committee was evolving a "Basic Program" to cover Italian needs for the rest of 1945, after the Allied military responsibility for civilian supply should come to an end. This "Basic Program" was based on the "Transitional Program" submitted by the Italian Government and on certain lists of imports once supplied under U. S. military responsibility but which was then assumed by the U. S. Foreign Economic Administration, in cooperation with certain measures taken by the British Government for the shipment to Italy of wool, jute and rubber. An FEA appropriation of $100,000,000 was provided to finance the American shipments.

In Italy, work was begun on the detailed studies required on the national scale. The Central Economic Commission of the North, at the request of the Italian Government, produced a report on Italy's industrial potential and the amount of imports needed for 1946. This draft received wide circulation and in final form, revised in the light of comments, was published by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce in October 1945 as a "Broad Plan for Industrial Imports for 1946".

Recent Plans.

The Inter-Ministerial Committee for Reconstruction likewise had investigated requirements in other fields—food, transport, telecommunications, public works and agriculture—and in December, 1945 published the Italian Government's definitive "Import Plan for 1946", which estimated the country's total import needs for the current year. The cost of this proposed program was priced by the Allied Commission at $1,250 000,000, exclusive of ocean freight charges.

The final instalment of planning came later in December when the Allied Commission published its own calculation of total Italian needs for 1946, which it figured at $962,000,000. Simultaneously, the Allied Commission and the Italian Government agreed on a recommendation to UNRRA as to how the $450,000,000 prospectively available through UNRRA during 1946 might best be spent to meet the urgent needs of the Italian population for relief and rehabilitation supplies.

To recapitulate, there have been seven plans conceived for the economic rehabilitation of Italy—the Joint Program, the Transitional Program, the CLAC Basic Program, the Italian Industrial Program, the Italian Broad Program, the Allied Commission Revised Total Program, and the UNRRA Program. The results have been three planned series of imports, apart from the supplies imported under Allied military responsibility. These have been the imports under the $140,000,000 "troop pay" program, CLAC imports under the FEA $100,000,000 appropriation and comparable British funds, and imports now beginning under the UNRRA $450,000,000 program, including freight charges.

ECONOMIC SECTION FUTURE

The Economic Section of the Allied Commission, which has been responsible for supervising the importation of civilian supplies into Italy and planning for the rehabilitation of the country insofar as military responsibility permitted, will in the near future disappear from the Allied Commission, now that UNRRA is assuming responsibility for the major importation of supplies into Italy for 1946.

In order to make use of the trained personnel in the Allied Commission who have been occupied with supply tasks for the last year, this group of specialists will, during January and February, as it were, wear two hats and will supervise both the UNRRA import program and also oversee the liquidation of the current supply programs initiated by the Allied Commission. This last job involves receiving and accounting for odds and ends of arrivals from the FEA $100,000,000 program of the September-December period, which was established as an interim program for Italy after Allied military responsibility for civilian supplies ended with the last ships loaded on August 31, 1945.

The transition from Allied Commission to UNRRA is planned to be completed by March 1 and intensive transfer of staffs and offices is expected to get underway by February 1. Mr. Harlan Cleveland, American civilian who is acting Vice President of the Economic Section

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and one of the original initiators of the first post-Armistice planned supply program for Italy, the joint program of 1945, will become Deputy Chief of the UNRRA Italian Mission, in charge of the Bureau of Requirements and Distribution. Mr. W. J. Legg, who as a British Colonel headed the Food Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission since its inception in January 1943, and is now Director of the Combined Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission, will move over to UNRRA with Mr. Cleveland as Chief of the Sub-Bureau of Relief Supply. Mr. Elwood Holstein, American civilian who is now Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section, will become executive officer to Mr. Cleveland at UNRRA. Approximately 100 members of the Allied Commission staff, civilians, and officers who will be demobilized, will also make the transfer.

The functions of the remainder of the Economic Section will either be transferred to the British and American Embassies or will be liquidated. Labor and foreign trade activities will go to the Embassies, as well as a few financial matters, while the United States Embassy will also take on an augmented industry staff to assist in giving counsel for the planning of industrial projects in connection with loans of the U. S. Export Import Bank and other U. S. financial agencies.

WHEAT SITUATION

As *Sepral* announced the other day, the issue of pasta in certain parts of Italy will be suspended until further notice. The affected areas are South Italy, Liguria, Veneto, Sicily and Sardinia. The action was taken by the Italian Government in agreement with the Allied Commission because of the critically low reserves of bread grains. On December 1, this grain reserve for the bread ration was 351,000 tons. On December 31, the reserve was only 208,000 tons.

The causes of this serious situation are twofold. The first has to do with the local Italian situation, the second with the rate of grain imports. It has already been reported that the Italian harvest has been a disastrously poor one, caused by bad weather at planting time, late frosts and by a severe drought which resulted in the lowest harvest yield in 25 years. In addition, the amassing of what grain was produced has been notably inadequate.

As for the import situation, 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 into Italy.

Of the 208,000 tons of total reserve stocks available on December 31, 145,000 tons were indigenous Italian grain and was concentrated in four regions—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.

Urgent Steps.

If breakdowns are to be avoided, urgent steps will have to be taken and indeed have already been planned and begun to be put into execution. It is hoped 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 enough wheat to make up the deficiency in the 1945 program.

On the basis of present consumption, locally grown 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.

Despite the fact that provincial transfers are being made with dispatch, the total amounts that can be moved are only a small fraction of the total requirements for all areas. To sum up, 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.

In order to help guard against the irregular or delayed arrival of grain ships, urgent cables have been forwarded to Allied authorities, requesting extra speed on January loadings of grain ships and for efforts to be made to space the ships' arrivals in Italian ports on a fixed monthly schedule.

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January 12, 1946

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ALLIED COMMISSION
WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Fast en och hvar
Fritt sade på Tingel sin mening.
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 partir*.

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 chiefly 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 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 regions—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.

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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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 PRB 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 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 wrapt 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 fighting 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. The former are largely staffed by German prisoners and the latter by French civilians.

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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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 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 G-1 matters leads us to another tale: the sad condition of some of our esteemed British colleagues. Figures show that the total number of requisitioned cars held by the British numbers eleven—and these in far-off Venezie. 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 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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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. Puccinelli... 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) – 4; 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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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*, *petardi* 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.

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.

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 proportionals ystem. 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 communiqué gave no indication of whether these ideas of Nenni were accepted, but it was reported that «De Gasperi seemed to concur".

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 *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".

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. The *Costituente*, in the party's opinion should be sovereign. The Communist leader said that the party was not against the Church but he warned the Church not to become "an electoral agency". He alleged that the party had a membership of over 1,700,000. Gonella, of the Christian Democrat *Popolo*, took notes on the speech (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 *Buonsenso* 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 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 143 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 pairs of shoes have been manufactured and distributed and another 7,500,000 pairs are in production. The aluminium industry is healthy and quantities of much needed machine tools are being produced. Vehicle plants are producing more cars than can be used because of scarcity of tires and lack of rubber for tire production. 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 productionof 1,400 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 Government and effectively carried out military government as the Allied Armies advanced Northwards through Italy thereby ensuring the maintenance of law and order and the establishment of military government in the newly liberated territories and the maintenance therein of adequate supplies

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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, if 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. *Honos honestum decorat.*

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 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.

"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 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, 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 CC.RR. 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 reasons why petty offenders have not much apparent fear of punishment) that it was necessary to resume AMG courts (staffed with PBS officers), which had been closed since September. Indeed, the Italian courts in Livorno are under investigation by the Italian Government.

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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 representativers 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 RC who, as the reader will notice, packs a mean literary, as well as administrative, 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.

Thotgh, 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 and the innkeeper, his wife, daughter, the son, and three or four others were grouped round the tree. We sang, *Silles 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, and it was Christmas morning.

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...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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