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AFHQ, PW
ITALY
NOV., DEC.
(1 OF 2)

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10000/143/672

AFHQ, PWB, REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY
NOV., DEC. 1944
(1 OF 2)

CONFIDENTIAL No. 47

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy 21 December 1944

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 47

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Source (reliability)		Report	(probability)
A	Always reliable	1	Confirmed
B	Usually reliable	2	Probable
C	Sometimes reliable	3	Possible
D	Frequently unreliable	4	Doubtful
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A. CURRENT EVENTS

1 The NewGovernment and the Rome Press

Rome press comment on the new Government and on other political events during the week ended December 17th was on the whole milder and less polemical in tone than it had been either during the Government crisis or in the period immediately preceding it. There was, however, an inclination both in Government andin opposition papers to dwell on the central themes of the recent squabble, and various party organs remained anxious to exculpate themselves from the charge of having precipitated the crisis, and to throw the blame on others.

AVANTI (Socialist) and ITALIA LIBERA (Action Party), now both representing groups outside the government, showed signs of an anxioty to avoid giving the impression that they wished to sabotage the wrk of the four remaining Government parties. AVANTI was obviously tied by the desire to keep the Socialist-Communist alliance in being and its moderation was perhaps assisted by the absence of Nonni in London. ITALIA LIBERA was more outspoken and, for instance, in an anonymous article of December 17th took RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE to task for the declaration made therein on the day before by Marilio Brosio, the new Liberal Minister Without Porfolio. The quarrel, typically, turned on the central question of the respective rights of the Government and of the Committees of National Liberation.

ITALIA NUOVA the organ of the monarchistic Italian Democratic Party continued to crow on occasion during the week on what to some extent has been accepted by nearly all as the victory of the concept of the statute over the claims of the Committees of National Liberation. Pacciardi on the other hand whose VOCE REPUBBLICANA represents the extreme opposite view to that of ITALIA NUOVA on the "constitutional" question, showed no signs of preparing to accept the de facto of the Socialists and the Activists from the Government as the basis for a new Republican bloc of parties, but instead recriminated against those two parties for not leaving the Government earlier.

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A good deal of space during the last three days of the week was devoted to the trials of Generals Pentimalli and Del Tetto and not even ITALIA NUOVA made any effort to defend them.

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B. - GENERAL REPORTS

POLITICAL MEETINGS

2 Action Party

A meeting of the Action Party, held in Via Sannio on Sunday afternoon, 10 December, opened with the inauguration of a banner presented by relatives of the martyrs of the 6th Zone of the city. It was an informal gathering; most of the crowd had to stand, as there were few chairs, and on the platform surrounded by relatives of the fallen, and party supporters, a mother dressed in deep mourning stood motionless holding the large red and gold banner.

Alberto Cianca and Emilio Lussu addressed the meeting. Cianca, vehement and gesticulative, explained the reasons for the Action Party leaving the government and continuing the fight for democracy outside, and within the framework of the CLN. Amid loud applause he criticized Bonomi for his "lack of political intelligence" and for following the Fascist tradition of non-criticism. Only a government derived from the CLN could interpret the people in the world, could prove to the foreigners who supported fascism until the final military aggression of Mussolini, that the Italian people had never sided with fascism. The people had been deprived of its liberty, because fascism knew that the minimum freedom would have been used against the regime. There was applause when he criticized Badoglio and a chorus of shouts and whistles at the bare mention of the word "Luogotenente".

Lussu came to the front of the platform with his arms placed affectionately around the shoulders of two young carpenters whose father had been shot by the Germans. They had often met together during the clandestine period to discuss politics. Lussu is an original speaker with touches of lively ironic humor. He criticized the new government for its lack of vitality. "What is changed? The President is the same ... Help for the patriots? Let us hope -- but the generals? There were 5000 of them on September 8th, as many as all the generals in the British, American and Soviet armies put together (shouts of laughter) -- we must get rid of them. The new army? 'We are perplexed'. Casati must overcome his timidity. Foreign policy? 'We are preoccupied', and it would have been in good taste if De Gasperi on account of Sforza, Churchill and

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The audience, an intelligent looking crowd, was keen and enthusiastic throughout.

3 Speech of Pietro Nenni in Naples, Sunday, 10 December, 1944. 1950

On 10 December, the head of the Socialist Party made a speech illustrating and justifying the line of policy followed by the Socialist party in the Government crisis. The speech was given at a meeting of

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the Naples Socialist Party behind closed doors. It is therefore interesting to compare the following first-hand account of the meeting with the official one printed in the newspapers.

Nenni began by saying that the task of the Socialist Party during the crisis was to bring about a democratic regime which should represent a step forward from the order of things concerted in June, 1944. The cause of the Government crisis was to be found in the Bonomi Government's weakness of action and in its semblance of a legislative rather than an executive body. The Government, given the circumstances, necessarily lacked the strength of a legitimate institution, in that it had not the support either of a parliament or a Constituent Assembly or any other consulting body. Thus the difficulties which arose over the problem of creating a provisional consulting body were unsurmountable. A government of technicians was proposed, but the Socialists had opposed such a proposal because, Nenni explained, it had to be remembered that in the natural and inevitable development of things, the technicians would have become politicians.

The situation, instead, logically required that the Committee of National Liberation, representing the only body recognized by all six parties, should be given more authority and, as a result, more strength. However, it was more than ever clear that Bonomi was preventing this solution being reached. The fact is that the electoral lists were not yet ready and would probably not be ready til the end of the winter. In that critical time, Nenni argued, Bonomi should have given proof of a more sincere loyalty, instead of which he was obviously tending to discredit the C.L.N. -- and here Nenni reminded his listeners that the proposals of the C.L.N. of Forence had not met with success and that of the C.L.N. of Milan had not yet been invested with government authority as it should have been. This fact became glaring when it was remembered that the said C.L.N. had already been recognized by the Allied Command.

Nenni continued by saying that in June this year a certain equilibrium had been established between the C.L.N. and the Lieutenant of the Realm, but Bonomi's resignation brought the "Institutional" problem once more into question. The Socialist leader then revealed that Bonomi had summoned him a month ago to tell him that he intended to bring

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Nenni continued by saying that in June this year a certain equilibrium had been established between the C.L.N. and the Lieutenant of the Realm, but Bonomi's resignation brought the "Institutional" problem once more into question. The Socialist leader then revealed that Bonomi had summoned him a month ago to tell him that he intended to bring to a head a technical crisis in the Government because he thought it necessary to change certain of the Ministers. He himself had replied that if he thought this move opportune, he should bring it before the C.L.N. This reply had apparently not satisfied the Premier because he withdrew the proposal. By now the press and the Parties had learned something of this "crisis of technicians" and in fact people began to talk of a government crisis.

In the face of this situation, the Demo-Christian and Liberal Parties declared themselves prepared to allow the State greater authority, while the Socialists and those of the left insisted that such a plan could only be possible after a radical "epuration" of the Fascist elements in the state administration. This statement set going the polemical campaign in the press which is well known.

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Suddenly, on Saturday the 15th, Bonomi brought the matter, which was by now being discussed publicly, before the C.L.N. The Committee unanimously counselled Bonomi not to resign. Nenni added that he had on that occasion declared that the Committee should act expeditiously so that the Government which had resigned at 10 a.m. could be reformed by 4 p.m. That would be the only way of giving the country a picture of really serious-minded conduct on their part. The discussion hinged on the official definition of the crisis as technical or political. Nenni said that he had been in favor of calling it what it really was — a political crisis. In the meantime, while the discussion was going on, Bonomi handed in his resignation to the Lieutenant of the Realm. He thus, declared Nenni, took a step back from the point reached in June. However, the discussions continued in a conciliatory tone towards Bonomi to the point where he was invited to preside over the C.L.N.

The one man who could, in everybody's opinion, solve the crisis, had been Count Sforza, as politically his attitude had always been absolutely consistent (leale) and favorable to the left ever since his arrival in Italy. But the tragic dilemma was then unexpectedly thrust upon them all: loyalty and solidarity with Sforza on the one hand, and a break with England on the other. A great mistake was then made, said Nenni, because the members of the C.L.N., in order to settle the Sforza predicament (Caso Sforza) referred to the British Embassy instead of to the Allied Commission.

With the dropping out of Sforza, the Party of Action followed suit, and withdrew its support of the government. The Socialist Party, on the other hand, advocated that in order to maintain Italian dignity in International politics, a Foreign Minister should not be appointed in the new Cabinet but only a secretary for Foreign Affairs. This was a critical moment for the C.L.N., remarked Nenni, and not unfortunately for the Lieutenancy of the Realm. It was suggested that Ruini be nominated premier, but the Demo-Christians, Nenni asserted, knowing that he was a Freemason, did not consider him capable enough for the post.

On Thursday, Bonomi was about to form a government without the left Parties, but on Friday the Communists did not hold out, and in reply to our policy of keeping away (from the right) they put forward the necessity of participating in the government, whatever it might [illegible] of having the offer of a vice-presidency of the Council.

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On Thursday, Bonomi was about to form a government without the left Parties, but on Friday the Communists did not hold out, and in reply to our policy of keeping away (from the right) they put forward the necessity of participating in the government, whatever it might be, and of taking the offer of a vice-presidency of the Council.

But for the Socialists, Nenni, pointed out, the fact of participating in the Government was a far more serious matter for, once having stated their view of the position in such clear terms, they could not then give the impression of being a party that angled for ministerial portfolios. The Directive council of the Party, Nenni continued, entrusted him to deal with the problem, and everybody knew how he had decided to solve it. Nenni then enumerated his reasons for acting as he had:

1. It was not possible to accept a government which constituted a diminution of the authority of the C.L.N.

2. It was not possible to take part in a government together with Bonomi, in whom the Party had no confidence.

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3. The Communists committed a grave mistake when they published Togliatti's letter in which he declared that they would only participate in the Government together with the Socialists.

At this point the members would naturally ask the question --and what of the pact of union? The fact was that the pact was not absolutely binding and so allowed liberty of movement. "We are glad," Nenni said," to have furnished an example of proper political conduct'

Two dangers now arose, Nenni continued. The first was the destruction of the Committees of National Liberation and the decrease in the unity of action contracted with the Communist Party. With regard to the first, the Socialists would adopt a policy of supporting every institution which derives from the C.L.N. so as to render them always more democratic. One of the first objects to be realized immediately was the official recognition of the Northern C.L.N. As for the second danger, the weakening of the pact of union with the Communist comrades, it should be remembered that a similar situation had already occurred previously in the politics of another country, as for example in France.

Of course the Communist Party would follow a policy of opposition within the Government and the Socialists would do it from outside the Government. Obviously the Socialists' opposition was constructive, and would help towards the realization of a truly democratic Italy.

Winding up, Nenni said that the political line the Socialists had followed during the crisis had been dignified and independent, because he declared, "we do not receive telephone calls from abroad." The Socialists acted according to the directives of their Party which was above all Italian.

Interview with Prof Omodeo, Naples

The Rector of Naples University, Professor Adolfo Omodeo, a leader of the Party of Action in Naples, was interviewed by two PWB officers on 10 December. He appeared to be somewhat demoralized and depressed by the present situation and also rather out of touch with it. He had been in Bari the second week of the Government crisis. On the one hand he expressed himself disappointed in Britain's Italian policy and on the other distrustful and fearful of the Communists' intentions.

With regard to the new Government, he did not think it would last

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tentions.

With regard to the new Government, he did not think it would last
long. It was the result of a reactionary manoeuvre. In his view, the
error of British policy was to think that backing the Italian monarchy
was helpful for law and order. The Professor feared that the hard con-
ditions under which the Italians are now suffering were only a fresh
encouragement to a spirit of ardent Nationalism quite contrary to the
new spirit of international democracy. The epuration of the army and
navy had been quite incomplete, he asserted, and suggested that the
Government be given a freer hand. As for the Communists, he declared
that they now "weighed on a quarter of the Government instead of a
sixth." They were still in agreement with the Socialists. Omodeo
here showed a great dread of the Communists, and appeared to be myst-
ified as to what they were up to. He objected to the appointment of
Togliatti as Minister for Occupied Italya, saying that it was not

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in the Allied interests to have a Communist to deal with the delicate situation in the North. But he did not express any definite ideas on the Socialist Party.

When asked about the Committee of Liberation, Omodeo again replied vaguely that he thought it would continue to function regularly, as there was no wish to suspend it, but admitted that it would be weaker as a result of the crisis. At this point he criticized Churchill's remark that the Committees of Liberation had no electoral foundation, saying that when before the liberation of Italy, the Allies kept appealing to the people to overthrow the Fascist yoke, there had been no talk of a Liberation Committee on an electoral basis.

Turning then to speak of the Party of Action, Omodeo said that it had slightly oscillated in policy. Formerly it had followed the more revolutionary policy favored by Emilio Lussu, who was rather too emotional a character to be a lasting political success. It was now adopting a more constructive programme in the face of the ruinous and turbulent state of the country. This was the tendency he himself favored. The laws and whole administration of the country had to be revised, the people re-educated. Omodeo added here that he was dubbed a man of Right tendency by the more Left wing section of the Party. Of Cienca, he said that though a very fine orator and writer, he had not sufficient political ability. He also strongly criticized (with a hint of bitterness in his tone) the retiring Minister of Education, his own successor in office, De Ruggero, as being quite unsuited for his post. But he spoke very well of Tarchiani as a balanced and most able man.

Turning the discussion to home affairs, Prof. Omodeo said that, in his experience, the Allied Commission had been a bit slow on the uptake, but once convinced, most energetic in action. The important thing in his opinion was that they should choose trustworthy and expert advisors. Referring to the disturbances in Naples University which were caused in his view by Monarchist students, the Rector said that according to a report which had reached him, the Monarchist youths were paid a regular wage of several thousand Lire monthly. He evidently felt very badly over this, particularly after the recent degrading disturbance at an official university function which was attended by Allied personalities. He explained that a considerable number of University students who had their homes outside Naples, were now living in very rough and unsettled conditions. Few of them were interest-

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5___Interview with Avv. Michele Ciferelli, Naples

Avv. Michele Ciferelli, chief of the Regional Labour Office, and a clearthinking and intelligent member of the Party of Action, gave his opinion on the latest developments to a P&B officer. He was convinced that the Party of Action was right to stand firm and refuse to join the new Bonomi Government. Never as now had the Party been more of one mind. It would take up an attitude of opposition -- Ciferelli saw no difficulty in doing this even at this time -- and would consolidate its ranks. The Party would grow stronger. In Ciferelli's opinion the Socialist party, contiguous to the Party of Action in the Italian political scale, had been encouraged by that Party's firm stand and decided to assert its independent position as from the Communists by staying out of the Government, though at the same time still working towards the same end in agreement with the Communists. Certainly the two Parties would not be so close as before, also because, according to Ciferelli, Togliatti and Nenni, the heads of the two Parties, were such opposite personalities.

With rare preciseness and calm Ciferelli gave his reasons for the former Government's breakdown: the situation had reached a stalemate, and the old government could not carry on on the existing terms. But Bonomi, in forming his new Government, had greatly weakened the Committee of Liberation.

Referring to the Naples Labour situation, he said that the Labour office was under a financial difficulty. Its funds had formerly been provided by the Allied authorities, but since the handing over of the administration to the Italian Government the Labour office had been short of funds and there had been some unrest among the employees. The Labour Confederation had immediately accused the Labour office of running things so badly that it could not even pay its own employees properly. The General Italian Confederation of Labour, through its local representative, the Naples Camera del Lavoro, was pressing its hardest to obtain the management of the Employment office in its own hands, but in Ciferelli's opinion, they had not as yet either the men or the means. The Camera del Lavoro was always so reluctant to refer to the Labour Office disputes which it could not solve itself, because it thought that the slightest compromise would weaken the workers' in-

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consolidate its ranks. The Party would grow stronger. In Cifarelli's opinion the Socialist party, contiguous to the Party of Action in the Italian political scale, had been encouraged by that Party's firm stand and decided to assert its independent position as from the Communists by staying out of the Government, though at the same time still working towards the same end in agreement with the Communists. Certainly the two Parties would not be so close as before, also because, according to Cifarelli, Togliatti and Nenni, the heads of the two Parties, were such opposite personalities.

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Cifarelli felt somewhat anxious about the rumoured appointment of a Communist Labour Minister in the new Cabinet. He wondered whether there would be a change of policy in the question of the Regional and Provincial Labour Office. (A-2)

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6 Liberal opinion 9. December

In an interview with two members of PWB Prof. ENRICO ALTAVILLA, chief of the Naples Provincial administration and one of the most representative leaders of the Liberal Party in Naples, declared that "like all good Italians" he could not but disapprove of Mr. Eden's speech concerning Count Sforza, above all for his repeated stress on the "Woe to the Conquered!" theme which was taken to express Eden's deeprooted rancor towards Italy as a whole. But he showed little regret for Eden's so-called veto on Sforza. He explained that, on arriving in Italy, Sforza had spoken side by side with Croce at Liberal Party meetings but had then started making anti-Monarchist propaganda and "sabotaging" the Badoglio Government. At this time he became spiritual if not actual head of the Party ofAction, the"Noisiest" party in the Liberation Committee.

Prof. Altavilla then spoke of Mr. Churchill's speech with much favor. It seems in fact that the British premier's even stricter but more clearcut words have helped to clarify the general situation in the minds of Neapolitans.

Referring to the new government as "sickly from birth" ("è nato malaticcio"), Prof. Altavilla said he had little trust in its being able to act very energetically. He was diffident of the Communists' participation in the government. Were they doing so by agreement with the Socialists so as to be able to work from without and within, or had they really split from the Socialists? The professor seemed in favor of the first theory. The Communists' new pose as a party of stability and order couldn't possibly be genuine. The professor here remarked that on the one hand the Epuration campaign had tried, and failed, to reach Badoglio, and on the other hand the police had had to fire on turbulent crowds. In times of such uncertainty and turmoil, the professor concluded, with added stress, the Liberal party would always stand for established law and order.

The professor went on to pronounce himself no less firmly on the fundamental issue of the Liberation Committee. In his opinion, as the North was liberated, the duties and importance of the Liberation Committees whould naturally devolve on the established administrative authorities. Already in the South they were useless, particularly

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On being asked about the Liberal Party's relations with the Demo-Christian Party, Prof. Altavilla declared that the Labour pact sealed in Rome with the Socialists and Communists had caused a slight rift between Liberal and Democ-hristian, but that from his last talks with De Gasperi and Rodinò he felt sure that the two parties would now be drawing closer together again.

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After repeatedly saying that the Liberal Party had not yet committed itself on the "Institutional" issue, Prof. Altavilla at the insistence of the PWB officer, finally admitted that in the South of Italy a majority in the Liberal Party was Monarchist, especially since the admission of other Monarchist groups (Demo-Liberals) into the party. Apulia, he asserted, was very strongly Monarchist. As for his personal opinion, the professor referred to an article he had written in the "Risorgimento" entitled "The King and the Army", and added that the Army which was playing such an important part in helping towards Italy's rebirth, should be held sacred and not be maltreated as it was up near the front just because of its associations with the Monarchy.

In the course of the interview, Prof. Altavilla complained that the Allies were allowing more copies to the Socialist paper of Naples "La Voce" than to the Liberal organ "Il Giornale", though the latter was really the Allies' best friend. The question of the Liberal newspaper's sales were not however discussed.

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7. FOOD DEMONSTRATIONS

Considerable demonstrating, consisting mainly of mob attacks on food shops and stalls over a wide area of Rome, occurred on the 7th, 8th and 9th December. The incidents began on the 7th, were much more serious on the 8th, and had already begun to subside on the 9th, the first day on which the police took energetic measures. By the 11th public interest had practically deserted the subject.

The only clear account of how the incidents began was given by the PWB "Corriere di Roma" of 8th December. According to this account the action of the Food Police in enforcing sale of foodstuffs at controlled prices in one street led the public to trying to take similar action in adjoining neighborhoods. Before long stalls were being upset and shops raided. All accounts agree that on the 7th the mob was composed almost exclusively of women and children. The movement spread through the working-class districts of Testaccio and Trastevere; the black market for Tor di Nona and Borgo Pio; and central areas like Via dei Lavoratore, S. Andrea delle Fratte. Other areas affected were Via Luca della Robbia, Vicolo dei Cinque, Via della Scala, Via Giubbonari, Campo dei Fiori, Via della Croce.

The press of the 8th, with the exception of the independent "Tempo," which accused the "black marketeers" of having organized the whole thing, agreed that the outbreak was probably spontaneous, the reaction of hungry people to the provocation of the open and unashamed sale of foodstuffs at prohibitive prices. "Avanti" stated that the police believed the outbreak had been organized. "Italia Nuova" quoted the Questore Berazzini as stating that the primary cause was hunger, but that somebody might be exploiting it.

By the 8th it seems clear that various unsavory elements of the population had decided to make hay while the sun shone. Many more men and youths joined in. In Piazza Vittorio the mob used mallets and bars to smash shutters and locks. Money as well as foodstuffs was stolen; and clothing shops and chemists were also attacked. The police remained comparatively inactive.

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The press of the 9th reflected this change, speaking of "instigations" and "organization". "Risorgimento Liberale" declared that the crowds on the 8th had marched from Tor di Nona; the Black Market was having its revenge for the looting of the 7th. "Unita" spoke of "Fifth Column" and "agents provocateurs". On the 9th energetic police action met early attempts to resume the attacks, and the latter soon ceased.

No completely satisfactory explanation of the rioting has as yet appeared. Some slight attempts have been made by various newspapers to make party capital out of the incidents, the left wing hinting at monarchist and fascist instigation, the right wing at "extremist" elements, but neither have amounted to very much. All papers are agreed that while hunger is at the root of the trouble, the great mass of sufferers played no part in the rioting. "Il Tempo" of 9th sums up this point of view, "La Fame non marcia".

The press was unanimous too in deploring the outbreak, and in exhorting the population to calm and discipline. "Risorgimento Libe-

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rale" of 9th pointed out that the sufferers -- shop and stall holders -- are not the real profiteers; the latter do not appear in public. Some papers try to link the incidents with the Hunger League (see No. 8 below).

It is generally agreed that the authorities are directly responsible for having allowed the food situation in Rome to become so grave, with added provocation in the form of an unrestrained "black market" flaunted in the face of hungry people. "Avanti" of 10th says the responsibility falls not on AC or the Italian Government, which have other worries, but on the local authorities. "Voce Repubblicana", on the other hand, blames the Government. The trouble is not local: people are as hungry in Sicily as in Rome. "Tempo" of 9th blames AS.

The press of 12 December has few comments to add. "Il Popolo" published an interview with Corazzini, ex-Director of AS. His opinion of the outbreaks is that they represent the revenge of Black Market dealers for goods confiscated by the police. Any improvement of the situation must start with clear, energetic action by the Government, followed by discipline to ensure compliance, from Prefects down. "Unita" announces that the food police are continuing to enforce sale of goods at list prices. "Tempo" declares that the key to the whole food problem lies in transport. Much was hoped from the abolition of control points; but no improvement resulted. There are hundreds of trucks lying in Army depots in Central and Southern Italy; if they were used the problem would be solved.

8. Hunger League

In spite of industrious investigations both by the police and journalists it is believed that no evidence has been discovered linking this organisation with any political party or group. The original letter to the press of 1 December, in which the "League" programme was outlined, and a subsequent one repeating the threat of a "Hunger March" on the 16th, were both signed by typewriter: "A group of pensioners and families of prisoners", and countersigned in ink "DE CARO Alfio". Nothing is known of this individual. One Italian source suggests that the League may be connected with the recently organized Partito Economico Radicale Italiano, with offices at 93 Viale Regina Margherita. (C-3)

9. Price of Meat in Naples

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9. Price of Meat in Naples

The price of meat in Naples has now increased from 240 lire a kilo a few months ago to 600 lire a kilo. It would therefore appear that the experiment of the Prefect's Commissioner, Tucci, to release the sale of meat from price restrictions has not been successful. It had always been the argument of Italian newspapers that the release of goods from restrictions would increase the supply on the market and so cause the prices to fall. But when about two months ago Commissioner Tucci released meat on the free market, the supply increased, but so did the price which jumped up considerably and has since continued to rise.

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According to a local observer, there has never been so much meat for sale in Naples since the beginning of the war. There must also be buyers for it, probably among those who have made illicit gains and can afford to pay the price, but the honest manual and black-coated workers are now worse off than before. Formerly the meat may have been hard to find, but it was a third of the price, not it is quite out of reach. It is to be feared that the opening of the market has encouraged an excessive and harmful slaughter of cattle which will be felt later on.

The question of meat prices has figured very largely in the attacks of Manlio Lupinacci, chief editor of the Neapolitan Liberal paper "Il Giornale", against the Prefect's Commissioner, Fucci, and the Socialist-run SEPRAL, the municipal concern which deals with the food distribution of the province of Naples. (E-2)

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10 The Present State of the Italian Film Industry

Fascist Background - An integral part of the Ministry of Popular Culture was the "Direzione Generale" controlling the Press, Theatre, and Cinema. The "Direzione Generale" was able to keep the movie industry in its hands by controling censorship, finance, artistic direction, importation of foreign films, and by collaborating very closely with all the labour unions involved in the film industry. Beginning in 1935 a number of parastatal organizations were formed in order that the state might subsidize the Italian film industry which was at that time undergoing severe financial difficulties. One of these organizations was called ENIC (Ente Nazionale Industrie Cinematografiche). The following facts on ENIC have been supplied by Guido Lazzaro (Via Lucullo 11) who was a high official in the Italian film industry until 1939 when he was forced out of his post by the racial laws.

The Organization according to Ing. Guido Lazzaro: ENIC - In 1935 ENIC was formed and took over all the property of the Società Stefano Pittaluga which was then the largest Italian film company but was in severe financial difficulties. The purpose of ENIC was the leasing of films and their distribution, and the management of cinema houses. It was to represent an element of moderation and equilibrium in the Italian commercial film industry. It had about

1300 employees
120 movie theatres

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SECRET

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1300 employees
120 movie theatres
30,000,000 lire of capital
12-12 provincial agencies for distribution of films

The first president of ENIC was the Marquis Pecunco di Galbiati who maintained the heavy bureaucracy of ENIC economically and honestly and without political complication. He was followed by a certain Prefect Crazi who gave a fascist character to ENIC and reversed the importation of German films as against English and American ones. Luigi Freddi succeeded Crazi and proceeded to make ENIC thoroughly fascist. He made many anti-English and anti-American films, such as "Harlem." He placed politically-minded fascists in all the key posts and had himself made president of Cinecittà (the state studios) and CINES (state production), thus controlling personally the state monopoly over

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the cinema. Private producers thus put more and more under the control of these state organizations were ultimately under the power of Freddi and his colleagues. The latter had the financial backing of the state which was handled by the Banco Nazionale del Laboro.

The present director of ENIC is Arnaldo Papi who was an administrative manager under Freddi. Umberto Montesi who was a commercial manager under Freddi, continues in his same post in ENIC.

Ing. Luzzato also complained that when he went back to ENIC to take back his old post after the anti-racial laws were repealed by the Allies, he found that all the old fascists who had assisted Freddi in building this fascist monopoly, were still in all the offices, and that it has been impossible for him to get back to his post. Luzzato said that about a month ago the Italian government had appointed one Fabbri, a lawyer, and a good man but knowing noting of the film business, as a commissioner to examine the present status of the film industry. Unfortunately he is surrounded with all the former fascist administrators of ENIC and CINES, etc., and he is not able to get a clear picture of the existing situation.

An interview with Signor Giovanni Sciscione - The following information was furnished by Sig. Giovanni Sciscione of the film industry and is considered reliable:

"The Direzione Generale" (the controling body of the Film industry under the former Ministry of Popular Culture) is an enormous bureaucracy that is supported by the State and is composed of numerous persons who are linked with people in every branch of the movie industry -- finance, production, directing, acting. Thus it is a tremendous weight resting upon the film industry and exercising its control in every detail pertaining to film production and distribution. The insidious side of this question in relation to the Italian film industry can be seen in the fact that there is a state protectionism that grants subsidies to films of its own liking. The funds for these purposes have been granted by the State to the Sezione Credito Cinematografico which began with a grant of 20,000,000 lire and to which subsequent grants have been added. These finances are handled by the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro. Obviously such a set-up lends itself to illicit relations between producers and functionaries of the Ministry of Popular Culture, and does serious damage to national film produc-

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"LUCE: The Istituto Nazionale Luce was a state authorized body (ente morale di diritto pubblico) that played an important role in fascist propaganda. To support such an activity the fascist state gave LUCE a large subsidy and represented it as an important cultural and scientific society. The patrimony of LUCE consists of two large

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buildings, one in Via S. Susanna and the other at Cinecittà, and also the Planetario Cinema. A large part of the technical apparatus of LUCE has been taken to Venice, while at Rome there remains some of the material at the Planetario, at the LUCE Institution on Via S. Susanna, and at the Quadraro. The LUCE Institute has a very good distribution system in Italy, including small and large towns; altogether it has about 25 agencies in the country.

"CINECITTÀ: This was the largest production centre in the Italian movie industry. Its patrimony consists of 600,000 square metres of land, 12 sets for shooting interior scenes, the best apparatus for film production, dubbing, and the projection of films. At present the technical equipment has disappeared; much of it has been taken to Venice, some was taken by the Germans and some hidden by the Italians which cannot be found. It would be necessary to ask for a complete inventory from Sig. Foffano or from Comm. Oliva, Director General of Cinecittà. A similar inventory should be requested from ENIC and the LUCE Institute in order to have an exact idea of their remaining materials.

"In considering the past and present situation it appears that a commission should be appointed that would be composed of representatives of the Ministries of Finance, Public Instruction, and of Industry and Commerce, to take charge of the affairs of the Italian film industry. At the same time the three largest organizations - ENIC, LUCE, and CINECITTÀ -- should be put under the control of a single commissioner.

"The present transitory situation could be resolved in the future by charging the Minister of the Interior with censorship, the Ministry of Public Education with artistic and cultural affairs, and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry with the financial affairs."

Sig. Sciscione said that film distribution was occupying the major part of the attention of most of the film people because the movies are the only form of entertainment left in Italy and the people will pay to see anything -- from "wild wests" to documentaries. He said that 45% of the old Italian films have been censored by PWB because of anti-allied sentiments expressed in them or because the films were made by collaborators. However, many of the films made by pro-German and fascist collaborators have nothing anti-allied in them and he thinks that it would be well if these films - of which there are about 200 -

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Recent proposals for a Solution - The following information was given to a PWB officer by a reliable man who is well acquainted with the Italian film industry:

The present situation of the Italian Film industry demands that a competent investigation be made by experience authorities. The control of the film industry was in the hands of a few fascist politicians -- namely Luigi Freddi and his colleagues, who enriched themselves at the expense of the taxpayer. These men held offices in several of the org-

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anizations at the same time. For example, Rag. Papi, Dott. Foffano and Dott. Oliva were among Freddi's accomplices, and are still in office. At present ENIC is under the temporary administration of Gustavo, a lawyer who knows nothing about the film industry.

A suggestion has been made in film circles to this effect: that a commission be set up, consisting of Allied Officials, Italian government officials, and film experts, to investigate thoroughly the film industry, abolish the existing fascist laws, and establish the film industry on a democratic basis.

11. Taxation

"Italia Nuova" of 5 December devotes a long article to the subject of taxation in relation to the income of the state: according to the Monarchist paper the situation is not only critical, but shows no signs of improving. The two causes are stated to be: the almost total paralysis of economic activity in liberated territory, and the weakness of successive governments.

Concentrating on the latter factor, the article deals at length with the failure to enforce the tax on excess profits. The inactivity of the Finance Ministry on this respect dates from 1940, at which time the tax was meant to strike incomes derived from industry. Now the more prominent source would of course be black market profits

The more recent legislation on the subject consists of two decrees, a basic one of June 1943, and one of 16 August, 1944, fixing the time allowed for declaring liability to tax at 60 days. As the latter decree was not published until the middle of September, the actual final date for declarations was 16 November. But the decree appears to have been published for purely demagogic reasons, as no steps have been taken to enforce it. Meanwhile direct taxation bearing on small incomes has been increased: but it cannot hope to exceed one quarter of the state income. Speculation is thus encouraged, inflation results, and the middle classes are, as always, the sufferers. It is up to the new Government to rectify this state of affairs by energetic action. The above solution of Italy's financial problem may be compared with the capital levy, suggested by CGIL.

12. Stock Exchange

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12. Stock Exchange

Following the reopening of the Stock Exchanges of Rome, Naples, and Florence for the sale of bonds of various categories, there was a general readjustment in the 2nd week of trading, shown by a drop in all quotations, greater in some, less in others. Financial bonds (La Centrale, Stet), transports and Communications (Ferrovie Meridionali, Tetifell most, 510, 410, 700, 800 respectively. Metallurgic and textile stocks suffered general losses too with Fiat down 300 and Viscosa 200 while Amiata showed a gain at 225. Electric stock, little in demand, showed less stability than had been expected. S.I.P. fell 150, Romana Elettricita 125 and Southern Electric 330. Real estate remained steady, while chemicals and aqueduct bonds were steady. "Ricostruzione" of 3 December writes that the irregular condition of the stock market together with the sustained par value shown during the week makes it

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probable that the period of adjustment will continue, until the actual conditions of industries and real estate investments are clearly known in their relation to the financial policy of the government.

13. Report on Naples Fisheries

The fishing areas of Naples consist of the coast line around the city proper, the bay of Pozzuoli, the coast along Coroglio, Bagnoli, and Cuma, as well as the isles of Procida and Ischia.

The local inhabitants consume what fish is caught along the coast from Sorrento to Torre Annunziata and Portici, where catches in the case of the latter two areas are limited on account of ships which were scuttled and extensive destruction carried out by the Germans in those localities.

Black Market - the following are the main reasons why most of the fish is handled by the Black Market:

1) The permits which the Ufficio Pesca gives to provincial buyers to purchase fish which, after local needs of the producing areas have been met, should go to the Communal Market.

2) A considerable quantity of fish sent from Foggia to Naples is stolen on the way and is delivered to the Black Market.

3) Most of the fish which actually arrives in Naples goes to the Black Market instead of the Communal Market.

4) A considerable quantity of fish intended for the Allied Armed Forces is usually delivered short by suppliers who, instead, hand it over to the Black Market.

Fishing fleet - Another problem to be solved is the coordination of the fishing fleet.

Central Market - All ideas should be excluded of establishing a central market to which the entire production destined for Naples could flow: The supply being small, because it is the surplus of local catches, the cost of transport would therefore, increase the already high prices.

Local Markets - Consequently, it is no longer a question of sup-

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Local Markets - Consequently, it is no longer a question of supplies flowing to a central market but of arrangements being made, instead, to carry catches from the fishing areas to various wholesale markets to be established, as far as possible, in the neighborhood of the following fishing areas:

a) Bagnoli - which should also receive part of the Pozzuoli and torregaveta catches.

b) Montesanto (terminus, in the heart of Naples, of the Cumana railway) for the remaining catches of Pozzuoli and Torregaveta.

c) Margellina for the coast of Posillipo catches.

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d) Santa Lucia for what is caught locally, and what is brought there from Ischia and Procida.

Market Control - The main office for the control and coordination of the commercial side of the organization should be established in the most central of the above wholesale markets. Through this institution the Commune could check sales and control prices.

Distribution - An equitable distribution to retailers could be arrived at by adopting the system used in Rome of arranging for each fishmonger to buy in turn.

Prices - What remains to be solved is the system by which prices should be established. It is considered in any case, that it would be a great mistake to determine them, as formerly, by fixing the highest prices payable, having regard firstly to the kind, and secondly to condition, because widespread changes develop from week to week and from month to month which affect wholesale and retail markets.

Maritime circles consider that the best solution though only in the case of bulk sales, would be to sell fish by auction. In this way the quantity actually available would be offered and prices would be in line with the situation. If however sales by auction are not considered advisable, the difficulty might be overcome by fixing maximum prices for sales to retailers.

Should it be desirable to establish a free market, the maximum prices should be established only on the kinds which are cheaper and therefore in greatest demand.

Uncontrolled prices in the case of choice varieties would stimulate the inflow of these from more distant areas, and at the same time stabilize the prices of these varieties which are of minor interest to the general public.

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14 LABOUR - International Trade Union Conference

It was announced during the week that Nenni would be accompanied on his visit to London by Lizzadri, Socialist Secretary of the CGIL; the press announcement inferring that Lizzadri would stay on in London to represent Italian Labour at the International T.U.C. opening in London on 6th February 1944.

Interviewed by a representative of PWB, Di Vittorio, Communist Secretary of the CGIL, said that Nenni and Lizzadri of the Socialist Party were going to England for the English Labour Congress which was to be held on the 10th of December. They were going as representatives of the Socialist Party and in no way represented the trade unions. Lizzadri was chosen by the Socialists as a favour to the trade unions in order that he might be able to contact labour leaders at the same time to arrange for the participation of Italian representatives in the International Trade Union meetings to be held in England beginning February 6th 1945. The present meetings in London had nothing to do with the trade unions. Nenni and Lizzadri would return soon and in February representatives of the trade unions would go to England.

15 CGIL Memorandum to new Government

On 11th December a meeting of the Executive Council of the CGIL discussed and approved the text of a memorandum to be submitted to the Government and employers' organisations advocating improving living conditions for workers.

The memorandum urges agreement between A.C. and the Government for an increase in the bread ration, particularly for children and workers; effective measures against rising prices and the black market; a sliding-scale for wages proportionate to the cost of living; the universal grant of an extra month's salary at Christmass; and an immediate programme of public works to relieve unemployment.

16 Women's Trade Union Meeting

The first meeting of its kind in Italy was held at the Rome Camera del Lavoro on 10th December under the joint auspices of the Camera del Lavoro and the UDI (Union of Italian Women).

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About 150 delegates from the Factory Committees of the more important Roman establishments were present. A.C. was represented by Miss Sullivan. Signora Laura Ingrao, of the Central Committee of the UDI, presided. She explained the problems facing Italian women workers and the way in which these problems had been tackled in America, Britain and Russia.

The meeting was then addressed by delegates of women workers in important Roman concerns - factories, offices, schools, hospitals, etc. - who explained the problems facing women workers in each of these categories.

Finally a long order of the day was approved. The principal claims made were:

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That women should be proportionally represented on Factory Committees;

That the CGIL set up an organisation staffed by women to study the problems of women-workers;

That women be considered on a footing of equality with men as regards payment of dependents' allowances and cost-of-living bonus;

That apprenticeship conditions for women be regularised;

That women be represented on the committees of factory canteens.

That women engaged in heavy manual labour enjoy the same extra rations as men.

17 A Woman's impression of the Women's Trade Union Meeting.

The hall was well filled with working-class women with a sprinkling of men and a few better dressed women.

The walls were plastered with slogans such as: "The working woman must be the companion not competitor of the working man;" "The emancipation of the workers is impossible without the active participation of women;" "Workers, help and facilitate the membership of women to the trade unions: together victory is easier."

A middle-aged, eager little woman in the audience told a PWB officer that she worked as storekeeper in a hardware factory. She was very much annoyed that her colleagues who had promised to come to the meeting had not turned up: "We aren't children" she said, "we have a right to get some improvement in our conditions, we've suffered enough: They'll have gone off to the cinema or for a walk....why didn't they say they weren't coming! But to promise and then not come....." Shortly after she asked the officer "Could you tell me what this meeting today is about?"

Massini, who spoke simply and clearly, aroused a good deal of laughter when he read extracts from writers on the inferiority of women who had no capacity for work, only for being "good mothers and good wives," and there was much derision at one idea that women who had to work should on no account work in factories, only on the land or in hotels.

The audience clapped loudly when he said that the words "serva" and "schiavitù" should be banished.

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Laura Lombardo Radici (Laura Ingrao) spoke fluently and without notes. The audience listened quietly and attentively throughout.

The first working woman to speak (representing the Manifattura di Tabacchi) had to be carried on to the platform with "coraggio." "Che vergogna" she kept repeating as she moved up to the platform. Once there she said with an appealing gesture "I'm so ashamed, I've never spoken in public before." She read from her script haltingly and nervously. At one point she extemporised on potatoes when she became extremely fluent and expressive, and then had to return to her rather monotonous reading.

18 Increase in Pay to Civilian Navy Workers - Sicily

Civilian workers of the U.S. Naval Operating Base on 7th December received their second pay raise in a month which meant for many the doubling of the old wage scale.

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- The desirability of increasing the workers' wage scale in order to improve living conditions has been recognized by the Allied Commission for some time. The first pay raise of about 15 lire a day was put into effect as of November 1 and soon made retroactive to October first. On November 16 the second pay raise from 40 to 60 lire per day which has just started almost doubled the wages of unskilled workers. This means that the navy is paying the 3000 workers at the shipyard over 8,300,-000 lire every two weeks instead of about 4,500,000 as formerly.

The Labour Committee of the workers of the base, each member of which is elected from various trade groups within the shipyard, was established some time ago to act as liaison between the naval command and the civil employee group. It functions as an employee benefit agency in presenting the wishes of the workers on matters of wages and hours to the naval command and also acts as an impartial judiciary group for handling disciplinary matters involving civilian employees of the navy.

The text of the Committee's letter to the Commandant of the Base on the occasion of the raise was as follows:

"The Labour Committee having been informed of the provisions already established to benefit the workers of the base, provisions which were viewed as essential by this committee and brought to the attention of the officer in charge of civilian personnel, realizes that through your personal intervention and interest the matter was brought to a happy conclusion.

The Committee wishes through its President to extend its most sincere thanks and pledges itself to keep up the discipline of civilian workers and to inculcate in them an ever increasing sense of responsibility and interest in their work.

Assured that your interest and protection of your civilian employees will continue, we send our most sincere regards.

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The Chairman
G. Gonez

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PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

19 Reactions to Propaganda

The following have been collected by a P.W.B. Collaborator.

(a) The window display on the Via del Tritone explaining the rationing of electricity is apparently very good. I watched people stop at length and read the instructions carefully. Usually there were groups of two or three together. They figured out the dates when the current is assigned to their zone, made their housekeeping plans accordingly, and walked away, without comment. They seemed to accept this new system and did not question it, being concerned mostly with how to make the best use of their allotment. I watched for about half an hour each time on different days.

(b) The shop on Via Veneto is very attractive. There are always large groups of people looking at the displays with interest. This week the "Criminali di Guerra" poster attracted large groups of all types and ages. Men, women, youngsters, Italian soldiers read the text carefully. At this shop sale of "Il Mondo Libero" this week has gone up.

(c) At the news-stand Corso d'Italia and Via Po, one morning, I saw six people ask for the "Corriere di Roma". They were disappointed because it was sold out. Some of them protested. It was about 9.30. The woman at the stand explained to me that she now only receives 250 copies a day instead of 500 as formerly. "Everybody wants the "Corriere di Roma", she said. The 250 copies are usually sold out before 9 o'clock. They are not enough."

(d) Conversations with Italians of various classes reveal that few of them know the conditions under which Allied personnel lives in Italy. For instance, they are surprised to hear that we eat only allied rations, brought here from abroad, consisting only of canned and frozen food. "Why don't you buy fresh meat? Surely, you can afford it". They don't know that we cannot buy Italian products intended for the Italian population.

This lack of information on the ticklish subject of food suggests the urgency of a question and answer column in the "Corriere di Roma" as a channel to clear doubts of this sort which invariably cause ill feeling. And this links up with the suggestion from Italians for more psychological propaganda, i.e. play up seemingly small items of human interest.

20 P.W.B. Publications

[illegible] "Victory" was put on sale on December 9th and is selling [illegible] 1,300 copies

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20 P.W.B. Publications

The new issue of "Victory" was put on sale on December 3th and is selling very quickly. On the first day alone the Largo Chigi shop sold some 1,000 copies and the via Veneto shop about 500. The new issue is considered the best so far.

The new issue of "Il Mondo Libero", No. 26, is also selling well.

"Il Mese" continues to be popular. The public is very eager to get the one volume edition of the first six numbers, which will be put on sale sometime before Christmas. Many people are considering giving it to friends and relatives as a Christmas present.

Still requested are:

Publications of a technical nature.
Works of American writers.
Publications containing pictures and details of American aircraft.
Back issues of "Victory"
American and English newspapers.
Candidus's speeches.
President Roosevelt's speeches after July 1945.
"Union Jack" and "Stars and Stripes"

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People are amazed at the low price of our publications, especially "Victory".

The manager of the Via Veneto shop stated that people are getting tired of old publications such as: "La Guerra nelle Fabbriche", "Dal 1939", "Orizzonte del Paco", "Un Popolo in Guerra", "Lavoro negli Stati Uniti", etc.

It is suggested that there should be at least one new publication every week.

It was stated in last week's report that certain pictures have been reprinted from previous issues. One instance is a photograph appearing in "Il Mondo Libero" No. 6, p. 13, then appearing again in "Il Mondo Libero" No. 26, p. 4., and again in "America in Guerra", last page.

Other photographs have been reprinted on several other occasions, but no definite information is available inasmuch as those publications have been exhausted.

21 "Cantachiaro" - A Journal of Political Satire

"Cantachiaro", which literally means "sing clearly", is a weekly Roman journal that devotes all of its time and space to political satire. Its cartoons and its humour - it is frequently mistakenly called a humour paper - are weapons that serve its satirical articles that aim, as its second issue declared, to "aid in de-fascistizing the country and eradicating the Fascist mentality". It has a large field to cover because the great quantity of material published in Rome in these times is largely made up of the purely polemical matter of serious and ambitious political papers that are not in a position to caricature the opposition and ridicule the foreign policies of other nations. Somewhat reminiscent of Latin satirists, "Cantachiaro" never tires of pointing out the inconsistencies, the demagogy, the pork-barrelling, the hypocrisy of public leaders and the politically ambitious.

The British and the Italian flags wave together in a cartoon in the first issue on June 10th, shortly after the liberation of Rome, and Cymbeline's hopeful words were inscribed beneath "... let a Roman and a British ensign wave friendly together". In this respect all of the early issues were positive, friendly and leaned on the promising statements of high Allied officials as positive elements in a confused atmosphere. Already a reader recognized, in a letter to the editor, that "Cantachiaro" is a serious paper in spite of its appearance."

"O.K. boys, yell all you want, but first let's fight the war", was its first comment on the struggle of the numerous political parties. This idea continues today among its foremost arguments. It is always very bitter against Fascist leaders, collaborators and Mussolini, though it reveals the difference between the outer garment and the inner flesh of Fascism; it

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For about six weeks of Allied occupation it was hopeful: it asked for greater Italian participation in the war, for Lend Lease, for arms to fight; it showed how difficult it was for the Allies to wage a war and to help Italy and continually favourable in a humourous way to Poletti and the Allies. Then little by little, its reaction to Allied occupation began. "Man proposes but God disposes" it lightly moralizes pointing out the unacted Atlantic Charter proposals in ironic contrast with the secret Armistice.

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"What will we eat tonight?" ask hungry Italians.
"Pelotti a la radio" is the response in a cartoon that marks this change of feeling towards the Allies.

"Contachiaro" has begun: it satirizes La Guardia, Roosevelt, Sforza, Sturzo, the "Spectator", the "Nineteenth Century", and all sources of extravagant promises as to what should be Italy's place in Europe in contrast to the armistice treatment that she is actually receiving. The black market, opuration, the political ring, Allied administration and the new wartime manners of Rome are satirized to the fullest. In such pieces as the following it tries to go deeper into the changing fashion:

"G. Sperandi: one of the civil servants in one of the 300 Italian state parastatal bureaux. Long, long ago he had been democratic but the oratory of D'Annunzio changed all that; now he could hate Nitti, Giolitt, Don Sturzo... but even that was past. In 1940 he was already potentially anti-Fascist, but he kept quiet because his son had won a Fascist medal at school. Came hard times. He lost a son in Jugoslavia. He made sacrifices by living solely on rationed goods. North Africa and Sicily fell. He applauded Mussolini's words "We shall return". Days became harder. Hunger. His wife sold furniture, clothing etc., to buy food. His daughter Maria studied English. The Allies came. He lost his civil service job and his director fled north. No job, no money. Maria was not clever enough to work in Allied offices like her friends. He stared hopelessly at the mounting prices. But his daughter had changed. She was out all day and returned with packages of Luckies, Camels and chocolate and chewing gum. They could sell the cigarettes for 85 lire a packet. Then came cans of meat and milk and then money. Maria doesn't get tired because she rides in a jeep all day: she is learning American and appears to be in good spirits. But she doesn't smile any more".

In such ways "Contachiaro" denounces "the state into which our country has fallen", and it is never lacking in material that intimately describes the faults, weaknesses and degradation not only of the Italians but also of the Allies in many cases. In these criticisms of the Allies the sentiment is always less bitter - it is easier to forgive foreigners - than the feelings expressed towards the Fascists: here we have a family quarrel where hatreds are always more intense when they are finally aired. These sentiments are fully exploited in a series headed "Dictionary of the Italians of Yesterday", in which the authors give vent to all of their grievances and repressions of 22 years.

But there is a unique activity that holds the respect and admiration of "Contachiaro": Partisan activity. The Partisan warfare in the north sustains a sense of pride, honour and dignity in an Italian mind that has lost nearly all of these qualities.

The [illegible] humour of "Contachiaro" is not a private possession of

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The satire and humour of "Cantachiaro" is not a private possession of paper. In educated andintellectual circles as well as among the people, it is one of the most popular journals published in Italy. Its satirical method is skilfully handled and embodies an element of truth and thus makes refutations and denials on the part of the people involved well nigh impossible.

RELIEF

22 "Bambini Christmas Parties"

The American Naval Base in Palermo is planning a series of Bambini Christmas parties" for 9,000 Sicilian children at various theatres and institutions. At each party to be given between December 18 and 25 there will be a Christmas tree with coloured lights and decorations, surrounded by toys (14,000 have now been completed by sailors in their free time), candy, food and clothing, as well as a live Santa Claus.

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Fund donations from the sailors now total $7,94) and more is coming in every day. There are Christmas barrels at the base where the men can leave candy, cookies and gum if they wish to donate from their usual rations.

2,500 garments have been made from old clothes contributed, and nearly $1,000 has been spent for alterations. $3,000 worth of clothing has been ordered from New York, and is expected to arrive before Christmas. Many pairs of shoes ($472 worth) have been purchased at Cairo and a Naval officer has just flown there again to buy more. Clothing and shoes will be donated to orphanages at Christmas and from time to time thereafter.

The Allied Commission has donated over 7,000 pounds of goods - including 2,300 pounds of flour, 2,505 pounds of soup, 300 pounds of sugar, 1,075 pounds of milk, 356 pounds of corned beef hash, 434 pounds of butter and 64 pounds of cheese.

INTERIOR

23 Police

The recent hostility ofpublic opinion to the civilian police forces, as reflected by the press appears to have subsided and even - at least before this week's food incidents - to be yielding to respect and admiration.

The weekly "Opinione" of4th December in an article entitled "Give the Police a Chance" says that the police are faced with a very difficult situation. Owing to the war delinquency has increased to an unheard-of extent. The central government is weak and vacillating. The police are numerically weak. In addition, the police work under various handicaps. They are underpaid. The raw recruit receives about 4,000 lire amonth. The family man with years of service and the rank of Sergeant-Major gets little more. This is a direct invitation to corruption. No police force in the world can be efficient if underpaid. Secondly, they lack equipment. Each Commissariat is responsible for an area of 10-15 kms; but according to the paper, not even bicycles are available to patrol the ground. One car is provided for every two commissioners. Men go on night-patrol without torches. While criminals are taking to machine-guns and hand-grenades, the police have only one pistol between two men. Thirdly, epuration: the force, never political, loses some of its best experts, while others wonder when it will be their turn. And lastly, interference by political parties.

"Osservatore Romano" of 7th December pleads for public support of the police. The latter do not represent the instrument of any party, but are defenders of the community and as such deserve respect and obedience. Criticism

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"Osservatore Romano" of 7th December pleads for public support of the police. The latter do not represent the instrument of any party, but are defenders of the community and as such deserve respect and obedience. Criticism by all means; but let it be constructive.

"Italia Libera" of 8th December relates how Italian police working with the Allies had effected the arrest of civilians who were obtaining from Sepral quantities of milk-powder gone bad to be used as cattle-feed, but were actually selling it to bakers and ice-cream shops. Another paper of the same date describes the arrest by the Flying-Squad (Squadra Mobile) of a whole gang of criminals whose leader bore the nickname of "Scarface". "Unita" of the 10th December recounts more brilliant work by the Flying-Squad. 19[illegible]

With regard to the role of the police during the food disorders the press commented ironically but without much malice, on the "masterly inactivity" shown by the guardians of public order during the first two days, but made it quite clear that it was energetic police action on the 9th which put a stop to the outbreak.

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24 New Prefect in Palermo

After sixteen months of service as a Prefect, first in Trapani and then in Palermo, Prefect Paolo D'Antoni has resigned for reasons of health.

Dott. Francesco Battiata has been named to the position and has already taken over the duties of the office.

25 Three Bandits Killed in Sambuca, Sicily

During the last few weeks in Sambuca (Agrigento Province) the population has been terrorized by an armed group of bandits who were the survivors of a well-known band captured last July.

As a result of action on the part of the Interprovincial Office of the Pubblica Sicurezza in Scinscia, a group of police headed by a marshal of the P.S., Domenico Angholone and a marshal of the CC.RR. Antonio Pinzino on 27 November went to capture the remaining members.

The three bandits, Emmuele, Salvatore and Michele Bellia were all killed in the fifteen minutes of gun play which took place. The police also suffered as Marshal Angholone was killed and Marshal Pinzino wounded.

VATICAN

26 The Ceremony of Propitiation in St. Peter's

On the afternoon of Sunday December 10th a vast concourse of people assembled in St. Peter's for a ceremony of propitiation and expiation ordered by Pope Pius XII. It was difficult to estimate the number of persons present but the nave and the aisles of the basilica were crammed full and the "several tens of thousands" mentioned by some of the Rome newspapers on Monday was probably not wide of the mark. It appears that no formal invitation to be present was extended to the diplomatic body accredited to the Holy See. Nevertheless members turned up in large numbers and included Axis representatives as well as those of the principal allied and neutral countries. There were also in St. Peter's large numbers of Cardinals, Bishops, "Monsignori" and members of the Rome parochial clergy.

The ceremony lasted for just over an hour and had all the familiar Papal pomp and atmosphere of continuity through the centuries. The enthusiasm of the vast crowd was certainly not less than in the days before the war. As the Pope was borne out of St. Peter's on the "Sedia Gestatoria" waves of hand-clapping and shouting rolled through the arches, handkerchiefs and babies were lifted aloft and there was the usual

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After a struggle to get out of the basilica, in which one of them was nearly thrown down the steps by a crowd of muscular priests pressing behind, two PWB officers joined the throng in St. Peter's Square which was awaiting a Papal reappearance. The crowd again - was large and mixed, with a fair sprinkling of Allied uniforms. Noticeable were the occasional German students in their red cassocks. The Pope did not reappear.

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CULTURAL

27 An Italian Artist's Outlook: The Views of Alberto Savinio

Alberto Savinio is the pseudonym of Andrea De Chirico the brother of Giorgio De Chirico the painter who has a wide reputation in France, England and the United States. He was born in 1891 in Athens of Italian parents. Though not so well known outside Italy as his brother, Savinio is in some ways an even more remarkable man and certainly a more versatile one. Savinio as a "surrealist" and satirical painter has exhibited in London and Paris and (more recently) in Milan. He is furthermore a composer of music, notably of three ballets "Perseo" (shown in New York in 1924), "La Morte di Niobe" (Rome 1925) and "Ballata delle Stagioni" (Venice 1925).

Savinio's output as a writer is considerable and has been varied, including novels and short stories, essays and commentaries on classical writers of Italian literature. He is a very hard worker. Like most Italian men of letters he has always written extensively for newspapers and periodicals and at present he is one of the editors of the Rome weekly "Citta". There is, however, a common current running through all the various forms of Savinio's literary expression: the leitmotiv of his Athenian childhood, the influences of Nietzsche, Stendhal, and of the French-Polish poet Apollinaire (d.1919) whom he knew well in Paris before the last war. Savinio's tone is an odd combination of surrealism and cynicism, though personally he is gentle and generous and perhaps rather shy. Books by him which perhaps deserve to be better known abroad are: "Hermaphrodito" (1918), "La Casa Ispirata" (1925), "Angelica o la Notte di Maggio (1927), "Narrate, Uomini, la vostra Storia" (1940), "Infanzia di Nivasio Dolcemare" (1941), "Casa 'La Vita'" (1945).

In a number of conversations Savinio maintained he was not a political man and as a writer "took as little interest in politics as possible". Nevertheless - partly perhaps as an effect of the Rome "terror" he could not conceal his bitterness against Germany, the Nazis and the Fascists. He had had to go into hiding during the period of German occupation in Rome. According to his account of what happened he had left his flat in the via Dei Martiri Fascisti (now Bruno Buozzi) when he was informed that his arrest was imminent; and with a wide-brimmed hat over his nose and a thick muffler over his ears this corpulent man of 55 had crept off to his brother's house at night to hide.

Savinio was obviously concerned about the present troubles in Greece. The rising of the partisans which he seemed to interpret as an anti- or supra-nationalist movement was, he thought, a sign of the new world now being born. The partisans of Greece, Italy, France, Belgium and (eventually)

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Savinio was obviously concerned about the present troubles in Greece. The rising of the partisans which he seemed to interpret as an anti- or supra-nationalist movement was, he thought, a sign of the new world now being born. The partisans of Greece, Italy, France, Belgium and (eventually) Spain had much in common with one another. He himself would much prefer to live in a conservative state in which one could work tranquilly without disturbance. But one couldn't consider one's own preferences only; one had also to bear in mind the views of others. The partisans represented the authentic voice of the people and in Italy they were the one living political force even if they were a minority. He thought that it was no accident that the partisans were a universal phenomenon. Nationalism was over and done with. He was convinced that the only hope for Europe was union, and as "a good European" he hoped that England would not ultimately oppose a living force such as the partisans. In the past England had always risen to the occasion when what the people obscurely wanted had become more evident. 1943

Savinio appeared to know German literature and Germany fairly well. He said he would like to think that the Germans were "the same as other Europeans" but he now thought that "they constituted a separate problem". He was convinced that the Germans from Germany proper behaved in a very different way from

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peoples of Germanic race who had emigrated elsewhere - for instance the Dutch, the North-Eastern French, the Lombards and the English. The latter were all right as normal "Europeans". He thought the Germans of Germany were as they were because they lacked contact with the sea. The Greeks and the great modern peoples had all lived close to the sea. As an admirer of Nietzsche he objected very strongly to the suggestion now being made that that philosopher and poet should be blamed for National Socialism or Fascism. Hitler and Mussolini were not"super-men" but "sub-men".

Savinio longed like other Italian writers to get "back to France but he feared that Italians might be unpopular in Paris. He could understand the French point of view. His eldest daughter was French-born and considered herself to be of French nationality. On other political subjects Savinio only spoke in rather bitter short sentences. He thought the monarchy an absurdity which had lost all meaning. The Luogotenente was "a decadent": But he had no faith in the new politics. He disliked Nenni particularly and repeated the saying about him which is now not uncommon in Rome: that he looks like Mussolini: that like Mussolini he came from Romagna: that like Mussolini he was editor of the "Avanti": that like Mussolini he was a demagogue: and that like Mussolini... Savinio's bitterness extended to the Fascist founder of Italian Futurism F.T. Marinetti who was made secretary of the Academy by Mussolini's government and whose death in Milan was recently announced. Savinio said that he had ceased to see Marinetti for many years as he viewed him as a stupid wind-bag; though he had not done the harm to Italy done by Gabriele D'Annunzio whose rhetorical influence over Italian literature - as well as over the Italian mind and the birth of Fascism - was harmful in rather an unique way. This latter view of Savinio's is shared by others among the better writers and critics in Italy today, who tend to think of D'Annunzio as the father of Fascism.

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX I NO.47

S I C I L Y

Unrest in Catania

For some time there have been signs of growing unrest in Catania, a paragraph on which was contained in the previous report No. 46, p. 1. A further report on this matter is given below, culminating in an account of the outbreak of violence which occurred on Thursday, 14 December.

From PWB Weekly Report from Catania, 26.11.44

Movement of an Economic Character - Constant agitation among various groups of workers and clerks continues because of the economic situation in which they find themselves, due to the rise in prices of the most essential goods.

Various meeting have been held at the local Chamber of Labour. As yet no public manifestation of protest has been carried out because of the ban of the Prefettura. A special commission from the Chamber of Labour has been sent to Rome to submit particulars on the food situation on the Catania market. The political authorities did not allow any intervention on the market of special action squads organized by the different groups of workers to keep a direct watch over prices.

Bomb Incident 14.12.44

About 11 o'clock a group headed by some students went to the Military District Building to protest against the recent summons to military service. The crowd was at the door of the building when a hand bomb was thrown, followed by shooting on the part of the soldiers. A student, Antonio Spampinato, di Rosario, 21 years old, of Catania, was killed, and three others were slightly injured.

It has not been possible to ascertain who threw the bomb. The intervention of the police dispersed the crowd, which again formed in groups in the various quarters of the town, provoking incidents by assaulting soldiers and setting fire to lorries. Towards 15 hours, the mob went toward Piazza del Duomo and, throwing a bomb at the door of the town hall, succeeded in invading the premises. From the balconies and windows, the furniture and the documents of the various offices were thrown to the crowd below, who set fire to them. Then they set fire to the Municipal Hall; other groups went to the Tax office and the Court House and did the same, and the buildings were still burning at 19:30, and the mob dominated the square.

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Separatist Meeting at Alcamo, Sicily

On Sunday, 3 December, a meeting of the Alcamo Section of the Movement for the Independence of Sicily was held at the Cinema Teatro Marconi. About 1000 persons gathered at the theater and completely filled it. About 3000 more lined the streets. The meeting was supposed to begin at 10:20 but Finocchiaro did not arrive until twelve. Everyone waited, however, and the crowd constantly increased.

Finocchiaro Aprile arrived in Alcamo and stepped out a Lancia which had a sign on the windshield reading "Ministero delle Finanze". Avv. Varvaro arrived in another car immediately after the head of the movement. Also soon were Mrs. Tasca and Giuseppe Tasca (the wife and

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son of Lucio Tasca, former sindaco of Palermo), and Mrs. Vervaro and Mrs. Finocchiaro-Aprile. Finocchiaro first inspected the local separatist headquarters and then walked three blocks to the theater. He was greeted at the headquarters by cheers and a separatist song. As he walked to the theater between crowds lining the streets, tiny colored separatist leaflets were thrown from the balconies. These included "Sicilians, now or never" (Siciliani, ora o mai); "Long live the Honorable Finocchiaro Aprile" (VV L'On. Finocchiaro Aprile); "We want a Plebescite" (Vogliamo il plebescit); and "Long live a Free and Independent Sicily" (VV La Sicilia Libera e Indipendente). These were thrown constantly until he reached the theater.

The first speaker was Avv. Cassarà, head of the Young Separatists League of Alcamo. After greeting the audience he proceeded to talk about the economic-political reasons which explain the widespread popularity of the movement and the spontaneous adherence to it on the part of the masses of workers on the island.

He dwelt particularly on the long lasting impoverishment of Sicily by northern Italy, and said that this has not been only a sad plague of the past but that it is continuing and will continue until the time when Sicily throws off the chains of her economic and political slavery. The speaker mentioned two recent developments in this connection:

a) That because of the industrial ruin in the North the Directors of the industrial firm of Montecatini in Sicily have been forbidden to initiate any work and to keep for the use of the northern firm the provisions, raw materials and machines existing in Sicily.

b) In talking about the wine situation the speaker said that it is well known that the vintage is a question of life or death for many centers of the Island. The High Commissioner for Sicily has forbidden Sicilians to export their wine, while for some time a myriad of speculators from liberated Italy have appeared like locusts to buy Sicilian wines at very cheap prices to sell them in Rome.

The last two statements produced a favorable impression on the audience and there was much applause. When this died down Cassarà ended his brief speech by stating that the people of Alcamo will be with their head and will follow on to the goal. He was followed by

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The last two statements produced a favorable impression on the audience and there was much applause. When this died down Cassarà ended his brief speech by stating that the people of Alcamo will be with their head and will follow on to the goal. He was followed by Avv. Peppitone, a local lawyer, who introduced Finocchiaro Aprile.

The head of the movement opened his speech with some remarks about Alcamo. He gave a brief historical account of the origins of the Italian language, especially Sicilian which had its beginnings at Alcamo in the person of Ciullo, the first great local poet, and in "Rosa Fresentissima", the first manifestation of Sicilian literary art.

Then the speaker stated that Alcamo represents for all Sicily one of the main bases on which will be constructed the new Sicilian state. "In saying this, "the speaker continued, "I do not wish to appear to be flattering you, for it is the truth. Alcamo will have a place of prime importance in the society of tomorrow".

The main points of his speech may be summarized as follows:

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ITALY - We have nothing against Italy, whom we consider to be our good sister, but we want to live alone. We wish to create a sovereign and independent Sicily in a perfect and absolutely international sphere. Only after such a sovereign state has been created will we consider the possibility of a confederation which will be able to occur only between similar states.

REGIME - As far as the political regime is concerned, Finocchiaro recalled that the National Committee of the movement at the Congress in Taormina unequivocably stated that they favored a republic. The Monarchy of Savoy has betrayed the people of Sicily, losing forever the right to remain on the throne of Sicily.

ARMISTICE - When we think of the signed armistice which stained the upright consciences of the Italian and Sicilian people, we must affirm that they (Badoglio and the King) do not have the right to citizenship in this land. There were two armistices. The first was signed the second of September, the second the 26th of September. The first is justifiable and has been justified, but the second certainly cannot be. An old friend of mine who lives today in America, G. Salvemini, has said that the second armistice was signed by Badoglio with conditions like slavery. There rises in us a legitimate hatred which we must state as to why those governing have not given as a condition of their governing that the second armistice should be revoked.

INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION - The Movement has taken a clear position against the Badoglio Ministry, and the Bonomi Ministry, and will maintain it against any government that may follow in Italy. All of us in Sicily have had a feeling of nausea over the events which are taking place in Rome. We have seen the dictatorship of one man followed by that of six who have in governing taken care of only the interests of their followers. It was not therefore possible that this cabinet could govern the country while serving the interests of the people. The men of this government have not had a thought for Italy or for Sicily.

We have been against the Committees of Liberation. We have seen what a diseased form some of these committees have had: their one burning desire to acquire a job. The Committees of Liberation do not rep-

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We have been against the Committees of Liberation. We have seen what a diseased form some of these committees have had, their one burning desire to acquire a job. The Committees of Liberation do not represent the people because they are named by themselves. We shall never accept any office which does not come to us from the Sicilian people.

The crisis in Rome is a crisis that will never have a sure outcome, since it seems evident that the parties are struggling for the hegemony of one over another. There is discord and it is logical that there will be discord among contrasting parties: for example, the Democ-Christian party is eminently religious and the Communist party denies religion.

The truth is that today it is not possible to govern in Italy and it is not possible because the Italian state has not yet that absolute sovereignty which is necessary because a government must be able to rule itself. Behind the government are the Allies who are governing and it is just that this should be so as they must maintain their power until the peace of tomorrow.

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COUNT SFORZA - Minister Eden on the radio declared that Count Sforza was forbidden to enter the government as Minister of Foreign Affairs. I must say that I approve such a statement since it referred to a man who wanted to make his political personality weigh too heavily and who has occupied himself with affairs that were and are above his ability. I recall that Count Sforza said that I and my friends should be put in a pillory for what we were doing. Well, now I believe that today he is in the pillory. (Loud applause and the singing of the separatist s nt).

At Rome a government is being formed and we are not interested in what goes on in Rome as for us it is similar to what happens in Paris or Berlin. We favor only a government composed of Sicilians entirely. If it occurs to some of those governing today to extend some invitation to one of us independents, this invitation must be considered as already refused.

Finocchiaro reaffirmed the decision of the movement to continue the struggle until there is a complete realization of their own program. The possibility of a confederation was not excluded but it must assure Sicily's participation as an equal in an eventual European confederation.

Nenni, during the development of the crisis, worried lest his Socialist Party should remain out of the government, stated that he had some arrows in his quiver. Well, we in Sicily have some arrows in our quiver. If we had wanted to become masters of the public offices, we should have been able to do it. We did not wish to out of respect for the Allies. But the government must understand that we Sicilians do not joke. A great shock could occur tomorrow.

FOREIGN POLITICS - We do not have any intention of creating trouble for the Allies. We shall never ask for anything; the Sicilian republic must be the work of Sicilians. From the Allies we have asked only a plebescite and it seems from some recent remarks of American personalities that the beginning of the self-decision of the people will be applied to Italy and then to Sicily.

I have already said at Taormina that there is a serious divergence of opinion between Roosevelt and Churchill over the future systemization of Sicily; they both know that there exists in Sicily a movement for independence. They both know that in no case, ever, will Sicily

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RUSSIA - I believe that I was one of the first in Italy to know the doctrine of Lenin, one of the greatest philosophers in Europe. I had believed I had noted with displeasure that Russia had taken a position of hostility toward our movement, so much so that all the Communist unitarians had maintained in the past a decidedly hostile attitude toward the movement. And yet if there is a movement that has oriented its politics toward the workers and the farmers it is the movement for the independence of Sicily. We are in fact convinced that if Sicily remains united to Italy the conditions of the workers on the island would remain as they have been for 84 years.

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As far as my judgment on the attitude of Russia towards our movement is concerned it was stated to me some days ago that it is not true that Russia is against the formation of a sovereign state in Sicily. I thank Signor Stalin (and Signor Molotov?) for this. When this statement was made to me, I was asked what type of republic we intended to construct. I stated that I did not consider it possible to create a Soviet republic, since I did not believe that the Sicilian people tend toward the formation of such a republic. I say, however, that if the Sicilian people, asked to express their wishes, should declare themselves favorable, we should accept the formation of a Soviet republic which I still continue to believe hardly probable. What can they ask of us then? An open declaration of friendship? I am happy to declare that we are friends of Russia."

When Finocchiaro was introduced there were cheers and yells. During his speech there were a few catcalls and whistles, but he ignored them. In the balcony there was a large group which did not applaud Finocchiaro Aprile's entrance or remarks in general, but only applauded loudly when Stalin or Communism were mentioned.

Mrs. Finocchiaro Aprile, Mrs. Ververo, Mrs. Tasca, (wife of the former mindor of Palermo) and Mrs. Biondo (a wealthy woman from Palermo) were present for the purpose of organizing a feminine section of the movement in Palermo.

Sixty carabinieri had been sent from Palermo but there were no disturbances and the meeting broke up peacefully. The crowd, carrying the separatist flag, escorted Finocchiaro back to the headquarters of the party.

Local Conditions, Housing

Food - The scarcity of food and the continued rise in prices threaten to cause a crisis of proportions. As a consequence, the black market flourishes under the very noses of the police who keep quiet because it is to their interest to do so. The situation is serious and it apparently seems to one in authority does anything about it, while through their agents, they invite the people to be calm, patient and comprehensive of the difficulties of the moment.

The High Commissioner has assigned L.300,000 as a distribution

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Sixty carabinieri had been sent from Palermo but there were no disturbances and the meeting broke up peacefully. The crowd, carrying the separatist flag, escorted Finocchiaro back to the headquarters of the party.

Local Conditions Messina

Food - The scarcity of food and the continual rise in prices threaten to cause a crisis of preoccupying proportions. As a consequence, the black market flourishes under the very noses of the police who keep quiet because it is to their interest to do so. The situation is serious and it apparently seems to one in authority does anything about it, while through their agents, they invite the people to be calm, patient and comprehensive of the difficulties of the moment.

The High Commissioner has assigned L.300,000 as a contribution to the Soup Kitchens.

For the needs of those suffering from diabetes, special bread will be made and 100 grams given instead of the usual 200 gram ration, at the price of L.15 per kilo. Ration cards will be given on production of a medical sercificate.

The academy of the Pucina has opened the first tournament of Literature for prose and poetry of both local and outside writers.

The decree revoking the blackout has just been published. While in other Sicilian cities measures were taken to repair, if only partially, the power plant so they could have light at once, in Messina there has only been the decree.

The pharmacy of the Civic Hospital "Piemonte" is open to the public with medical supplies from the [illegible] sales at moderate prices will be made on presentation of a prescription and issued by the provincial office of Hygiene.

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A Year of Administrative Life at Catenanuova, Sicily

(From the newspaper IL SOLCO of 19 November 1944)

A year ago Rag. Nicolò Buà took over the direction of the municipal administration of Catenanuova. On the 22 October last everything needed repairing from the bomb-damaged cemetery to the reservoir of drinking water, from the slaughter house to the Town Hall. Debris needed carting away and streets and squares repairing. It was no easy matter to reactivate the municipal services and offices. A capable, decisive, honest and practical man was needed. Nicolò Buà has shown himself to be such a man. In a year he obtained L. 1,317,500 to help unemployment and L. 1,003,500 for public assistance, making a total of L. 2,321,000.

First of all the ruins were cleared (80% of the houses had been damaged, and 5% destroyed) and the cemetery and its surroundings. The Town Hall, the reservoir which had been damaged in several places, the new municipal school, the municipal well and the slaughter-house were all repaired. The furniture and the doors and windows of the Municipal Building and the furniture of the school and kindergarten were put in order. A small villa was built next to the church.

The magnificent building of the Casa del Mistitore has been restored. The municipality acquired the ground around the spring 'POZZO' which it has enlarged, thus obtaining double the quantity of water for the nearby trough and has carried the water to the trough of Castellace much to the advantage of the peasants of that area who felt the benefit of it during the past summer.

In the bureaucratic-administrative field, many difficulties were overcome and important problems solved, among them, the Electric Company's power contract was dissolved, the co-operative lands saved and the municipal finances put in order.

The quantity of wheat turned into the People's Granary of this town was far above that assigned without there having been need to resort to threats or punishment. The prestige and authority of the mayor influenced the peasants with whom he is popular.

During the year everyone at Catenanuova had work and bread. For

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During the year everyone at Catenanuova had work and bread. For the winter the Mayor has prepared a further program which will be begun as soon as the necessary funds are obtained. In this program of reconstruction the Mayor has had the invaluable assistance of a very able Municipal Council. He himself has been on the job from morning until night and the people of Catenanuova have the greatest faith in his ability.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - 9 December 1944

President of the Council	BONOMI Ivanoe (Christian Democrat)
Under-Secretary	SPATARO Giuseppe (Christian Democrat)
Vice-Presidents of the Council	+ DE RODINO' Giuliano (Christian Democrat)
	TOGLIATTI Palmiro (Communist)
Minister without Portfolio	+ BROSIO Manlio (Liberal)
Minister of Interior	BONOMI Ivanoe
Under-Secretary	+ MOLE Enrico (Labour Democrat)
Minister of Foreign Affairs	DE GASPERI Alcide (Christian Democrat)
Under-Secretary	+ REALE Eugenio (Communist)
Minister of Justice	TUPINI Umberto (Christian Democrat)
Under-Secretary	+ VERONI Dante (Labour Democrat)
Minister of Finance	PESENTI Antonio (Communist)
Under-Secretary	+ GABRIELE Cesare (Liberal)
Minister of Treasury	SOLERI Marcello (Liberal)
Under-Secretary	SCOCA Salvatore (Christian Democrat)
Minister of War	CASATI Alessandro (Liberal)

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Under-Secretary	+ MOLE Enrico (Labour Democrat)
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Under-Secretary	SCOCA Salvatore (Christian Democrat)
Minister of War	CASATI Alessandro (Liberal)
Under-Secretary	PALERMO Mario (Communist)
Minister of Navy	DE COURTEN Raffaele
Under-Secretary	BASSANO Carlo (Labour Democrat)
Minister of Air	SCIALOIA Carlo (Labour Democrat)
Under-Secretary	+ PELLEGRINO Ernesto (Independent)
Minister of Public Works	TUINI Meuccio (Labour Democrat)
Under-Secretary	+ CASSIANI Germano (Christian Democrat)

(Those marked with a (+) are new members of the Bonomi Government)

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET -Continued

Minister of Education	+ ARANGIO RUIZ Vincenzo (Liberal)
Under-Secretary	MATTARELLA Bernardo (Christian Democrat)
Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labour	GRONCHI Giovanni (Christian Democrat)
Under-Secretary of Industry and Commerce	+ PIORE Umberto (Communist)
Under-Secretary of Labour	+ PARESCE Enrico (Labour Democrat)
Minister of Agriculture	GULLO Fausto (Communist)
Under-Secretary	+ SEGNI Antonio (Christian Democrat)
Minister of Transport	CERABONA Francesco (Labour Democrat)
Under-Secretary	++ TIZZO Giambattista (Liberal)
Minister of Communications	+ CEVOLOTTO Mario (Labour Democrat)
Under-Secretary	+ FANO Mario (Independent)
Minister of Occupied Italy	+ SCOCCIMARRO Mauro (Communist)
Under-Secretary	+ MEDICI TORNAQUINCI Aldovrando (Liberal)
Under-Secretary for Italians Abroad	+ MORELLI Renato (Liberal)
Under-Secretary for Mercantile Marine	+ MONTALBANO Giuseppe (Communist)
Under-Secretary for Press, Enter-	+ LIBONATI Franco

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Under-Secretary of Labour	+	PARESCE Enrico (Labour Democrat)
Minister of Agriculture		GULLO Fausto (Communist)
Under-Secretary	+	SEGNI Antonio (Christian Democrat)
Minister of Transport		CERABONA Francesco (Labour Democrat)
Under-Secretary	+	RIZZO Giambattista (Liberal)
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Under-Secretary for Press, Entertainment & Tourism	+	LIBONATI Franco (Liberal)

(Names marked with an (+) are new members of the Bonomi Government)

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES OF MEMBERS OF NEW GOVERNMENT

BONOMI Ivance — President of the Council

Born 18 October 1873 at Mantova.
Was Deputy for Ortiglia and Mantova.
Expelled from Socialist Party for approving Libyan War.
Founded with Bissolati in 1912 the Reformist Party.
Minister of Public Works under Boselli from June 1916-October 1917 and under Orlando from January-June 1919.
Served under Nitti-Giolitti as Minister of War.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

BONOMI Ivance - Cont'd

Became Minister of Treasury in 1921.
President of Council in July 1921; Treaty of Rapallo signed while he was Prime Minister.
Left Government after breakdown of truce between Fascists and Socialists. Retired to private life.
In spring of 1944 chosen President of National Committee of Liberation.
Editor of Il Mondo, August 1943 (suppressed by Badoglio after first issue).
Has Collare dell'Annunciata.

DE GASPERI Alcide — Minister of Foreign Affairs

Born April 3, 1883. Doctor in Letters.
As University student was arrested at Innsbruck together with Cesare Battisti and numerous other students during the Irredentist riots for the Constitution of the Italian University of that city.
At 24 became editor of IL NUOVO TRENTINO which under his editorship became most widely read newspaper in region.
In 1911 was elected Deputy in Austrian Parliament as representative of Constituency of Trentino and before and during World War made courageous speeches in favour of oppressed and persecuted Italians.
As Member of Commission of Deputies of Trento and Trieste was welcomed on Armistice Day in Milan by popular demonstrations, especially on part of Catholics who looked to him to bring about participation of Catholic masses in public life of country.
Presented by Vittorio Orlando in speech to people of Rome from balcony of Palazzo Braschi and received with same popular demonstrations.
In 1919 acclaimed President of first Congress of Italian Popular Party held at Bologna.
Elected Dpputy in Italian Parliament of 1921 and nominated President of Parliamentary Group of Italian Popular Party, taking active part in Chamber.
Follower of Don Sturzo and his successor as Director of Party until suppression of Party by Fascism.

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Follower of Don Sturzo and his successor as Director of Party until suppression of Party by Fascism.

Arrested in 1924 and condemned to four years imprisonment.

After release withdrew from public life but was active in research and published numerous works under various pseudonyms - Zanotta, Jaspar, Rerum Scriptor etc.

Looked to as leader by his friends during Fascism and during clandestine political activity in Rome.

TUPINI Umberto — Minister of Justice

Born in Rome 27 Nov 1889. Doctor in Law.

Began career as journalist. Editor of DIFESA DEL POPOLO and the L'ORGANIZZATORE. Contributed to CORRIERE D'ITALIA.

At 25 elected to Municipal Council of Rome and dedicated himself to civic problems.

For many years leader of Catholic professional organizations in Rome. Started savings movement for Catholic workers.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

TUPINI Umberto - Cont'd

Became President of Italian Federation of Rural Savings.
One of the founders of Popular Party.
In 1919, 1921 and 1924 was elected Deputy for the Marche. for the three years. Elected to last in spite of violent persecution of Fascists.
Spoke frequently at the Chamber; in 1921 spoke in favour of Bonomi Government.
Secretary of Parliamentary Group of Aventine.
Was most energetic defenders of public liberties and his activity resulted in his arrest by Fascists.
One of most distinguished penalists of Roman law courts.
Presided over Commission of Legal Studies for Christian Democratic Party during clandestine struggle.

PESENTI Antonio — Minister of Finance

Born at Verona 15 October 1910.
His family had radical political sympathies and in 1926 after attempt on Mussolini's life at Bologna, they were banished from Treviso and moved to Verona.
In 1928 wrote for GRIDO D'ITALIA, a Mazzinian paper published at Genoa.
In same year represented press at meeting of University Groups of League of Nations.
In 1930 joined ~~Communist~~ clandestine movement "Giustizia e Liberta".
In 1931 took degree in Law.
Became Assistant to Institute of Finance at University of Pavia.
In October 1931 went to London for his studies.
In 1932 went to Vienna on a Scholarship, and there made contact with Communist Party.
In August 1932 returned to Italy and began secret Communist activity.
From December 1932 to April 1933 was at Berne for higher studies in Tributary Law..
November 1933 called up for military service.

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November 1933 called up for military service.
October 1935 took part in Socialist Congress at Brussels.
On return was arrested and sentenced to 24 years imprisonment.
While there became member of Communist Party.
Released from prison 3 September 1943 and went to Bari in November 1943.
He edited the Bari Communist weekly, CIVILTA' PROLETARIA.
Also worked for P.W.B. in Bari.
Appointed Under-Secretary of Finance in Italian War Cabinet of National Union April 21, 1944.
Appointed Under-Secretary of Finance in Bonomi Cabinet formed June 10, 1944. 1945

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

SOLERI Marcello — Minister of Treasury

Born 28 May 1882 at Cuneo. Barrister.
Liberal Democrat Deputy.
Under-Secretary for Navy in Nitti Ministry (1919-20).
Commissioner-General for Food Supplies in Giolitti's Ministry (1920-21).
Minister of Finance in Bonomi Government (1920).
In 1922 Minister of Justice in Facta's Cabinet.
Presented a series of laws on local finance when Minister of Finance.
In 1921 at Financial Conference in Paris obtained a revision of reparations.
Volunteered in Alpini in last War - wounded; decorated with silver medal.
Follower of political philosophy of Giolitti.

CASATI Alessandro — Minister of War

Born 3 March 1881 at Milan.
Marchese. Grandson of Gabio Casati who was President of the Provincial Government of Milan during the famous Five Days in 1848 and last President of Council under King Carlo Alberto.
Volunteer in last war against Austrians.
After Armistice was sent to Paris on diplomatic mission.
Secretary-General of Italian Delegation at Fiume in 1923.
Created Senator January 1923.
Member of Committee for National Society for Study of History of Risorgimento.
In November 1923 Vice-President of Higher Committee of Education.
Minister of Education from June 1924 to January 1925.
Liberal representative on Rome National Committee of Liberation.
Chairman of Liberal Party.

DE COURTEN Raffaele — Minister of Navy

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Liberal representative on Rome National Committee of Liberation.

Chairman of Liberal Party.

DE COURTEN Raffaele — Minister of Navy

Born 23 September 1888 in Milan.

Entered Naval Academy in 1906.

Naval Attache in Berlin from June 1933 to February 1936.

Inspector of Underwater Weapons from June 1938 to July 1941.

Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff in Naval Department March to July 1943.

Minister of Navy from 26 July 1943 under Badoglio, also Chief of General Staff for Navy.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

SCIALOIA Carlo — Minister of Air

Belongs to a family that for five generations has given eminent jurists and able politicians to the country.

Much of activity devoted to editing the FORO ITALIANO, the leading legal review.

Was volunteer in last war and served as officer throughout, receiving five decorations.

After Fascist debacle, joined the National Committee of Liberation and undertook hazardous missions allotted him by secret Military Council during German occupation.

RUINI Meuccio — Minister of Public Works

Born 14 December 1877 at Reggio Emilia.

Entered Government in Ministry of Public Works in 1900 and later became director of Southern Italy's Department of Public Works.

Volunteered in last war and awarded silver medal.

~~Joined Aventino movement along with Amendola when it started after Matteotti murder.~~

Radical Deputy at 24th and 25 Legislatures.

Was Labour Under-Secretary in Orlando Cabinet (1919), and Minister of Colonies in third Nitti Cabinet (1920).

Created the E.N.I.T. (National Office of Tourist Industry) and National Office for Expertation.

When Mussolini came to power he resumed newspaper activity (before last war wrote for LA CRITICA SOCIALE under pseudonym of Chantecleer and other newspapers). Wrote mainly about economic problems in the MONDO.

In 1923 was among founders and later president of the National Union which tried to organize a new democracy.

After 1924 crisis was among leaders of opposition group of the Aventino. Expelled from State Council on account of anti-Fascist activity.

During Fascist period appeared little in public life and devoted himself to history; published two books "Corvetto" and "La Signora di Stael" in which he indirectly criticised Fascism.

Mainly due to him that United Front of Anti-Fascist forces was set up, as well as the formation of the National Committee

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Mainly due to him that United Front of Anti-Fascist forces was set up, as well as the formation of the National Committee of Liberation.

Joined Bonomi in founding Labour Democratic Party when group called Ricostruzione, which was set up by Bonomi in 1942 with general anti-Fascist program, split to creat a political party.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

ZANOBINI Guido Minister of Education

Born 29 June 1887 at Cuneo. Law graduate.

Professor in Roman Law successively at the Universities of Camerino, Perugia, Pavia and Florence.

From 1931 until declaration of war by Italy in June 1940 he was abroad, teaching Roman Law at the Royal University of Egypt (Gâzeh).

Associate of Royal Academy of Moral Science and Politics and of the Egyptian Institute.

Authority on the study of ancient inscriptions and deciphering Greek and Latin papyrus on Law.

Reported to have been taking part in anti-Fascist activities in Egypt in 1943.

Contributed a ticle to ROMA of Naples on magistrature and politics in September 1943.

Politically active after Allies entered Naples.

President of Naples National Committee of Liberation.

Appointed member of Provisional Executive Junta representing Liberal Party at Bari Congress.

Appointed Minister of Justice in Italian War Cabinet of National Union, April 1944.

GRONCHI Giovanni Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labour

Born in 1887 at Pontedera (Tuscany).

Member of Christian Democratic movement of 1903.

Later represented moderate Left-wing tendency within the Popular Party (Christian Democrats).

Secretary-General of Catholic Trade Union.

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Born 7 May 1884 at Naples. Law graduate.

Professor in Roman Law successively at the Universities of Camerino, Perugia, Cagliari, Messina, Modena and Naples.

From 1931 until declaration of war by Italy in June 1940 he was abroad, teaching Roman Law at the Royal University of Egypt (Gizeh).

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Secretary-General of Catholic Trade Union.

In 1919 elected Deputy for Pisa-Livorno.

Re-elected 1921.

In July 1922 Vice-Secretary of Popular Party Parliamentary group.

Under-Secretary for Industry and Commerce in Mussolini's first Ministry.

Resigned from this post in April 1923 after Popular Party Congress in Turin.

Made member of Triumvirate which controlled Popular Party after Don Sturzo's resignation from Secretaryship, acting as Political Secretary.

Returned for Tuscany April 1924.

November 1926 deprived of seat in Chamber as member of Aventinist Opposition.

Reported as one of Christian Democratic representatives on National Committee of Liberation in Rome.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

GULLO Fausto — Minister of Agriculture

About 49 years of age.
Born in Cosenza.
In 1926 sent to "Confino" for anti-Fascist activities.
Leader of Communist Party in Cosenza Province.
In 1942 participated at secret congress in Rome where action against Mussolini and diffusion of clandestine papers was organized.
Has landed property on slopes of Sila.
Appointed Minister of Agriculture in Italian War Cabinet of National Union April 21, 1944.
Appointed Minister of Agriculture in first Bonomi Cabinet, June 10, 1944.

CERABONA Francesco — Minister of Transport

Born in 1883.
Former Deputy for the Basilicata, his native province.
In November 1932 became member of P.N.F.
In 1934 became member of Fascist syndicate.
Leader of the Naples branch of Labour Democrats in 1943.
January 1944 assumed leadership of above party in Liberated Italy.
Attended Bari Congress and elected as Labour Democrat representative to the Giunta Esecutiva.
Appointed Minister of Communications in Italian War Cabinet of National Union, April 1944.
Held same post in Bonomi Cabinet formed June 10, 1944.

CEVOLOTTO Mario — Minister of Communications

Born in 1887 in Treviso.
Took degree in Law at University of Padova.
Volunteered in last war and received promotion for merit.
Was director of the paper LA PROVINCIA DI TREVISO, and reporter to the EPOCA of Rome.
Was one of first organisers of the Labour Democratic Party.

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Was one of first organisers of the Labour Democratic Party.

SCOCCIMARO Mauro — Minister of Occupied Italy

Born in 1894 in Udine.
In 1926 was sentenced to 11 years imprisonment for Communist activities.
When released from prison, was sent to "confino di polizia" for another six years, spent for most part on island of Ventotene.
Was freed when Fascism fell and became a member of the National Committee of Liberation representing Communist Party.
Deputy leader of Communist Party.
Member of "Fronte della Liberazione Nazionale" in Rome.
Held post of High Commissioner for Epuration under last Bonomi Cabinet.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

BROSIO Manlio — Minister without Portfolio

Born in 1896 in Rimini.
Fought in last war as artillery officer.
Received silver medal and "Croce di guerra" for gallantry.
Became member of Liberal Party after war, taking part in Left-wing activities.
Took part in Piero Gobetti's movement.
Collaborator of "RIVOLUZIONE LIBERALE.
Was a member of the Committee of Opposition after Matteotti murder in the fight against Fascism.
After September 1943 he was one of the organizers of the underground resistance movement and actively collaborated with "Disorgimento Liberale."
Member of National Committee of Liberation.
Secretary-General of Liberal Party.

DI RODINO' Giuliano — Vice-President of the Council

Degree in Law, 1891.
Member of Fascist Syndicate 1933 - not member of P.N.F.
In 1913 elected Deputy for Naples.
Re-elected 1919 and 1921.
Questore and then Vice-President of Chamber in 25th Legislature (1919-21).
Minister of War under Nitti.
July 1921-February 1922 Minister of Justice in Bonomi's Cabinet.
President of Triumvirate of Populer Party after Don Sturzo's resignation.
Returned for Campania April 1924.
Vice-President of Chamber 1924.
Minister without Portfolio in Italian War Cabinet of National Union April 1944.

TOGLIATTI Palmiro — Vice-President of the Council

Born in 1893 in Genoa.
Took degree in Law.
Member of Socialist Party during last war.
Became one of founders of Communist Party in Italy and

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with "Risorgimento Liberale."
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Minister without Portfolio in Italian War Cabinet of National Union April 1944.

TOGLIATTI Palmiro — Vice-President of the Council

Born in 1893 in Genoa.
Took degree in Law.
Member of Socialist Party during last war.
Became one of founders of Communist Party in Italy and in year following last war was one of party leaders in Turin.
From 1922 to 1926 was in forefront of resistance to Fascism but at same time opponent of extremism of Bordiga, another Communist leader.
In 1927 was denounced before Fascist Special Tribunal for attempt against security of State - from that time carried on fight underground.
From 1926 to 1937 was effective head of Communist Party in Italy and from 1937 recognized as the leader.
Appointed Minister without Portfolio in Italian War Cabinet of National Union April 1944.
Minister without Portfolio in last Bonomi Cabinet also.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

SPATARO Giuseppe — Under-Sec. to Presidency of Council

Born June 12, 1897 at Vasto.
While student of Law became interested in syndical organization and in organization of Catholic youth.
Took part in last war.
After war was appointed President of Catholic Youth in the Abruzzi and President General of F.U.C.I.
At 24 was appointed Vice-Secretary under Sturzo of the Popular Party.
After Sturzo's exile and following Matteotti ,urder he became Secretary General of Central Committee of anti-Fascist parties.
In August 1942 appointed to Giunta Esecutiva of Committees of Liberation.
Member of Christian Democratic Party.
Under-Secretary of Press and Information in Bonomi Cabinet of June 1944.

MOLE Enrico — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Interior

Born 7 October 1889.
At 23 served as Provincial Counsellor.
From 1913 to 1921 Provincial Deputy of Catanzaro.
In 1918 was Commissioner for "Work and Cooperation" in Commission for Study of Post-War Problems, presided over by V.E. Orlando.
As member of Parliament in 1921 for Electoral College of Cosenza, Catanzaro, Reggio Calabria, he was secretary of the Parliamentary Reform group, but election contested and annulled through manoeuvre of reactionary National Fascist majority.
In 1924 was again Deputy for Basilicata and Calabria College, being one of 10 members of group of anti-Fascist opposition elected in Southern Italy.
With Amendola, Bencivenga, Pressutti, Roberto Bracco, De Caro, Gioffredi, Mucccio Rubini, Guglielmo Ferrero, Cianca, Sforza and Berlinguer, he founded the National Union of Liberalism and Democracy opposing Mussolini's dictatorship.
Prior to 1925 he was political editor of LA VITA, of

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After Sturzo's exile and following [illegible] became Secretary General of Central Committee of anti-Fascist parties.

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Prior to 1925 he was political editor of LA VITA, of the reform paper AVANTI, collaborator of L'EPOCA and IL MESSEGERO, director of L'ORA in Palermo, and from 1922 to 1925 was editor-in-chief of IL MONDO, in which he carried out - before and after March on Rome - famous polemic against Mussolini and Fascism.

As civil lawyer and penalist he was for many years lawyer of the Banca d'Italia and of the State Railways.

REALE Eugenio — Under-Sec. to Min. of Foreign Affairs

Born in 1905. Surgeon.
Belonged to Socialist Party.
In 1929 joined Communist Party in Naples.
In 1931 arrested and condemned to 10 years imprisonment.
Released in 1934 after serving 3½ years.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET -Continued

SEALE Eugenio - Cont'd

In 1937 appointed leader of Communist Party in Naples.
Was with Communist Party in France in 1939.
In 1940 was arrested and spent 2 years in military prison and concentration camp near Toulouse. Thereafter a year in "Casa di Lavoro" in Italy.
Released after signing of armistice.
Reappointed leader of Naples Communist Party.
Fought as member of one of Internationa Brigades in Spain against Franco.

VERONI Dante — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Justice

Age about 65. Born at Velletri (Rome).
Deputy for Rome to Legislature from 1913-19.
Penal Lawyer of the Roman Forum.
During underground period took active part in anti-Nazi-Fascist struggle.
Appointed Questore of the House of Representatives when opened after coming of Allies.
President of Lazio Section of Labour Democratic Party.

GABRIELE Cesare — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Finance

Born at Cosenze.
Graduated in Law, specializing in civil law.
Was in touch with Hon. Zaniboni and General Cappello before the attempt upon Mussolini's life.
One of most outstanding Calabrian Liberals, took active part in reconstruction of Party in Province of Cosenza.
Represented Cosenza at Bari Congress.
Besides being keen lawyer, has deep knowledge of financial and economic problems.

SCOCA Salvatore — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Treasury

Born about 50 years ago at Avellino.
Took active part in anti-Nazi-Fascist struggle during

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against Franco.

VERONI Dante — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Justice

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Represented Cosenza at Bari Congress.
Besides being keen lawyer, has deep knowledge of financial and economic problems.

SCOCA Salvatore — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Treasury

Born about 50 years ago at Avellino.
Took active part in anti-Nazi-Fascist struggle during underground period.
Is student of Science of Finance and an expert on syndicalist organizations.
Was "Capo di Gabinetto" to Minister Grenchi (Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour) in first Bonomi Cabinet.

PALERMO Mario — Under-Secretary to Ministry of War

Born 21 October 1899 in Naples.
Wounded in last war and awarded three crosses.
Was President of Association of Disabled Soldiers until 1924 when he resigned in protest against Fascism.
In 1921 received degree in Law.
During Fascist regime was in contact with "Giustizia e Libertà" and with Communist Party in France.
In 1935 and 1936 he defended 150 political prisoners from Ponza and in following year defended 350 others.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

PALERMO Mario - Cont'd

Placed under surveillance and recommended for admonishment in 1939.

Appointed Under-Secretary of War in first Bonomi Cabinet.

BASSANO Carlo — Under-Secretary to Ministry of Navy

Age 59 years. Born in Naples.

After Matteotti murder became member of Democratic Giunta of the Opposition Committee and of the Central Committee of Italian Association for Democratic Control.

Showed intense political activity in Abruzzi.

During Fascism was lawyer in Court of Cassation.

In recent years turned to the anti-Fascist political struggle.

Member of Central Directive Committee of Labour Democrats.

Appointed Under-Secretary of Justice in last Bonomi Cabinet.

PELLEGRINO Ernesto — Under-Secretary to Ministry of Air

Is about 60 years old and comes from a Lazio family.

Commanded the 13th "Stormo" in Turin.

Left service about four years ago with rank of General of the Air Force.

CASSIANI Gennaro — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Public Works

About 50 years of age. Born in Calabria.

Lawyer by profession.

Before advent of Fascism was member of Popular Party and Chief of Catholic Organizations in Calabria.

Member of National Council of Christian Democratic Party.

MATTARELLA Bernardo — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Education

Born at Castellammare del Golfo (Trapani).

Lived and practiced law at Palermo.

In 1919 founded Catholic Youth associations in Sicily.

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Italian Association for Democratic Control.
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Lawyer by profession.
Before advent of Fascism was member of Popular Party and Chief of Catholic Organizations in Calabria.
Member of National Council of Christian Democratic Party.

MATTARELLA Bernardo — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Education

Born at Castellammare del Golfo (Trapani).
Lived and practiced law at Palermo.
In 1919 founded Catholic Youth Associations in Sicily.
Active in Popular Party since first days.
President of Palermo Diocesan Committee and member of Catholic Youth Superior Council.
Organized underground activity of Christian Democrats during Nazi-Fascist occupation.
After Allied occupation he was appointed Deputy Mayor of Palermo.
Under-Secretary of Education in last Bonomi Cabinet.

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FIORE Umberto — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Industry and Commerce

Born at Messina in 1898.
Joined Socialist Party when very young.
In 1919 became Secretary of Socialist Party in Messina.
Also Secretary of Chamber of Labour in Messina.

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FIORE Umberto - Cont'd

In 1921 joined Communist Party.
Was Inter-regional Secretary of the Federation of Electrical Workers in Lombardy, Trentino, Emilia, Piedmont.
In 1926 was arrested and condemned by the Special Tribunal to 8 years imprisonment.
Was released in 1932.
In 1941 was again arrested and interned.
In October 1943 was freed and returned to Messina.
At the time of his nomination to Under-Secretary, he was Secretary of the local Chamber of Labour in Messina; also member of the local Giunta Comunale as Assessor of public works.
Was also member of the Provincial Scolastic Council at Messina.

PARESCE Enrico — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Labour

Born in 1895 in Palermo. Lawyer.
Supporter of Intervention.
Founded Socialist University Group in Palermo.
Was wounded twice in last war.
Was Major in army in present war.
Did intense propaganda work and took part in anti-Fascist activities before and after fall of Fascism.
Arrested by Nazi-Fascists September 1943.
After liberation of Rome, headed Democratic Labour Party paper RICOSTRUZIONE.
Representative of above party.

SEGNI Antonio — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Agriculture

Born in Sassari about 50 years ago.
Before advent of Fascism belonged to Popular Party, and was a candidate of Popular Party before 1925.
Professor of jurisprudence and student of agriculture.
Rector of University of Sassari (Sardinia).
Has written a number of books.

RIZZO Giambattista — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Communications

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Secretary of the local Chamber of Labour in Messina; also member of the local Giunta Comunale as Assessor of public works.

Was also member of the Provincial Scolastic Council at Messina.

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Supporter of intervention.
Founded Socialist University Group in Palermo.
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Professor of Jurisprudence and student of agriculture.
Rector of University of Sassari (Sardinia).
Has written a number of books.

RIZZO Giambattista — Under-Sec. to Ministry of Communications

Born in 1907 at Melilli (Siracusa).
Graduated in Law and Political Science.
Specialized in English and North-American constitutional law and graduated in comparative constitutional law.
During underground period took part in Forensic Agitation Movement.
During German occupation was member of National Liberation Committee.
After liberation of Rome, was appointed member of C.L.N.'s Executive Committee.
Collaborator of RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE.

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NEW ITALIAN CABINET - Continued

FANO Mario Under-Sec. to Ministry of Communications

Born in Parma in 1895.
Since 1925 has been Director of Società Telefoniche e Radiofoniche Italiane.
Graduate in Engineering, Mechanical Science and Law.
Fought in last war as artillery colonel; wounded and decorated for valour.
Under-Secretary for Post and Telegraph under Badoglio (1943).
Re-appointed Under-Secretary of Communications in Italian War Cabinet of National Union.

MEDICI TORNAQUINCI Aldovrando Under-Sec. for Min. Occupied Italy

About 36 years of age. Florentine.
Took active part in direction of anti-Nazi struggle during period of Nazi-Fascist domination.
President of Liberal Party in Florence.
Member of Tuscan Committee of National Liberation.

MORELLI Renato Under-Secretary for Italians Abroad

Deputy leader of Liberal Party.
Lawyer for Banca di Napoli.
Close friend of Croce.
April 1944 appointed Under-Secretary to Presidency of Council of Ministers in Italian War Cabinet of National Union.
June 1944 appointed to same post in Bonomi Cabinet.

MONTALBANO Giuseppe Under-Secretary for Mercantile Marine

About 45 years of age.
Comes of old Sicilian family.
Was persecuted and imprisoned because of anti-Fascist activity.
Head of Palermo Communist Federation.
After July 25th became active organizer of Sicilian Communist movement.

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MEDICI TOMAQUINCI Aldovrando Under-Sec. for Min. Occupied Italy

About 35 years of age. Florentine.
Took active part in direction of anti-Nazi struggle during period of Nazi-Fascist domination.
President of Liberal Party in Florence.
Member of Tuscan Committee of National Liberation.

MORELLI Renato Under-Secretary for Italians Abroad

Deputy leader of Liberal Party.
Lawyer for Banca di Napoli.
Close friend of Croce.
April 1944 appointed Under-Secretary to Presidency of Council of Ministers in Italian War Cabinet of National Union.
June 1944 appointed to same post in Bonomi Cabinet.

MONTALBANO Giuseppe Under-Secretary for Mercantile Marine

About 45 years of age.
Comes of old Sicilian family.
Was persecuted and imprisoned because of anti-Fascist activity.
Head of Palermo Communist Federation.
After July 25th became active organizer of Sicilian Communist movement.

LIBONATI Francesco Under-Secretary for Press, Entertainment and Tourism

Born 7 August 1899 at Rotonda (Potenza).
Journalist and editor of AZIONE in Rome in 1920-21 and of IL PAESE of Rome in 1921-22.
When paper suppressed by Fascists became lawyer and one of most active organisers of Liberal Party in clandestine period.
After June 1944 he became Assessore of the Commune of Rome.
Collaborator of paper RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE during clandestine period and after.
Since September 1944 has been Vice-Secretary of Liberal Party.

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CONFIDENTIAL SUMMARY No. 47

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy 21 December 1944.

SUPPLEMENT TO CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON LIBERATED ITALY No. 47

PART I - SUMMARY

1) The new Italian Cabinet met under the presidency of Bonomi on Wednesday, December 20th, and decided that electoral lists should be prepared so that municipal elections might be held next spring. The preparation of these lists will not, it is added, compromise the possibility of extending the vote to women, a measure with which in principle the Government is in favor. Togliatti, De Gasperi, Ruini and Brosio have been entrusted with the task of putting forward concrete proposals for thecreation of consultative organs which would be the direct expression of the vital forces in the country, . which would thus be enabled to give some direct support to the government. Special measures have been passed for Sicily and Sardinia, which will have the effect of giving the islands a greater degree of autonomy. The Cabinet announced that although larger powers were now granted to the High-Commissioners of Sicily and Sardinia which would result in a greater degree of regional autonomy, it was opposed to any form of separation directed towards the disintegration of Italian unity. In particular it declared its resolve to fight Sicilian separatism which drew its strength from different sources, and which by the "recent demonstrations against conscription and therefore against the war of liberation, threatened to cancel the pages written by Sicily in the history of the Risorgimento."

2) Bonomi made his first speech after the formation of his second Cabinet on Sunday, December 17th, when he broadcast from Rome Radio. He announced that the Government had recognized the Committee of National Liberation in Northern Italy as its representative there so that it would have the power necessary to bring the struggle to a victorious conclusion. The new Ministry for Occupied Italy would have the task of supporting the efforts of the patriots in the North. The Prime Minister made it clear that the future of Italy depended on the early liberation of the country and the conclusion of the war, and the first duty of Italians was therefore to fight and win the war.

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3) The Central Committee of National Liberation approved an order of the day in which the six parties re-affirmed their intention of collaborating in the war effort for the liberation of Italy and of maintaining a close liaison between the parties so as to contribute towards the democratic reconstruction of the country. Thus the Socialist Party and the Party of Action, although outside the government, have made it clear that they desire to continue the close collaboration with the other parties of the Committee of National Liberation. The Action Party and the Socialists are, it is reported, drawing closer together, and on the whole the members of these parties, it is reported, approve the decision of their central executives to remain outside the government. The Communist leaders have been engaged in explaining to their followers the reasons which induced them to enter the government. It is reported that many of their followers are un-

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easy at this decision. Before leaving for London, Pietro Nenni addressed a meeting of Socialists in Naples to explain the policy of his party. It appears that some of the Socialists were disturbed at the decision of the party to stay outside the government while the Communists decided to enter. They were afraid of the effects on the pact of unity between the Socialists and the Communists. Nenni explained that in June of this year a certen equilibrium had been established between the Committee of National Liberation and the Lieutenant of the Realm, but Bonomi's resignation brought the "Institutional" problem once more into question. He went on to say that while the Demo-Christian and Liberal parties declared themselves prepared to allow the state greater authority the Socialists and those of the left insisted that such a plan would only be possible after a radical "epuration" of the fascist elements in the state administration. According to Nenni, Bonomi brought the matter before the C.L.N. on Saturday, November 25th. The Committee, he said, advised Bonomi not to resign. But while discussions were proceeding, Bonomi handed in his resignation to the Lieutenant of the Realm. Although the Communists announced their intention of entering the government and of accepting the offer of a vice-presidency of the Council, it was not so easy for the Socialists to do so without giving the impression of being a party that was angling for ministerial portfolios. The reasons why the Socialists could not enter the government were, according to Nenni, that it was not possible to accept a government which constituted a diminution of the authority of the C.L.N., or to take part in a government together with Bonomi, in whom the party had no confidence.

4) Nenni has returned t Rome from London where he was invited to attend the Labour Party Congress. In an article in the AVANTI after his return he explains the objects of his visit as being to inform members of the Labour party in England of the problems and difficulties of the new Italian democracy, and to propose the reconstitution of the workers' International. As for the latter, he writes, it was scarcely possible even to lay the bases of a future reconstitution

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5) During the week there were demonstrations by students in Catania against conscription outside the barracks. A bomb was thrown and the [illegible] soldiers fired at the crowd, with the result that casualties were caused. It is believed that these demonstrations were instigated by the separatist movement. [illegible] A clash was reported on December 10th in a cinema in Palermo, where [illegible] students protested against the call-up of the 21, 22, 23 and 24 classes. They tried to incite young men to sabotage the order to enlist. Among those taking part in the demonstration a prominent young separatist was noticed. It is [illegible] possible

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that fascist elements may also have been involved, as at Trapani and elsewhere in the island minor fascist demonstrations have been reported. It is reported that during the riots in Catania some of the students shouted "Viva il Duce!" The students shouted that they "did not wish to be conscripted to defend an Italy whose frontiers have not been guaranteed." After the riots in Catania the curfew was imposed there at six o'clock, and assemblies of more than three persons forbidden. The prefect and the "questore" were changed and an inquiry instituted. An Italian professor who recently returned from Apulia suggests that there is a great need of British and American propaganda in the provinces. The Italians, in the south, he says, have been left to themselves, and the fascists are spreading subversive rumors. The people have not felt the war in Apulia, he says, to the same extent as those in central and northern Italy, and as a result they grumble more easily and understand less vividly the damage inflicted on Italy by the Germans. They understand or know little of what is happening in other countries, and a knowledge for example of conditions in wartime England, he says, would go far to correct the perspective of many of those who at present are aware only of the inconveniences which the war has brought to them. Above all, he says, there is a need for newspapers, reviews and books in the English language, and for a serious attempt to explain the meaning of democracy particularly in its administrative application. In Sicily and in Naples bombs have exploded in crowded cinemas; it is reported that these were placed there by fascist subversive elements. One was placed in a cinema at a showing of the film "The Dictator."

6) The advertised Hunger March which was to have taken place in Rome on 16 December did not occur. The attempts on the part of demonstrators to break up the black market in Rome by violence did not continue during the week. The press has, however, been devoting much attention to the food situation and blames the Italian offices which are supposed to distribute food in Rome for the present inequalities. In particular the press criticizes the open black market activities which are carried on in certain quarters of Rome and in certain shops.

7) The Italian General Confederation of Labour has sent the government a memorandum asking it to alleviate workers' conditions. The Cabinet is to examine this memorandum at its next sitting. The con-

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7) The Italian General Confederation of Labour has sent the government a memorandum asking it to alleviate workers' conditions. The Cabinet is to examine this memorandum at its next sitting. The confederation has asked that active steps be taken against the high cost of living, and the black market, by directly furnishing all unrationed common foodstuffs and articles of clothing through a network of consumers' cooperatives, thus eliminating the middlemen and their profits. It has in addition asked for: an agreement to be reached between the Italian authorities and the Allies to make possible an increase in the bread ration, especially for children and workers; a graduated scale of increases in salary in proportion to the cost of living; payment to the workers of the 13th month's salary (an extra month's salary) and of the 182 extra hours stipulated in the labour contracts still effective in industry, and the other indemnities due the workers; revision of the economic improvement recently granted

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state workers since these improvements, besides being retarded, were considered insufficient when they were granted; a 50% increase on family and bank assignments and to the insurers who had been excluded from this provision; the granting of the high cost of living indemnity to pensioners and the sick; the payment of two holidays as stipulated in the workers' contracts now in force; and the immediate carrying out of urgent work which will absorb an increasing number of manual and intellectual labour at present unemployed.

8) Epuration continues to be carried out at a swifter pace. The trial of General Pentimalli and General Del Tetto is proceeding, and the judgment is expected shortly. More fascists have been arrested. For the moment Count Sforza continues to be High-Commissioner for Epuration, and he has declined to go to Washington as Ambassador "lest his arrival there should give rise to fresh arguments."

9) The struggle in Greece has aroused great interest among Italians, and it is not difficult to detect an undercurrent of sympathy for the ELAS in the left wing press. The Catholic and Liberal papers are more reserved, though they deplore the bloodshed which has resulted.

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ALLIED HEADQUARTERS.
Information and Censorship Section.
Psychological Warfare Branch.
Unit N°. I4. APO 512.

"D" Section.

I4th December I944.

REPORT N°. 32 ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL ITALY, NORTH OF ROME.

This report is compiled from Italian and other sources, and is intended to give a survey of opinion in this country. It does not in any way represent the views of the compilers. The contents are confidential and must not be shown to any unauthorised persons.

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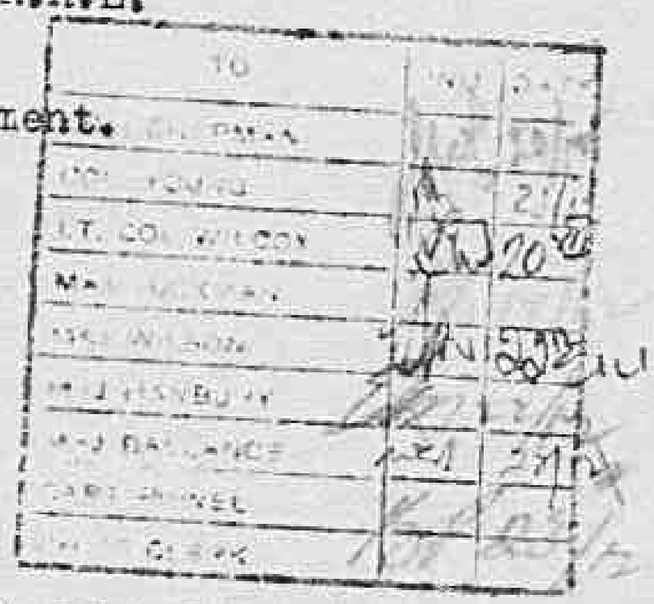

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THIS WEEK IN TUSCANY.

Epuration still looms large in the thoughts of the politically minded. Posters appear almost daily demanding the elimination of those responsible for the country's ruin and passions are beginning to run high. Of perhaps equal importance, as a political topic, is the solution of the ministerial crisis, which generally speaking, has been well received. Mr. Churchill's comments on the Sforza affair have been rather in the nature of an eye-opener and have, on the whole helped to salve wounded Italian susceptibilities. Speculation is rife as to the future moves of the Socialist and Action Parties now they have decided to stand aloof. A joint statement by the Communists and Socialists to the effect that despite the latter's exclusion from the Cabinet, the two parties intend to continue their collaboration, has been received with a certain amount of scepticism and it is felt that the action of the Socialists indicates an intention to break away from Communist influence.

With the approach of the first Christmas of liberation, Florentines seem to be trying to forget their woes and to gather some consolation from the certainty that their children will not be forgotten by the Allies during the festive season. The announcement by the S.E.P.R.A.L. of a distribution of sugar and pasta has also had a cheering effect on the population, although the basic problems of the food and fuel situation still remain unsolved.

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O.C. "D" Section
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POLITICS. Confidential.

1. CONDITIONS OF PATRIOTS IN PIEDMONT.

The Patriot Centre, in Via Galliano, closed down by the Allies, has been re-opened in Via Montebello.

At the Centre in Via Montebello, the Partisans, at present about 700, sleep on the floor, with only two blankets. Their food is the same as the ration fixed for the Refugee Centre in Via della Scala. The ration is insufficient for young men who, for the greater part are undernourished and weak, owing to previous privations. Patriots should not be treated on the same lines as refugees. They contributed to freeing their country by facing death and all kinds of hardships. Many of the men are suffering from scabies and pratically all have lice, as, even if they can get a bath, they cannot change their clothes. Many are in rags and have no shoes.

Since writing this article, the Patriot Branch- Advance Detachment, has been closed down. The Allies have forbidden the Provincial Patriots Office to help the Partisans, particularly those from the front, except by giving them a bonus.

Partisans have the choice of:-

a). Enlisting in the Italian Army.
b). Enrolling in labour organizations.
c). Being sent to a concentration camp.

They are only given a short time for decision.

It should be noted that:

a). Partisans are generally in bad health.
b). Their morale is very low, because they are discouraged and disillusioned.
c). The authorities have given no indication as to the number of men who can be enlisted in the Italian Army or the method of enlistment.
d). The partisans realize that they present a serious problem to the Allied and Italian military authorities and that they are regarded by both with diffidence.
e). They think that they deserve better treatment and should be sent to fight rather than be assigned to civil labour.

The Allies generally consider that the problem of the partisans is a police matter. This is not yet the case in Italy and it is hoped that it will not reach this point.

From an Italian source.

2. ANOTHER ITALIAN VIEW OF THE PARTISAN SITUATION.

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2. ANOTHER ITALIAN VIEW OF THE PARTISAN SITUATION.

Many would like to see the patriots disappear as soon as they have crossed the line.

The problem is a very difficult one owing to the varying opinions of those called upon to find a solution.

The Italian Government talks of enlisting them in the regular army; but there is no E. listment Office, and the army is opposed to absorbing supposedly "red" elements.

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P O L I T I C S . (continued.) Confidential

The Allies consider the partisans to be subversive elements, and instigators of possible trouble, for which reason they are immediately disarmed and disbanded.

Given these facts, it is natural that their disappearance would solve the problem. For the present they are trying to segregate them from the rest of the Community. Probably they will end up by putting Italy's real soldiers into concentration camps.

3. DECLARATION MADE BY THE SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST PARTIES.

At a meeting held on the 9th December 1944, a joint statement was made by the Communist and Socialist Parties on the ministerial crisis, in which they declare that the solution does not in the least effect the alliance of the two Parties, and that their collaboration must continue in the interests of the working-classes and the Italian people as a whole.

From an Italian source.

4. OMISSIONS IN EPURATION LAWS .

" The text of the law on epuration contains serious omissions, the most serious of which is the absence of civil sanctions applicable to those responsible for the present disastrous situation.

The point I chiefly wish to stress is that the law does not deprive squadrists, hierarchs, collaborators, republicans etc of the right to elect persons to positions in the public administrations and to be themselves eligible for election.

If suitable provision is not made the result will be that when the time comes for the election of the Constituent Assembly, their vote will weigh on, if not influence the national referendum. This of course is both absurd and immoral."

(Extract from NAZIONE DEL POPOLO.)

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1944

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1. SOCIETA IDROCARBONE NAZIONALE.

This company once produced natural gas(methane) in sufficient volume to satisfy the requirements of the whole Province. The Germans during their recent retreat blew up three plants of Pietramala (the production centre) and the two distribution centres of Via Carlo Parenti and Piazza L.B. Alberti

On the other hand, the pipe-line, 33 miles long, which stretches from Pietramala to Florence; has suffered no damage at all.

The Company now reports that the damage to the trees centres has now been made good and that the distribution of gas could be resumed, if permission were obtained from the Allied authorities to have one low and two high pressure compressors brought from Rome or alternatively to have them made by the Società Galileo of Florence.

2. FLORENCE STOCK EXCHANGE.

The following quotations on the Florence Stock Exchange were reported on 14th December 1944.

Government Stock:

Buoni del Tesoro 1948:	97.90:	1949 :
	97.20	1950 : 1 :
	96.99	1950 : 2:
	96.99	1951 : at 5%
	96.70	1951 : at 4%
Rendit.	3 1/2:	112.
	5% :	97.50.
Redimibile:	3 1/2%:	89.20.
	5%.	99.60.

Shares.

Ferrovie Meridionali: 3100; La Centrale 3100: Fondiaria Incendio 2600: Fondiaria Vita 2450: Teti: 3500: Snia Viscosa 1700: Siele 1800: Amiata 2200: Montecatini 530: Magona 1600: Ilva 310: Terni 640: Veraci 1650: Meccaniche 100: Pignone 180: Fiat 1800: Elettrica

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	5%.	99.60.

Shares.

Ferrovie Meridionali: 3100; La Centrale 3100: Fondiaria Incendio 2600: Fondiaria Vita 2450: Teti: 3500: Snia Viscosa 1700: Siele 1800: Amiata 2200: Montecatini 530: Magona 1600: Ilva 310: Terni 640: Veraci 1650: Meccaniche 100: Pignone 180: Fiat 1800: Elettrica Caldarno 2720: Adriatica di Elettricità 500: Biondi 820: Zuccheri 500: Birra 137: Pegna 135: Edificatrice 1000: Industria Carta 600:

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1. COMMENT BY A MONARCHIST ON MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH.

"I heard last night the broadcast of the debate at the House of Commons.

I consider it my duty to express the sense of comfort I felt on hearing the words pronounced by Mr. Churchill on the Italian crisis, on the behaviour of Count Sforza; on what is happening in Greece and especially his definition of "democrazia".

The British may be very proud of their leader and every-body, who has any conscience, understands that the whole civilisation of the world depends on following the line indicated by him on this occasion. The avoiding of violence at any cost must be the devise of Europe for the future, if we are not to lose all our hopes of happiness, again shining before our eyes."

2. REACTIONS TO MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH.

Competent Italian observers report that Mr. Chruchill's speech smoothed over the bad impression left on the population by Mr. Eden's speech.

According to different classes and Parties, three distinct opinions exist:-

a). Conservatives and monarchists approved of the speech.

b). Although Socialists and members of the Party of Action recognise the justice and necessity of this speech, they would much prefer a complete non-interference in Italian politics. They consider non-interference as one of the essential factors for the creation of a true Italian democracy.

c). Left-wing Parties, especially the Communists, are definitely against the speech. They accuse England of interfering too much in the internal affairs of other countries, and of betraying the people's hopes and all the Allies' former promises. The Sforza case was not a question of difference of opinion, but of a real "veto". Finally England is accused of being completely hostile to Communism and to Russia.

From an Italian source.

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From an Italian source.

3. REACTION TO AMERICAN GOVERNMENT'S DECLARATION ABOUT ITALIAN CRISIS.

An excellent impression has been produced in all classes by the declaration by the American Government that it would not intervene in Italian internal affairs, but would allow Italians to settle their own problems.

From an Italian source.

1946

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N . Confidential.

4. POPULAR REACTIONS TO SOLUTION OF MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

An Italian observer reports that comments on the solution of the ministerial crisis are very varied and reflect the political tendencies of the commentators. The points emphasised are:-

a). The decision of the Communist Party to take part in the government was undoubtedly taken on instructions from Moscow or at least along the tacit lines followed by the Communists; their action hides a pre-determined end.

b). Socialism has now begun to break away from Communism. A separatist tendency is already visible in many places, especially in Tuscany and Northern Italy. Many Socialists by no means agreed with Nenni as to the necessity of close alliance with a Party which would have ended by assuming control over them. It is probable that there would have been a separation even without the present crisis.

c). On the whole it is evident that the Monarchy has still much vitality. The solution of the ministerial crisis is considered to be a genuine triumph for the House of Savoy.

d). It is considered that the political leaders have tried to dominate their followers in a typically Fascist manner, and that the whole handling of the crisis has been childish.

From an Italian source.

5. RUMOURS ABOUT MILITARY CLASSES.

With the formation of the new government, it is rumoured that men born between 1914 and 1924 will be shortly called up. This causes general discontent, because the Italian people are tired of war.

Among students, however, this news has found some supporters, who declare themselves ready to go and do their duty, on the understanding, however, that any sacrifice made by the Italians should be recognised and that cobelligerency should be turned into an alliance.

From an Italian source.

6. COMMENTS ON THE S.E.P.R.A.L.

Italians declare that although the newspapers announce

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Italians declare that although the newspapers announce daily that new consignments of oil are being sent to the pools, and talk about the prices of oil, and rations of oil, etc, until now no oil has been distributed at all. Florentines have been without fats of any kind since before the emergency period, and they complain that there has never been a distribution of sugar, not even the supplement for the sick.

December 9th. From an Italian source.

1939

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7. PUBLIC MORALS.

During the night another leaflet was posted on the walls of the city. It is an answer to a woman's letter, which she signed "the women of Italy."

It greatly deplored the conduct of some women and the fact that certain people justify their doings. They apply their conduct to all women, whilst a big difference exists between those who distinguished themselves during the emergency period for bravery and self-sacrifice and the other women who are dragging womanly dignity through the mud.

8. PROTESTS.

The following protests are often to be seen on the walls of the suburbs:-

"We want 300 grammes of bread.
Roosevelt, where is the extra bread you promised us?
Promises must be kept. Where is the bread?"

9. COMMENTS ON THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

In non-political circles the following comments are made on the new government:-

a). The decision taken by the Socialist Party and the Party of Action is very much appreciated, as, being republican parties, they refuse to cooperate with a government of monarchical leanings; conversely, the other parties' stand is deplored.

b). The new Government spells the collapse of the C.T.L.N. This was to be expected in Southern and Central Italy, where the Committee had only a slight footing, but in Northern Italy, where it is solidly established, , the effect will be different, and may even provoke another ministerial crisis.

c). The publication of Count Sforza's letter was very much appreciated, and everybody considers that he is unworthy to have a hand in the government.

d). Many Italians wonder if the new Government is not paving the way for Communism.

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From an Italian source.

IO. APPRECIATION OF TROOPS.

Florentines are naturally given to comparing the conduct of the various bodies of troops, permanently stationed or transients, in Florence, and it is interesting to learn from their assesement that the negro troops are behaving themselves well. Indian troops also have a high rating, although some of them are considered to be tiresome with their attentions to the female passer-by. It has been noted that Indians pick up the language with remarkable ease, and as a result, many of them have the entrée into Italian families.

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1. POSTER.

To Doctor Luciani,
Manager of the "Consorzio Agrario",
Florence.
and to the population and Epuration Commission, so that they may be well informed.

"Dear Luciani,
The German Major Jutter sends back the empty crates and thanks you for the Champagne as well as for the blank coupons you gave him to enable him to get 750 quintals of oil at Greve. "

2. POSTER..

" EPURATION.
Epuration must be intensified, but those really responsible for the Italian catastrophe must be punished.
Why doesn't the Epuration Commission proceed against Vieri and Aldo Paoletti, owners of the printing-press in Via San Gallo 33? They are squadrists a d "Bravacci", belonging to the Berta group. They took part in the Sarzana and Garfagnana expeditions. Aldo Paoletti was one of those who burnt the printing-press of the "Nuovo Giornale" in 1921.
These gentlemen, now trying to get protection, are known as tyrants and they will always be fascist and reactionary elements,
Why doesn't the Epuration Committee do something about it? The Paoletti brothers must be inexorably punished.
A word to the wise....."

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A word to the wise....."

P R O P A G A N D A .

1. NEW MURAL NEWSPAPER.

Towards the end of November a mural newspaper appeared in Florence; " Il Ciorpo ", the name given to members of the old Florentine craft guilds. It is devoted chiefly to Communist propaganda and boosting partisans.

The last article of the first issue was a criticism of the commission for the assignment of billets to evacuees and people who have been bombed out.

1951

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P R O P A G A N D A . Confidential.

2. ENEMY RADIO PROPAGANDA

About a month ago enemy radio propaganda completely changed tactics.

It is now, no longer a question of reprisals and threats, and the slogan "certain final victory is rarely used. Now propaganda is entirely based on psychological lines.

With the advance of the Allied Troops, people come to the microphone and express their sorrow at the thought of the war passing over some spot, dear, as they say, to their hearts.

They no longer present destruction as caused by the Allied forces, by the fatal destiny of an undesired war.

Broadcasts for the National Republican Guard have been eliminated, whilst those for Italian forces are much more numerous. Messages from far away relations are broadcast, and mothers of soldiers often come to the microphone.

When alluding to Partisans, they are no longer threatened with extermination, but fratricidal war is greatly deplored.

As to the internal affairs of Liberated Italy, especially the ministerial crisis, broadcast commentaries are made, even before the Italian papers and radio have time to speak, in a good-natured and slightly sarcastic tone.

The musical programmes are carefully chosen and are of real artistic value, especially the renderings of classical music.

3. CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS IN THE ITALIAN MILITARY HOSPITAL FLORENCE.

A circular letter announces that plastic or cardboard reproductions ofthe birth of Christ will be made in all wards, a big one in the surgical ward and smaller ones in the others. A prize in cigarettes will be awarded to the ward possessing the prettiest one.

On Christmas Eve at 10.30 p.m. all patients will receive hot wine and chestnuts. At midnight there will be Mass in the Chapel, accompanied by Christmas hymns, sung by the soldiers. After Mass everybody will receive coffee and biscuits. Patients will have a Christmas Tree.

On Christmas Day a lottery will be held for the presents [illegible]. Orderlies will also receive gifts, but they are to

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On Christmas Day a lottery will be held for the presents on the tree. Orderlies will also receive gifts, but they are to win them by running the sack race and tug of war.

Here is the menu for Christmas Day dinner and supper.

Dinner Menu.	Supper Menu.
Pasta asciutta.	Soup.
Lamb and potatoes.	Meat and green peas.
Fruit (pears or apples)	Fruit.(pears or apples)
2 cakes each.	Biscuits.
a quart of wine.	a quart of wine.

As many cigarettes as possible will be given to patients and orderlies. On Christmas Day in the afternoon there will be a variety entertainment, offered by voluntary artists.

1930

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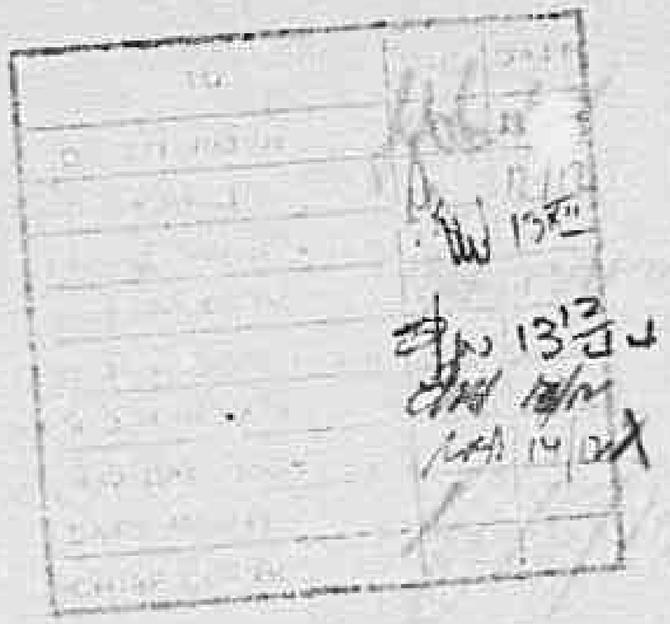
File



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ALLIED HEADQUARTERS.
Information and Censorship Section.
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit N°. I4. APO 5I2.

"D" Section. 7th December. I944.

REPORT N°. 3I ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL ITALY, NORTH OF ROME.

This report is compiled from Italian and other sources, and is intended to give a survey of opinion in this country. It does not in any way represent the views of the compilers. The contents are confidential and must not be shown to any unauthorised persone.

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2.	Fascist Radio Propaganda.	5.
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Unit N°. 14. APO 512.

"D" Section. 7th December. 1944.

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Source Reliability.
A. Always reliable.
B. Usually reliable.
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APPENDIX I. 12.

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Eric Whelpton.
Major.
O.C. "D" Section.
P.W.B. Unit N°. I4.

1934

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THIS WEEK IN TUSCANY.

Mr. Eden's declaration about Conte Sforza has aroused a great deal of adverse comment. The majority of people consider that the British are trying to dominate the Italian political scene and to interfere unduly in the interests of their own national policy. Some of the Monarchists consider that Mr. Eden's remarks were perfectly justifiable and that the British are trying to maintain order in a country which is threatened with anarchy. Moreover, they declare that Count Sforza made many promises to the Allies which he did not attempt to carry out when he reached Italy. In Tuscany Count Sforza still enjoys a great prestige, possibly because we are so cut off from Rome and Southern Italy. This recent crisis, it is claimed, adds to the discontent created by the appointment of Paterno as Prefect and the belief that the Allies are, in the main, opposed to the Committee of National Liberation here and elsewhere. In Florence itself there is one new development. The tendency is now to separate the attitude of the British Government and the attitude of the British people who are believed to be friendly to Italy. This is due partly to the correspondence that there has been in certain London newspapers requesting for greater liberty for Italian prisoners of war and also to the fact that Mr. Eden's declaration was criticised in the House of Commons.

The new regulations concerning the movement of civilians, which were issued last week, have left most people frankly confused. Many Florentines declare that they do not understand them. At the same time there is some complaint that Italians who have friends in the Allied armies are getting preferential treatment when they apply for permits and that these permits are given by people who have no right to do so, whilst the authorized office adheres strictly to regulations. Comments are still being made about the lack of discipline being shown by irresponsible people and many Italians would like to see Allied authority enforced more strictly.

Another matter, which is causing some concern, is the way that military matters are discussed most freely by civilians in this district. There is an impression that certain officers confide too freely in their Italian secretaries and that quite frequently and in all innocence some of these girls speak of matters which should be kept secret.

In the meantime the population of Florence is suffering from the acute shortage of fuel, not only for heating, but also for cooking. Wood, which is most difficult to obtain, costs some 400 lire a quintal as opposed to the controlled price of 65 lire a quintal; charcoal, which used to be very cheap, now costs anything from 25-40 lire a kilo; gas is not yet obtainable

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P O L I T I C S . Confidential.

1. CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ORDER OF THE DAY.

In Florence, on December 3rd, the Christian Democrats issued an order of the day regarding the present political situation. The following points emerge from this rather involved statement:

a). The destruction of moral values is more serious than that of material.

b). Salvation can only come through unqualified acceptance of the ethic principles of Christianity.

c). The democratisation of the country should proceed slowly.

d). Civil, social and political liberties and the right to criticism are to be fully guaranteed.

e). Italians should loyally distinguish between acceptance of the present situation and their legimitate aspirations for the future, while not dissociating the responsibility of the dynasty from that of Fascism.

f). Christian Democrats should tend towards that form of institutional government, which drawing its power from the people, is best apt to bring into existence a fully democratic state.

g). Labour in any form being the essential element of production, is entitled to the first say in its economic assessment and in the distribution of profits with the ultimate aim of transferring the means of production from capital to labour, safeguards being provided for the defence of the social function of small scale private enterprise.

h). Clarification is needed of the ideological bases and tactical positions of all Parties of the anti-Fascist coalition, in order to create the indispensable conditions for the moral and material construction of the country.

i). Full recognition of the Committee of National Liberation is essential as the legitimate representative of the people in its struggle to attain the definitive democratisation of the country.

j). A national political advisory board should be set up, on which all regional Committees of National Liberation would be represented.

k). The Epuration process should be speeded up, in order to prove to people the firm intention of the Government to eliminate all Fascists from public administration and from all branches of social activity.

l). Syndical organizations are to be free from political influences, by means of an appropriate electoral machinery.

m). There must be full participation of the armed

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e). Italians should loyally distinguish between acceptance of the present situation and their legimitate aspirations for the future, while not dissociating the responsibility of the dynasty from that of Fascism.

f). Christian Democrats should tend towards that form of institutional government, which drawing its power from the people, is best apt to bring into existence a fully democratic state.

g). Labour in any form being the essential element of production, is entitled to the first say in its economic assessment and in the distribution of profits with the ultimate aim of transferring the means of production from capital to labour, safeguards being provided for the defence of the social function of small scale private enterprise.

h). Clarification is needed of the ideological bases and tactical positions of all Parties of the anti-Fascist coalition, in order to create the indispensable conditions for the moral and material construction of the country.

i). Full recognition of the Committee of National Liberation is essential as the legitimate representative of the people in its struggle to attain the definitive democratisation of the country.

j). A national political advisory board should be set up, on which all regional Committees of National Liberation would be represented.

k). The Epuration process should be speeded up, in order to prove to people the firm intention of the Government to eliminate all Fascists from public administration and from all branches of social activity.

l). Syndical organizations are to be free from political influences, by means of an appropriate electoral machinery.

m). There must be full participation of the armed forces alongside the Allies.

1934

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P O L I T I C S . Confidential.

2. NEO-FASCIST ACTIVITIES.

Neo-Fascist squads and German agents made contacts in the early evening of November 4th on the lower Mugello, Ronta and Dicomano, and in the early part of October, in the district of Lucca, according to casual talk overheard in a street of Lucca.

These contacts were arranged in June 1944 by a certain Coppo who subsequently arrived in Arezzo, after the liberation of that locality, provided with a Communist Party ticket. The squads have been well supplied with arms and money and during the first days of their formation they received something like 400 Tommy-guns and ammunition, field wireless-sets, transmitting and receiving and 20 million lire in cash.

The squads are operating in the neighbourhood of Pontassievë, Dicomano, Vernio in the Province of Lucca and Arezzo and Anghiari, where they are at present conductiong a strong defeatist and anti-Allied propaganda.

From an Italian source. (B- 3).

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1934

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

E C O N O M I C S . Confidential.

I. OIL DISTRIBUTION PROMISED.

The SEPRAL announces that in December, and probably before Christmas, there will be a distribution of oil to the whole population. The amount of the ration is not yet known, owing to the difficulties with the oil presses and the shortage of electricity.

At a meeting of the Provincial Agricultural Inspectorate on November 30th, it was decided to pay 2000 lire per quintal to producers for oil consigned in December and 1000 lire per quintal in January. (B-2).

2. EFFORT TO INCREASE OIL SUPPLIES.

Oil producers are being asked to consign all Sansa to stated industrial establishments, if possible by means of their own transport, in which case they will receive a hundred lire per quintal. If the Sansa has to be brought by public transport, the producers will get 80 lire per quintal. (B-2)

3. DISTRIBUTION OF LIGNITE.

Five kilos of lignite per head, at 2 lire per kilo, will be distributed to the population between the 4th and 15 th of December. (B-2)

4. SALE OF DRIED FRUIT.

A quantity of nuts and dried figs reached Florence at the beginning of the month, part of which was sold at high prices to the population. Twenty-five quintals of nuts and 33 of dried figs have been blocked by the SEPRAL and will be sold at controlled prices for the benefit of the people. (B-2).

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P R O P A G A N D A . Confidential.

1. FASCIST RADIO PROPAGANDA ABOUT SFORZA CASE.

On the evening of December 3rd a note was read on the Republican Radio, entitled "Man overboard". In it reference was made to the recent Sforza affair and especially to the words of Mr. Eden in the House of Commons.

The English government, it is said, made the most of Sforza abroad, exploiting the notoriety of his name. Then it obliged him to return to Italy, extorting from him a promise that he would support the King and Badoglio. Sforza has not kept his promise and the Government in London dismisses him as one dismisses a faithless and perjured servant..

This, commented the note, is the end which he deserved, and it is the end which awaits all those who serve the English master.

It is undeniable that such broadcasts, referring to a fact which all Italians have noted as highly unpleasant, may have been listened to with some approval even in Liberated Italy.

The tone of the note is calm and moderate, lacking the usual virulence of Fascist broadcasts. All enemy propaganda, is being carried on, recently, in a very intelligent form, and obvious efforts are made to create an atmosphere of verbal liberalism, which may even prove convincing.

From an Italian source. (B-2).

2. FASCIST RADIO PROPAGANDA.

During the last two months the forms taken by the Fascist propaganda on the radio (Milan station) are chiefly the following:-

a). As regards the Italian Front, Milan radio cleverly exploits the present slowness of Allied operations. Obscure points in the actual military situation are shown up by methods which are technically of extreme cleverness These methods may still be exerting a hold on some part of Italian public opinion.

b). The present ministerial crisis has naturally been exploited by Nazi-Fascist radio commentators; but the controversy has not assumed that virulent tone, which might have been expected. It has been handled in quiet talks, the more dangerous because more persuasive. In this case too, the matter is handled with remarkable skill.

Propaganda from Northern Italy makes capital, in a half sarcastic, half humorous tone, out of the by no means happy conditions in liberated territories. All existing evils are attributed to the Allies. The controversy is skilfully con-

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c). In the press summary, daily transmitted, certain aspects of the Nazi-Fascist controlled press are emphasized. This is so cleverly done that it leads listeners to assume that a remarkable liberty of speech exists in Northern Italy.

The few neo-fascist divisions at the front receive,(unless it is a complete fake) special radio attention. Documentary broadcasts registered in the front lines, (for example one of a an Alpine battalion), executed with marked technical skill, are transmitted.

d). It is to be noted that a clandestine news centre must be functioning in Rome upon which the Fascists drew largely, since they are minutely informed about all the unpleasant incidents which occur in the capital. Armed aggressions and relations with the Allies are especially exploited, though not over emphasised.

e). The Liberal papers printed in Rome also, undoubtedly, reach Fascist propagandists. The democracy and liberty of the press in liberated Italy are presented, by skilful handling, as elements of disorder.

f). The RAI and PWB Florence broadcasts are also picked up and confuted with facile, but by no means innocuous arguments. Real harm is done by the poor preparation of the Florence Radio programmes, it is alleged .(B-3).

3. AN INVITATION TO REVOLUTION.

Mimeographed sheets containing the Ist Order of the Day of certain self-styled Red Legions in Italy, have appeared on the walls of the city.

All ex-partisans, collaborators in the people's cause and Communists are invited to join Red Legions, which, it is claimed, have been formed all over Italy. Their aim is to fight the t bourgeoisie and to establish a proletariat government.

The style is reminiscent of posters which the "Movimento Comunista d'Italia" issues from time to time. Reactions differ according to class, but all seem to agree that action on the lines proposed by the Red Legions would be madness and harmful to everybody. From an Italian source. (B-2).

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1920

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N . Confidential.

1. ALLIED CLAIMS TO ITALIAN TERRITORY.

An article by the American journalist Mathews on the claims of various nations involving the loss of Italian territory, has been commented upon unfavourably by all classes in Florence.

It is objected that this would be contrary to all that has been said and promised by the heads of the United Nations and would provoke a constant state of discontent, fomenting the germs of a new war..

Besides it is pointed out that the young have always been ready to defend their liberty, and that since the clandestine struggle against the Germans was carried out because of the violation of their territory, any foreign interference within the natural boundaries of Italy, might lead to a conflict.

A small lesflet in verse expressing these views has already appeared.

2. SHOE BLACKS AND TOUTS.

Surprise is expressed in many quarters that, after the protests published in the local press, swarms of young boys are still to be seen on the streets acting as bootblacks and touts and cashing large sums from the Allied forces.

It was reported that, on November 29th or 30th, some Italian police officers were seen taking down names and addresses under the colonnades of the Piazza Vittorio Emmanuele.

It is obvious that no one can daily have a stand and carry on a trade on a central street without a license: it is therefore clear that someone is giving these lads licenses, or, if they are trading without one, is turning a blind eye where especial vigilance is required.

3. PROBLEM OF YOUNG VAGRANTS.

Those who are preoccupied about the appearance on the streets of an unusual number of young vagrants, many of them of a strikingly vicious type, are urging that these should not only be rounded up and supervised, but that definite steps should be taken for their redemption and training. (B-2).

4. CAMPAIGN AGAINST DISSOLUTE FLORENTINE WOMEN.

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4. CAMPAIGN AGAINST DISSOLUTE FLORENTINE WOMEN.

Ever since Florence was liberated it has been observed that some women were blatantly practising prostitution.

Students, professionals and tradesmen formed the "League of Good Customs" and notified prostitutes to the police.

At the outset this league was non-political. By degrees it assumed a hostile attitude towards all those women who

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who associated in any way with the Allies, even in the offices.

This attitude is chiefly due to the fact that women easily find work in Allied organizations. Moreover, men who suffered persecution and fought in the clandestine movement, on their return to civilian life, find their places filled by women.

Many of these women boast of their relations with the Allies and of what they get from them, especially food-stuffs, which many of them consume in public.

Young Italian men also dislike seeing women preferring the Allies to themselves.

The student and partisan members of this League have issued posters, threatening to shave the heads of these women, as has been done in Siena and Rome.(B-3).

5. PREOCCUPATIONS FOR HEALTH OF ALLIED FORCES.

Many comments have been made regarding the closure by the Allied Government of the regularly licensed houses of profes-sional prostitutes. The result of this has been, it is alleged, an enormously widespread and uncontrolled prostitution, and women of this profession, who until the arrival of the Allies, had been doing badly, are now doing very well, making large sums of money, (some are said to be making many thousands of lire a day).

Some of these women have established themselves in private quarters, others in hotels and constitute a serious danger for the Allied forces, since they are under no supervision, as was the case in the registered houses, where rigid and regular medical examination was the rule. A case was reported where the Germans shot a woman who had transmitted a disease to several officers. The same danger exists to-day for the Allied forces, and people are asking whether strictly controlled professional houses would not safeguard them from the dangers of such un-licensed practice as exists everywhere to-day. (B-3).

6. MORE SECURITY FOR BRIDGE-CROSSING ASKED.

The difficulty of crossing the Arno, compulsory at least twice daily for a large part of the population, is causing considerable distress.

Access to the Ponte Vecchio is often devious and difficult, necessitating at times, a scramble over piles of débris , which

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The Bailey Bridge at Santa Trinità has been efficiently replaced, but here, as at the temporary bridge by the Cascine Park, there are only board passages on the outer side for pedestrians. No protection against a drop into the river exists save ropes supported at intervals by iron rods. For those who suffer from dizziness it is not only nerve-racking but definitely dangerous. An Italian employee of the P.W.B. stated that he saw two persons, a soldier and a woman fall into the river

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from the bridge at Santa Trinità. The woman was saved; the soldier was drowned.

Even where there are one way passages the conditions are unsatisfactory, especially at rush hours. Streams of pedestrians file across these"passarelle" with bicycles, packages, children, umbrellas, making their way along worn slippery muddy planks in which there are often splits and holes to catch a woman's heel, with a sheer drop to a river, often in flood, and no protection but a rope. From an Italian source. (B-2)

7. MR. EDEN AND CONTE SFORZA.

Public opinion has been centred with especial attention on the Sforza affair. Mr. Eden's statements in the House of Commons have given rise to various comments which can be summed up as follows:

a). Mr. Eden does not seem to realise the real purport of his words. By them he not only creates a painful precedent in complete contrast with what should be, theoretically, English foreign policy (non-intervention), but he also morally condemns all the members of the present Italian government.

Public opinion is summed up in the phrase: "If the English government objects to Sforza for the simple reason that he does not serve its interests well, it is clear the other Italian statesmen merely serve British interests." In fact new Italian democracy is entirely subservient to the Allies.

b). Eden does not show himself a friend of Italy. It is increasingly obvious that English public opinion is becoming more sympathetic as regards Italy, as for instance, in the controversy over Italian prisoners of war, which was followed with keen interest in Italy. The English government, however, does not share this attitude, and still adheres to former views.

c). Mr. Eden's attitude helps Fascist propagandists, "(Mussolini was right in his judgement of Eden", says the man in the street) and also Communist propagandists who recall the recent Russian declaration of non-intervention in the affairs of other states.

In conclusion, Eden's declarations are seen as yet another proof of the incapacity of the English Government to understand the new spirit now animating Italy and to break away from its blind conservatism. From an Italian source. (B-3).

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8. ANTI-NAZIST RUMOURS IN FLORENCE.

It is rumoured that the Nazis have reinforced the Central Italian Front, and, after a violent attack, they have again occupied Porretta-Terme, and that advanced patrols are in the suburbs of Pistoia. Dissentions between Carabinieri and Communists, are alleged to have taken place, as a consequence of this German advance, and, it appears, with loss of life.

It is also rumoured that the Germans round about Bologna are going to use V1 and V2 to destroy Florence and district.

Some people are wondering if they had not better leave Florence and retire further South. From an Italian source.(C-3).

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PUBLIC OPINION. Confidential.

9. FURTHER COMMENTS ON SFORZA AFFAIR.

The majority of Florentines are still discussing Eden's statement in the house of Commons, on Sforza. Political circles agree that his attitude reveals a serious psychological error, the effect of which can be assessed both on English and on international policy. In the former case, there is no doubt, that it is to England's detriment to get rid of Italian politicians who are faithful to her. Eden's statements throw the greatest discredit on these men and give people the idea that they can only hold office if bolstered up by England and that the Italian Government is merely a puppet in the hands of the English. Thus public opinion already prejudiced against its leaders, will become all the more convinced of the impossibility of collaborating with them.

On the international plane, the British Government is playing into the hands of the Communists, and all those who would prefer to see a philo-Soviet government set up in Italy. It is continually repeated that Russia does not interfere in the internal affairs of small nations and the terms of the Bulgarian Armistice are referred to in proof of this. There is no doubt that Communism is making capital out of the errors of the British Government. This at least is the feeling among the parties of the Right.

There are many people in Italy wh do not dabble in politics, except to criticise the present democr tic tendencies. They would like to see all discussion postponed until the end of the war, as they consider the Italians incapable of governing themselves democratically after 20 years of Fascism. These are the persons who view with sympathy the firm attitude of the British Government in regard to Italian affairs. To them the Sforza case testifies to English interest in the affairs of the Peninsula and they regard it as the best garantee of internal order. Should this vigilance on the part of the English, weaken, chaos would ensue. The people holding these views belong to various social classes, chief amongst them being the Conservatives who detest the prospect of new political experiments.

IO. BLACK MARKETEERS.

It is alleged that easy money being earned without

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IO. BLACK MARKETEERS.

It is alleged that easy money being earned without honest or productive work, is causing a shortage of labour for civilian purposes.

For instance, a builder is unable to undertake orders, because workmen cannot be procured. They earn more on the Black Market and other ways. A shoeblack of I3 offered a window-cleaning job , scoffed at the proposal, declaring that he could earn a thousand lire a day on the streets, shoe-blacking, trading cigarettes and liquor illicitly obtained, touting etc. Asked if he gave this money to his parents he replied, " a little, but not much", they didn't need it, he had a brother doing well on the Black Market. (B-2).

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11. EMPLOYMENT FOR PARTISANS.

Some of those who have the interests of the Patriots at heart, are asking if it would not be advisable to clear the streets of the swarm of urchins, at present infesting the central parts of the city, and issue regular licenses to partisans of good character to carry on, under proper control, the business of shoe-cleaning. (B-2).

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SURVEY OF SIENA

SOCIAL.

Public Morale

On the whole the morale of the Sienese is good and they are putting the best face on matters, especially considering that since July they have been virtually deprived of the basic necessaries of life. The streets are crowded from morning till night and a fair sprinkling of well-dressed young men is to be seen who may or may not be attending the University which has recently re-opened (see infra) but whose loitering in the narrow streets of Siena is certainly not conducive to ease of circulation. An absence of queues, on the other hand, is noticeable, which perhaps may be explained by the fact that there is little for which to queue up. With the approach of winter and the prospect of a scarcity of fuel the temper of the population may of course change, but for the moment at any rate the people seem to be taking life easily enough, their chief grouse being the lack of tobacco, which incidentally has resulted in a brisk market for Allied smokes. By way of compensation, at least for the upper crust, there would seem to be a round of social events reminiscent of a London season, in miniature of course.

Relations with Allied forces.

Relations with members of the Allied forces, while not cordial, are at least improving. Cases of rape by Moroccans in the early days of the Liberation hardly predisposed the population towards the subsequent - Anglo-American - occupiers. Moreover, Siena under the Germans had not been subjected to occupation in the military sense and the concomitant phenomena of requisitioning and AMG restrictions came to the population, the propertied and commercial classes in particular, as an unpleasant surprise. Invidious comparisons have also been made between Allied and German behaviour. The Germans, it is admitted, were often brutal, but their dealings with the population were marked by a sense of humanity which has been found lacking in the Allies, whose cold and supercilious attitude is keenly resented. However, with the proppect of an early evacuation of the town by our forces and of a switch-over to AC, the Sienese, if not exactly amiable, are at least commendably dissembling any dislike they may feel for us.

Crime.

Crime is practically non-existent, a happy state of things confirmed by AMG, the Questore and the Sindaco. There is of course the Black Market (see infra) apropos of which the O.C., P.W.B. stationed here reports that on two occasions while driving after dusk outside Siena he was pulled up by CC.RR with levelled guns, who on satisfying themselves as to his identity apologised and let him g[illegible] It transpired later that these were bogus CC.RR

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from morning till night and a fair sprinkling of well-dressed young men is to be seen who may or may not be attending the University which has recently re-opened (see infra) but whose loitering in the narrow streets of Siena is certainly not conducive to ease of circulation. An absence of queues, on the other hand, is noticeable, which perhaps may be explained by the fact that there is little for which to queue up. With the approach of winter and the prospect of a scarcity of fuel the temper of the population may of course change, but for the moment at any rate the people seem to be taking life easily enough, their chief grouse being the lack of tobacco, which incidentally has resulted in a brisk market for Allied smokes. By way of compensation, at least for the upper crust, there would seem to be a round of social events reminiscent of a London season, in miniature of course.

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Education.

It says much for the efforts of AMG that with the valid cooperation of the teaching staff (duly "epurated") it has been possible to re-open the University of Siena so soon after the passage of the retreating German armies. At the opening ceremony, which took place on November 28th and was attended by Allied and Italian authorities, the Rector of the University, Professor Mario Bracci,

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gave a speech (full text on application) in which among other things he pleaded for better understanding by the Allies of the problems calling for solution in the field of public instruction and sounded a stirring call to action by the student body to accomplish the country's resurrection.

POLITICAL.

Public sentiment.

A prima facie assessment of political sentiment in Siena would show the population as being sublimely indifferent to politics and it would be hard to say whether this was a consequence of 20 years of Fascist regimentation or merely because the people's mental faculties were wholly engaged in grappling with the problem of making ends meet. Siena in the past was certainly solid for Fascism and the composition of its population is such that ideologies departing radically from the principles of the old Regime are making heavy weather. On the constitutional issue of Monarchy versus Republic, it would seem that while the consensus of opinion is that the House of Savoy is unwanted, there is no tendency to turn from this negative attitude to take positive action with a view to installing a Republic. The Siena section of the Republican Party is, in fact, of very small dimensions. Unlike territories farther south Siena has no newssheets ("Rinascita", a P.W.B. controlled sheet which appears twice weekly is the only organ to keep the people posted with events) to give them political directives, and the success of the proselytising efforts of the political parties depends chiefly on the prestige enjoyed by their leaders.

Parties.

Of the various political parties operating in Siena, the Communists are by far the best organised. Nor do they lack funds, to judge by some of the tactics they employ to attract adherents. They control, for instance, practically all the free civil transport, and have actually opened shops to sell unrationed commodities at cut prices to persons in possession of the party ticket, a form of blackmail which has been attended with a considerable measure of success. Here again, however, the recruiting of new members depends mainly on the personality of the party leader, and it must be admitted that in Marini (suspected of being an alias) the Communists have the right man in the right place. Marini's claim, therefore, that the Communist party membership equals that of all the other parties put together, is worthy of credence. Up to now, the Communists have set up 86 sections in 38 Comuni and have a controlling influence in the C.L.N. much to the chagrin of the Christian Democrats.

The next Party in point of strength is the Partito d'Azione, followed by the Democrazia Cristiana, the Partito Socialista, the Partito Liberale and the Democrazia del Lavoro, in that order. In addition, there is the usual camet

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The next Party of strength is the Partito d'Azione, followed by the Democrazia Cristiana, the Partito Socialista, the Partito Liberale and the Democrazia del Lavoro, in that order. In addition, there is the usual gamut of splinter parties, thinning out still further the distribution of the membership of the parties as a whole, already relatively small in itself. The Democrazia Cristiana, for example, only counts 300 among its actually enrolled members, although it claims a multitude of simpatizzanti, and the Democrazia del Lavoro exists in name only. Communist predominance is naturally viewed with misgivings by the parties of the right and at least one large landowner (Comune di Tavernelle) is prepared to sell out at a loss and emigrate to any country that is not likely to go bolshevic.

Committee of National Liberation.

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As already mentioned, the C.L.N. is controlled by the Communists. The Committee did splendid work during the early stages of liberation, with the

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achievement of which it should ipso facto have ceased to function. Instead, the Committee claimed the right to run the Province and to put its own nominees in office. AMG naturally called on it to desist from its activities and to change its name to Unione Nazionale di Liberazione. After consultation with Rome, the Committee agreed to the change of name, a change, however, which is more apparent than real, as it still operates under the old style, although on a reduced scale.

Neo-Fascism.

It has been pointed out that Siena was a typical Fascist stronghold and it would certainly have been surprising if the liberation had resulted in immediate elimination of the devil and all his works. It is, in point of fact, the considered opinion of the FSS in Siena that a strong undercurrent of neo-fascism exists and that an organization, at present amorphous and in embryo, embracing elements from both political extremes, is actively at work. The organization has of course no acknowledge leaders, although a certain Count Chigi, among others, has been mentioned as being one of them. Its modus operandi is to launch whispering campaigns tending to discredit the Allied aministration and to cause dissension between the British and the Americans. (To the British it is insinuated that the Americans consider them inept and self-seeking, whereas they, the Italians, regard them as perfect gentlemen and the Americans as mechanised barbarians; and vice versa.) The ultimate aim of all this is presumably to create a situation which will call for new men in the key positions, and these men would naturally be ex-fascists, at present masquerading as monarchists or Communists. Although the evidence is more or less intangible and the various threads hardly form a definite pattern, the FSS is sure of its diagnosis and is watching developments accordingly. There is also the more serious matter of enemy agents, i.e. Republican-Fascists, who have infiltrated, or are likely to do so, into Siena and find accommodation with the local genus or with an unsuspecting citizen. Control measures have now been tightened up by making universal the obligation, hitherto incumbent only on hotels and boarding houses, of reporting all new arrivals in Siena to the authorities.

Epuration.

It is a sore point with the neo-Democrats of Siena that the process of purging the public administration of fascist elements is proceeding so slowly. Old-time Fascists would seem to be still entrenched in the Monte dei Paschi di Siena (one of the largest banks in the country); the fascist-appointed Questore and the entire police hierarchy are still in their jobs (the Communists allege that when the auxiliary police enrolled by the C.L.N. were disbanded those members of proved fascist faith were absorbed into the regular force); and both the Prefect and the Vice-prefect are still the same men who held office under the old Regime, except for a brief interlude at the time of the "Repubblichetta". The Sindaco, Avv. Carlo Ciampolini, on the other hand, is

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ECONOMIC.

Public Services.

The public services are functioning as best they can. The garbage removal service is good and the streets are kept remarkably clean the water supply is normal; the lighting though poor is continuous; and there is a certain pressure of gas - produced from lignite - which eked out with charcoal gives the Sienese the benefit of hot meals. Transport, as elsewhere, is a major problem, although it has been found possible to restart one of the suburban bus services.

Labour and Wages.

The Unione Provinciale del Lavoro has outlived its growing pains and is now busy collecting data and statistics and co-ordinating, in collaboration with the Allied authorities, the distribution of manpower throughout the province. A system of labour exchanges is at present being operated by the various Camere del Lavoro and committees of local inhabitants, but as these bodies are inclined to interpret the Allied labour regulations according to their own lights, the Ufficio Provinciale aims at setting up exchanges run by the Comuni themselves.

Unemployment is hardly a problem in the province of Siena as up to mid-November the total number of unemployed was only 1,637 divided approximately equally as between male and female. The province, it may be pointed out, is primarily agricultural and what industry there is, is more or less ancillary to agriculture. A breakdown of the figure for total unemployment gives 576 as out of work in the chemical and glass industries. This particular batch of unemployed mainly consists of women located round about Poggibonsi who were engaged in the manufacture of fiaschi and whose means of livelihood went with the destruction of their factories. The next largest figure is 384 among the black-coated workers, who were chiefly employed in the various fascist organizations or who have been thrown out of work in consequence of the stagnation of trade in general. 106 unemployed figure as belonging to the engineering industry and here again the chief causes are the destruction of plant or the lack of raw materials. Meanwhile the process of absorbing the unemployed into production is developing apace and the Civil Labour Office the chief agent in this connection, is actually faced with a dearth of manpower, especially in the building trades.

The problem of wages is a thorny one and the absence of strikes or threats of strikes is indeed a matter for wonder. Quite understandably, there is considerable agitation for higher wages, for even with the cost-of-living bonus, the "indennità di presenza" and the 70% increase on collective wages agreements in force prior to the 8th September 1943, the resultant remuneration is hopelessly inadequate. The scarcity of commodities has naturally

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The Food situation and the Black Market.

The food situation of the Province, especially in Siena is distinctly bad. Such basic items as meat, sugar oil, fats potatoes and tomato concentrate disappeared long ago and have only recently begun to reappear; and with the approach of winter fresh fish, vegetables and local milk will have to be added to the list of defunct commodities. Even the solace of tobacco is denied the population for, as has already been mentioned, there have been no stocks for months. The only basic commodity of which Siena has a sufficiency is wheat, which was only to be expected considering the acreage under cultivation. The wheat harvest this year has actually exceeded expectations. More than six hundred thousand quintals a quantity considerably in excess of the target figure, have been surrendered to the pools, and as only 200,000 quintals are needed to feed the Province, the remainder constitutes an exportable surplus. The fact that there has been little or no evasion of the obligations to surrender wheat to the pools is attributed to the price paid to the producer who considers it to be a very fair one. The abundant supplies also would automatically preclude a black market in the commodity. There is also promise of a good olive oil harvest, in which connection a decree just issued by the Prefect regulating the pressing and deliveries should operate to check any leakages. Accordingly with supplies of wheat and oil assured for a period and with the prospect of Allied provision of tinned edibles, the population would be able to face the winter months with a certain amount of confidence. In the meantime the following rations have recently been or are about to be issued:-

2,000 grs.	Pasta for soup
300 "	meat and vegetables (tinned)
100 "	sugar (for children up to 3 years of age)
200 "	split peas
150 "	other dried leguminous vegetables
100 "	pork
200 "	olive oil
350	vegetable soup

Up to a couple of months ago, the black market was unknown in Siena, partly owing to the fact that the level of prices was too low to attract from outside stocks not normally produced in the province, and partly owing to the general disorganization. With a return to a state approaching relative normality, local speculators began to corner current production and route it clandestinely to Rome, Naples and Florence, thereby creating a local scarcity in the commodities concerned. Their prices naturally rose and affected sympathetically all commodities whether unrationed basic items especially clothing and medicaments, or luxury articles.

The net result is the existence of a flourishing black market which although operating at a comparatively low price level is just as onerious

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The net result is the existence of a flourishing black market which although operating at a comparatively low price level is just as endurious as elsewhere in its effect on the machinery of distribution.

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Agriculture and Industry.

The agricultural situation is good. The sowing is being done under excellent conditions and the olive oil harvest, as already mentioned, promises to be abundant. On the other hand, it has been a bad year both as to quantity and as to quality for the wine producers. Cattle raising, although encouraged by high prices, is of small account from the point of view of feeding the population.

Industry is labouring under numerous handicaps such as insufficiency of electric power, shortage of transport, destruction of plant and lack of raw materials. As pointed out however, industry is a negligible factor in the economy of the Province.

TAIL PIECE.

A True Story.

The Germans were searching for a patriot known to be hiding in the village. Actually he was being sheltered by the priest who thought out and put into effect for him the following escape which was facilitated by the death from natural causes of one of the inhabitants. When the coffin was taken to the church for the funeral service the deceased was taken out and the patriot put in his place. The procession then wound its way under the noses of the Krauts to the local cemetery situated some distance away whence the patriot made off for a healthier spot.

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APPENDIX. P E R S O N A L I T I E S . Confidential.

1. CAV. ALBERTO BERTI. ML. Via degli Alfani, Ist. Floor, Florence.

This man is stated to have been a Fascist-Republican and to have been head of the Office for Discipline under the Fascist Republic and to have committed atrocities.

He has been arrested three times by the Allies and three times released.

He is stated to be now filling his house with Allied soldiers, and, to gain more room, has sent his father or father-in-law and two daughters to his sister in law's house, so as to accomodate more of these men; whom he is said to be charging 100 lire a night each. The soldiers bring in, it is stated, very large quantities of food.

2. FURTHER STATEMENT.

Also in Via degli Alfani, (just about N°. I4, it is stated, are four or five shops full of gin, brandy, cherry brandy etc. at exhorbitant prices.

These are continually passing into the hands of,the Allied soldiers. The shops are not marked "Out of Bounds", but, probably as a superficial observance of the law that alcchol must not be sold to soldiers, the men do not buy themselves, but send civilians to get it. (C. 3.)

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CONFIDENTIAL

TO	
COL. CHARLES	
COL. YOUNG	
LT. COL. WILT	12
MAJ LUCKMAN	
MAJ WILSON	12/12
MAJ HOUSE	
MAJ BALLANCE	
CAPT. POWELL	
CHIEF CLERK	

ITALIAN THEATER HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

CONFIDENTIAL

Central D Section, Liberated Italy

December 7, 1944

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 45

PART II - ANNEXES

NOTE. - Part I is not issued this number

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CULTURAL NEWS

43 Christianity and Communism 26
44 Re-opening of University of Siena 27
45 FILMS 28

APPENDIX I CORRIERE DI ROMA QUESTIONNAIRE

APPENDIX II LEGHORN

Explanation of Reliability Rating:

Source (reliability)	Report (probability)
A always reliable	1 confirmed
B usually reliable	2 probable
C Sometimes reliable	3 possible
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E a bad source	5 improbable

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NO. 45

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
APO 512 UNIT 12

Central D Section, Liberated Italy 7 DECEMBER 1944

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 45

PART II - ANNEXES

NOTE: Part I is not issued this number

- -

A - CURRENT EVENTS

THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS

1 Rome Press Comments

A full panorama of the Government crisis was given in the Rome press which was very much the center of it, as the attitude of the respective party organs to the government was at least a contributary cause of the government's instability.

Wholehearted criticism of the attempt of Bonomi to solve the crisis came, as was to be expected, from two opposite angles: from Bacciardi's V DI REPUBBLICANA which used the breakdown of the Bonomi system to illustrate further attacks on the Monarchy, which it maintained was now discredited and was a hopeless obstacle to a fresh democratic rebirth as it was to epuration on which issue the present deadlock had arisen; and from the Monarchist ITALIA NUOVA which continued its familiar line of arguing that the Committee of National Liberation represents only a small percentage of the people, and that the only adequate solution would be a collaboration of all forces around the Monarchy. IL TEMPO (independent) supported ITALIA NUOVA's usual contention in one particular, when it pointed out that the great majority of the people were apathetic to the problems of the Bonomi government.

According to IL TEMPO, 26 November, the present crisis had arisen when the Socialists had raised a new platform and had provided a new and more revolutionary conception of the Italian government's real functions. Faced with the left attitude, the Christian Democrats had cried "Halt!" and had become the "paladins of legality ... l'outrance." The Christian Democrats had not only refused to join a left combination, they had gone further towards the right. There were two

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IL POPOLO and RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE came out approximately in agreement in their interpretation of the main issues and in the blame which both threw on the Communists and the Socialists. According to the organ of the Liberal Party, the Socialists and the Communists had torpedoed the Bonomi government by playing a double game, by violent criticism of the government in which they were represented, by the threat of turning out into the piazza and by adopting a revolutionary and illegal tone. The Committees of Liberation should not be allowed to become a "super government". IL POPOLO took up the same polemical line against the left and attacked (28 November) the slogan "all power to the Committees of Liberation". It was apparent from the columns of the POPOLO as from those of other papers, that the crux lay in the question of epuration, which the left would like to use so as to promote an ultimate revolution, while the right in its fear of such ultimate effects, could be accused of complacency regarding the continued existence of fascist or ex-fascist elements in key positions. The epuration issue had become thorny, according to the POPOLO, after Scoccimarro's interview which involved an attack on certain ministers of the Bonomi government; and Togliatti and Bonomi had discussed the question without reaching any agreement.

Pietro Nenni's daily articles in the AVANTI were a further factor which helped to pour oil into the fire of the government crisis. This opinion was generally held in Rome both by Nenni's supporters -- opponents of the conservative or moderate attitude of the Bonomi government -- and by his many critics. According to the AVANTI while Bonomi was prepared to accept increased left representation in the Council of the Ministers, he would not accept a Socialist Minister of the Interior, the post for which Nenni's name had previously been mentioned.

ITALIA LIBERA (28 November) came out with a whole hearted support of Count Sforza as the man who should form the new government. On November 29 Rome Newspapers published without comment the news of the British veto.

2. An Action Party View

Professor Guido Calogero of the Action Party who has been mentioned as a possible successor to Dr. Ruggiero at the Ministry of Education, said in a discussion with a PWB officer on 26 November that he thought that of all the men available, Count Sforza would make the

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The appointment of Sforza would, in Calogero's opinion, be acceptable to the extreme left. The danger lay in the formation of a new government, either with or without Bonomi, which would be to the right of the present one. From such a government the Communists might break off and their position in the country might be very much strengthened if they had freedom to criticize, and no responsibility to bear. In fact were the Communists out of office, the difficulties which had arisen through the criticism levelled in the Communist and Socialist press against the present government, would naturally be intensified,

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and it would probably be impossible to build up a stable cabinet. It would be much better, he thought, to agree to a strengthened representation of the extreme left, such as had been demanded. If Nenni could be got into the government so much the better. The Action Party had always been anxious that none of the Party leaders should evade their share of responsibility, especially at this critical period. There was a grave danger in the ever-widening rift between the Socialists and Communists on the one side, and the Christian-Democrats and Liberals on the other. The anti-Communist feeling of the Christian Democrats had driven them more appreciably to the right in the last two months. The right wing tendency among the Liberals and the hostility to the Communists derived in part, he thought, from Benedetto Croce.

Professor Calogero said that Orlando was far too old and out of date to be suitable for the post of Premier. Moreover he would not be acceptable to the left. He was a Monarchist and his message supporting Mussolini at the time of the Abyssinian war had not been forgotten.

Calogero expressed some critical views of Bonomi, whose weakness took the form of acting in the interests of the right, and of De Ruggiero who had been lacking in energy in the epuration of the universities and schools, and their reformation on non-fascist lines.

Calogero seemed to have the impression that the Anglo-Saxon allies wanted a right wing government.

3. Interview with Dr Ernesto Bonaiuti

Dr. Bonaiuti is the ecclesiatical historian and writer, formerly of Rome University, who was unfrocked and excommunicated by the Vatican for his modernism. In an interview with a P.B officer, Dr. Bonaiuti said that in his opinion the effect of the present crisis would be disastrous abroad where what little confidence there was in the Italian government would evaporate. One wondered if the Italians were fit for Democracy. Sforza has been grotesque and inept in angling for a position which he knew the Allies would not let him take over. Nenni's lack of restraint and political experience was a scandal and a shame, he said. He could not see what solution remained save 1) holding an election of some sort now even in spite of the almost insurmountable difficulties, or else 2) the establishment of com-

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Dr. Bonaiuti is sometimes criticized for being hasty and emotional in his judgments. He has a wide acquaintance among Italian anti-fascists in Rome.

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4 Interview with Avv. Mario Montini

Avv. Mario Montini, brother of Monsignor Montini, discussed the government crisis with a PWB officer on November 29. He called it a "crisis of conscience." How can there be a government crisis when there is no parliament, no vote against it from any direction? No one overthrew this government except itself, he said. Until Italy has regained something to make politics about, she should be treated as an irresponsible minor. The Allies should say, "for such and such a time, there will be no change in the government,' and then people will go to work. He said there are plenty of good men, but no one wants to get mixed up with a government that can be shaken loose by newspaper articles or an attack of conscience.

Montini seems to share the increasing view that the Allies should take a firm hand and control what there is of liberated Italy until she "grows up again".

5 A Christian Democrat View

A PWB office talked with Ragioniere Liverani, Christian Democrat administrative director of IL POPOLO, on the subject of the Government crisis on November 28. Liverani was obviously worried by the news, saying that he had not yet spoken with his colleagues who had more intimate knowledge of the cabinet shakeup and therefore knew nothing more than the obvious facts. He said it was certain that this crisis had been forced upon the government and Bonomi by the Communists and socialists.

"You know that our party wants order, tranquility and legal processes. Instead the extremist parties are continually causing unrest which eventually manifests itself in such a crisis. It is a sad thing for our country. Certainly it is not welcomed by us. Who but Bonomi can have the confidence of the six parties. Anyone else would have the interest of his own party at stake to a much greater degree. Who else but Bonomi can unite the parties at this moment? It would be much better to keep what we have and try to improve it instead of overturning the whole administration... But this is the way the parties of the left always act. We have few enough experienced men in liberated Italy who are able to accomplish the purely technical work required of a government."

He said that times have been extremely hard for the newly formed

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He said that times have been extremely hard for the newly formed government, not only because of the immense destruction in Italy, but also because the Allied authorities set over the Italian government, and thus it is impossible for it to have the confidence of the people or to act with authority in an autonomous manner. He stressed Italy's past and how it was divided into many small warring states and later dominated by other nations, France, Austria, Spain, etc. All historical differences come to the surface at times like these and make for unrest and lack of unity, this lack being Italy's greatest defect and tragedy. He spoke of the great influence that North Italy would have upon political and governmental decisions when it would be liberated, and could not understand why the Allied armies had stopped when they were so near their goal. He could not see why the Allied armies do not break across the Po valley to Verona thereby

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trapping all the Germans in western Italy. By dragging out the war this way, all the northern Italy is daily subjected to further murder, robbery, looting and destruction. He himself fought at Piave in the last war.

The Italians envy France her immediate liberation with her lands and towns intact, he said. Instead it is with the greatest possible discouragement that Italians must look at their destroyed country and try and put it together and form a sound government at the same time; this too in the face of little outside cooperation or help. He spoke with great fear of Russia and felt that any Russian influence in Italy would be a bad thing.

6 A Talk with an Industrial Leader on the Committee of Experts for the Reconstruction of Industry (Nov. 28)

This man said that he interested himself very little in politics. The politicians were all merely wasting time. Five valuable months had already gone by and they had done no reconstruction. True, the Allies had put a few railroads into operation, but for military use only. He was anxious to begin to do something. It did not matter how little it would be, but the Italians must be the ones to take the first step. Then they would be ready for another. According to his information all of the railroad tunnels that link northern Italy with the peninsula have been destroyed; these tunnels were in the zone where the front lines are at the moment, and it will be a matter of years before they can be repaired. Therefore traffic between northern and southern Italy will have to go by truck or ship. As a shipbuilder who built up the merchant marine in the past decades -- the Conte di Savoia and such -- he was extremely anxious to be allowed to begin reconstruction. He had just completed an exhaustive survey of industry which he has passed on to A.C. He does not know whether or not they have any plans for action.

7 Interview with Comm. Restagno

Comm. Restagno is Christian Democrat Director of Banca Sao Paolo, Galleria Colonna, Rome. In an interview with a FAB officer on Nov. 29 Restagno looked upon the crisis as a very unfortunate thing. The heart of the difficulty lays in the differing conceptions of epuration, according to him. He said the Communists were prepared to ex-

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8 "The Man in the Street"

Rumors that the crisis in the Bonomi Government had come to a head began to spread wildly by Sunday afternoon, November 26. People

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talked of announcements on the radio. During that day and the next, the belief was widespread that Military Dictatorship would succeed the dissolved Bonomi cabinet. A reliable Italian source interviewed the following:

A worker in a sweet shop, about 49 years old: "I believe Badoglio will take the reins of government again, instituting a military dictatorship. Thus a state of emergency, and to crown it all, moving the curfew back to 8 o'clock. That will be great fun indeed!"

A teacher of an elementary school, about 25 years old: "I have a brother in the war ministry. There is a general opinion there that General Messe will be placed at the head of the military dictatorship, and I believe so too."

A colleague of the above, about 27 years old, replied that this would be impossible because the Allies would not allow Messe's appointment because he led the Italian Forces against them in Africa.

A government employee, about 34 years old: "This is a very important event, especially in a moment like this. If however, a crisis like this should arise in the military dictatorship (which dictatorship we all expect) it could only lead to a revolution of the people and bloodshed. It is therefore preferable to desire a government like the preceding one, however weak."

Many expressed the strong wish that the Allies take the power directly into their own hands. In doing this many mistakes and misunderstandings would be avoided as in the present Italian political situation the government has to act on the basis of compromises. Also because the ineptitude of the Bonomi government has demonstrated that Italy does not yet know the meaning of the word "democracy." An officer on leave said, "In order to placate all, and not run the danger of further crisis, the best solution would be the dictatorship of a just man who belongs to no party at all."

9 DISTURBANCES AT REGINA COELI

Rioting was reported at the Regina Coeli Prison, Rome, on 20 November, with attempts at arson necessitating the calling in of firemen. A few shots were fired by guards to intimidate the prisoners. The prison authorities stated that the causes were alleged poor food and bad living conditions. On the 23rd serious disturbances took

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imprisonment, are said to have been awaiting trial for months.

On the 25th prison officials reported heavy damage to the building. Not only had the fabric been badly damaged, but in four wings all the beds and mattresses had been destroyed and the locks rendered useless. By that date 700 prisoners had been moved from Regina Coeli, some being taken as far as Benevento.

B. GENERAL REPORTS

1. Political Review in Newly Liberated Romagna

The leading members of the Republican and Action Parties of Romagna being arrested, executed or forced into hiding, the Communists succeeded in getting full control of the situation and deployed their political activities almost undisturbed by other parties during the last 3 months of occupation. The following factors were responsible for bringing about this state of affairs:

The Communists gained a majority vote in the C.D.L.N. by imposing in addition to their own representatives those of the following organisations: FRONTE DELLA GIOVENTU, GRUPPI DIFESA DELLE DONNE, SINDACATI OPERAI; absence of strong personalities in other political parties, and the absorption of the Socialist party, represented by weak leaders.

Such was the political situation as found in CESENA and FORLI when these towns were liberated. In FORLI, the walls were plastered with Communist posters and Communist newspapers were distributed. Very soon though with the return of their leaders, the other parties reacted.

Christian Democrats have been very active in the area of CESENA and their leader, MARIO PASINI, declares himself very satisfied with the progress achieved.

Partito d'Azione. The return to FORLI of Avv. Bruno ANGELETTI, well-known anti-fascist and one of the most popular figures in Romagna has reinforced the party's position. Furthermore, Avv. F. GUANDINI, one of the leaders of the Partito d'Azione in Rome and a member of a well-known CESENA family, has returned to Romagna recently and has been working hard trying to fuse the Republican and Action parties.

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Meanwhile the Communists are carrying on an intensive propaganda drive to win support for themselves among the peasants who are becoming convinced that they should no longer share profits with their landlords.

Strength of Parties and their Leaders in Province of Forli: 1944

COMMUNIST	5000		Zanelli, Adamo
FRONTE GIOVENTU	3000		Rossi, Vladimiro
GRUPPI DIFESA DONNE	4000		
SINDACATI OPERAI	1000	(approx.)	Maroni, Nello
REPUBBLICAN	2500	"	QUERZOLI, Giovanni
AZIONE	2000		Avv. Angeletti, Bruno
Christian Democrat	3000		Avv. Breschi
Socialist	4000		Morgagni, Piero

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11 Left Wing Parties Want Port Cooperatives

From information gathered from various sources and also as the result of direct contacts with heads of Parties and organizations, the labour position in Naples port appears to be as follows:

The Neapolitan Federations of the Communist and the Socialist Parties have received identical instructions from their respective headquarters in Rome. The instructions are to the effect that the Neapolitan Federations of the aforesaid Parties should start action at once for the formation of numerous cooperatives among the various categories of port workers, so that the loading and unloading of ships would be entrusted exclusively to such cooperative. This action is to be started in the port of Naples and extended to those of the Province (Portici, Torre del Greco, Castellammare di Stabia and Pozzuoli.)

In view of the great interest which the headquarters of the Communist and Socialist Parties are showing in the matter, it may be concluded -- and this is confirmed by rumors in circulation -- that it is their intention to extend later on the same kind of organization to all other Italian ports in order to secure absolute control of them. Obviously the influence of the Communist and Socialist Parties in the port cooperatives would be considerable, in fact paramount for various reasons:

(a) because it is they who will have started this cooperative movement, and the original nucleus of the various cooperatives would be formed by their own men;

(b) very many among the workers in Naples port belong to the two left-wing parties;

(c) in the cooperatives the personnel would practically be always the same and, therefore, easily organized from a trade-union point of view (internal commissions, trade unions, etc.) and from the political point of view (Communist cells, Socialist groups, etc.)

It is therefore easy to realize that if the Communist and Socialist Parties should succeed in securing the allotment of even a small section of work to a cooperative, the Port authorities might find themselves (once the precedent is established) little by little com-

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It is therefore easy to realize that if the Communist and Socialist Parties should succeed in securing the allotment of even a small section of work to a cooperative, the Port Authorities might find themselves (once the precedent is established) little by little compelled to entrust the whole work of loading and unloading to new cooperatives which would spring up one after another. Thus the port of Naples and presently other Italian ports, would find themselves under complete control of the extreme left wing parties, of which these cooperatives would be the docile instruments.

The cooperatives might appear as a legitimate expression of a plausible labor principle, and from the point of view of organization and output, they might well improve conditions in the port. On the other hand, there would be the enormous disadvantage that the Allied Port Authorities would, in a great measure, be at the mercy of the left wing parties.

In this connection the case of the "Navalmeccanica" may serve as an example. This important concern, which was reorganized some time ago, has been the object of special attention by the Communist Party,

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to the point that the word of Guadro, the Secretary of the Communist cell, is now law.

Naturally the disadvantages of a position as outlined would not be serious while the left wing parties maintain their present attitude, but would become so in case of a change of policy by these parties. The means by which cooperatives could be formed and work secured for them might be summed up as follows:

a) Direct pressure on affiliated port workers in order to persuade them to get together and form cooperatives. This policy has already been set in motion since the lists of members are ready, the leaders have been selected and the adherence of many specialists has been secured.

b) Indirect pressure on the workers through their associations, (Confederazione Italiana del Lavoro, Sindacato Portuale, etc.) on which generally the influence of the Communists and Socialists is decisive.

c) A vigorous press campaign to convince port workers that the only means for improving working conditions is to form cooperatives. An article over the signature of Nino Gaeta, which appeared in the "Voce" a few days ago, has been the cause of much discussion.

In order to eliminate or mitigate the effects of this campaign on the part of the left wing parties, it might be advisable to exercise a more rigid control over the press, especially that of the left. After all, the port of Naples has its importance from a military point of view. Also, the conditions of the workers might if possible be improved in order to reduce discontent, which is of great assistance to left wing parties in gaining influence over them.

From the point of view of both security and output, it can be said that the present system for the loading and unloading of ships by private firms is the best. Workers in this case are continually shifting, so they cannot so easily organize themselves, either politically or in a trade-union way, and it is more difficult for them to bring about a strike; also they are less liable to be influenced by the left wing parties.

Furthermore, by considering the problem from this angle, the system of working under private firms appears perhaps even preferable

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Furthermore, by considering the problem from this angle, the system of working under private firms appears perhaps even preferable to that of working under Allied directives. Private firms get more out of the workers and the latter, by constantly working for different concerns, are less organized, whereas if employed by the Allies, they would instinctively drift into forming regular gangs and thus have better opportunities to organize themselves.

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The left wing parties try to influence public opinion through the press and by meetings and false reports. Among other things, they are saying that the Allies will soon have to give in and hand over the port to the workers' organizations. (B-3)

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12 Italian Patriots

Italian public opinion has been struck by the campaign which has been and is being carried on by the press in favor of Patriots in occupied Italy. The serious consequence is that most Italians are acquiring the conviction through their press that it is the Allies who have failed the help the Patriots. As to political circles, especially those of the left and centre, the opinion is that the Allies, though they dispose of large quantities of war materials, have not for political reasons furnished either adequately or regularly, supplies to the Patriots. Neapolitan Political circles have, up to the present, greatly discussed the argument, and even now it is second only to that of the Government's crisis. (B-2)

13 Trade Union Congress

In Trade Union circles, intense activity is being displayed in preparation for the Trade Union Congress to be held at Naples from the 10th to the 13th of December. The Congress will be preceded by a meeting of the Christian Labour organizations who will very probably decide to withdraw from the Italian General Confederation of Labor. It is therefore likely that the outcome of the Trade Union Congress will be to strengthen the bonds of trade unionism in spite of definite opposition by Right wing catholics, and the marked activities by some left wing Communists and Socialists, headed by Enrico Russo, to overcome the influence of the official Communist and Socialist Parties.

It may also be foreseen that the Party of Action will secure a place in the General Presidency, but the ultimate result will undoubtedly depend on whether the three parties now in office (Communist, Socialist and Catholics) will present themselves as a whole, or in competition, at the election of the chief offices. In any case, the expectation in Trade Union and political circles is very great because from the results of the Trade Union Congress, it will be possible to get a clear idea of the tendency of the working classes. (B-2)

14 Opinion of a Young Liberal on the Present Situation (29 November)

.. young professor in his twenties, working in the Liberal Party offices, expressed his disappointment and dismay at the way things were going in Naples. He professed himself little expert in govern-

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14 Opinion of a Young Liberal on the Present Situation (29 November)

A young professor in his twenties, working in the Liberal Party offices, expressed his disappointment and dismay at the way things were going in Naples. He professed himself little expert in governmental politics; however he said that the late Government had achieved much in foreign affairs, but had done nothing to improve the internal situation. He then quoted Manlio Lupinacci of the Liberal organ, "IL GIORNALE" as saying that the Government crisis was not a political, but a much deeper national crisis. The older and more authoritative members of the Liberal Party who were in financially secure positions -- the leisured class -- represented the more Conservative wing in the party and still had the upper hand; the younger members (including himself) tended towards more progressive ideas and would work to assert themselves in the party. The professor, apart from expressing a somewhat vague belief in Liberalism as the kindly inoffensive Alma Mater of politics, gave the impression of being rather perplexed and irritated with his own uncertainty. He was impatient of the corrup-

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tion and inefficiency of local government in Naples. The professor was evidently preoccupied solely with local problems to which he, like so many Neapolitan youths of Liberal leanings, is most sensitive. He was bitter about the treatment of some Italian soldiers, their torn uniforms, poor equipment, etc. The Italian army's contribution to the war is indeed for many young Italians the only foundation of dignity and hope left to them, unless they hold a very strong political creed.

Another thing with which the professor was critical is the deplorable conditions in which many poor families have been living for two years in the damp and dark shelters of Naples. He had himself seen over 200 people in the San Gaetano shelter near Piazza Donna Regina, living in these painful conditions.

The professor announced that the Liberal Youth movement headed by Enrico D'Onofrio is now debating whether to admit Monarchist members or not. It appears that the Liberals are near the parting of the ways. Because of the government crisis several leading Liberals have gone up to Rome. Senator De Nicola, said the professor, has already gone up twice. (1 - 2)

15. SOCIALIST'S VIEW OF ITALY'S GENERAL SITUATION

Dr. Malfatti, who is shortly going to London to join the staff of the Italian Representative, Count Carandini, is a prominent member of the Italian Socialist Party. He is associated with their paper AVANTI. His sympathies are for the more moderate wing represented by Saragat and Modigliani, and he tends to take an anti-Communist line. In the course of recent conversations with a PWB officer, he expressed the following opinions:

Italian morale. The collapse of Italy as a power had led to general moral collapse and scepticism in which a handful of people, "some 30" in Rome were struggling to establish democratic institutions and to carry on the government and the press. One way of improving morale would be to allow Italians a greater participation in the war; to provide something about which enthusiasm could be begotten. In addition as reconstruction was so impossible owing to the lack of

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Epuration Italy has been ruined for "200 years to come"; hence the indignation against those responsible for Italy's plight. But what could he do. When he had been at the Commissary of Police he had put numbers of fascists in concentration camp; but he had been told by Allied authorities that in a democratic country political opponents could not be kept indefinitely in a concentration camp, and they had been released. The trial of Generals Pentimalli and Del Tetto would take place, but they could not be given the death sentence because they had already raised the awkward point of the behavior of Badoglio and the King. The latter were as guilty as the former, and the cordiality of Churchill's references to Badoglio made the whole question an anomalous one.

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The Partisans - Dr. Malfatti said that the position of the partisans in the north was very serious. Their losses had been heavy. Food was not their problem, but they desperately needed shoes, for instance, and odd articles such as nails for shoes. The arms dispatched to them were always insufficient. They had on occasions received a type of "gangster" material which while theoretically excellent had turned out to be ineffective against German weapons in practice. But above all what mattered was the moral issue. He thought that interest abroad in their activities would be an encouragement to them. It was totally impractical to suppose that they could lie low or go home during the winter, and then rise again as a reorganized body in the spring.

Prisoners of War - Though it seemed a cruel thing to say, he and his colleagues (especially Socialists) did not want prisoners of war to be returned to Italy at present, and they looked forward with apprehension to the day of their eventual return. They were quite sure that workers who had been carried off to Germany would be a treatable and politically seasoned element. But prisoners who returned from India or England, who had none of the experiences through which Italians at home had passed, in the majority either retained their fascist beliefs or had no belief in democracy. The return of brigades of blackshirts to Italy would be an additional problem.

The Financial Situation - Dr. Malfatti said that the Italian currency was in the exceptional situation at present of having no covering at all. President Roosevelt's declaration did not alter this situation as only a small percentage of the actual currency for the whole of Italy was involved therein. Immediately after the declaration people had hoarded American lire as distinct from currency notes. Fortunately this dangerous tendency had been restrained by the fact that large numbers of false American notes were in circulation. In addition the flourishing black market in foreign currencies was flooded with false dollars.

LABOUR

16 The Cost of Production (from conversation with a shipyard owner)

The question of transport is still very serious, and plays quite

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The question of transport is still very serious, and plays quite a part in the cost of production, inasmuch as it very generally affects the individual output of workmen. Let us take as an example the men in a Naples shipyard. Many of them live far from their work, in fact it takes them an hour or even at times two hours twice a day to travel between their homes and their work. They probably leave home on an empty stomach, with a piece of bread in their pocket, perhaps 100 gr. (about 3 oz.); at noon they are given a soup; frequently prepared daily from the same ingredients (of which they are heartily tired), and on this they have to work all day. If there is a pressure of work and they remain on until late, the chances are that they will not consider it worthwhile to go home that night, so they are paid for night work.

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Underfed as they are, the long walk to and from their work saps their energy, and production suffers in consequence. At the shipyard referred to, the men's output is no higher than 40 per cent of what it was a year ago. The cost of production rises accordingly; one of the chief sufferers being the Allies who are probably the most important employers of labour in Naples. (A-2)

17 OCREN Workers on Strike

The workmen of te Officina Costruzioni Reparazioni Elettromeccaniche Napoletana (about 200) went on strike because they demanded better wages and thepossibility of purchasing food, shoes, clothing, etc. at reasonable prices. The strike has now been settled and is indicative of an economic conditions which might lead to more serious agitations. (B-2)

18 Strikes

The continued state of unrest amongst Neapolitan employees and workers who have unsuccessfully been asking for improvement of their economic conditions, frequently results in strikes and agitations. This week, besides the strike of the OCREN workers, which has meanwhile been settled, there has also been a strike on the part of the clerical employees of the Provincial Labour office. This last is important because the Labour office, by its very function of settling and controlling Labour disputes, can influence many other categories of workers. (B-2)

P R E S S

19 Allotment of Newsprint to Rome Newspapers

ITALIA NUOVA of 25 November complains that the method of allotting newspring to the various party newspapers constitutes a very effective kind of censorship of the Press. It prints the following figures:

Newspaper	Party	Newsprint	Number of Copies
Corriere di Roma	PWB	864 quintals	180,000
AVANTI	Socialist	201	42,000
UNITA	Communist	192	40,000
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RICOSTRUZIONE	Labour Dem.	110	23,000
RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE	Liberal	110	23,000
ITALIA NUOVA	Monarchist	48	10,000

1907

20 Attack on Italian Censorship

On 22 November the Cabinet approved the drafts of two decrees dealing with the organization of 2 commissions to be responsible respectively for the co-ordination and control of radio programmes, and the censorship of films. Thest two bodies would act in a consultative capacity to the Undersecretariat of Press and Information.

RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE of 23 November deplored that such grave decisions should be taken without any attempt to consult public o-

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pinion and stated that such hasty legislation was only too reminiscent of fascist methods. ITALIA LIBERA of the same date warned the Government that the country would no longer stand for controls imposed from above and obligatory propaganda speeches à la Ministry of Popular Culture.

On the 24th the National Press Association issued a statement criticizing the office of the Undersecretary for Press and Information and demanding that Government control of the Press should be reduced to the absolute minimum consistent with military security. The statement pointed out that the Undersecretariat was originally created for the purpose of gradually doing away the functions of the Ministry of Popular Culture.

IL TEMPO of 27 November, however, defends the institution of a cinema censorship as an anti-pornographic measure; but hopes that it will soon become unnecessary, as it holds up the release of films of topical interest.

21 Neapolitan Weeklies

Two new weeklies have been published this week: LA FIACCOLA and IL CORRIERE DEL LAVORO, both sanctioned by PWB.

LA FIACCOLA is a paper of the Italian Socialist Revolutionary party and to all intents and purposes is a continuation of BANDIERA ROSSA (Red Flag), an unsanctioned paper which for many months was published in Naples by the said party. In fact, LA FIACCOLA bears the subheading "Edito da Bandiera Rossa" (edited by"Red Flag") because the heads of the I.R.S.P. have formed a company and called it "Bandiera Rossa." Newsvendors take advantage of the subheading and shout "BANDIERA ROSSA" in order to attract the public, whose attention and perhaps curiosity are aroused by the name of a wellknown paper the printing of which was banned.

From the very first LA FIACCOLA has taken up the same political attitude as that of BANDIERA ROSSA, i.e. definite opposition to the Committees of Liberation. It appears to be the intention of the heads of the Italian Revolutionary Socialist Party to give the widest possible circulation to their weekly, of the first copy of which they printed 20,000 copies. The paper has further been very extensively advertised, to encourage sales, and the most advantageous

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IL CORRIERE DEL LAVORO is, instead, the organ of the "Associazione Generale delle Unioni Libere del Lavoro". This weekly was published in Naples for several months, at first illegally, and afterwards as a bulletin for the internal use of the "Associazione". It had not however as large a number of readers as BANDIERA ROSSA. The tendency of the CORRIERE DEL LAVORO is definitely towards trade unionism but like all the associations of Free Unions of Labour,

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it is under the influence of the heads of the Italian Revolutionary Socialist Party. It amply discusses the problem of war victims; Dr. Gennaro Capozzi, President of the Free Union of War Victims, is one of the heads of the Association of the Free Unions, and of the C.G.I.L. RIERA DEL LAVORO". (B-2)

22 IL DOMANI D'ITALIA

On Nov. 30th, in Naples, the first number of the Demo-Christian daily, IL DOMANI D'ITALIA (Italy's Future) was published. So far it seems that sales are going well, but at the same time this is not having any effect on the sale of RISORGIMENTO, though both papers come out at the same hour. The main reason for this is the fact that public opinion is primarily more inclined to buy a daily giving news than a paper of a political character. It would appear, therefore, that the present output of IL RISORGIMENTO is much below the demand. (B-2)

23 ROME Literary Review

A substantial weekly literary review entitled CITTA has just made its first appearance in Rome. In size and format it resembles the political and cultural weeklies DOMENICA and CORSIVO ILLUSTRATO, already in existence. It has 16 pages, costs 20 lire and prints 12,000 copies.

The editorial committee of CITTA is composed of an interesting cross section of Italian literary figures of very varied ages and styles: Massimo Bontempelli, Goffredo Bellonci, Ercole Rabelli, Paulo Masimo, Alberto Moravia, Guido Piovene and Alberto Savinio.

The standard of the first issue of CITTA was high. It contained a good Moravia short story, a bizarre and brillian story by Albert Savinio (the brother of the painter G. Di Chirico), and the first part of a serial on life in German occupied Italy by Arrigo Benedetti. The critical articles were somewhat uneven. Moravia in the form of a review contributed a very interesting short defense of writers mainly of "between the two wars" who deserve to be better known outside of Italy, such as Parazzoschi, Gozzano, Ojetti, Montale and Saba. Bellonci and Mario Soldati also wrote good critical articles, though that of the latter was a little marred by journalism. Bontempelli was academical and dull; Savinio unorthodox and sparkling; Piovene psychoanalytical and not quite sensitive enough.

E C O N O M I C S

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A substantial weekly literary review entitled CITTÀ has just made its first appearance in Rome. In size and format it resembles the political and cultural weeklies DOMENICA and CORRIERE LIT., already in existence. It has 16 pages, costs 20 lire and prints 12,000 copies.

The editorial committee of CITTÀ is composed of an interesting cross section of Italian literary figures of very varied ages and styles: Massimo Bontempelli, Goffredo Bellonci, Ercole Rasolli, Paula Masimo, Alberto Moravia, Guido Piovene and Alberto Savinio.

The standard of the first issue of CITTÀ was high. It contained a good Moravia short story, a bizarre and brillian story by Albert Savinio (the brother of the painter G. Di Chirico), and the first part of a serial on life in German occupied Italy by Arrigo Benedetti. The critical articles were somewhat uneven. Moravia in the form of a review contributed a very interesting short defense of writers mainly of "between the two wars" who deserve to be better known outside of Italy, such as Pratazzeschi, Gozzano, Soffri, Montale and Saba. Bellonci and Mario Soldati also wrote good critical articles, though that of the latter was a little marred by journalism. Bontempelli was academical and dull; Savinio unorthodox and sparkling; Piovene psychoanalytical and not quite sensitive enough.

E C O N O M I C S

24 Report on the Production and Control of Hemp in Campania 1900

As soon as Naples was liberated the Allies substituted the fascist "Ente Economico delle Fibbie Tessili" by the "Ammasso Regionale Canapa". At present the Ammasso Regionale Canapa (which will soon be called the "Consorzio Nazionale Canapa") has its main offices in Rome. The Naples branch has 25 warehouses which are scattered in the most important hemp-producing districts of Campania. Each warehouse has its office in order to attend to matters in connection with the Ammasso and to render assistance to hemp growers.

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With reference to the cultivation of hemp it has suffered a set-back in the last two years; more attention having been given to the production of foodstuffs. The following figures are interesting:

1938	Quintals	276,855
1939	"	292,748
1940	"	291,925
1941	"	244,751
1942	"	291,917
1943	"	166,987
1944		130,000

The first step which the "Ammasso Regionale Canapa" took, when it came into being, was to raise the price of hemp so as to make it correspond more adequately to the higher cost of living, and thus encourage hemp growers to deliver their production to the pools. The price of hemp, which on an average was 1000 lire per quintal in 1943, was therefore raised to the average price of 3000 lire.

For some months past all raw hemp and articles manufactured therefrom have been placed monthly at the disposal of the Allied Commission who, after establishing the quantities needed to cover military requirements and exports to the United Kingdom, release the surplus for civilian consumption. The hemp and its manufactured articles for export to the United Kingdom and for civilian consumption are paid for in full. The Allied Armed Forces instead pay only to the Ammasso the cost of manufacturing plus a percentage to cover the expenses of the pools. This is in accordance with orders laid down by the Allied Commission. The cost of the raw material will presumably be paid for in clearing against goods imported from Allied Countries.

The Ammasso is practically an agricultural, industrial and commercial organization. It collects the hemp produced by fully 20,000 small growers, and allots it to thousands of artisans and hundreds of small industrialists for the purpose of manufacture. Further, the Ammasso assists the growers by allotting fertilizers, seed, additional rations of food for scutchers, transport, etc. It also helps industrialists in securing the materials necessary for the working of their plants (electric power, fuel, oxygen, acetylene, lubricating oils, etc.), as well as in obtaining the additional ration of bread which the Allied Commission has granted to workers.

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The control of the industry has made it possible to eliminate speculation in the field of manufactured articles. It has also made it possible to place at the disposal of the Allied Armed Forces, from as far back as February 1944 considerable quantities of manufactured articles such as rope, twine, string, sacks and canvas. In conclusion the working of the Ammasso is good. The 1945 crop, however, will be considerably lower than last year's, it is estimated at 100,000 quintals as against 130,000 of this year. Notwithstanding the fact that last year's prices have been raised by 90% farmers find that other crops such as potatoes, beans, etc., pay them better. A further increase in the price of hemp is however being considered, and at the same time, fertilizers are going to be distributed to intensify production. (A-2)

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25 Almonds, Walnuts and Filberts

This year the walnut crop has been very abundant, but the quality is poor to the extent that in normal times it would not have been found satisfactory by foreign buyers.

The almond crop has been limited in Sicily, and below normal in Puglia. However, the availability after the harvest was above normal because of stocks carried over from the previous year.

The filbert crop has been slightly above normal in Sicily, but below normal in Campania. The availability at this time of the year is perhaps larger than usual as a result of the quantities still on hand from the previous harvest.

Prices per quintal as compared to those ruling before the armistice are as follows:

	Present average	Old controlled price
Filberts, Naples long	L. 5000	L. 850
" Sicilian round	" 3400	" 750
Walnuts (Sorrento)	" 6000	" 800
Almonds (shelled)	" 10000	" 2800

In both cases the prices are first cost for delivery at the place of production. Prices before the armistice were controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture who therefore fixed them. The present prices are those of the free market.

Although the above products were largely exported before the war, the present high prices are due partly to local consumption, which is abnormally large in consequence of the present food conditions in Italy, and partly to fear in the further depreciation of the lira and the consequent unwillingness of producers to part with their products which, particularly in the case of almonds and filberts, may be kept in stock for years. A further explanation of the high prices is the fact that many who have never handled these products consider them a good investment as they are not readily perishable.

The evident disparity in prices of Sicilian and Neapolitan filberts is due to the fact that as the Naples production is nearer the centre of consumption, it is more readily absorbed than the Sicilian one, as the latter is handicapped by lack of transport.

As to the export of these products, it could readily be done be-

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As to the export of these products, it could readily be done before the war because the products, being pooled at prices fixed by the Italian Government could be submitted at firm offers for the quantity allotted to him for export. At present, however, these products are only obtainable on the free market, and prices in these abnormal times are subject to very wide fluctuations. The would-be exporter finds it therefore extremely difficult if not impossible to submit firm offers holding good over a length of time such as would be required if deals went through I.C.E. 1905

26 Olive Oil Collection, Salerno

The Prefect of Salerno recently held a conference with regard to the pooling of this year's oil production. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to adopt the following resolutions:

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1) To appoint 4 flying squads for the purpose of going round to the various districts and demanding delivery of oil from the producers.

2) The squads will be made up of one Police agent, one official of the Consorzio Agrario, and an official of the Ufficio Accertamenti Agricoli (Agricultural Ascertainment Office).

3) As the squads would have no transport a decree of the Prefect is being published ordering all car owners to place their vehicles at the disposal of SEPRAL for 2 days a month for the purposes of this oil collection. (B-2)

FOOD SITUATION

27 Public Opinion

The food situation may be said to occupy the attention of the general public more than any other single topic, and observers frequently report that persons interviewed on any subject very soon may work the conversation around to this all important subject. Complaints center on three main points: short supplies, high prices and mismanagement by distribution authorities.

In mid-November about 100 women assembled in the Piazza della Signoria, Florence, shouting out at the Prefect, and any Fascists still in office. They carried placards bearing the words, "We want bread," "We want milk for our children", and also some lauding the Allies and their armed forces. A little later another band of women arrived and demanded "Coal" and the removal of the Prefect from office.

On 25 November, a group of housewives from workingclass districts of Pestiense and Testaccio, Rome, went to the Campidoglio to protest to the Mayor, who received them. They bore placards with such inscriptions as "We are hungry," "E ora di finirla".

28 Salt

On 21 November the Directors of the State Monopolies announced that in the future no issue of salt would be made to bakers for breadmaking. The press attacked both monopolies' management and SEPRAL, the food distribution agency. IL POPOLO declared that the present ration of 100 grs. per month is quite insufficient for health, and demanded more salt be made available even if the price had to be raised. L'UNITA pointed out the absurdity of a salt famine in a country so a-

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On 25 November it was announced 600 tons of salt had arrived by sailboat from Sardinia, and the Monopoly is said to be considering the resumption of the bakers' allotment.

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20 Wine from Apulia

ITALIA LIBERA of 23 November writes of the "scandal" of the coming of the first lot of long-awaited wine from Apulia, brought north in a ship provided by the Allies. Even at Civitavecchia considerable quantities were missing, and more barrels were unloaded at open country stops of the train bringing it to Rome. In the city wholesalers did not keep their promise to sell only to registered retailers, and finally the retailers were "sold out" almost immediately -- i.e. the wine went "under the counter" for sale to special customers at special prices. More wine is expected by rail, and the paper stated that it is up to SEPRAL to provide adequate guards and distribute it only by ration card.

ITALIA NUOVA of 26 November stated that the wine was bought in Apulia for 11.80 lire per litre, alcoholic content 13%. It was sold in Rome for 29 lire per litre, alcoholic content 11%. SEPRAL is blamed again for this unwarrantable difference.

30 Rome Rations

Certain misapprehension has arisen concerning recent statements that a 300 gram bread ration has been requested for the whole of liberated Italy. It has to be stated that what has always been meant has been the flour equivalent of a 300 gram bread ration made up of a 200 gram bread ration and a weekly pasta ration of 550 grams, which is the present ration prevailing in Southern Italy, or any other agreed combination of bread and pasta. Thus no increase was contemplated for Southern Italy.

Recent statements in the Press have implied that Supplementary Rations for all workers were to be continued and expended. This is not correct. What was agreed at the recent conference held between Italian Ministers, representatives of CGIL and A.C. was that the demand for supplementary rations for all workers would be studied closely and an early decision reached upon the matter. Meanwhile these rations are continuing in Rome only until a general settlement of the whole question is reached.

No decision has yet been reached regarding a change in the present highly subsidized price of bread. According to VOCE REPUBBLICANA of 23 November, representatives of CGIL saw several ministers and the Undersecretary for food, Bergami, to ask that any increase should not

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31 Food Distribution in Rome

There are at least 3 bodies sharing what is really one job: SEPRAL, ASA (Azenda Servizi Annonari) and UDIS (Ufficio Distribuzione.) The Government or at least the Mayor ought to create a single central organization, and see that it is staffed with men of energy and initiative as well as technical ability. On the 26 Avanti lamented the addition of SACOR, charged with the supply of fruit and vegetables to the Rome market. UNITA complains of restrictions placed by ASA and UDIS in the way of consumers' cooperatives. They are dependent on ASA and UDIS for importation permits and travel passes, but the time

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taken in the issue of these, and the difficulties raised, paralyze the activities of the cooperatives. Their warehouses are empty, members protest, directors resign. UNITA maintains that helping the cooperatives would solve half the food problems of Rome.

32 Rationed Foodstuffs Distributed in Rome during November

Food	Quantity	Price
Macaroni	275 grms.	£ 7.00
Potatoes	1 kilo	£ 16.00
Salt	100 grams	£ 7.00
Dried soup	125 "	£ 30.00
Dried peas or beans	200 "	£ 30.00
+ Canned Pork	180 "	£118.00
+ Meat and Vegetables canned	200 "	£ 56.00
Macaroni	300 "	£ 7.00

Distribution of some items began in the last days of October.

+ Items were alternatives, one Zone received one, the others, another.

33 Prices of Food Supplies in Naples

The prices of foodstuffs and goods of every nature continue to rise rapidly and without interruption. The increase on meats and fats is especially marked. There is a rumor that before long meat will be distributed weekly on ration cards. Prices in Naples are quoted as follows:

Bread	per kilo	L.	160 - 170
Macaroni	do.	"	180 - 200
Flour	do.	"	160 - 180
Beans	do.	"	140 - 150
Cheese	do.	"	350 - 370
Mozzarella	do.	"	360 - 400
Lard	do.	"	650 - 700
Fish	do.	"	300 - 350
Beef	do.	"	450
Veal	do.	"	480
Pork	do.	"	500
Sugar	do.	"	600

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	Macaroni	1 kilo	£ 10.00
	Potatoes	100 grams	£ 7.00
	Salt	125 "	£ 30.00
	Dried soup	200 "	£ 30.00
	Dried peas or beans	160 "	£118.00
+	Canned Pork	200 "	£ 66.00
+	Meat and Vegetables canned	300 "	£ 7.00
	Macaroni		

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Fish	do.	"	300 - 350
Beef	do.	"	450
Veal	do.	"	480
Pork	do.	"	500
Sugar	do.	"	600
Oil	per litre	"	400 - 440

(A-1)

RECONSTRUCTION AND REFUGEE PROBLEMS

34 A Labour Plan for Reconstruction

In a broadcast of 19 November Di Vittorio, the Communist Secretary of CGIL, spoke of the most urgent problems of national life: unemployment in relation to Italy's economic reconstruction.

The key to economic reconstruction, the key to employment, lies in finance. The only way to make a start is to make funds available. Funds must be taken where they are to be found, that is in the great fortunes of the rich and newly-rich, who are in any case the promoters and profiteers of fascism.

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An immediate start, on however modest a scale, is necessary in order to provide employment. For this purpose two measures are required: the setting up of communal and provincial commissions of workers' representatives, technicians and mayors to decide on priorities of work; and an immediate graduated tax on great fortunes to finance the scheme.

35 Restocking Latium with Livestock

It was stated by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture on 23 November that a total of 13,000 hog sucklings had been shipped during the past three months from Perugia Province to Latium and Abruzzi. Allied authorities provided the necessary transport.

36 Government Credits for Sardinian Reconstruction

On 22 November the Interministerial Committee for Reconstruction approve the final text of the measures already approved by the Cabinet for aiding reconstruction in Sardinia. Three measures were involved:

a) Wider powers for the High Commissioner; and institution of a consultative assembly.

b) Grant of one milliard of Lire for agriculture.

c) Grant of 300 millions for industrial reconstruction plus allotment to Sardinia of one quarter of the two milliards already agreed on for the industrial reconstruction of the country as a whole.

37 Red Cross Week

The final results of the Italian Red Cross Week held early in the month have now been announced. The total sum collected amounted to four and a half million lire, in addition to considerable quantities of clothing, furniture, etc., most of which have already been distributed to needy families of refugees.

38 CHRISTMAS Plans

The Monarchist paper ITALIA NUOVA has appealed to the population to give hospitality to soldiers on Christmas Day, and claims that large numbers of readers have written agreeing to take in so many each.

CORRIERE DI ROMA of 26th reports that the Union of Italian Women (U.D.I.) is organizing a scheme for the distribution of presents to

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CORRIERE DI ROMA of 26th reports that the Union of Italian Women (U.D.I.) is organizing a scheme for the distribution of presents to poor children at Christmas.

39 1000 Refugees Return Home - The Journey from Rome to REGGIO

The following information was supplied by an Italian lady who traveled with the refugee train from Rome to Reggio (Calabria) for purposes of observation and assistance. The information is considered reliable. 1000

The refugees were told to be at the Prenestina Station at 9 a.m. The Italian Red Cross nurses were told to be there at 1 o'clock. The train left at 5.10 from the Prenestina and at 6.10 from the Casilina Station.

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The nurses made a tour of the freight cars where the refugees were to see that all were in good health. They found a boy with whooping cough in the wagon with other children and a pregnant woman.

In the middle of the train there was a 3rd class car and a priest asked the two volunteer nurses t take the place of two nuns. There ..ere 8 places in the compartment, which was connected with another (with a toilet between) where there were other priests and nuns. In the last big compartment, of about 20 places, the Pontifical Commission was comfortably installed. It was composed of a Doctor, Signor Persichetti, Signor Ronco, wearing a white and yellow armband bearing the words "Pontifical Commission for Refugee Assistance", Signor Bonajuto (Sicilian), Father Lograsso (Sicilian) who was in charge of the refugees, Staff-Sergeant Morelli and another policeman. (N.B. This compartment was the only one which had almost all the window panes intact).

In the same compartment was a professional Red Cross nurse wearing a mobilization armband to show she was traveling on service. But at the end of the journey at Reggio Calabria she admitted she had not been sent by the Red Cross and confessed her "service" had consisted of helping with the distribution of milk at Cava dei Tirreni (assistance offered by the High Commissioner of Refugees, which should have been presided over by volunteer Red Cross Nurses) and giving 2 hypodermic injections to a paralytic in the compartment next to hers. The Volunteer Nurses were otherwise occupied in another compartment occupied by the so-called sick, about 8 in all. This compartment had no window panes or light. The prompt action of the nurses who covered the windows with the refugees' blankets saved the travelers from asphyxiation in the many tunnels.

During the various stops, the refugees used the toilet of this compartment, whereas the priests forbade the entrance to their door, and the other toilet in the compartment of the Pontifical Commission was shut and locked. At one stop a woman who got off the train instead of standing in the queue was almost left behind and sprained both ankles in trying to regain the car. During the journey parents just held their children outside the windows.

"On the 9 November at 8 o'clock we reached Cancello, where the train for Naples was detached, and at 13.30 we arrived at Cava dei Tirreni, where the first ration (soup and bread) was distributed.

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"On the 9 November at 8 o'clock we reached Cancello, where the train for Naples was detached, and at 13.30 we arrived at Cava dei Tirreni, where the first ration (soup and bread) was distributed. The refugees had to get down to get it. Signor Romeo of the Pontifical Commission tried to help and the refugees turned imploringly to the nurses asking to be treated like human beings and not like cattle. The invalid with heart trouble had an attack and some boys asked for coffee for her. We had none and could only offer a hypodermic injection. A nun asked for pyramidon which she gave her and we had bandages and lint for the woman with sprained ankles. A Spanish priest came to have two boils on his neck treated. We did our best in the crowded compartment where the brakeman had to come to use the brakes.

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Dr. Persichetti of the Pontifical Commission asked us to take in a poor old woman 80 years old suffering from incontinence, who was in a freight car where the other travelers could no longer stand her. We took her in, but discovered that she was also insane, which the Doctor had not told us. We asked the priests and nuns to take her in as she was frightening a young mother and her six weeks old baby, but they refused.

10 November. At 1:15 a.m. we reached Paola where there was an excellent and well-organized distribution of hot milk and bread on the train, and also medical service for anyone requiring it.

11 November. At 4 o'clock we reached Reggio Calabria Marina. The weather was intensely cold with snow on the mountains of Sicily, and the refugees were frozen. At 8 o'clock they should have been ferried across and instead it was 2 o'clock before they left.

The presence of volunteer nurses on refugees trains is considered necessary but they should have proper conditions in order to give adequate assistance to their patients.

The way the refugees are put in freight cars is horrible. From 35-40 people are put in one freight car, with no toilets, so they are forced to leave the train during the stops, in the dark, the cold and the rain, at the risk of losing the train and hurting themselves."

40 Report on War Victims in the City of Naples

The situation regarding war victims in Naples is a particularly serious one, because they are very numerous, very little has been done for them and on top of it, conditions generally are extremely bad. The victims may be divided into two groups: those who have lost real estate (houses, factories, shops, etc.) and the others who have lost either altogether or in part, their furniture, personal effects and other household belongings.

The former demand that the State should intervene directly or indirectly, in full or in part, in the reconstruction of their property; they claim that war damage should be borne by the whole nation and not only by those who have been victimized, and lastly, that assistance given to the private initiative of the victims is the first step towards national reconstruction.

The latter, and they are very numerous, are as a rule the great-

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the train, and also medical service for anyone requiring it.

11 November. At 4 o'clock we reached Reggio Calabria Marina. The weather was intensely cold with snow on the mountains of Sicily, and the refugees were frozen. At 8 o'clock they should have been ferried across and instead it was 2 o'clock before they left.

The presence of volunteer nurses on refugees trains is considered necessary but they should have proper conditions in order to give adequate assistance to their patients.

The way the refugees are put in freight cars is horrible. From 35-40 people are put in one freight car, with no toilets, so they are forced to leave the train during the stops, in the dark, the cold and the rain, at the risk of losing the train and hurting themselves."

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The latter, and they are very numerous, are as a rule the greatest sufferers; among them is the great mass of the penniless who owned nothing and lived miserably before the war, and who now after the disaster, are reduced to absolutely primitive conditions of existence. Many of them have been unable, so far, to find a lodging and are still obliged to live in public shelters; it is a question of thousands of them living in a manner which is primitive, unhealthy, immoral and altogether uncivilized. It is among these people that the worst discontent is felt, and it is they who supply the chief contingent to criminal associations.

Very little has been done in Naples to assist war victims. The Ente Comunale Assistenza have distributed some subsidies, a few parcels of clothing and some meals; on the other hand the Intendenza

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di Finanza, which should indemnify the victims for damage sustained, suspended payments for lack of funds more than a year ago. Up to date the cases which have been approved for liquidation, but which have not yet been paid off, amount to about one milliard lire. Lastly, the Government Civil Engineers have not yet started repairing damaged buildings owing to lack of funds.

A number of associations have sprung up among the war victims for the furtherance of their interests, but the majority of them went to pieces owing to incompetence and lack of interest on the part of the leaders. At the present moment there are two such associations in existence in Naples: the Association of War Victims in Via Chiatamone run by Dr. Ernesto De Leo, and Commendatore Michele di None; and the Free Union of War Victims at N. 102 Via de Pretis, presided over by Dr. Gennaro Capozzi.

From information received from many different sources and from direct enquiries, it appears that the first of these organizations was started for speculative purposes, and that persons resorting to it are blackmailed in every way; naturally this has deeply stirred public opinion.

On the other hand, the Unione Sinistrati appears to be a reliable concern, having over 2000 registered members, with a sound organization in Naples and Province and also in other Provinces. Among the leaders there are various people who are favorably known and esteemed in the city circles, such as Dr. Capozzi, Commendatore Tancredi, Engineer Amigo-Rotas, etc. For several months now they have been very active in their endeavors with institutions, authorities and private individuals, trying to bring assistance and relief to victims of the war; in fact it appears that many Allied and Italian authorities have received them, listened to them, and acknowledged them.

The Unione Sinistrati are trying to organize the whole mass of victims (about 40,000 individuals) in order to be able to demand from the authorities the assistance which the leaders believe they could not obtain otherwise. The main forms of assistance which the Union wants to get for these victims, and which correspond to the wishes of the population and to the demands of Italian reconstruction, are the following:

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1) Reconstruction by the Government Civil Engineers of the buildings which are not seriously damaged and which, with slight repairs, could be used for dwelling purposes.

2) De-requisition of premises which are not indispensable to the prosecution of the war by the Allied authorities, for the purpose of making them available to the homeless.

3) Construction of huts for the temporary housing of homeless people who cannot continue indefinitely to live in public shelters.

4) Payment for damages suffered by people without means, for limited amounts, say less than 10,000 lire.

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5) Assistance in cash and raw materials for the owners of productive concerns, who against such assistance would undertake to restart production.

6) Supply clothing and household goods to those who have lost them. This could be done either by using the UNRRA supplies direct, or by commanddering the articles from the trade and selling them to the war victims at equitable prices.

(B-2)

R A D I O

41 Criticism of Radio

UNITA of 19 November criticised the BBC's treatment of the Italian political crisis. According to the Communist daily the BBC stated that the insoluble problem is how to consult the will of the people. UNITA ironically suggests the "neologism": elections.

RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE of 24 November attacked sharply the lack of impartiality on the part of the three regular announcers of Radio Rome, Aldo Carosci, Umberto Calosso and Ruggero Orlando, claiming that not content with announcing the news, they comment on it, praising or blaming parties or individuals. If they are speaking in the name of A.C. or PWB it seems a strange way for the Allies to choose in order, for instance, to advise the Italian Ambassadors on how to behave in the countries to which they are accredited. If, however, as seems more likely, they speak in the name of their own parties, then each of the Italian parties ought to have its announcers on the radio.

ROME LOCAL CONDITIONS

42 VALLE AURELIA

UNITA of 25 November continues to describe the various quarters of Rome and speaks of Valle Aurelia, described as a forgotten suburb. The suburb has been known as anti-fascist from the very first, and was intentionally neglected by the Mussolini Government for a long twenty years. "It is time the authorities came to see how the people live in this unfortunate zone. The greater part of the dwellings are broken-down huts, damp and cold. There are no sewers. And the scavenger service is more or less non-existent. The street cleaner service

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CULTURAL NEWS

45 Christianity and Communism. Literary Ideas in Italy - A Talk with Alberto Moravia

Alberto Moravia is the most gifted of the younger Italian novelists and the only one whose books have become at all well known abroad. Though he is only in his early thirties, he has produced half a dozen novels and collections of short stories. Of these the best known abroad is "Gli Indifferenti" which first appeared in 1929 and was translated into English, French and Hungarian, and subsequently adapted for the Paris theatre. Other writings appeared during the late thirties and early forties: "Le Ambizioni Sbagliate" (1935), "La Bella Vita" (1935) "L'Imbroglio" (1937), "La Mascherata" (a political novel with an implied satire on Fascism, 1941), "L'Amante Infelice" (1943) and "Agostino" (1944).

"Gli Indifferenti" was an immense success in Italy when it first appeared and it struck a new note in Italian novel writing: though the influence of Giovanni Verga's realism apart from that of non-Italian writers such as Samuel Butler (of whom Moravia confesses himself a great admirer) was perceptible "Gli Indifferenti" was a study of a ruthless and decayed Italian middle class family with a sordid background: and its realism, so much in contrast with the Italy projected by Fascism, removed the veil from the society in which the author lived. Moravia continued in this tone under the official frown and finally was forbidden to write under his own name. He was able to travel however, and visited the U.S., Mexico and China. Moravia is partly Jewish by origin which added to the difficulties of his life during the last years of Fascism, and he had to take cover like other non-Fascist writers during the period of the terror.

In a discussion Moravia spoke of the recent short book he has produced on Christianity and Communism, entitled "La Speranza". He is not an orthodox Communist and he looked forward with interest to the article answering his view which he understood Togliatti had written for the party periodical "La Rinascita". He, Moravia, had already been attacked in the Catholic press. He did not believe that Marx was a "scientist" (as orthodox Marxists maintain) but the founder of a religion, the religion of "the city of God on Earth" which was in many ways comparable to Catholicism. Moscow today occupied the place which Rome has once occupied in human history. The Communists had their dogmas, their church fathers, and their oecumenical councils. The modern equivalent to the idea of

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Speaking about Italy in general Moravia expressed many of the feelings of weariness and disillusion from which Italian writers often suffer even in less trying times. Rome was old and decrepit and corrupt. He obviously felt drawn to a new world of foreign and younger countries. Italian literature he thought lacked good novelists because of the lack of vital society such as still exists for instance in France or in England. Italian writers had to struggle against their surroundings which were narrow and provincial. Italians did not read books. His own books sold much better than those of most of his friends, but he believed this was because people thought they were pornographic. No Italian writer could

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live by writing books. Hence there was the need to interrupt serious work so as to write newspaper articles. For instance at present though he was working on a novel, he had to write articles of literary criticism for the new weekly "Cit[illegible]", of which he was one of the editors. Italians had depended on contact with the outer world, for instance France, but under Fascism that had been made much more difficult and he had never received more than a small percentage of the royalties he should have been given for translations of his work. There was no adequate society for the protection of authors rights in Italy. The isolation which writers had felt under Fascism still remained, as there was hardly any information available about what was happening in other countries and English and French books and periodicals were completely lacking.

Asked about the influence of modern foreign writers in Italy, Moravia said that it was obviously very great. Amongst Italians he had personally found the greatest appeal in Manzoni, Boccaccio and Ariosto. He was a great admirer - as are many contemorary Italians - of Stendhal as well as of the French eighteenth century novelists. Part of his knowledge of English he owed to study of James Joyce's "Ulysses", though he was a devotee of Swift and Dickens. Dostoevsky meant much more to him than Tolstoy. He spoke very warmly about Faulkner who is deeply appreciated in a limited set in Italy.

Like many of those of the younger generation of Italians who are not profoundly under the influence of Croce, Moravia blamed [illegible] Hegelian currents of thought in Italy not only for having paved the way towards ideas of state absolutism but also for having introduced a dead jargon of abstract words in writing and discussion, which was used alike by Fascists and anti-Fascists. This abstract jargon which Croce's followers adopted - though Croce himself was quite a good writer - was only second in bad influence in style to the rhetoric which the Italians through the Renaissance had inherited from the Romans. One task of modern writers was to write as they spoke and thought, as Verga had done. It was far better to be rough and sincere than precious and empty.

Moravia has remarkable acumen as a literary critic and is able at the same time to argue his unusual political views very aptly. This is perhaps not surprising in a country in which critical faculties and intellectualism are developed to so fine a point. It is now out of the ordinary either, perhaps that Moravia as an Italian and a novelist should adopt in conversation on the whole what would be called a negative attitude to society in spite of his intellectual [illegible] renewal. That is to say, his tone is

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15. Re-Opening of the University of Siena

The University of Siena was officially re-opened at 10 a.m. 100.
Sunday morning November the 20th, in the "Sala del Mappamondo" in the old Chigi Palace, now the Municipal Palace.

The faculty in their purple robes, representatives from each section of the town wearing the mediaeval costume of the colour of his section and carrying his banner, as is the custom during the traditional Palio festival, the students with their long peaked caps

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of varying colours dotted among the quiet spectators, gave colour to the ceremony. The Allied Government has made possible the continuation of this university rich with tradition, by providing facilities for the text books. The University was founded in the year 1241, its main studies being Law and Medicine.

44 Films

Rome "La Nostra Città" (Our Town). Continual comments showed that the exclusively upper class army audience followed the projection closely. The remarks were most favorable, regarding the technical side. A number like it because such films recall normal life and act as a sedative for over-strained nerves. An army officer disapproved because he felt that such a picture of smooth living was an affront to Italy's tragic situation.

"Garand, the Gunsmith" (Documentary). In addition to the life of the inventor of the army firearm, this film includes an account of a workman who invented a machine used for war industry. People interrogated found the film very interesting. Three found such documentaries interesting because they put Italians in intimate contact with American industrial life. Two others decried this method of propaganda as an over eager attempt to show Italians that the word "democracy" in America has reached its highest and widest expression, treating Italians as if they were children being taught the most elementary rudiments. Others wished for films like this, showing the war effort of the Allies for final victory "so that we could emulate them".

- "Natascia" (Russian feature). The audience at this showing consisted mostly of women, bored, hardly watching the screen. The Russian Red Cross service theme was considered depressing, without any lighter relief. Two young men admired the photography but wished for better dubbing and more virile men's voices.

"Aspettami" (Russian feature). This was the first non-propaganda Soviet film to be shown in Rome. Critics agreed that on the whole the production was "a trifle too simple". The public was quite surprised to see beautiful houses, fine clothes, kissing of hands, etc. However, it does have seriousness and a sense of style and the music is typically Russian. The film has the charm of taking one into a typically Russian world.

Naples. "Ossessione" was shown recently in Naples, and a Naples art critic considers that this film is the best among good

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Naples. "Ossessione" was shown recently in Naples, and a Naples art critic considers that this film is the best among good ones produced in recent years in Italy.

Bari. "The Great Dictator" has been very well received. Chaplin's impersonation of Hitler was particularly appreciated but the presentation of Mussolini was not so well liked. A Commander in the Royal Italian Navy would have preferred to see him presented in complete servility before Hitler, rather than as he was, with too much authority and power.

"Vigilia di Guerra" on the other hand has interested only a part of the audiences. The main criticisms were the lack of unity among the various episodes and the commentary which is not always presented with sufficient logic. However, it was felt it well merited being seen to refresh the memory today on the events of yesterday.

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX I NO. 45

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APPENDIX I + QUESTIONNAIRE ON "CORRIERE DI ROMA"

METHOD

The aim of this sample poll was to obtain the opinion of 200-300 Romans representing as wide a cross-section as possible of the population on the PWB Daily "CORRIERE DI ROME".

This was to be achieved by a three day miniature poll (24-26 November) of citizens in their homes, using a standard questionnaire (a translation of which is attached.)

To obtain as representative a poll as possible, three districts were chosen: Parioli, for the upper class; Savoia for the middle class; Trastevere for the lower class. Four full time interviewers were employed on the work, two Americans in uniform and two Italians in civilian dress, all members of the "D" Section staff. In addition a number of members of the PWB staff agreed to poll their Italian friends.

On the whole, the poll met with a good response. Initial diffidence on the part of those interviewed, due to the novelty of the procedure in Rome, was in general easily overcome; though one Italian interviewer was not satisfied that in all cases the persons interviewed expressed their true opinions. In a few cases there were clear indications that the person concerned was afraid anything he said might be held against him. 245 persons in all were interviewed; of these 82.45% answered all the questions, 13.5% some of the questions, while only 4.15% refused to answer at all.

CLASSIFICATION OF SAMPLE

(a) Sex	Number	Percentage
Men	193	78.8
Women	52	21.2

It was feared at first that the method of interviewing in homes would lead to an undue proportion of women, and an effort was made to avoid this. It was only too successful. However, as in the experience of all interviewers women mostly seemed to have thought little about the subject and to be merely echoing the opinions of their men, the result is probably not as unbalanced as it appears.

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(b.) Age	Number	Percentage
15+	5	2.
20+	25	10.2
25+	28	11.3
30+	31	12.7
35+	31	12.7
40+	38	15.5
45+	24	9.8
50+	33	13.5
55+	10	4.1
60+	20	8.2

This distribution seems fairly satisfactory, although the under twenties are inadequately represented, and the over sixties more than adequately.

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1890

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(c) Profession	Number	Percentage
High State Employees (1 retired)	2	.8
Civil Servants	41	16.4
Landowners	2	.8
Army Officers	10	4.-
Lawyers	6	2.4
Doctors	5	2.-
Chemists	5	2.-
University professors	3	1.2
Secondary School teachers	5	2.-
Journalists	2	.8
Engineers	6	2.4
Women in professions	11	4.4
Manufacturers	6	2.4
Merchants	4	1.6
Students	16	6.4
Clerks	14	5.6
Shopkeepers	33	13.2
Industrial workers (men)	26	10.4
" " (women)	7	2.8
Drivers	7	2.8
Concierges	8	3.2
Housewives	20	8.-
Unemployed	2	.8
Balance not specified	(4)	3.6
	245	100.-

In the absence of reliable recent statistics for occupations in Rome, it is only possible to express a general opinion of this distribution. It is clear weighted at the top -- too many professional workers and intellectuals as against practical non-representation of the unemployed. While the numbers of civil servants, clerks and other white-collar workers may seem excessive, it should be remembered that Rome is largely an administrative as distinct from an industrial city. The percentage of shop-keepers seems also unduly large.

Percentage

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Lawyers	6	2.4
Doctors	5	2.-
Chemists	5	2.-
University professors	3	1.2
Secondary School teachers	5	2.-
Journalists	2	.8
Engineers	6	2.4
Women in professions	11	4.4
Manufacturers	6	2.4
Merchants	4	1.6
Students	16	6.4
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Balance not specified	(4)	3.6
	245	100.-

In the absence of reliable recent statistics for occupations in Rome, it is only possible to express a general opinion of this distribution. It is clearly weighted at the top -- too many professional workers and intellectuals as against practical non-representation of the unemployed. While the numbers of civil servants, clerks and other white-collar workers may seem excessive, it should be remembered that Rome is largely an administrative as distinct from an industrial city. The percentage of shop-keepers seems also unduly large.

(d) District

	Percentage
Parioli (upper class)	30.6
Savoia (middle class)	22.5
Trastevere (lower class)	26.1
Other districts	20.8

This distribution confirms the conclusion that the sample is overweighted at the top. On the other hand it must be remembered that in Parioli quite a number of the interviews were with servants. The "other district" most largely represented was the middle and working class quarter between the Corso Umberto and the Tiber.

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RESULTS

Among all the Rome dailies (Osservatore Romano was not listed) the "Corriere" was easily the most popular. How far this result was influenced by the fact that the poll was in part carried out by interviewers in Allied Uniform it is impossible to say. The following table gives percentages of first preferences only:

Newspaper	Percentage
Corriere di Roma	42.44
Risorgimento Liberale	13.46
Avanti	9.38
Il Tempo	8.14
Voce Repubblicana	6.53
Unità	5.71
Il Popolo	4.48
Italia Nuova	3.67
Italia Libera	2.04
Ricostruzione	.81
Il Quotidiano	----
Others	2.54

58% of the people interviewed stated that they read the "Corriere" daily. 8.1% never read it or refused to answer. The frequency of reading of the remainder is as follows:

8.1%	read the	"Corriere"	once	per week
3.6%	"	"	twice	" "
5.2%	"	"	three times	per week
4.4%	"	"	four	" " "
1.2%	"	"	five	" " "
.4%	"	"	six	" " "

Three out of every four buy their own copy. 17% read some one else's copy. In 6% of cases this question was not answered.

The opinion of the persons interviewed of the various services supplied by the "Corriere" is shown in the following table of percentages. It is broken into the three factors: preference, opinion of quality and opinion of quantity. As regards preference, only first

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Italia Nuova	3.67
Italia Libera	2.04
Ricostruzione	.81
Il Quotidiano	----
Others	2.54

68% of the people interviewed stated that they read the "Corriere" daily. 8.1% never read it or refused to answer. The frequency of reading of the remainder is as follows:

8.1% read the "Corriere" once per week
3.6% " " " twice " "
5.2% " " " three times per week
4.4% " " " four " " "
1.2% " " " five " " "
.4% " " " six " " "

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The opinion of the persons interviewed of the various services supplied by the "Corriere" is shown in the following table of percentages. It is broken into the three factors: preference, opinion of quality and opinion of quantity. As regards preference, only first preferences have been included, while this question was included in only 42.4 of the schedules completed. The percentage of "No opinions" varied between 16 and 32 for the various services.

"G" = Good
"I" = Indifferent
"B" = Bad

"M" = More
"P" = As at present
"L" = Less.

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	Prof.	Quality			Space Required		
		G.	I.	B.	M.	P.	L.
War News	29.	67.8	15.9	0.	11	66	4.1
Foreign News	.4	46.1	23.7	9.	22.5	49.4	4.1
Italian Politics	3.6	29.5	29.2	21.6	33.9	39.2	3.3
Italian Partisans	2.8	42.9	23.7	11.9	31.4	42.4	3.2
Italian War Effort	2.1	39.2	18.	21.2	35.9	38.8	2.
Local (Rome) News	2.1	45.2	20.	19.1	28.9	47.3	3.2
Religious News	.8	27.7	33.	11.	17.9	43.6	7.
Entertainments	1.2	23.7	35.5	16.7	16.8	44.5	4.9
Editorials	.4	37.6	32.7	4.1	14.6	59.6	1.2
News Commentaries	-	28.2	38.3	11.4	24.5	48.6	1.2
General Make-up	-	51.	24.	2.4			

This shows War News a clear first preference, with none of the other services standing out as a particular favorite. News commentaries do not appear to be in demand.

There is general approval of the quality of the services provided, the standard of War News and Foreign News being considered particularly high. Opinions vary most widely as regards the standard of Italian political news.

It is generally agreed that none of the services listed can do with less space. More space is desired strongly for Italian news, including politics, war effort and partisans.

68.5% of those questioned agree that the "Corriere" provides a clear picture of war conditions in America, Britain and Russia. 13% disagree, 18.5% have no opinion. 51% find that it gives a clear picture of the work of A.C. in Italy, 29% do not, 20% have no opinion.

70% obtain from it a clear idea of the Allied war efforts, 9% do not, 21% have no opinion. 15% think the "Corriere" ought to be more polemical, 3% that it should be less so, and 58% are satisfied with it as it is. 24% have no opinion.

51% have no further improvements to suggest at the end of the interview, 48.3% wished to make suggestions or add comments. These are listed below in order of frequency:

a) Suggestions	No; of times suggested
1. Give more detailed news of the war in general	12

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Entertainments	1.2	23.7	28.5	16.7	18.8	44.5	4.9
Editorials	.4	37.6	32.7	4.1	1[illegible].6	59.6	1.2
News Commentaries	-	28.2	38.3	11.4	24.5	48.6	1.2
General Make-up	-	51.	24.	2.4			

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	No; of times suggested
a) Suggestions	
1. Give more detailed news of the War in general	12
2. Clearer printing	11
3. More political orientation	6
4. Should not give only U.N.N. news	5
5. Larger format	3
6. More news of Italian Prisoners of War	2
7. More detailed economic news	2
8. Should urge speedier epuration	2
9. More religious news	ONE EACH
10. More sports news	
11. More small advertisements	
12. Advertisements should be cheaper	
13. Urge party truce in Italy	
14. More propaganda to unite Italy and Allies	

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15. Clearer presentation of Allied attitude to Italy)
16. Should be non-political)
17. Should oppose leftist tendencies)
18. More Italian news in Sunday edition) One
19. Daily CIL (Corpo Italiano di Liberazione) column)
20. More pictures)
21. Fewer pictures) each
22. Improve news lay-out)
23. More accuracy in maps)
24. More copies available on news stands)

b) Comments

1. Reads "Corriere" solely for local and official news (i.e. rations) 5
2. Discontinued reading "Corriere" because it gives little news of Italy, reconstruction and Italian youth 4
3. Does not read any paper because of disbelief in contents 2
4. "Corriere" is not interesting 1
5. "Corriere" is the most serious paper 2
6. Too many newspapers in Rome 1
7. Reads "Corriere" but does not believe what it prints 1
8. Corriere is too completely under Allied control 1
9. Editorials are not specific 1
10. Translations often inaccurate 1

TRANSLATION OF PWB PUBLIC OPINION QUESTIONNAIRE "CORRIERE DI ROMA"

(1) Complete ( ) (2) Incomplete ( ) (3) Refused ( )
(4) No. of Interview ( ) (5) Date ( ) (6) District ( )
(7) Interviewer ( ) (8) M. ( ) F. ( ) (9) Checked ( )
(10) Age: 15+ ( ); 20+( ); 25+( ); 30+( ); 35+( ); 40+( )
45+( ); 50+( ); 55+( ); 60+( )
(11) Occupation _

I. Which is your favorite newspaper? Second favorite? Third? Any others?

Newspapers	Preference	Newspaper	Preference

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24. More copies available on news stands)

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(10) Age: 15+ ( ); 20+( ); 25+( ); 30+( ); 35+( ); 40+( )
45+( ); 50+( ); 55+( ); 60+( )
(11) Occupation _

I. Which is your favorite newspaper? Second favorite? Third? Any others?

Newspapers	Preference	Newspaper	Preference
Corriere di Roma		Avanti	
Risorgimento Liberale		Il Popolo	
Voce Repubblicana		Il Quotidiano	
Italia Libera		Ricostruzione	
Italia Nuova		Il Tempo	
		L'Unità	

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The "Corriere di Roma" provides a new-service covering the following subjects. Please state your opinion of the QUALITY and SPACE REQUIREMENTS of each, and your order of preference:

		Quality G. I. S.	Space M. P. L.	Preference
IV.	War News			
V.	Foreign News			
VI.	Italian Politics			
VII.	Italian War Effort			
VIII.	Italian Partisans			
IX.	Local (Rome) News			
X.	Religious News			
XI.	Amusements			
XII.	Editorials			
XIII.	News Commentaries			
XIV.	General Make-up			

XV. Does the "Corriere" give a clear picture of war-time conditions in America, Britain and Russia? Yes ( ) No ( )

XVI. Does it give you a clear picture of the work of A.C. in Italy? Yes ( ) No ( )

XVII. Does it give you a clear picture of the Allied war effort? Yes ( ) No ( )

XVIII. Do you think the "Corriere" should be more polemical ( ); less polemical ( ); no change ( ).

XIX. Do you wish to suggest any other changes? Yes ( ) No ( ).

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX II NO. 45

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L E G H O R N

PERSONALITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

THE PREFECT is Dr. Mireglia, who has risen to this post through the Civil Service. He is a Catholic, and not even his political enemies can accuse him of Fascism. He has worked actively to restore normal conditions in the city. Where differences of opinion exist between Allied and Italian organizations, he does his best to maintain good relations, stressing the fact that the abnormal conditions of the town are the inevitable result of the present Allied war requirements. For this reason he is not popular with Left wing parties, and the Committee of National Liberation accuses him of being subservient to the Allies, of being too much influenced by the Provincial Commissioner who is a personal friend of his, also of not being active enough in the work of epuration.

THE SINDACO is Furio Diaz, a young Communist lawyer, member of a well-to-do and well-known family. He is said to collaborate with the Allies and appears to be on friendly terms with the Prefect.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE C.L.N. is Conte Renzo Ruel. He is non-political and appears to have been active on behalf of the Allies during the German occupation. As he is on good terms with the American Command, the Committee find him a useful liaison with the Allies and have refused to accept his resignation, which he has tendered several times as he wishes to retire from political life.

THE COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION includes representatives of the Liberals, Communists, Christian Socialists, Party of Action, Republicans, Socialists, Anarchists, (now called Comunisti Libertari) and Partisans. The reason that the Christian Socialists and not Christian Democrats are represented is because only the former can claim recognition for activities during the clandestine period. The unusual presence of the Comunisti Libertari (ex-Anarchists) is due to the fact that this party has a considerable following in Leghorn. It is reported that the Party of Action and the Republicans have amalgamated and that therefore the delegate of the former represents both parties.

THE TOWN COUNCIL has been nominated by the Allies, but has not yet been recognized by the Prefect. It is composed of one member of each of the following parties: Socialist, Communist, Demo-Christian,

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good relations, stressing the fact that the abnormal conditions of the town are the inevitable result of the present Allied war requirements. For this reason he is not popular with Left wing parties, and the Committee of National Liberation accuses him of being subservient to the Allies, of being too much influenced by the Provincial Commissioner who is a personal friend of his, also of not being active enough in the work of epuration.

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THE TOWN COUNCIL has been nominated by the Allies, but has not yet been recognized by the Prefect. It is composed of one member of each of the following parties: Socialist, Communist, Demo-Christian, Liberal, Party of Action and Liberal Communists (ex-Anarchists). The last named has just resigned. Both the C.L.N. and the Town Council are said to be at odds with the Allies and the Prefect. The former are accused of indifference to the needs of the people, the latter of being too subject to the Allied Authorities.

POLITICAL PARTIES

LIBERAL PARTY - has carried on only extremely limited activity during the clandestine period. It is unorganized and has very few members. Its funds are scanty and come from Florence. Up to the present it has been subsidized by industrialists and capitalists. Croff. Giorgi, the President, declares that if the party wants to survive it should adopt a left wing policy. Thus its representatives on the C.L.N. are ready to cooperate with extremist elements.

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COMMUNIST PARTY - has many members and sympathizers in all social classes. It has capable leaders such as Gigli, the President of the Camera del Lavoro, who is very active in syndical affairs. The party policy in Leghorn is that of general collaboration. They have not openly joined the anti-Monarchical front, but it is thought that they are fairly active behind the scenes.

SOCIALIST PARTY - has many members among the lower middle classes and among the young, especially students and young workers.

PARTITO COMUNISTA LIBERTARIO (ex-Anarchist Party) - has changed its name in order to gain representation on the C.L.N. This party has many members. There is a strong vein of anarchism in the Livornesi which is explained by the ethnic origins of the city which was populated in the 16th Century by outcasts of the Mediterranean ports and political refugees, etc.

CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST PARTY - was the only party which worked successfully through the clandestine period. When the town was liberated, the Christian Democrats, profiting by the fact that the Christian Socialist leaders had been arrested, spread the report that the two parties had amalgamated. Thus members of the Christian Socialists subscribed themselves en masse in the Christian Democrat Party. It is probable that the former will end in absorbing the Democrats and will attract all the Catholics, who in Leghorn are far less reactionary than in other parts of Italy. The Christian Socialists affirm that they are not in any way allied with the Vatican.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS - are not represented in the C.L.N. It is closely linked with the Vatican.

REPUBLICAN PARTY ACTION - Has a very large following in Leghorn and can be considered to have an important future. At one time it was amalgamated with the Party of Action. Later, when it became clear that the two parties had nothing in common, the Republicans decided to separate from the latter.

ANTI-MONARCHICAL MOVEMENT

Republicanism is very strong in Leghorn; it may be said that all the political parties have this point in common. An anti-Monarchical Front has been organized and it has been reported that if

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ANTI-MONARCHIAL MOVEMENT

Republicanism is very strong in Leghorn; it may be said that all the political parties have this point in common. An anti-Monarchical Front has been organized and it has been reported that if the Lieutenant General were to visit the town a hostile demonstration would take place. Neither the Liberals, the Christian Democrats, nor the Communists have joined this movement. The two former parties are not necessarily Monarchist in sympathy, but they wish to remain loyal to the national directive. While the Communists believe that to declare themselves openly on one side or the other would cause a split in the Partisan forces, as there is no doubt that there are many Monarchists among the Partisans.

LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS

The C.G.L.(Camera Confederale Lavoro) has been organized on democratic lines. There is a Provisional Executive body in which Communists, Socialists, Demochristians and Communisti Libertari are represented. In the Secretariat, on the other hand, only the three

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main parties are represented and the Comunisti Libertari are excluded. The Republicans and the Party of Action were not admitted because they had not defined their programmes.

In the larger provincial centers (Piombino, Resignano, Solvai, Colle Salvetti) regional offices on the same lines as the C.CIL. have been established. These offices have authority to run their own local affairs, subject to the approval of the central offices in Leghorn.

An "Ufficio Avviamento al Lavoro" was established for the placing of workers. Later the Allies took over this function and set up the Provincial Labour Offices, which act in conjunction with the CCL.

Various groups of labour are represented on the CCL. These include workers from the Naval dockyards, the Vedo Fedes Factory, the Petal works, the S.I.C.E. (Building Society), the Social Welfare Institutions, bank, postal, Telegraph and Telephone employees, and even Railway employees, who tend elsewhere to organize themselves separately.

The Agricultural workers have organized their own "leagues" which are affiliated to the CCL. Conditions for this group have been and still are very difficult. A wage of only 18 lire a day is by no means rare. Landowners are definitely opposed to the formation of these leagues, which are designed to protect the worker.

The Internal Factory Commissions, another separate organization, are established in all industries and civil services, including those controlled by the Allies. It is alleged, however, that the Allied authorities do not look favorably on these Commissions.

AMG order No. 28, Article 2, establishes the right of skilled and permanent hands to elect these Commissions themselves and rules that all political parties, with a large enough following, should be represented. Representation of women workers by women is urgently demanded in the factories.

In this AMG order no mention is made of the CCL, whose work it is alleged is being hampered by the Allied authorities. As an instance of this is quoted the fact that Allied firms do not allow [illegible] accidents and illness. Thus

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AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

In June the following organizations, upon which the whole food supply of Leghorn depended, ceased to function: 1890

The Agricultural Inspectorate
Provincial Agricultural Control Office
Provincial Agricultural Union

Even before the liberation the CLN tried, illegally, to provision the city, set up special "Food Squads" with "Armed Squads" to defend them. Thus wheat, flour and meat were collected and distributed.

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After the Liberation the Agricultural Organizations failed to resume their functions. Therefore the "Commissione di Riattivizzazione" was organized and carried on alone for a short time under the CLN. The Allied authorities subsequently refused to recognize such a commission and transferred all authority back to the Agricultural Organizations, without any attempt at epuration.

THE AGRICULTURAL INSPECTORATE - ought to be the local centre of the Ministry of Agriculture, which it represents. For more than a month, however, it ceased to exist in Leghorn for the reason that its director, Professor Paoli, has been ill for a long time and in spite of this refused to resign. The Vice-Director, Dr; Giacomelli, has proved incompetent throughout the crisis.

THE PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL CENTRAL OFFICE - is directed by Dr. Pellegrini. He has proved incapable and has obstructed work of the Commissione di Riattivizzazione. The son of a Squadrista, pro-German in sympathies, he urged his staff to enlist. Now he is trying to give the impression that he is working actively by carrying on a kind of epuration of his own and dismissing people at random.

In the PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL UNION there has been no epuration at all, merely the nomination of a new administrative council which has been recognized by the Provincial Commissioner. Avv. Bersacchi, notoriously incompetent and legal adviser to the former organization, has been placed at its head. A deficiency in the funds of about eight million lire has been discovered and the CLN has appointed a Commission to investigate the matter. The fact that the legal adviser of the old and fraudulent administration is now presiding over the organization is much criticized in Leghorn.

DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN LANDLORDS AND SHARECROPPERS

There is disagreement between landlords and peasants in the Leghorn district, over the sale of local produce. An agreement, enforced by the Fascists in 1936-7, stipulates that the sharecroppers cannot sell their produce direct, but must hand it over to the landlord for sale. 7% of the profits from this sale are then divided between the two parties, and 3% is kept as a reserve. The sharecroppers now want this agreement abolished. They wish to control the sale of produce and division of profits themselves. The landowners have so far [illegible] terms. Consequently the peasants are refusing to

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FOOD SITUATION

The food situation is very bad. The reason for this is that the Province of Leghorn consists of a narrow strip of sea coast and has no agricultural hinterland. Its agricultural products amount only to a little oil, a few vines and a scanty supply of vegetables. Consequently it cannot exchange food supplies with other provinces. In order to live at all, the people of Leghorn have to carry on a very extensive black market which has as its basis supply the Anglo-American rations and tinned foods. These are bought at high prices from American soldiers.

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(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only.)

List of current prices during the month of October:

1 kilo American coffee	L. 400
1 kilo American flour	80
1 3-kilo tin American meat	400
1 flask American petrol (for lighting)	150
100 grams American butter	50
1 packet American cigarettes	40 – 60

HOUSING SITUATION

The center of the town is a restricted area, only available to the families of those who are working for the Allies. The Prefect has established a billeting office to deal with housing difficulties. Men who are working for the Allies have the right to occupy any premises in the city; having done so they must obtain the approval of the Italian civilian billeting officer. By Nov. 1, some 10,000 premises had been requisitioned and some 5000 more had been applied for. The defects of this system are that the original householder loses all rights to his home; no provision is made for the protection of his furniture; complaints are heard that inhabited premises are arbitrarily requisitioned by Allied officers

PRESS, PROPAGANDA AND CINEMAS

Leghorn is practically without newspapers. The limited number of copies of the "Corriere del Mattino" which reach the town arrive 24 hours late and few people get the chance of seeing them. The "Telegrafo", which was the organ of the Ciano family, used to be published here. It was competently edited by Ansaldo, of broadcasting fame, and had a circulation outside Leghorn. The printing works of this paper are in perfect condition and the staff still in the town, though employed in other work by the Allies. Lastly there are considerable stocks of paper available. The CLN would like to republish this paper under their contol. AMG however will only support the publication of a completely non-political local paper, which would provide local news and information about AMG orders, etc.

Since there is no electricity, there is no radio, and all the cinemas have been requisitioned by the Allies. The Livornesi are anxious that at least two cinemas should be opened to the civilian population. Morale is low, and as newspapers are so scarce there is

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1 packet American cigarettes 4c = 8c

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1895

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CONFIDENTIAL

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ALLIED HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No.14. APO 512.

30th November, 1944.

"D" Section.

REPORT NO. 29 ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL ITALY, NORTH OF ROME.

This report is compiled from Italian and other sources, and is intended to give a survey of opinion in this country. It does not in any way represent the views of the compilers. The contents are confidential and must not be shown to any unauthorised persons.

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TO	INIT	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN		
COL. YOUNG		
LT. COL. WILSON		
MAJ LUCKMAN		
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MAJ BALLANCE		
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Source Reliability.
A. Always reliable
B. Usually reliable
C. Sometimes reliable
D. Frequently reliable
E. A bad source
O. Not possible to judge

Report probability.
1. Confirmed
2. Probable
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4. Doubtful
5. Improbable
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Eric Whelpton
Major
O.C. "D" Section
P.W.B. Unit No. 14.

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EDUCATION

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1894

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THE WEEK IN TUSCANY

The slowing down of the Allied offensive in Northern Italy has had its repercussion in Tuscany. Although this district is so near the front, the Italians seem to become more and more preoccupied with their daily needs of food, fuel and clothing, and to take a decreasing interest in war activities. Many of the people here feel that their political leaders have not so far given them sufficient inspiration to start on the essential work of reconstruction and to rebuild a nation whose social structure has disintegrated. This explains perhaps the lack of civic duty and discipline shown by the Tuscans today. Indeed the Allied Police have a difficult task not so much in maintaining order as in directing a population which has lost its sense of responsibility. Some Italians complain that the American Police treat them with slight consideration and scant courtesy.

The work of the Police is indeed being complicated by the bad condition of the roads and bridges in the towns. Florentines especially express the wish that something should be done about it as quickly as possible, and they criticize the Italian civic authorities for their apathy in this matter. The question of circulation has become more urgent since many of the restrictions on local travel have been removed and therefore there will be more vehicles and more people on the roads.

The distribution of the supply of electricity is still considered a subject of complaint. In Florence a few districts are still without electric light. On the other hand many people are still abusing the facilities which have been given to them and using up valuable current by employing electric heaters. Italians who have been criticized for doing so observe that in many Allied offices electric stoves are being used quite openly in spite of the official prohibition. Also they ask why electric stoves should be allowed to be sold to Allied personnel when their use is forbidden.

Lastly, another cause for some concern are the attacks which are made on Italian women employed by the Allies. Many of these women have no social contact whatsoever with the Anglo-American troops, but are doing work which is essential to the war effort. In some cases Italian soldiers have jeered at these women as they come out of their place of employment. It has been suggested that this campaign may have been inspired by reactionary officers who are still Fascist in spirit. Possibly too, there is the fact that women find employment more easily and are frequently better paid than men who are working for Italian firms and organizations.

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REPORT ON AREZZO.

1. ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION.

THE PREFECT.

The Prefect of Arezzo, Colonel Guidotti Mori, was appointed by the Allied Government, despite some opposition on the part of the C.L.N. He belongs to one of the richest families of the district and was the first Fascist Podestà of the city. At the beginning of the year he was Food Controller and was arrested by the Fascists for having authorized the distribution of a reserve stock of biscuits which was being held for an emergency. Suggestions have been made by some Italians that this distribution was not purely disinterested and that the Prefect was able to gain a reputation as a martyr without financial loss to himself. At the present moment he is reported to be doing his best to satisfy the population, although he is said to have twice offered his resignation. In any case the Prefect is reported to be working in harmony with the C.L.N.

THE SINDACO.

The Sindaco, Signor Curina, (Party of Action) is reported to be kindly and energetic and very popular with the people. During the German occupation he was President of the C.L.N. and was one of the chief organizers of patriot activities.

THE COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION.

The Communists, Socialists and Demo-Christians are represented in the C.L.N. The Democracy of Labour does not exist in Arezzo, but it has some members in the provinces, as for instance, at Cortona where the Sindaco, who is President of the C.L.N. is a member of the Party.

Besides the representatives of the Party, the Partisans have two members on the Committee, both of whom are said to be without political tendencies.

The relations of the C.L.N. with the other Italian organisations are excellent. Every Tuesday the Committee has a meeting with the Prefect, the Sindaco and the representatives of the Administrations of the town to discuss various problems.

The C.L.N. of Arezzo deplores the Attitude of the C.L.N. of Florence, on the grounds that it acts without consulting the other Tuscan Committees.

The relations of the C.L.N. with the Allies are said to be not quite so cordial, as the Civil Affairs Administration is believed to consider that the Committee

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The relations of the C.L.N. with the Allies are said to be not quite so cordial, as the Civil Affairs Administration is believed to consider that the Committee is now superfluous.

THE PRESIDENT.

The President, the Hon. Mascagni, (socialist) is reported to be popular and a very sound man.

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REPORT ON AREZZO. (continued) Confidential

2. POLITICAL PARTIES.

In Arezzo at the present moment there appear to be no Christian Socialists, Republicans or Anarchists.

THE LIBERALS.

The Liberals are said to have about 50 members. Their leaders are aristocrats such as Marchese Albergotti, Count Frassineto, Marchese Barbolani. The Liberals are accused by the other parties of being ex-Fascists.

THE COMMUNISTS.

The Communists have about 1000 members of whom about 400 are women. Although moderate in theory they are accused of being extremist in pratice by the other parties. They are reported to have ample means which allow them to do a good deal of propaganda in the countryside.

DEMO-CHRISTIANS.

There are about 500 members, mainly intellectuals and members of the middle-classes. In Arezzo they have opposed the Communists.

SOCIALISTS.

Socialists in Arezzo are said to have from 3-400 members. They do not appear to be ready to collaborate with the Communists.

THE PARTY OF ACTION.

The Party of Action has rather less than 100 members, but is fairly well represented in the various labour organizations.

3. EPURATION.

The Provincial Commissioner for Epuration is Avv. Severi. Epuration has scarcely begun, although a few officials in Government offices have been suspended. Most of the leading Fascists have left the city and consequently it is impossible to take proceeding against them. The people of Arezzo are indifferent to epuration as there were few Fascist atrocities in the city.

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4. MONARCHIST AND REPUBLICAN TENDENCIES.

1889

The people of Arezzo are hostile to the House of Savoy rather than to monarchy as a political system. Most of them consider that the king and his son are largely responsible for the present condition of Italy. There would appear to be no republican organisations in the town. The aversion of the

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population towards the present king is shown by their dislike for the Carabinieri, whom they consider to be the representatives of the Crown.

5. THE ITALIAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE.

Quite recently two young women formed an association called Unione Donne Italiane, at whose headquarters there are courses in typing, dressmaking and other professional instruction. Although this league claims to be without political tendencies, suggestions have been made that the Unione Donne Italiane is backed by the Communists.

6. THE YOUTH MOVEMENT.

The Fronte della Gioventù is considered to be under the aegis of the Communists hence it has been banned by the Demo-Christians. The foot-ball team of this organisation has the red star of the Communists as a badge. The activities of the Fronte della Gioventù include sports, amateur dramatics and debates.

7. THE PATRIOTS.

The chief patriot organization of the Province was the 23rd Garibaldi Brigade commanded by Captain Sirio Rossetti. Apparently it had no Communist tendencies. When the town was liberated, with the help of the patriots, Rossetti induced 250 of his men to enlist in the Italian army. Within a very short time most of them returned to Arezzo, declaring that they were disgusted with the treatment they had received. They said that they had been used to train recruits and had been ill-treated by officers and N.C.Os alike. As a consequence of this Rossetti went to Rome and obtained the release of his men from the army.

8. LABOUR PROBLEMS.

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8. LABOUR PROBLEMS

CAMERA DEL LAVORO.

The Communists, Socialists and Demo-Christians are represented in the Camera Confederale del Lavoro. But the Communists alone have a paid representative. The Demo- Christians have had some difficulty in participating in this organisation, which is dominated by the Communists. In the local offices of the Province the Communists and Socialists alone are represented.

1888

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REPORT ON AREZZO. (continued). Confidential.

FACTORY COMMISSIONS

The Factory Commissions have no great importance in Arezzo because there are no industries. There are Employees Commissions which function easily and without opposition from the Allies or the employers.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

There are few unemployed at the present moment as the bulk of workers work for the Allies. Last month the Sindaco issued an order to all citizens between the ages of 16 and 60 to present themselves at the Provincial Labour Office for registration. Everyone who cannot present a certificate of employment is to be compelled to work on the city's reconstruction. In order to avoid what they considered to be unjustifiable forced labour, a great many people procured forged employment certificates, so that unemployment statistics are rather hard to control.

WAGES.

Generally speaking, wages are considered to be far too low. Even with an increase of 70% they would be insufficient in relation to the present high cost of living. There are still municipal employees earning 300 lire a month, and few of the lower grade earn more than 700 lire a month. A graduate in local government employment does not earn more than 1700 lire a month and the Education Officer for the Province earns less than 4000 lire a month. The increases in wages that have been made, have been the result of local agreements. Most people think that a general agreement would be preferable.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

In this essentially agricultural province the problem of wages for farmhands is of the greatest importance. The Democ-Christians are trying to form agricultural workers' unions before the Communists can intervene.

9. FOOD SITUATION.

Food situation here as elsewhere is linked up with the question of transport. Although Arezzo is a junction, the [illegible] times, that only sugar,

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TRANSPORT AVAILABLE.

In all there are said to be about 33 lorries available with a potential load of 1698 quintals. Owing to a shortage of tyres and other factors, only about half that amount can be carried at one time. Assuming that the above figures are correct, only about a quarter of the daily needs of the town can be brought in, as it is suggested, that in all, some 3600 quintals of food and fuel are required daily to supply Arezzo.

SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS TO THE TRANSPORT DIFFICULTY

Since the Provinces of Siena and Perugia are said to be well provided with transport, it is suggested that 10 more lorries could be borrowed from these sources. Many of the lorries available are now stationery for want of spare parts: these could be obtained, it is believed, from Florence, and also by having access to some of the material left behind by the German armies, when they withdrew.

10. SILK INDUSTRY.

Twenty five years ago the production of the Province was over 500,000 quintals of cocoons, and even before the war it reached 200,000 quintals. Mulberry trees are plentiful, especially in the Casentino. The following problems are raised this year:-

a) Whether there will be a sufficiency of eggs.
b) How to dry the cocoons.
c) How to work the spinning looms.

Since the centre of the silk industry is in Milan, there may be great difficulties in inducing the population to continue production. It will be necessary to launch a campaign for the cultivation of the cocoons. Also the local silk-producers should meet in order to decide how to handle the present situation. Lastly a fair price should be fixed by the pools, which function like the grain and oil pools. This industry should be able to employ a great many people, especially women.

11. WOOL PRODUCTION.

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11. WOOL PRODUCTION.

The chief wool producing centres of the Province are in the mountain districts which have suffered most from the war. The autumn shearing was rather late, owing to the fighting. In spite of this, the Minister of Agriculture has ordered that the wool should be handed into the pools. As the producers are short of clothes, owing to the war, the Ministry of Agriculture has allowed them to keep 2 kilos of wool per head, which of course, diminishes the contribution of wool to the pools. In a normal year the Province has a production of

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some hundred thousand kilogrammes, this year it will not be more than 7000 kg.

12. CATTLE AND AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

In the Province of Arezzo there is a great shortage of agricultural machinery, hence a pair of oxen now cost about 180.000 lire, some ten times more than last year. The Val di Chiana was a centre for the production of beef: owing to the depredations of the Germans, the stock of the province has been reduced by 50%. If, however, cattle are not slaughtered for the meat market, it is probable that this deficiency can be made up within a year.

The number of pigs is also considerably reduced, but if restraint is used, the stock should be made up again very quickly.

The price of pork in Arezzo is lire 400 a kilo, and it appears that this high price is due to purchases by Allied troops.

I3. PROBLEM OF THE FLOODS IN THE VAL DI CHIANA.

Owing to the mining of bridges and the steady downpour of rain, the district to the south of the Val di Chiana is flooded. Although the Allies have repaired the bridges, or at any rate supplemented them, they have not removed the ruins which held up the water. In the floods of the 2nd. November, thousands of acres of land were flooded and much of the seed which had been sown was wasted.

I4. PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES IN AREZZO.

Supply of light and water is pratically normal and it is hoped that very shortly, gas will be available. Train services between Arezzo and Rome have been re-established, but are reserved entirely for military purposes.

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I4. PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES IN AREZZO.

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I5. EDUCATION.

Many of the schools in Arezzo Province are closed, because they have been damaged by bombardment or shelling. Of those that remain, three-quarters have been requisitioned by Allied troops, often without occupying them. At Foiano, for instance, the Elementary and Technical Schools, which are new and well equipped, are occupied by six or seven soldiers, who prevent the re-opening of the autumn session.

1880

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REPORT ON AREZZO. (continued). Confidential.

In Arezzo the central schools(grammar schools) are open on alternate days and its scholars have I2 hours tuition a week. At San Sepolcro only one of the central schools is open. In the Casentino pratically all the schools have closed down. Restrictions on travel are an obstacle to the re-opening of schools. For instance, a school master of Leghorn, now resident in Arezzo, was ordered to return to work, not only by his Educational Officer, but also by the Senior Civil Affairs Officer of Leghorn. In spite of this, he was not allowed to leave Arezzo. Also the Education Officer for the Province of Arezzo, (Italian), has no car, hence it is impossible for him to re-organize education, send his inspectors on tour or even to displace his staff.

I6. RELATIONS WITH ALLIED TROOPS.

The people of Arezzo, who welcomed their liberators with enthusiasm, were somewhat disappointed to find that they had a 7 o' clock curfew. Since the population of this town is law-abiding and peaceful, this restriction is considered to be rather an insult.

They complain about the difficulty of obtaining permits to travel in the district. As this Province is exceptionally fertile, it should be possible to relieve food shortage without much difficulty. Agriculture has suffered greatly, because of the number of mines which have not been removed, the peasants, especially, are asking for a rapid solution of this problem. The last complaint is that many of the troops invite young women to their premises and induce them to drink.....

INDIVIDUAL CONTACTS.

Relations between individual soldiers and the people of Arezzo seem very friendly. The Polish troops especially, are on the best terms with the population, although they had been described by German propaganda, as being fierce, dishonest and treacherous. The Poles too have impressed the people by their piety. Most of the men of these detachments have been in the Siberian Internment Camps and are anti-communist. They declare that the Lublin government is a government of traitors and that this war will not be finished until the Soviet dictatorship is overthrown. Another of their favourite themes is that the British are using them as Storm Troops and they boast of their success at Cassino. The population, already prepared

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1884

I7. ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

Quite recently an Information Bureau has been opened under the auspices of the Army Educational Corps, in Piazza

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San Francesco at Arezzo. The site chosen is very central and the bureau has attracted a great deal of attention. Inside the shop there is a display of reviews and newspapers in English, Polish, Hebrew and Italian. It is hoped that very shortly, there will be a loud-speaker to broadcast the news. Italians complain that reviews, such as the Mese, Victory, are not on sale and in fact there is a demand for propaganda literature of all kinds.

CINEMAS.

Of the Cinemas, one has been destroyed by bombardment and two have been requisitioned by the Allied troops. A fourth, the Supercinema, is available for Italians, but only open on Sundays. In spite of high prices, (25 and I5 lire) it is always full and the audience appreciates the news-reels and films.

RADIO

Now that electricity is available many people can listen to the radio. On the whole the population does not seem to take much interest in the war and prefers to listen to music. The B.B.C. is, however, still popular and many people continue to listen to Colonel Stevens and to Candidus, out of habit and personal regard.

I8. THE PRESS.

The "Corriere del Mattino" arrives daily in sufficient quantity from Florence. It is popular and considered reliable by the people of Arezzo. The "Informatore di Arezzo" is a local paper, published twice a week. It is edited by Avv. Funaro who is reported to have done excellent work during the occupation. About I0.000 copies are published at a price of 2 lire, which is considered high. Up to date, no-one has accused the "Informatore" of political bias, but the C.L.N. is said to be anxious to control it.

The "Nazione del Popolo", Florence, is also on sale and very much in demand. The "Popolo" of Roma, the "Avanti" both arrive by train: the former is Demo-Christian, and has many readers outside the Party. The "Avanti" (Socialist), also has a fair circulation.

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1886

:Over.

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I9. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT PROVINCES OF TUSCANY.

Tuscany is divided into many self-contained and self-supporting divisions. For this reason, at the present moment, there is very little exchange of material between the different provinces. There are of course other factors which contribute to this state of affairs: firstly the shortage of transport, secondly the shortage of food. Quite recently, owing to protests on the part of the people of Arezzo, a permit for the export of potatoes and chestnuts to the province of Florence was rescinded by order of the Prefect. At different times there have been prefectorial decrees restricting the export of cattle and meat, potatoes, chestnuts and fruit of all kinds. Later by order of the AMG. permits for the exports of goods had to be obtained and only on condition that a corresponding quantity of goods was to be imported.

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1882

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ECONOMICS Confidential.

1. SLIGHT [illegible] IN FOOD SUPPLIES REPORTED.

The activity of the SEPRAL during November has, thanks to somewhat improved transport, resulted in a slight increase in food supplies. Figures quoted are:-

Green Vegetable	transported	Quintals	5471
Fruit	"	"	4200
Wine	"	"	4235
Fish	"	"	201,14
Poultry	"	"	40,50
Milk	"	"	587,08
		Total:	14734,72

To these figures must be added all the food supplies (fruit and vegetables) brought to the Florence market by other means and regarding which precise figures are not obtainable.

To this month's food rations (equal to last month's) were added 300 grams of flour and 300 grams of pasta per head.

It has been announced in the papers that sugar and soap will be distributed before the end of the month.

No oil can be distributed as yet because there is none in the pools and the province can yield none before the new harvest is in.

PROSPECTS FOR DECEMBER

Fruit and Vegetables.	A slight reduction is expected since production in the Province of Florence is now less and supplies must be brought from the Southern provinces.
Wine.	A slight increase is expected, export from the Province being blocked.
Poultry and Fish.	Transport for about 100 to 150 quintals per week is expected.
Milk.	No increase is expected.
Oil.	Nothing is expected save the removal

1881

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Green Vegetable	transported	Quintals	5471
Fruit	"	"	4200
Wine	"	"	4235
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Poultry and Fish.	Transport for about 100 to 150 quintals per week is expected.
Milk.	No increase is expected.
Oil.	Nothing is expected save the removal from the pools of very small deposits which may still be in stock.

During December there will be a distribution of dried figs. (Information given by the SEPRAL).

1881

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2. BLACK MARKET PRICES, November 27, 1944.

The actual prices on the Florence Black Market are as follows:-

Wheat flour	lire	100 a kg.
Maize flour	"	80 " "
Oil	"	450 " "
Butter	"	600 " "
Beef	"	450 " "
Mutton	"	400 " "
Pork	"	500 " "
Potatoes	"	60 " "
Sugar	"	500 " "
Poultry	"	900 " "
Beans	"	80 " "
Ham	"	1100 " "
Rice	"	220 " "
Eggs	"	45 each

CLOTHING

Woollen stuffs, 180 centimetres wide	"	2100 a metre
Linen stuffs, 180 centimetres wide	"	1500 " "
Cotton goods, 180 centimetres wide	"	700 " "
Sewing cotton	"	280 a reel of 30 yards.

SUNDRY

Charcoal	"	30 a kg.
Car tyres (Copertoni 1100)	"	30,000 each
Car tyres for "Topolino"	"	15,000 each

1880

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The actual prices on the Florence Black Market are as follows:-

Wheat flour	lire 100	a kg.
Maize flour	" 80	" "
Oil	" 450	" "
Butter	" 600	" "
Beef	" 450	" "
Mutton	" 400	" "
Pork	" 500	" "
Potatoes	" 60	" "
Sugar	" 500	" "
Poultry	" 900	" "
Beans	" 80	" "
Ham	" 1100	" "
Rice	" 220	" "
Eggs	" 45	each

CLOTHING

Woollen stuffs, 180 centimetres wide	" 2100	a metre
Linen stuffs, 180 centimetres wide	" 1500	" "
Cotton goods, 180 centimetres wide	" 700	" "
Sewing cotton	" 280	a reel of 30 yards.

SUNDRY

Charcoal	" 30	a kg.
Car tyres (Copertoni 1100)	"30,000	each
Car tyres for "Topolino"	"15,000	each

1880

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3. LAUNDRY PRICES.

Prices of all goods and services have continued to soar. Italians declare that this is because members of the Allied Forces voluntarily compensate small services with exaggerated pay:- a short drive 300 lire, the sewing on of a button 100 lire and so on. Such men may feel they are being generous; Florentines declare that they are only setting up false standards and making life additionally hard for others who cannot afford such extravagant payments.

Many are accordingly grateful that A.M.G. has fixed maximum prices for laundry work issuing the following statement:-

"A maximum price list for laundry has been drawn up by A.M.G., and Eighth Army soldiers are advised to report civilians charging higher prices to the nearest Civil Affairs officer. The list is:-

Article	Lire
Drawers, Cellular	4.00
Drawers, Woollen	5.00
Handkerchiefs	0.50
Neckties	2.00
Pillow cases	2.00
Pyjamas per pair	10.00
Sheets	15.00
Shirts, cotton	5.00
Shirts, woollen,	7.50
Shorts, K.D.	5.00
Socks, cotton, per pair	1.50
Socks, woollen, per pair	2.00
Towels, plain	2.00
Towels, Turkish	3.00
Trousers, K.D.	10.00
Trousers, Wool	13.00
Vests, cotton	3.00
Vests, woollen, short sleeves	4.00

Soap will be supplied by the customer." (B-3).

4. ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR HOME USE.

Florentines found some of their questions answered in the statement issued through the NAZIONE DEL POPOLO on November 28th by the Valdarno Electrical Society: but they are still asking whether, in those quarters where the lines have been for weeks past in good order, the current might not be transmitted earlier in the evening, instead of only at a late hour. 1875

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For instance, in this residential quarter just outside the Porta Romana the current is usually not transmitted until after 8.30 p.m., sometimes not until 9.30 p.m. Thus workers, returning home, are deprived of any home life or activity, and, candles and petrolium being unprocurable, have to sit idle in their unheated houses in the dark. (B-2).

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LOCAL CONDITIONS Confidential.

1. REPORT OF A VISIT TO THE PATRIOT RECEPTION CENTRE BY A P.W.B. OFFICER.

At the time of my visit on November 23rd to the Patriot Reception Centre, Via Montebello, Florence, some 247 patriots were staying there, of whom four were young women who claimed to have fought with the partisans. The Italian warden told me that they were expecting another hundred patriots at any moment and that some 300 more were said to be on their way.

The meals provided for the patriots were as follows: Breakfast, milk diluted in water and the two other meals are made up of 350 grammes of bread plus 100 grammes of peas-flour and 100 grammes of dry vegetable flour. Each patriot has two blankets allotted to him, but most of them have to sleep on the brick floor or on the ground floor on stone. Washing accommodation is provided on each floor by a single basin and tap situated in the lavatories which seem to be adequate. Each man is given the third of an average cake of soap, but the inmates declared that there was no provision for washing clothes and that they had no allotment of soap for laundry.

Cooking is done in the yard in four large cans and each man appears to have a tin bowl which is used for all purposes. Apart from that the men declared that they had not had opportunities of having a bath but they seemed to be fairly clean.

It is evident that there is a need for more supplies and more funds but above all the prime essential seems to be a complete Welfare Organisation to deal adequately with the problems of these men. Clearly they feel that they have been let down, that the Allies have made them many promises which have not yet been fulfilled. They believe that since they have fought they should have approximately the same treatment as soldiers.

2. AGGRESSIONS.

On the evening of the 22nd November in Piazza D'Aeglio two armed men attacked a woman and robbed her of all valuables including shoes and furcoat.

The following evening two people were robbed of their bicycles near Via Cavour. The robbery took place in the following way: a car without headlights stopped to ask them the way. While they were replying three men armed with pistols got out, stole the bicycles and rode quickly away. (From an Italian source. C-3).

1978

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1. RUSSIAN FILM DRAWS LARGE AUDIENCES.

The presentation of "The Battle for the Ukraine" now showing at the Cambrinus Cinema has gratified the desire for Russian films.

Preceded by a documentary of the great Military Review at Moscow in 1940, the film illustrates the prosperous industrious life of the Ukraine in pre-war days and the subsequent horrors and devastations of the war.

Crowded audiences witness the film with intense interest, and every appearance of Stalin is cheered, every appearance of Hitler and the Nazis hooted and hissed. (C-3).

2. PROPAGANDA SHOP IN FLORENCE.

This continues to be much appreciated and is doing valuable work. There is, however, some disappointment that fresh material does not arrive more frequently and in greater quantities. People state that they go there frequently and find nothing new.

Regret is also expressed that as the hours when the Shope is open (9-12 and 15-17) fall within normal shop and office hours, large numbers are debarred from visiting it. It is asked whether it would not be possible to keep it open during the midday hours, at least three or four times a week. (B-2).

3. SIMPLICITY AND GENIALITY OF BRITISH FORCES EXTOLLED.

An Italian, employed in the decoration of a Rest Centre for Allied troops near Florence, expressed the wondering admiration felt by himself and his colleagues when General Alexander lately visited the premises. Accustomed to the spectacular arrival of Mussolini surrounded by self-important and obsequious dignitaries and received by rigidly marshalled troops and personnel, they saw General Alexander arrive quietly and unceremoniously with two or three officers and make his inspection; welcomed by all but disturbing no one, not even the soldiers in the reading room.

All the Italians present, he reported, expressed their hope that Italy might learn this simplicity and ease from the Allies.

(From an Italian Source. B-2).

4. COLONEL STEVENS' BROADCASTS.

Appreciation of Colonel Stevens' broadcasts and gratitude for the information and encouragement they brought to Italian patriots during the war years is expressed in an "Open Letter" in the CORRIERE DEL MATTINO of Tuesday 29th November. In this letter it is proposed to make a collection

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1877

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Although the tone of the letter is slightly humorous it reflects the feeling which the majority of Italians have for this celebrated Radio commentator. Since 1940 the Colonel's name has been on everyone's lips in

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PUBLIC OPINION contd. Confidential.

Italian circles. To listen to his amiable and admonishing words became a cherished habit, continued even to-day. The Fascist Government organized a regular campaign of calumny and jibes against him but it had no effect on public opinion.

Colonel Stevens' talks were undoubtedly the first lessons in democracy, in agreeable form, given to Italians. They contributed not a little to create a vast current of sympathy for the Allies. In discussions the Colonel's benevolent tone was often compared with the virulent speeches of the Fascists such as Ansaldo and Appellius (the inventor of the famous phrase "Dio stramaledica gli Inglesi" - God super-curse the English).

(From an Italian source).

5. POSTER.

Yesterday morning a poster appeared on the Post Office walls in Viale dei Mille: "CITIZENS!!! The head of this office FELLI was a Squadrista and an officer in the Republican Militia. Boycott him."

EDUCATION

1. SANITARY CONDITIONS IN SCHOOLS.

The Hygienic and Sanitary Board of Florence has made the following assessment of schools:-

1. 30 schools are in good condition. In these about 4,000 scholars can be accommodated, representing 31% of the actual scholastic population which amounts to 15,000 .

2. 15 schools can be used although slightly damaged. They can accommodate 2,000 pupils some also accommodated in temporary premises: in all 16% of the scholars in Florence.

3. There are 11 schools which cannot be used because seriously damaged, infested by parasites or in the worst of sanitary conditions. These schools had accommodation for 1,600 pupils (13% of the scholars) who have been taken in by other institutions.

4. Finally there are 23 schools being used for other purposes the majority requisitioned by the Allies which would have accommodated 36% of the scholars.

The scholastic authorities, backed by the personnel of the Provincial Sanitary Offices, are seeking in every possible way to re-establish normal

1876

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The scholastic authorities, backed by the personnel of the Provincial Sanitary Offices, are seeking in every possible way to re-establish normal conditions. So far the health of the children is good. (Corriere del Mattino, 28.11.44.)

1870

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November 30.	1944.
NO.	44

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY

Part II - Annexes

NOTE: Part I is not issued this number.

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I Press and Propaganda

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Explenation of Reliability Rating

Source	(reliability)	Report	(probability)
A	Always reliable	1	Confirmed
B	Usually reliable	2	Probable

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Source	(reliability)	Report	(probability)
A	Always reliable	1	Confirmed
B	Usually reliable	2	Probable
C	Sometimes reliable	3	Possible
D	Frequently unreliable	4	Doubtful
E	A bad source	5	Improbable

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ITALIAN THEATER HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
UNIT 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section - Liberated Italy. 30 November 1944

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 44

PART II ANNEXES

A — CURRENT EVENTS.

1. The Press.

During the week there has been increasing evidence in the press of an atmosphere of crisis in the Government.

The Liberalsand Christian Democrats on the one hand refuse to countenance any reshuffling in favour of the Socialist-Communists which would pave the way for a newform of dictatorship, and advocate radical changes in the method of government, i.e. a redistribution of forces, and more power given to the President of the Council. (Risorgimento Liberale). The Socialist-Communist Parties on the other hand are ready to assume greater responsibilities in order to remedy the weakness of the present Government. They assert that the Liberals have accepted a war programme and the destruction of Fascism, and cannot therefore play a double game. (Unita).

The Labour Democrats and the Action Party for their part, in putting forward the need for a definite programme to meet the country's grave situation declare that the divergencies are not insuperable and the Parties of the C.L.N. must unite to reconstruct the State and re-establish their authority.

The question arises whether the Partiesof the C.L.N. will succeed in concluding an alliance based on a minimum programme.

2. Views of Some Personalities.

1) Discussion with Dr. Umberto Calosso, of the AVANTI.

Dr. Calosso said that in his view and in that of his Socialist colleagues, one of the most serious difficultiesof the present government derived from the admitted weakness of Bonomi. While he thought it would be best if Bonomi could be jettisoned, what was more probable was the making of De Gasperi and Togliatti Vice-Presidents of the Council. Other possibilities are Sforza for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lussu for the Ministry of War and Nenni for Home Affairs. The proposal regarding Nenni had already come up butthe definite decision had not yet been taken. The thought of losing Nenni to the Cabinet was

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According to Dr. Calosso the Socialists would support Sforza at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; he was able if unsteady, and would try to solve the problem of relations with Yugoslavia. Originally, as Croce told Calosso, "Sforza wanted to be Prime Minister and they didn't ask him; they asked me and I didn't want to be." Sforza did not get on well with the English in Dr. Calosso's opinion; in the U.S. and his reputation was being damaged by Salvemini's attacks on the present Italian Government. Salvemini was a leader of anti-fascist thought and all owed much to him, but he was also unfortunately a "madman", liable to take unreasonable decisi[illegible] behaviour was damaging to Italian interests.

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to Italian interests.

De Calosso considers that Emilio Lusso is only the facade of the man he once was, and lives on the reputation he gained in early years of Fascism of being a leader of men and something of aheroic figure.

With regard to the Christian Democrats Dr. Calosso said that their large mass appeal was at present, in his mind, limited by their lack of intelligent or outstandanding leaders, and far from having progressed were more right wing than the old 'Partito Popolare' had been 20 years ago. He said that De Gasperi was a tired man, and as a Right Winger was helping bring about a revolutionary situation by refusing to collaborate with the left. The Christians of the Left had come into being as a protest, but Calosso thought they were awkwardly suspended between the pales of Vatican and Kremlin. He suspected the Communists of planint among them pretended Christians who were really atheists, while he thought the Jesuits might have planted Catholics who were fundamentally anti-Communists.

According to Dr. Calosso the future of the present coalition and even of Italian Democracy depended on the ability of the three mass parties - the Communists, Socialists and Christian Democrats, to pull together. The Socialists were no longer anti-clerical as they had been 30 years ago. Dr. Calosso felt the present split between Socialists and Christian Democrats was due to the conservative attitude of the latter, including their refusal to accept a republican platform.

He seemed entirely unperturbed by the countless jokes about him recently as a result of his views on women's rights and on marriage published in the AVANTI. He thought that the eventual introduction of women's suffrage in Italy would at first benefit the Christian Democrats, but only for a short time.

2. Interview with Eucardio Moniglione, editor of "Ricostruzione" (Partito Democratico del Lavoro)

In an interview with a PWB officer, Moniglione said he thought any Cabinet shuffle at present would fail to provide a lasting solution. The attitude of the Left parties, especially of the Communists,, tended to undermine confidence. In this view he was "in perfect accord" with the Christian Democrats. The Communists were pressing epuration in a factious way, their efforts always aimed at getting their own men into key positions with unscrupulos methods. For instance the present ELAR Commissariat was entirely in the hands of ex-fascists. To become Communists was the best way out for former followers of Mussolini, and they could always say they had joined the Fascists party on command and acted as a fifth column within it, but Moniglioni felt this explanation was too easy and did not believe it.

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A further difficulty of the present government was that all the Parties were looking towards the North rather than concentrating their attention on the present situation. As a solution for present political difficulties, Manigliano suggested rather vaguely the constitution of a strong centre bloc. Meanwhile a possible solution might be in selecting a government on a non-party basis, since it was evident by now that the parties of the CLN were merely using the government as a platform to air their party views. Such a government might be headed by Orlando, old but of undoubted prestige, who might choose the members of his government on grounds of ability rather than political opinion. Manigliano believed even moderate Socialists such as Saragat and Modigliano might join such a government. Nenni might fulminate for some time, but he was primarily a demagogue with only very limited prestige, and might cease to have much weight even amongst the Socialists. He did not believe the Socialist-Communist alliance would last

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long. Nearly everything in Italian internal affairs depended on the attitude taken by the Allies. As it was, even their views, about the Monarchy were not clear. He himself considered the "institutional question" a very secondary one, worled up by the Left for their own purposes.

Monigliano accused both the Communists and Socialists of "a double game" toward the government. He was sure nothing appeared in UNITA for instance, or in Communist directives without Togliatti's approval. Yet these direc ives were often aimed at spreading disorder and undermining the properly constituted powers of the government. If Communist and Socialist propaganda and agistation ceased he did not believe there would be a strong revolutionatly currant in the country.

3. The speech of Emilio Lussu, on Sunday November 19th.

The following account has been obtained from a reliable Italian source:

The impression given by the speech was that it was in a sense a ministerial one inasmuch asthe Action party, through its director Lussu confirmed its desire to share the responsibility and power in a "front line position".

It is evident that Lussu is a candidate for an eventual ministerial reshuffle, from his defense of the government when someone shouted "away with Bonomi". This would confirm also that in the solving of the cabinet crisis the tendency would be to maintain Bonomi while strengthening the left wing.

It was interesting that he pointed out the fact that parties were everywhere being formed along the lines of the Action Party. These parties are based on the need for a non-Marxist Socialist program, which shows the realization of the necessity of an economic and social reform.

Lussu plainly stated the party position regarding the following:

a) Communists... whom he accused of having broken up the left wing bloc with their policial compromises.
b) Socialists.....whom he wants to divide, pushing part of them towards the Communists into one whole marxist party. He hopes in this way that a large part of the Socialist party will unite itself with the Action Party in a non-marxist labour party, where the terms "socialism and liberty" will be brought closer together.
c) Christian Democrats...whose politics he defined as tending towards the reactionary, even though many members are not themselves reactionary.

The whole tone of the speech was conciliatory. Regarding the internal politics of the Action party, he reaffirned its unity definisn it as "left on both ends", and denied the existence of any conservative tendencies or the existence of any "schism".

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1870

Warm applause greeted the Decisive republican stand taken.

4. Talk by Umberto Calosso.

Dr. Calosso on addressing a lage meeting in the Cola de Rienzo Cinema on 19th November, proposed substituting a formal talk by questions and answers between the public and himself. The suggestion was eagerly adopted and questions were numerous from all parts of the hall. Among arguments touched on was the nature of "renewal", implicit in unity, which, Dr. Calosso emphasized must develop in political, social and moral reform, with the workers in the forefront for they represent the majority and with the women who form half the country's population.

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5. Talk by Randolfo Pacciardi.

An informal talk was given by Randolfo Pacciard on 16th November in the Salone Centro Studi Americani. He spoke on his impressions of America and American life, and especially on American foreign policy, actual liberty in America, status of women, religion, industrial developments and racialism.

6. Meeting of "Italian Communist Movement."

A meeting was held on 19th November in the Augustus Cinema by the Italian Communist Movement (Communist dissidents.) The speaker was Ferro. He outlined the aims of the Movement - aid to refugees, to workers, fight against reactionary forces, the Monarchy and the official Communists Party. He assured his audience that the Movement was watching the peoples interests: "If anyone harms the people," he said, "we old partisans will return to the streets with guns, bombs, and dynamite and will wipe out all shame of the Italian people."

The audience composed mainly of workers from the poorer quarters of the town, joined lustily in hurling invectives against the King, Badoglio, the Government and Togliatti.

B - GENERAL REPORTS.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

8. A conversation with Fedele D'Amico - editor of VOCE OPERAIA.

Fedele D'Amico, editor of the VOCE OPERAIA, the organ of the Christians on the Left - the former Christian Communists - is a young man of letters in his early thirties whose father was one of Italy's best dramatic critics. He is a highly cultivated person whose primary ability is perhaps literary and artistic rather than political. He talks as readily of literature and the arts as of politics and perhaps rather more convincingly.

D'Amico appears to be primarily Catholic though not clerical and his communist sympatics are ultimately secondary to his Catholicism. He professed in a recent conversation to feel much in common with Bidault and the Left Catholic movement in France centered around L'Aube, and he has great admiration for Charles Peguy. His objection to the Italian Christian Democrats was that they were "reactionary" in practice even though he could feel admiration for the radical programmes originally laid down by Don Sturzo. The Christian Democrats were poisoned by their terror of Communism. This terror drove them to the Right and also provoked the Communists. The need was to work in common with the Communists in a positive and loyal way without fear, and then the Communists in their turn would not be tempted to adopt an ungoverned policy.

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As things were he believed that the policy of the parties of the Right and the weight of "reactionary" and "bourgeois" inertia in Italy, combined with the present economic situation would lead ultimately to violent revolution. Revolution was inevitable, but violent revolution and perhaps even civil war and anarchy, if they came, would be the responsibility of the Right.

He felt admiration for many of the Italian clergy, particularly in country districts, but the higher ecclesiastical authorities were reactionaries in Italy as elsewhere. The position of the Christians of the Left was particularly difficult in Rome as the Vatican [illegible] friendly to them, though in the Vatican they had some supporters.

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Asked about the merger between the Christiand of the Left and the Christian Social party, D'Amico said that all the leaders of the latter had joined his party, and only a few old dissidents were left behind. The Christian Social Party outside Rome is still operating independently however and other information seems to show that even in Rome itself the proportion of members of the miniature Christian Social Party who have joined the Christians of the Left, is more restricted than D'Amico's account would suggest.

9. A Christian Communist Movement. (Source: 276 F.S.S.)

It is reported that there is a movement called the Christian Communist Movement, headed by a Father Angelo D'Alessio, Professor of Philosophy and Theology. This movement is distinct from the Christian Party of the Left. The report sayd he arrived in Rome from Naples a short time ago to contact various parties of the Left, and was promised support for his movement by the heads of the Communist and Partisan movements, who asked him in turn to undertake propaganda and organize sections for them in the Naples area.

10. The Separatists.

On the 10th of November the local central headquarters of the Separatists in Palermo were restored to them. A member of "D" Section on 12th November observed the separatist flag flying from them which seems to be a new development.

The quarters were returned with an inventory by Dr. Guarino, director of the Mobile Squad, who had charge of the closing.

Many things were missing according to the Separatists with no apparent motive (inkstands, pictures, a telephone) and the group has advanced a claim to the authorities forthis material.

A meeting announced for the 11th of November was put of until the quarters could be settled. No statement has yet been made on the subject by Finocchiaro Aprile which is contrary to his usual custom. The group seems to be waiting for authorization to publish legally.

During the last few days in connection with the closing of the quarters, the speparatists inquired very often why an official of the Mobile Squad should have carried on an operation which is political in nature and so displaced the Political Squad of the Questura.

11. Italian Patriotic Movement ("Movimento Patriottico Italiano") Naples.

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1872

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11. Italian Patriotic Movement ("Movimento Patriottiico Italiano") Naples. 1872

The Party was created in Naples with headquarters at Via Chiaia No. 197. The Chief organizer was Captain Mario Orbitello who commanded one of the Partisan Group during the "Four Days of Naples", (13 quattro giornate di Napoli). The Party's programme is given as follows:

"The Fatherland is the kernel of the programme. It stands for the sacred soil on which we live, on which we were born, the soil under which rest our dead, that is why the Italian patriotic Movement intends to safeguard for the present generation and those to come, this s iritual and material heritage. The Welfare of the Fatherland can exist only when its interests are in harmony with those of the international community."

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The Movement intends to reach the conscience of the public by persuasiv action and to make its program known through the publication of its own newspaper, through public manifestations, strictly avoiding any violent street demonstrations. The Movement also intends to expound the necessity that all problems interesting the people should be settled by the organs of the established powers and protests against those political currents which aim at dragging the Italian people to armed fighting in the streets.

The Movement is said to have 4200 registered members. It should be noted that besides the patriots of the 3Four Days", patriots from other localities and supporters are entitled to join. 1800 patriots of the "Four Days" are stated to have joined the Movement, i.e. 80% of Naples' patriots. Fascists, "gerarchi", "March on Rome" and other individuals may register, provided they actually took part in the insurrection of the "Four Days." The Movement is connected with the Partisan Superior Command, 48 Via Sistina, Rome.

It is evident from the programme that the Movement, which in fact may be regarded as a political party, is not Communist, nor is it likely to be Monarchist since it was Orbitello who caused the dissolution of the "Four Days" association because of its being under Monarchist influence.

On Nov. 5th, the Movement held a public meeting at Bagnoli (on the outskirts of Naples), which was attended by many representatives of patriots in the neighboring localities who came to hear Orbitello speak. This man is reported to be intelligent and honest, but very highly strung.

The members salute by extending the right arm with closed fist, while the Communists perform the same gesture but with the left arm and fist. (B-2)

12 Proposal for a Republican Front

There is much discussion in Naples' political circles of the Parties of the Left regarding the proposal of the Party of Action for the creation of a Republican Front which would include the Democratic Party [illegible] the Party of Action, and the Socialist and Communist parties.

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The members salute by extending the right arm with closed fist, while the Communists perform the same gesture but with the left arm and fist. (B-2)

12 Proposal for a Republican Front

There is much discussion in Naples' political circles of the Parties of the Left regarding the proposal of the Party of Action for the creation of a Republican Front which would include the Democratic Party of Labour, the Party of Action, and the Socialist and Communist parties. The Party of Action explains its call by stating it was forced to it by a political necessity which is more important than the individual fate of the anti-fascist parties -- the necessity of saving the Country from falling into the hands of reactionary military Monarchists. The leaders of the Naples Communists are of the opinion that the coalition of the Republican parties, especially from today to the time of the Constituent Assembly, would be an act of political strategy which might increase the probabilities of their reaching victory. According to some Socialists to remain divided is to play into the hands of their opponents. The Party of Democratic Labor considers a Republican concentration would prepare the people towards the Constituent Assembly; otherwise undecided and timid people might endanger eventual victory of the republic. Many Christian Democrats express themselves as favorable to the Republican Front, although their leaders have not so far officially stated their attitude on the constitutional question. (B-2)

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R E C O N S T R U C T I O N

13 Examples of Reconstruction

No. 1 - 380 ha. farm, located at Tenuta Presciano, Territorio Lanuvio e Velletri, Province of Rome, 42 km. south-east of Rome. Owned by an insurance company, the land and improvements are leased to an operator who supplies his own capitol, labor and equipment.

The farm originally comprised 600 ha. 220 of these are today out of operation. The following figures refer to the operation of the whole property. Under normal conditions the farm consisted of three buildings to house the 12 families that lived permanently on the farm; one building to house the office, and store farm machinery and equipment; 2 barns for some 100 head of cattle; sheds for sheep; 2 silos for fresh hay; one large silo for dry feed.

Live stock included 86 head of cattle, 2000 sheep, 10 horses, 12 oxen, 6 swine, and some 300 chickens (owned by the workers themselves.)

Farm machinery: 2 tractors; 3 baling presses; 1 threshing machine; 1 hay mower; 20 plows (for tractor and ox-teams); 1 seeding machine; 1 seed selector; cream separator, churn; milk refrigeration installation; 1 truck; 1 delivery motor cycle; installation for utilizing animal fertilizer.

The annual yield was 1500 quintals of wheat (of which 400 were domestically consumed); 1000 quintals of milk; and 70 quintals of hard cheese, 25 quintals of soft cheese, 570 lambs and 17 quintals of wool, of which some 5% were consumed on the farm, as were all the cream and butter produced. All the feed necessary for the livestock (some 2000 quintals of hay) was produced on the farm.

The 1939 value of the property was about 3 million lire. The net income (after taxes) was 4½ to 5%. Farm labor, usually about 30 hands, was paid half in cash and the other half in kind, which food was sufficient for their needs. They supplemented this income with the yield from small plots allotted to each family, and by keeping about 25 chickens per family.

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Live stock included 66 head of cattle, 2000 sheep, 10 horses, 12 oxen, 6 swine, and some 300 chickens (owned by the workers themselves.)

Farm machinery: 2 tractors; 3 bailing presses; 1 threshing machine; 1 hay mower; 20 plows (for tractor and ox-teams); 1 seeding machine; 1 seed selector; cream separator, churn; milk refrigeration installation; 1 truck; 1 delivery motor cycle; installation for utilizing animal fertilizer.

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Conditions after the Germans had left (June, 1944) - All buildings were totally destroyed, partly as a result of naval shelling by the Allies, partly by artillery shelling and bombing. The farm became a battle field after the Allied break-through from Anzio in May, 1944. 187-

All animals were slaughtered and the meat sent to Germany after being efficiently prepared and frozen in motorized refrigerating equipment. All skins were likewise sent to Germany after proper preparation.

Farm machinery was hopelessly smashed beyond repair by skillful wreckers; the truck and motor cycle were taken away.

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22 ha. of woodland were found mined. In addition, a strip of land through which a creek flows, which divides the property into two almost equal parts, has also been found mined. Two farm hands were killed here by mines in August.

. The roads leading to the property were impasseable in at least three places. All labor had left. Shell holes everywhere were filled with water where malaria-bearing mosquitos were breeding. Three American soldiers lay unburied in different places; also two Germans. Two large unexploded naval projectiles were (and still are) part of the rubble that once were the buildings. Unused rifle and machine gun ammunition, mortar and ack-ack projectiles were all over the place. The water was not fit to drink, the original pipeline was broken. The ripening wheat was still standing in the fields. The Germans had had no time to try to harvest it, and it was a bountiful harvest.

On seeing the condition of the property, the lessee abandoned everything that once was his property and turned his contract back to the owners. He is said to have had no money to finance the reconstruction of the place, and to have wanted to join his family who had gone up North.

Reconstruction efforts to date - On August 18, 1944, a new lessee took over 380 ha. of the property under contract with the owners. He is a "land improvement specialist" and operates one farm near Ostia, and one second north of Rome. His first job was to harvest the wheat. It was done by hand with labor from nearby, yielding 500 quintals which was about one-third of what would have been harvested this exceptionally good year. Of this amount, about one-third had to be paid in kind for the harvesting labor. It was so much because of the difficulties in getting there and the danger of mines.

As regards the reconstruction of the buildings, the owners turned this job over to the Del Favaro Building Company of Rome, and seem to have given orders that it should proceed irrespective of costs, which they are paying.

As of mid-November, about one-third of all buildings have been restored; namely, two houses and one barn. More might have been accomplished but for the lack of materials and transportation. The [illegible] about one-third of all the materials

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As of mid-November, about one-third of all buildings have been restored; namely, two houses and one barn. More might have been accomplished but for the lack of materials and transportation. The rubble and wreckage contributed about one-third of all the materials used in rebuilding; the other two-thirds had to be bought on the black market at exorbitant prices. For instance, tiles to cover the roofs cost about 85 times what they used to (34 lire each as against 40 centesimi); cement cost 24 times as much. To transport a 3 ton truck load from Rome to the farm cost 9,000 lire -- 12 times prewar. Already some 2 million lire are said to have been spent for thus rebuilding one-third of the buildings. At that rate, and at the current rate of exchange, the total rebuilding job would come to some 6 million lire, that is $60,000, or 40% of the prewar value of the total property. The inference is, of course, that the owners expect a further devaluation of the lire.

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Six families have moved back into the reconstructed houses. As yet they cannot afford the luxury of separate households. They are to have two rooms and a kitchen per family later on. But each has its garden plot for growing greens, and already there are some 30 to 40 chickens. The workers are paid 2000 to 2500 lire a month, half in food and half in cash. The food is sufficient to feed them adequately. There is enough grain on hand to see them through to the next harvest. Two of these families had lived on the farm before. They had fled, but returned when they heard that it was going back into production. The other four families were bombed out of their homes in nearby towns. They used to hire out for work on farms, but lived in their own homes.

The lessee has already bought and put into operation 2 tractors with a plow for each. He found them in Rome. He also bought 6 oxen and 4 plows for ox-teams. In addition he bought 750 sheep, 10 horses and 2 pigs. He was able to buy them from farmers near Rome. He had to pay 5 times the prewar price for the sheep; 60 times prewar for the oxen; 40 times for the horses; and 15 times for the pigs. Explanation given for the relatively high price for oxen, "They are necessary for life." 50 ha, or half the total intended for wheat, has already been plowed. The other half is being plowed at present. And the seed grain is there.

Immediate plans - The property is to be restored to its normal condition first. 100 ha. are to be used for wheat, 200 ha. for pasture and 80 ha. for clover. The buildings are to be fully restored, a job which is estimated to take until June-July of next year. The water must be purified and its flow fully restored. Already some drinkable water comes through the partly repaired water pipes. Shell holes must be drained of water to eliminate malaria. The mined areas must be "localized" and if possible the mines removed. In August the Velletri Allied Command was approached to send an expert with an instrument to mark the places where mines are buried. Local labor could then remove them. Nothing has as yet been done.

The roads leading to the property must be fully repaired; they are impassable today after rain. The owners have offered to undertake the job and advance the necessary money to the Provincial Government which is responsible for the roads, but the latter has not

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More farm implements are needed and spare parts for what is on hand.

50 ha. of the land being prepared for wheat has been set aside for a cooperative experiment, partly to obtain necessary labor, partly to satisfy local demands for "cooperatives" or socialization of some sort. 27 small land owners from the neighborhood who have lost everything are leasing these 50 ha. paying 2500 lire per ha. as their share of the cost of plowing. The lessee advances this sum as well as other costs and he will furnish the seed. The sublessees will do the seeding, tend the field and harvest it. They

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will then share expenses and yield fifty-fifty with the lessee. Normally these 27 families live off their vineyards and garden plots. But the vineyards have suffered, some have been destroyed, some are still mined; and their homes have been severely damaged. How they will live through the winter only they can guess. The cooperative experiment seems to assure them of subsistence for the next year at least.

Long Term Plans - The lessee expects to improve the property further by planting olive trees and vineyards. He has no illusions as to the difficulties of rebuilding a herd of cattle. His present thought is to make a deal with farmers who have two calves, to take them off their hands to raise them, and return one of them after it is fully grown. He is operating with his own capital and says he has had no need for loans. His operation of two other farms which have been little destroyed promises to assure him capital for his further plans.

Some conclusions - The above example seems exceptional for more than one reason:

(1) The lessee is an exceptionally able farm operator, with much experience, and with unusual drive, energy and initiative.

(2) He has all necessary funds available for his own needs, and so far as the reconstruction of the buildings is concerned, the resources of one of the largest Italian companies is backing him.

(3) He has paid no attention to ordinances and regulations and laws which might have stood in the way of a less audacious person. He has taken many a risk in this respect, hoping that a more liberal and progressive Italian administration will abolish the current impediments to enterprise of that sort, and that the Allied controls will be relaxed.

(4) The property is located near Rome, where not only building materials but farm implements and live stock could still be had.

(5) He has two other farms which not only furnish capital but may be useful in supplying livestock, seed, etc.

(6) He has been fortunate in saving enough wheat to be able to

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(6) He has been fortunate in saving enough wheat to be able to feed his workers and also to provide for seed. The clover fields need not be replaced this year, and the pasture land is in good shape.

In spite of the favorable circumstances the work is not proceeding as fast as it might because of difficulties which it should be possible to overcome. Foremost among those are the following:

(1) Repair of roads, which could be done largely with local labor.

(2) Removal of mines; with a little assistance from the Allied Command, this job could be done by the local people.

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(3) Parts should become available for the farm machinery now on hand; the smallest repair throws a tractor out of operation for the long time necessary for hunting up parts on the black market. Also the lessee is badly in need of his car, currently requisitioned.

(3) There is urgent need for a general overhauling of leftover laws and regulations from the fascist regime; and for more speed on the part of the new Italian government and the Allied Control Agencies in removing impediments to action.

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E P U R A T I O N

14 End of the Trial in the Fascist Plot of Sassari.

After a hearing lasting a month, the trial in Oristano concerning the fascist plot in the Military Tribunal of the War Zone of Sardinia, has come to an end. After a trip to Corsica to interrogate a witness the court sat in session again. On Nov. 13, the Prosecuting Attorney for the Crown, Major Michel Greco, summed up the case to the jury, asking for a sentence of 30 years for Major Martini, of the former Voluntary Militia for National Security, and 28 year, 6 Mos. for the accountant, Giovanni Pirisino and Del Savino, and 18 years for Lt.Col. Fenso and Del Dau. On November 14th the Attorneys for the Defense, Fatta Marchi, Perantoni Lorica and Mauro Angioni, made their addresses, and on Nov. 15th the Attorneys for Major Martini, Cugiolu and Sanna Randaccio, summed up their defense. The Prosecuting Attorney replied immediately, confirming the accusations. The discussion became very heated when Martini was accused of having left his regiment to go to fight against the State. Martini spoke in his own defense, repeating that he had considered himself freed from military service and had planned his trip to the continent only because he was worried over the condition of his parents, his seriously ill wife and his son. He asked that the court decision allow him to fight with his son for the liberation of his country.

On Nov. 17, after 5 hours consideration, the court condemned Martini to loss of military rank and 14 years' imprisonement; Giovanni Pirisino, 10 years; Vittorio Sabino, 6 yrs.and 8 months; Sgt.Major Antonio Del Dau, 4 yrs. 8 months and dishonorable discharge; Lt.Col. Luigi Fenso, 4 yrs. and loss of military rank; Lt Dario Lai; 3 yrs: 4 mos. of military prison and dishonorable discharge. All were sentenced to perpetual exclusion from participation in public life.

General Public opinion in Sardinia is hostile to the decision of the court, feeling the trial allowed many to escape. An article in UNITA' SARDA, by the Communist Prof. L.Pirastru, under the title, "After the Sentence at Oristano", clearly shows the sense of disappointment caused by the sentence. After briefly mentioning that the inquiry lasted 11 months, the trial over a month and the deliberation of the court 5 hours, he called attention to the fact that many soldiers are in prison with sentences similar to Martini's for acts which seem trifles in comparison. Speaking indirectly of the court, the

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iers are in prison with sentences similar to Martini's for acts which
seem trifles in comparison. Speaking indirectly of the court, the
writer complained that the Italian people show they do not have in
themselves the strength and energy necessery for new birth.

25 Epuration Commissioner for Campania

With the appointment of Avv. Eugenio Mancini as Epuration Commis-
sioner, the question of Epuration in Campania Province is again to the
fore. The previous Epuration Commission under the Presidency of
Avv. Rosalbino Santelo, after a brief period in office, had resigned
because their region had passed from the jurisdiction of their ap-
pointers, AMG, to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government.

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Therefore, for the past three months in the city of Naples and the whole of Campania the Epuration question has remained dormant. The sudden announcement of Mancini's appointment has awakened considerable interest. The left wing parties and the working classes are very pleased, but the former fascist circles are fairly worried, because Mancini is known to be very strict and not inclined to half measures. By nature he is rather abrupt, but is generally regarded as honest, straight forward, an able organizer and possessed of a good knowledge of the law. He has always been an active anti-fascist, in consequence of which he spent many years in "confino" at Lipari and Ustica. He has been a member of the Communist Party for a long time, but is not an orthodox Communist, and does not in all cases see eye to eye with the leaders of the Party. This lawyer is the brother of the former Socialist Minister of Public Works, Pietro Mancini.

E C O N O M I C S

16 Centenary Celebration of Cooperative Movement.

On Sunday, 19 Nov. a meeting was held in the Quirino Theatre to celebrate the centenary of the Cooperative Movement. The meeting was opened by Avv. Ercole Chiri, of the Executive Committee of the Christian Democrat Party, who spoke on the history of cooperatives. Avv. Mancinelli, of the Banco Nazionale del Lavoro, traditional credit institution of cooperatives, warned about the innumerable small cooperative groups springing up on every hand, pointing out that only in combination can they have the strength necessary to stand.

Corazzin, Director of the Food Distribution Office, touched on some present day problems, rousing the audience to lively interest. Pointint out that there are in Rome today almost 400 cooperatives representing 250,000 persons, he demanded the abolition of commercial monopolies; he declared there were still far too many controls and vested interests; the Consorzi Agrari would never enjoy the confidence of the peasants until they were turned into cooperative concerns, he said. Further cooperatives should be allowed to share the import and export trade of the country, and take over such old fascist organizations as the bodies which existed to foster trade with Abyssinia and Eritrea.

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Dino Gentile, of the Party of Action, spoke briefly of the cooperatives of Producers and of Labor. Declaring there was place for both state ownership and private enterprise, he said cooperative capital must come from the members themselves, not the state, and there was a great place for cooperatives in Italian reconstruction.

Giovanni Gronchi, Christian Democrat Minister for Industry, Commerce and Labor, pointed out the pitiable state of Italy's communications, with only 10% of her normal motor transport, 18% of her railways and the Allies controling by terms of the armistice all of her merchent vessels larger than fishing boats. He promised government encouragement for the cooperative movement, for it meant self-discipline and could be a means of transforming Italian production. Production

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is the primary need in Italy at the moment. The worker, he said, was assuming a new importance in the national economy, and becoming conscious that he was a vital part of "his" firm, he had a new sense of responsibility and resolve.

17. Rome Transport

The railway rates for both passengers and goods traffic were increased 100% on 20 November.

On 20 November, the owners of the small motor trucks used for local transport of passengers decided to form a single association and assume responsibility for passenger traffic within the city in collaboration with the A.T.A.C. (City Transport Company), which undertook to re-activate some of the buslines linking the city with outlying suburbs.

18. Rome Electricity

In an interview with Romito, Controller for Technical Services of Rome, published in AVANTI, he said the rationing of electric power had turned out better than had been expected, with weekly and daily turns being well kept. It is hoped, when all the light meters have been read, that there will be a large supply of power remaining which will be used to the advantage of all consumers. As to the new or reconstructed power centers, at the end of November, 15,000 kwt. will be available, while a new Terni center, with 35,000 kwt., will soon be in working order. Part of this power will be assigned to Rome, thus improving the general situation and will suffice, if the Allied authorities consent, for evening streetcar service, street illumination, and small artisan industries.

19. Dollar, Mark and Lira

IL POPOLO NUOVO of 15 November asks why the Allies fixed the rate of exchange of the Dollar and the Mark at the rate of one to ten, and the Lira at one to a hundred, thus multiplying by four the former exchange rate of the Mark and by five that of the Lira. "For obvious reasons," comments the paper, "one thinks of political motives. But there would have to be very mysterious reasons indeed, for both official British and American declarations, not to mention the Russ-

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LABOUR

20 CGIL Attack on A.C.Labour Office

Giuseppe Di Vittorio, Secretary of the CGIL, writing in UNITA, attacked the Office of Labour founded by the Allies. He declared that though satisfactory in the United States, habitually democratic, in an Italy weighed upon by the heredity of fascism, they were useless and even dangerous. Planned primarily to provide labor immediately after liberation in a period of confusion, they had no place in a territory under Italian control. Speaking particularly for southern Italy, and mentioning Foggia, he went on to specify

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that the Labour office's two tasks were arbitration and employment bureau, but is unsapable of handling the first, since it is composed only of government functionaries without representation of the parties involved, and unnecessary for the second, since this function could be better and less expensively handled by the Trade Unions in collaboration with the Commune. Their danger lay in the possibilities of their developing a corporate regime similar to the fascist one, especially since they were largely staffed with former employees of the dissolved fascist syndical organizations. Specifically he referred to the activies of the director of the Foggia Labour office, Avv. Ruo, ex-fascist, who has tried to force people to accept work only through his office, and to fix salaries without even seeking labour union approval.

In an interview with a PWB officer, Luigi Bellotti, Vice-Director of the Rome Provincial Labour Office, said that the Di Vittorio attack was a political manoeuvre designed to dissolve the Provincial Labour offices in Southern Italy, especially Puglia, in order that the Communists might extend their control over government functions. He declared that the Labour Office was the achievement of labour reached only after many years of struggle and as a place where employer and employee can meet on neutral ground and anticipate justice, it is an important part of Italy's progress.

Regarding unemployment in Rome, he said that the employment exchange figures showed only between three and four thousand, but these figures mean nothing since so many people work in the black market who claim to be unemployed; many will not work for money but insist on being paid in kind. For some time the office has been seeking 300 men to work for the Allies clearing minefields south of Rome, for 150 lire a day and food, but so far only 96 have been found. This gives some insight into the unemployment situation.

21 CGIL as Seen by the Political Parties

Looking back over the five months since the formation of the CGIL by the Christian Democrats, Socialists and Communists as a single non-political body to represent the whole of Italian Labour, the various party newspapers have each reviewed the achievements and failures.

Giulio Pastore, for the Christian Democrats in IL POPOLO, Nov.

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Giulio Pastore, for the Christian Democrats in IL POPOLO, Nov. 6th, stated that the failures outweigh the achievements. The latter are the proof that the various parties can work together, and the sincere resolve of the masses of workers to unite. On the debit side however the Unions have failed to steer clear of party influence, and the political infiltration in union councils and the appointment of office-bearers disgusts the workers who tend to fall away from the unions.

The Socialists, represented by Oreste Lizzadri in AVANTI of Nov. 11th claim a period of uninterrupted progress for the CGIL. Replying to Pastore's article, he said the phenomena described therein may be attributed to incidental and transitory causes. The only real threat

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to Labour unity could come from the Christian Workers' Associations, if enemies of labour should managed to use them for their own purposes.

The Communist Secretary of the CGIL, Di Vittorio, begins his review in UNITA of 12 October with a reference to the first CGIL congress, to be held in Naples from the 10-13 December. He claims that the CGIL has produced concrete results in defending the interests of the workers of all classes, and that its prestige is high. At the present moment it is facing up to the gravest problems of Italian labour: increases in pensions for retired and invalid workers; a permanent adjustment of wages and salaries to the cost of living by means of a sliding scale; relief of unemployment by an effective beginning of economic reconstruction.

RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE intervened in the debate on 17 November, saying that Trade Union unity can only be realized if all parties concerned really believe it necessary. The only way of guaranteeing the non-political character of the unions is to allow all the parties, and not only the three at present concerned, to join in the control.

Finally Pastore, in the POPOLO of 18 November, sums up the debate. On paper, he says, all is in order but in practice his original criticism holds good. The difficulty is that, union membership being voluntary, a small number of determined men of one political faith can gain control of a union. To avoid this two steps are necessary: 1) induce the great mass of workers not interested in politics to enter the unions, where they would outvote the few political hotheads; 2) give the unions legal recognition through legislation guaranteeing their unity and political neutrality.

22 Wage Increases for Allied Organization employees

On 19 November the following increases were announced:

(a)	Workers earning up to	L.	85	per	day			L.	60	per	day
(b)	"	"	"	"	140	"	"	"	50	"	"
(c)	"	"	"	"	185	"	"	"	40	"	"

23 Meeting of Cinema Workers

Only about 100 persons were present at the meeting of the Cinema workers held at the Volturno Cinema on Sunday, 19 November. It

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Mario Camerini, one of the three representatives elected, told the assembly of the petition sent to Sig. Bonomi in which the cinema workers asked to be put in a position to resume work. He said there are 29 Italian films not yet shown because the cinema proprietors are afraid of losing money on them. Another danger is that cinema proprietors are being asked almost daily to sell, perhaps to foreigners. He advocated state or cooperative ownership, and asked the assembly to approve a petition to the Italian Government and to the Allies asking that the tax on Italian films be reduced from 20% to 12%, and

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that cinema proprietors be compelled to sign contracts obliging them to show Italian films on holidays, Sundays and certain number of days a month. This would be a valid aid to the Italian cinema, because proprietors would have to advertise the films well to have full houses; and thirdly, that individual ownership of cinemas be forbidden. This last proposal was carried by acclamation.

FOOD SITUATION

24 Food Distribution in Bari

In October the following foodstuffs were distributed:

400 grams dried vegetables per person
1 tin of meat with vegetables per 2 persons
250 grams soup per person.
50 matches per person

There is now free sale of coal in Bari. They have received no suger since September.

25 Counterfeit Ration Cards

Sig. Corazzini, President of the UDIS (Food Distribution Office) in a meeting with the press, said that there is a very large number of counterfeit ration cards in circulation. It is certain that at least 10% of the normal rationcards and 50% of the cards for the sick are counterfeit. ITALIA NUOVA does not agree with this number. But even admitting 10% are false, that adds up to 150,000 counterfeit rationcards for the next four months.

26 Black Market in Rome

An Italian collaborator of PWB writes, "With prices as they are today, only black market dealers can afford normal, prewartime meals. The black market is the only source of income of many people, while for others it is a way to round out their meagre salaries in their spare time. Those who dedicate their whole day to it can earn more. They use small motortrucks to go to neighboring towns to look for supplies, and buy and sell wholesale. The part-time workers act as middle-men in their spare time, getting commissions from buyer and seller. But in this second group we mus also includ the workmen. The

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The Press is also preoccupied with the problem of the Black Market, with particular reference firstly to the shady activities of the wholesale dealers who are interested above all in increasing prices and controlling the whole network of production and distribution, and keeping this control in the future; and secondly to the demoralizing effect of the Black Market on large sections of the population. As conditions return to normal, many who have enriched themselves in the illicit dealings will hardly want to return to a humdrum sober life, to an honest but poorly paid job.

27 Abolition of Control Posts.

The abolition of the road blocks for the control of goods entering Rome by road is hailed with relief by Press and public alike. The press however warns that control and its corollary bribery will not be dead until the following are also eliminated: 1) the Transport Office, 2) the Work Tickets (fogli di via) for vehicles carrying municipal and state supplies, and 3) snap controls by flying squads.

28 Clothing Prices in Sicily

A PWB investigation of prices of clothing in Sicily shows that for a man a suit, oldfashioned in style and of cotton, costs at least 6000 lire. A coat of cotton is 9000 lire, a shirt 1200 lire, a pair of socks 300 lire and a pair of shoes 2500 lire. As far as the clothes are concerned these prices apply to goods of poor quality, since if wool or really fine linen is wanted the prices in general are doubled. For a woman the situation is similar. A woolen 2 piece dress of poor quality is 7000 lire, a slip is usually 750 lire, stockings range from 500 to 750 lire a pair, and shoes go up indefinitely in price, averaging around 3000 lire. By actual experience by a PWB officer, three meters of good woolen material to make a woman's suit were quoted to cost 10,000 lire. It was finally possible to find the same amount of decidedly inferior material for 4000 lire which certainly would be worth about a quarter of that at the most in the United States. Under these conditions it is impossible for families of the white collar classes, especially with the approach of winter and the necessity for looking ahead, to supply themselves with even the minimum necessities. With schools about to open there are many children and young people who will find it difficult to secure the

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29 Cost of Living in Sicily

A group of autodrivers for PWB, all Sicilians, drew up a daily list of necessary foods for a family of five and figured it out to the last lire. It took 750 lire to buy the minimum amount of pasta, bread and enough food to get through a day, including 25 lire for the charcoal to cook with. This amount would have to be doubled when really cold weather came, they said, as then appetites increase. As the men in question received around 100 lire a day, it can easily be seen why so many Sicilians have small sidelines of their own in order to secure enough money to feed their families.

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30. Steps to Control the Black Market in Medicine

Earlier reports have mentioned the black market in drugs in Sicily. The following is a description of the measures being taken to offset this situation under the direction of the Regional Public Health Officer of A.C. of Sicily.

All Allied drugs are ordered by the A.C. Public Health Officer in Palermo. They are brought to Palermo and distributed from there to each province. Each Province has an Ufficio Medicale Provinciale which handles the medical store of these drugs. Hospitals and public dispensaries are given first choice when a supply of drugs arrives. The price is fixed and marked on each bottle in order to protect the customer. No drugs can be imported into Sicily without a license granted by the Ufficio Medicale Provinciale of the province. At every port the Finance Guards and the Port Medical Authority keep a check to be sure that the necessary permits are at hand.

A chemist on the island must keep records of all the drugs in his shop, with a receipt showing where he bought them and how much he paid. The price is fixed at which they are to be sold to the public, and constant raids are maid to see that the chemists are keeping to the stipulated price. Arrests are made by the Finance Guards when any infractions are discovered, and the drugs in question sequestered. The daily papers are carefully scrutinized and if a sale of drugs is advertised, the Finance Guards investigate. The Regional Public Health officer of A.C. works very closely with the Finance Guards, and personally goes on many raids when any black market activities in medicine are reported. 21 chemist shops, including some of the largest on the island, have been closed down altogether because of illicit dealings in medicine.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NAPLES

31. Revenue in Naples Province in October

Sources of Revenue	(In thousands of lire) 1942	1943	1944
Tax on manufacture	4,149	2,112	3,448
Customs	4,824	92	[illegible],096
Direct taxation	52,446	34,015	56,505
Indirect Taxation	30,113	5,839	71,659

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Lottery - In consequence of the destruction of the head office of the lottery in an air raid in May, 1944, it is impossible to give figures for the previous years. Between May and October, 1944, receipts amounted to 66,681,737 lire, which is above the normal.

This report refers to the province of Naples; the data regarding the months of October, 1942, 1943, and 1944 have been reported as examples best apt to show the receipts in the respective years. 1863

It can be seen from the foregoing table that the trend of the collection of State revenue in the province of Naples (and at the same time in Southern Italy) has been characterized by the following factors:

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a) A large drop in October, 1943, as the result of destruction due to the war, the disorganization of all offices and the stoppage of very many economic activities, etc.

b) Fair improvement in October, 1944, due to the reorganization of the offices, the partial revival of economic activity and the increased circulation of notes.

c) The enormous increase in the cost of living and the great quantity of notes in circulation make it clear that the higher receipts during October 1944 represent very little more than those of October 1942, and that State revenue has greatly decreased.

The offices of the Intendenza di Finanza have operated exceedingly well in succeeding in assessing the incomes of all taxpayers and arranging the collection of taxes through their agency (Monte dei Paschi di Siena), notwithstanding difficulties of all kinds (transport, correspondence, badly paid employees, etc.) (A-1)

32 Economic Position in and about Naples

The position might be termed as chaotic. It has caused the emergence of a mass of "get-rich-quick" individuals who deal in anything and everything, and in so doing gather a rich harvest. The following are some of the causes of this deplorable state of affairs:

a) The total absence of many articles of primary necessity and the difficulty of producing them. The consequence of this is that whoever is able to procure or produce such articles is in a position to sell them at practically any price.

b) The vast amount of liquid funds available and which cannot easily be invested by persons who are anxious not to show that they have recently acquired wealth.

c) The restrictions imposed on every form of activity and which make it necessary in order to secure even the most perfectly legitimate thing, to resort to authoritative support.

d) The considerable differences between one locality and another, and between official prices and those on the free market.

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d) The considerable differences between one locality and another, and between official prices and those on the free market.

In Neapolitan circles especially one often hears deals being discussed covering the most varied and unexpected ranges. It is all done by word of mouth and strictly on a liquid cash basis. Deals in transport, motorcars, motor lorries and sales on the free market of rationed commodities provided by the authorities at officially-restricted prices for legitimate purposes, etc.

The consequence is that the capitalists of today are these dealers; the farmers who sold their produce on the free market; the owners of motor transport which has a circulation permit; the Black Marketeers of Allied goods, etc. The profits of these people are extremely high, amounting to hundreds of thousands of lire per week, if not per day. It is therefore only natural that many clandestine gaming houses and other pleasure resorts have sprung up and are prospering thanks to the patronage of the "nouveaux riches."

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On the other hand the majority o the population, those who work on a fixed remunderation, do not earn on an average even enough for the bare necessities of life. They are compelled, therefore, in order to live to sell everything they possess, including their household goods and the most indispensable articles.

There are however large categories of people who, although not possessed of wealth, not speculating in the black market or taking part in large deals, have managed to raise their income to correspond to the growing cost of living. They are the following:

1) Artisans: carpenters, shoemakers, tailors, glove makers, blacksmiths, etc.

2) Professional men: doctors, lawyers practising criminal law, dentists, etc.

(B-2)

33 Olive Oil

It is expected that fully 70% of the olive oil in the Province of Salerno will go to the Black Market, due to complete lack of any predisposed rulings either on the part of the Ministero dell'Agricoltura or the Consorzi Agrari who should control such products. The owners of oil presses are so confident of avoiding delivery of their oil to the Consorzio Agrario that they are buying olives from 800 to 1000 lire per tumolo. (A tumolo of olives yields on an average of 7 litres of oil.) Farmers are not bringing in their oil either for when they can receive on the spot 170 lire per litre, it takes a very high sense of duty to make him hand over the oil to the pools for only 60 lire. (B-2)

GRANAI DEL POPOLO - SICILY

34 Grain Figures for week of 18 November 1944

Province	Quota	Amount to date	Percent of total
Agrigento	500,000	185,000	37.0%
Caltanissetta	600,000	323,000	53.8%
Catania	400,000	205,000	51.2%
Enna	300,000	190,000	63.3%
Messina	50,000	16,000	32.0%

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Palermo	600,000	183,000	30.5%
Ragusa	90,000	81,000	90.0%
Siracusa	260,000	96,000	36.9%
Trapani	300,000	58,000	19.3%

Gain for the week: 3000 quintals.

C H U R C H

35 Religious Activity

In answer to an open letter from the Pope to the Vicar General, Bishop of Rome, Cardinal Marchetti Selvaggiani, published in the Osservatore Romano October 28, several thousand people gathered in penitential prayer at the church of St. John Lateran on Sunday, 19 Nov.

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This procession was the second of four presumably to be held each Sunday of November at the major Roman Basilicas. The procession moved from Santa Maria Maggiore to S. Giovanni Laterano, and met with others proceeding from seven other outlying parishes. The crowd consisted mainly of the very poor of Rome, laborers, professional people, the lower bourgeoisie. Most of them were in mourning; many men and women carried their children in their arms or on their bowed shoulders. The pilgrimage was quiet and orderly. All approached by a P.B officer in uniform were distant and disinclined to answer questions. As this representative moved among them there were many hostile glances, as though they resented and feared an intrusion on their last refuge of privacy, their spiritual life, and their right to pray for peace undisturbed and unobserved by alien eyes.

No mention of this gathering was made in any newspaper except the Osservatore Romano and the Quotidiano. Presumably the political parties and their organs regard this large demonstration as having no political significance.

36 Clerics and Laity

In a conversation with Avv. Mario Montino of ACIL (Associazione Cristiana Italiana del Lavoro) brother of Monsignor Montini, and Avv. Vittorino Veronese, Secretary General of ICAS (Istituto Cattolico di Attività Sociale), a P.B officer was informed that there is considerable Catholic activity based on entirely lay initiative and quite independent of the Vatican and the clerics.

The ACIL is an attempt to organize Catholic labour and form a Catholic bloc in the Labour organization CGIL of which it is now a part. ICAS enteres into every form of life, libraries, research, education, etc. It has courses for the laity and clergy on social problems, a committee on feminine problems, charitable organizations within the parishes and among other things, has a complete information section dealing with the USSR.

Religious life and activity are stronger in Rome than at any time in the past 20 years, due largely to active lay initiative, impossible during the fascist regime. These two organizations are entirely separate from the Vatican, approved by the Church but not [illegible] attitude of the Vatican toward these

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The ACIL is an attempt to organize Catholic labour and form a Catholic bloc in the Labour organization CGIL of which it is now a part. ICAS enters into every form of life, libraries, research, education, etc. It has courses for the laity and clergy on social problems, a committee on feminine problems, charitable organizations within the parishes and among other things, has a complete information section dealing with the USSR.

Religious life and activity are stronger in Rome than at any time in the past 20 years, due largely to active lay initiative, impossible during the fascist regime. These two organizations are entirely separate from the Vatican, approved by the Church but not instituted by it. The general attitude of the Vatican toward these lay organizations seems to be one of benign diffidence. With the world in turmoil it does not feel diplomatically secure in sanctioning officially any internal organizations which might appear of a political nature in the eyes of the outside world. This attitude was gleaned from conversation with Father McCormick, S.J., resident at the Jesuit house at the Vatican, and confirmed by Avv. Montini. These two organizations were clandestinely formed a year or more ago.

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C NFIDENTIAL APPENDIX I NO. 44

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APPENDIX I - PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS IN ISOLATED AREAS

ABRUZZO is a dense forest of mountains, some of them reading a height of 1500 meters. Towns and cities are scattered, isolated either at the foot or on tops of mountains; roads are narrow, spiral strips alternating with innumerable bridges, every single one of them now destroyed. Temporary diversions lengthen distances. Transport and travel, difficult at best, are practically at a standstill. Radio Rome does not reach beyond the Appennines. Only Bari and London are heard. Snow has already fallen on the high peaks; soon it will cover the entire region and travel difficulties will be still greater. Nevertheless ways and means are being devised to forestall complete isolation. Some centers have already organized more or less regular bus service to Rome. The need for reading material in this region is possibly greater than in other parts of liberated Italy.

TERAMO - A province capital of medieval origin, with a tradition of culture and progress. Until not very long ago it was the seat of one of the oldest universities in Italy. It still has many schools and many students. The men have been active in clandestine anti-fascist and guerilla activities. After years of intellectual starvation, reading material of any sort would be manna. Every subject is of great interest. The following is a typical list of expressed requirements:

Social structure in America	Cinema
Political " " England	Architecture
Schools	Industry
Women in England and America	Social Service
Fashions	Hospitals
Homes	Science

The specific cry is, "It should not be adulterated. We want clear definite information. No propaganda."

A few copies of Victory No. 7 reached TERAMO for the first time in mid-November. They went like hot cakes to the lucky ones who saw them first. Everyone else was disappointed. Stray copies of IL NESE are also circulating and delighting the readers. All back numbers of

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AVEZZANO - Capital of a province, terribly hit by the war; many buildings are destoyed, water and power plants are practically out of commission. According to reports from a representative group, the people are concerned only with local problems and show little or no interest in anything beyond these. On the other hand, the intellectual class, as everywhere else, is active in local and national government.

PENNE - About 10,000 inhabitants, politically conscious, proud of their old tradition of champions of liberty, and of their recent anti-fascist clandestine movement. As yet, no influence of the Allies' presence in Italy has reached Penne. The people are interested in local, provincial and national government [illegible] confident that a "free Italy

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will be born again when the war is over and all foreigners go home." They know in theory the democratic way of life and are anxious to see it at work. PWB publications, proving that it does work, would arouse their interest in democratic nations.

PESCARA - capital of a province, terribly hit by the war. The most habitable buildings have been requisitioned for the 8th Army troops. "We understand that this is necessary; we know that there is a war going on," the people say. "But why don't the Allies stick to the war instead of interfering with our government by supporting people we despise, like Badoglio and the class he represents?" The walls of Pescara, like those of other cities in Abruzzo are innocent of Allied posters, and the bookstands of PWB publications. Here to they would meet a great need.

CHIETI - Capital for a province. Except for the systematic looting by fleeing nazis and fascists, the town is not very badly hit. There is a small Allied Commission in Chieti. People are curious about England and America. A representative group of men and women, the prefect, mayor, a doctor, a lawyer, all affirmed that Allied literature has been expected right along and will be welcomed when it arrives there. Two excellent book and news stands could dispose of PWB material, or if preferred, arrangements for distribution could be made through the Mayor.

BOOKS IN DEMAND IN FLORENCE

The following books are much in demand:

Churchill's Memoirs. Italians have always been greatly interested in this book. A fairly good translation was on sale some time ago but is now out of print. A fresh translation would undoubtedly prove a commercial success.

President Roosevelt's writings.

Works by modern American writers. These have always found a keenly interested public in Italy. Favorite authors are Steinbeck, Saroyan, Sinclair Lewis, Dos Passos, etc.

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Book recently published giving the Allied point of view about the causes of the war, the future of Italy and the world at large. Even cultured people have no clear idea of international affairs after Munich.

SOME BOOKS RECENTLY PUBLISHED IN NAPLES

Benedetto Croce - "Per La Riconquista della Libertà", published by Ricciardi, Naples; a best seller in Naples.

F. Flora - "Ritratto di un Ventennio", published by Macchiaroli, Naples.

Labriola - "Dopo il Fascismo che fare?" published by Fiorentino, Naples, the book which has had most success in Naples.

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Barbagallo - "Napoli sotto il terrore Nazista", published by Macchiaroli, Naples, is the best book dealing with the events of the "Four Days" of Naples.

Marx - "Il Capitale" published by Guida, Naples.

Stalin - "La Storia del Partito Comunista", published by Ricciardi, Naples; the first edition is sold out, a second edition is on the way.

Labriola - "Attualità su Marx" - published by Morano, Naples.

F. Santoro - "America ed Europa", published by Morano, Naples.

Omodeo - "Crudeltà dei Tedeschi", published by Macchiarelli, Naples, written in English.

Malaparte - "Kaputt", published by Casella, Naples; many copies sold at once.

PUBLISHED IN SALERNO PROVINCE

LIBERTA' (weekly) organ of the Liberal Party. Edited by Prof. N. Avigliano; in considerable demand because of its article on politics and economics written by eminent personalities; 5000 copies printed.

L'AZIONE-LIB. REPUBBLICANA (weekly) The organ of the Party of Action, edited by Pasquale Nocera, one of the members of the Federation of the Party of Action at Salerno. Interesting on account of its constant economic suggestions and plans. 5000 copies printed.

IL LAVORO (weekly) Organ of the Socialist Party, directed by Ernesto Cacciatore, well known anti-fascist, member of the Socialist Committee of Campania; 7000 copies sold, which is the highest circulation of any newspaper in the town.

L'ORA DEL POPOLO (weekly) Organ of the Christian Democratic Party; circulation 7000 copies, edited by Carlo Petrone, whose anti-fascist reputation is not altogether agreed upon by political circles

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IL PANISCIA (weekly) organ of the Communist Party; has one of the lowest circulations of Salerno weeklies. Editor, Franco Faraiello, an anti-fascist of long standing. Circulation, 2000.

LA VEDETTA (weekly) A cultural review belonging to no political party, though it has a religious tendency (Demo-Christian). Editor, Cucurullo; circulation 1000.

DEMOCRAZIA DEL LAVORO (weekly) Paper of the party of that name. Circulation, 3000.

DON CHISCIOTTE (fortnightly) Humorous paper which is read in most parts of liberated Italy. Circulation 12,000.

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FILMS

CAGLIARI - At the Eden Cinema, the following documentary films are being shown "Vigilia di Guerra" and "Marcia del Tempo". The projection, which lasts three days, has caught the attention of the Cagliari public, and the house is filled to overflowing for the five daily shows. The documentary "Vigilia di Guerra" arouses some comment for its originality. The faces of the ex-Duce and of the Chancellor of the Reich cause some applause which is at once repressed by fist-fights. The police check any disturbances at the very beginning and the shows continue in perfect order. It is calculated that some 2500 persons frequent the shows daily.

PALERMO - Cinema Teatro Nazionale, the most recently opened of Palermo's movie houses, is showing "La Primula Smith", with a short variety program. The audience was mixed, with a larger proportion of women than is usually found in Palermo movie audiences. The younger element was well represented, and occasionally voiced audible disapproval of the nazis seen in the film. There was a slight demonstration at the start of the film, many of the youths in the audience protesting because a newsreel was not shown. But as soon as the actual story of the film started, the demonstration died down. There was one other during the film when the leading female character made quite a long speech and there were no Italian subtitles to indicate what she was saying. Several voices were heard to say in Italian, "We can't understand English". As long as the film has adequate Italian subtitles, audiences do not seem to object to the English sound track The audience seemed pleased at scenes showing discomfiture of the Nazis. Only indirectly does this picture help toward a realization of the war effort of the Allies, since all the action takes place just before the start of the war. However it is an excellent example of British courage and quiet heroism. The film projects England and Englishmen very suitably in the eyes of the Italians. An Italian accompanying the reviewer was much impressed with the idea of a professor risking his life innumerable times to save intellectuals and scientists from the nazi concentration camps.

NAPLES - "Magic in Music" was shown for the first time on Nov. 16 at the Sala Roma Cinema. The singing is good and the scenery was much admired. The public showed fair interest in the film.

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APPENDIX II - LOCAL CONDITIONS

1 Naples

Increased Activity by the Allied and Italian Police in the Province of Naples - In order to repress the increasing crimes against individuals and property, the Allied and Italian police have organized a new service to meet the situation. The City of Naples has been divided into 5 sectors which have been entrusted to 10 squads of Carabinieri of 15 men each. The Province of Naples has been divided, on the other hand, into 10 areas, which have been entrusted to mixed Military Police and Carabinieri motorized units.

This increased police activity has been greatly welcomed by the people, especially the night patrols as it was not safe to go out after dark on account of continuous cases of agression.

2 Tuscany

The slowing down of the Allied advance in Northern Italy has brought out a crop of rumors and a certain amount of uneasiness among Italians. These rumors which are widespread are undoubtedly stimulated by either agents or ex-Fascists. For instance in Florence and elsewhere suggestions have been made that the Allies have had to evacuate Viareggio, Bagni di Lucca and Lucca. These rumors have been believed and discussed almost everywhere.

In Florence itself there has been considerable agitation against the Prefect, who is in some quarters alleged to be a Fascist and to do everything to obstruct the C.L.N. Probably many people are sincere in these attacks, but again it is possible that this agitation has been stimulated by those who wish to sabotage the work of the Allies and they have been successful on account of the present economic situation. Yet another unconfirmed rumor is that there is a widespread fifth column organization at work in Tuscany.

A thing which is causing grave discontent is that troops frequently help themselves to furniture in requisitioned and unrequisitioned houses. Although the Italians have now become resigned to the loss of their property after the depredations of the Germans, many of

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A thing which is causing grave discontent is that troops frequently help themselves to furniture in requisitioned and unrequisitioned houses. Although the Italians have now become resigned to the loss of their property after the depredations of the Germans, many of them still complain bitterly. From the propaganda point of view the misbehavior of a relatively small number of troops can have very grave repercussions and can supply the Republican radio with a very effective weapon of attack, at a time when the population, already suffering from shortages of food, fuel and clothing, is easily influenced by subversive activities.

Hitler's speech, broadcast by Himmler, has aroused little or no commend. The same Italians who believe that we have evacuated Lucca, and are undoubtedly considerably alarmed for their own safety, seem to be absolutely certain of the defeat of the Germans.

As usual the main preoccupations are food, fuel and the approaching cold weather.

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3 LUCCA.

Political Situation in Province and Town of Lucca, October, 1944

The Committee of National Liberation in Lucca includes the usual Parties. It is headed by Avv. Giovanni Carmignani, a Christian Democrat, who has also been appointed Prefect by the Committee. The Mayor, Baldassari, is a Communist. The parties now active are:

1) Christian Democrats - Lucca, with its large number of churches and high percentage of devout Catholics, is one of the places in Tuscany where clerical influence is strongest and consequently it is likely that this party will predominate. Not many members are inscribed however, because all applicants are subjected to a rigid scrutiny. There is almost no propaganda since both printing and distribution of leaflets are forbidden. It is probable that 80% of the population, which has not yet assumed any definite political position, will join this party. The leaders, especially the young men coming from "Azione Cattolica", are full of enthusiasm and are openly opposed to Communism.

2) Communists - Like the Christian Democrats, they are striving to dominate in Lucca. They already number 1500 members in the town alone. Almost all come from the Partisan ranks and have excellent leaders such as Dr. Bernieri. This party in Lucca is very cautious in its propaganda, always stressing the fact that it allows complete religious freedom, obviously with the aim of not alienating Catholics.

3) Socialists - The Socialists in Lucca are very moderate and have no Communist tendencies as in Southern Italy. This moderation is also apparent in Northern Italy, especially in Liguria, where the Socialists dislike the way in which Nenni has linked the party with the Communists. In Lucca the party is made up of pre-Fascist Socialists. They number about 100, one of the principal members being Avv. Frzzi. Certain districts of the province, such as Versilia, Viareggio, S. Leonardo, Pieve di Compito, etc., are traditionally Socialist, and here these left-wing tendencies will probably lead to Communism.

4) Party of Action - This party was very active during the clandestine period. It kept in continual contact with the Floren-

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4) Party of Action - This party was very active during the clandestine period. It kept in continual contact with the Florentine Military Command, organized the Pippo Partisan Brigade and many of the members also belonged to the Cavalli Brigade. The Party is still in process of organization and inscription of members has not yet begun. Applications for admission are sent to Florence for consideration. The Party has little future in Lucca. At present a few small country landowners and workmen belong to it. It is active in relief work and has helped many partisan families. It is now organizing Workers' Cooperative Associations on the same lines as those in Florence. None of this however wins for it either the sympathy or the attention of the people, who are divided among the Christian Democrat, Communist and Socialist Parties.

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4) Liberals - This is scarcely known because the middle classes, which swell its ranks in Florence, in Lucca prefer the Christian Democrats.

5) Labour Democrats - This party does not belong to the C.I.N. and is almost unknown.

Probable developments of Political Situation - The two principal parties will probably be the Christian Democrats and the Communists. It is uncertain to which of these two parties the Socialists will turn. A bitter struggle is foreseen and the first symptoms are already evident. The Christian Democrats maintain the Communists are working up disturbances. As it is believed that the Partisans, who form a large percentage of the Communist Party, have not handed in their arms, this may lead to serious results.

Allied and Italian Officials in Lucca

The Prefect, never a member of the fascist party, is considered an honest and upright men. He is opposed by the Communists who accuse him of weakness because of his loyalty to the Allied Military Government. People complain that he has not yet started epuration. They want the city cleared of Fascists; members of the notorious "Brigata Nera Mussolini", which caused so much suffering in the city, are still about.

Labour Conditions

At present the only activity of the Camera Confederale del Lavoro, where Christian Democracy, Communism and Socialism are equally represented, is the "Ufficio Avviamento al Lavoro," (Labour Office) which is principally concerned with problems of unemployment. A circular letter has been sent to all Lucca and Capannori employers, asking for information on the present labor situation and how many hands they could employ. The office has more than 2000 unemployed on its lists.

Until the regular resumption of work, employers have agreed to pay an advance on wages. As this is a matter of individual initiative, the sum varies and wages fluctuate from 50 to 100 lire per day. The 70% rise on this basic wage has been extended to the Province.

The unemployment situation will be clear when the census papers come in to the Labour office. Meantime an approximate calculation

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The unemployment situation will be clear when the census papers come in to the Labour office. Meantime an approximate calculation gives the total number of workers in Lucca and Capannori as about 8 - 10,000, and those now employed as about 2-3000. About 80% of the unemployed live by black market activities, working little and earning much. Formerly the principal industry was the manufacture of textiles. War damages have been so great that the large number of unemployed is not surprising. All factories able to do so are to resume work as soon as possible.

1860

Commercial Agreement between Lucca and Florence

The principal causes of economic and working difficulties in the Tuscan Province are:

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a) The complete cessation of inter-provincial trade.

b) The difficulties confronting individual efforts designed to link up trade between the provinces.

Dr. Bonacchi, Secretary to the Camera Confederale del Lavoro in Lucca, has proposed a plan to the AMG officer whereby commercial relations between Lucca and Florence may be re-established. The former city lacks woven goods, whereas Prato (Province of Florence) has a superfluity. Dr. Vonacchi proposes to buy a consignment and put it on sale in Lucca. AMG has approved the plan but stipulated that the concession is conditional on a corresponding consignment of other goods to Florence. "Filati" (spun yarn and thread) and oil are proposed for this exchange.

Agricultural Situation

Cattle - In 1939 the cattle in the Province of Lucca numbered about 42,000 head; statistics of February 1944 give 32,000 head. The number has been further diminished by the German looting of the past months. A general census is now to be taken. First results show a drop of 50% in Lucchesia, 85% in Versilia, and 60% in Garfagnana. Experts expect a total of 15,000 head in all.

Seed time and Sowing - A census has been taken of the agricultural tractors necessary for autumn work and sowing. The Prefect of Lucca is publishing a decree making it obligatory to loan animals and tractors to farmers whose stock has been destroyed or stolen by the Germans. The autumn sowing has not yet begun, though the beginning of November is the usual time, except for some varieties of grain such as Frassineto and Virgilio. No news has been received about the Garfagnana and the Upper Valley of the Serchio, where fighting is still going on.

Chestnuts - The province has always exported large quantities of Chestnuts; usually producing more than 160,000 quintali. This year the harvest promises to be very abundant, but in the best yielding district, Garfagnana, gathering is impeded by the war. It is intended to make Florence the chief distributing centre, owing to its nearness and the need there of food supplies.

Olives and Oil - Contrary to general belief, oil production in the province does not suffice, even in good years, to satisfy local needs; owing to its high quality, however, it is exported and other

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Olives and Oil - Contrary to general belief, oil production in the province does not suffice, even in good years, to satisfy local needs; owing to its high quality, however, it is exported and other oil imported. Last year, a bad year, the yield was only 7570 quintali; this year from 15,000 to 22,000 quintali are expected. The needs of the province are about 22,000 quintali. War damage to the olive trees is negligible, but about eight of the most modern olive presses have been destroyed.

Wine - The vintage has been excellent in all respects. In spite of this, owing to transport difficulties, prices in Lucca are still very high, varying from 60 to 80 lire a Lucchese flask (about one and three-quarter litres).

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Food Situation

Judging by the rations distributed, the food situation is critical. Until the latter part of October, the people received only 100 grams of bread per day, since raised to 200 grams. Nothing else on the ration cards is being distributed, not even vegetable flour of which the population has received only one ration. The Black Market flourishes and everyone resorts to it. Prices compared with those in Florence are as follows:

Foodstuffs	Lucca	Florence
Flour	L. 50 per kilo	L. 80 per kilo
Sugar	" 500 " "	" 450 " "
Oil	" 600 " litre	" 700 " litre
Maize	" 30 " kilo	Not to be found
Dried Beans	" 120 " "	" 80 per kilo
Chick peas	" 80 " "	Not to be found
Leather shoes	" 2000 a pair	" 4000 a pair
Cloth (medium qual.)	" 3000 a metre	" 3000 a metre

The prices in hotels and restaurants are prohibitive, largely owing to the presence of Allied troops.

Transport and Communications

On October 10th the Prefect legalized the Statute of a new transport company, the C.L.A. (Comagnie Lucchese Autotrasporti). All provincial transport must be authorised by this company and all who control or possess motor lorries, etc., must belong to it. It is premature to gauge how much transport there will be at its disposal. A certain amount of confusion and incompetence is evident in the organization at the moment, and it remains to be seen how useful it will turn out to be.

Communications are very difficult owing to the state of the roads and bridges. The reconstruction of bridges over the Serchio is the most urgent requirement, as until this is done the Province continues to be divided into two parts without any means of intercommunication. The Military Engineers have built a bridge at Ponte S. Piero, on the road connecting Lucca and Viareggio but this is reserved exclusively for military traffic. It is pointed out that while all other road

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Press, Radio and Cinema in Lucca

Press - The papers available in Lucca are: 1850

The Corriere del Mattino, brought daily from Florence and read with much interest although it does not give local news.

The Notiziario Lucchese, the organ of the Lucca C.L.N. A wretched little sheet, badly printed and edited, and much criticized by the people.

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The Nazione del Popolo does not reach Lucca. People are eager to read this paper. A few copies were on sale some time ago at 2 instead of 1 lire (to cover transport); they were sold in a moment.

No party papers are printed at Lucca, as these are forbidden by the Allied Command. Some however are printed clandestinely. An issue of AVANTI was seen there.

Radio - Since October 22nd the electric current has been reduced. The Florence radio can be heard, but not well. There is great interest in both the London and American radio.

Cinemas - Two cinemas are open to the public, showing English and American films; both are crowded. Propaganda films are popular. "The Great Dictator" is eagerly awaited.

Propaganda - No Allied Propaganda Centre exists in Lucca. This is much regretted. Many people know the Florence Centre and wish that a similar one could be established in the town. The magazines "Victory" and "Mondo Libero", etc., are not circulated. When occasional copies do reach Lucca, they are practically fought over.

There is no fascist propaganda, nor are any leaflets circulated as in Florence.

Public Reactions

There are American and Brazilian troops in Lucca, but very few British. Their relations with the civil population are very cordial. The American Negro troops behave well and are also much liked by the people.

There is little trafficking in food between the troops and civilians, but cigarettes are sold at 70 to 80 lire a packet.

Relations between the people and the Italian police and officials are not very cordial. The Left-wing parties identify them with the past régime. Should disturbances occur, they would probably have difficulty in dealing with the situation.

The C.L.N. is charged with ineptitude and lack of firmness in its relations with the Allied authorities; its prestige is consequently declining.

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THE ABRUZZI

These two reports on towns in the Abruzzi are based on statements made by the Mayor and other citizens to PWB officers. They are included as evidence of the reactions to the catastrophy of war by remote communities and show the obstacles to reconstruction as seen by prominent citizens. The comments on certain defects in the measures hitherto taken were suggested as a result of personal observation by the PWB officers concerned.

CARSOLI

Carsoli is a mountain town, hugging the Abruzzis some 60 km. east of Rome. It used to consist of some 350 houses. 280 of them are today a total wreck. The rest are more or less severely damaged. War has gone over Carsoli's 3800 souls in the form of a concentrated bombardment by Allied bombers. It was an important center of communications and transportation while the Germans were retreating.

The people of Carsoli are poor mountain people. Most of them own small plots of land that are sufficient to provide them with food. Some 50 used to work in the local paste factory. Others worked in the brick kilns; still others hired out as farm labor, or worked in the chestnut forests, and on the railroad.

The war has stunned them, and it seems they have not yet recovered from the shock. How otherwise could one explain that the men walk the streets doing nothing (their cellar refuges being too damp to stay home), while the wreckage of their homes, the rubble in the streets remain largely untouched? "We are poor people. We cannot rebuild," the Mayor said, while by-standers nodded gravely. But it would seem that what is needed foremost is labor, the one commodity abundantly at hand.

The community has reported the damage to the provincial prefecture at Aquila. The firm of Scalera, one of the largest building and construction companies of Rome, has been commissioned to begin reconstruction. But all arrangements are in the hands of the provincial Genio Civile, and thus far Scalera has begun with rebuilding only one house. So Carsoli is waiting for the State to rebuild. It was but a brief visit by the PWB officer, a 15 minute talk with the

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AVEZZANO

Avezzano lies in the heart of the Abruzzi mountains. It is the most prosperous of the Abruzzi towns. The local Banco di Napoli branch normally has twice the amount of deposits of all the banks of the provincial center of Aquila together, though Avezzano is only half Aquila's size. Its 22,000 people live chiefly off the rich soil of a valley comprising about 16,000 hectars, formerly the bed of a

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lake (Lake Fucino). The people of Avezzano are in fact richer than those of the other villages surrounding that valley chiefly because their soil is richer than that outside.

Practically all of Avezzano's land belongs to Prince Torlonia. It is rented out at reasonable prices. The Torlonias are generally considered good administrators who have contributed greatly to the prosperity of the town. They built a large sugar refinery which operated with locally grown sugar beets and normally employed some 2000 workers. They operated a distillery. Only recently they had built a modern electric power station.

A normal year's production of those 16,000 ha. yielded some 10,000 tons of wheat; 60,000 tons of potatoes; and 100,000 tons of sugar beets. Aside from these staple crops the valley yielded fruit, vegetables, oats, grapes, and such other products as the people grew for their own consumption. In addition there was a rich yield from several thousand head of cattle and sheep.

Beginning with January 18, 1944, Avezzano was heavily bombed by Allied bombers. According to the inhabitants, the town had no strategic importance; its production contributed little if anything to the enemy's war effort. Moreover, the Germans seemed to know to the day when a bombardment would take place. For instance, the present Mayor, Avv. Rolando Spina, told the PWB officers that while he was detained by the Germans at Aquila as an anti-fascist, one of the jailers told him that beginning in a few days Avezzano was going to be utterly destroyed by Allied bombardments. A few days later the bombing began. The Germans occupying the town would tell the inhabitents to get out of their houses in ample time before the actual bombardment. When asked how they knew, they replied that the Allies had dropped warning leaflets. However, none of the local people, including carabinieri, ever found or saw such a leaflet. They think that the Germans had somehow succeeded in fooling the Allies into bombing a worthless target. At any rate, thanks to the Germans' foreknowledge, only 110 persons were killed in those raids.

Avezzano had about 2500 houses and public buildings. Of these 1400 were totally destroyed; 400 were severely damaged; and some 1250 were lightly damaged. In addition the Germans mined and severely [illegible] destroyed a malt factory;

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Avezzano had about 2500 houses and public buildings. Of these 400 were totally destroyed; 400 were severely damaged; and some 1250 were lightly damaged. In addition the Germans mined and severely damaged the power station and completely destroyed a malt factory; damaged the sugar refinery and the distillery, after stripping them of all machinery; they blew up sections of the highway and railroad, and destroyed bridges and the water system. They slaughtered or drove off all the cattle, horses, mules and sheep they could lay their hands on. The Torlonia estate alone is said to have lost 2500 head of cattle, among them 800 oxen, also some 2000 sheep. Only the animals that had been driven into the mountains or otherwise hidden were saved. Of course, the Germans also took away all trucks; but they did not harm the farm machinery of individual farmers, nor was any farm land mined.

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Avezzano was liberated around the middle of June. Avv.Spina was appointed Mayor. His immediate concern was to see that the building and reconstruction material within the community was used to maximum advantage. He requisitioned what he found, namely 1000 quintals of cement from the Torlonia estate, and 250 tons of coal from the sugar refinery. He also took some 200,000 bricks from the local four brick kilns. These materials were paid for and sold to people who had made application for building materials with the Mayor. Before selling the material however all applications were checked by the municipal civil engineer, who also checked whether the material sold was actually used in accordance with the request.

Before beginning the reconstruction of private houses, the community had first to restore the water system as well as that part of the highways and roads coming under its jurisdiction. To that end the Allied authorities granted a subsidy of 4 million lire, which was used exclusively for the purposes indicated. The requisitioned cement went largely for the reconstruction of water pipes, bridges, and highways. The requisitioned coal was carefully divided to operate first some 50 threshing machines to handle the wheat harvest. Another part was turned over to local furnaces to make 4000 quintals of lime; and a third part to local kilns which produced 60,000 roofing tiles. Half the coal is said to be still on hand for making bricks and tiles. In addition it was possible to buy 40,000 tiles through the offices of the Genio Civile at Aquila.

These materials were sufficient to repair some 500 of the 1250 lightly damaged houses. The rest, as well as the rebuilding of the totally destroyed dwellings, will have to await the arrival of more coal to heat the brick and tile kilns and lime ovens, though presumably the coal still on hand will be used for this purpose. Glass is also badly needed to repair practically all existing buildings and to build new. Meanwhile local initiative seems limited to taking tiles and bricks from the wreckage as well as from stables and other currently disused buildings. Much of this has already been done. But it is insufficient to solve the problem.

At this time some 4000 Avezzano citizens live in damp cellars, or other make-shift places amide the ruins of their former homes. No one knows how long it will be before they can rebuild, for not to

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At this time some 4000 Avezzano citizens live in damp cellars, or other make-shift places amide the ruins of their former homes. No one knows how long it will be before they can rebuild, for not much more can be done without the essential building materials. The nearest centers of supplies are beyond reach with present means of transportation; cement comes from Civitavecchia (180 km. away); tiles from Sinelunga (400 km.); and glass from Florence.

The Avezzani have enough grain and potatoes to last them till about March, 1945. The present lack of fats and soap is causing an epidemic of scabies. By next spring it is hoped that the sugar refinery and distillery will be in working condition again; for most of the machinery carted off by the Germans (more than 26 carloads) was found again in various places along the railroad to Rome. If

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electrical machinery were available, the power station too could be put back into condition, for the buildings still stand. In fact, the Mayor believes that all of Lavezzano could be rebuilt within a year, for the city has many building and construction workers who ordinarily work out of town. And there is experience in rebuilding destruction as a result of the amount suffered thought a great earthquake in 1915.

The Mayor also thinks that with the exception of about 15% bombed out of their homes, all reconstruction can be paid for by the people themselves, without any government subsidy. All repairs already made were paid for by the individuals concerned. And except for those poor, who lived in government-owned low-cost homes (case popolare), no one intends to delay repairs or rebuilding in order to await government financial help. On the other hand, the city itself has no funds whatever for the rehabilitation of its school and other municipal buildings. The fascist regime left it with a deficit of 3 million lire.

Due to the severe damage to school buildings, 4200 elementary pupils and 1500 high school students are without instruction, even though all the teachers are available. To put at least the largest of the school buildings into operation, and thus instruct in rotation substantially all childre, some 250,000 roof tiles and 500 square meters of window glass are required.

Some Observations

(1) Community action seems to revolve largely around what the Mayor initiates, but the PWB Officers did not interview the Perlonia family and others who might have given another side to the story. The Mayor's actions seem to have been limited to

a) Requisitioning and equitably distributing building materials and coal;

b) Restoring public facilities (roads and water supply) with funds allocated by the Allied Command.

(2) The school system is allowed to be out of commission, with no prospect of putting it into operation within reasonable time. It would seem that some make-shift arrangement might have been possible, using public or private buildings, to make use of the teaching staff

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(2) The school system is allowed to be out of commission, with no prospect of putting it into operation within reasonable time. It would seem that some make-shift arrangement might have been possible, using public or private buildings, to make use of the teaching staff and take the children off the streets. It must not be forgotten that the last bombing is some 6 months past; that the city has been liberated 5 months, and all that time the schools have been closed.

(3) A similar observation applies to the general appearance of the town. Much rubble and wreckage is still lying about. All of this must be cleared away before rebuilding can begin; more might have been done in this respect. For his would require no raw materials. On the contrary, some essential materials, including stones and bricks and some wood might be salvaged. In view of the fact that the Mayor said that no one is waiting for government subsidy to rebuild, the question remains, why has not more of the wreckage been cleared?

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(4) The Mayor said that Communism was not strong in the community; that the people were prosperous and on the whole satisfied with their arrangements with the proprietors of the land. One of the tenants of a government-owned "popular house", a former member of the fascist militia, on the other hand, insisted that the city was full of Communists and radicals. Neither he nor any of the other tenants seem knew the new location of the Registry where their rent must be paid, which may or may not indicate that they have paid none for some time.

(5) The Community has apparently given no thought to the problem of rehousing the poor bombed out of their "popular houses," beyond expecting the Government to take care of them. According to the Mayor the poor are in such a small minority that their problem does not affect the prosperity of the community. Also, the Mayor did not mention the fact that the government-fixed price for potatoes, which must be delivered to the Consorzio Agrario of Aquila, is too low, that there is consequently much dissatisfaction among the farmers, and a great incentive to black market operations. Substantial quantities of potatoes intended for the black market have already been confiscated by the Allied authorities and carabinieri in charge of the program. While the PWB officers were interviewing the Mayor, an American soldier notified him that a city-operated truck had been stopped and several bags of potatoes were found to be illegally being transported on it. The potatoes were confiscated.

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ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy November 23rd 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 43

Part II - Annexes

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1855

ANNEXES

Appendix I General Impressions of a Trip Through Sicily

Explanation of Reliability Rating

Source (reliability)		Report (probability)	
A	always reliable	1	confirmed
B	usually reliable	2	probable
C	sometimes reliable	3	possible
D	frequently unreliable	4	doubtful
E	a bad source	5	improbable

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy 23rd November 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 43

Part II - Annexes

A CURRENT EVENTS

1 Socialist-Communist Meeting

Rome Communists and Socialists held a mass meeting on the Palatine in the ancient Stadio Domiziano on Sunday November 12th, to celebrate the 27th Anniversary of the Soviet Revolution.

A long procession wound its way along the via dell'Impero composed of workers marching under their own banners, and men and women on foot or packed into donkey carts carrying placards with a variety of inscriptions such as "Down with the Monarchy", and "We want liberty and bread from the Allies". The donkeys were decorated with large red rosettes, and the crowd gave an impression of enjoying a morning out. Even the Christian Party of the left (formerly known as Catholic Communist Party) were represented by about 150 members, also carrying their placards.

Togliatti called the meeting the greatest political gathering since the liberation of Rome. He spoke of the danger of reactionary forces and stressed the need for a progressive republican democracy.

Nenni urged that all power be passed to the C.L.N., and advocated the socialisation of industry.

Both speakers paid warm tributes to the achievements of the Red Army.

The crowd, estimated by an allied officer at thirty thousand (other claims gave figures from ten to one hundred thousand) was quiet and orderly. There were frequent shouts of "Down with the King", "Down with the Monarchy", but no wild applause when Togliatti mentioned Trieste such as occurred when Orlando mentioned the same subject a week ago.

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Nenni urged that all power be passed to the C.L.N., and advocated the socialisation of industry.

Both speakers paid warm tributes to the achievements of the Red Army.

The crowd, estimated by an allied officer at thirty thousand (other claims gave figures from ten to one hundred thousand) was quiet and orderly. There were frequent shouts of "Down with the King", 'Down with the Monarchy", but no wild applause when Togliatti mentioned Trieste such as occurred when Orlando mentioned the same subject a week ago.

A band played and the crowd sang the "Red Flag" and the "Internationale"on several occasions.

2 Press Reactions to Socialist Communist Meeting

L'AVANTI (Socialist) and L'UNITA (Communist) both published full accounts of the meeting. For such a huge gathering the spontaneous order was in itself impressive - a symbol of social democracy, wrote AVANTI. Both papers published a communique from their respective directorates, thanking the Roman people for showing their love of liberty and enthusiasm for democracy without disturbing public order. 854

IL TEMPO (Independent). Leonida Repaci called the meeting a spectacle without equal ... Nenni and Togliatti spoke forcefully and with dignity ... The aim of the Socialist and Communist parties was to show the reactionaries who were lining up with the Christian Democrats, their power by means of this spectacular demonstration.

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IL RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE states that Nenni, in his well-known formula "all power to the C.L.N." signifies that power must pass to "those who fought and are fighting against Nazism and Fascism; to the sailors, soldiers and airmen who, in September 1943 fought to defend Italy's honour... All powers should pass to the Democratic State when epuration proceedings had been completed, when those responsible for the war and Fascism had been dealt with, and when by the wish of the Italian people and the Constituent Assembly, a free Republican Italy arose".

L. VOCE REPUBBLICANA comments on Nenni's speech in which he declared his desire for unity between the Socialist and Communist parties as well as a greater unity with the democratically minded. Associating this statement with the position taken by the Socialist-Communists on the question of a democratic republic, it asks what connection there could be with such a statement and the "National Union" which the Socialist-Communists had achieved "with the King, the generals, cardinals, capitalists, monarchists and the ex-Fascists".

3 Public Reaction

A woman of about 38 years of age, of the working classes:

"Togliatti is a great man. He cannot fight the Monarchy with words, as being a Minister he is limited in what he can say".

An Intellectual

This immense gathering must convince the other parties of our strength, and if, as I forsee, there is a union among the left-wing elements, all Government powers will be in our hands in the future.

Another Intellectual

This meeting apart from its size and characteristics, reminds me exactly of Fascist gatherings. There are banners and music, cameras and the badges of the two parties, which are in fact essentially one. Judging from the method of propaganda preceeding the meeting, I realise that the system has not changed. Besides, Nenni and Togliatti give me the impression of being two dictators.

Several people stressed the fact that the meeting was voluntary and not obligatory.

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L. V'CE RE' BOLICH. comments on Nenni's speech in which he declared his desire for unity between the Socialist and Communist parties as well as a greater unity with the democratically minded. Associating this statement with the position taken by the Socialist-Communists on the question of a democratic republic, it asks what connection there could be with such a statement and the "National Union" which the Socialist-Communists had achieved "with the King, the generals, cardinals, capitalists, monarchists and the ex-Fascists".

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B. GENERAL REPORTS

4 A talk with Dr. Ernesto Bonaiuti

Dr. Ernesto Bonaiuti, the ecclesiastical historian and writer, formerly of Rome University, who was unfrocked and excommunicated by the Vatican for his modernism and refusal to confor, is a man of over sixty but carries his years well and is full of life and energy. He occupies a peculiar position in Italian intellectual life, as in his large output of books - including his masterpiece the "Storia del Cristianesimo" - he has managed to get onto bad terms not only with the Church but also with the Fascists and yet again with Croce and the Neo-Hegelians who still represent

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the strongest single current in Italian intellectual life.

Modernism, which had become a movement of weight at the beginning of the century, was shattered by the famous Encyclical "Pascendi". Bonaiuti's main work is on the index of prohibited books, and he is at present determined not to give way. After his excommunication, Dr. Bonaiuti was also deprived of his university position, and when he endeavoured to continue wearing his clerical clothes he was threatened with arrest by the Fascists in the name of the Concordat between the Vatican and the Italian State. He thus lived a life of great poverty and material instability without help either from Church or State for years, and it is clear, judging by his tiny appartment on Monte Sacro on the outskirts of Rome, overlooking the Valley of the Aniene, that his material difficulties remain as big as ever.

Dr. Bonaiuti spoke of his present difficulties with some passion - too emotionally perhaps to be reasonably objective. At present he is giving an independent course of lectures on classical philosophy and doing a certain amount of lecturing outside Rome. He expected to be able to return to his university post after the fall of Fascism. According to his account of things the problem of his reinstatement was discussed by the Italian Council of Ministers. The Christian-Democrats threatened to resign from the Government where he reinstated. Bonomi "who was weak as always" gave way.

De Ruggiero, the present Minister of Education, made it easier for Bonomi to take the attitude he did by arguing that Bonaiuti's reinstatement was against the Concordat. Bonaiuti denies that this is so, as he says he was dismissed from the university for political motives. When it was pointed out to Bonaiuti that De Ruggiero hardly had the reputation of being a clerical, Bonaiuti replied that the attitude of a number of the present ministers to the Vatican and the clergy had been influenced by the debt they owed to the Church during the period of the Fascist and German terror. De Ruggiero had been amongst those who had been hidden by religious orders and clergy and neither he nor Bonomi would offend the Vatican at present.

Bonaiuti admitted that the patriotic activity of the monastries during the latest persecution of anti-Fascists had been remarkable, though he insisted - at greater length - on the degree to which the Church, earlier, had been compromised with Fascism. He added that while he did not doubt De Ruggiero's

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Amongst other views expressed by Dr. Bonaiuti in several further talks were the following:-

(i) The General Situation. The moral ruin effected by Fascism and the present situation was if anything worse than the physical destruction of the war. He was a Roman but he was quite appalled by the selfishness and corruption and decadence of a large part of the Roman aristocracy, for instance, which was going to its ruin with closed eyes. If the Allies left he thought the Communists would probably come to power. He was not afraid of Communism as a social doctrine, but he was very afraid of mater-

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ialism and of the suppression of liberty which he believed would ensue. The Communists probably would succeed in taking over factories in the North before the Allies arrived. The delay imposed by military necessity would make a revolutionary situation more certain next year. The Italians were not naturally revolutionary but they would be driven to a revolutionary sympathy by necessity.

He disliked the Christian Democrats as much as the Communists. They were narrow and negative and were not taking up social questions seriously. They also lacked intelligent leaders. He had a good deal of sympathy with the Socialists, especially with the more moderate wing represented by men such as Saragat and Silone. Unlike most Italians he thought Ignazio Silone a great novelist.

(ii) The Monarchy. Like most of his colleagues and friends he was disillusioned with the Monarchy. The King had in his favour that he had got rid of Mussolini. But the Luogotenente in his recent interview accorded to Mr. Matthews, had shown a a stupidity and an absence of realisation of his constitutional duties which made it difficult to imagine that he could possibly survive. He (Bonaiuti) had been told yesterday (November 14th) by Luigi Salvatorelli (a close friend of his whom he had hidden during the terror) that the Council of Ministers had met specially to discuss the question of whether Bonomi knew of this interview beforehand and whether his attitude could be commended. It was a serious matter. Bonomi, he repeated, was a weak man. He (Bonaiuti) blamed Badoglio more than the King for the present situation, for which the King was made the scapegoat. Amongst other things, he could not understand how Badoglio had allowed Mussolini to escape. It would have been better to have had him shot.

(iii) The Vatican. Dr. Bonaiuti spoke with passion against the Vatican and made some rather exaggerated assertions regarding it. The Council of Trent, the Jesuits and the "Peccendi" all paved the way for Fascism. The modern Italian had no fear of perjury and was mortally inferior to the Anglo-Saxon generally. Only a spiritual revival in the general direction of Christian Socialism would save Italy, but the Vatican would never take any lead in a spiritual revival. He thought the Christians of the Left (the former Christian Communists) worthless as they had bowed to the Vatican. He was as hostile to the Vatican as to the Soviet Union.

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Autobiography. Dr. Bonaiuti has completed his autobiography which is now printing. This frontal attack - an MSS of which has been privately confided to a F.O.B. officer - will certainly arouse indignation in the Vatican and make Bonaiuti's wished for reappointment to Rome University more a "cause celebre" than ever.

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PUBLIC OPINION

5 Closing of Rome Restaurants to Allied Troops

Five restaurant owners and five civilians (two school teachers two store owners, a clerk) were asked to comment on the above order.

The restaurateurs are unanimously against declaring Italian restaurants "Off Limits". They feel that they are rendering a good service to allied personnel. They showed the investigator their menus, and he found the prices to be reasonable. They feel that if their places are declared "Off Limits" they might as well close down. One said he would change his place into a bar. "The civilians argument that when restaurants are closed to Allied personnel prices will go down doesn't hold" said one of them. "We would still have to buy our stuff from the black market".

The civilians, with the exception of one store owner, think it is an excellent idea. They believe meal prices will have to go down and civilians will be able to eat in restaurants. "What if restaurants are forced to close down" said the clerk. "So much the better! In that case they will not buy from the black market and the prices of foodstuffs will have to go down". One store owner held the view that it did not make any difference if restaurants were declared "Off Limits" or not. Allied personnel would always find their way in, with the probability that they would have to pay more for their meals. She did not think black market prices would be effected. "The only way to defeat the black market is by giving the population sufficient rations" she said.

FOOD SITUATION

6 Abolition of Control Posts

A freer flow of foodstuffs into Rome is generally expected to follow the abolition of the control posts on the roads leading into the city, announced by the Press on 15th November. This step comes after weeks of campaigning by almost all of the Rome newspapers. The only sufferers will be the middlemen who used to run the stuff into town by bribery and charge high prices for it on the black market. Now the people will be able to go and buy from the peasants at country prices.

6a Campaign against the Sale of Pastries in Rome

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8. Campaign against the Sale of Pastries in Rome

Early this month "Italia Nuova" carried out a private investigation to discover just how much rationed food the Romans were being deprived of, through the sale of cakes and sweets in the 2,000 bars of the city.

The result of the investigation was the publishing of the following figures: The 2,000 Rome bars which sell from 50 to 800 cakes and pastries daily, consume 14 quintals of flour, 4 quintals of sugar and 400 litres of milk each day. Later in the week the "Quotidiano" announced that the Ministry of Agriculture prohibited the selling of cakes and pastries and that strong measures would be taken to enforce this prohibition.

The Romans, however, have still to be convinced that energetic

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steps will be taken to enforce the ordinance and make available for invalids and children the milk and sugar saved.

7 Communal Kitchens in Sicily - (a) Contributions

On Sunday, 29 October, in the Sala di Maggio of the Società per la Storia Patria, the Prefect of Palermo, D'Antoni, spoke on the project of soup kitchens and aid to the children on the city streets.

It will be necessary to provide food for the poor of the island this winter. Over 20,000 hot rations a day will be needed, and 30 million lire must be contributed to carry the project through. The refect's office is handling all contributions which total over two million lire at the present time.

Aldisio has contributed for the High Commission 500,000 lire and personally 30,000 lire. Prefect D'Antoni has contributed for the Prefettura 1,000,000 lire and personally 20,000 lire. Baron Perlo, Prefect's Commissioner has given for the city 100,000 lire and personally 1,000 lire. Another interesting contribution was that of Comm. Carlo Orlando who contributed 5,000 lire in the name of V.E. Orlando.

Later in the week it was announced that the Bank of Sicily, on the proposal of the Director General, Ignazio Capuano, has decided to allot 2,000,000 lire for this cause. This is to be assigned as follows: Palermo, 500,000 lire, Messina 300,000 lire, Catania 300,000 lire, Agrigento 200,000 lire, Trapani 200,000 lire, Siracusa 150,000 lire, Caltanissetta 150,000 lire, Enna 100,000 lire and Ragusa 100,000 lire.

(b) Palermo Naval Base Helps City Children

The American Commander of the Palermo Naval Base has offered the help of the navy in feeding the children found in great numbers on the city streets. The Prefect accepted the offer for the city, and the Navy plans to furnish daily hot rations for 2,000 children.

The food will be distributed at four different points in the city: Villa Filippina, Casa S. Vincenzo alla Noce, Chiesa di San Carlo alla Fieravecchia and Istituto Maria Addolorata. Distribution started this week.

A group of women who are members of the committee working on the communal kitchens will take charge of the distribution, and [illegible] children to rations will be

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8 Wastage of Food by Allied Troops

Italians in Florence, Siena and the serrounding districts comment on the fact that British units throw away their surplus food, at a time when the population of the country is on the brink of starvation. The Germans apparently used to give their surplus food to the needy. Suggestions have been received that official Allied sanction and encouragement should be given to the organisation of a scheme, whereby the disposal and distribution of surplus food should be entrusted to some religious body whose integrity is beyond criticism, in order to avoid the danger of it finding its way to the Black Market.

If some such scheme could be put into operation, there is no doubt that some relief could be given to the poor and an instrument of adverse propaganda eliminated.

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8 REFUGEES
Press Reactions to Conditions in Refugee Camps in the Rome Region.

After visiting the Campo Parioli where 200 families of refugees are billeted , a journalist representing Unita reports on the dreadful living conditions there.

Another article appearing in the same paper reports on the conditions existing in Borgata Cordiani where houses are without toilits, where there is no electricity, schools, or public lavatories and where the rubble caused by bombs has not yet been removed. The paper asks that something be done to alleviate these conditions. The same paper reports the case of the homeless families billeted in Santa Croce. The Buitoni Company, which used to supply a daily ration of soup, has suspended this service claiming payment of 300,000 lire from the Rome Prefecture. The paper asks how these unfortunates will be able to eat and demands to know why their ration cards were withdrawn.

Catholic newspapers, announcing that on Sunday November 12th in all the churches of Rome prayers would be offered for the refugees, published articles on the subject. The Quotidiano notes that "man is not an end to himself but is made also and above all for others and the duty of helping the needy should be felt. Let us help them fraternaly and with our prayers."

The newspaper reports that under the arcades of Lungotevere Vallato numerous refugees sleep on the bare ground, cold and hungry. Nothing is known about them but the intervention of the authorities is indispensable. There are often entire families reduced to such conditions by the war. It is also reported that dirty half-starved boys camp out in the covered street-car stop at Porta Pinciana. Here too, measures must be taken." Is it possible that in our most Catholic Rome there is no generous initiative to save the people from starvation and death?"

The Unita of 11th November continues its accounts of the wretched conditions of the refugees in Santa Croce and the injustice done them, asking only that they should not be treated"like animals."

Voce Repubblicana of the same date recalls that 11,000 people were killed in the bombardment of the San Lorenzo quarter and 25,000 wounded, and that the bombardment indemnity, begun under the former government, was ended by the present government for some unknown economic principle.

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ELECTORATE

9 Some Party reactions to the women's vote question.

1871

The following estimate has been provided by a generally reliable Italian source.

Source says this problem has been raised by the press of each party.

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i) Christian Democrat. This question seems to be of great interest to this party, and their reaction is very favourable towards conceding the vote to women, inasmuch as they are certain to exercise their influence over the feminine element through the Church and religious organisations.

ii) Communist and Socialist. Favourable, as they believe they can attract the feminine vote of the workers more readily than the bourgeois parties can influence their female element to vote. They doubt however that women farm workers can be induced to vote unless they can be convinced that through this vote they can defend their own economic interests. That the Socialists and Communists are interested in the feminine problem is demonstrated by the large number of women of these parties who belong to the "Italian Women's Union" and also by the wide treatment in their newspapers of feminine problems

iii) Action Party. As favourable as the others. They too hope to control a mass feminine vote via their membership consisting of the middle classes such as professional women, teachers, and employees. The Action party has formed a syndical feminine league corresponding to the Women's Trade Union League, for the purpose of strengthening the syndical organisations.

Source comments that with all the party hopes of influencing the women's vote, consideration must be given to the fact that in Italy the men still have considerable influence over the women; thus unless the women vote according to their own interests as workers or according to their position, this vote is likely to become a duplication of the male vote.

In conclusion, source continues, concession of the vote for women would indicate a favorable step forward in favour of the "mass parties", and he believes that on the whole the Christian Democrat party wuld benefit the most thereby.

CULTURAL

10 For students of International Affairs.

A body called "The Italian Society for International Organisation has been recently founded in Rome by a group of students of international problems. It is described as having the purpose of promoting the development of a spirit of friendly co-operation among the nations and [illegible] organisation of the international community. "In view

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of a peaceful organisation of the international community. "In view
of this general purpose", the memorandum on the subject continues "The
Society will accomplish research on theoretical problems of international
law, politics and economics, attend to the publication of books and
periodical reviews, organise lectures and meetings, and promote an
efficient intercourse between Italian and foreign circles interested
in the above problems."

The Society, at its first meeting, decided to offer the
Presidency to H. E Professor Dionisio Anzilotti, former President
of the Permanent Court of International Justice at the Hague; Dr. Leopoldo
Piccardi of the Council of State, and Professor Tomaso Perassi of the
University of Rome, were elected Vice-Presidents.

The Executive Board has the following members: Prof. Roberto Ago,
Prof. Carlo Antoni, Prof. Mario Giuliano, Prof. Guido
Gonella, Prof. Arturo C. Jemolo, Dr. Raffaele
Mattioli, Prof. Gaetano Morelli, Prof. Ugo Papi, Dr. Massimo Pilotti,
Prof. Luigi Salvatorelli, Prof. Pasquale Saraceno, Prof. Mario Scorni
Dr. Alberto Tarchiani, Prof. Ezio Vanoni.

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Professors Roberto Ago and Mario Scorni, in conversations with a PWB officer, said that though this new organisation is sponsored by the Italian Government the idea behind it has been much influenced by the English organisation "Chatham House". The founders intend to preserve an independent attitude and academic standards. They intend to begin by publishing a monthly review devoted to (i) authoritative comments and articles and (ii) the publication of documents of high political and social value which have not been seen in Italy owing to Fascism. The publication of documents will be retrospective.

Three study groups have been formed:

(i) Ethical and political, with Professor Luigi Salvatorelli as Chairman;

(ii) Juridical under Professor Perussi;

(iii) Economic under Professors Massimo Pilotti and Ugo Papi.

The Society intends eventually to publish a weekly bulletin, probably in English or possibly in French. Its headquarters are in the Palazzetto Venezia, Rome.

11 Art Exhibitions

A small but comprehensive exhibition of modern Italian art, organised by the Galleria del Secolo, was opened in Via Vittorio Veneto on the 11th November. The works which are loaned from private collections include paintings by De Chirico, Rosi, Soffici, Sironi and Rossi, and sculpture by Marini, De Fiori and Ettore Colla - the latter contributes a girls head in bronze dorato, interesting in conception and treatment. Outstanding for their colour tones and handling are the two landscapes in oils by the veteran Rosi.

At the Galleria dello Zodiaco in Via Bocaccio, the first of a series of exhibitions of modern European art has been opened on the initiative of the owner of the Gallery, Signorina Linda Chittaro. The range of artists include Picasso (two pen drawings of rare delicacy), Cocteau, Modigliani (a fine crayon head) Beckmann, Braque, Ernst, Vlaminck, De Chirico and Severini. "This exhibition" writes Carlo Belli in a brief preface to the catalogue "brings back an atmosphere we have not known for years."

Considering the difficulties of the present time, the exhibition is

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At the Galleria dello Zodiaco in Via Bergamo, the first of a series of exhibitions of modern European art has been opened on the initiative of the owner of the Gallery, Signorina Linda Chittaro. The range of artists include Picasso (two pen drawings of rare delicacy), Cocteau, Modigliani (a fine crayon head) Buchanan, Braque, Ernst, Vlaminck, De Chirico and Severini. "This exhibition" writes Carlo Belli in a brief preface to the catalogue "brings back an atmosphere we have not known for years."

Considering the difficulties of the present time, the exhibition is remarkable.

EDUCATION

12 Student Demonstration in Naples.

On the 11th November, the morning of the inauguration of the Academic Year at Naples University, there were student demonstrations both inside and outside the University. Before the ceremony started, a group of students blocked the traffic in the Corso Umberto, crying "Viva la nostra Marina" to a group of sailors, who were entering the University as a guard of honour. Various bands of students then tried to force their way through the door, but without success.

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Within the Aula Magna the rector began his address, but after a few minutes the students from outside, who had burst down the barrier, managed to force their way in and joined the audience already assembled. Some of these, at the back, soon started interrupting the proceedings with cries of "Febbraio, Febbraio". The explanation of this was that they wished the December examinations to be postponed until February. As the rector was quite unable to continue his speech with these persistent interruptions, he acceded to their request, upon which he was cheered. Some form of order was then restored, although occasional whistles, cat-calls and cries of O K continued.

Up till now there had been no evident signs of political protestations, but the storm next broke when a group of students started scuffling on one of the balconies, high up, overlooking the dais. A PWB officer, who was present, on asking the correspondent of "La Voce" who these people were, was told that they were "Fascist elements". These "Fascist elements" then proceeded to unfurl a flag of the Soviet Union, which they hung down from the balcony. This was apparently a form of protest in that the only flags displayed were the British, American and French - the two absent great nations being Russia and China. Apparently the Russian consulate had been asked to send a flag, but by some oversight this had not arrived in time for the opening ceremony. This move, however, was unpopular with certain elements below, who cried "Silenzio" and other indistinguishable remarks.

Some students of Monarchist sympathy proceeded to shout "Viva la Casa Savoia" and waved the flag of the Royal House. The students on the balcony then rushed below with their Red Flag and headed straight for the dais. Then followed a period of complete confusion. Several women, whose timidity overcame their curiosity, struggled to escape to the side of the hall. The front rows of the audience, which contained four Brazilian generals, an Italian admiral and Allied military officers, stood their ground, but the majority of the professors on the dais scattered and fled. The demonstrators, with their flag, headed for the rector, who was lost in the general melee

Shouting and struggling continued for some time, but most of the Allied authorities considered that it was then time to leave. The Provincial and Zone Commissioners were cheered on leaving by some sections of the audience. The majority of those present found the whole business most unnecessary and distasteful. After this some form of order was restored, although no police are allowed within the precincts of the University, owing to their statutory immunity, and the rector continued his speech.

This event was mentioned by the fascist radio as a proof that

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This event was mentioned by the Fascist radio as a proof that Neapolitan students were violently opposed to Communism. Meanwhile, in Naples itself, the responsibility for the incident has become a bone of contention between the Left and Right wing newspapers, La Voce speaking of the insult offered to the Soviet Union by the presentation of its flag only half-way through the ceremony, and stressing the dangers of "reactionaries" among the University students; "Il Giornale" replying that the only danger of reaction is from the Communists themselves.

PROPAGANDA

13 PWB Libraries.

The main PWB Library on the ground floor of the building at 62 Via Veneto, Rome, provides a fairly wide selection of books, magazines, reviews and newspapers.

The book selection consists of some 2000 volumes, mainly the library of the Fascist Ministry of Popular Culture. The language most

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generally represented is German, followed by French, English and Italian; there are also a few books in Spanish, Swedish, Hungarian and Portuguese. Most of the books date from the period 1935 to 42.

As regards subject matter, politics is by far best represented. There are a few works dealing with economics. Fiction appears in the form of novels in Italian, mostly translations from German and English.

Among the periodicals are the Economist, Tribune, the Statesman, the Nation, Republic, Harpers. The newspapers consist of the principal American and British dailies such as The Times, New York Times, Manchester Guardian, etc.

The Library is used by journalists, engineers, lawyers, students and intellectuals. Employees of PWB and anyone who obtains permission from the Publications Office may use the library. Books may be taken out.

From 40 to 50 persons use the library daily. Sometimes people have to go because they cannot find room. Those who come stay hours. More space is urgently needed. Some come regularly. They take notes, copy articles, make translations, or just read.

Books on Italian history, Italian and English literature, dictionaries, encyclopedias, Italian and English "Who's Who" are often asked for, but the library does not have them.

The following readers were interviewed in the course of one day:

A chemist who works for a Review to be published weekly. Besides chemistry he is interested in foreign politics, new inventions, and news of general interest. He lamented the lack of Russian and French publications, which are not available here. He comes very often and is very happy to be given this opportunity for "we have been kept in the dark for so many years".

A journalist working for a Press review. He Reads Republic, Nation Harpers and Tribune and is especially interested in foreign politics.. He has been coming regularly for the last two and a half months. He regretted lack of publications from Switzerland.

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Two employees of the Banco di Roma (one the Vice Direttore) were interested mainly in economics and finance. They are attached to the liaison office of their bank with the Allied Command.

An official from the Banco del Lavoro was interested mainly in economics "and reviews are lacking in our office".

The library on the first floor contains a wide selection of bibliographical and photographic material, which is neatly kept on file. Several books of reference, mostly American are also available. Most of the material at present available is American. A British section, is being organised. All the material in this branch is for reference only. It covers mainly politics, history, social problems, economics, science, etc. The photographs depict war events and the various aspects of American life; education, home making, war preparations etc. and are furnished mainly by OWI

1849

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PRESS

14 Review of Newspapers published in Naples.

Risorgimento controlled by PWB, sale 140,000 daily. The paper in Naples having the largest circulation, although it has been criticised because it does not contain, as a rule, good leading articles. Another factor which does not help to raise the public demand is the fact that the war news it publishes has mostly been published by the "Voce" and the "Giornale" the evening before. The editor, Professor Fiorino del Secolo, is an anti-Fascist journalist of long standing.

La Voce daily evening paper, is the organ of the Socialist and Communist Parties, sells 70,000 copies. It is very widely read in town and in the countryside of Campania. In the beginning it was so much sought after that copies were sold at Black Market prices in some sections of the town; now its popularity has somewhat waned owing to the fact that the "Giornale" is published at the same hour in the afternoon. It is edited by Avvocati Gaeta and Roclo; the latter has, for the time being, passed over his job to Prof. Alicata.

Il Giornale daily evening paper, the organ of the Liberal party, is especially appreciated on account of its leading articles by eminent political personalities such as Croce, Altavilla, Arangio-Ruiz, Corbino and others. It is edited by Dott. Lupinacci. Originally it had been allowed to print 50,000 copies, but this number was subsequently reduced to 37,000 copies. This reduction was made in order to allow the Voce to increase its circulation from 50,000 to 70,000 copies.

Il Domani d'Italia daily, organ of the Christian Democrats, will start publication soon. The daily will take the place of the Democristian weekly "Il Popolo". Will print 33,000 copies.

Il Lavoro d'Italia weekly, organ of the Democratic Party of Labour, 12,000 copies printed; edited by S Ciampa and A Carabona. The paper does not have many readers in Naples, but in many cases is distributed gratis among farmers in the Province, for propaganda purposes.

Azione weekly organ of the Action Party, 50,000 copies on sale

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Il Domani d'Italia daily, organ of the Christian Democrats, will start publication soon. The daily will take the place of the Democ-Christian weekly "Il Popolo". Will print 35,000 copies.

Il Lavoro d'Italia weekly, organ of the Democratic Party of Labour, 12,000 copies printed; edited by S Ciampa and A. Cornbond. The paper does not have many readers in Naples, but in many cases is distributed gratis among farmers in the Province, for propaganda purposes.

Azione weekly organ of the Action Party, 50,000 copies on sale, edited by Dott A Armino; much in demand for its articles on Italian and foreign politics by Sforza, Cianca, Omodeo, Schiano and others

La Repubblica weekly, the organ of the Republican Party. 4,000 copies on sale, edited by Prof. Battilo. In great demand and quickly sold out. Much interest was taken in the recently published photos showing the connection between the House of Savoy and Fascism.

Il Giorno weekly of the Liberal Democratic Party; 20,000 copies on sale, edited by the well-known Neapolitan journalist Paolo Scarfoglio. It is rumoured in some quarters that Scarfoglio is subsidised by leading Neapolitan industrialists and traders to carry on a vigorous antiCommunist campaign.

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Il Pensiero Sociale weekly, organ of the Italian Seamen's Federation, edited by the well-known anti-Fascist Giuseppe Giulietti. Circulation is about 5000 copies, all of which are taken up by seafaring people, as the paper deals with nothing but the interests of their category.

Cimento weekly, a review of art and culture edited by the painter Edoardo Pansini; sales 10,000 copies, the best quoted in artistic circles especially in Naples and Campania.

Panorama bi-monthly general review; 20,000 copies printed

La Tribuna dei Ferrovieri, organ of the Union of Railwaymen, fortnightly; 20,000 copies sold.

Foglio Annunzi Legali della Prefettura fortnightly; the organ of the Prefecture; 5,000 copies printed

Libera Scuola fortnightly scholastic organ; 5000 copies printed.

Giustizia weekly; organ of the legal fraternity; 5,000 copies printed

La Lanterna weekly; organ of the higher schools in Naples; 3000 copies printed.

Giornale dei Ragazzi weekly illustrated children's paper, 15000 copies printed.

Universita weekly; organ of the university students; 5000 copies printed.

Solidarieta monthly; organ of civilian and political education; tendency Republican edited by Olga Arcuno; sale 5000 copies.

Aretusa monthly literary review, edited by Francesco Flora, and published by Laterza. In spite of its high cost it is widely circulated in literary circles in Naples and the rest of Liberated Italy; 2000 copies printed. Benedetto Croce takes a personal interest in the preparation of this review.

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Istituto Somatorido Principe di Piemonte monthly medical review; 500 copies printed.

Gioventu monthly students publication; 500 copies printed.

Bolettino Ecclesiastico dell'Archidiocesi di Napoli Churchnews 2500 copies printed.

Progresso Medico official publication of the medical profession. 2,500 copies issued every four months.

Rendiconti della Societa Reale organ of the Royal Scientific Society; issued once a year. 500 copies printed.

1876

In Naples Province

Il Pellegrino monthly; published as parish magazine of S. San Rocco at Frattamaggiore. 500 copies printed.

La Riviera weekly; published at Sorrento under the auspices of the Christian Democrat party. 15,000 copies printed.

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GENERAL IMPRESSIONS OF A TRIP THROUGH SICILY

One of the members of D Section had the opportunity of making a four-day trip on the island during the last week. The purpose of the trip was to change the bulletins in the P.W.B. propaganda shops, and as a member of D Section to try and acquire a clearer background for reports on conditions in the island generally. This was the writer's first view of the places visited, and was most helpful in understanding a little better the conditions of life in Sicily at present.

The trip included among the larger places visited Sciacca, Agrigento, Licata, Gela, Caltagirone, Catania, Acireale, Taormina, and Messina so that it extended over the greater part of the island.

The main impression of the trip cannot help but be one that is disturbing, because of the constant reminders of poverty and low standards of living which one sees. In Palermo the citizens on the main streets of the city are exceptionally well dressed, but in countless small towns one sees nothing of this. There are whole families living in one room, with some livestock as well; far too many children in rags, and what is worse judging by their physical appearance, badly in need of food.

When we arrived at any propaganda shop, a crowd immediately collected. The procedure was always the same - small boys asked for cigarettes, some one present had a relative in the United States about whom he inquired. If anyone knew English in however slight a degree he proudly displayed it, and everyone seemed interested in the new displays being posted and quite often asked for leaflets they could take home.

We talked to as many people and as many different types of persons as possible. The subjects were usually the same - the black market, the difficulty of getting food, the fact that most of the officials were the same as in Fascist days, dread of the coming of winter, and the high cost of living. The questions of food always seems dominant in the minds of the

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In a short conversation it is difficult to discover much about the political bent of the person in question, and after the recent happenings in Palermo people are rather wary of discussing separatism with strangers. In a restaurant in Acireale a prosperous looking citizen informed us that the Separatists were a bunch of stupid people who should be disposed of, but his was the only expression of any definite opinion we collected. Most persons simply shrug their shoulders and make noncommittal gestures.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX I - No. 43

(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only).

Food prices are about the same in all the restaurants, and a meal with pasta and fish ranges from 150 to 200 lire a person. One soft boiled egg cost 18 lire in Acireale, and bread is usually 30 lire even if only one person out of four takes a piece. The Sicilian driver of our car was interested in buying some pasta if it could be found for considerably less than the 130 lire he had been paying on the black market in Palermo, but he was not successful as the price was about as high everywhere. At a restaurant in Gela the waiter said it could be had for 80 lire a kilo and the driver agreed to take it. The waiter returned in a few minutes with the information that the price was now 200 lire so the driver turned down the offer.

From the checking we were able to do with proprietors and waiters as a rule the main bulk of the local clientele of the good restaurants is to be found among those who are making money on the black market. The average Sicilian cannot afford it and it is the profiteer who eats well.

On the north shore of the island there are still a few detours where bridges were blown last year by the retreating Germans, but all are in the process of being repaired. One of the group who made the same trip in the summer stated that conditions were much better now and that a considerable number of the bridges had been finished since that time. This is a definite feat considering the primitive methods used by the local persons doing most of the work. Stone is crushed by hand, and at one bridge women were carrying baskets of crushed rock on their heads down to the workers on the structure. The Germans did a thorough job of demolition along this coast so that there has been much work to do.

Only one abandoned ship - an LST - was observed on this part of the trip and apparently most of the war material in this part of the island has been salvaged, though a few rusty tanks can still be seen occasionally. There is less of this material now, however, than a few months back.

The Sicilians' love of inscriptions on walls is to be seen all over the island. Most of the Fascist slogans have been painted out, though on one new bridge built this year "Viva il [illegible] Viva Sicilia Indipendente"

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Hotel rooms cost about two hundred lire a night, and lodgings were easy to find except in Agrigento. The Russian Labour delegates were in the town the night we arrived. Agrigento was extremely crowded and everyone was much interested in the visit of the Soviets. The Communist party quarters there are large and imposing, and apparently the party is definitely strong in this locality.

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Except for British personnel in Taormina and Catania, and the American Navy in Palermo, there were no signs of Allied military personnel in the places visited. All the persons to whom we talked seemed extremely fond of the United Nations, but they also appear to have a touching belief that the Allies are going to look after them indefinitely. Practically everyone interviewed would like to go to America after the war, where apparently they consider everyone is definitely well off. Two of our group wore American uniforms which doubtless explains the fact that this topic was usually brought into any conversation, especially as most Sicilians have relatives in America.

It is difficult to clarify briefly the countless impressions one secures from a trip to unfamiliar towns. At the beginning of this report it was stated that the general impression was discouraging. There does seem to be a note of hope however. The many acres under cultivation, the countless orchards of olive, lemon, and orange trees, make one realize that there is much natural wealth here on the island. It is to be hoped that with proper distribution of these crops; if means to do this can be found, the food problem which is so overwhelming at present to most of the islanders can be solved by peaceful means.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

TO
COL. CHAPMAN
COL. YOUNG
CO W.C.
CHIEF CLERK

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS.
Information and Censorship Section.
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit N°. I4.
APO 512.

"D" Section.

November 23rd 1944.

REPORT N°. 28 ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL ITALY, NORTH OF ROME.

This report is compiled from Italian and other sources, and is intended to give a survey of opinion in this country. It does not in any way represent the views of the compilers. The contents are confidential and must not be shown to any unauthorised persons.

C O N T E N T S .

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REPORT Nº. 28 ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL ITALY, NORTH OF ROME.

This report is compiled from Italian and other sources, and is intended to give a survey of opinion in this country. It does not in any way represent the views of the compilers. The contents are confidential and must not be shown to any unauthorised persons.

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Source Reliability.

A. Always reliable.
B. Usually reliable.
C. Sometimes reliable
D. Frequently reliable.
E. A bad source.
O. Not possible to judge.

Report Probability.

1. Confirmed.
2. Probable.
3. Possible.
4. Doubtful.
5. Improbable.
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Eric Whelpton
Major.
O.C. "D" Section.
P.W.B. Unit N°. I4.

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1844

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THIS WEEK IN TUSCANY

The long winter nights have brought about a certain amount of lawlessness in the town and countryside. There have been assaults and a few cases of looting. In the main however, considering the shortage of food and the hardships which have to be endured by the people life has been orderly. There is one feature which is worthy of attention. After years of restrictions and domination by the Fascists, Italians seem to pay little attention to the orders of their own police. This is not due entirely to a sense of lawlessness, but because the Carabinieri are still considered by many to be the embodiment of Fascist authority and it is almost a point of honour to disregard their instructions. Many Italians would like to see the entire Police Force of Italy reconstituted on a new basis, although they realize that at the present moment such a reform is scarcely practicable.

Although the vast majority of Italians are pro-Allied in feeling and thoroughly detest the Germans they are inclined to show a lack of responsibility and to have no sense of civic duty. For instance most people disregard the instructions which forbid the use of electric heaters and of lifts. They also are quite prepared to circumvent the regulations which forbid movement from one province to another or the carrying of letters for long distances. Responsible Italians understand the need for these regulations and believe that it is essential that the greatest publicity should be given to the punishments which are imposed on those who contravene them. Nevertheless it would seem that there is a real need for a campaign to bring the Italians to a sense of duty. For this campaign it might be advisable not only to make use of the usual propaganda machinery but also to enlist the services of well-known Italians whose influence would be sure to be effective.

Lastly many Florentines and citizens of other towns complain that the clearing of the streets which have been damaged by bombing or shelling is proceeding far too slowly. They feel that the sooner the towns begin to look normal the sooner will the population be ready to tackle the difficult problem before them. With regard to this matter the authorities of this

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Lastly many Florentines and citizens of other towns complain that the clearing of the streets which have been damaged by bombing or shelling is proceeding far too slowly. They feel that the sooner the towns begin to look normal the sooner will the population be ready to tackle the difficult problem before them. With regard to this matter the authors of this complaint believe that this work could best be done under the directions of Italian civil engineers and with Italian labour. Whilst appreciating the tremendous achievements of the Allied technicians in re-establishing communications and public utility services, these people do not perhaps realize the work that remains to be done in this direction.

1845

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E C O N O M I C

Confidential

1. REPORT ON THE MUG LLO: A CENTRE OF OIL AND WINE PRODUCTION.

EXTENT OF DAMAGE.

Though fighting took place between Partisans and the Germans and Republican Fascists damage to houses is not extensive. There has been however heavy loss of livestock. It is estimated that more than 50% of the cattle, 50% of the sheep and goats, and all pigs and poultry have been carried off by the Germans. They also took the entire stock of oil; including the oil for the pools and for family use. They also requisitioned all wine and grain.

GERMAN MINE MENACE.

German-laid mines are a grave menace to the region. In some districts last season's wheat is still unharvested because the fields are inaccessible owing to these mines. The same danger has prevented the gathering of the grapes and is now obstructing olive-picking although the crop promises to be a very rich one.

These mines are daily causing casualties and are making life difficult throughout the region. Entire forests are unapproachable because of them. It is therefore impossible to cut wood; go shooting, or gather chestnuts.

Considering prevailing agricultural conditions in the region, the land is well cultivated wherever work is practicable. It is regrettable that there are not here, as in Southern Italy, industries for utilizing the "sansa" or olive pulp. The oil of the second pressing, comprising at least 7% of the whole, which can be treated with sulphur, is lost. This loss also includes other by-products, and, finally, the waste sansa which is valuable as fuel.

The motor-presses for olives are now functioning again, but there is a shortage of "fiscoli", (woven baskets), and of the discs of woven vegetable fibre which used to come from Apulia and are essential for production. (B-2).

2. OPENING OF SHOOTING SEASON

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2. OPENING OF SHOOTING SEASON IN FLORENCE PROVINCE.

Posters have appeared asking for shooting to be allowed. This would alleviate the food situation in the city and the game could be sold. As a result poaching is widespread in the country districts. For the most part the Carabinieri turn a blind eye to the activities of the poachers.

1842

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E C O N O M I C Confidential

3. NEED OF ELECTRIC CURRENT FOR INDUSTRIAL REVIVAL

It is important to Florentine industrial life that the electric line distributing power to the Rifredi district should be quickly reestablished, as this would enable the great factories and a number of minor works and industries to resume work.

Many complain of apathy in the matter. For example, a factory owner applied a few days ago to the competent organizatio for current to be transmitted from a line which passed close to his works in which, granted this, he could resume work immediately, all his machinery being intact. He was told that, had it been for public premises or an amusement centre, the work could have been done immediately: as it was, he must wait.

From an Italian source. (B-2).

LOCAL CONDITIONS

1. HIGHWAY AGGRESSIONS

Travellers along the Via Aurelia complain of numerous aggressions taking place almost daily. The authors are usually armed Italians, but also, it is alleged, American negro soldiers.

Last week three hold-ups took place in the Province of

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Last week three hold-ups took place in the Province of Grosseto and two between Cecina and Caletta. Three of these resulted in the death of the victim.

Two of these attacks were said to be by negroes of the Fifth Army, one by Italians wearing Allied uniforms.

According to some reports, the road is unsafe and no-one ventures on it after dark despite the many Military Police cars which patrol it. (B-2).

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N . Confidential.

1. REACTIONS TO HITLER'S SPEECH ,(November I2th I944)

The people have for the most part ignored the Hitler speech, being too much preoccupied with pratical problems to give attention to the international situation.

Those who read it declare it to be the speech of a fanatic and madman. Hitler's reiterated appeals to the Almighty have always been ridiculed by the Italians. Now they say that the Dictator, seeing himself lost, increases his desperate invocations to the Creator.

As regards the international situation, no importance is attributed to the speech, which may, it is said, be good for the Germans, but not for those who see clearly the utter failure of the entire policy of terror established by the Germans in Europe.

It is,moreover, a widespread opinion that German power is in reality in Himmler's hands and that Hitler's end has been the same as that of Mussolini. (B-3).

2. RELATIONS BETWEEN ALLIED AND ITALIAN TROOPS.

Many Italian soldiers now back in Florence from the front, whether belonging to Italian liberation troops or to Labour Corps, complain of the treatment they receive from the Allied troops, which though excellent as to food, is harsh in other ways.

They declare that the Americans treat the Italians with contempt, even calling them "slaves of the Americans." (B-3)

3. REQUISITIONS.

Florentines complain that most restaurants are reserved for the Allies. This causes excessive crowding and long delays in those still available for civilians who, owing to shortage of food and fuel are obliged to have their meals in restaurants.

From an Italian source.(C-3)

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From an Italian source.(C-3)

4. WASTE BY ALLIED MESSES.

It is suggested that scraps from Allied messes might be profitably used up.

The proposal has been made that various religious Communities, giving asylum to orphans and old people, might each be assigned to a mess and regularly collect scraps. This would require organisation and supervision.

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One Sisterhood which received permission to collect daily from a mess received a good supply of scraps the first day, less the second and subsequently none. This propably indicates that the kitchen staff sells or carries off all scraps.

The paper "Domenica", (November 5th) in an article entitled, "Are we to die of Hunger?" declared: "It cannot be said that everything possible has been done to aid the Italians, when the children aided by the Red Cross are refused the scraps of the abundant military messes because of a rule which states that these should be burned.

From an Italian source. (B-3).

5. RATIONING.

People complain that the distribution of 300 grammes of bread daily has not been carried out and that no date has been fixed for it. Although SEPRAL announced a ration of oil, for the second month in succession it has failed to appear. Since the month of June no fat of any kind has been distributed. A ration of pasta would have been preferred to flour.

From an Italian Source. (B-3).

6. A RUMOUR.

A rumour that all the Town Hall personnel dismissed for epuration is about to be reengaged . This is said to be causing discontent.

7. ADMONITION TO YOUNG FLORENTINE WOMEN.

A small poster appeared recently on the walls of Florence: "To the Young Florentine Women."

The spectacle offered by some women in these days is absolutely deplorable. They behave in an unworthy and scandalous manner with the Allies. Negroes included! Naturally all that is observed, followed and set down in a special little book.

Florentine women, ever think of the sacrifice

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Do these young Florentine women ever think of the sacrifice made and of the blood that is being shed to restore a little dignity to Italy?

If they persist in this conduct their names, together with their photographs, will be posted at the street corners. If even this does not prove sufficient, then, when their protectors have left, just and severe punishment will be inflicted on them.

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P R O P A G A N D A . Confidential.

1. ANTI-MONARCHIST POSTER.

On November 17th, an anti-monarchist mural appeared entitled, "La Giovane Italia." (Young Italy).

The first article, a reply to a speech by Benedetto Croce on monarchist and republican affairs, affirmed that the only possible and acceptable solution for Italy was a republic.

Other articles dealt with the reconstructional work undertaken by Prime Minister Bonomi and obstructed by conservatives and Fascists. Defeatism was also criticised.

From an Italian source. (B-2).

2. A FIFTH COLUMN IN FLORENCE ?

The following rumours have been circulating, during the last few days concerning a Fascist Fifth Column: -

a). The increase in beggars and touts. Hundreds of little shoeblacks and other boys have appeared all over the city as if obeying a word of command. They carry on all sorts of more or less illicite trades: the sale of cigarettes to civilians, of alcoholic drinks to soldiers, of indecent photographs, etc.

b). The methodical tearing down of posters referring to the Allied Government, food organisations etc.

c). The increase of the attacks and criticisms on girls who associate with Allied soldiers; the exaggerated anti-monarchical propaganda and the sudden campaign against the Prefect.

d). The comparison of the slowness of the Allied troops with the rapid Russian advance; rumours circulated as to positions relinquished in the Appennines; gossip about alleged waste of food by the Allied forces while the population is dying of hunger etc. From an Italian Source. (C-2).

3. BRITISH BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH.

The B.B.C. English Broadcasts were listened to before the Emergency period by about 70% of those who understood

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3. BRITISH BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH.

The B.B.C. English Broadcasts were listened to before the Emergency period by about 70% of those who understood English: that is, from 6% to 7% of all who had access to a radio. this was also because these broadcasts were less often interrupted than others.

Now, owing to the many other sources of information (newspapers, PWB Radio Van, Italian broadcasts etc), they are listened to by perhaps only 5% of those having access to the radio.

English broadcasts are generally considered very interesting and good propaganda: much more so than, for example, the two Florentine daily papers.

The Overseas Forces Programme on short and medium waves comes over well, and so does the Home Service on 40 metres and medium waves. From an Italian Source. (B-2).

1838

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P R O P A G A N D A . (continued). Confidential

4. MURAL POSTER.

The following poster signed, "English Education Army", appeared on the walls of Florence recently:-

"When talking with the Allies, use the same way of speaking as you do with your own people. Don't speak in a broken language, and make grammatical mistakes. In this way your beautiful musical language becomes ridiculous, you lower your dignity and disappoint the Allies who would like to learn a pure, colourful, perfect language.

For instance don't say:-

"Io parlare Mamà" but "io parlo alla mamma".
(not "I speak mamma", but "I am speaking to mamma")
"Not Io partire domani" but "io partiro domani"
(Not, "I to go away to-morrow" but "I am going away to morrow."
Not, "noi essere buoni amici" but "noi siamo buoni amici"
(Not"We good friends", but "we are good friends").

Published by
"English Education Army."

P O L I T I C S .

1. CONSTITUTION OF ANTI-MONARCHIST BLOCK IN FLORENCE.

Posters appearing on walls signed "Blocco di Concentrazione Anti-Monarchica", remind people of the reigning dynasty's Fascist past and affirm that Italy cannot rise again until it has freed itself of the House of Savoy.

It is suggested that:

a). The Republican parties have united in forming an anti-monarchist front as in Leghorn:

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b). It is a phase of Republican Party propaganda which with the Anarchists, is carrying on a clandestine work.

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P E R S O N A L I T I E S . Confidential.

1. MAJOR FIRENZUOLI AND LIEUT. FANZACCHI.

Both Squadristi and March on Rome Fascists. Responsible for having ordered fire to be opened against Italian and Croat internees in the concentration camp of Renicci di Anghiari, when on September 9th 1943 they assembled, cheering for the Allied Nations and Liberated Italy and asking to be allowed to fight against the Fascists and Nazis.

2. CENTURION RAFFAELLO NICCOLAI.

Republican Fascist. Captain in the notorious Ist Battalion "Ettore Nuti", formed in Florence under the direction of Captain Giuseppe BINDI. He took part in the action against partisans on Monte Morello, at San Godenzo and Calenzano, as well as in others of minor importance.

He distinguished himself by his cruelty towards the patriots who were taken prisioner.

All these three were seen in Florence on or about 20th November.

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1830

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 78501b

CONFIDENTIAL

SUMMARY NO. 43

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy — November 23, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 43

PART I - SUMMARY

(1) There have been many reports of a government crisis during the week. At first the reports suggested that the crisis would result in a complete reshuffle, that Bonomi would be ousted and be replaced either by Count Sforza or De Gasperi, or some other minister. Later, after considerable manoeuvring and speculation it would appear that one or two ministers may be changed. For some time the union between the anti-fascist parties represented in the government has been rather precarious. There has been a struggle for power between the left and the right, and a lack of the sense of responsibility of government displayed in the Socialist and Communist newspapers. The truce which Signor Bonomi appealed for and to which the six parties subscribed about two months ago has, according to the Liberals and Christian-Democrats, been broken on more than one occasion by the AVANTI and the UNITA. These two newspapers, while deploring the lack of police protection which results in assaults on workers at night, frequently attack the police or the carabinieri when these carry out their duty. The right and centre parties argue that such action serves to discredit the authority of the government, rendering it powerless to act. There are also divergencies of views as to the carrying out of epuration. While the more moderate parties would like to eliminate those fascists who owe their promotion purely to their fascist merits or who have collaborated openly with the Germans after the armistice, the Communists and, to a lesser extent, the Socialists would prefer to eliminate from prominent positions in the civil service all those who have been fascist. The moderate parties argue that this would reduce the efficiency of the administration, as there are many civil servants who have gained promotion under fascism just as they would have done under any other system by their own merits, and to deprive the state of the services of these men would represent a serious loss. The suspicion lingers in

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fascist coalition. After the mass meeting of the Socialists and Communists held in Rome on November 12th these two parties are sure of their strength, and feel, as they made clear in their orders of the day, that they are entitled to a greater representation in the Cabinet. In point of fact they have only two ministers each in the Cabinet while the Liberals, the Party of Action, and Christian Democrats each have three ministers. It is reported that after the discussions held in recent days there will be one or two changes in the cabinet. Sarandini will probably be replaced as Minister without Portfolio by Manlio Brosio, the Secretary of the Liberal Party, and it is reported that De Ruggero, the Minister of Education, may resign and be replaced by Guido Calogero, who is also a member of the Party of Action. There are also reports, which so far are unconfirmed, that the Ministers without Portfolio may be replaced by two vice-presidents of the Council, and for these posts De Gasperi and Togliatti are suggested. But speculation is always rife in Italian political circles when there are signs of even a slight political crisis, and it would be unwise to give too much credence to the current rumors.

(2) The Socialist Party issued a declaration during the week re-affirming its adherence to the union of the anti-fascist parties but asserting that the food problem, the problems of epuration, reconstruction and the black market should be handled with greater energy. The declaration maintained that the solution of such problems had been delayed by the sabotage of reactionary forces. In view of the contribution to the war effort by the partisans, and the army, and in view of the sacrifices endured by the fuoguers in the 20 years' struggle against Mussolini, the Party appealed to the Socialist Parties and labor organizations of the Allied Nations to intervene so that the terms of the armistice might be annulled and the control of the Allied Commission reduced merely to activities directly concerned with military operations. The other parties were also active. The Christian Democrats, the Liberals and the Communists had already issued declarations of policy. Last week the directorate of the Labour Democrat Party met and issued a declaration in which it asserted the necessity for the consolidation of the coalition so that decisive action might be taken by the government for the moral and material reconstruction of the country. The party

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actively in the war effort and for her position as an ally to be recognized. The executive of the Party of Action also met and drafted an order of the day which Alberto Cianca, the Minister without Portfolio, was asked to present to the President of the Council. In this order the executive pointed to an evergrowing feeling of malcontent in the country which it said originated from a lack of action on the part of the Government. The executive then asserted the need for the union of the six parties, and for a more homogeneous and efficient general action on the part of the government.

(3) On Sunday, November 12, Emilio Lussu, one of the principal leaders of the Party of Action, made a speech in the Teatro Brancaccio. He made an appeal for the union of workers and the lower middle class, and declared that his party was socialistic, except that it did not recognize the class basis of Marxism. He pointed out that the only Socialist party which had succeeded in surviving in Europe during the last years was the Labour Party, and this he said was because it had drawn to its ranks the lower-middle classes. He appeared to hope for a fusion of the Party of Action with the democratic elements of the Socialist Party and the consequent formation of a strong Labour Party which would attract to itself the progressive, democratic elements of the Country. He defended the lower middle classes and declared that the Party of Action was proud to defend their interests.

(4) Epuration continues. General Roatta, the former Army Chief of Staff, has been arrested, as well as Colonel Bertolini, a member of the General Staff. A further twenty-seven senators have been deprived of their powers. General Favagrossa, minister of war production in the first Badoglio Government, has been dismissed from the Service. General Baistrocci, under-secretary of state for war under Mussolini, has suffered the same fate. The property of Grandi and other fascist leaders has been sequestrated. Many lesser fascists have been arrested. The trials of General Pentimalli and General Del Tetto will take place towards the beginning of December.

(5) The Italian press continues to express the hope that it will be possible to raise the bread ration to 300 grams a day in accordance with President Roosevelt's statement. Now that the cold weather has set in the Italians are aware that they have a hard winter in store for them, and there are reports that in Bari as a result of local initiative some attempts [illegible]

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(6) The Italian press continues to be preoccupied with the problem of the Partisans, both those who are still fighting and those who have been liberated. A Commander of one of the brigades has written two articles in the ITALIA LIBERA in which he expresses his reluctance and that of many of his followers to join the Corpo di Liberazione owing to what he describes as its monarchist influences. In the second article he describes the poverty-stricken conditions of the Partisans after they have been liberated.

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(7) There is still a general unawareness among many Italians of the suffering caused by the war in other countries. Many people in Rome and elsewhere in Italy seem to believe that the destruction of bridges and railways, the shortage of transport, the lack of light and heat, and the low rations are peculiar to Italy. They do not appear to realize that conditions in Greece may be worse, or that France, England and other countries are suffering from many of the same restrictions. Many Italians also appear to have lost any sense of initiative, and seem to rely exclusively on the Allies. Some seem to believe that the Allies will help them indefinitely.

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ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy November 23rd 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 43

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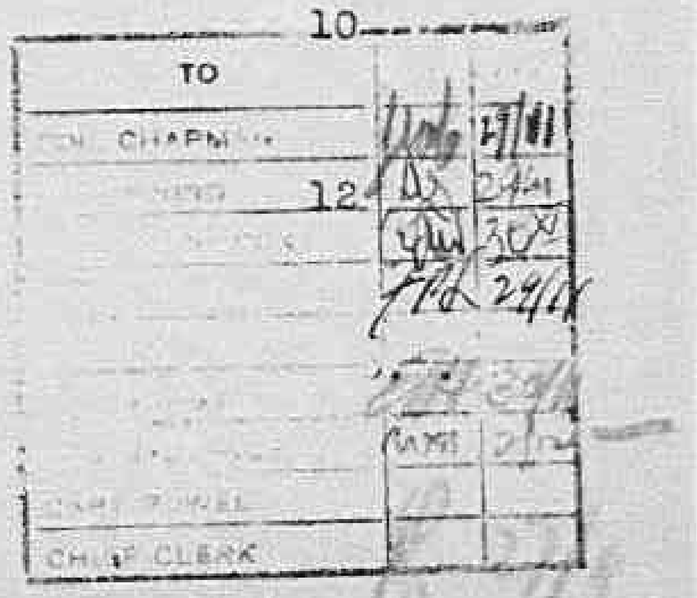

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ANNEXES

Appendix I General Impressions of a Trip Through Sicily

Explanation of Reliability Rating

Source (reliability)		Report (probability)	
A	always reliable	1	confirmed
B	usually reliable	2	probable
C	sometimes reliable	3	possible
D	frequently unreliable	4	doubtful
E	a bad source	5	improbable

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy 23rd November 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 43

Part II - Annexes

A CURRENT EVENTS

1 Socialist-Communist Meeting

Rome Communists and Socialists held a mass meeting on the Palatine in the ancient Stadio Domiziano on Sunday November 12th, to celebrate the 27th Anniversary of the Soviet Revolution.

A long procession wound its way along the via dell'Impero composed of workers marching under their own banners, and men and women on foot or packed into donkey carts carrying placards with a variety of inscriptions such as 'Down with the Monarchy', and 'We want liberty and bread from the Allies'. The donkeys were decorated with large red rosettes, and the crowd gave an impression of enjoying a morning out. Even the Christian Party of the left (formerly known as Catholic Communist Party) were represented by about 150 members, also carrying their placards.

Togliatti called the meeting the greatest political gathering since the liberation of Rome. He spoke of the danger of reactionary forces and stressed the need for a progressive republican democracy.

Nenni urged that all power be passed to the C.L.N., and advocated the socialisation of industry.

Both speakers paid warm tributes to the achievements of the Red Army.

The crowd, estimated by an allied officer at thirty thousand (other claims gave figures from ten to one hundred thousand) was quiet and orderly. There were frequent shouts of 'Down with the King", "Down with the Monarchy", but no wild applause when Togliatti mentioned Trieste such as occurred when Orlando mentioned the same subject a week ago.

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A band played and the crowd sang the "Red Flag" and the "Internationale"on several occasions.

2 Press Reactions to Socialist Communist Meeting

L'AVANTI (Socialist) and L'UNITA (Communist) both published full accounts of the meeting. For such a huge gathering the spontaneous order was in itself impressive - a symbol of social democracy, wrote AVANTI. Both papers published a communique from their respective directorates, thanking the Roman people for showing their love of liberty and enthusiasm for democracy without disturbing public order.

18.2

IL TEMPO (Independent). Leonida Repaci called the meeting a spectacle without equal ... Nenni and Togliatti spoke forcefully and with dignity ... The aim of the Socialist and Communist parties was to show the reactionaries who were lining up with the Christian Democrats, their power by means of this spectacular demonstration.

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IL RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE states that Nenni, in his well-known formula "all power to the C.L.N." signifies that power must pass to "those who fought and are fighting against Nazism and Fascism; to the sailors, soldiers and airmen who, in September 1943 fought to defend Italy's honour... All powers should pass to the Democratic State when epuration proceedings had been completed, when those responsible for the war and Fascism had been dealt with, and when by the wish of the Italian people and the Constituent Assembly, a free Republican Italy arose".

L'ITALIA REPUBBLICANA comments on Nenni's speech in which he declared his desire for unity between the Socialist and Communist parties as well as a greater unity with the democratically minded. Associating this statement with the position taken by the Socialist-Communists on the question of a democratic republic, it asks what connection there could be with such a statement and the "National Union" which the Socialist-Communists had achieved with the King, the generals, cardinals, capitalists, monarchists and the ex-Fascists".

5 Public Reaction

A woman of about 38 years of age, of the working classes:

'Togliatti is a great man. He cannot fight the Monarchy with words, as being a Minister he is limited in what he can say".

An Intellectual

"This meeting, gathering, must convince the other parties of our strength, and if, as I foresee, there is a union among the left-wing elements, all Government powers will be in our hands in the future.

Another Intellectual

This meeting apart from its size and characteristics, reminds me exactly of Fascist gatherings. There are banners and music, cameras and the badges of the two parties, which are in fact essentially one. Judging from the method of propaganda preceeding the meeting, I realise that the system has not changed. Besides, Nenni and Togliatti give me the impression of being two dictators.

Several people at once the fact that the meeting was voluntary and not obligatory.

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Several people stressed the fact that the meeting was voluntary and not obligatory.

B. General Reports

4. A talk with Dr. Ernesto Bonaiuti

Dr. Ernesto Bonaiuti, the ecclesiastical historian and writer, formerly of Rome University, who was unfrocked and excommunicated by the Vatican for his modernism and refusal to conform, is a man of over sixty but carries his years well and is full of life and energy. He occupies a peculiar position in Italian intellectual life, as in his large output of books - including his masterpiece the "Storia del Cristianesimo" - he has managed to get onto bad terms not only with the Church but also with the Fascists and yet again with Croce and the Neo-Hegelians who still represent

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the strongest single current in Italian intellectual life.

Modernism, which had become a movement of weight at the beginning of the century, was shattered by the famous Encyclical "Pascendi". Bonaiuti's main work is on the index of prohibited books, and he is at present determined not to give way. After his excommunication, Dr. Bonaiuti was also deprived of his university position, and when he endeavoured to continue wearing his clerical clothes he was threatened with arrest by the Fascists in the name of the Concordat between the Vatican and the Italian State. He thus lived a life of great poverty and material instability without help either from Church or State for years, and it is clear, judging by his tiny appartment on Monte Sacro on the outskirts of Rome, overlooking the Valley of the Aniene, that his material difficulties remain as big as ever.

Dr. Bonaiuti spoke of his present difficulties with some passion - too emotionally perhaps to be reasonably objective. At present he is giving an independent course of lectures on classical philosophy and doing a certain amount of lecturing outside Rome. He expected to be able to return to his university post after the Fall of Fascism. According to his account of things the problem of his reinstatement was discussed by the Italian Council of Ministers. The Christian-Democrats threatened to resign from the Government where he reinstated. Bonomi "who was weak as always" gave way.

De Ruggiero, the present Minister of Education, made it easier for Bonomi to take the attitude he did by arguing that Bonaiuti's reinstatement was against the Concordat. Bonaiuti denies that this is so, as he says he was dismissed from the university for political motives. When it was pointed out to Bonaiuti that De Ruggiero hardly had the reputation of being a clerical, Bonaiuti replied that the attitude of a number of the present ministers to the Vatican and the clergy had been influenced by the debt they owed to the Church during the period of the Fascist and German terror. De Ruggiero had been amongst those who had been hidden by religious orders and clergy and neither he nor Bonomi would offend the Vatican at present.

Bonaiuti admitted that the patriotic activity of the monastries during the latest persecution of anti-Fascists had been remarkable, though he insisted - at greater length - on the degree to which the Church, earlier, had been compromised with Fascism. He added that while he did not doubt De Ruggiero's

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Amongst other views expressed by Dr. Bonaiuti in several further talks were the following:-

(i) The General Situation. The moral ruin effected by Fascism and the present situation was if anything worse then the physical destruction of the war. He was a Roman but he was quite appalled by the selfishness and corruption and decadence of a large part of the Roman aristocracy, for instance, which was going to its ruin with closed eyes. If the Allies left he thought the Communists would probably come to power. He was not afraid of Communism as a social doctrine, but he was very afraid of mater-

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idlism and of the suppression of liberty which he believed would ensue. The Communists probably would succeed in taking over factories in the North before the Allies arrived. The delay imposed by military necessity would make a revolutionary situation more certain next year. The Italians were not naturally revolutionary but they would be driven to a revolutionary sympathy by necessity.

He disliked the Christian Democrats as much as the Communists. They were narrow and negative and were not taking up social questions seriously. They also lacked intelligent leaders. He had a good deal of sympathy with the Socialists, especially with the more moderate wing represented by men such as Saragat and Silone. Unlike most Italians he thought Ignazio Silone a great novelist.

(ii) The Monarchy. Like most of his colleagues and friends he was disillusioned with the Monarchy. The King had in his favour that he had got rid of Mussolini. But the Luogotenente in his recent interview accorded to Mr. Matthews, had shown a a stupidity and an absence of realisation of his constitutional duties which made it difficult to imagine that he could possibly survive. He (Bonaiuti) had been told yesterday (November 14th) by Luigi Salvatorelli (a close friend of his whom he had hidden during the terror) that the Council of Ministers had met specially to discuss the question of whether Bonomi knew of this interview beforehand and whether his attitude could be commended. It was a serious matter. Bonomi, he repeated, was a weak man. He (Bonaiuti) blamed Badoglio more than the King for the present situation, for which the King was made the scapegoat. Amongst other things, he could not understand how Badoglio had allowed Mussolini to escape. It would have been better to have had him shot.

(iii) The Vatican. Dr. Bonaiuti spoke with passion against the Vatican and made some rather exaggerated assertions regarding it. The Council of Trent, the Jesuits and the "Pascendi" all paved the way for Fascism. The modern Italian had no fear of perjury and was morally inferior to the Anglo-Saxon generally. Only a spiritual revival in the general direction of Christian Socialism would save Italy, but the Vatican would never take any lead in a spiritual revival. He thought the Christians of the Left (the former Christian Communists) worthless as they had bowed to the Vatican. He was as hostile to the Vatican as to

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they were narrow and negative and were not taking up social questions seriously. They also lacked intelligent leaders. He had a good deal of sympathy with the Socialists, especially with the more moderate wing represented by men such as Saragat and Silone. Unlike most Italians he thought Ignazio Silone a great novelist.

(ii) The Monarchy. Like most of his colleagues and friends he was disillusioned with the Monarchy. The King had in his favour that he had got rid of Mussolini. But the Luogotenente in his recent interview accorded to Mr. Matthews, had shown a a stupidity and an absence of realisation of his constitutional duties which made it difficult to imagine that he could possibly survive. He (Bonaiuti) had been told yesterday (November 14th) by Luigi Salvatorelli (a close friend of his whom he had hidden during the terror) that the Council of Ministers had met specially to discuss the question of whether Bonomi knew of this interview beforehand and whether his attitude could be commended. It was a serious matter. Bonomi, he repeated, was a weak man. He (Bonaiuti) blamed Badoglio more than the King for the present situation, for which the King was made the scapegoat. Amongst other things, he could not understand how Badoglio had allowed Mussolini to escape. It would have been better to have had him shot.

(iii) The Vatican. Dr. Bonaiuti spoke with passion against the Vatican and made some rather exaggerated assertions regarding it. The Council of Trent, the Jesuits and the "Pascendi" all paved the way for Fascism. The modern Italian had no fear of perjury and was morally inferior to the Anglo-Saxon generally. Only a spiritual revival in the general direction of Christian Socialism would save Italy, but the Vatican would never take any lead in a spiritual revival. He thought the Christians of the Left (the former Christian Communists) worthless as they had bowed to the Vatican.' He was as hostile to the Vatican as to the Soviet Union.

Autobiography. Dr. Bonaiuti has completed his autobiography which is now printing. This frontal attack - an MSS of which has been privately confided to a F.A.B. officer - will certainly arouse indignation in the Vatican and make Bonaiuti's wished for reappointment to Rome University more a "cause celebre" than ever.

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PUBLIC OPINION

5 Closing of Rome Restaurants to Allied Troops

Five restaurant owners and five civilians (two school teachers two store owners, a clerk) were asked to comment on the above order.

The restaurateurs are unanimously against declaring Italian restaurants "Off Limits". They feel that they are rendering a good service to allied personnel. They showed the investigator their menus, and he found the prices to be reasonable. They feel that if their places are declared "Off Limits" they might as well close down. One said he would change his place into a bar. "The civilians argument that when restaurants are closed to Allied personnel prices will go down doesn't hold" said one of them. "We would still have to buy our stuff from the black market".

The civilians, with the exception of one store owner, think it is an excellent idea. They believe meal prices will have to go down and civilians will be able to eat in restaurants. "What if restaurants are forced to close down" said the clerk. "So much the better! In that case they will not buy from the black market and the prices of foodstuffs will have to go down". One store owner held the view that it did not make any difference if restaurants were declared "Off Limits" or not. Allied personnel would always find their way in, with the probability that they would have to pay more for their meals. She did not think black market prices would be affected. "The only way to defeat the black market is by giving the population sufficient rations" she said.

FOOD SITUATION

6 Abolition of Control Posts

A freer flow of foodstuffs into Rome is generally expected to follow the abolition of the control posts on the roads leading into the city, announced by the press on 15th November. This step comes after weeks of campaigning by almost all of the Rome newspapers. The only sufferers will be the middlemen who used to run the stuff into town by bribery and charge high prices for it on the black market. Now the people will be able to go and

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6a Campaign against the Sale of Pastries in Rome

Early this month "Italia Nuova" carried out a private investigation to discover just how much rationed food the Romans were being deprived of, through the sale of cakes and sweets in the 2,000 bars of the city.

The result of the investigation was the publishing of the following figures: The 2,000 Rome bars which sell from 50 to 1000 cakes and pastries daily, consume 14 quintals of flour, 4 quintals of sugar and 400 litres of milk each day. Later in the week the "Quotidiano" announced that the Ministry of Agriculture prohibited the selling of cakes and pastries and that strong measures would be taken to enforce it is prohibition.

The Romans, however, have still to be convinced that energetic

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steps will be taken to enforce the ordinance and make available for invalids and children the milk and sugar saved.

7 Communal Kitchens in Sicily - (a) Contributions

On Sunday, 29 October, in the Sala di Ragio of the Società per la Storia Patria, the Prefect of Palermo, D'Antoni, spoke on the project of soup kitchens and aid to the children on the city streets.

It will be necessary to provide food for the poor of the island this winter. Over 20,000 hot rations a day will be needed, and 30 million lire must be contributed to carry the project through. The refect's office is handling all contributions which total over two million lire at the present time.

Aldisio has contributed for the High Commission 500,000 lire and personally 30,000 lire. Prefect D'Antoni has contributed for the Prefettura 1,000,000 lire and personally 20,000 lire. Baron Merlo, Prefect's Commissioner has given for the city 100,000 lire and personally 1,000 lire. Another interesting contribution was that of Comm. Carlo Orlando who contributed 5,000 lire in the name of V.E. Orlando.

Later in the week it was announced that the Bank of Sicily, on the proposal of the Director General, Ignazio Capuano, has decided to allot 2,000,000 lire for this cause. This is to be assigned as follows: Palermo, 500,000 lire, Messina 300,000 lire, Catania 300,000 lire, Agrigento 200,000 lire, Trapani 200,000 lire, Siracusa 150,000 lire, Caltanissetta 150,000 lire, Enna 100,000 lire and Ragusa 100,000 lire.

(b) Palermo Naval Base Relps City Children

The American Commander of the Palermo Naval Base has offered the help of the navy in feeding the children found in great numbers on the city streets. The Prefect accepted the offer for the city, and the Navy plans to furnish daily hot rations for 2,000 children.

The food will be distributed at four different points in the city: Villa Filippina, Casa S. Vincenzo alla Noce, Chiesa di San Carlo alla Fieravecchia and Istituto Maria Addolorata. Distribution started this week.

A group of women who are members of the committee working on the communal kitchens will take charge of the distribution, and will make sure that cards entitling children to rations will be

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8 Wastage of Food by Allied Troops

Italians in Florence, Siena and the surrounding districts comment on the fact that British units throw away their surplus food, at a time when the population of the country is on the brink of starvation. The Germans apparently used to give their surplus food to the needy. Suggestions have been received that official Allied sanction and encouragement should be given to the organisation of a scheme, whereby the disposal and distribution of surplus food should be entrusted to some religious body whose integrity is beyond criticism, in order to avoid the danger of it finding its way to the Black Market.

If some such scheme could be put into operation, there is no doubt that some relief could be given to the poor and an instrument of adverse propaganda eliminated.

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8 REFUGEES

Press Reactions to Conditions in Refugee Camps in the Rome Region.

After visiting the Campo Parioli where 200 families of refugees are billeted , a journalist representing Unita reports on the dreadful living conditions there.

Another article appearing in the same paper reports on the conditions existing in Borgata Cordiani where houses are without toilits, where there is no electricity, schools, or public lavatories and where the rubble caused by bombs has not yet been removed. The paper asks that something be done to alleviate these conditions. The same paper reports the case of the homeless families billeted in Santa Croce. The Buitoni Company, which used to supply a daily ration of soup, has suspended this service claiming payment of 300,000 lire from the Rome Prefecture. The paper asks how these unfortunates will be able to eat and demands to know why their ration cards were withdrawn.

Catholic newspapers, announcing that on Sunday November 12th in all the churches of Rome prayers would be offered for the refugees, published articles on the subject. The Quotidiano notes that "man is not an end to himself but is made also and above all for others and the duty of helping the needy should be felt. Let us help them fraternaly and with our prayers."

The newspaper reports that under the arcades of Lungotevere Vallato numerous refugees sleep on the bare ground, cold and hungry. Nothing is known about them but the intervention of the authorities is indispensable. There are often entire families reduced to such conditions by the war. It is also reported that dirty half-starved boys camp out in the covered street-car stop at Porta Pinciana. Here too, measures must be taken." Is it possible that in our most Catholic Rome there is no generous initiative to save the people from starvation and death?"

The Unita of 11th November continues its accounts of the wretched conditions of the refugees in Santa Croce and the injustice done them, asking only that they should not be treated"like animals."

Voce Repubblicana of the same date recalls that 11,000 people were killed in the bombardment of the San Lorenzo quarter and 25,000 wounded, and that the bombardment indemnity, begun under the former government, was suspended by the present government for some unknown economic principle.

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Voce Repubblicana of the same date recalls that 11,000 people were killed in the bombardment of the San Lorenzo quarter and 25,000 wounded, and that the bombardment indemnity, begun under the former government, was suspended by the present government for some unknown economic principle. If a determined sum were given, at least to the poorest of those who were bombed out, it would give them a means to make a frdsh start in life.

ELECTORATE

9 Some Party reactions to the women's vote question.

The following estimate has been provided by a generally reliable Italian source. 1820

Source says this problem has been raised by the press of each party.

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1) Christian Democrat. This question seems to be of great interest to this party, and their reaction is very favourable towards conceding the vote to women, inasmuch as they are certain to exercise their influence over the feminine element through the Church and religious organisations.

ii) Communist and Socialist. Favourable, as they believe they can attract the feminine vote of the workers more readily than the bourgeois parties can influence their female element to vote. They doubt however that women farm workers can be induced to vote unless they can be convinced that through this vote they can defend their own economic interests. That the Socialists and Communists are interested in the feminine problem is demonstrated by the large number of women of these parties who belong to the "Italian Women's Union" and also by the wide treatment in their newspapers of feminine problems

iii) Action Party. As favourable as the others. They too hope to control a mass feminine vote via their membership consisting of the middle classes such as professional women, teachers, and employees. The Action party has formed a syndical feminine league corresponding to the Women's Trade Union League, for the purpose of strengthening the syndical organisations.

Source comments that with all the party hopes of influencing the women's vote, consideration must be given to the fact that in Italy the men still have considerable influence over the women; thus unless the women vote according to their own interests as workers or according to their position, this vote is likely to become a duplication of the male vote.

In conclusion, source continues, concession of the vote for women would indicate a notable step forward in favour of the "mass parties", and he believes that on the whole the Christian Democrat party would benefit the most thereby.

CULTURAL

10 For students of International Affairs.

A body called "The Italian Society for International Organisation has been recently founded in Rome by a group of students of international problems. It is described as having the purpose of promoting the development of a spirit of friendly co-operation among the nations and

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A body called "The Italian Society for International Organisation has been recently founded in Rome by a group of students of international problems. It is described as having the purpose of promoting the development of a spirit of friendly co-operation among the nations and of a peaceful organisation of the international community. "In view of this general purpose", the memorandum on the subject continues "The Society will accomplish research on the various problems of international law, politics and economics, attend to the publication of books and periodical reviews, organise lectures and meetings, and promote an efficient intercourse between Italian and foreign circles interested in the above problems."

The Society, at its first meeting, decided to offer the Presidency to H. E Professor Dionisio Anziloti, former President of the Permanent Court of International Justice at the Hague; Dr. Leopoldo Piccardi of the Council of State, and Professor Tomaso Perassi of the University of Rome, were elected Vice-Presidents.

The Executive Board has the following members: Prof. Roberto Ago, Prof. Carlo Antoni, Prof. Mario Giuliano, Prof. Guido Gonella, Prof. Arturo C. Jemolo, Dr. Raffaele Mattioli, Prof. Gaetano Morelli, Prof. Ugo Papi, Dr. Massimo Pilotti, Prof. Luigi Salvatorelli, Prof. Pasquale Saraceno, Prof. Mario Scorni Dr. Alberto Tarchiani, Prof. Ezio Vanoni.

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Professors Roberto Ago and Mario Scerni, in conversations with a PWB officer, said that though this new organisation is sponsored by the Italian Government the idea behind it has been much influenced by the English organisation "Chatham House". The founders intend to preserve an independent attitude and academic standards. They intend to begin by publishing a monthly review devoted to (i) authoritative comments and articles and (ii) the publication of documents of high political and social value which have not been seen in Italy owing to Fascism. The publication of documents will be retrospective.

Three study groups have been formed:

(i) Ethical and political, with Professor Luigi Salvatorelli as Chairman;

(ii) Juridical under Professor Perussi;

(iii) Economic under Professors Massimo Pilotti and Ugo Papi.

The Society intends eventually to publish a weekly bulletin, probably in English or possibly in French. Its headquarters are in the Palazzetto Venezia, Rome.

11 Art Exhibitions

A small but comprehensive exhibition of modern Italian art, organised by the Galleria del Secolo, was opened in Via Vittorio Veneto on the 11th November. The works which are loaned from private collections include paintings by De Chirico, Tosi, Soffici, Sironi and Rossi, and sculpture by Mazzini, De Fieri and Ettore Colla - the latter contributes a girls head in bronze dorato, interesting in conception and treatment. Outstanding for their colour tones and feeling are the two landscapes in oils by the veteran Tosi.

At the Galleria dello Zodiaco in Via Romagna, the first of a series of exhibitions of modern European Art has been opened on the initiative of the owner of the Gallery, Signorina Linda Chittaro. The range of artists include Picasso (two pen drawings of rare delicacy), Cocteau, Modigliani (a fine crayon head) Buckmann, Braque, Ernst, Vlaminck, De Chirico and Severini. "This exhibition" writes Carlo

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Considering the difficulties of the present time, the exhibition is remarkable.

EDUCATION

12 Student Demonstration in Naples.

On the 11th November, the morning of the inauguration of the Academic Year at Naples University, there were student demonstrations both inside and outside the University. Before the ceremony started, a group of students blocked the traffic in the Corso Umberto, crying "Viva la nostra Marina" to a group of sailors, who were entering the University as a guard of honour. Various bands of students then tried to force their way through the door, but without success. 1920

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Within the Aula Magna the rector began his address, but after a few minutes the students from outside, who had burst down the barrier, managed to force their way in and joined the audience already assembled. Some of these, at the back, soon started interrupting the proceedings with cries of "Febbraio, Febbraio". The explanation of this was that they wished the December examinations to be postponed until February. As the rector was quite unable to continue his speech with these persistent interruptions, he acceded to their request, upon which he was cheered. Some form of order was then restored, although occasional whistles, cat-calls and cries of O K continued.

Up till now there had been no evident signs of political protestations, but the storm next broke when a group of students started scuffling on one of the balconies, high up, overlooking the dais. A PWB officer, who was present, on asking the correspondent of "La Voce" who these people were, was told that they were "Fascist elements". These "Fascist elements" then proceeded to unfurl a flag of the Soviet Union, which they hung down from the balcony. This was apparently a form of protest in that the only flags displayed were the British, American and French - the two absent great nations being Russia and China. Apparently the Russian consulate had been asked to send a flag, but by some oversight this had not arrived in time for the opening ceremony. This move, however, was unpopular with certain elements below, who cried "Silenzio" and other indistinguishable remarks.

Some students of Monarchist sympathy proceeded to shout "Viva la Casa Savoia" and waved the flag of the Royal House. The students on the balcony then rushed below with their Red Flag and headed straight for the dais. Then followed a period of complete confusion. Several women, whose timidity overcame their curiosity, struggled to escape to the side of the hall. The front rows of the audience, which contained four Brazilian generals, an Italian admiral and Allied military officers, stood their ground, but the majority of the professors on the dais scattered and fled. The demonstrators, with their flag, headed for the rector, who was lost in the general melee

Shouting and struggling continued for some time, but most of the Allied authorities considered that it was then time to leave. The Provincial and Zone Commissioners were cheered on leaving by some sections of the audience. The majority of those present found the whole business most unnecessary and distasteful. After this some form of order was restored, although no police are allowed within the precincts of the University, owing to their statutory immunity, and the rector continued his speech.

This event was mentioned by the Fascist radio as a proof that Neapolitan students were violently opposed to Communism. Meanwhile, in

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This event was mentioned by the fascist radio as a proof that Neapolitan students were violently opposed to Communism. Meanwhile, in Naples itself, the responsibility for the incident has become a bone of contention between the Left and Right wing newspapers, La Voce speaking of the insult offered to the Soviet Union by the presentation of its flag only half-way through the ceremony, and stressing the dangers of "reactionaries" among the University students; "Il Giornale" replying that the only danger of reaction is from the Communists themselves.

PROPAGANDA

13 PWB Libraries.

The main PWB Library on the ground floor of the building at 62 Via Veneto, Rome, provides a fairly [illegible] selection of books, magazines, reviews and newspapers.

The book selection consists of some 2000 volumes, mainly the library of the fascist Ministry of Popular Culture. The language most

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generally represented is German, followed by French, English and Italian; there are also a few books in Spanish, Swedish, Hungarian and Portuguese. Most of the books date from the period 1935 to 42.

As regards subject matter, politics is by far best represented. There are a few works dealing with economics. Fiction appears in the form of novels in Italian, mostly translations from German and English.

Among the periodicals are the Economist, Tribune, the Statesman, the Nation, Republic, Harpers. The newspapers consist of the principal American and British dailies such as The Times, New York Times, Manchester Guardian, etc.

The Library is used by journalists, engineers, lawyers, students and intellectuals. Employees of PWB and anyone who obtains permission from the Publications Office may use the library. Books may be taken out.

From 40 to 50 persons use the library daily. Sometimes people have to go because they cannot find room. Those who come stay hours. More space is urgently needed. Some come regularly. They take notes, copy articles, make translations, or just read.

Books on Italian history, Italian and English literature, dictionaries, encyclopedias, Italian and English "Who's Who" are often asked for, but the library does not have them.

The following readers were interviewed in the course of one day:

A chemist who works for a Review to be published weekly. Besides chemistry he is interested in foreign politics, new inventions, and news of general interest. He lamented the lack of Russian and French publications, which are not available here. He comes very often and is very happy to be given this opportunity for "we have been kept in the dark for so many years".

A journalist working for a Press review. He Reads Republic, Nation Harpers and Tribune and is especially interested in foreign politics.. He has been coming regularly for the last two and a half months. He regretted lack of publications from Switzerland.

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Two employees of the Banco di Roma (one the Vice Direttore) were interested mainly in economics and finance. They are attached to the liaison office of their bank with the Allied Command.

An official from the Banco del Lavoro was interested mainly in economics "all reviews are looking in our office".

The library on the first floor contains a wide selection of bibliographical and photographic material, which is neatly kept on file. Several books of reference, mostly American are also available. Most of the material at present available is American. A British section is being organised. All the material in the French is for reference only. It covers mainly politics, history, social problems, economics, science, etc. The photographs depict war events and the various aspects of American life; education, home building, war preparations etc. and are furnished mainly by OWI

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PRESS

14 Review of Newspapers published in Naples.

Risorgimento controlled by PWB, sale 140,000 daily. The paper in Naples having the largest circulation, although it has been criticised because it does not contain, as a rule, good leading articles. Another factor which does not help to raise the public demand is the fact that the war news it publishes has mostly been published by the "Voce" and the "Giornale" the evening before. The editor, Professor Florimo del Secolo, is an anti-Fascist journalist of long standing.

La Voce daily evening paper, is the organ of the Socialist and Communist Parties, sells 70,000 copies. It is very widely read in town and in the countryside of Campania. In the beginning it was so much sought after that copies were sold at Black Market prices in some sections of the town; now its popularity has somewhat waned owing to the fact that the "Giornale" is published at the same hour in the afternoon. It is edited by Avvocati Gaeta and Reale; the latter has, for the time being, passed over his job to Prof. Alicata.

Il Giornale daily evening paper, the organ of the Liberal party, is especially appreciated on account of its leading articles by eminent political personalities such as Croce, Altavilla, Orangio-Ruiz, Corbino and others. It is edited by Dott. Lupinacci. Originally it had been allowed to print 50,000 copies, but this number was subsequently reduced to 37,000 copies. This reduction was made in order to allow the Voce to increase its circulation from 50,000 to 70,000 copies.

Il Domani d'Italia daily, organ of the Christian Democrats, will start publication soon. The daily will take the place of the Democ-Christian weekly "Il Popolo". Will print 35,000 copies.

Il Lavoro d'Italia weekly, organ of the Democratic Party of Labour, 12,000 copies printed; edited by S Ciampa and A Carabba. The paper does not have many readers in Naples, but in many cases is distributed gratis among farmers in the Provinces, for propaganda purposes.

Azione weekly organ of the Action Party, 50,000 copies on sale, for its articles on Italian

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Azione weekly organ of the Action Party, 50,000 copies on sale, edited by Dott A Armino; much in demand for its articles on Italian and foreign politics by Sforza, Cianca, Omodeo, Schiano and others

La Repubblica weekly, the organ of the Republican Party. 4,000 copies on sale, edited by Prof. Battilo. In great demand and quickly sold out. Much interest was taken in the recently published photos showing the connection between the house of Savoy and Fascism.

Il Giorno weekly of the Liberal Democratic Party; 20,000 copies on sale; edited by the well-known Neapolitan journalist Paolo Scorfoglio. It is rumoured in some quarters that Scorfoglio is subsidised by leading Neapolitan industrialists and traders to carry on a vigorous anti-Communist campaign.

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Il Pensni Sociale weekly, organ of the Italian Seamen's Federation, edited by the well-known anti-Fascist Giuseppe Giulietti. Circulation is about 5000 copies, all of which are taken up by seafaring people, as the paper deals with nothing but the interests of their category.

Cimento weekly, a review of art and culture edited by the painor Edoardo Pansini; sales 10,000 copies, the best quoted in artistic circles especially in Naples and Campania.

Panorama bi-monthly general review; 20,000 copies printed

La Tribuna dei Ferrovieri, organ of the Union of Railwaymen, fortnightly; 20,000 copies sold.

Foglio Annunzi Legali della Prefettura fortnightly; the organ of the Prefecture; 5,000 copies printed

Libera Scuola fortnightly scholastic organ; 5000 copies printed.

Giustizia weekly; organ of the legal fraternity; 5,000 copies printed

La Lanterna weekly; organ of the higher schools in Naples; 3000 copies printed.

Giornale dei Ragazzi weekly illustrated children's paper, 15000 copies printed.

Universita weekly; organ of the university students; 5000 copies printed.

Solidarieta monthly; organ of civilian and political education; tendency Republican edited by Olga Arcuno; sale 5000 copies.

Aretusa monthly literary review, edited by Francesco Flora, and published by Casella. In spite of its high cost it is widely circulated in literary circles in Naples and the rest of Liberated

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Aretusa monthly literary review, edited by Francesco Flora, and published by Laterza. In spite of its high cost it is widely circulated in literary circles in Naples and the rest of Liberated Italy; 2000 copies printed. Benedetto Croce takes a personal interest in the preparation of this review.

Istituto Scientifico Principe di Piemonte monthly medical review; 500 copies printed.

Gioventu monthly students publication; 500 copies printed.

Bolettino Ecclesiastico dell'Archidiocesi di Napoli Churchnews 2500 copies printed.
Progresso Medico official publication of the medical profession. 2,500 copies issued every four months.
Rendiconti della Societa Reale organ of the Royal Scientific Society; issued once a year. 500 copies printed.

In Naples Province

Il Pellegrino monthly; published as parish magazine of S.S. Rocco at Frattamaggiore. 500 copies printed.
La Riviera weekly; published at Sorrento under the auspices of the Christian Democrat party. 15,000 copies printed.

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CONFIDENTIAL + I + APPENDIX I - No.43

(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only)

GENERAL IMPRESSIONS OF A TRIP THROUGH SICILY

One of the members of D Section had the opportunity of making a four-day trip on the island during the last week. The purpose of the trip was to change the bulletins in the P.W.B. propaganda shops, and as a member of D Section to try and acquire a clearer background for reports on conditions in the island generally. This was the writer's first view of the places visited, and was most helpful in understanding a little better the conditions of life in Sicily at present.

The trip included among the larger places visited Sciacca, Agrigento, Licata, Gela, Caltagirone, Catania, Acireale, Taormina, and Messina so that it extended over the greater part of the island.

The main impression of the trip cannot help but be one that is disturbing, because of the constant reminders of poverty and low standards of living which one sees. In Palermo the citizens on the main streets of the city are exceptionally well dressed, but in countless small towns one sees nothing of this. There are whole families living in one room, with some livestock as well; far too many children in rags, and what is worse judging by their physical appearance, badly in need of food.

When we arrived at any propaganda shop, a crowd immediately collected. The procedure was always the same - small boys asked for cigarettes, some one present had a relative in the United States about whom he inquired. If anyone knew English in however slight a degree he proudly displayed it, and everyone seemed interested in the new displays being posted and quite often asked for leaflets they could take home.

We talked to as many people and as many different types of persons as possible. The subjects were usually the same - the black market, the difficulty of getting food, the fact that most of the officials were the same as in Fascist days, dread of the coming of winter, and the high cost of living. The [illegible] seems dominant in the minds of the

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We talked to as many people and as many different types of persons as possible. The subjects were usually the same - the black market, the difficulty of getting food, the fact that most of the officials were the same as in Fascist days, dread of the coming of winter, and the high cost of living. The questionsof food always seems dominant in the minds of the islanders, and their constant preoccupation with it makes one realize the difficulties of the whole problem and how large it looms in their daily lives.

In a short conversation it is difficult to discover much about the political bent of the person in question, and after the recent happenings in Palermo people are rather wary of discussing separatism with strangers. In a restaurant in Acireale a prosperous looking citizen informed us that the Separatists were a bunch of stupid people who should be disposed of, but his was the only expression of any definite opinion we collected. Most persons simply shrug their shoulders and make noncommittal gestures.

In a short conversation it is difficult

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX I - No. 43

(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only)

Food prices are about the same in all the restaurants, and a meal with pasta and fish ranges from 150 to 200 lire a person. One soft boiled egg cost 18 lire in Acireale, and bread is usually 30 lire even if only one person out of four takes a piece. The Sicilian driver of our car was interested in buying some pasta if it could be found for considerably less than the 130 lire he had been paying on the black market in Palermo, but he was not successful as the price was about as high everywhere. At a restaurant in Gela the waiter said it could be had for 80 lire a kilo and the driver agreed to take it. The waiter returned in a few minutes with the information that the price was now 100 lire so the driver turned down the offer.

From the checking we were able to do with proprietors and waiters as a rule the main bulk of the local clientele of the good restaurants is to be found among those who are making money on the black market. The average Sicilian cannot afford it and it is the profiteer who eats well.

On the north shore of the island there are still a few detours where bridges were blown last year by the retreating Germans, but all are in the process of being repaired. One of the group who made the same trip in the summer stated that conditions were much better now and that a considerable number of the bridges had been finished since that time. This is a definite fact considering the primitive methods used by the local persons doing most of the work. Stone is crushed by hand, and at one bridge women were carrying baskets of crushed rock on their heads down to the workers on the structure. The Germans did a thorough job of demolition along this coast so that there has been much work to do.

Only one abandoned ship - an LST - was observed on this part of the trip and apparently most of the war material in this part of the island has been salvaged, though a few rusty tanks can still be seen occasionally. There is less of this material now, however, than a few months back.

The Sicilians' love of inscriptions on walls is to be seen all over the island. Most of the Fascist signs have been painted out, though on one new bridge built this year "Viva il Duce" was painted several times. "Viva Sicilia Indipendente"

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Hotel rooms cost about two hundred lire a night, and lodgings were easy to find except in Agrigento. The Russian Labour delegates were in the town the night we arrived. Agrigento was extremely crowded and everyone was much interested in the visit of the Soviets. The Communist party quarters there are large and imposing, and apparently the party is definitely strong in this locality.

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Except for British personnel in Taormina and Catania, and the American Navy in Palermo, there were no signs of Allied military personnel in the places visited. All the persons to whom we talked seemed extremely fond of the United Nations, but they also appear to have a touching belief that the Allies are going to look after them indefinitely. Practically everyone interviewed would like to go to America after the war, where apparently they consider everyone is definitely well off. Two of our group were American uniforms which doubtless explains the fact that this topic was usually brought into any conversation, especially as most Sicilians have relatives in America.

It is difficult to clarify briefly the countless impressions one secures from a trip to unfamiliar towns. At the beginning of this report it was stated that the general impression was discouraging. There does seem to be a note of hope however. The many acres under cultivation, the countless orchards of olive, lemon, and orange trees, make one realize that there is much natural wealth here on the island. It is to be hoped that with proper distribution of these crops; if means to do this can be found, the food problem which is so overwhelming at present to most of the islanders can be solved by peaceful means.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central "B" Section, Liberated Italy 9 November 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 41

Part II - Annexes

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Explanation of Reliability Rating

Source	(reliability)	Report	(probability)
A	always reliable	1	confirmed
B	usually reliable	2	probable
C	sometimes reliable	3	possible
D	frequently unreliable	4	doubtful
E	a bad source	5	improbable

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CONFIDENTIAL NO. 41

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central D Section Liberated Italy November 9, 1944.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 41

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PART II ANNEXES

A - CURRENT EVENTS

1 Exchange of Ambassadors - Press Reactions

The most important news of the week was the announcement of the forthcoming "exchange of Ambassadors" with London, Washington and Moscow, and the restoration of diplomatic relations with all the Latin American republics.

Press comment was naturally favorable and showed every sign of pleasure even if in several of the more critical newspapers -- especially those of the left -- optimism was tempered by some feelings of hesitation about the anomalies which still exist in Allied policy towards Italy. In addition several Rome papers recently have been devoting some space to the question of epuration in the Italian diplomatic service -- perhaps the most thorough criticism on this point has appeared in the ITALIA LIBERA, organ of the Action Party -- and the future of career diplomats is obviously a preoccupation now that the time has come for nominating personnel for embassy staffs abroad.

AVANTI (Socialist) as often happens, was amongst the most outspoken in its doubts about the reality of Allied favors and struck a a warning note in the general expressions of optimism. "This graduation in recognition", it said, " is making the international juridical state of Italy a political and juridical monstrosity... It is time the Allies determined clearly the position of Italy. The Italian people needs to know if it is considered as a friend or as an enemy, if the Allied army present on its soil is an army of liberation or of occupation; if its statute is that of a free people or of one under control. To these questions can only be received one answer: the declaration that the armistice is obsolete, and the recog-

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B. GENERAL REPORTS

EPURATION

2____"Against the Senate and the Constitution" - Resumé of Pamphlet by SENEX.

The following is a summary of an anonymous pamphlet which has been privately circulated and has received a wide distribution especially in conservative, liberal and monarchist circles: 1822

Epuration of Fascist criminals is a vital necessity for Italy today. How is it to be carried out? By legal and constitutional means. In the case of Senators these means are laid down in the Stat-

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ute of the Kingdom of 1848, which states that Senators cannot be arrested or accused without the authorization of the Senate and that they are to be tried by a High Court constituted by the Senate itself.

In the present case however, all the relative provisions of the Statute are violated. The Statute forbids the creation of Special Courts or Extraordinary Commissions; the BONOMI government appoints Count SFORZA High Commissioner by a decree of the Lieutenant-General which is ipso-facto unconstitutional. The Statute (art. 26) forbids "Arrest and judgment except in the cases provided by law and in the forms legally determined;" and declares (art. 71) that no one "can be deprived of the right of judgment by his peers (giudici naturali)". The peers of Senators are the Senate constituted as the High Court -- the High Court as determined by the Statute: 15 Senators forming the Committee of Instruction and 60 the Tribunal. Under the present procedure one Senator - Count SFORZA - arrogates to himself the functions of the Committee: and instead of 60 Senators it is proposed to constitute a Tribunal of 9 members, 5 of whom have no better claim to sit on it than that of representatives of the Parties.

It cannot be objected either that a sufficient number of unbiassed Senators could not be found. Count SFORZA himself has publicly exculpated 111.

This illegally constituted High Court proposes furthermore to apply illegal procedure. Laws are to be made retroactive. In ROME itself the principle "where there is no law there can be no crime" is to be set aside. Secondly, the so-called High Court is to have power to judge Senators on their speeches and votes in the Senate, a flagrant breach of the right of freedom of speech and also of art. 51 of the Statute, which declares that "Senators are not subject to criticism for the opinions they express and the votes they cast in the House". But for that principle, upheld in the Senate itself in the teeth of Mussolini, SFORZA would long since have been judged and expelled from the Senate.

The Special Tribunal and the setting aside of the Statute constitute a grave usurpation of judiciary powers by the executive and pave the way for totalitarianism. Moreover, they strike at the roots of the Constitution, which the BONOMI Government undertook to preserve. As is recognized in the Constitution of the USA, it is the duty of the

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Expiration? Of whom, and by what means? Legal action means the expiration of rogues; arbitrary action, the expiration of honest men. Count SFORZA has chosen -- to strike the honest men.

The B.NOMI Government must now choose:

a) To pursue a serious, constructive policy of true national union as a constitutional government, without collaboration of the subversive parties, which should go into opposition; or

b) To throw off the mask and continue openly its present policy as a dictatorial, revolutionary [illegible].

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3. Postponement of Trial of Generals Pentimalli and Del Tetto

The following is a memorandum of a conversation between a PWB officer and a member of the Commission for Fascist Crimes on the trial of the Generals Del Tetto and Pentimalli.

A magistrate, who is a member of the Commission for Fascist Crimes, told a PWB officer that a great deal of opposition to the trials of these Generals was to be expected from high quarters in the Italian Army. Marshal Messe had been against holding the trial but the Commission had decided to carry on with it in spite of him.

The magistrate thought that right wing circles, monarchists and the army were fully aware of the issue at stake. The two generals ought unquestionably to be shot, but this would only be the beginning as many other persons, even those in the highest positions, had behaved as badly. Consequently the accusations and legal proceedings might go "up and up."

To some extent the trial of the Generals is also a trial of strength between the Left and the Right and the question as to whether it takes place or not and if so in what circumstances, attains a special significance. There appears to be some ground for thinking that the two generals have turned against one another and that if General Del Tetto is incriminated he will leave damning evidence to incriminate many others.

4. Reactions to the Trial Postponement

A Left Wing source considered this postponement "another" Allied blunder, and a victory for reactionary forces. Comparing the rate of epuration in Italy with that attained in France, he blamed the Allies for protecting Right Wing interests. (B-3)

A retired business man, well educated, and a great admirer of Don Sturzo, expressed the opinion that the King and Badoglio should be brought to trial first. When the Germans occupied Rome several Italian divisions stood around doing nothing for lack of orders. The blame attaches to those who should have issued these orders. Epuration is being held up by the Allies; in fact all real power [illegible] Nothing ever be achieved with the

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182.

5. Forthcoming Trial of General Martini, before the Military Tribunal at Oristano, Sardinia

The trial of General Martini and 18 others accused of high

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treason and Nazi-Fascist complicity will take place before the Military Tribunal on the 25th of this month at Oristano. The facts which led to the arrest of the band headed by General Martini, took place at Sassari, and the Sardinians learned the details of the plot (though confused and vague) with great interest.

The 18 involved are all ex-gerarchi of the Fascist Party who attempted to set up a committee of the Republican Fascist Party in Sardinia. Amongst these were Lt. Col. Felice Chiama, Doctor Martino Offeddù, Rag. Giovanni Pirisino, Doctor Gino Demartis, Lt.Col. Luigi Pensa, Major Gustavo Scanu of the Militia, Major Francesco Bertolotti, Maria Giua, Doctor Antonio Maccari (former Federal Secretary for Sassari), Lt. Dario Lai, Lt. Emanuele Tola, Raffaele Morella, 2nd Lt. Livio Matze, 1st Lt. Giovanni Mannatzu, Vittore Sabino, Antonio Cau, Guglielmo Loru, and Giovanni Sechi.

The situation developed on the evening of the 18th September, 1943, when at a secret meeting the conspirators decided to get into contact with the Republican Fascist Party and to organize action and sabotage squads while waiting for arms to be supplied to them by the Germans. General Martini decided to leave in order to get into contact with the Secretary of the Fascist Party while Rag. Pirisino undertook to procure him the means of crossing over to the peninsula.

Rag. Pirisino got in touch with a Petty Officer to whom he offered the sum of 35,000 lire. The Petty Officer however informed the Police and on the 3rd December General Martini, aboard an M.T.B., thinking he had succeeded in his plans, was taken by surprise and arrested, together with all his band, by agents of the Police and Carabinieri disguised as sailors. In General Martini's mackintosh was found an iron tube containing the text of the famous meeting of 18th September, a secret cypher for radio transmission and an appeal, written in perfect Fascist style, addressed to Pavolini, Secretary of the Republican Fascist Party.

The appeal bore a number of signatures, amongst them those of Lt.Col. Chiama, Doctor Offeddù, Doctor Maccari, Rag. Pirisino and others. Professor Federico Altamura of Naples, when asked to check up on the signatures, expressed the opinion that they should be considered doubtful, with the exception of that of Rag. Pirisino.

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31,000 lire were found in General Martini's pockets as well as a collection of bits of papers on which curious notes were written, some of them incomprehensible, two letters to General Magli, at that time Commander of all the Armed Forces in Sardinia (the letters had never been despatched and asked for help), and a sheet of paper showing the disposition of the Fascist Militia in Sardinia.

An inquiry was immediately begun and lasted over a year because of the tragic air accident in which Captain Logane, Judge in charge of the proceedings, lost his life. He was flying an S.81 aircraft on his way to place all data of the case before General Messe, Commander-in-Chief of the Army. Major Michele Greco was asked to take over the inquiry and all the data of the case had to be worked out again by means of photographic copies available of some of the data.
(B-2)

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There was a rumor in December, 1943, that the air accident in which Captain Lopane, entrusted with the evidence, was killed, had been treacherously provoked by the Italian military authorities as they too were involved in the case.

The case continues to arouse wide interest throughout the whole island, and public opinion awaits the sentence which the Military Tribunal of Oristano should pronounce justly and objectively on the traitors. (B-1)

6. The Chair of Constitutional Law at Naples University

Ever since the Allies entered Naples, the Neapolitan students have protested against the retention of Prof. Tesauro in the chair of Constitutional Law, when he should have been among the "purged" of the University for his well-known Fascist precedents. In spite of the students' protests and demonstrations, Tesauro remains at his post.

On October 30th, at the ceremony for the opening of the academic year the president, Prof. Arangio Ruiz, named as Professor "emeritus" Enrico Presutti, ordinary professor of Constitutional Law who had been retired in 1926 because of his antifascist attitude. But owing to his advanced age and the condition of his health Presutti will not occupy the chair. The law students consider that they are being mocked, since they have an "emeritus" professor who is only honorary, while the actual lecturing is still done by the very Fascist Prof. Tesauro. (B-1-)

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PUBLIC OPINION

7 A Socialist Viewpoint: Dr. Ugo Calosso on Pietro Nenni and the Communists.

Dr. Ugo Calosso is now working in close collaboration with Nenni and has become a prominent leader writer on the "Avanti" (Socialist). In a recent conversation he seemed anxious to make clear that Nenni's bark is really worse than his bite and that privately Nenni does not hold the extremist views which seem to be suggested at times by his articles in the "Avanti". He admitted that Nenni is a "spiky" writer and that his style causes unnecessary irritation. Italians, however, have no sense of humour in politics. Nenni is Nenni, a Romagnolo; one has to take the good with the bad and he is particularly useful to the Socialist cause at present. In fact, had there been no Nenni it would have been necessary to invent him.

According to Calosso Nenni is at heart a "Fabian" or evolutionary Socialist like the other prominent leaders: Saragat for instance or the newly arrived "fuorusciti" Ignazio Silone and Modigliani, all of whom give an impression of greater moderation and reasonableness than Nenni.

Calosso was obviously labouring the point that Socialists should obtain more Allied support and sympathy because they were not revolutionary. By the violence of his opinions Nenni, he explained, was able to take some wind out of the sails of the Communists whom he, like the other Socialists, distrusts and fears.

There were only three parties which really counted in Italy: the Communists who were the best organised and had the inspiration of world power behind them, the Socialists and the Christian Democrats. These three were the only mass parties which could make any widespread appeal to the people. Calosso evaded the question of the present understanding between the Socialists and the Communists and spoke as though the recent embittered press polemics between the Socialists and the Christian Democrats had not happened. The future should lie in a strong understanding between all three parties but achieved in such a way that the Communist sting would be removed.

How then did the Socialists intend to do this? By aiming at a programme of unity especially between the three main parties. In such a united front, were it ever to come into being, the Socialists would occupy a central position between the Christian Democrats and

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that Nenni is a "spiky" writer and that his style causes unnecessary irritation. Italians, however, have no sense of humour in politics. Nenni is Nenni, a Romagnolo; one has to take the good with the bad and he is particularly useful to the Socialist cause at present. In fact, had there been no Nenni it would have been necessary to invent him.

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Not without giving an impression of some special pleading - and an inclination to play off one Ally against another - Calosso then said that if the other Parties, especially the Socialists and Christian Democrats were to take a strong line about Trieste's return to Italy after the war - as part of the programme for unity - the Communists would be placed in an awkward position. He knew Togliatti intimately and esteemed him very highly. Togliatti had one weakness which was that his hands were tied by the foreign policy of Moscow. While Italians were indifferent regarding the former colonies, an appeal for a frontier with Yugoslavia which gave Trieste and Pola to Italy would not leave them unmoved. Italy would never settle down if Trieste were not in Italian hands. Several evenings ago Nenni had said to him: "If we raise the question of Trieste we will oust the Communists out". Togliatti

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would inevitably lose prestige by failing to support this claim - which support Calosso appeared to presume would never be countenanced by Russia. Togliatti's private views and sympathies he thought, were those of a man who was too big for Communist orthodoxy, but that did not remove the limitations imposed on what he could say in public.

8 Votes for Women

The subject of votes having been discussed in several articles in the Rome press recently, a few representative opinions were taken this week.

There is no doubt that the political parties are keenly interested in women's suffrage, the general opinion being that the Christian Democrtas would gain very largely by this innovation in Italian political life.

A Trade Union Official said that in the city of Rome there was no doubt that there was widespread interest among women - especially among women workers - in this question. They are showing a new interest in politics and in our labour unions they are taking part in the directive councils; this is the first time that this has happened in the history of our labour unions. As soon as one goes into the country, however, there is very little interest in this subject.

A University graduate, aged 27, was of the opinion that the importance of this question was greatly exaggerated in Rome. In Italy you would not find one woman in a thousand interested in this question, and if votes were given to women they would not know what to do with them. Most women have too many domestic problems - especially these days - to think about politics and voting.

B.2

9 A Land Owner's Views on the Agricultural Problem

The following information was given to a P.W.B. officer by a nd owner of a medium sized property (180 hectares) in the Province of Foggia.

There has been a great deal of propaganda spread abroad on the miserable conditions in which it is claimed that the peasant lives in Southern Italy. Latifondisti (large land owners) have been

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Labour. There are two systems of labour in this part of Italy, 1813 the Mezzadria and the Bracciante.

(i) The Mezzadria by which a family of peasants lives on the proprietors land, has a house, a certain amount of land tax free and sufficient food for his family from the produce - with grain the government has fixed the allow-

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wance at two quintals per head. My own man Peppino has worked on my land for the past twenty years at a fixed rate of 6 lire a day. His family now supplies four workers including himself and in the last few years the monthly wage bill per head that I have paid has risen as follows:

1940	300 lire
1941	500 "
1942	1200 "
1943	2500 "
1944	3000 "

Besides this he has 12 hectares of arable land which he works himself and some land given him by the Fascist Government as an ex-soldier (Opera Nazionale Combattente). He has in fact become a small land owner, despite his recent adhesion to the local Communist Party - and a few months ago bought a horse for 80,000 lire, a purchase which I could not make at the moment. Particularly with the new law giving him and his family half the price of the grain sold it will be seen that his present condition is far from miserable.

(ii) The Bracciante is a daily hired labourer who has no privileges beyond his pay and in the past his position has often been unenviable. I employ about 100 of these men to gather in a particular harvest whether oil, wine or grain for a limited period, say one month at a time. Their wages have now risen to 200 lire a day for a ploughman and for the coming olive harvest pickers are even asking 300 lire a day. This has the natural effect of raising the cost of production.

Grain. My property comprises 180 hectares, of which 110 are arable. The harvest this year was good and I returned the whole of it to the Granai del Popolo at the government's fixed price of 9,000 lire per quintal for soft wheat (tenero) and 10,000 lire for hard wheat (duro). For the whole harvest I was paid 250,000 lire, which was satisfactory, but the government then passed a law (after fixing the price) by which I had to give half of this, i.e. 125,000 lire to Peppino and his family. After calculating the cost of production, cost of labour and taxes of 20,000 lire per annum, it will be seen how vast my nett profit was!

Oil. As everybody knows olive oil is a staple item of food

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Oil. As everybody knows olive oil is a staple item of food for the average Italian and the present ration of 200 grammes is quite insufficient. Owing to the good prospects of this year's crop, hopes have been raised that this will be increased but I see no chance of the legal market benefiting at all this year. The cost of production and particularly wages have risen so sharply that the government price of 60 lire a litre is quite insufficient. When you consider that the Black Market price here in the area of production is 230 lire a litre you will have some idea of the amount of oil that the government pools can expect to receive this year, despite the excellent harvest and the crying needs of the cities. Wages should be fixed at once for no producer can afford to run at a loss.

Wine. The same conditions apply to the wine harvest. The fixed price is 13 lire a litre but as it costs 20 lire to produce,

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it is sold at 25-30 lire a litre. The wine in this part of the coun ry is of particularly good quality and recent purchases made in this village for export and chiefly for consumption in Rome had the effect of putting the local prices up to over 30 lire.

These statistics may help to clarify the difficulties of the proprietor producer and I fear that the present impossible conditions may have political consequences. Whoever may have been to blame in the past, the fact remains that the masses of peasants are ignorant and have only aim - to gain more land. They join the Communist party little realising that they are the perfect example of "Kulaks", which are such a menace to pure Communist theory. Their political theories can be summed up by the maxim "what is yours is mine and what is mine stays mine".

PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

10 Allied Publications and Displays

The displays continue to attract large crowds and the publications are in great demand. Of the periodicals "Victory" is the most popular, "Il Mese" a close second and "Il Mondo Libero" a good third. It is interesting to note that considerations other than a desire for general information help the diffusion of publications. The "Times" (leaflet edition) is bought, for instance, not only by the well-educated, but by students of English.

Reactions to the new lay-out of "Il Mondo Libero" are favourable. Back copies are sold at 10 lire instead of 5 Lire. It is said that certain shops specialize in back numbers of all P.W.B. periodicals, and that early numbers of "Il Mese" reach a price of 75 lire.

It would therefore seem advisable:-

(a) to advise the general public, through the press, that a new edition of the first six copies of "Il Mese", in one volume, is now available.

(b) to print the price prominently on the cover of all periodicals.

Silone's novels are said to be much appreciated in lower middle class circles, though less so among the better-educated. The revers

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B.3

11 "The Great Dictator" - Reception in Naples

The film was shown in Naples for the first time on November 1st at Sala Roma and Sala Filangieri which, between them, can accommodate 2,000 people. About 6,000 saw the film and the box receipts amounted to 216,000 lire. The crowds were so large that Allied Military Police and Carabinieri were called out to keep order. A number of women were frightened by the crowds and abandoned the waiting queues.

Opinions on the merits of the film are very divided: "Not the Charlot of old" - "Chaplin at his best" - "He seems more at home among the poor Jews than among the generals" - "Some of the best

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scenes are spoilt because they are too prolonged"; "The speech at the end is very impressive, it shows Chaplin as a first-class speaker;" "Some of the scenes between the two Dictators are too vulgar"; "Chaplin's speech on Democracy is quite out of place, it has nothing to do with the rest of the film."

Nevertheless, there was much evident enjoyment and a great deal of hearty laughter; a long run is expected. (B-1)

12. Cinema - Florence

The newsreel of the United Nations is preferred by the public to all other films. Experts define them as perfect from the technical point of view and all find them most interesting. They have aroused the warmest sympathy. It is significant that, during the showing of a newsreel of the "Liberation of Paris" a few days ago, the appearance of General De Gaulle before Notre Dame and the playing of the Marseillaise were greeted with enthusiastic applause. The spectators, having lived through the experience of liberation, were deeply moved by these French liberation scenes.

The film "The Great Dictator", with Charlie Chaplin, is eagerly awaited. It is hoped that the documentary film of the liberation of Florence, already shown in other cities of Liberated Italy, may soon be shown in the Florentine cinemas. (B-2)

The first enthusiasm over the reopening of the cinemas has cooled on finding that the films are not reproduced in Italian. The complaints that almost all the dialogue is thus lost are justified; the films are over-advertised, especially in the case of the film "The Golden Door." The news reels are enthusiastically received. The appearance on the screen in some cinemas of German officers and soldiers has led to hostile demonstrations. (From an Italian source)

Much of the mutual distrust still evident between the people as a whole and the Allied Troops is attributed to the lack of the right kind of propaganda. Many Florentines are undecided whether to consider the Allies as invaders or friends. The chief cause of this lies in the apathy into which the people have sunk. Indifference, not hostility, holds them aloof from the life of the Allied troops. The most popular forms of propaganda are :

a) The PWB Radio Van, which gives the news without comment,

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The first enthusiasm over the reopening of the cinemas has cooled on finding that the films are not reproduced in Italian. The complaints that almost all the dialogue is thus lost are justified; the films are over-advertised, especially in the case of the film "The Golden Door." The news reels are enthusiastically received. The appearance on the screen in some cinemas of German officers and soldiers has led to hostile demonstrations. (From an Italian source)

Much of the mutual distrust still evident between the people as a whole and the Allied Troops is attributed to the lack of the right kind of propaganda. Many Florentines are undecided whether to consider the Allies as invaders or friends. The chief cause of this lies in the apathy into which the people have sunk. Indifference, not hostitlity, holds them aloof from the life of the Allied troops. The most popular forms of propaganda are :

a) The PWB Radio Van, which gives the news without comment, and is listened to by large numbers, being preferred to the programmes of the Florence Radio or BBC.

b) The PWB Propaganda shop in Via Calzaioli. Many frequent it, buying and disseminating its publications

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INTERIOR

13 Public Safety
From F.S. Section Report 22 Oct

The civil population is becoming considerably alarmed at the lack of public safety not only in the city ofRome, but also along the highroads connecting the cities of Liberated Italy. There are constant reports of highway robbery by night and even sometimes by day along the roads south from Rome. It is probable that many Allied deserters are responsible for these incidents, but further light on this situation and on the dangerous possibility of its growing more serious has been thrown by a recent conversation with an Italian from the South. He stated that such incidents are due not only to possible Allied deserters but also to large numbers of deserters from the Italian Army, classes 1920-22 recently called up. If, as is at present proposed, the 1914-19 classes are called up, it is foreshadowed that the number of these Italian deserters will increase to alarming proportions either because the men have no particular desire to be sent the the Far East or because conditions of pay and food in the Italian Army are fairly desperate. These deserters must live somehow and it is foreseen that a large percentage of them will take more or less to open brigandage along mountain roads etc., many of which, incidentally, are important Allied L. of C. In this connection also a rumour has been heard in Rome to the effect that some of the gangs of desertors who have been carrying out raids on the outskirts of Rome are led by an American Colonel and an Italian officer!!

14 P.W.B. Employee killed

The following communication has been published in the Rome newspapers: "At about 2,45 in the morning of October 29th a Carabiniere stationed in the Via del Cordello, ordered a public vehicle Number 77165 to stop. The driver, Giuseppe Porchetta continued in his course. The Carabiniere then fired and wounded Alberto Pirelli, an employee of P.W.B., who was in the car The wounded man who was taken to the hospital of San Giovanni died shortly afterwards."

Pirelli was employed in the Monitoring Section of P.W.B.. The unfortunate accident occurred on the first occasion on which the new nocturnal police patrol was introduced into Rome. The case in favour of the police is that there are so many thefts of automobiles and similar means of transport are being used by so many of the bandits who infest the streets of Rome at night that a car which failed to obey the police summons to stop was not unnaturally thought to be bent on some unlawful business. Nevertheless it appears that the Carabiniere in question must at least have acted in a rash and hotheaded way.

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FINANCE

15 Speculation in Dollars and Hoarding of Allied Military Lire (From an Italian source).

The Blue-Seal Dollar is now said to be quoted on the financial Black Market at Lire 200.

Hoarding of Allied Military Lire is believed to have increased as a result of President Roosevelt's assurance that such money has Allied backing and will eventually be accepted in payment for goods sold to Italy. A business-man from Lecce stated that Allied Military Lire are at a premium there.

A little incident illustrating the position was witnessed in a Rome market. A woman receiving change of a 500 Lire note asked that it should all be in Allied Military Lire as Italian soldiers were rather distrustful

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of Italian notes. It is stated that Allied soldiers have on occasion refused to accept Italian notes in change on the grounds that they bear the symbol of the Fasces. B.3.

Trading in foreign currency centres round the stock Exchange, but has its ramifications throughout the city. Needless to say, no large quantities of foreign currency are involved, as they simply do not exist in Rome. The capital engaged is largely that resulting from Black Market operations.

The following are current rates on the financial Black Market.

Dollar (Blue-Seal).....	Lire 190
" (Yellow-Seal).....	" 120
French Franc.....	" 1.50
Swiss Franc.....	" 80

The currency most in demand is the American dollar. According to an employee of the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, in the Bank's Stock Exchange department, large sums are not available, and the same amount often changes hands at different prices.

Capitalists, that is, those who possess large sums of Italian money, are eager to get foreign currency, in the belief that it will maintain its value. They do not invest it in a real estate, as this would involve heaby expenses. Some feel that by having a sufficient amount of American currency at their disposal, they may be able to migrate to America at some future date. Many of these belong to the clergy and to the aristocracy.

Allied soldiers are aware of this financial Black Market and take advantage of it.

Capitalists do not attach much value to occupation money. On the other hand many Roman shopkeepers and some peasants prefer it to Italian currency as it facilitates dealings with Allied soldiers. C.2.

LABOUR (see also Appendix I)

16 Cost of Living Bonus

The belief that this question had been finally settled by last week's announcement that the Cabinet had approved the text of the appropriate decree was shattered by a leader in "Unita", the Communist Party organ, of 29th October. This article claimed that employers

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As a result a meeting of Cabinet Ministers, A.C. officials and representatives of C.G.I.L. was held on 30th October; assurances were apparently given that the decree would be published on the 31st (it had not been published by 2nd November) and other concessions were made to labour, with the result that the strike was called off.

It is worth pointing out that throughout the negotiations organised labour, as represented by the CGIL has pursued a very moderated policy. The proposed sit-down strike of 31st October was only called to put an end to a situation which had dragged on for over two months and was clearly designed to put pressure on employers, not the Government or Allied authorities. Moreover employees in essential public services - transport communications - were expressely excluded from its scope.

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Giving an unofficial picture of the attitude of labour Mario Baldelli, Secretary of Achille Grandi of the CGIL, stated that, whereas most industrial concerns had started paying advances towards the bonus long before the final figures were settled by the authorities, many commercial undertakings, especially small ones, had taken advantage of every technicality to avoid payment to the last possible moment. Baldelli blames the Allied authorities entirely for the three months' delay in bringing the bonus into operation.

Other concessions to labour. The following improvements in the food situation of workers were agreed to at the meeting of Government, A.C. and C.G.I.L. representatives.

(a) Extra bread rations raging from 75-100 grms per person per day for workers engaged in heavy manual labour.

(b) Normal functioning of all factory messes in the city and province of Rome as from 6th November. These provisions come as a result of a long campaign of protest in the Rome press by representatives of labour.

It is hoped to include reaction to these concessions in next week's report.

LOCAL CONDITIONS -ROME

17 The Electricity Rationing Scheme.

The following are detail of the new electricity rationing scheme, which is based on a monthly quota of 10 kw per apartment per month. There a re about 250.000 consumers; to supply all of these with a regular daily supply of current (on a quota system) will require another month's work. In the meantime the city will be divided into four areas. Each area will have current every day for one week out of four. For the other three weeks it will have current only one day in three (as compared with one day in four under the present scheme). At the end of the interim period it is hoped to provide current, on a quota basis, to all consumers every second day, and eventually every day.

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Various other points have been raised in the press. "Avanti" of 18th brought to the notice of the authorities the claim of radiologists to a supply of current. "Unita" of the 20th drew attention to a case

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As the new scheme only came into effect on 1st November, it is as yet too early to gauge its effect on industry and morale. The situation will be kept under observation.

18 Food Situation

The "Corriere di Roma" of 20th October announced that the following food-stuffs will shortly be sent to Rome: 300 tons of grain from Perugia; 30,000 hectolitres of wine from Apulia, to be sold at a retail price of lire 30 per litre.

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In spite of the above and similar announcements the food situation remains unchanged, and public opinion is very sceptical as to the eventual appearance of the goods concerned.

"Unita" of 19th October reported that 600 quintals of tinned tunny-fish were lying in the Rome warehouses of the firms charged with the distribution of food-stuffs (S.E.P.R.A.L.); five days later the same newspaper declared that the fish was being sold at exorbitant prices, quite as high as those charged in the Black Market.

Referring also to the Black Market "Voce Repubblicana" pointed out that military ambulances, which are exempt from inspection at road blocks, are being used to bring goods into Rome for sale. "RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE" went so far as to suggest the abolition of the road blocks, as their only effect is to send up prices on the Black Market.

In an article devoted to the bread question IT.L.L. NUOVA of 18th October remarked that an increase in price would do no great harm if only the quality of bread provided were better than at present.

19 Black Market - Rome. (From 276 F.S. Section Report)

At the risk of undue repetition of remarks already made in these reports on the food situation and its connection with civilian morale, it must be reiterated that the present system of food supply to the city is nothing short of disastrous in the way it is resulting in the legitimisation of a Black Market where practically everything can be bought by those willing or able to pay the price. Two conversations with an absolutely reliable source have this week thrown further light on the almost criminal futility of the present attempts to impose a coercive system of import permits and road blocks to control food supplies to the city.

One example, which concerned informant's friend was the following. On 22nd October 1944 a lorry containing 40 quintals of industrial alcohol worth nearly a million lire was stopped at the road block on Via Appia Nuova and not allowed to proceed although all its papers were in order, until the owner had agreed to pay the control post staff the sum of lire 30,000. The owner was furthermore told that he could import any quantity of any kind of goods through this road block provided he was willing to come to similar arrangements with the staff.

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A second example of this kind of corruption concerns the system in force in the central markets. There, when a trader wishes to import a load of e.g. fruit from the South, he applies to the Food Control Tpt Office for a lorry. He is then given a chit addressed to one of the large firms registered with Food Control, but on going to make arrangements to despatch the lorry, he finds that unless the lorry owner's palm is greased with something like 50,000 lire, the lorry is either "broken down" or if it leaves ROME at all, mysteriously breaks down a short distance outside the city. The result of this is, of course, that the bribes are paid over to the transport firm and the tradesman bringing in the goods not only takes care to hide in the load a quantity of some profit making commodity like oil or meat, but also recoups himself by selling the greater part of the original load at Black Market prices to his local contacts.

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An example given concerned a load of apples recently brought from the South. Local price fixed for apples on ROME market is about 24 or 25 lire a kilo. Food control bases this on the following figures. Cost on farm 15 lire, transport 6 lire, profit 3 lire. However, in view of the bribery which has to be indulged in before the apples can be got to ROME under the system outlined above, if the apples were sold in ROME at the list price, the trader would lose heavily. A small percentage therefore appears on the market at the Food Control official price, while the rest disappears into the Black Market.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the attempted use of coercive measures in this way merely defeats its own object as not only can any normal Italian see at least three ways round any regulation affecting his pocket, but the money to be made out of avoiding the regulations is at present such as almost to try the integrity of an archangel. It is most urgently recommended that the system of permits and road blocks and other barriers to the free import of food to ROME be abolished before popular exasperation during the coming winter degenerates to such a state that repetitions of the PALERMO demonstration may be expected.

This exasperation is mainly based on the fact that the case for free inter-province and inter-city transport in liberated Italy south of Rome is unanswerable, since (a) there is a glut of oil, wine, dried figs, chestnuts etc. in parts of Puglia and Calabria, and given a free hand, private enterprise will soon provide for transport of large quantities of these goods to places where they are scarce and (b) only by putting sufficient of these goods on the open market can prices be brought down within reach of the "fixed salary" categories of workers and the Black Market will disappear. The present system is actually discouraging merchants from even attempting to transport goods to Rome since many refuse to spend the time and trouble and bribes required. If only bread, pasta and fats were left as rationed food and steps taken to see that they were available, free exchange of goods between provinces and cities would soon restore the completely disordered situation of food distribution.

Many people have also remarked with regard to this matter that it should be the business of the Allied Commission to intervene in this situation not only because it is that body's function to guide the Italian administration but also because the whole matter presents itself more and more as a long term civil security problem which may rapidly develop into a military matter requiring eventually military intervention.

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20 Minor Tragedy

A woman was crossing the Via Nazionale at a busy hour around noon. She accidently dropped a bottle of olive oil that she was carrying. A crowd collected at once in a circle around the precious oil that was spreading rapidly over the street. The rather well-dressed woman, moaning, dropped to her knees and began soaking up the oil in her handkerchief and then wringing it out into a small can. The crowd was full of cries and sympathy. They held their places and kept the traffic from running through the oil until the woman had finished mopping up every savoable drop.

Note: A bottle of olive oil in Rome sells for about 1,200 Lire; a well-paid Italian civilian working a 48 hour week for the Allies earns about 1,200 Lire.

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LOCAL CONDITIONS - NAPLES

21 The most pitiable of the needy classes - (Conversation with a lady investigator for a benevolent institution).

It is my duty to investigate the condition of people who apply to us for assistance.

I never dreamed that there could be in the world so much sorrow, so much suffering, such resignation, and often such dignity in the bearing of overwhelming misery.

I visit the poor of the street, but, while they may be the most ragged ones they are not the most needy. In one way or another they manage to get along, their methods for procuring a meal are perhaps not quite orthodox, but they do manage to get it. Accustomed as they are to doing with little, they do not feel the weight of strained circumstances and privations, the hovel they lie in may be dirty but that does not interfere with their sleep.

But the others? Those who have known comfort, cleanliness in their person and household, have raised a family and who are now obliged to beg, what of them?

All of them have used first their capital, then they have sold their jewels and clothes, then their furniture and linen, everything; now there is nothing left to sell, and starvation is staring them in the face. There is no means for raising money, even sufficient to buy bread, so they must beg or literally die from hunger.

It is the humiliation of begging that is so heartbreaking for these poor people. I see it and I feel for them. I see what a dreadful struggle it is for some of the younger generation to see their parents in such straits. It is no wonder then that some of them have sacrificed their ideals for the sake of bringing home some relief, even at the heaviest of all costs to themselves.

One day I had gone to investigate an application. The lady lived at the top of the house, and as I climbed the stairs I heard much laughter issuing from one of the lower floors, voices of Neapolitan girls and foreign men. On my way out, the girls I had heard upstairs, there were three, were at the house-door saying good-bye to their soldier friends. I passed by but one of the girls called after me: "Signora, aren't you

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LOCAL POLITICS

23. Political Meeting at Sparanise (Caserta)

The meeting was organized by the Communist Mayor of Sparanise, Avvocato Corrado Graziadei, who is very popular in the region and its object was to commemorate the brutal murders committed at Sparanise by the Germans on October 22, 1943.

The proceedings began with a religious service, then new streets were opened bearing the names of the martyrs of German and Fascist brutality, after which there was a meeting of the people; several thousand people attended from Sparanise and the neighboring places.

The first speaker was the Mayor, who was followed by representatives of the local sections of the Socialist and Demo-Christian parties. The speeches were short, but each speaker stressed the policy of his own Party, and all insistently demanded that the contemplated distribution of land to the peasants should be carried out at once in the local zone between the Volturno and the Garigliano (Sparanise is the most important centre in the region). The question is one of considerable importance locally where there are many large estates (latifondi) and a great many peasant day labourers.

In the afternoon the Communist Party held a meeting for the purpose of discussing problems of Party organization in the zone between the Volturno and the Carigliano; the meeting was attended by all the Communist sections in the zone, by Avvocato Graziadei, and by the representatives of the Naples Federation Valenzi, Cacciapuoti and Magliotta.

It appears that this meeting proved that in this zone the Communist Party is powerful and well-organized. This is explained by the presence of a strong and numerous contingent of daily workers on the land, and by the activity of Avvocato Graziadei who appears to be an extremely able political organizer. (B-2)

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX I NO. 41

L A B O U R

(This is the second in a series of appendices in which an attempt will be made to give a comprehensive picture on a given subject in different parts of Italy.)

R O M E

A. Labour Problems

(1) Exceptional Position of Rome Area - In considering labour problems the exceptional position occupied by Rome in Italian national economy must be constantly borne in mind, a position comparable almost to that of Washington in the United States. Rome is not a great industrial centre. On the other hand its position as administrative capital means a great concentration of white-collar workers -- civil servants, employees of semi-official organizations and those of private firms, and professional workers -- quite exceptional in a city of its size. This situation was of course greatly aggravated by the Fascist tendency to bureaucracy and centralization.

(2) Unemployment - The destruction caused by war, the closing down of many businesses and the disruption of the Armed Forces following 8 September 1943, which resulted in partial demobilization, created widespread unemployment.

Re-employment even for the black-coated classes depends very largely on a resumption of industrial production throughout the country. Re-employment for workers in industry, in this area as throughout Liberated Italy, is faced with many almost insuperable obstacles: lack of power, transport, raw materials, accessible markets and even capital, which is at present reluctant to run the risks of legitimate business under these overwhelming handicaps, but finds an outlet rather in prompt business deals (legal or otherwise) and in the buying of gold and other valuables.

A state plan for reconstruction and consequent re-employment in agriculture, public works and industry can scarcely be expected before the complete liberation of Italy. As a first step to such a scheme the Italian Government has included in the census which is now in progress a section designed to ascertain the skilled and unskilled labour available for the work of reconstruction.

(3) Trade Unions - It is believed in some circles that the CGIL

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(3) Trade Unions - It is believed in some circles that the CGIL (Confederazione Generale del Lavoro) claim to represent the whole of Italian Labour is decidedly premature. In the first place CGIL policy has not yet crystalized;,its constitution is as yet unwritten and its claim to be apolitical has still to be proved. Moreover, the great massof industriel labour in N. Italy is believed to be very well organized. The CGIL itself may therefore meet the same fate as befell the Naples-Bari CGL on the liberation of Rome, and succomb to a stronger organization. (++)

++ Finally while the recent visits of Trade Unions Delegations from America, Great Britain and Russia undoubtedly raised the prestige of CGIL in the eyes of Italian workers, it is doubtful whether American and British labour at any rate can regard with favor the Labour-Communist alliance carried over from Italian party politics into the Trade Union movement itself. (B-3)

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At the same time there can be no doubt that the CGIL at present does represent organized labour in the Rome area, and does so on the whole very efficiently. It has always so far managed to voice Labour's legitimate grievances and press for their redress without on the other hand laying itself open to any accusation of non-cooperation with the authorities for the fullest prosecution of the war. A good example of its method is to be found in the recent negotiations for a cost-of-living bonus. CGIL approached the Italian Government with a concrete plan in August. The Italian Government approved the plan and submitted it to AC. AC approved the principle but suggested a different scale, including family allowances. CGIL accepted this amendment and during protracted discussions lasting two months waited patiently for results. When however, the Italian Cabinet finally passed the decree authorizing payment of the bonus, and it was discovered that many employers were still refusing to pay it on the pretext that the decree had not yet been officially published, CGIL took action and called for a general half-hour strike on 31 October. This firm action at the right moment had the desired results; assurances as to the immediate publication of the decree were received from the Government and the strike was called off. It appears, moreover, that the announcement regarding increased rations for "heavy workers" and provision of meals in factory canteens, published 1 November 1944, were at least accelerated by the CGIL's action.

(4) Labour Discontent - Discontent is very wide-spread in working class circles in view of the inadequacy of wages to the present cost of living, the insufficiency of rationed foodstuffs necessitating purchases at exorbitant prices on the Black Market, the increased cost of heating and lighting and the impossible prices for the most elementary of consumer goods such as clothing. The discontent is expressed partly in the Press, partly in threats of strike action; within the past fortnight printers, bakers, taxi-drivers and cab-drivers, as well as employees of certain individual firms, have all employed the threat of strike action to support their claims.

B. UNEMPLOYMENT

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B. UNEMPLOYMENT

(5) Unemployment figures - As mentioned in Paragraph 2 of this Appendix, unemployment in the Rome area is undoubtedly very widespread, but it is difficult to obtain precise figures. Estimates are all submitted with caution. The obstacles in the way of an accurate return are: the large numbers of registered workers who are P.W. or undergoing forced labour in Germany and North Italy; the presence in Rome of many refugees who are not registered here; and the fact that registration at Employment Exchanges is now voluntary. In view of the insignificance of unemployment relief payments many unemployed do not trouble to register.

The Rome Camera del Lavoro put the figure of unemployed at 150-180,000 including all workers not employed at their regular trade, though they may be earning a living by other work or on the Black

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Market. This seems a very conservative estimate. A reliable private source puts it at over 200,000 (A-2). Other official sources agree on a figure of "about 200,000".

(6) Lack of Incentive to Work - Much technical unemployment is no doubt caused by the lowness of wages. Workers throw up regular jobs in favor of more remunerative and lighter, if less honest, work. Offers of certain jobs are ignored owing to the poor wages, in no relation to the cost of living. (A-2)

(7) Refugees in Rome - It may be pointed out that the presence of large numbers of refugees in Rome has less influence than might be expected on the employment situation, as these people are mainly agricultural workers from the devastated Frosinone and Lake Trasimene regions. They are thus not merely unemployed but virtually unemployable as long as they remain in the city.

(8) Unemployment Relief - Unemployment relief is still being paid at the old, pre-liberation rates, which average Lire 5-6 per diem; as will be seen from the figures for cost of living in Para. 15 of this report, this is barely sufficient to cover the cost of rationed foodstuffs, and leaves no margin whatever for such elementary necessities as shelter and clothing. Moreover, the rationed foodstuffs, if not supplemented by purchases on the open market or Black Market, provide a chronically insufficient diet.

At the moment the Social Assurance Institute (Istituto di Previdenza Sociale - the Fascist Social Assurance body) is in process of liquidating the unemployment insurance payments outstanding for the period 8 September 1943 - 4 June 1944. Men serving with the colors before 8 September 1943, who were originally included in the scheme, have now been excluded.

C) WAGE SCALES AND COST OF LIVING

(9) Close Inter-relation of Problems - In the present state of war-time economy in Liberated Italy it is pointless and indeed impossible to attempt any separate discussion of wage-scales and cost of living. The position of the country as a theatre of operations, the fact

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6) WAGE SCALES AND COST OF LIVING

(9) Close Inter-relation of Problems - In the present state of war-time economy in Liberated Italy it is pointless and indeed impossible to attempt any separate discussion of wage-scales and cost of living. The position of the country as a theatre of operations, the fact that all parts of liberated Italy have in turn been fought over, with consequent destruction of the means of production and disruption of communications, have produced a grave shortage of consumer goods and foodstuffs. In the absence of a comprehensive and well-enforced system of price control this simply means that any increase in the purchasing power of the masses produces a corresponding rise in prices. Prices in fact, as invariably happens in times of inflation, rise faster than wages, with disastrous results for wage-earners. This situation, general throughout the country, is aggravated in the case of Rome by the city's dependence on imports, even for the part of its food-supply; by the popular tendency, prevalent already in fascist days, to hoard stocks with a view to a rise in prices; and by the apparent inability of the authorities to suppress the Black Market.

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(10) Official Policy on Wages - Official policy with regard to wages is based on the supply problem and the danger of inflation. It is pointed out that until supplies of food, clothing, etc., can be improved any increase in wages would be of no real benefit to the working classes. Consequently official policy is, generally speaking, aimed at pegging wages while attempting to increase the supply of goods at moderate prices.

For this purpose the basic wage scale is that paid to Italian employees of the Allied Armed Forces. In order to assist the war effort, industrial wages are fixed slightly below the basic scale.

(11) Real Wages - In Rome today real wages cannot be expressed in terms of money. The provision by employers of a free or cheap meal to workers is a type of payment more sought after than, say, a 50% increase in cash payments. The same applies of course to firms which run cheap food-shops for the benefit of their staff.

For those factory canteens (mense aziendali) A.C. provides a daily ration per head consisting of 4/5 oz. dehydrated soup, 1 oz. dry vegetable and ½ oz. macaroni. This is generally supplemented by the individual factory managements, and a good, hot meal provided at an average cost of probably Lire 8-10. Including soup kitchens for the indigent it is believed that about 180,000 such meals are served daily in Rome. (B-2) The agreement of 30 October between the Italian Government, AC and Labour representatives may mean a considerable increase in this figure.

(12) Cross Section of Monthly Earnings - The following examples of monthly earnings show how heavily the present situation bears on the very large class of salary-earners:

Surgeon	Lire 15-20,000
Fruit-Seller	" 18,000
Lawyer	" 8-15,000
Carpenter with own business	" 6-9,000
Waiter	" 6,000
Baker	" 6,000
Civil Servant, Grade 4, 50 yrs. old	

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Waiter	"	6,000
Baker	"	6,000
Civil Servant, Grade A, 50 yrs. old with family	"	5,000
Clerk for private firm, 40 yrs. old with family	"	4,500
Lieutenant in Army, with allowances	"	4,000
Truck driver with Allied forces	"	3,900
Civil Servant, Grade B, 30 yrs. old unmarried	"	3;500
Civil Servant, Grade C, 50 yrs. old with family	"	3,000
Brick-layer, 60 yrs. old, with family	"	2,400
Tramway man, 60 yrs. old, with family	"	2,400
Truck-driver worker for private firm	"	2,000

(B-2)

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(13) Cost of Living Bonus. - After two months of consideration (see paragraph 3) the following scales have been finally approved:

A fixed payment made directly by employers to workers. In the Provinces of Rome, Naples and Florence, the amounts are:

(a)	Heads of families, of either sex earning up to L. 3,000 per month	Lire	30	per day
(b)	Heads of families, of either sex earning between L. 3-5,000 per mo.	"	20	" "
(c)	Heads of families, of either sex earning over L. 5,000 per month	"	10	" "
(d)	Women other than heads of families	"	20	" "
(e)	Juveniles (under 18) either sex	"	15	" "

For workers in other areas the fixed payment is L. 5 less.

A supplementary payment for families to be paid out of appropriate funds administered by the Istituto Nazionale della Previdenza Sociale. This amounts to a 50% increase in present rates plus L. 5 per dependent per day.

The bonus has effect from 15 August 1944.

According to an estimate by the Rome newspaper "Ricostruzione" between 6 and 7 million workers will be entitled to the bonus, and the total cost to employers will be about 100 milliards per year.

(14) Increases in Pensions - It is estimated that there are approximately 1,000,000 retired workers drawing pensions in Italy today. On their behalf the CGIL has proposed a flat-rate increase of L. 30 per day, the State to contribute along with employers and insurance societies.

(15) Comparative Cost of Rationed and Non-Rationed Foodstuffs - The following figures are taken from the monthly economic bulletin of the Confederal Chamber of Labour of Rome, and show how small a part rationed foodstuffs play in the average weekly expenses of an average working-class family of four persons:

Food	Black Market and Free Market	L.	1,158	87%

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	earning over L. 5,000 per month	"	10	"	"
(d)	Women other than heads of families	"	20	"	"
(e)	Juveniles (under 18) either sex	"	15	"	"

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Food	Black Market and Free Market	L.	1,158	87%
	Rationed Goods	"	130	13%
	Total food expenditure	"	1,288	
	Clothing	"	80	
	Rent	"	50	
	Light and heating	"	31	
	Extras	"	132	
	Average total expenditure per week		1,581	

Average quantity of food consumed:

	Black Market Free Market	Ration	Total
Solid foodstuffs	Kgs. 18 (++)	8	26
Liquid "	Litre 1	2	3

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Eggs	Nil	0,462	0,462
Soup	Nil	17,676	17,676

(++ of which 13 kg. consisted of fruit and vegetables)

(16) Cost of living for an Average Working-Class Family - Estimates of the average monthly sum required to support a working-class family of four persons vary widely, the actual expenditure depending on such factors as income, employment, skill and patience in shopping, availability of rationed foodstuffs and standard of living.

The figures of the Chamber of Labour quoted in paragraph 15 of this Appendix give a monthly total of lire 6,300. This appears to be a very conservative estimate, based probably on expert shopping and minimum free and black market prices. Informed private sources would place it as high as Lire 9,500. (B-2) The Chamber of Labour figure may however be accepted as rock bottom.

(17) Relation between Wages and Cost of Living - Attached at Appendix A to this report are a series of six graphs showing respectively the increases of wages in four key industries (printing, building, quarry industry and engineering) and the increase in cost of living over the past fourteen years. The figures for wages are averages of the fixed wages paid to various classes of workers in each industry. The graphs show that fixed wages have increased perhaps two to three times, whereas living costs have increased from 12 to 15 times.

Graph 6 require particularly careful study; it represents the average monthly expenditure on food only of a working-class family of five persons living in the Rome area. The point which must be borne in mind is that the standard of living of such a family has declined to an almost unbelievable extent. Pre-war menus are things of the past. The figures on which the graph is based represent at least for the past year a standard of nutrition far below that required for health.

In 1938 a middle class family of five persons spent on an average L. 525-50 per month for food, according to the following prices and quantities of food needed daily:

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In 1938 a middle class family of five persons spent on an average L. 525-50 per month for food, according to the following prices and quantities of food needed daily:

Bread	Lire 1.20 a Kilo	Grams	1200	Lire	1.40
Macaroni	" 2.30 " "	"	2000	"	4.60
Oil	" 5.00 " litre	"	200	"	1.00
Meat	" 7.00 " Kilo	"	500	"	3.50
Fats (bacon, pork fat)	" 12.00 " kilo	"	100	"	1.20
Beans	" 1.20 " "	"	1000	"	1.20
Fruit	" 1.20 " "	"	1000	"	1.20
Milk	" 1.20 " litre	"	1000	"	1.20
		Lire per day		"	15.30

This represents a monthly expenditure of Lire 460 to which must be added the daily expenses for salt, gas or coal, and for any variation of menu for holidays, birthdays, which naturally meant increased expenditure.

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In 1940-41 when prices were stabilized, food cost as follows:

Bread	Lire	1.50	a kilo
Macaroni	"	3.60	" "
Oil	"	14.00	" litre
Meat	"	28.00	" kilo
Pork fat	"	42.00	" "
Fruit	"	2.50	" "
Milk	"	1.50	" litre

The monthly cost of food was about L. 1,200. It must be borne in mind that not all staple foods were rationed, that rations were more liberal and the Black Market practically did not exist. Only imported goods of foreign origin, which were luxuries, were then sold on the quiet, before the term "Black Market" became generally known.

During the 9 months of Nazi-Fascist occupation (September 1943 - June 1944) there was almost no distribution of rationed food at fixed prices, so it was necessary to buy on the Black Market. Prices varied according to political events and the military situation, and became somewhat lower as the Allies drew nearer. The highest prices were reached in March.

Bread (with ration card)	Lire	2.30	a kilo
" (Black Market)	"	220.	" "
Pasta	"	230	" "
Flour	"	260	" "
Oil	"	1400	" litre
Meat	"	320	" kilo
Pork fat	"	540	" kilo
Beans	"	230	" "
Fruit	"	90	" "
Milk	"	50	" litre

It must be remembered that the amount of food consumed daily was greatly reduced in this period; but the monthly sum spent on food rose to about Lire 9,000.

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Milk	"	1.50	" litre

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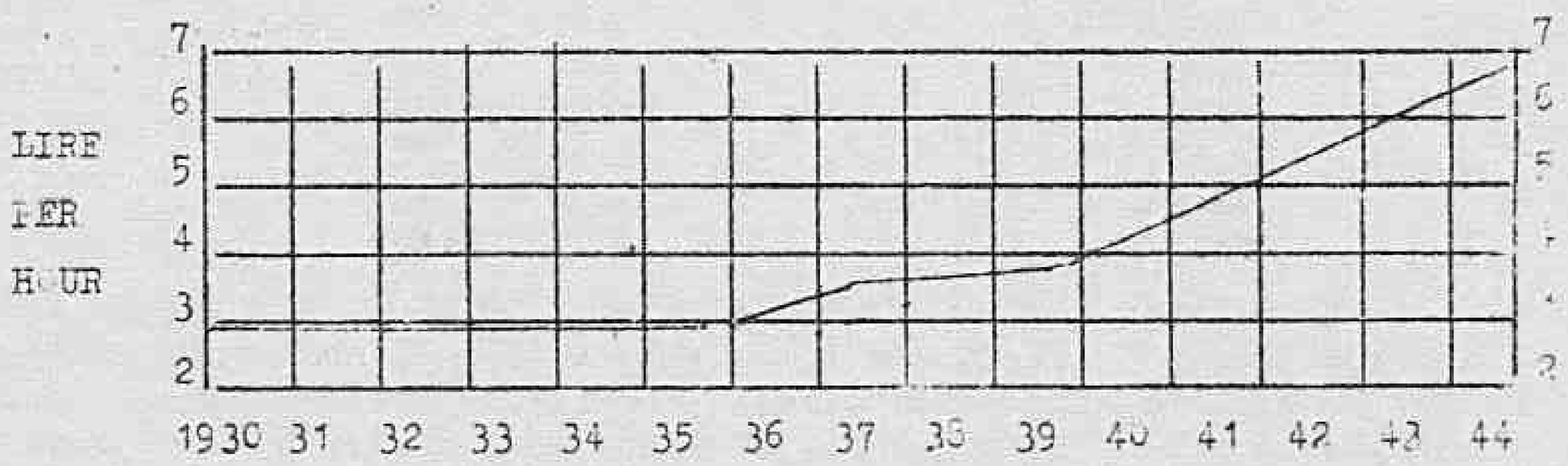
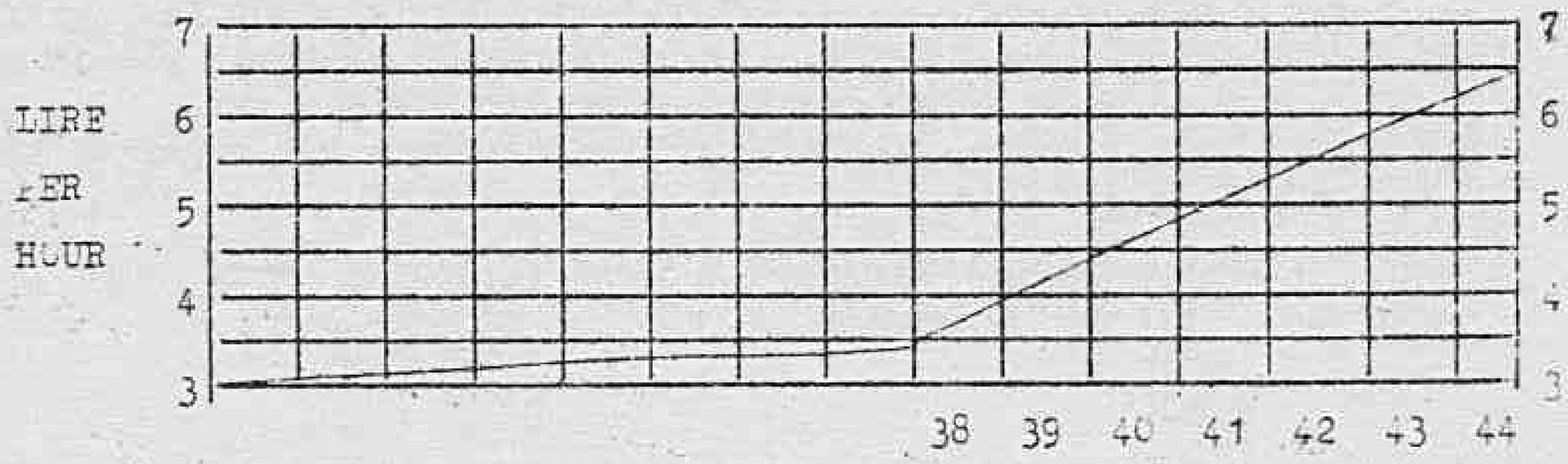
APPENDIX A - Graphs

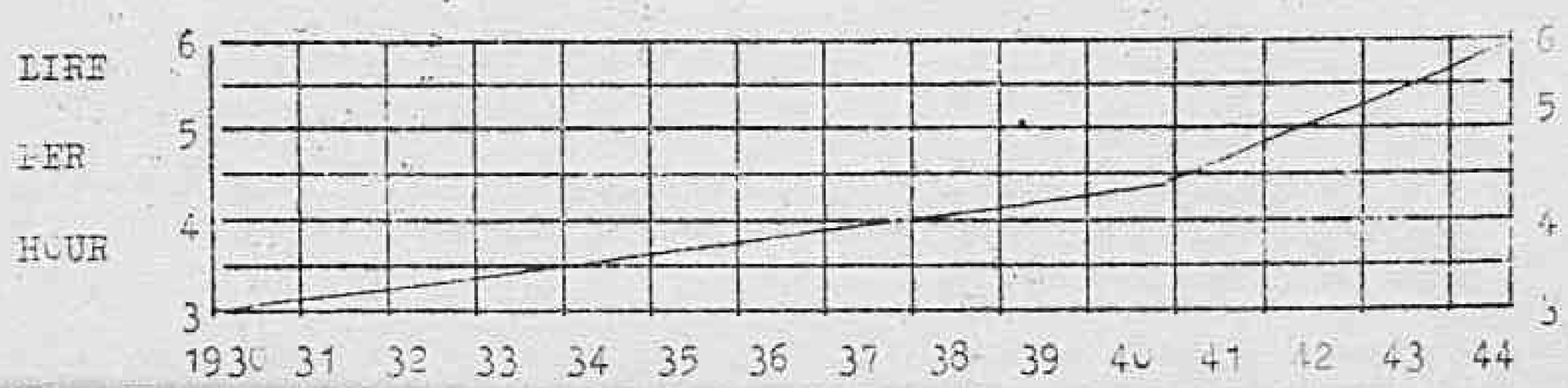
GRAPH I Hourly wage scale in Printing Industry in Rome Area



GRAPH II Hourly wage scale in Building industry in Rome Area



GRAPH III Hourly Wage rate in Quarry Industry.



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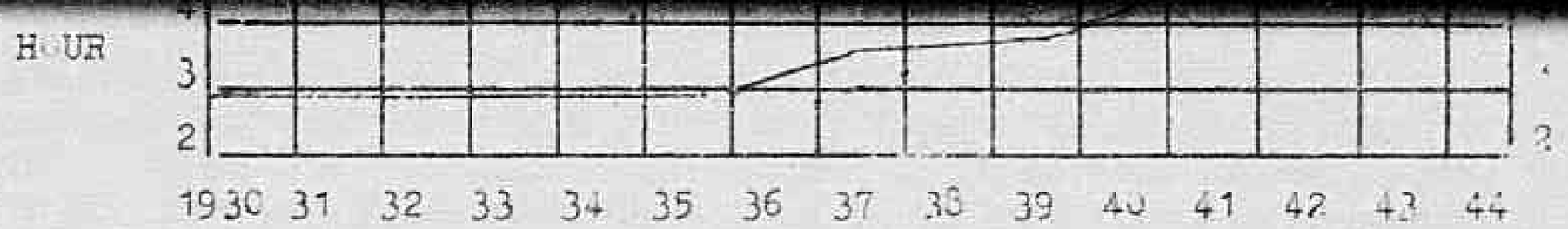
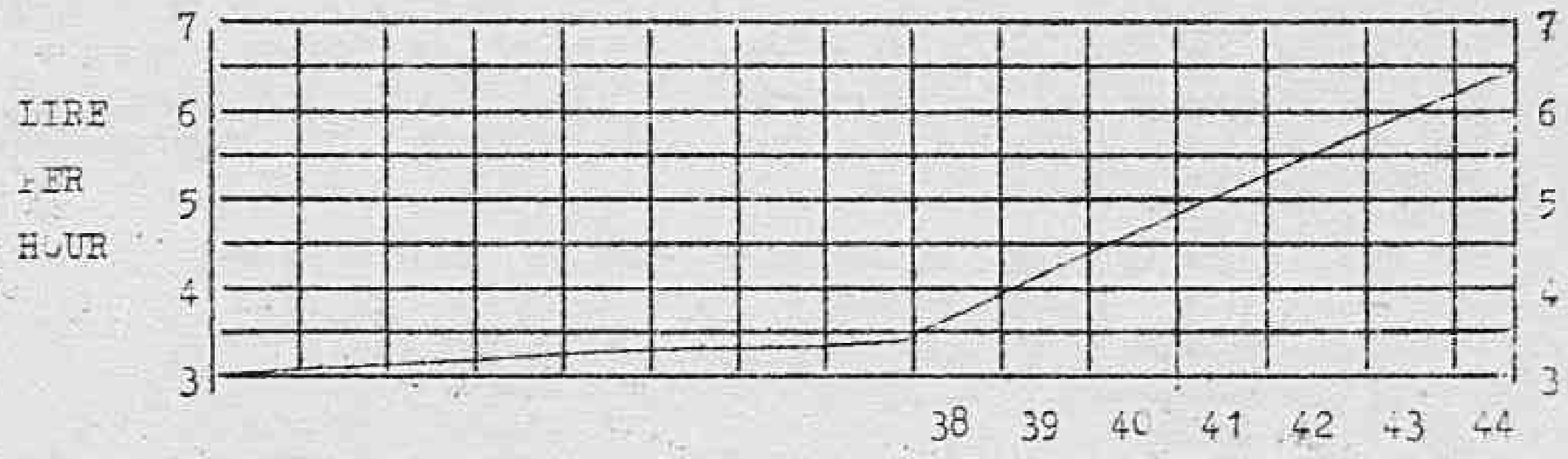
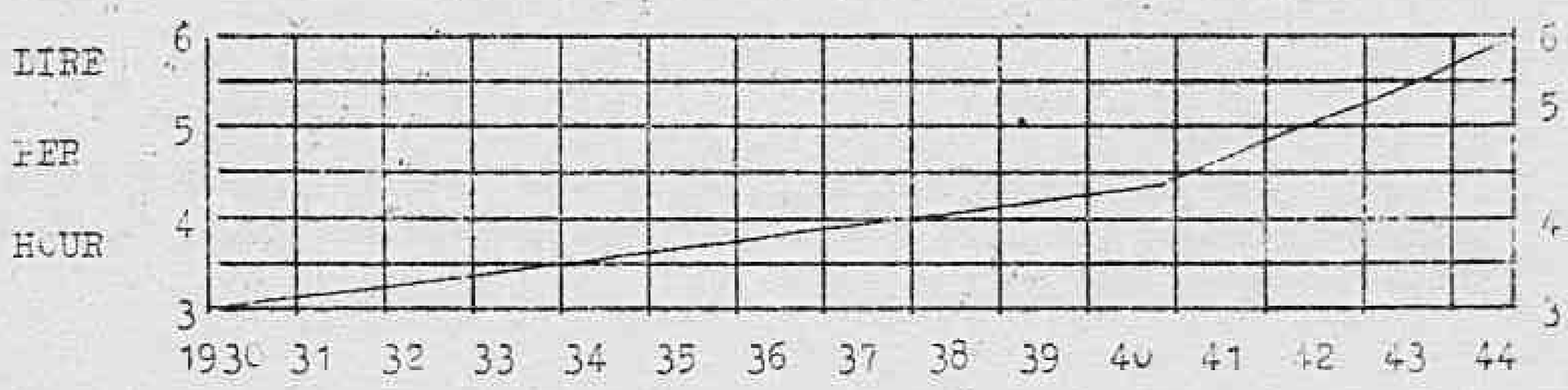


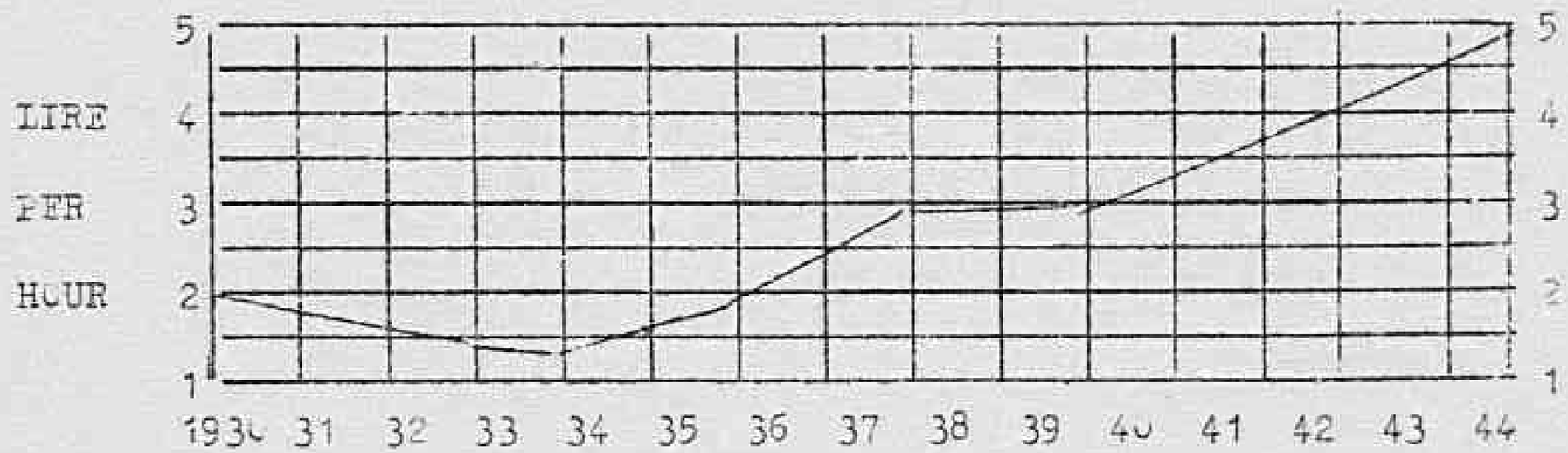
GRAPH II Hourly wage scale in Building industry in Rome Area



GRAPH III Hourly Wage rate in Quarry Industry.



GRAPH IV Hourly wages of Engineering Industry in Rome Area



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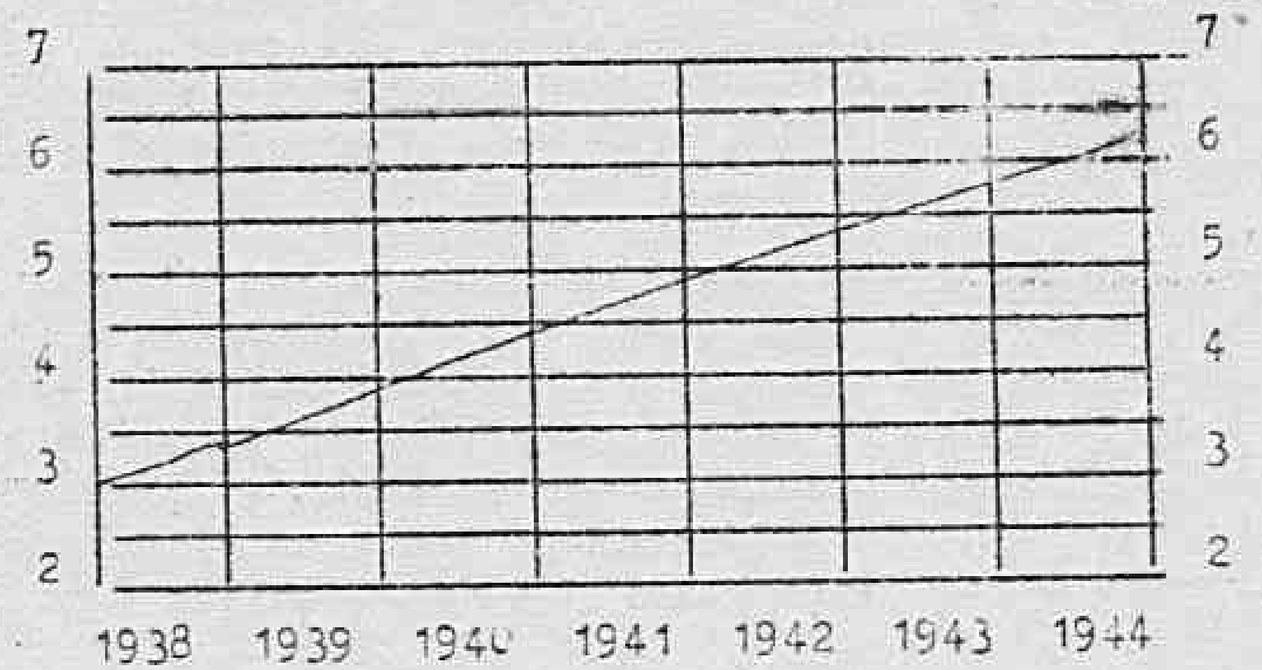
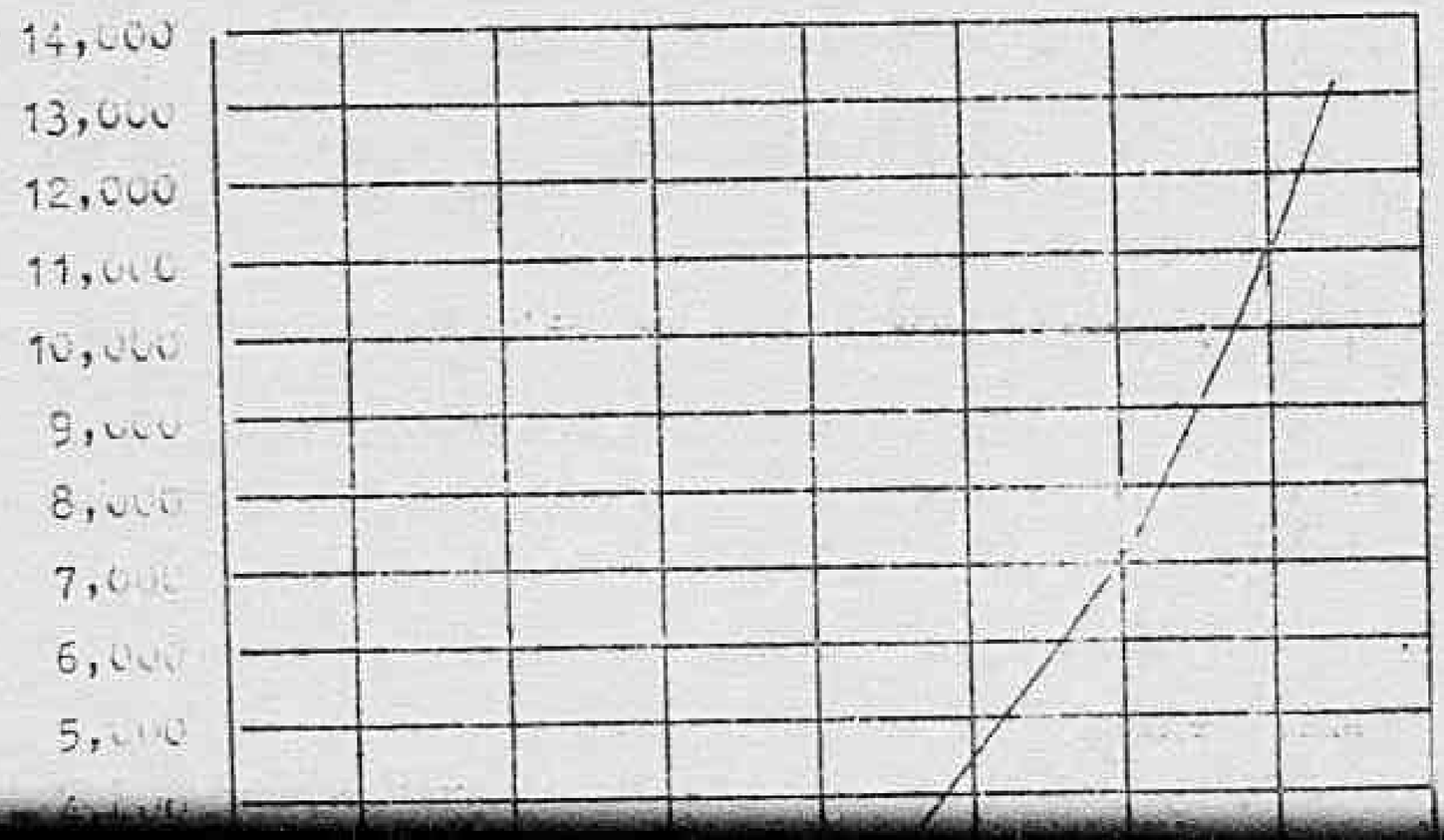
GRAPH V Representing the rise in hourly wages of workers in key industries: building, engineering, mining and printing. Rome Area from 1938 to 1944. Figures taken from Rome Camera Del Lavoro



GRAPH VI Showing the average cost of food per month for a family of five in the Area of Rome during the year 1937-44.



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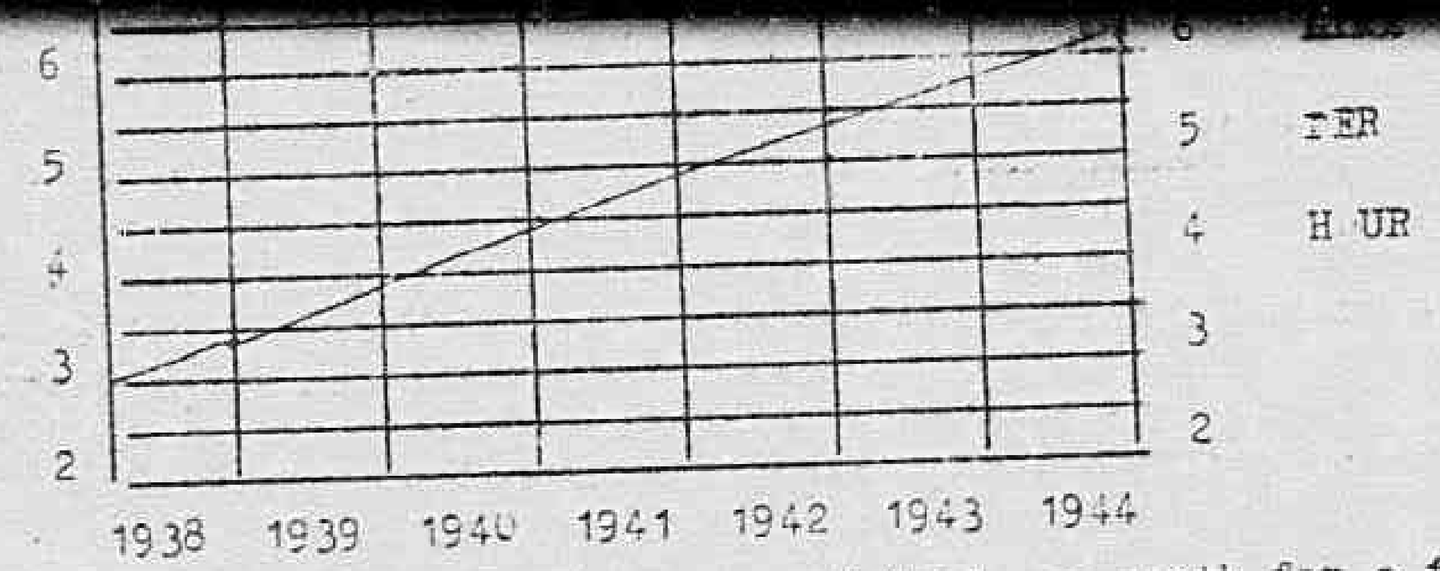

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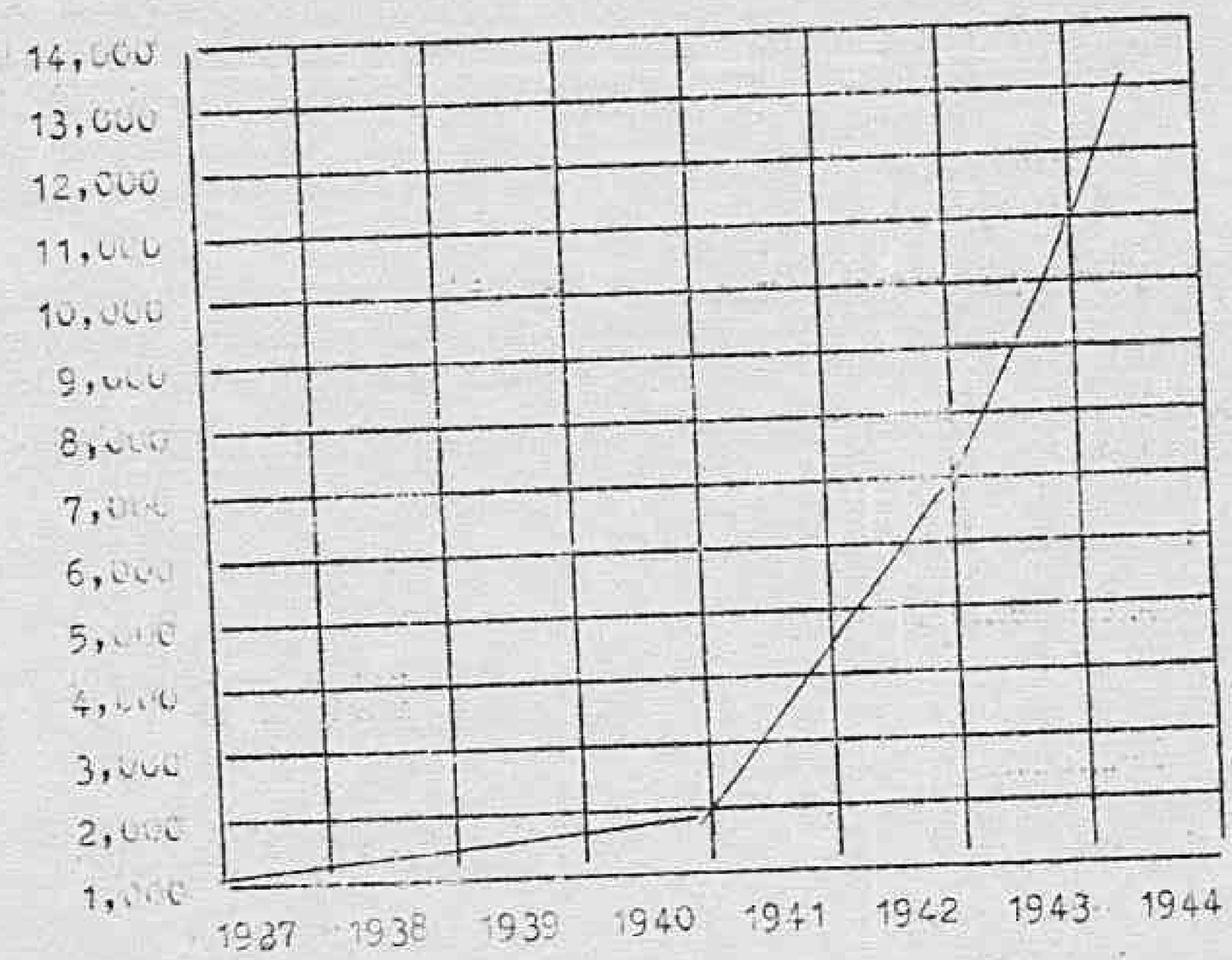

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N A P L E S

I. LABOUR PROBLEMS

The chief labour problems in Liberated Italy are the following:

1) Wages are too low and for the most part do not give the workmen and their families the necessary means of subsistence. All manual and blackcoat workers think that instead of increasing wages it would be better to give the workers and their families a small ration of food, at a fair price.

2) Extensive unemployment due to the destruction of several factories and to the inactivity of many other plants, although not seriously damaged. So far in the province of Naples 63,826 unemployed have registered; many others, however, are not registered as they prefer to engaged in some illegal or at least non-productive activity (Black Market, retail trade on the side, etc.) The number of workers who have a real productive activity is very small. Unemployment dole ranges from 3-12 lire per diem.

3) Inactivity of the workers' organizations (Trade Unions and cooperatives). In fact the demands for labour are not made through the Trade Unions concerned, but through other offices which engage workmen without knowing them. In this connection the harbor workers complain that Allied Authorities contract for the discharge of ships with contractors who make very high profits though incompetent, and who do not deal direct with the cooperatives of harbor workers.

4) Dispersal of specialized labour, as many workers prefer non-specialized work, if it is more remunerative; among these activities we may note work in Allied messes, Black Market, etc.

5) Lack of transport - Many workers cannot take a job in districts far from their homes.

II. WAGES IN SOUTHERN ITALY

Agriculture

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II. WAGES IN SOUTHERN ITALY

Agriculture

Daily workers	200/300 lire per day plus 2 full meals a day

Industry

Workers with Allied Authorities	80/100 lire per day with or without one limited meal
Workers with Italian Authorities	120-200 lire per day without meals
Workers in large factories and public services	130/210 lire per day without without meals.
Workers in medium and small factories, and artisan workers	200/450 lire per day with or without meals

This last category of workers gets such good wages because it is well organized.

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Offices	
Allied offices	80/140 lire per day without meals
Italian public offices	120/200 lire per day without meals
Italian private offices	100/300 lire per day with or without meals.

III. EXPENDITURE OF AN AVERAGE FAMILY

Budget of expenditure of an average working class family composed of father, mother, and three little children (from 5-15 years old). We are taking into account only the absolutely necessary expenses at the lowest prices.

Expenses for food - Reckoning on a wholly vegetarian diet barely sufficient for an average man, taken at the lowest price.

Breakfast	100 gr. bread
	100 gr. milk
	10 gr. sugar
Lunch	200 gr. soup
	50 gr. bread
	200 gr. fruit
	10 gr. fats
Supper	400 gr. greens
	400 gr. potatoes
	50 gr. bread
	10 gr. fats

The monthly expenses for this sort of diet for 5 persons are:

Rationed food

Bread	30 kilos	at	5	lire	a kilo	L. 150.
Pasta	12 "	"	7	"	" "	84.
Oil	1 litre	"	35	"	" litre	35.
Dehydrated vegetable	1 kilo	"	29	"	" kilo	29.

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Oil	1	litre	"	35	" " litre	35.
Dehydrated vegetable	1	kilo	"	29	" " kilo	29.
Dry vegetables	1	"	"	30	" " "	30.
Meat and vegetables	1	"	"	60	" " "	60.
					Total	L. 388.

Black Market and Free Market purchases

Greens	60	kilos	at	30	lire a kilo	L. 1800.
Potatoes	60	"	"	30	" " "	1800.
Fruit	30	"	"	25	" " "	750.
Vegetables	14	"	"	150	" " "	2100.
Fats, oil	2	litres	"	340	" " litre	680.
Suger	1½	kilos	"	360	" " kilo	540.
Milk	15	litres	"	30	" " litre	450.
					Total	L. 8120.

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Other monthly expenses

Rent	L. 200.
Electric light	150.
Gas	200.
Soap	300.
Salt	75.
Matches	75.
Thread, needles, etc.	300.
Shoe repairs	400.
	L. 1700.

ANNUAL EXPENSES

Wearing apparel

For a man	1 suit of clothes	L. 6000.
	1 pair of shoes	3000.
	1 shirt	500.
	1 vest	1000.
	1 pair of drawers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	400.
		L. 11200.
For his wife	1 dress	L. 3000.
	1 pair of shoes	1500.
	1 vest	1000.
	1 petticoat	500.
	1 pair of knickers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	700.
		L. 7000.
For the children	1 dress	L. 2000.
	1 pair of shoes	1500.
	1 vest	700.
	1 shirt	500.
	1 pair of drawers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	400.
		L. 5400.

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L. 1700.

ANNUAL EXPENSES

Wearing apparel

For a man	1 suit of clothes	L. 6000.
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	1 vest	1000.
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For the children	1 dress	L. 2000.
	1 pair of shoes	1500.
	1 vest	700.
	1 shirt	500.
	1 pair of drawers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	400.
		L. 5400.
	3 children at 5400 each	L. 16200.

Total of annual expenses for wearing apparel L. 34400.
This amount divided over 12 monthly budgets comes to 2866 L. per mo.

We may calculate the monthly expenses as follows:

Food	L. 8528.
Other monthly expenses	1700.
Wearing apparel	2866.
Total	L. 13094.

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If this amount is divided over 26 working days, it may be stated that the average wage of an average worker or black-coated employee should be at least 500 lire per day. Even this wage, however, is not sufficient, as the following expenses have not been taken into account: transport, doctors and medical attention, school books, repairs at home, purchases of replacements for broken or worn articles, all amusements, cigarettes and other incidental expenses. Neither have the following basic foods been included: meat, eggs, fish, butter, cheese, dried fruit and marmalade, chocolate and sweets for the children; wine, tea and coffee for the adults.

The cost of summer dresses is reckoned on those made from second rate material.

So it may be stated that even a wage of 500 lire a day is insufficient for a family of 5 persons.

T U S C A N Y

I. General Confederation of Italian Labour

All the Tuscan Organizations of Workers, including the various Syndicates, have joined the General Confederation of Italian Labour, which is divided into three branches:

Agriculture
Industry
Commerce

Personnel, recruited from the various parties -- Communist, Socialist, and Christian Democrat -- all belong to the General Confederation of Italian Workers.

Good results have already been obtained. The workers dismissed because of present conditions, are paid wages plus family allowances (from July to October 31st.)

New contracts between employers and workers will come into force dating from Oct. 1st, under the CGIL (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro). The employers and the CGIL are reported to be discussing the issue of a public loan for the industrial reconstruction of Tuscany. The Government will be asked to guarantee the in-

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Factory Commissions -- These have been established under the CGIL and Camera del Lavoro. These aid in the reorganization of the factories (inventory-taking, repairs, etc.) and examine the possibility of reopening the factories. Theoretically non-political and designed solely for the protection of the worker's interests, these Commissions really act under the direct influence of the political parties of the CGIL. Their functions are:

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To regularize the work
To settle disputes
To better the output and conditions of the workers
(Salaries, hygien, etc.)
To study the collective contracts.

The ultimate aim of these Commissions is certainly the nationalization of the industries.

The charge of the worker's pay, will as has been stated, lapse on October 31, and it remains to be seen what the attitude of the Industrial Directors will be.

The Inside Factory Commissions will in all cases present lists of workers to be dismissed. The Prato industrialists are said to have decided to dismiss the whole personnel and close the factories although some of them could be worked.

System of Agricultural Contract -- Share-cropper's contract as stipulated Dec. 21, 1928:

a. The Capoccia (legal male head of a peasant household) represents the whole family, which is pledged to work only on the land.

b) The farm stock belongs to the land-owner (grain reserves, machinery, etc.) and the share-cropper, when the contract expires, must return it complete in quality, weight, number and quantity.

c) The livestock is estimated according to the valuation of each head at current market prices. A subsequent contract of 31.1.38 allowed a half-share between owner and farmer of the livestock capital in Tuscany.

d. Farmhouses and outbuildings are conceded rent free to the sharecropper.

e. Building repairs, safeguarding the property, land reclamation or improvement are the owner's responsibility.

f. The same holds good for tree-planting.

g) The technical and administrative direction is the responsibility of the owner.

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h. Small tools are provided by the sharecropper and kept in repair by both parties.

i. The sharecropper provides for maintenance of farm roads, irrigation channels and boundary ditches.

j. Land taxes are all paid by the owner, and agrarian taxes are divided between the two parties.

The two parties also share the expenses of:

a. Fertilizers, seed, Etc.
b. Protection of crops from disease and damage.
c. Repairs and ordinary maintenance of machines and tools.
d. Irrigation (with special regulations in particular cases.

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e. The use of machines, ploughs, etc.

f. The threshing and oil-pressing expenses are also divided between the two parties more or less equally. The crops are halved.

g. For the raising of industrial crops (tobacco, tomatoes, beet, etc.) silkworm culture, mating of livestock, the cropper receives special grants.

There are special rules laid down to regulate the kitchen-garden, poultry yard and pig-breeding for the use of the peasant.

This farming contract has to be registered, and when revised must among other points keep in view the necessity of a minimum basic salary.

The sharecropping category ought also to be ensured the benefits of family bonus from which it is at present excluded.

Wages and Salaries - In the province of Florence pay is according to the old tariff of the emergency period (previous to the 70% increase), and averages:

5.20 lire an hour for specialized workers.
4.00 lire an hour for unskilled workers.

The 70% increase will be applied from October 31st, but the Ministry is still debating the rate of indemnity for increased cost of living.

The Working Population of Florence

The metallurgic industry normally employs 13,000 workers. At the present time 5600 persons are employed, 2500 of whom are at FIAT which is now requisitioned and working for the Allies. (This factory will probably absorbe another 1000 workers in the future.) The "Pignone" Factory, were it reopened, would employ about 3000 workers.

Unemployment

Applications for employment exceed 21,000. The employment office has been able to place 3000 workers so far. There is a great demand for workers in the Building industry, the only industry that is really active; but these cannot be supplied, because almost all

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II AGRICULTURAL SECTION OF GENERAL ITALIAN CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR

The total number of landworkers (including families) amounts to about 210,000, divided as follows:

a) Laborers and sharecroppers - 25,7[illegible] families (182,000 persons)
b) Day laborers, skilled workers, employees of Agricultural Firms, farms, etc. - 13,[illegible] units (25,000 persons)

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These are subdivided as follows:

1003 employees
4750 at fixed wages
815 share-croppers
4739 day laborers.

The Collective Contracts of other Categories of agricultural workers (overseers, skilled workmen and paid laborers) also require revision as regards increase of pay (already accorded to industrial workers); special indemnities for hard times should conceded; indemnities for dismissal and holidays should be increased for some categories. There should be indemnities for long service, even in the case of dismissal or resignation of the worker. Family bonus should be increased, and the relief system further developed in order to bring the agricultural workers to the same level as the industrial.

III. THE RISE IN WAGES

The system on which the rise in wages is based has caused considerable discontent, especially among the younger workers, who complain that the difference between the pay of older and younger workers is too great. Food prices are the same for all, and therefore the increase should have specially favored those who, earning little, are unable to meet even ordinary expenses.

As the labour parties and especially the Movimento Giovanile Comunista (Young Communists' Movement) are fomenting discontent, complaints may presently lead to disturbances, especially in outlying industrial centres, such as San Giovanni Valdarno, Sesto, Figline, etc. where 90% of the inhabitants are of the working-class. (B-3)

C E S E N A

Cesena is the first industrial town of the Padua valley occupied by Allied troops. Now there are only about 15,000 inhabitants, though the normal population is 4[illegible],000 (60,000 with suburbs.)

The residential quarter has not suffered much, compared to [illegible] the houses are damaged, but most of

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C E S E N A

Cesena is the first industrial town of the Padua valley occupied by Allied troops. Now there are only about 15,000 inhabitants, though the normal population is 40,000 (60,000 with suburbs.)

The residential quarter has not suffered much, compared to other places. About 20% of the houses are damaged, but most of them can be readily repaired.

The chief industry, which gives work to some 5,000 workmen, is the Arrigoni Cannery Co., which produces jam, tomato paste, canned fruit and vegetables. The factories adjacent to the station are somewhat damaged by the frequent Allied bombing. When the days of the German Command were numbered, the German demolition squads came to destroy the machinery. But the factory directors did not lose their heads and by offering the squad a million lire bribe, were able to save the machinery from destruction. This machinery is still in Italian hands and will soon give work to people of the town and produce valuable food supplies.

The Allied Command immediately took the buildings under its protection and hopes soon to have them in working order. There is

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also a sugar refinery of the Italian Sugar Refineries Co., whose production is limited to the summer months and gives work to 800 men. The electric machinery was blown up by the Germans but the building and other material is intact. As soon as the destroyed parts are replaced work can begin again.

However the mills of Cesena are badly damaged. The Allied Command ordered the immediate importation of flour which will continue until the two least damaged mills are in working order again. There is enough wheat stored to last four months, so the Allied Authorities have not a difficult problem.

Guns are still heard at Cesena, the front being only 3 kms. away and the faces of the population still show traces of their recent suffering and fear. But they are elated because they have at last been liberated.

S A R D I N I A

UNEMPLOYMENT IN SARDINIA

The unemployment of commercial and industrial workers in Sardinia is increasing every day. Because of the lack of transport and means of communication with the continent, many shops, big and small, are obliged to shut and dismiss their employees. For lack of raw material of any kind, the factories are in a similar predicament.

Only builders can find work in Cagliari, which was badly damaged. The Public Works Department (Genio Civile) employs workmen as it needs them but for the most part the work is done by the soldiers.

There is also an increase of unemployment among the black coat class (employees). The change in politics has caused many offices to shut.

The population of Cagliari, Sassari and Nuoro live by agriculture, as their fathers and grandfathers did. Theirs is a quiet, unpretentious existence not complicated by modern exigencies. However in the later years of Fascist domination when the crops were poor and insufficient for the peasants' needs, they went to work in the

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The Social Insurance Institute generally aids the unemployed workers and has its main offices in Cagliari. The worker who has regularly paid the worker's insurance contributions receives a daily subsidy from the Institute, but the sum is small compared to prices of today and is no longer sufficient to live on. The worker's family also receives a daily subsidy.

The authorities of the Island have taken no steps as yet to solve the unemployment problem. The workers try to find any work they can, even though it has nothing to do with their usual occupation. They generally traffick in the black market where the profit is quick and easy.

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The present pay of a factory worker is far below the cost of living. A mason gets from L. 80 to 90 a day, a manual worker from L. 50 to 60. A miner in any Sardinia mine gets about L. 90.

The employees of various categories get from L. 1980 to L.3000 a month. Besides their pay, the workmen get a family subsidy for every dependent child. These sums do not include the new increase to meet the high cost of living.

However the above-mentioned pay is insufficient to meet the high cost of living and it is impossible for the workman to meet his expenses. If the cost of living for an average family in Sardinia is far above what the head of the family earns, it is because the rations of staple foods are not given out regularly, and are quite insufficient. Bread and macaroni have only recently been given out regularly, while oil, pork fat, and soap have been lacking for months. Olive oil has not been distributed for five months, but can be bought on the black market at L. 400 a litre. A family of four must spend about L. 200 a day to live. (B-3)

EMILIO LUSSU ON MINERS' CONDITIONS

The following is an account of a conversation between an Italian PWB collaborator and Emilio Lussu.

"We met On. Emilio Lussu for the second time in Sardinia after his return from exile. He had come to examine into various economic problems. He stated that he had noted, on visiting the town of Carbonia, several problems that required immediate solution. He spoke of the pitiable condition of the miners who need clothes and shoes and sufficient nourishing food.

"Emilio Lussu told us of one thing about which the miners had spoken during his visit. With the new bread ration which went into effect on October 1st, some laborers were deprived of the extra bread ration they had received daily hitherto. In fact, in the same mine, he said, some workmen of the distillery do not get the extra bread ration of 150 grs. while the workmen of the furnace of the same mine do get it.

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"'I have explained this situation to the Allied Commission', he said,' which is willing to extend the extra ration to the distillery workmen, who are in such disastrous conditions. I hope to obtain some advantages for them at Rome, where I shall speak of the problem.'" (B-1)

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POLITICAL SITUATION IN CALABRIA (O.S.S. REPORT).

In the region of Catanzaro, Crotone and Cosenza, there are two strong political tendencies. The foremost and better organized is leftist, led by the Communist and Socialist parties. The other is reactionary, represented officially by the Christian Democratic and Republican parties, and unofficially by a strong and potentially dangerous rebirth of Fascist sentiment. Nevertheless, political activity in this region is still in a formative stage.

CATANZARO: The principal agricultural city of the area is the hub of activity for political party organization throughout the smaller towns of the province, rather than a political battleground. Although most of the Italian parties are represented by at least a few members, the strongest groups are the Communist, Christian Democratic, Socialist, Action and Republican parties. Within the city itself, there does not seem to be any attempt to increase the following of any of these parties either by mass-meetings, speeches, demonstrations or any of the other political methods. The objective of the Catanzaro political representatives seems to be to recruit and strengthen their foothold in the outlying towns and villages. There, as one Communist leader said, "the foundations for a permanent political structure are being laid." This seems to be the opinion of the other parties also, for from Catanzaro political representatives are sent to the smaller villages, where they recruit men to form local branches.

CROTONE: The political situation in this city, which is the only important seaport and industrial center in the region, is quite different from that in Catanzaro. Here the political parties are jockeying for position within the city itself. Although the Christian-Democratic party has recently gained some strength, it is still only a weak second to the Communist party, which has the strongest following in the city. There are numerous reports - impossible to confirm - of clashes between the Communists and other groups. These include outbreaks at mass-meetings, assaults on political leaders, etc.

COSENZA: Of the three-main cities in the region, this is the only one where the conservative Christian-Democratic party has gained a really strong foothold. The only newspaper published in Cosenza, the ITALIA NUOVA, is conservative, and its popularity seems to be based on a programme of physical rather than social reconstruction. It is said that this is because rebuilding the city, which was damaged by bombardment, is foremost in the mind of the population.

The following are a few examples of how the different parties have taken root in the smaller towns:

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The following are a few examples of how the different parties have taken root in the smaller towns:

(a) Petrona: Population 4,000; Communist membership 300, Republican membership 180, Christian-Democratic membership 80.

(b) Sersalo: Population 7,000; Communist membership 75, Republican, Christian-Democratic and Action parties represented by only a few inactive members.

(c) Crepani: Population 5,000; Action party membership 165, Communist membership 55, several other parties poorly represented.

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(d) Catanzaro Marina: Population 6,000; Socialist membership 500 (this is mainly among the railroad workers), Communist membership 80, other parties insignificantly represented.

It is worth remarking that even though the Communist party is not always the major party, it seems to be well organized and always present to some extent.

The population of this area can be roughly divided into the following four political groups, listed according to their numerical rather than political strength:

I. Peasants, whose sympathies seem to be conservative and monarchical. Although this is unquestionably the largest block of the population, its support does not seem to have been sought by any of the political parties.

II. Lower middle-class and industrial workers form the most active political group, whose support is most eagerly courted by all the parties. The Communist party has the strongest following in this group.

III. Upper middle-class, land-owners and aristocracy. This group is not unlike the peasant group in its political sentiments. Its members are conservative and for the most part favor the monarchy. It seems to be generally shunned by all parties, possibly because many of its number were formerly Fascist party members.

IV. Railroad employees. This group, though not numerically strong, is widely distributed and almost unanimously Socialist in sentiment, if not membership. According to their spokesmen, they expect a strong national movement immediately following the liberation of Northern Italy. They claim to be the oldest anti-Fascist bloc in Southern Italy, a claim which is even confirmed by many of their opponents, who admit their connection with, and support of, the Socialists in the North Italian centers before Fascism came to power.

The Fascist sentiment referred to in the first paragraph is confined almost entirely to the upper middle-class, land-owners and aristocracy. It is impossible to say whether there is actually any

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The Fascist sentiment referred to in the first paragraph is confined almost entirely to the upper middle-class, land-owners and aristocracy. It is impossible to say whether there is actually any pro-Fascist organization, or whether it is still merely a reactionary sentiment. The latter seems to be the case. One of these "pro-Fascists" summed up the situation as follows: "We don't want Mussolini back, and we don't want Germany to win the war, but we do want a central government strong enough to maintain law and order throughout Italy. If a multi-party system of government cannot accomplish this - and so far it has not - then we will support another totalitarian government, whether it be backed by America, England, Russia or the Fascists." It seems that the situation is not dangerous as yet, but that it should be watched carefully, for the field is believed to be fertile for subversive organization.

No trace of the existence of a pro-Fascist organization was uncovered, but Communist part members related incidents which might indicate the existence of such a movement. The following are samples of these:

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I. In the town of Soresale one night the hammer-and-sickle emblem over the Communist headquarters was painted over and the Fascist Party initials "P.N.F." carefully painted in its place.

II. A secret meeting was held at Borgia to elect members for a widespread Fascist organization. It was broken up by the local Communist and Socialist party members.

III. In many ofthe small towns and even in Catanzaro itself, crudely painted signs "RITORNEREMO" (We shall be back) have appeared. It seems this has recently become a Fascist motto.

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CONDITIONS IN VITERBO

Economic Conditions

Viterbo, about 80 km. north of Rome has a population of 25 or 30 thousand, and is likely to experience a slow recovery from the war which left schools, houses, factories and churches in heaps of rubble. The water situation in the town is normal and there is electricity every other day, power being sent on the odd days to Rome where shortage of electricity is much more acute. Gas is available every morning from 7.20 to 10.00 and sometimes in the afternoons.

Food

The food and black market situation in Viterbo is greatly influenced by the economic conditions in Rome as the latter is only two or three hours away by the electric trams that make the round trip every night. People from Rome can be seen every day in Viterbo and the surrounding country buying fruit, vegetables and other produce, at prices that are extremely high for the Viterbese; this has resulted in a system of barter among the local people who cannot afford to pay so much as the Romans. A peasant will give 4 kilos of flour or beans for 1 kilo of salt but he cannot afford to pay 350 lire for salt, which is the market price. Some other black market prices:

Flour	60-80 lire per kilo
Beans	100
Potatoes	1,500 - 2,000 lire per quintal
Bread	90 lire per kilo (unobtainable)
Oil	500 lire per litre (unobtainable)
Cigarettes	120 lire per package (few soldiers around here now)
Sugar	300 lire per kilo.

The black market operating between Rome and Viterbo is at present the towns biggest business. For a time a law awarded 35% of any goods taken in such transactions to the person who discovered and disclosed the black market activities; this was suspended however two months ago and now there is no black market control. Except for bread and flour there are no regular rations. Twice there has been a ration of tinned goods. The two greatest needs are oil and fat; the last oil ration was in April; there has never been a fat ration. There was one soap ration about two months ago and sugar rations at the same time for babies. As olive oil and fats for cooking are prime necessities to the Italian diet, many people speak of having a public demonstration because of the continued shortage.

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Flour	60-80 lire per kilo
Beans	100
Potatoes	1,500 - 2,000 lire per quintal
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Industry

A principal industry in Viterbo was ceramics and this has had 90% of its buildings destroyed by Allied bombings. No reconstruction is anticipated for a long time. A small foundry and three sawmills are functioning. The greater part of the population is made up of artisans, tradesmen, builders etc., and no shortage of work is expected for them as there is much to be rebuilt.

Propaganda

Three cinemas are open and they are very crowded; they show the old films of pre-war days and those new films that have arrived from Amedica.

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Documentaries are usually popular with the young people of the town. There are two independent weekly newspapers L. VOCE DI VITERBO and LO SPORT VITERBESE; a newspaper published by some students is expected to appear soon. Newspapers arrive from Rome a day late and the most popular are IL POPOLO, IL TEMPO, and L'UNITA. Allied publications arrive in quantities far too small but are very popular and bought just as soon as they appear on the newstands...the people would like to see more of them.

Public security

The Carabinieri and the questura are very unpopular...mainly because they do nothing about the black market. Also people complain because many "republicani" are still in office.

Attitude towards Allies

There is a general feeling of friendliness towards the Allies. All the young people would prefer to come under American influence, perhaps because they think this country is rich and more egualitarian. They feel the English come more as dominators than as liberators. They are a little bitter against the French - especially against some of the North African troops - who said they were revenging themselves in Italy for the damage done by the Italian soldiers in France and North Africa; though the Moroccans stole a few sheep and cattle there were only isolated cases of rape, and so the feeling does not run extremely high against them. As to Russia they profess to know nothing.

The Colonies

There was much discontent at Eden's statement on Italian colonies. The loss of Ethiopia was conceded but the rest of Italy's overseas possessions should not be taken away from her. Roosevelt's statement announcing a dollar credit for occupation lire called forth a general feeling of satisfaction.

The Italian Government

The Viterbese seemed content with the present Italian government, but the general feeling was unmistakably anti-monarchical. The young people definitely do not want to be soldiers again because (1) they dread being sent to Japan; (2) not knowing the Armistice terms, they do not want to fight as co-belligerents believing they will be treated as inferiors; (3) they don't want to fight under the monarchy.

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Education

Antonio Marzullo, provveditore of the schools, says they will not be able to open in November as expected. "First of all 80% of the school buildings have been destroyed by Allied bombing, and the remaining space is used for housing refugees and sick people; we cannot send these people away because they have no homes, and our plans for building temporary barracks for them are continually delayed. We have sufficient funds and sufficient material to reconstruct the school buildings, but we cannot get the labor because the carpenters, masons etc. in Viterbo prefer to work for private people who pay them in kind with oil, flour and grain etc. They do not care to receive more lire. The state of our students is pitiful, they have not studied for two years, as schools were closed last January and they did not study in the previous year because of

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war excitement. Many teachers live in Rome and teach in Viterbo, but there is no tram in the morning to bring them to the town, which is consequently short of teaching personnel; the same is true for some 300 students who normally come to Viterbo to school from the surrounding districts. There is furthermore a great shortage of textbooks and there is no way of overcoming this at the present time because all publishing houses are in the north of Italy." It was the opinion of the provveditore that epuration had been too severe: he knew of two teachers (anti-marcia) who had lost their posts and were in deplorable circumstances. The schools in the rest of the commune are all functioning; only the 3,000 students who attend the schools in Viterbo are without facilities. Sig. Marzullo, who was also professor of Greek and Latin said that he thought there should be a shift in emphasis from classical teaching to technical subjects, as classical education had always received too much prominence in Italy.

A group of students encountered in the streets appeared very discontented that epuration had not been carried out more thoroughly in the schools; they said that the provveditore was a Fascist and a Squadrista and that he too should have been epurated. A short time ago the Unione Studenti Italiani had a demonstration to gather funds for refugees, poor, sick etc. The students hope soon to publish their own newspaper.

Camera del Lavoro

The Camera del Lavoro was about to open; its membership will be largely composed of agricultural workers since there is little industry in Viterbo, and it will concern itself mainly with land problems. There are ten or fifteen villages near Viterbo where the peasants have already occupied the land of the owners and will not go away. Sig. Zampanti, who now works in conjunction with the Allied labor office, and who will be active in the Camera del Lavoro, says that from 1500 until 1650 the peasants worked the land under a feudal system; then a land law was passed that gave the peasant a small piece of property, though he continued to work the large estates of the big property owners; this lasted until 1934 when another division of land was made through legal means. Now the peasants have occupied the land of the landowners (in villages of Nepi and Bomarzo) and they say that the law was made in Fascist days and therefore is invalid now - so they have made their own law and intend to remain on the land they have occupied and worked. Another problem centers around that of the property of Prince Torlonia; he has 8,600 hectares of land and will not permit the peasants on it. However, on the morning of October 14th, 1944, the peasants intended occupying the land by force.

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It should be noted that land problems in Italy receive different consideration than, say, in America, where land is much more plentiful and its relation to existence is not so keenly felt.

Political parties

Zampanti is also a leader of the Communist Party; he said that it is the second strongest party in Viterbo, the first being the Christian Democrat. The Communists have about 6,000 members, made up chiefly of agricultural workers, few intellectuals; they are very near the socialists and are very friendly with the other parties. In fact, the only difference in the parties in Viterbo are slight intellectual differences between the party leaders most of whom seem to be old friends with each other.

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The "Movimento Communisto" hardly deserves mention as far as political strength goes, but its members had pasted signs all over the streets announcing their pure communist aims; and considered the Communist Party as a traitor to Marx and Lenin. Zampanti (29, modest, intelligent, democratic) says that the leaders of this small party have frequently been in jail. In their office numerous signs and red flags cover the walls and a crowd of people gathered around us when we went to speak to the secretary. At first they were afraid that we were the American "gestapo" coming to spy or put a stop to their activities. Then the secretary said that they were a new party in Viterbo, a branch of the Rome Movimento Communisto, and with the same ends: they are the extreme left and have no patience with socialist or republican tendencies of the regular Communist party

Fernando Molini, leader in the Christian Democrat Party (also on C.L.N.) said that the political organization for their party was getting under way very slowly, in fact they were holding their first public meeting on Sunday, October 15th. He said "in our region everyone is very calm about politics. We don't get excited like the people in Rome. Our party has only about 250 members at the moment, but we know that we have hundreds of sympathizers. Besides, we have had so much destruction, over athousand civilians killed during the Allied bombings, that we have not had much time for politics; our people have always been very calm and conservative. We were one of the last communes to come under the Fascist rule; we think that our party will be the strongest one in the commune from all present indications; the communists are next to us in strength, then perhaps the Republicans. As soon as the Germans left we formed a Committee of Liberation with representatives of seven political parties, Communist, Demo Christian, Socialist, Democrazia del Lavoro, Action Party, Republicans and Liberals. The C.L.N. then restored public order, organized the cleaning up of the bombed quarters of the town, took measures for improving public sanitation, food conditions etc., and it still functions as an advisory body in all matters of public interest.

Church

Bishop Adolchi Jerome said that the people in the commune of Viterbo continue to have a very high opinion of the Allies. He spoke of the many people from Viterbo who still lived in caves because their homes had been destroyed by the bombing, and said that many refugees were in need of further aid. During the summer there had been a good deal of typhoid but it is now declining. The Italian Red Cross distributed "minestra" every day in Viterbo under the auspices of the Vatican.

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In these Italian towns, whose number are legion, of which Viterbo is one, where civilian casualties have been extremely heavy and the destruction of public and private property has been extreme, a very long post-war adjustment must be expected. People who have lost husbands, wives, children, close members of their families, cannot be expected to forget these things in a moment. It is improbable that they can have any kind of political or national enthusiasm for a long time. Every day they pass piles of rubbish and wrecked buildings where their relatives and friends were killed. The armies pass and leave those scenes of wreckage which are only a memory to them; but for the civilians who live in these towns they are a daily reality. The image of this wreckage will be impressed on the minds of the people and will doubtlessly dampen any enthusiasm for war for many generations. Viterbo is the centre of an agricultural district, there is an atmosphere of extreme conservatism about the remarks and expressions of the people.

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(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only).

THE REFUGEE CAMP AT CASTIGLION FIORENTINO AND A NOTE ON PERUGIA AND ASSISI

The Refugee Camp of Castiglion Fiorentino lies on the road between Perugia and Arezzo. The Commandant is a British Captain, Frederick W.D. Taylor, who has already organized 3 other camps: at Capua, north of Capua and at Cesano. The camp is situated on a sloping plain, watered by canals, with a housing capacity of 7,000. The Allied personnel consists of Captain Taylor and two warrant officers, there is also a representative of the British Red Cross who distributes clothing to the refugees. They are helped by a small detachment of Italian soldiers and Carabinieri who maintain order. Sanitary arrangements are in the care of two Italian doctors, assisted by ten voluntary Italian Red Cross workers; some of the refugees work in the administrative office of the camp. Captain Taylor is high in his praises of the Italian personnel.

Allied transport, taking ammunition to the front and returning empty, presents the ideal means of bringing to safety refugees who have been forced to leave their homes in the battle area and seek refuge with the Allied authorities. From the front they are taken first to the ammunition supply depots and then transported by other vehicles to the refugee camps. There are transit camps at these supply depots where refugees can stay the night, and if necessary longer.

Two other camps similar to that of Castiglion Fiorentino, one on the Adriatic and the other on the Tyrrhenean, serve the two other war theatres.

Three kitchens, which are supplied with British military rations, serve hot meals twice daily. The hospital (consisting of half a dozen tents) is beautifully furnished and fully equipped with Allied medical supplies. Two babies have been born there since the middle of August. Large wash rooms with running water ensure hygenic conditions.

Amusements are few, but the traditional Italian game of bowls is popular.

Refugees on arrival are directed to a tent where they are dusted with DDT, an anti-parasite powder - a recent American discovery. In a second tent the head of the family gives his name, particulars of the members of his family, and states the place where he desires to be sent (if they have another house or relatives who can take them in, transport is arranged, otherwise they are sent towards Rome or even further south). In the third tent each refugee is given two woollen blankets and eating utensils. Then they are taken to have a meal.

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Three tents are used as a store for clothes sent by the American Red Cross - shoes, woollen clothing, trousers, warm overcoats etc.

This camp gives a clear idea of Allied effort to help Italian refugees.

Perugia

Perugia has been little touched by the war. The Collegio del Cambio, the Palazzo del Municipio and the Cathedral with the Fonte Maggiore are intact. At the University, courses in Italian culture are being held for Allied soldiers.

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(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only).

The ceramic factory, under the Directorship of Arcangelo Poloni, is going ahead with its work. Enameling, baking, ornamentation and design continue as before. Wood is being used for the furnaces as there is no electricity.

Assisi

Assisi is completely untouched by the war. The inhabitants, at the time of the German occupation, were so certain of the protection of St. Francis as to be completely unmoved. The German Commandant was a fervent Catholic and a jealous guardian of the city and its treasures. A story is told that at the time of the German occupation a contingent of S.S. was sent to Assisi to show the people that times were hard, even for them, but the Commandant succeeded in persuading them that their presence was useless, and they went away without leaving behind their usual legacy of devastation.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 51

16 November 1944

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 42

Part II - Annexes

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Explanation of Reliability Rating

Source (reliability)		Report (probability)	
A	always reliable	1	confirmed
B	usually reliable	2	probable
C	sometimes reliable	3	possible
D	frequently unreliable	4	doubtful
E	a bad source	5	improbable

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy 16 November 1944

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED No. 42

A. CURRENT EVENTS

1 Signor Orlando's Speech on Italian Armistice Day.

Vittorio Emanuele Orlando, former Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary, spoke on Saturday, 4th November, at the Teatro Quirino. The occasion of the speech was his inauguration as President of the Italian ex-Servicemen's Association on the anniversary of the armistice of the last Great War. The Teatro Quirino was full to capacity. Entrance ot the theatre was by reserved ticket only, and there were present officers of the Allied Commission and P.W.B. and many representatives of the Italian Government, including Bonomi, Sforza, Nesse and De Gasperi. Benedetto Croce was also there.

The octogenarian statesman and well-known orator held the attention of his audience from beginning to end, playing with supreme skill on the human emotions. At one time he would address the assembled company, at another he would talk to some individual person known to him in the audience, and yet at other times he seemed to have forgotten the presence of the audience altogether and extemporized aloud to himself.

At the mention of Trieste the audience rose to its feet and clapped with prolonged enthusiasm, showing in no uncertain way its will to consider this town as part of Italy, not to be detached.

Monarchists at the end threw leaflets from the gallery, which created resentment and a minor commotion. Some people cried "All officers are fascists and traitors" at a handful of officers who were trying to make their way out in the crowd, and in the lobby a fight started between Monarchists and Republicans. Many people deplored such undignified behaviour and brought the fight to an end when some Allied officers approached. Both sides parted sullenly shouting "Viva l'Italia".

On good authority it is believed that Orlando applied for a much larger theatre than the Quirino in which to hold his meeting but this was apparently met with the inflexible antagonism of the Mayor of Rome, Prince Doria Pamphili.

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2 Interview-Article on the Luogotenente Generale in the "New York Times"

(a) Press Reactions and Party Opinions

Two Rome newspapers - the POPOLO (Christian Democrat) and ITALIA NUOVA (Monarchist) - published the text of the article written by Mr. H. Matthews after his interview with the Luogotenente. That ITALIA NUOVA should have emphasized this interview, given its monarchist sympathies, was not unexpected. More odd was its publication in the organ of the Christian Democrats - a party which, as was the case with the old Partito Popolare, has not taken a definite line one way or another with regard to the institutional question, on which its members are divided.

Both papers commented on the article. The POPOLO, with its characteristic caution, regretted that the article should have

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appeared in a form which left unclear how much of the substance of it was the Luogotenente's own view and how much that of the "New York Times" correspondent: but it showed itself not antagonistic to the possibility of a plebiscite for or against the Monarchy which - according to Mr. Matthews - is the solution for the institutional question most approved by the best advisors of the Prince of Piedmont. It insisted at the same time, however, on the claims of the Constitutional Assembly which the New York Times' interview-statement minimized. ITALIA NUOVA, on the other hand, took a decided monarchist line and noted the similarities between the views ascribed to the Luogotenente and those which appeared in the speeches made by Signor Orlando and Signor Bonomi on Italian Armistice Day. According to this comment the Luogotenente had made, in t is strangest of strange ways, a kind of "speech from the throne," and had indicated as his programme (1) a prebiscite on "the institutional question" (2) the revision of the 1848 Statuto by a Constituent Assembly, and (3) the establishment of a "democratic monarchy of a nordic type".

ITALIA NUOVA suggested that after the disastrous experience of a previous "interview" given by the Prince of Piedmont, without the approval of the Cabinet, which caused much indignation amongst the parties, that on this occasion the Government must have been fully aware of the Luogotenente's action. But this assertion was not born out by ITALIA LIBERA, which maintained that the Prince, in supporting a plebiscite on the institutional question - the most controversial point made in the original article - had ranged himself against the Constituent Assembly from whose sovereignty neither he nor his father would escape. In view of the serious political implications of the Prince's declarations the organ of the Action Party asked for a Government statement on the issue raised.

The declarations of the Lugotenente naturally provided ground for further press polemics and statements: from that of Croce in the RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE 5 November on behalf of the Liberals, to the accusation in the VOCE REPUBBLICANA that the Lugotenente was merely trying a manoevre to save the throne.

An official Government statement was issued on 7 November saying: "The Government, having seen declarations which derive from the account of an audience conceded by the Luogotenente to a journalist, reaffirms that the parties of which the Government is the emanation are the expression of the will and of the aspirations of the people struggling for its liberty; and reconfirms the solemn engagement to decide the institutional

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between the views ascribed to the Luogotenente and Bonomi appeared in the speeches made by Signor Orlando and Signor Bonomi on Italian Armistice Day. According to this comment the Luogotenente had made, in this strangest of strange ways, a kind of "speech from the throne," and had indicated as his programme (1) a prebiscite on "the institutional question" (2) the revision of the 1848 Statuto by a Constituent Assembly, and (3) the establishment of a "democratic monarchy of a nordic type".

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In a private conversation Dr. Ugo La Malfa, the prominent journalist who represents the less Left Wing tendency of the Part of Action and is closely in touch with members of the Italian Cabinet, said that he was certain that the Government as a whole was not informed of the Luogotenente's interview though Bonomi had, he thought, known of it. He did not think that the text of the original article would appear to Italian readers to give a particularly favourable impression of the Luogotenente, and he was rather surprised when it was suggested that the text might give a good impression of the Prince's capabilities to Anglo-Saxon readers. Dr. Gonella, the editor of the POPOLO, in a personal statement to a P.W.B. officer, denied that he had had any intention of particularly favouring the monarchists by publishing the text of the interview in his paper. The Luogotenente himself had said that there was only one Monarchist paper in Rome - viz.

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the ITALIA NUOVA - and this authoritative assertion should appease those who might be inclined to think that the POPOLO was monarchist in sympathy.

(b) Popular Reactions

The statements that appeared in the various newspapers have had a large echo in public opinion. It is necessary to take note that a large majority of the population now professes republican tendencies.

A Scholastic Professor of about 58 years said: The Monarchy is taking a fairly firm position against the actual Government which, by expression of the programmes of the six parties comprising it, is absolutely hostile to re-establishing the Monarchy in Italy. However, one must keep in account the more important factors represented by the Allies. Let us analyze the respective positions of these with regard to Italian politics.

(i) America, in my opinion, is not interested in our political problems because her aim is the cornering of the European market. It suffices for her to eliminate all dictates representing obstacles to her commercial system. On the other hand she is too far away to feel the necessity of interfering in political questions.

(ii) Russia wants an opening to the sea, and will have it in the Balkan states who will represent her zone of influence after the war. Therefore, Italy is only of relative interest to her being too far removed towards the West to be in her possible sphere of influence.

(iii) England. Here is the kernel of the situation. Great Britain has no interest in the formation in Europe of a European Confederation of States of republican character. The efforts she is making to win the war would be of no avail should she have to take part in the European Confederation. She, the conquering nation, would find herself in the same position of importance and power as Germany or Italy. What could be more absurd than this? Therefore, all of England's interest lie in reinforcing the throne of Savoy and in shipwrecking the cause of the Italian Republicans. We had proof of this when the Repuolican Party was excluded from the Government and the C.L.N.

Finally, if the Allies on arrival in Italy had not desired the Monarchy, as they did not desire Fascism, they would have permitted the people to take care of this themselves, in which case by now the government of republican character would be

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A tailor of about 54 years of age said: I have always hoped after the 8th September that one would hear no more of the aristocracy or privileged classes. I am beginning to see after what the Luogotenente said, that Italy will still have to suffer the monarchical system and the Carabinieri.

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5. GENERAL REPORTS

LABOUR

3 Tour of the Russian Trade Union Delegation in Southern Italy.

The Soviet Trade Union Delegation has finished its tour of Southern Italy and has returned to Rome. The defective communications prevented the Press of the Capital from getting news and from giving due importance to the ovations which greeted the Delegation, wherever it went.

The newspapers of the right wing were almost unanimously indifferent to the Russian Delegates' visit, not even mentioning their recent journey to Southern Italy. The "Unita" on the contrary has two articles, signed by the Onorevole Di Vittorio, about it, giving the first summary from his own personal experiences. He accompanied the Delegation on the greater part of the trip, with Colasanti of the Demo-Christian Syndical group. Di Vittorio states he was surprised at the "profound wave of sympathy, affectionate outburst, unrestrained admiration" which drew large masses of people, in all the provinces visited, toward the U.S.S.R.

All the workers wanted to see, hear, and touch the Soviet Delegates. Thousands of proletarians, peasants, artisans, came miles on foot, on donkey-carts, on bicycles, to go to meet the Delegation. During all the trip, they waited patiently; under the rays of the autumn sun (like the 12,000 demonstrators of Savero and 15,000 of Corignola) or under the pouring rain like the 20,000 of Cosenza. The cars were surrounded by the crowds and the Delegates "pulled out and carried in triumph" at the risk of being crushed. "Compagno Tarasov" rapidly became popular in the South and made the most of the triumphant welcome.

Di Vittorio points out the absolute unanimity "with which the masses manifested their admiration for the Soviets, the victorious Russian Army, their genial chief Comrade Stalin, each mention of whose name raised tempestuous and prolonged applause. All the Democratic authorities besides wished to receive the Delegation and express the gratitude of the Italian people for the great contribution of the U.S.S.R. to the cause of common liberation"

Some days the Soviet Delegates "were literally exhausted". Whereas 20 meetings had been arranged, there were 30 large conventions as at Taranto, at which, according to the "Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno" there were present about 30,000 followers. It is estimated that the Soviet delegates spoke directly to at least 250,000 Italian labourers in the course of these meetings.

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The Delegates showed a great and fine political sensitiveness, comprehending and underlining with applause, the necessity of maintaining at any price a solid Anglo-American-Soviet alliance in order to win the war and attain a just peace; therefore to redouble the efforts being made to speed the victorious ending. Any mention also by the delegates of the generous terms made by Russia towards Rumania, Finland and Bulgaria were received with acclaim.

Di Vittorio concludes that the more evident result of the delegation's visit, is that the friendship not only between Italian and Soviet workers, but between the two peoples, has been strongly cemented. On the other hand, their presence in Italy has brought a notable contribution to the potentiality of syndical unity and has served further to cement the unity of the progressive and popular strength of the war of liberation.

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The fascist reaction which perhaps expected to find "a sort of Vendee" in the South, finds itself confronted with an organized popular mass hitherto unheard of in the South, which is firmly decided to defeat any attempt at a return to the past.

The "Italia Libera" in a "Salute to the Soviet" affirms the sincere tie of friendship binding the Italian people to the people of Russia which was shown during their visit to the Italian provinces. It asks that the delegation carry with it a message of Italian solidarity to the Russian combatants. The article desires to bring to the attention of the Great Soviet Union, the Italian will to fight for the creation of an effective democracy in which labour will be the determining factor, and affirms above all the belief in free and united Syndical Organisations.

4 Return to Rome - Last Meeting at the Teatro Brancaccio.

On Sunday, November 5th, 15,000 workers attended the mass meeting at the Brancaccio theatre which climaxed the Soviet Labour Delegation's tour of Italy, and their return to Rome. Throughout the meeting applause and shouts interrupted the proceedings as the enthusiastic audience welcomed the Delegation.

Cesare Mascini, Secretary of the Rome Camera del Lavoro, spoke of the genuine welcome extended the Soviet Delegates throughout Italy, and presented a bronze medal to the Delegates on behalf of the Camera.

Comrade Tesarov, head of the Soviet delegation, spoke through a translator of the good feelings that exist between the Russian and Italian workers, despite 20 years of fascist propaganda. The Soviet Delegation participated in more than 60 meetings with labour leaders and more than 20 meetings with large workers' audiences, thus making direct contact with more than 250,000 Italian workers. He extended an invitation on behalf of the Soviet Labour Unions to Italian Labour delegates to visit Russia, which was received with very great applause.

After a brief speech by Comrade Scioplazov on the immense destruction in the Ukraine by the Germans, the meeting was brought to a close with short addressed by ... Grandi, Lizzadri, and Di Vittorio, representatives of the C.G.I.L., in which labour unity was affirmed as the strongest weapon against a recurrence of fascism. At the end of the meeting hundreds of workers pressed up on the stage to shake hands with the Soviet Delegates.

Trade Union Movement.

The invitation extended by the Russian delegation to the C.G.I.L.

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Cesare Mascini, Secretary of the Rome Camera del Lavoro, spoke of the genuine welcome extended the Soviet Delegates throughout Italy, and presented a bronze medal to the Delegates on behalf of the Camera.

Comrade Tasarov, head of the Soviet delegation, spoke through a translator of the good feelings that exist between the Russian and Italian workers, despite 20 years of Fascist propaganda. The Soviet Delegation participated in more than 80 meetings with labour leaders and more than 20 meetings with large workers' audiences, thus making direct contact with more than 250,000 Italian workers. He extended an invitation on behalf of the Soviet Labour Unions to Italian Labour delegates to visit Russia, which was received with very great applause.

After a brief speech by Comrade Sciupluzov on the immense destruction in the Ukraine by the Germans, the meeting was brought to a close with short addressed by ... Grandi, Lizzadri, and Di Vittorio, representatives of the C.G.I.L., in which labour unity was affirmed as the strongest weapon against a recurrence of fascism. At the end of the meeting hundreds of workers pressed up on the stage to shake hands with the Soviet Delegates.

Trade Union Movement.

The invitation extended by the Russian delegation to the C.G.I.L. will strengthen C.G.I.L. in its contacts with labour organizations in the industrial north. (E.2)

In this connection it should be noted that in an order of the day of November 1st, the Action Party, which originally backed the C.G.L., reaffirms the unity of the Italian Trade Union movement, and expresses the hope that democratic methods will always prevail in the activities of the Confederation.

AGRICULTURE

5 Seizure of land by peasants

1790

(i) Memorandum of conversation held at Bracciano between Signor Castaldi, agent for estate of Prince Odescalchi and a P.W.B. officer.

Signor Castaldi works in the Amministrazione Principe Odescalchi at Bracciano under the Estate Agent, Ing. Vaccari, who was absent in Rome. He seemed a quiet, intelligent and reliable man of middle-age.

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Bracciano is a small agricultural town of about 8,000 inhabitants, made up mostly of day labourers, workmen, or small tradesmen. Its police force numbers about 30 Carabinieri, one-third of whom are usually on duty. The Commune comes within the Province of Rome, thus falling under the Rome Prefect for questions of law and order.

A Committee of Liberation exists on which all parties are represented, with the exception of the Democrazia del Lavoro. Signor Castaldi believed the Communists and Socialists formed the great majority of the people, though the Communist Party seemed badly organised and had no evident leaders. Next important were the Christian Democrats. Speakers from the various parties came down to Bracciano from time to time, and in their speeches often made extravagant promises about the distribution of land. The people were interested in these political speeches and went to hear them and were generally most influenced by the last speaker.

On the whole very little damage was done to Prince Odescalchi's property by the Germans. The wine distillery was wrecked, one cowhouse for fifty cows dynamited and one or two dwellings destroyed. Only about 20% of the livestock was carried off or killed. (120 cattle in 500). The Germans paid 7 lire a kilo (liveweight) for the animals they took, this being the controlled price. Later on they paid 15 lire a kilo.

The property of Prince Odescalchi at Bracciano consists (1) of 700 hectares divided into six farms let out on the Mezzadria system (whereby landlord and tenant share 50% of the produce), and (2) 600 hectares farmed directly by the Odescalchi administration. The same rotation of crops is practiced in both areas. Every year two-sixths is put under corn, one-sixth under vegetable and three-sixths to pasture.

On October 10th, 1944, approximately 500 men from the town of Bracciano and a fraction from Castelli, took possession of 350 hectares of land then under pasture. These men came neither from the farms nor from among the labourers on the estate, but were all members of the local Consorzio Agrario. The Consorzio Agrario is itself a big landowner, owning 7,000 hectares but according to Signor Castaldi it farms its lands in an uneconomic and primitive way. One half of the land is yearly ploughed for corn and the other lies fallow and is used for grazing. The utmost strain is therefore put on the land in the interests of corn production, and not sufficient time is given it to recover, nor are efforts made to grow fertilizing crops such as potatoes or beans. The members of the Agrario intend getting the most out of the soil, with the least responsibility or labour, and thus eventually the land value of the entire estate deteriorates.

The Consorzio Agrario has about 2,000 members, mostly made up of day labourers, craftsmen, fishermen and small tradespeople. The land is held communally and divided up among them, each member getting a new strip of about six hectares every year. No one is interested in his strip beyond

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The Consorzio Agrario has about 2,000 members, mostly made up of day labourers, craftsmen, fishermen and small tradespeople. The land is held communally and divided up among them, each member getting a new strip of about 3½ hectares every year. No one is interested in his strip beyond what he can get out of it during the year, and consequently no trees are planted nor long-term market gardening undertaken. The land of the Consorzio Agrario tends to look either like a barren waste or else is surface ploughed for corn.

In contrast to this are the well cared for estates of Prince Odescalchi with forests, orchards, olives, vegetables, pasture and arable. Also in contrast are the 1,700 hectares ceded by Prince Odescalchi in 1921 in "enfiteosi" (or long lease with option to buy) to small holders and market gardeners. Here the tenant is interested in developing the soil, because he has a long-term policy in his plot of land, and aspirations to make it his own. Consequently the strips are planted with fruit trees, vines and

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olives, with vegetables and corn growing between. Signor Castaldi emphasized that it was those who were bad husbandmen belonging to the Consrozio Agrario who were the trouble makers. Their seizure of 350 hectares of pasture land meant that more corn would be grown for next year, but there was now insufficient pasture for Prince Odescalchi's live-stock.

These same people moreover took 200 quintals of chestnuts which constituted the entire chestnut crop, and 30 quintals of olives. To prevent further thefts of the olive crop the Estate had decided to pick the olives while they were yet green, which meant that a considerable reduction in the quantity of olive oil was to be expected.

It is interesting to note that the Ministry of Agriculture sent down an Ispettore Agrario, Dr. Conti, to inspect the land at Bracciano, and this man pronounced no part of Prince Odescalchi's land as uncultivated. Consequently none was technically or legally liable to seizure. Moreover in Bassano, where Prince Odescalchi had another estate, the Carabinieri, under the Prefect of Viterbo, (and not of Rome as at Bracciano) took a definite stand and drove away the invaders on October 31st. No land therefore had been seized in that area.

(ii) Extracts from reports on conversation with Signor Giacomini and Signor De Domenico, as well as the agent of Prince Odescalchi's Estate - landowners - at Bracciano on Sunday, 5th November, 1944.

On the 16th October about forty people armed with machine-guns and hand grenades suddenly came to the estate of Signor Giacomini, near Bracciano, and warning the farmers to keep back if they wanted to save their lives, gathered the chestnuts. They declared that according to the ordinances of the Minister's Council, the land was theirs. (It seems that the day before, October 15th, in an open-air meeting held in the market-place of Manziana, an orator had told the farmers that the proprietors no longer counted, that the land and its products were theirs.)

The next day the number of the demonstrators had increased to over 200. The Carabinieri, called from Manziana and Bracciano (5 in number) were powerless. This same violence was used in the olive groves.

The farmers are frightened that future crops will share the same fate and do not want to plough and sow the land.

It was the opinion of Signor Giacomini and De Domenico that the peasants had been encouraged to take this action by Communist agitators,

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It was the opinion of Signor Giacomini and De Domenico that the peasants had been encouraged to take this action by Communist agitators, well supplied with funds for propaganda, who had been placed in the villages by the Communist Party in Rome. Some former Fascists were probably encouraging the peasants in order to create trouble for the Allies and the new Italian Government so that the people would say that things were more settled under Fascism.

They said the Communists are the best organised party in the area and that they had funds "probably from Russia" but that the Christian Democrats had the largest following.

As for a solution there was little they could do without help. In Signor Giacomini's case, out of a population of 300 in his area only 40 people would support him. The police force - CC.RR. - was insufficient as

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there were only two Carabinieri in the district. They asked for some CC.RR. to be sent from Rome until the situation bettered, otherwise they were powerless to do anything. Furthermore although they know who was responsible, the CC.RR. in the nearby villages were supporting the peasants.

Owing to the lack of public security in the district, many peasants had not planted their crops this autumn for fear that they would be stolen by their neighbours. (B.3.)

6 Agricultural problems - Tuscany

Oil Harvest. The olive crop in Tuscany is exceptionally abundant this year. As most of the milling of the olives is done by electricity production will inevitably be difficult owing to lack of electrical power. The old ex-worked mills, wherever they still exist, will have to be put into action again.

Vintage. The grape harvest promised to be exceptionally abundant, but shortage of sulphate of copper has led to the spread of phylloxera; lack of crittogama has resulted "in much of the crop being lost, while the remainder is of bad quality. Moreover troops, passing through and camping in vineyards, have consumed quantities of grapes, and for this reason also, the harvest is poorer than was expected. It is suggested that copper should be supplied to Italy as soon as possible so that, in future, vines may be treated with the usual copper dressing which saves them from disease.

Potatoes. The retreating Germans dug up most of the potatoes then ready for use, and the remainder of the crop is scanty. Nothing can be done about this, save to encourage and advise super-production for next season.

Fertilisers. The total lack of perphosphate has been felt in the production of wheat, beans and cereals in general, which are very scarce, and it is hoped that supplies will be available soon.

Almost all the factories, producing artificial and chemical manures such as nitrate of soda, potassium and sulphate of ammonia, have been destroyed by the Germans.

Farm Machinery. The problem of ploughing is a hard one, as the oxen were carried off by the Germans. The use of tractors is possible only in a few Tuscan districts owing to the conformation of the ground and the intensive cultivation of olive trees and vines in the land where wheat is sown. The necessity for naphtha and petrol must again be emphasized. Many of the existing tractors run on naphtha, and as yet none is available.

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Wages and labour. The very ancient system of mezzadria or share cropping has been dealt with in previous reports from the same source. It is considered the best for Italy. Some of the political parties aim at abolishing it.

The Communist and Socialist Parties and the Party of Action intend to expropriate the land without compensation and give it to the peasants.

The Party of Action's plan is to divide the land into farms, according to its nature and produce; then to divide these farms, among a certain number of families and have them administered by a state official. This looks well on paper, but it is held that to eliminate the owner's private initiative and his personal interest, would result in increased costs and reduced production.

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Land-owning peasants work little, their instinct being to produce merely family requirements and no more. There are many examples of peasants who, having bought their own farms, reduced production to such an extent as to be heavily in debt after a few years and obliged to sell out.

Occasional labourers are employed by Tuscan farmers for the breaking up of new ground and the general care of crops.

.. level wage scale for farm labourers and others is suggested, in order to balance available labour.

It must be borne in mind that the farm labourer is at present in a very favourable position, as he receives part of his wage in kind, and so, in his case the terrible problem of feeding himself and his family, so pressing for others, is considerably eased.

The idea of revolution, everywhere rife, is hampering and preventing any regular and tranquil life. Unless the law is enforced and discipline maintained, production will decrease, revolution break out and disaster ensue. (B.S.)

EPURATION

7 Arrest of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno

Interest in this subject has been maintained this week by the arrest of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno; the dismissal of six generals of the Air Force, destitution of a further batch of senators, and the sequestration of the estates of Mussolini.

The two main trends of public reaction may be stated as follows: firstly that epuration is still too slow and not energetic enough; secondly that it does not start at a high enough level.

Surprise was generally expressed that it has taken all this time to confiscate the estates of Mussolini, Ciano and Clara Petacci.

With regard to the epuration of the Senate, a student of Political Science, aged 22, complained that it was at once too slow and too mild. Destitution was not a sufficient punishment for offenders; they ought to be brought to trial. The people want a new Senate, elected by popular vote. A housewife of 45, a member of the Republican Party, thought "all Senators should be epurated, beginning with Badoglio".

The Court Martial of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno is awaited

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The Court Martial of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno is awaited with some scepticism on the one hand and keen interest on the other, especially among soldiers who served under the two last-named in Sardinia. A student of letters aged 23, who had been an officer in Sardinia, ascribed the escape of the Germans there almost without loss to the treachery of the generals. At the same time he added that "orders should have come from Rome". A soldier aged 24, however, defended Basso and Castagno. He was certain that the trial would never take place, because if it did both the King and Badoglio would be implicated. If however, Basso were brought to trial he hoped that he would have full liberty to produce all the evidence in his defence, even if higher personalities should be incriminated. A clerk aged 50, little interested in party politics, said: "The trial of the generals will not take place, because the former Supreme Commander must not be implicated".

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Much the same reactions were produced by the announcement of the dismissal of high officers of the Air Force. A newsagent was inclined to think they were perhaps not really to blame; they may not have known what to do due to lack of leadership. After the Armistice Italian soldiers were fighting and beating the Germans at Monterotondo, Viterbo, San Paolo, Cecchignola etc. but when they learned that the King and Badoglio had fled they were completely demoralised and all fighting ceased. He was very bitter against the House of Savoy and resented what he described as a fact that the Allies, especially England "are trying to impose the Monarchy on the Italian people".

8 Trial of General Martini and Rag. Pirisino

Further particulars of the trial of Fascist conspirators headed by General Martini, by the Military Tribunal of Oristano.

The trial of General Martini and 18 others accused of high treason by the Military Tribunal of Oristano has been going on since October 25th.

A large public including Allied authorities are present daily at the hearings.

The first to be interrogated was General Martini. He began by saying that family troubles in the north of Italy drove him to get into contact with a Petty Officer who was to take him there in an M.T.B. On the evening of the 3rd December, 1943, at Palau, at the moment of embarcation, he received from the person who accompanied him to the M.T.B. an iron tube containing the documents to which we referred in our previous report. Martini denies any knowledge of the individual who handed him the tube. When he was arrested Martini was searched and in his overcoat was found the papers and the iron tube. The latter contained a verbatim report of the secret meeting held at Sassari on the 7th September, 1943, on the reconstitution of the Republican Fascist Party in Sardinia, laying down an initial programme and assigning duties. There was also in the tube a message to the Secretary of the Republican Party. This message was signed by the 18 members of the Committee, who were at once arrested. (The President at this point stated that according to Professor Altamura of Naples all the signatures were false excepting that of Rag. Pirisino which was genuine).

General Martini does not know who drew up the documents. He states that he only asked Rag. Pirisino to provide him with some documents of a fascist nature so that his trip to the mainland would be justified in the eyes of the Republican Government showing that he had achieved something in Sardinia. General Martini stated that these documents were also necessary to him as he had fought against the Germans in Corsica and he therefore feared reprisals on the part of Mussolini's Government. He added further

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In fact General Martini denied any participation in the plot, in spite of the many inconsistencies which the President revealed.

The second day of the trial opened with the interrogation of Rag. Pirisino, who, next to General Martini, is the chief figure in the conspiracy.

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Reg. Pirisino systematically denied any connection with the matter particularly participation in the meeting on the 13th September, 1943. He also denied that there was a meeting to found a Fascist Committee in Sardinia. He confessed to having received the iron tube containing the documents from an unknown person by means of a clerk in his office. He denied having signed any manifesto or appeal and said that his signature is deposited in the Bank and therefore, according to him, cannot be forged. (The President again observed that Professor Altanura had stated that Pirisino's signature was genuine.) Thus after three hours' interrogation Pirisino returned to the bench of the accused.

On the days following the Court interrogated the others accused, who denied any knowledge of the matter as did General Martini and Pirisino.

The Court will move in a few days from Oristano to Corsica in order to interrogate a witness (the same who accompanied General Martini in the M.T.B. in order to confirm several new factors which resulted from the interrogations. For the moment it is impossible to see the outcome. The most astute lawyers from Cagliari, Oristano and Sassari are defending the accused.

The public have no great interest in the proceedings. Although most of the accused are well known in Sardinia for their high Fascist positions, the slowness of the proceedings has made the majority of the public suspect some tendency to minimize the importance and seriousness of the crime. There is a great deal of talk regarding the release of the most important among the accused, namely Offoddi, Maccari and Chiama. (B.4.)

9 Protest against the Prefect of Florence (Marchese Paterno)

The following is a translation of a small poster affixed to the walls in Florence on Sunday, 29th October, 1944.

"AWAY WITH THE FASCIST PREFECT OF FLORENCE.

While the Florentines were enduring all kinds of privations and facing death during the tragic days of the emergency period, and while partisans and patriots were sacrificing their lives for the liberation of the city, Marchese Paterno, now Prefect of Florence, was probably living in some comfortable Hotel in Rome or on his Sicilian estates.

Now, when the war with its risks and dangers is far removed from our city, the new Prefect has come to Florence with the intention of re-establishing order, which, according to him, is jeopardised by the new democratic institutions of the city.

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Now, when the war with its risks and dangers is far removed from our city, the new Prefect has come to Florence with the intention of re-establishing order, which, according to him, is jeopardised by the new democratic institutions of the city.

Naturally his first business on arrival was to reinstate civil officials who, until the day of the liberation, had been zealous servants of the Germans and of Manganiello, such as Comm. Cigli, notorious carcerist and the ex-vice-Prefect De Francisci, the vice-podesta during the Nazi occupation of our city.

It is natural that the Prefect Paterno's first contacts should have been with well-known Fascist Republicans and informers of the S.S., such as Dr. Torrini, in whose house he was a welcome guest as soon as he arrived in Florence and for whom he secured immunity together with car permit to travel freely.

It is also natural that the Prefect Paterno, should immediately manifest a keen antipathy towards the C.T.L.N. ordering all officials of

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the Prefecture to break off any relations with the Committee and to suspend the work of the Commission of Epuration; also that he should boycott all the democratic organizations which had arisen out of the C.T.L.N. which worked for the liberation of our city from the nazi-fascist oppression and was the genuine expression of the will of the people of Florence.

The Florentine people cannot tolerate that this prefect should be issuing orders, like a little Duce, for the return to squadristi and republicarm of promises which local organizations had requisitioned for the homeless.

Neither can the Florentines tolerate that, to the many calamities brought upon them by Fascism, should be added the shame of having a Fascist Prefect, a reactionary and enemy of the people.

The Florentine people want and demand epuration and first of all that of Marchese Paterno, actual Fascist Prefect of Florence.

The people of Florence."

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10 Interview with Dr. Grilli, Communist Leader, by a P.W.B. official

The Communist leader Dr. Grilli has been in Sardinia for some days and has visited Cagliari and Iglesia. As delegate of the Italian General Confederation of Labour he is interested in forming a Chamber of Labour. He has presided over numerous reunions of the Communist Party and took part in the Christian Democrat Party reunion. He also wrote articles for the newspapers.

Dr. Grilli when interviewed, stated that he had found, especially at Iglesia, conditions of semi-starvation and an almost total lack of shoes and clothing.

He stated that reactionary groups still dominated in many communities of the island. The people want to get rid of these groups but they lack precise political directives so that their efforts more often than not do more harm than good. The press could do much to enlighten the people but paper shortage is such that only very few newspapers are on sale in the larger towns.

Grilli added that it is essential to open communications with continental Italy. There are ships in Sardinian ports, he said, which could be used to carry salt to Italy, especially to Rome, where salt costs 400 lire a kg. Cork and other products could be exported and sulphur, wine and other products available in Italy and not in Sicily imported. A safe route could be arranged and some of the Italian seamen now in the service of the Allies employed.

He found the Sardinian Communist Party functioning normally. It is endeavouring to get the workers to join in the Allies' war effort and to prevent them, notwithstanding their wretched conditions, from making demonstrations. It must be stressed, however, that the position of the workers' is very serious indeed and that urgent measures must be taken for their relief.

As to the recent discussions in the papers on freeing the market, Grilli stated that it would only be an advantage if wages were increased to meet the higher cost of living which would result. A free market is practicable when there are enough commercial products, but when goods are in short supply only people with money can buy which means that the working man has to go without.

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INTERIOR

11 The Carabinieri Reali

The continued public discontent with the police services has been focussed of late on the Carabinieri. A proclamation issued by the commander of this force, General Taddeo Orlando, appears to have awakened public interest.

This proclamation was attacked by various newspapers notably "Unita" and "Italia Libera", on the grounds that it was not in harmony with the traditional apolitical character of the force. General Orlando replied with a second proclamation calling this very tradition to the attention of all ranks.

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The grievances against the Carabinieri are of various natures. The most general is that whatever their claims, the Carabinieri cannot by their very constitution and tradition be apolitical at a time when the institutional question is being raised. They are generally regarded as the servants of the monarchy.

Accessory causes of this unpopularity are: alleged inefficiency:

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use of the carabinieri to arrest young men who have failed to answer the recent call to the colours.

The charge of inefficiency is admitted even by some members of the service. One carabiniere said: "So long as I know that my family has not enough to eat my principal preoccupation will be their welfare, to the exclusion of all else including duty".

It is interesting to note the warm welcome given by the press to the recently instituted night-patrol of the city by Allied military police, using 16 vehicles, for the protection of the public.

12 New Prefect of Catania - Commendatore Gianmichele

The new Prefect of Catania, Comm. Gianmichele, formerly Prefect of Grosseto and until now at the Ministry of the Interior, was to have arrived in Catania at the end of October. Owing to the incidents at Palermo, however, he came earlier.

Comm. Gianmichele is a career prefect and his appointment to Catania means the dismissal of Prefect Avv. Fazio, a politician who was appointed Prefect by Amgot on the advice of the Archbishop of Catania.

With the arrival of the new prefect a complete reorganization of Italian bureaucratic institutions is evisaged, to enable suburban offices to contribute efficiently to the central government.

The new prefect finds himself between two fires: on the one hand the heads of the Liberation Committee who wish to eliminate all ex-fascists, and on the other, the ex-fascists themselves who not only have no inclination to leave but intend to use the new atmosphere of freedom to make fresh positions for themselves and keep the upper hand.

There is much speculation as to how the new prefect will cope with the situation.

B.2.

13 Sicilian Bandit Captured

There was much interest in the news that on the 23rd October Giuseppe Russo, head of one of the main armed bands of brigands

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Russo's father was killed and he swore a vendetta against the murderer. Later he killed four members of the family in question. For some months the band had been terrorizing Adrano and the neighboring countryside.

Trudu Italo, a deserter from the Sabauda Division, was arrested at the same time, and several local persons who had given shelter to the brigand.

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PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

14 Proposed Delegation of Authority to Italians

In keeping with the speed-up tendency in Allied policy to consign more authority and responsibility to the Italian Government, PWB and APB this week got busy. They put up a suggestion to AFHQ to delegate additional powers to the Italian Press Commission. Those additional powers have been summarized as authority to ratify newspaper licenses in territory under Italian jurisdiction without reference to APB. APB, however, would retain power to revoke or suspend licenses on the demand of the Allied authorities. This suggestion (which means an amendment of Order 89) is now being put through A.C. en route for AFHQ.

15 U.S. Elections

A large window-mapof the U.S. showing the States in the propaganda-shop in Largo Tritone in home was a centre of attraction several days before it was used to show the progress of the voting. Crowds stood in front of the blank map apparently absorbed in contemplation of the mere shape of that kind of free democratic elections and material plenty. It was, therefore, doubly unfortunate that owing to the accidental breaking of an adjoining show-case, the associated display, illustrating the method of voting by secret ballot, had to be removed to a less prominent position.

The posting of the election returns was followed by a large crowd with the keenest interest and some envy. The re-election of Roosevelt was welcomed by all.

Some comments from the crowd:

A haberdasher: "This will shorten the war".

A radio-operator and a surveyor: "There should be a United States in Europe on the American pattern".

A lawyer: "Italy, unlike America, is not rich enough for democracy. You Americans have leisure in which to study. Here the people will follow any leader who promises them bread".

16 Reception of Publications and Shortage of Newsprint in Sardinia

Publications. Interest of the Sards toward our publications has considerably increased. "Victory", "Mondo Libero" and the novels

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Publications. Interest of the Sards toward our publications has considerably increased. "Victory", "Mondo Libero" and the novels are best-sellers. In view of this, the number of publications we get is definitely insufficient to cover our needs. Most booklets are sold out in a few days in Cagliari and Sassari, and never get to the other regions of the Island, such as Oristano, Nuoro, Iglesias, Carbonia, etc. Three or four times the amount of publications now received could be disposed of. Furthermore, it would be appreciated if the intervals between one shipment of booklets and another were shorter.

Newspapers. Toward the end of the month the newsprint situation became extremely critical and both newspapers of the Island were contemplating closing down on November 1st, but Lt. Canepa, from the Press Committee, flew to Naples and came back with three tons of newsprint to meet the immediate needs of the papers. The newsprint was distributed as follows: 1½ tons to the Cagliari "Unione Sarda", 1 ton to the Sassari daily "Isola", and ½ ton to the Sassari PWB backed weekly "Riscossa". All three papers were warned to use the newsprint with the utmost economy until further supplies arrived from Naples. The utmost importance of regular and sufficient

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shipments of newsprint to the Island cannot be too greatly stressed. "Unione Sarda" was lately compelled to cut down its copies from 30,000 to 15,000 and it is reasonable to expect that the papers will be sold on the black market while this situation lasts. Several political weeklies which have been authorized by the Press Commission await the arrival of newsprint in order to start publication. In general this newsprint question causes great dissatisfaction and criticism. It was pointed out that it should be possible for the Allies to send more paper to Sardinia since in Rome there is enough newsprint to feed 60 newspapers.

Cinema

17 Rome

"Tom, Dick and Harry" at the Splendore cinema, 5 November 1944.

The cinema was crowded; the audience consisted of one third soldiers and the rest was an average Italian audience with a preponderance of women. The film was very much liked by everyone, especially women, as it was easy to follow.

Roman audiences enjoy this type of film and would gladly see more of them.

The news-reel was "Notizie del Mondo Libero". It would have been better if in a scene showing epuration proceedings in France the words "Come in Italia" (as in Italy) had not been used, as the audience laughed when they heard this as they know how slowly epuration is proceeding here.

The public is always eager to see more of domestic and national life in England and America.

18 Naples

"Gli Angeli Del Mare"

This is the first new American film to be shown in Naples which has been sound-tracked in Italian instead of being spoken in English with Italian sub-titles. It was shown at the cinema S. Lucia, Naples for the first time on 6 November. The cinema was packed, most of the audience being young people.

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This was a [illegible] and some of the scenes were hardly credible but the acting of Francis Dee, Randolf Scott and Ralph Bellamy was greatly appreciated. To sum up, this film had one of the best receptions given to any film during recent weeks.

B.S.

19___ Bari

"Il Diavolo va in Collegio" (The Devil Goes to Boarding School) New Italian film, produced by Minerva Films with Lilia Silva and Leonard Cortest and shown at Bari.

The cinema was crowded for the most part by middle-class Italians, factory workers and Italian soldiers. There were also some English and American forces present. During the film there were frequent outbursts of applause. The film, skilfully directed and well-acted in a lively way can hold its own with any of the much lauded American productions. The plot is slight but has been cleverly handled. The luxurious sets are in good taste and do not give offence as is sometimes the case with overseas films. The music is light and melodious.

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Public Opinion

"I prefer light comedies such as this to heavy handed Allied propaganda. The Anglo-Americans have an almost German persistence and they thrust productions on us which are the complete opposite to what we want". - An Employee.

"I dont want to criticise what has been shown to us up to now. I only want to express my opinion freely on this film. I like it. It is just to my taste". - An Italian Soldier.

"After a hard day it is really amusing to see such a film". - A Merchant.

It should interest those who choose films for Italian audiences that this film is extremely popular. It is the type of film which appeals to Italians. Also, the resumption of film-production by the Italians is a matter of urgency, especially in view of the number of unemployed of this industry.

20 Sicily - Reactions to American Films in Palermo

"Convoglio verso l'Ignoto" (Action in the North Atlantic)

Mr. R. J. Frantz went to the Teatro Cinema Biondo with a Sicilian friend on the first night this Warner Bros. film was shown. Herewith information according to Film Sections' questionnaire:

(i) The theatre was filled, and some people were standing at the rear of the house. The audience was very mixed, comprising some persons of obviously good circumstances, others apparently unemployed, a fair percentage of Italian soldiers, sailors and carabinieri. The largest single class seemed to be young men between the ages of 18 and 24. Men far outnumbered women in the audience. The previous night Mr. Frantz went to the same cinema to see "Il Figlio Conteso", a Swedish film, well produced and with a sympathetic subject. On that night there were very few people in the theatre, perhaps partly because the film had been shown for a week. However, it seems obvious that the mere announcement of an American film is sufficient to pack the theatre.

(ii) Audience reaction was very noticeable when submarines were seen gliding under water to attack the convoy; there were gasps of apprehension and much excitement when torpedoes struck the merchant ships; there were exclamations of satisfaction when the

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(ii) Audience reaction was very noticeable when submarines were seen sliding under water to attack the convoy; there were gasps of apprehension and much excitement when torpedoes struck the merchant ships; there were exclamations of satisfaction when the submarines were in their turn destroyed, and also when attacking planes were shot down. Chief excitement occurred when the most relentless of the submarines was finally rammed by the merchant ship it was pursuing, and this created obvious satisfaction, though there was no cheering or clapping. Scenes showing the burial of merchant seamen at sea were watched in respectful silence. The few love scenes were greeted with vulgar comments by the younger element in the audience, but these in turn brought hisses from the others.

(iii) The entire film is excellent for impressing on Italians the war effort of the Allies. It is especially important for Sicily where there has been too much of a tendency to depend on the Allies for help of all kinds. This film should make Sicilians realize the risks involved in transporting merchandise across submarine-infested seas. 1783

(iv) The film is an excellent presentation of American courage and the unselfishness of the unsung heroes of the merchant marine. Scenes of the captain's home life also give a good

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impression of America.

(v) Technical quality is excellent.

(vi) Nothing in this particular film to point out to Italians the way to rehabilitate their own country, unless it is the portrayal of the willingness of Americans to risk their lives in the interests of greater liberty for the world.

A Sicilian friend who attended the film remarked that American films are usually superior to Italian productions. This particular film has an English sound-track and Italian sub-titles, but lack of Italian conversation did not seem to distract one bit from the spectators' enjoyment. The sub-titles were well done, and some of the humorous dialogue of the sailors brought hearty laughter.

"Strictly Confidential" (An old American film with dubbed Italian dialogue)

Due to the fact that the theatre where this was shown - the Dante - has very poor sound equipment, little of the dialogue could be understood, not even by an Italian companion. The film which deals with horse racing, was negative from a propaganda standpoint; however, it was not harmful either. Being a class B picture and ten years old into the bargain, its showing does nothing to enhance the prestige of American films.

"The Human Comedy"

A Sicilian woman went to the Olympia Cinema, Palermo, on 28 October to see "The Human Comedy", an American film with Italian sub-titles. The house was crowded, and the film seemed to appeal to the audience. Favourable comments were heard from the audience. The Sicilian woman remarked that American films were invariably superior to Italian productions. The film was excellent from a propaganda angle.

Mondo Libero newsreel No. 25 was shown. While interesting, it provoked no particular audience reaction.

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(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only)

LOCAL CONDITIONS

21 The week in Tuscany. A P.W.B. officer writes:

At the present moment there are two entirely conflicting trends of opinion in Tuscany. The first is a very real appreciation of the technical achievements of the Allied Civil Administration. In Florence there are already effective supplies of electricity and water, and these services are gradually being re-established in other towns. In the city a limited number of private subscribers have had their telephones restored. Within a few weeks it is hoped that gas will be available for cooking to help out the limited supplies of fuel. The gas used will be Methane, which is drawn from natural resources and has to be specially treated before it is suitable for domestic use. It should be both cheap and effective and its use will economise considerable quantities of coal both now and in the future. It is also hoped that trains will be running shortly between Leghorn and Florence. Since the shortage of food in the towns is largely due to the lack of transport, this should bring considerable relief to a very anxious population.

On the other hand Tuscans are very much alarmed by the fact that so many ex-fascists are employed in positions of trust in Allied offices. They cannot understand why so many officers are to be seen daily with people who compromised themselves, not only with the Fascists and Germans; but also with high ranking members of Mussolini's latest regime. This concern appears to be growing daily and may be a source of serious trouble.

The bad weather of the past week has undoubtedly increased the hardships of the population. With the increasing cold people who are living on limited rations may develop diseases and show signs of malnutrition.

Whilst the Industrialists of Tuscany are showing considerable initiative in trying to re-establish their works, the land-owning classes are notable for the apathy with which they view the poverty which surrounds them. Indeed it is to be hoped that the aristocracy, who have profited considerably from the rise in prices, will make some effort to help the poor of their country, and in particular the Partisans, who arrive from the occupied zone in many cases wearing only the shorts and singlets in which they have been fighting.

This problem of the Partisans is still far from solution. The Italian authorities concerned do not seem to have the means or the methods to assist these unfortunates, many of whom have sacrificed themselves in the fight against the Germans. Among these Partisans, however, are many people who are playing a purely political game, and have succeeded

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DESTRUCTION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF LORETO

During the night of 5/6 July, soon after the Poles had occupied Loreto, the Luftwaffe bombed the town with the obvious intention of destroying the famous Cathedral. The dome was set on fire, the internal wooden structure burned all night, melting the lead coverings. The raid lasted until 5 a.m., the Germans appearing to concentrate on the Cathedral and adjourning ecclesiastical buildings. The last bomb penetrated the dome, causing severe damage and destroying some of the frescoes inside. The damage is estimated at about 7-8 million lire.

The inhabitants and Polish troops, aided by the Bishop, Monsignor Melchiodi, worked hard to save as much as possible and to repair the damage. Difficulties of transport, materials and labour were overcome, largely owing to the Bishop's zeal: "I serve God by turning bricklayer," he said jokingly to the writer. New tiles, destined at one time for the replica of the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul at the World Exhibition, were sent from Rome, and petrol and transport permits were granted by the Allies.

The ground floor of the Bishop's Palace, which was formerly used for the sick during their pilgrimage to Loreto, at present houses about 100 refugees from the neighbouring districts. Their food is provided by the municipality and the Church.

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SITUATION AT CERVIA

Partisan Activities.

Italian patriots, many of whom had worked in close liaison with the Allied forces further south, were largely responsible not only for the liberation of this Emilian town, but for the speed of the Allied advance northward.

The enemy, retreating along the Coast Road, destroyed an important bridge across a drainage canal on the edge of the town and demolished buildings on the main square to form a road block. Hours before the first Allied troops appeared and, indeed, while partisan skirmishers were stalking German rear guards within the town itself, members of the local committee of liberation aided by dozens of the townspeople, set to work clearing away the road block. By the time the first Allied vehicles arrived the road was clear. Later a volunteer crew of citizens, directed by the Communal Engineer, Sig. Matteo Fracaccia, constructed a temporary bridge of heavy timbers replacing the span destroyed by the enemy. As a result, Allied tank and armoured cars were rumbling across the bridge in pursuit of the enemy only a few hours after the liberation of the town.

Allied officers were warm in their praise of the skill and courage with which the work was carried out.

Flooding by Retreating Germans.

Thousands of acres of rich farm land in the once prosperous commune were ruined for years to come when the Germans destroyed coastal flood gates turning the countryside into a vast, shallow lake. The gates demolished by the enemy were at the entrance of a canal used to carry seawater to the evaporation beds of the local salt refinery, one of the largest in Italy. Water is still pouring in at the rate of 1,000,000 litres an hour and since the canals to the north, which normally drain the area, are blocked by other demolitions, the inundated area is slowly growing in extent. Allied engineers have surveyed the problem, however, and it is hoped that the inflow will shortly be stopped by a temporary dyke.

Food Supplies.

On the brighter side of the picture, the food position of the commune is comparatively good. Besides 4,000 quintals of salt in store at the refinery, which will be welcome to the whole region, more than 1,500

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1106/13

	DATE
COL YOUNG	
LT. COL WILCOX	
MAJ LUCKMAN	
MAJ WILSON	
MAJ HANBURY	
MAJ BALLANCE	
CAPT POWEL	
CHIEF CLERK	

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ALLIED HEADQUARTERS.
Information and Censorship Section.
Psychological Warfare Branch.
Unit. N°. I4. APO 512.

REPORT N°. 27 ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL ITALY, NORTH OF ROME.

This report is compiled from Italian and other sources, and is intended to give a survey of opinion in this country. It does not in any way represent the views of the compilers. The contents are confidential and must not be shown to any unauthorised persons.

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This report is compiled from Italian and other sources, and is intended to give a survey of opinion in this country. It does not in any way represent the views of the compilers. The contents are confidential and must not be shown to any unauthorised persons.

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Source Reliability.

A. Always reliable.
B. Usually reliable.
C. Sometimes reliable.
D. Frequently reliable
E. A bad source.
C. Not possible to judge.

Report Probability.

1. Confirmed.
2. Probable.
3. Possible.
4. Doubtful.
5. Improbable.
6. Not possible to judge.

Eric Whelpton.
Major.
O.C. "D" Section
P.W.B. Unit N°.I4.

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3. Black Market Activities. I4.
4. Manifesto of War Wounded. I4.
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THIS WEEK IN TUSCANY.

The slowing down of the Allied advance in Northern Italy has brought with it a crop of rumours and a certain amount of uneasiness among Italians. These rumours, which are widespread, are undoubtedly stimulated either by agents or ex-Fascists. For instance in Florence and elsewhere suggestions have been made that the Allies have had to evacuate Viareggio, Bagni di Lucca and Lucca. These rumours have been believed and discussed almost everywhere.

In Florence itself there has been considerable agitation against the Prefect on the grounds that he is a Fascist and does everything to obstruct the C.L.N. Probably many people are sincere in these attacks, but again it is possible that this agitation has been stimulated by people who wish to sabotage the work of the Allies, and they have been successful on account of the present economic situation.

Yet another suggestion, though still unconfirmed, is that there is a fifth column organisation at work in Tuscany whose ramifications are widespread.

With the approach of winter many troops are moving into billets. In some cases premises have been requisitioned which are vitally important to the civil population and indirectly, sometimes even directly, important to the Allies. In other cases factories have been occupied and valuable machinery and equipment removed. It is difficult to assess whether military requirements of immediate necessity should be allowed to hinder the industrial recovery of the country, or even the production of goods and material for the Armed Forces. It is certainly a question which requires immediate consideration.

Another thing which is causing grave discontent is that troops frequently help themselves to furniture in requisitioned and unrequisitioned houses. Although the Italians have now become resigned to the loss of their property after the depredations of the Germans, many of them still complain bitterly. From the propaganda point of view the misbehaviour of a relatively small number of troops can have very grave repercussions and can supply the Republican radio with a very effective weapon of attack, at a time when the population, already suffering from shortage of food, fuel and clothing, is easily influenced by subversive activities.

Hitler's speech, broadcast by Himmler has aroused little or no comment. The same Italians who believe that we have evacuated Lucca, and are undoubtedly considerably alarmed for their own safety, seem to be absolutely certain of the defeat of the Germans.

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As usual the main preoccupations are food, fuel and the approaching cold weather.

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REPORT ON LEGHORN.

1. PERSONALITIES AND ORGANISATIONS.

THE PREFECT.

The Prefect is Dr. Miraglia, who has risen to this post through the Civil Service. He is a Catholic. Not even his political enemies can accuse him of Fascism. He has worked actively to restore normal conditions in the city.

Where differences of opinion exist between Allied and Italian organisations, he does his best to maintain good relations, stressing the fact that the abnormal conditions of the town are the inevitable result of the present Allied war requirements.

For this reason he is not popular with Left wing parties, and the Committee of National Liberation accuses him of being subservient to the Allies, of being too much influenced by the Provincial Commissioner who is a personal friend of his, also of not being active enough in the work of epuration.

THE SINDACO.

The Sindaco is Furio Diaz, a young Communist lawyer, member of a well to do and well known family. He is said to collaborate with the Allies and appears to be on friendly terms with the Prefect.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE C.L.N.

The President of the C.L.N. is Conte Renzo Ruel. He is non-political and appears to have been active on behalf of the Allies during the German occupation. As he is on good terms with the American Command, the Committee find him a useful liaison with the Allies and have refused to accept his resignation, which he has tendered several times as he wishes to retire from political life.

THE COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION.

The Committee includes representatives of the Liberals, Communists, Christian Socialists, Party of Action, Republicans, Socialists, Anarchists, (now called Comunisti Libertari) and Partisans.

The reason that the Christian Socialists and not Christian Democrats are represented, is because only the former can claim recognition for activities during the clandestine period.

The unusual presence of the Comunisti Libertari (ex-Anarchists), is due to the fact that this Party has a considerable following in Leghorn.

It is reported that the Party of Action and the Republicans

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It is reported that the Party of Action and the Republicans have amalgamated and that therefore the delegate of the former represents both parties.

THE TOWN COUNCIL.

This has been nominated by the Allies, but has not yet been recognised by the Prefect. It is composed of one member of each of the following parties:- Socialist, Comunist, Demo-Christian, Liberal, Party of Action and Liberal Communists (ex-Anarchists). The last named has just resigned.

Both the C.L.N. and the Town Council are said to be at odds with the Allies and the Prefect. The former are accused of indifference to the needs of the people, the latter of being too subject to the Allied Authorities.

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2. POLITICAL PARTIES.

LIBERAL PARTY.

This party carried on only extremely limited activity during the clandestine period. It is unorganised and has very few members. Its funds are scanty and come from Florence. Up to the present it has been subsidised by industrialists and capitalists. Professor Giorgi, the President, declares that if the party wants to survive it should adopt a left wing policy. Thus its representatives on the C.L.N. are ready to cooperate with extremist elements

COMMUNIST PARTY.

This party has many members and sympathisers in all social classes. It has capable leaders such as Gigli, the President of the Camera del Lavoro, who is very active in syndical affairs. The party policy in Leghorn is that of general collaboration. They have not openly joined the anti-Monarchical Front, but it is thought that they are fairly active behind the scenes.

SOCIALIST PARTY.

This has many members among the lower middle classes and among the young, especially students and young workers.

The attitude of the Socialist to the Communist Party is interesting. There are two tendencies in Italy. The first is the almost total subservience to Communism favoured by Nenni and the Socialists in Southern Italy as far north as Tuscany. In Northern Italy the tendency is to break entirely away from Communism. In Leghorn the issue is still undecided.

PARTITO COMUNISTA LIBERTARIO. (ex-Anarchist Party).

The Anarchists have changed their name in order to gain representation on the C.L.N. This party has many members. There is a strong vein of anarchism in the Livornesi which is explained by the ethnic origins of the city which was populated in the 16th century by outcasts of the Mediterranean ports and political refugees etc.

CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

This was the only party which worked successfully during the clandestine period. When the town was liberated, the Christian Democrats, profiting by the fact that the Christian Socialist leaders had been arrested, spread the report that the two parties had amalgamated. Thus members of the Christian

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CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS.

This party is not represented on the C.L.N. It is closely linked with the Vatican.

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REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ACTION.

This Party has a very large following in Leghorn and can be considered to have an important future. At one time it was amalgamated with the Party of Action. Later, when it became clear that the two parties had nothing in common, the Republicans decided to separate from the latter. There is little doubt that the majority of the Livornesi will end by joining this Party, as Leghorn is traditionally republican.

3. ANTI-MONARCHICAL MOVEMENT.

Republicanism is very strong in Leghorn: it may be said that all the political Parties have this point in common. An Anti-Monarchical Front has been organised and it has been reported that if the Lieutenant General were to visit the town a hostile demonstration would take place. Neither the Liberals, the Christian Democrats, nor the Communists have joined this movement. The two former parties are not necessarily Monarchist in sympathy, but they wish to remain loyal to the national directive. While the Communists believe that to declare themselves openly on one side or on the other would cause a split in the Partisan forces, as there is no doubt that there are many Monarchists among the Partisans.

4. LABOUR ORGANISATIONS.

The C.C.L. (Camera Confederale Lavoro) has been organised on democratic lines. There is a Provisional Executive Body in which Communists, Socialists, Demochristians and Comunisti Libertari are represented. In the Secretarist, on the other hand, only the three main parties are represented and the Comunisti Libertari are excluded. The Republicans and the Party of Action were not admitted because they had not defined their programme.

In the larger provincial centres (Piombino, Resignano, Selvai, Colle Salvatti) regional offices on the same lines as the C.C.L. have been established. These offices have authority to run their own local affairs, subject to the approval of the central offices in Leghorn.

An "Ufficio Avviamento al Lavoro" was established for the

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An "Ufficio Avviamento al Lavoro" was established for the placing of workers. Later the Allies took over this function and set up the Provincial Labour offices, which act in conjunction with the C.C.L.

Various groups of labour are represented on the C.C.L. These include workers from the Naval dockyards, the Moto Rides Factory, the metal works, the S.I.C.I. (Building Society), the Social Welfare Institutions, Bank, Postal, Telegraph and Telephone employees, and even Railway employees, who tend elsewhere to organise themselves separately.

The Agricultural workers have organised their own "leagues" which are affiliated to the C.C.L. Conditions for this group

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have been, and still are, very difficult. A wage of only 18 lire a day is by no means rare. Landowners are definitely opposed to the formation of these leagues, which are designed to protect the worker.

The Internal Factory Commissions, another separate organisation, are established in all industries and civil services, including those controlled by the Allies. It is alleged, however, that the Allied authorities do not look favourably upon these Commissions.

AMG order no. 28, article 2, establishes the right of skilled and permanent hands to elect these Commissions themselves and rules that all political parties, with a large enough following should be represented. Representation of women workers by women is urgently demanded in the factories.

In this AMG order no mention is made of the C.C.L., whose work it is alleged, is being hampered by the Allied authorities. As an instance of this is quoted the fact that Allied firms do not allow their Italian employees to ensure against accidents and illness. Thus in these cases, the worker, if dismissed, would get no compensation. The working classes resent this and accuse the C.C.L. of not safeguarding their interests effectively with the Allies.

5. AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATIONS.

In June the following organisations, upon which the whole food supply of Leghorn depended, ceased to function:-

The Agricultural Inspectorate.
Provincial Agricultural Control Office.
Provincial Agricultural Union.

Even before the Liberation the C.L.N. tried, illegally, to provision the city, set up special "Food Squads", with "Armed Squads" to defend them. Thus wheat, flour and meat were collected and distributed.

After the Liberation the Agricultural Organisations failed to resume their functions. Therefore the "Commissione di Riattivizzazione" was organised and carried on alone for a short time under the C.L.N. The Allied authorities subsequently refused to recognise such a Commission and transferred all authority back to the Agricultural Organisations, without any attempt at epuration.

AGRICULTURAL INSPECTORATE.

This ought to be the local centre of the Ministry of

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AGRICULTURAL INSPECTORATE.

This ought to be the local centre of the Ministry of Agriculture, which it represents. For more than a month, however, it ceased to exist in Leghorn for the puerile reason that its director, Professor Pacli, has been ill for a long time and in spite of this refuses to resign. The vice-Director Dr. Giacomelli, has proved incompetent throughout the crisis.

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL CONTROL OFFICE.

This is directed by Dr. Pellegrini. He has proved incapable and has obstructed the work of the Commissione di Riattivizzazione. The son of a Squadrista, German in sympathies, he

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urged his staff to enlist. Now he is trying to give the impression that he is working actively by carrying on a kind of epuration of his own and dismissing people at random.

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL UNION

Here there has been no epuration at all, merely the nomination of a new administrative council which has been recognised by the Provincial Commissioner. Avvocato Barsacchi, notoriously incompetant and legal adviser to the former organisation, has been placed at its head. A deficiency in the funds of about eight million lire has been discovered and the C.L.N. has appointed a Commission to investigate the matter. The fact that the legal adviser of the old and fraudulent administration is now presiding over the Organisation is much criticised in Leghorn.

6. DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN LANDLORDS AND SHARECROPPERS.

There is disagreement between landlords and peasants in the Leghorn district, over the sale of local produce.

An agreement, enforced by the Fascists in 1936/7, stipulates that the sharecroppers cannot sell their produce direct, but must hand it over to the landlord for sale. 70% of the profits from this sale are then divided between the two parties, and 30% kept as a reserve.

The sharecroppers now want this agreement abolished. They wish to control the sale of the produce and division of profits themselves. The landowners have so far refused to come to terms. Consequently the peasants are refusing to hand over their produce and the landlords are retaliating by refusing to repair farmhouses or provide fertilisers etc. It is possible that this state of affairs may result in armed clashes.

7. FOOD SITUATION.

The food situation is very bad. The reason for this is that the Province of Leghorn consists of a narrow strip of sea coast. It has no agricultural hinterland. Its agricultural products amount only to a little oil, a few vines and a scanty supply of vegetables. Consequently it cannot exchange food supplies with other provinces.

The Allied authorities treat Leghorn in the same way as Grosseto and Siena, both of which are surrounded by rich agricultural country.

They are accused of obstructing the work of the SEPRAL [illegible] with its scanty means, seeks to alleviate the situation.

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They are accused of obstructing the work of the SEPRAL which, with its scanty means, seeks to alleviate the situation. It is alleged that they do not supply transport for the food supplies which the Comune manages to buy elsewhere; that they grant only very few individual permits to go into the country to buy food. That very few kinds of food and the smallest quantities are distributed, and that they do not allow the population to receive more than a fixed minimum from the SEPRAL. For instance

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the Comune had bought at its own expense in Orbetello 2500 quintali of pasta to distribute as an additional ration to the people. The Allies forbade this, stating that the population ought not to have more than 160 grammes in all per day of flour, equivalent to 200 grammes of bread.

Consequently in order to live at all, the people of Leghorn have to carry on a very extensive black market which has as its basic supply the Anglo-American rations and tinned foods. These are bought at high prices from American soldiers.

List of current prices during the month of October:-

1 Kilo American coffee,	Lire.	400
1 Kilo American flour	"	80
1 2-Kilo tin American meat,	"	400
1 Flask American petrol (for lighting)	"	150
100 grammes American butter,	"	50
1 packet American cigarettes,	"	40-50

It would be possible to alleviate the situation by:-

Conceding even a limited number of trucks to the SEPRAL, or by establishing a separate transport company. Organising a fishing industry in the gulf of Leghorn. The Prefect has already approached the Provincial Commissioner on this subject. Increasing the people's rations, or granting supplementary rations to the families of those working for the Allies.

8. HOUSING SITUATION.

The centre of the town is a restricted area, only available to the families of those who are working for the Allies.

The Prefect has established a billeting office to deal with housing difficulties. Men who are working for the Allies have the right to occupy any premises in the city, having done so they must obtain the approval of the Italian civilian billeting officer.

By November 1st, some 10,000 premises had been requisitioned and some 5000 more had been applied for.

The defects of this system are that:-

The original householder loses all rights to his home. No provision is made for the protection of his furniture. Complaints are heard that inhabited premises are arbitarily requisitioned by Allied officers.

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9. PRESS, PROPAGANDA AND CINEMAS.

Leghorn is practically without newspapers. The limited number of copies of the "Corriere del Mattino" which reach the town arrive 24 hours late and few people get the chance of seeing it.

The "Telegrafo", which was the organ of the Ciano family, used to be published here. It was competently edited by Ansaldo.

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of broadcasting fame, and had a circulation outside Leghorn. The printing works of this paper are in perfect condition and the staff still in the town, though employed in other work by the Allies. Lastly there are considerable stocks of paper available. The C.L.N. would like to republish this paper under their control. AMG, however, will only support the publication of a completely non-political local paper, which would provide local news and information about AMG. orders etc.

Since there is no electricity, there is no radio, and all the cinemas have been requisitioned by the Allies. The Livornesi are anxious that at least two cinemas should be opened to the civilian population. Morale is low, and as newspapers are so scarce there is great need for an Allied propagand centre in Leghorn. AMG. officers would like P.W.B. to take this matter up. A Jew named Belforte has a book shop at 10 Via Ricasoli, which might serve for this purpose. Signor Belforte is said to be completely pro-Allied and prepared to sell such publications as "Victory", "Il Mese" etc, for which there is a great demand.

10. GENERAL SITUATION AND PUBLIC OPINION.

At the present moment there is great tension between the Allies and the Italians. Discontent is felt owing to the fact that the A.C. only allow the Livornesi to live in the town as a privilege conceded to those families who have at least one member working for the Allies. At least 20.000 workmen are employed by the port or military authorities. The continued existence of a restricted area is another cause of discontent. This includes the ancient part of the town and the immediate surroundings of the port, in which civilians are not allowed to live or even to enter. There is said to be wholesale plundering in this area, both by Allied soldiers and Italians who take everything that might be useful to them, such as furniture, glass, stoves, plumbing etc.

The American negroes are alleged to have committed numerous acts of violence, assaulted children etc, so that the women are afraid to go out after dark. The police register of the hospital has a full record of the facts.

The Prefect of Leghorn and the Provincial Commissioner are reported to be doing their best to cope with the situation, but both the Allied and Italian police service are said to be inefficient.

According to the local Confederation of Labour, the Allies are dismissing without pretext, members of the Factory Commissions.

Another complaint is that the A.C. are not helping the SEPAL in their attempts to relieve the food situation.

Private houses are still without electric light, although the [illegible] the water supply is limited to

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Private houses are still without electric light, although the plant is in perfect condition. The water supply is limited to a few hours a day.

The lack of cinemas, newspapers or any Allied propaganda centre is an additional grievance.

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REPORT ON LEGHORN. (continued). Confidential

Trolley buses are running between Leghorn and Montenero. This service is essential because many workers have been bombed out and live outside the town.

Up to date there has been no real epuration, most ex-Fascists are still holding down their jobs. The housing Commissioner who holds one of the most important posts in the town, Doctor Prestipino, is said to be a "sciarpa littoria".

ECONOMICS. Confidential.

1. FLORENTINE MOTOR INDUSTRY.

The Florentine Motor Industry is held up for lack of spare parts, which are unobtainable owing to shortage of metal and to the fact that all the big factories are situated in Northern Italy. Oxygen is needed for welding and repairs. There is, however, no actual shortage. It is stored in warehouses. The Provincial Office promises to distribute it but so far this has not been done. As many lorries are only slightly damaged and could be repaired, this delay is increasing transport difficulties.

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POLITICS. Confidential.

1. COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM IN TUSCANY.

In Florence it seemed, at one time, as though Socialism were being dominated by Communism. All news reaching Florence from Northern Italy, however, confirms that in socialist districts, such as Lombardy, Liguria and the Venetian region, Nenni's policy of close union with Communism is not approved. The Party, in fact, shows a firm determination to rid itself entirely of Communist influence. As a result, Northern Socialists lose no opportunity of showing their sympathy with the Christian Democrats, and might even in the future constitute a left-wing faction of that Party.

In Central Italy the Communists have made no progress, perhaps because the extremists were disappointed by Togliatti's moderation.

2. POSSIBLE EXISTENCE OF A NEO-FASCIST MOVEMENT.

It is rumoured that a neo-Fascist movement is being organised in Florence, directed from Northern Italy by means of cypher messages.

Propaganda is carried on by means of leaflets and small papers. The Movement is said to have been started by Pavolini during his last visit to Florence.

3. THE "ORDINE DEL FASCISMO".

The statute of this "mystic order", founded in Florence during the Republican period by Umberto Cungi, sub-editor of the "Bargello", shows its tendencies.

Benito Mussolini, described as the greatest figure of all humanity, is named Chief of the Order, in perpetuity. These "mystics" use what they term the betrayal of September 8th 1943 as a hair-shirt. They accept it as Catholics accept pain, i.e. in expiation of their sins.

The Order is to be governed by the Duce's General Pro-Consul assisted by seven Tribunals and a Vicar General.

In all parts of the world where members of the Order are to be found, Provinces of the Order will be organised, directed

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In all parts of the world where members of the Order are to be found, Provinces of the Order will be organised, directed by Provincial Governors.

Members of the Order will meet to discuss universal problems. Their aim is to create a new humanity, with new customs capable of producing a future governing class able to establish the spiritual domination of Fascism throughout the world.

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P O L I T I C S Continued.

4. RIVALRY BETWEEN THE C.T.L.N. AND THE PREFECT.

The Prefect made the initial mistake of being very arbitary with the C.T.L.N., whereas by using more diplomatic methods, he could have avoided many difficulties. He abolished the Questura Commission and tried unsuccessfully to abolish the Camera Confederale del Lavoro. Charges that he is a careerist are unfounded. He is an honest, but tactless, man and lacks the ability to recognise the right moment for action. Under the past Régime, he formed authoritative habits which are unadapted to present circumstances.

The C.T.L.N. obviously wishes to substitute its own authority for that of the Prefect and treat directly with the Allies. It seems that the Committee is in contact with Committees of Liberation in Northern Italy, in which extreme subversive tendencies are to be found, and to which many Republican Fascists are said to belong in the hope of thus becoming accepted among the democratic factions of Italy. This collaboration may, when Northern Italy is liberated, constitute a dangerous and obstructive element.

Now that the C.T.L.N. has performed its task of helping to liberate Florence, it should disband and resign power to the Government.

Since Paterno has rather negative qualities, it would be well if he were replaced by a man of more tact and discernment.
(An Italian Opinion. B.3.)

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N . Confidential.

1. ANTI-MONARCHIST MANIFESTO

On Armistice Day the following Manifesto was posted on walls in Florence.

"SOLDIERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, CITIZENS OF FREE COUNTRIES!

This message is addressed to you by some free men who are confident of expressing the thoughts and wishes of all Italian and European anti-fascists, of all the partisans who have fought and died at your side, of their comrades who are engaging the common enemy from the Appennines to the Alpes from the Tyrrhenian to the Adriatic sea.

You, the spearhead of the great countries now fighting for freedom, are the best witnesses of the Italian people's effort to rehabilitate itself and of the suffering they are undergoing through faults and errors not entirely their own.

You may discern in our laborious return to dignity and responsability the promise of a new Italy, a hard-working and really free country.

But in all our hopes and efforts to make this unfortunate country worthy of taking its place again among the peace-loving nations and free countries, who on this day, November 11th, 26 years ago, welcomed Italy as one of the fellow-fighters in the great common victory, there is still a stumbling-block: the Italian monarchy.

The monarchy opened the gates to fascism, as all the world knows, as Victor Emmanuel himself has felt it necessary to confirm: "I wish that all Italians should know that I refused to proclaim martial law" against fascism. The persistence of the monarchy would foredoom our revival and render impossible the establishment of democracy in Italy, which has been our ideal during the years of our exile, banishment and imprisonment.

The American people have a Republic and they know that it is the incorruptible bulwark of their freedom. The English people have a Monarchy, but a Monarchy which stands for free Constitutional government and is the connecting link between the Mother Country and the members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

What does the Italian monarchy stand for?

It stands for Fascism and not only for Fascism, but it is also associated with other unhappy episodes in our history. Charles Albert, the ancestor of the present branch of the house

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last of this dead weight that has always thwarted our efforts to rise.

In this day of rejoicing for you who are now about to win again the same war, the war which we feel is as much our own war as the previous one, think for a moment of our country and our people: consider their efforts to rise again: When you return to your country, you will be able to tell your fellow-citizens and your parliaments that what the Italian people want is a Republic. They want it because it means freedom and democracy, because through it we will give Italy freedom and justice and be able to do our share in the forward march of civilization.

THE FREE MEN OF ALL ITALY."

2. POSTERS AND WALL WRITING IN FLORENCE.

The following is a translation of a poster seen in Florence on November 6th:

"The staff of the "Cassa Mutua"(Mutual Savings Bank) can no longer tolerate that their contributions should maintain Fascists who are enemies of the Nation and the People. Dr. Cafissi must leave the Bank."

These posters have been annotated with numerous comments hostile to the House of Savoy, demanding the expulsion of Prince Humbert from the office of Lieutenant General.

The following protests were written on walls in English: "You said that Fascists would be punished, but you have given the people of Florence Paterno, a Fascist Prefect." "Send away Paterno, the Fascist Prefect."etc. Also in many places: "Via Paterno" etc.

Other small posters have appeared signed by the Student Association, censuring the conduct of Florentine women. These have been answered by "A group of Anti-Fascists", who point out that the women of Florence prefer those who really fight the war, to the Florentine students who take no part in it at all.

3. BLACK MARKET ACTIVITIES.

There is widespread complaint about the greed and selfish-

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3. BLACK MARKET ACTIVITIES.

There is widespread complaint about the greed and selfishness of the peasants who are carrying on a flourishing black market.

It is asserted that they will only sell within a narrow circle of known people for fear their prices should be denounced.

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N (continued). Confidential.

4. MANIFESTO OF WAR WOUNDED.

A group of wounded men, after their first meeting held in Florence, signed the following Manifesto.

"To those incapacitated, wounded or invalided in this war.
The whirlwind of the war, which we are facing with the certainty of a victorious conclusion in order to build up a better Italy, has passed over our houses and our families, threatening to overwhelm them.

But if our hearths and homes can be destroyed, our faith must triumph over whatever befalls, however tragic events may be. By faith we mean above all confidence that our blood has not been shed in vain, and that it has not been in vain that the flower of our Youth has fought for the Fatherland.

To-day many storm clouds lower over the skies of Italy, but the darkest hours of night always foreshadow the dawn. We, the incapacitated, the wounded and the permanent invalids of this war, believe that the dawn of a better Italy, an Italy not different from that we have desired and dreamed of, will not be long in breaking. That is the reason why in this most sad hour, we reaffirm our solidarity in those hopes and ideals, cemented by blood on the battlefields, which may be set down briefly as follows:

a). To defend the meaning and worth of our sacrifice.

b). To reawaken and to strengthen in all our brethen that sense of honour and dignity which, coupled with a sound and deep realisation of national duty, can and must aid in overcoming this serious hour.

In the name of Italy we defended our country, our mothers our wives and our children. Now that we no longer wear our uniform, we know how to carry in our hearts our dedication to our country, and in its name to confront every trial with that steadfast faith which men betray but cannot destroy, because it is blessed by God. Long live, for ever and above all, Italy."

5. RUMOURS.

A rumour that the Allies are retreating and the Ger-

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5. RUMOURS.

A rumour that the Allies are retreating and the Germans already back in Viareggio is widespread in Florence and causing anxiety among the poorer classes.

It is also said that Graziani has been sent to Bologna to encourage the Italian Divisions fighting against the Allies.

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N . (continued) Confidential.

6. WOMEN'S DEMONSTRATION. FLORENCE

On the morning of November 1 5th about 100 women, carrying posters bearing the words: "We want bread", "We want milk for our children", "Away with Paterno, the Fascist Prefect", assembled in Piazza della Signoria before the Town Hall, shouting and demanding the removal of the Prefect and all the other Fascists still holding office.

A little later another band of women arrived and demanded "Coal" and the removal of Paterno from office.

Among the various placards were some lauding the Allies and their Armed Forces.

7. FURTHER ANTI-MONARCHIST PROPAGANDA.

Anti-monarchist propaganda has been intensified in the last few days. Posters, leaflets, wall writings have all been seen.

This propaganda manifests not only hostility to Victor Emmanuel III for his attitude to fascism in the past, but also to the Lieutenant General of the Realm who is defined as unwarlike and incompetent.

The little paper "L'Independente" accuses Victor Emmanuel of being a traitor, not only to the Statute and the Italian people, but also to Germany.

P R O P A G A N D A .

1. BOOKS IN DEMAND.

The following books are much in demand.

Churchill's Memoirs. Italians have always been greatly interested in this book. A fairly good translation was on sale some time ago but is now out of print. A fresh translation would undoubtedly prove a commercial success.

President Roosevelt's writings.

Works by modern American writers. These have always found a keenly interested public in Italy. Favourite authors are Steinbeck, Saroyan, Sinclair Lewis, Dos Passos, etc.

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Books recently published giving the Allied point of view about the causes of the war, the future of Italy and the world at large. Even cultured people have no clear idea of international affairs after Munich.

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CONFIDENTIAL. CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS.
Information and Censorship Section.
Psychological Warfare Branch.
Unit N° 14. APO 512.

REPORT No 26 ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL ITALY, NORTH OF ROME.

This report is compiled from Italian and other sources, and is intended to give a survey of opinion in this country. It does not in any way represent the views of the compilers. The contents are confidential and must not be shown to any unauthorised persons.

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Source Reliability.	Report Probability.
A. Always reliable.	1. Confirmed.
B. Usually reliable.	2. Probable.
C. Sometimes reliable.	3. Possible.
D. Frequently reliable.	4. Doubtful.
E. A bad source.	5. Improbable.
O. Not possible to judge.	6. Not possible to judge.

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Eric Whelpton Major

Eric Whelpton.
Major.
O.C. "D" Section
P.W.B. Unit no 14.

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THIS WEEK IN TUSCANY.

Reactions to President Roosevelt's re-election have been entirely favourable: Firstly because of his personal prestige and secondly because he is believed to be a true friend of Italy. Mr Dewey, on the other hand, is completely unknown in this country and consequently people here are uncertain of his potentialities. His promise to support Mr. Roosevelt has created a great impression and is considered a sign that he is imbued with the real spirit of Democracy. Tuscans hope that the President's promise to increase the bread ration will soon be realised. Some cynics have suggested that this promise was made to capture the Italo-American vote, but the majority of Italians have complete faith in the humane intentions of the President.

Locally the British troops are being severely criticised because they do not follow the practise of the Germans in the past, and of some American units at present, of giving away surplus food to the poor. In a country where there is such scarcity, it is not surprising that there should be some resentment on seeing bread and meat thrown away. Clearly the disposal of surplus food is a delicate matter and entirely a matter for the military authorities. Suggestions have been made that all scraps should be handed over to some religious organisation for distribution. The feeling aroused by this question is very strong and is creating a great deal of antagonism against the Allies.

Another complaint is that in Allied administrative offices it is very hard to obtain an immediate decision, and that our officers seem afraid to take responsibility. There have always been bureaucratic delays and complications in this country, but Italians have always believed in the superior efficiency of the British and Americans (particularly the latter). They now have the impression that there is far too much "red-tape", far too much departmentalism, and that many of us are inclined to "pass the buck".

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E C O N O M I C S. Confidential.

1. FUEL FOR FLORENCE. (From an Italian Source, Nov. 1944).

The problem of supplying Florence with fuel is both grave and urgent.

An enquiry carried out by the Consiglio dell 'Economia (Economic Council) in collaboration with the Commune of Florence reveals that for a population of 400.000, at the rate of 12 kilos per head, the total quantity of fuel needed per month is:-

Charcoal	Quintali	36.000.
Wood	"	24.000.
Lignite	"	60.000.
	Total	120.000.

There are abundant supplies of charcoal, wood and lignite ready for use in the Province of Florence.

The Autotransport Office has only placed sufficient transport at the disposal of the authorities for 935 quintali of fuel per day, (28.050 per month), divided as follows:-

Transport for bakeries	quintali	450.
" Hospital of S. Maria Nuova.	"	58.
Total		508.

There remains transport for only 427 quintali of fuel for the civil population, and of these 427 quintali only about 150 can be transported because some of the vehicles are under repair.

Consequently there is a deficiency of about 3200 quintali on the 4.000 required per day. (B.3.)

2. RICHARD-GINORI PORCELAIN FACTORY AT SESTO FIORENTINO.
From an Italian Source, November 1944.

The management of the Richard-Ginori Works consists of Engineer Francesco Merlini and the members of the Factory Commission, Mario Casini, Gualtiero Giorgi, Giovanni Pecchioli, Ugo Boncinelli, Giuseppe Panerai, Arturo Pollastri and Roberto Betti.

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This factory, although its activity had been much reduced, was still employing 800 workers until it finally had to close down on July 22nd.

Since June skilled workmen had been employed in concealing materials and machinery from the Germans. Damage caused by

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E C O N O M I C S Continued. Confidential.

(Richard-Ginori Factory Continued).
German mines to the plant and furnaces was very slight, because the Director, the only person present in the factory when the mines were laid, had the courage to cut many of the fuses. Consequently almost the entire plant is in working order, machinery and vehicles are intact, five furnaces have been completely restored and on October 9th the first of these was relighted with the remains of the fuel left in the factory.

Thus, were the necessary minimum of electric power and coal obtainable, the factory could resume production immediately instead of being forced to dismiss about 700 skilled workers, most of whom contributed to the difficult and dangerous protective work by which the factory was saved.

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L O C A L C O N D I T I O N S. Confidential

1. FUEL RESTRICTIONS LIFTED IN FLORENCE.

On November 2nd the Provincial Economic Council announced that the sale of firewood is no longer to be rationed, and that anyone who has transport is free to go out into the country to buy it.

The maximum price is fixed at 65 lire per quintale if bought direct from the country dealer, and at 175 lire per quintale if bought from a dealer in the city.

2. SESTO FIORENTINO, October 1944.

The reopening of elementary schools throughout the Commune has been ordered. Many of the buildings are still occupied by American troops, who have been asked to evacuate them.

Serious damage has already been done in this district by the recent rains. Embankments have broken down and rivers overflowed. There is urgent need of pumping operations if the region is to be saved from extensive flooding. It should not be difficult to control the present situation if the Allied authorities can supply machinery, as the Italian Department of Civil Engineers and the Land Reclamation Association have long experience of the problems of this low-lying district.

3. RECURRENT ACTS OF VIOLENCE.

On November 2nd at Pistoia a band of men armed with Tommy-guns attacked a food and clothing store. They were arrested by the Carabineers and proved to be destitute ex-Partisans who had not handed over their arms.

A similar case occurred on the Florence/Siena road where a car travelling to Rome was stopped by armed men and the occupants robbed of all they had on them.

On November 1st in Piazza Savonarola (Florence) a woman was stopped and asked the time by two Allied soldiers. When

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On November 1st in Piazza Savonarola (Florence) a woman was stopped and asked the time by two Allied soldiers. When she pulled out her watch she was stunned by a blow on the face and the watch snatched from her.

On November 6th a P.W.B. driver, whose car was stationary at the time, was ordered by two drunk American soldiers to drive them. When he explained that he was on duty and not allowed to give lifts, they smashed both windows of the car.

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4. CONDITIONS IN PISA.

Conditions in the city of Pisa are serious. The Germans occupied it for 45 days of continuous fighting and about 70% to 75% of the town has been damaged. The part of the town south of the Arno is completely destroyed, and that on the north of the river is in a bad state, except around the Piazza dei Cavalieri and the Cathedral. Neither the Cathedral nor the Baptistry have been seriously damaged, but the frescoes round the Camposanto are almost completely destroyed by fire.

The flood of November 3rd has caused further damage. On that day there was a metre of water in the centre of the town which left a thick layer of mud. The countryside on the north of the city is flooded, and the fields are heavily mined. So far nothing has been done to remove them.

There is no electricity, and water can only be got from one fountain, or from outside the town.

The food situation is also very grave. Since the Liberation the people have only had the daily 200 grams bread ration and nothing else. They are literally dying of hunger.

The Germans carried off all the cattle and poultry etc. Harvests round the city were destroyed, and even the trees were gashed so that they will probably not bear fruit.

There is no Black Market because there is no transport to bring food in from outside, nor is there any ordinary trade. Shops are closed because they have nothing to sell.

People have not the strength to work so very little is being done, and there are no supplementary rations for those who do work.

The Mayor, an ex-Patriot, collaborates actively with the Allied Authorities, who, conscious of the gravity of the situation, are taking matters in hand. It is hoped that a more normal ration will soon be distributed, and that trucks will be available to get vegetables etc from Grosseto.

People are too preoccupied with the food situation to give much attention to Politics, many have left the town for lack of accomodation and the countryside is full of refugees.

SITUATION IN LEGHORN Continued from page 6.

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SITUATION IN LEGHORN Continued from page 6.

take concrete measures to deal with the situation, a further meeting would be held to discuss the possibility of a general strike and the resignation of the Committee of Liberation as well as members of all the administrative offices.

The Prefect is convinced that, though the population is rebellious and resentful of authority, there will be no mass resignations and that a general strike is unlikely because people are reluctant to give up their jobs. Some people also realise that the Allied occupation of Leghorn is a military necessity, and that it cannot be treated in the same way as other Italian cities.

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L O C A L C O N D I T I O N S Cont. Confidential.

5. THE SITUATION IN LEGHORN.

At the present moment there is great tension between the Allies and the Italians. Discontent is felt owing to the fact that the A.C. only allow the Livornese to live in the town as a privilege conceded to those families who have at least one member working for the Allies. At least 20.000 workmen are employed by the port or military authorities. The continued existence of a restricted area is another cause of discontent. This includes the ancient part of the town and the immediate surroundings of the port, in which civilians are not allowed to live or even to enter. There is said to be wholesale plundering in this area, both by Allied soldiers and Italians who take everything that might be useful to them such as furniture, glass, stoves, plumbing etc.

The American negroes are alleged to have committed numerous acts of violence, assaulted children etc, so that the women are afraid to go out after dark. The police register of the Hospital has a full record of the facts.

The Prefect of Leghorn and the Provincial Commissioner are reported to be doing their best to cope with the situation, but both the Allied and Italian police services are said to be inefficient.

According to the local Confederation of Labour, the Americans are dismissing, without pretext, members of the Factory Commissions.

Another complaint is that the A.C. have given no transport to the Sepral; also that when the local Sepral bought 2500 quintals of pasta in the district of Orbetello, the Allied authorities forbade the distribution of this food, stating that the population should not have more than 160 grammes of flour (= 200 grammes of bread) per day.

There are no cinemas for civilians in Leghorn, as all the picture houses are reserved for the Armed Forces. Nor is there a local newspaper, and the Corriere del Mattino arrives irregularly.

There is no electric light, and only a limited supply of water.

Up to date there has been no real epuration, most ex-Fascists are still holding down their jobs. The Housing Commissioner

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The Possibility of a General Strike in Leghorn

On November 1st representatives of the political parties and public services of Leghorn, together with the Committee of Liberation held a meeting. They produced a statement to the effect that if the Allied Commissioner and the Prefect did not

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N. Confidential.

1. PUBLIC OPINION IN FLORENCE.

The discontent felt, especially among the poorer classes, on account of the abundance of the food supplies available to the Allied Forces, has diminished since Colonel Michie clarified the situation in his recent broadcast.

Various rumours have been started by Fascists, for example:-

That tinned meat has only been distributed to the public because Allied troops refused it. and,

That Allied soldiers had been heard to say that the A.M.G. distributes scanty food rations because it considers the Italians ex-enemies.

Such propaganda frequently produces an effect on the ignorant and those exasperated by want.

Great bitterness is felt by the needy townspeople on ac. of the arrogant behaviour of the peasants who, especially this year owing to the lax control exercised at harvest time, are dealing almost exclusively on the Black Market and refuse food at lower prices to those with half starved children at home. Among the people, and especially among the ex-Partisans who are now out of work, there is an idea of forming committees to extort food from the peasants by force.

The usual rumous as to the dubious honesty of the Segral Directors, continue to circulate. The integrity of Barbieri, on the other hand, is acknowledged.

2. COMMENTS ON RED CROSS REGULATIONS.

A worker in the Allied Red Cross Organisation relates that a few days ago an Italian woman came to ask whether it would be possible to have a tin or so of milk for her ailing child.

This woman, during the whole of last winter, hid three Allied soldiers and two officers in her house, feeding and clothing them and running all the risks attendant upon such a situation. She had letters and documents from officers and men attesting to this.

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She was told that nothing could be done for her, as regulations did not permit.

Her comment was, that she asked nothing for herself and had never thought of any return being due to her for anything she had done, but that she had not stopped to think about "regulations" herself when she welcomed and gave hospitality to these five men in her house, and felt that the Allies, despite "regulations", might have spared her a little milk for her child.

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3. ITALIAN REACTIONS TO Mr. CHURCHILL's SPEECH.

As he did not mention Italian problems. Mr. Churchill's last speech has aroused much less interest than his preceding ones. To hear it affirmed, from so authoritive a source, that the war will continue for months has produced a sense of discouragement. This is chiefly because all the economic-financial problems of Italy are closely related to the end of the war in Europe; and because with the prolongation of the war in the Far East, the fear grows in all classes of conscription of large contingents of troops for the Asiatic th.

4. COMMENTS ON THE LIBERAL PARTY.

This Party is criticised for organising dances instead of urging its members to take part in constructive work.

It is suggested that these dances are organised to attract members of the Allied Forces, who bring in money and supplies of all kinds, and with whom the women and girls of the Liberal families establish advantageous contacts.

5. PARTISAN CERTIFICATES.

General Alexander rewarded all the Partisans, who took part in the struggle for liberation, with a Diploma expressing officially the gratitude of H.M.G.

This Diploma is highly valued. It is said, however,

That the Diploma has been distributed very widely, even to those who made their appearance in the Partisan ranks at the last moment.

That it can be bought for money.

6. WASTAGE OF FOOD BY ALLIED TROOPS.

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6. WASTAGE OF FOOD BY ALLIED TROOPS.

Italians in Florence, Siena and the surrounding districts comment on the fact that British units throw away their surplus food, at a time when the population of the country is on the brink of starvation. The Germans apparently used to give their surplus food to the needy. Suggestions have been received that official Allied sanction and encouragement should be given to the organisation of a scheme, whereby the disposal and distribution of surplus food should be entrusted to some religious body whose integrity is beyond criticism, in order to avoid the danger of it finding its way to the Black Market. 17/1

If some such scheme could be put into operation, there is no doubt that some relief could be given to the poor and an instrument of adverse propaganda eliminated.

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L U C C A. Confidential.

1. POLITICAL SITUATION IN PROVINCE AND TOWN OF LUCCA, OCTOBER 1944.

The Committee of National Liberation in Lucca includes the usual Parties. It is headed by Avv. Giovanni Carmignani, a Christian Democrat, who has also been appointed Prefect by the the Committee. The Mayor of Lucca, Baldassari, is a Communist.

Parties now active are:-

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS.

Lucca, with its large number of churches and high percentage of devout catholics, is one of the Places in Tuscany where clerical influence is strongest and consequently it is likely that this Party will predominate. Not many members are inscribed however, because all applicants are subjected to a rigid scrutiny. There is almost no propaganda since both printing and distribution of leaflets are forbidden. It is probable that the 80% of the population, which has not yet assumed any definite political position, will join this Party.

The leaders of the Party, especially the young men coming from "Azione Cattolica", are full of enthusiasm and are openly opposed to Communism.

COMMUNISM.

The Communists are, like the Christian Democrats, striving to dominate in Lucca. They already number 1500 members in the town alone. Almost all come from the Partisan ranks. They have excellent leaders such as Dr. Bernieri. This Party in Lucca is very cautious in its propaganda, always stressing the fact that it allows complete religious freedom, obviously with the aim of not alienating the Catholics.

SOCIALISM.

The Socialists in Lucca are very moderate and have not Communist tendencies as in Southern Italy. This moderation is also apparent in Northern Italy, especially in Liguria,

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L U C C A Continued. Confidential.

PARTY OF ACTION.

This Party was very active during the clandestine period. It kept in continual contact with the Florentine Military Command, organised the Pippo Partisan Brigade and many of the members also belonged to the Cavalli Brigade. The Party is still in process of organisation and inscription of members has not yet begun. Applications for admission are sent to Florence for consideration. The Party has little future in Lucca. At present a few small country land-owners and workers belong to it. It is active in Relief work and has helped many Partisan families. It is now organising Workers' Co-operative Associations on the same lines as those in Florence. None of this, however, wins for it the either the sympathy or the attention of the people, who are divided among the Christian Democrats Communist and Socialist Parties.

LIBERAL PARTY.

This is scarcely known because the middle classes, which swell its ranks in Florence, in Lucca prefer the Christian Democrat Party.

LABOUR DEMOCRATS.

This Party does not belong to the C.L.N. and is almost unknown.

PROBABLE DEVELOPMENTS OF POLITICAL SITUATION.

The two principal parties will probably be the Christian Democrats and the Communists. It is uncertain to which of these two Parties the Socialists will turn. A bitter struggle is foreseen and the first symptoms are already evident. The Christian Democrats maintain that the Communists are working up disturbances. As it is believed that the Partisans, who form a large percentage of the Communist Party, have not handed in their arms, this may lead to serious results.

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2. ALLIED AND ITALIAN OFFICIALS IN LUCCA.

The Prefect, never a member of the Fascist Party, is considered an honest and upright man. He is opposed by the Communists who accuse him of weakness because of his loyalty to the Allied Military Government. People complain that he has not yet started epuration. They want the city cleared of Fascists. Members of the notorious "Brigate Nere Mussolini", which caused so much suffering in the city, are still about.

The Civil Affairs officer is on very friendly terms with the Prefect and the Archbishop. There is an impression that he does not favour the C.L.N. owing to its left-wing tendencies.

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3. LABOUR CONDITIONS.

At present the only activity of the "Camera Confederale del Lavoro, where Christian Democracy, Communism and Socialism are equally represented, is the "Ufficio Avviamento al Lavoro" (Labour Office) which is principally concerned with problems of unemployment. A circular letter has been sent to all Lucca and Capannori employers, asking for information on the present labour situation and how many hands they could employ. The office has more than 2000 unemployed on its lists.

WAGES.

Until the regular resumption of work, employers have agreed to pay an advance on wages. As this is a matter of individual initiative, the sum varies and wages fluctuate from 50 to 100 lire per day. The 70% rise on this basic wage has been extended to the Province.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The situation will be clear when the census papers come in to the Labour Office. Meantime an approximate calculation gives the total number of workers in Lucca and Capannori as about 8000 to 10.000, and those now employed as about 2000 to 3000. About 80% of the unemployed live by black market activities, working little and earning much.

Formerly the principal industry was the manufacture of textiles. War damages have been so great that the large number of unemployed is not surprising. All factories able to do so are to resume work as soon as possible.

4. COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LUCCA AND FLORENCE.

The principal causes of economic and working difficulties in the Tuscan Province are:-

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4. COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LUCCA AND FLORENCE.

The principal causes of economic and working difficulties in the Tuscan Province are:-

a) The complete cessation of inter-provincial trade.

b) The difficulties confronting individual efforts designed to link up trade between the provinces.

Dr. Bonacchi, Secretary to the Camera Confederale del Lavoro in Lucca, has proposed a plan to the AMG officer whereby commercial relations between Lucca and Florence may be re-established. The former city lacks woven goods, whereas Prato (Province of Florence) has a superfluity. Dr. Bonacchi proposes to buy a consignment and put them on sale in Lucca. AMG has approved the plan, but stipulated that the concession is conditional on a corresponding consignment of other goods to Florence. "Filati" (spun yarn and thread) and oil are proposed for this exchange.

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L U C C A Continued. Confidential.

5. AGRICULTURAL SITUATION.

CATTLE.

In 1939 the cattle in the Province of Lucca numbered about 42.000 head; statistics of February 1944 give 32.000 head. The number has been further diminished by the German looting of the past months. A general census is now to be taken. First results show a drop of 50% in Lucchesia, 85% in Versilia and 60% in Garfagnana. Experts expect a total of 15.000 head in all.

SEED-TIME AND SOWING.

A census has been taken of the agricultural tractors necessary for autumn work and sowing. The Prefect of Lucca is publishing a decree making it obligatory to loan animals and tractors to farmers whose stock has been destroyed or stolen by the Germans.

The Autumn sowing has not yet begun, though the beginning of November is the usual time, except for some varieties of grain such as Frassineto and Virgilio. No news has been received about the Garafagnana and the Upper Valley of the Serchio, where fighting is still going on.

CHESTNUTS.

The Province has always exported large quantities of chestnuts; usually producing more than 160.000 quintali. This year the harvest promises to be very abundant, but in the best yielding district, Garfagnana, gathering is impeded by the war. It is intended to make Florence the chief distributing centre, owing to its nearness and the need there of food supplies.

OLIVES AND OIL.

Contrary to general belief, oil production in the Province does not suffice, even in good years, to satisfy local needs.

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OLIVES AND OIL.

Contrary to general belief, oil production in the Province does not suffice, even in good years, to satisfy local needs. Owing to its high quality, however, it is exported and other oil imported. Last year, a bad year, the yield was only 7570 quintali; this year from 15.000 to 20.000 quintali are expected. The needs of the Province are about 22.000 quintali.

War damage to the olive trees is negligeable, but about eight of the most modern olive presses have been destroyed.

WINE.

The vintage has been excellent in all respects. In spite of this, owing to transport difficulties, prices in Lucca are still very high, varying from 60 to 80 lire a Lucchese flask, (about one and three quarter litre).

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6. FOOD SITUATION.

Judging by the rations distributed, the food situation is critical. Until the latter part of October the people received only 100 grammes of bread per day, since raised to 200 grammes. Nothing else on the ration cards is being distributed, not even vegitable flour of which the population have received only one ration.

The Black Market flourishes and everyone resorts to it. Prices, compared with those in Florence, are as follows:-

Food stuffs.	Lucca.	Florence.
Flour	Lire 50 per kilo.	Lire 80 per kilo.
Sugar	" 500 " "	" 450 " "
Oil	" 600 " litre.	" 700 " litre.
Maize	" 30 " kilo.	Not to be found.
Dried Beans	" 120 " "	" 80 " kilo.
Chick Peas	" 80 " "	Not to be found.
Leather Shoes.	" 2000 a pair.	" 4000 a pair.
Cloth (medium quality)	" 3000 a metre.	" 3000 a metre.

The prices in hotels and restaurants are prohibitive, largely owing to the presence of Allied troops.

THE SEPRAL.

Differences of opinion between the C.A. officer and the Prefect on the one side and the Directors (Communist) on the other, too often cause friction and disorganisation, and the people suffer in consequence.

7. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.

On October 10th the Prefect legalized the Statute of a new transport company, the C.L.A. (Compagnia Autotrasporti Lucchese). All provincial transport must be authorised by this company and all who control or possess motor lorries etc must belong to it. It is premature to gauge how much transport

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Communications are very difficult owing to the state of the roads and bridges. The reconstruction of bridges over the Serchio is the most urgent requirement, as until this is done the Province continues to be divided into two parts without any means of intercommunication. The Military Engineers have built a bridge at Ponte S. Piero, on the road connecting

/over.

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(Transport and Communications Continued.)
Lucca and Viareggio but this is reserved exclusively for military traffic. It is pointed out that, while all other road repairs can be carried out by the local communes and civil engineers, the bridges over the Serchio, owing to the river's width, can only be rebuilt by thoroughly equipped specialised military units.

8. PRESS, RADIO and CINEMA in LUCCA.

PRESS.

The papers available in Lucca are:-

The Corriere del Mattino, brought daily from Florence and read with much interest although it does not give local news.

The Notiziario Lucchese, the organ of the Lucca C.L.N. A wretched little sheet, badly printed and edited and much criticised by the people.

The Nazione del Popolo does not reach Lucca. People are eager to read this paper. A few copies were on sale some time ago at 2 instead of 1 lire (to cover transport), they were sold in a moment.

No party papers are printed at Lucca, as these are forbidden by the Allied Command. Some, however, are printed clandestinely. An issue of Avanti was seen there.

RADIO.

Since October 22nd the electric current has been reduced. The Florence radio can be heard, but not well. There is great interest in both the London and American radio.

CINEMAS.

Two cinemas are open to the public, showing English and American films, both are crowded. Propaganda films are popular. "The Great Dictator" is eagerly awaited.

PROPAGANDA.

No Allied Propaganda Centre exists in Lucca. This is much regretted. Many people know the Florence Centre and wish

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There is no Fascist propaganda, nor are any leaflets circulated as in Florence.

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L U C C A Continued. Confidential.

9. PUBLIC REACTIONS.

There are American and Brazilian troops in Lucca, but very few British. Their relations with the civil population are very cordial. The American negro troops behave well and are also much liked by the people.

There is little trafficking in food between the troops and civilians, but cigarettes are sold at 70 or 80 lire a packet.

Relations between the people and the Italian police and officials are not very cordial. The Left-wing parties identify them with the past régime. Should disturbances occur, they would probably have difficulty in dealing with the situation.

The C.L.N. is charged with ineptitude and lack of firmness in its relations with the Allied authorities, its prestige is consequently declining.

A large percentage of the public is indifferent to all save the food problem and the difficulty of obtaining travel permits which would enable them to get food from outside the town.

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1750

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APPENDIX I.

P E R S O N A L I T I E S. Confidential.

1. Reg. CANCIAI GINO. Via Fiume 17. Florence.

This man willingly had German officers staying in his house as guests up to the last days of the Nazi-Fascist occupation of Florence, and always entertained many German officers and soldiers. He publicly expressed his approval of all that the Germans did and even defended their destruction of the Arno bridges. For years he has carried on propaganda against the Allies. Now he is entertaining Allied personnel.

These facts can be corroborated by:
Sig. Cinotti Giacomo, Via Faenza 53.
Conte Flavio Pontello of the C.L.N. Piazza Donatello 3.
Cav. Baldi Guido, Via Firenze 17.

2. ROCCO DELLE CAVE. Formerly Via Por Santa Maria 8.

A fanatical Fascist and minor official of the "Luporini Group". If he heard any anti-Fascist remark, he took the speaker's name and had him or her called to the Group to be dealt with. Many people will corroborate this. This man was seen a few days ago in the Via Romana, Florence.

3. Prof. BIRARDI FRANCESCO. Via Cosimo Ridolfi 4.

Ex-President of the Ginnasio Niccolo Macchiavelli, he was inscribed in the Fascist Republican Party in which he assumed an extremist attitude.

4. ALFANI PIERO. Via delle Gagliarde I.E. Arezzo.

This man was an active member of the Fascist Republican Party. He has escaped from Arezzo and may be hiding in Florence with relations. (B.3.)

5. Lieut. GRASCI of the Guardia di Finanza.

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This man was a prominent and active member of the Fascist and anti-Allied movement "Giovani Repubblicani Italiani, and wrote for the Party newspaper "La Patria" under the pen-name "Gracco".

He has now joined the Communist Party and is reported to have been the C.O. of the Communist Partisan Brigade "Sinigalia". He is also a member of the Florence University Epuration Commission and holds office as representative of the Faculty of Law.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy 16 November 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 42

Part II - Annexes

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Source (reliability)		Report (probability)	
A	always reliable	1	confirmed
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TO	INIT	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN		
COL. YOUNG		
LT. C. COX		
[illegible]		
MAJ. W. BOW		
MAJ. [illegible]		
MAJ. [illegible]		
MAJ. [illegible]NCE		
CAPT. POWELL		

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CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
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Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy 16 November 1944

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED No. 42

A. CURRENT EVENTS

1 Signor Orlando's Speech on Italian Armistice Day.

Vittorio Emanuele Orlando, former Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary, spoke on Saturday, 4th November, at the Teatro Quirino. The occasion of the speech was his inauguration as President of the Italian ex-Servicemen's Association on the anniversary of the armistice of the last Great War. The Teatro Quirino was full to capacity. Entrance ot the theatre was by reserved ticket only, and there were present officers of the Allied Commission and P.W.B. and many representatives of the Italian Government, including Bonomi, Sforza, Nesse and De Gasperi. Benedetto Croce was also there.

The octogenarian statesman and well-known orator held the attention of his audience from beginning to end, playing with supreme skill on the human emotions. At one time he would address the assembled company, at another he would talk to some individual person known to him in the audience, and yet at other times he seemed to have forgotten the presence of the audience altogether and extemporized aloud to himself.

At the mention of Trieste the audience rose to its feet and clapped with prolonged enthusiasm, showing in no uncertain way its will to consider this town as part of Italy, not to be detached.

Monarchists at the end threw leaflets from the gallery, which created resentment and a minor commotion. Some people cried "All officers are fascists and traitors" at a handful of officers who were trying to make their way out in the crowd, and in the lobby a fight started between monarchists and republicans. Many people deplored such undignified behaviour and brought the fight to an end when some Allied officers approached. Both sides parted sullenly shouting "Viva l'Italia".

On good authority it is believed that Orlando applied for a much larger theatre than the Quirino in which to hold his meeting but this was apparently met with the inflexible antagonism of the Mayor of Rome, Prince Doria Pamphili.

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2 Interview-Article on the Luogotenente Generale in the "New York Times"

(a) Press Reactions and Party Opinions

Two Rome newspapers - the POPOLO (Christian Democrat) and ITALIA NUOVA (Monarchist) - published the text of the article written by Mr. H. Matthews after his interview with the Luogotenente. That ITALIA NUOVA should have emphasized this interview, given its monarchist sympathies, was not unexpected. More odd was its publication in the organ of the Christian Democrats - a party which, as was the case with the old Partito Popolare, has not taken a definite line one way or another with regard to the institutional question, on which its members are divided. 174

Both papers commented on the article. The POPOLO, with its characteristic caution, regretted that the article should have

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appeared in a form which left unclear how much of the substance of it was the Luogotenente's own view and how much that of the "New York Times" correspondent: but it showed itself not antagonistic to the possibility of a plebiscite for or against the Monarchy which - according to Mr. Matthews - is the solution for the institutional question most approved by the best advisors of the Prince of Piedmont. It insisted at the same time, however, on the claims of the Constitutional Assembly which the New York Times' interview-statement minimized. ITALIA NUOVA, on the other hand, took a decided monarchist line and noted the similarities between the views ascribed to the Luogotenente and those which appeared in the speeches made by Signor Orlando and Signor Bonomi on Italian Armistice Day. According to this comment the Luogotenente had made, in this strangest of strange ways, a kind of "speech from the throne," and had indicated as his programme (1) a prebiscite on "the institutional question" (2) the revision of the 1848 Statuto by a Constituent Assembly, and (3) the establishment of a "democratic monarchy of a nordic type".

ITALIA NUOVA suggested that after the disastrous experience of a previous "interview" given by the Prince of Piedmont, without the approval of the Cabinet, which caused much indignation amongst the parties, that on this occasion the Government must have been fully aware of the Luogotenente's action. But this assertion was not born out by ITALIA LIBERA, which maintained that the Prince, in supporting a plebiscite on the institutional question - the most controversial point made in the original article - had ranged himself against the Constituent Assembly from whose sovereignty neither he nor his father would escape. In view of the serious political implications of the Prince's declarations the organ of the Action Party asked for a Government statement on the issue raised.

The declarations of the Lugotenente naturally provided ground for further press polemics and statements: from that of Croce in the RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE 5 November on behalf of the Liberals, to the accusation in the VOCE REPUBBLICANA that the Lugotenente was merely trying a manoevre to save the throne.

An official Government statement was issued on 7 November saying: "The Government, having seen declarations which derive from the account of an audience conceded by the Luogotenente to a journalist, reaffirms that the parties of which the Government is the emanation are the expression of the will and of the aspirations of the people struggling for its liberty; and

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appeared in the speeches made by [illegible] on Italian Armistice Day. According to this comment the Luogotenente had made, in t is strangest of strange ways, a kind of "speech from the throne," and had indicated as his programme (1) a prebiscite on "the institutional question" (2) the revision of the 1848 Statuto by a Constituent Assembly, and (3) the establishment of a "democratic monarchy of a nordic type".

ITALIA NUOVA suggested that after the disastrous experience of a previous "interview" given by the Prince of Piedmont, without the approval of the Cabinet, which caused much indignation amongst the parties, that on this occasion the Government must have been fully aware of the Luogotenente's action. But this assertion was not born out by ITALIA LIBERA, which maintained that the Prince, in supporting a plebiscite on the institutional question - the most controversial point made in the original article - had ranged himself against the Constituent Assembly from whose sovereignty neither he nor his father would escape. In view of the serious political implications of the Prince's declarations the organ of the Action Party asked for a Government statement on the issue raised.

The declarations of the Lugotenente naturally provided ground for further prose polemics and statements: from that of Croce in the RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE 5 November on behalf of the Liberals, to the accusation in the VOCE REPUBBLICANA that the Lugotenente was merely trying a manoevre to save the throne.

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In a private conversation Dr. Ugo La Malfa, the prominent journalist who represents the less Left Wing tendency of the Party of Action and is closely in touch with members of the Italian Cabinet, said that he was certain that the Government as a whole was not informed of the Luogotenente's interview though Bonomi had, he thought, known of it. He did not think that the text of the original article would appear to Italian readers to give a particularly favourable impression of the Luogotenente, and he was rather surprised when it was suggested that the text might give a good impression of the Prince's capabilities to Anglo-Saxon readers. Dr. Gonella, the editor of the POPOLO, in a personal statement to a P.W.B. officer, denied that he had had any intention of particularly favouring the monarchists by publishing the text of the interview in his paper. The Luogotenente himself had said that there was only one Monarchist paper in Rome - viz.

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the ITALIA NUOVA - and this authoritative assertion should appease those who might be inclined to think that the POPOLO was monarchist in sympathy.

(b) Popular Reactions

The statements that appeared in the various newspapers have had a large echo in public opinion. It is necessary to take note that a large majority of the population now professes republican tendencies.

A Scholastic Professor of about 58 years said: The Monarchy is taking a fairly firm position against the actual Government which, by expression of the programmes of the six parties comprising it, is absolutely hostile to re-establishing the Monarchy in Italy. However, one must keep in account the more important factors represented by the Allies. Let us analyze the respective positions of these with regard to Italian politics.

(i) America, in my opinion, is not interested in our political problems because her aim is the cornering of the European market. It suffices for her to eliminate all dictates representing obstacles to her commercial system. On the other hand she is too far away to feel the necessity of interfering in political questions.

(ii) Russia wants an opening to the sea, and will have it in the Balkan states who will represent her zone of influence after the war. Therefore, Italy is only of relative interest to her being too far removed towards the West to be in her possible sphere of influence.

(iii) England. Here is the kernel of the situation. Great Britain has no interest in the formation in Europe of a European Confederation of States of republican character. The efforts she is making to win the war would be of no avail should she have to take part in the European Confederation. She, the conquering nation, would find herself in the same position of importance and power as Germany or Italy. What could be more absurd than this? Therefore, all of England's interest lie in reinforcing the throne of Savoy and in shipwrecking the cause of the Italian Republicans. We had proof of this when the Republican Party was excluded from the Government and the C.L.N.

Finally, if the Allies on arrival in Italy had not desired the Monarchy, as they did not desire Fascism, they would have permitted the people to take care of this themselves, in which

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A tailor of about 34 years of age said: I have always hoped after the 8th September that one would hear no more of the aristocracy or privileged classes. I am beginning to see after what the Luogotenente said, that Italy will still have to suffer the monarchical system and the Carabinieri.

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B. GENERAL REPORTS

LABOUR

3 Tour of the Russian Trade Union Delegation in Southern Italy.

The Soviet Trade Union Delegation has finished its tour of Southern Italy and has returned to Rome. The defective communications prevented the Press of the Capital from getting news and from giving due importance to the ovations which greeted the Delegation, wherever it went.

The newspapers of the right wing were almost unanimously indifferent to the Russian Delegates' visit, not even mentioning their recent journey to Southern Italy. The "Unità" on the contrary has two articles, signed by the Onorevole Di Vittorio, about it, giving the first summary from his own personal experiences. He accompanied the Delegation on the greater part of the trip, with Colasanti of The Demo-Christian Syndical group. Di Vittorio states he was surprised at the "profound wave of sympathy, affectionate outbursts, unrestrained admiration" which drew large masses of people, in all the provinces visited, toward the U.S.S.R.

All the workers wanted to see, hear, and touch the Soviet Delegates. Thousands of proletarians, peasants, artisans, came miles on foot, on donkey-carts, on bicycles, to get to meet the Delegation. During all the trip, they waited patiently; under the rays of the autumn sun (like the 12,000 demonstrators of Severo and 15,000 of Cerignola) or under the pouring rain like the 20,000 of Cosenza. The cars were surrounded by the crowds and the Delegates "pulled out and carried in triumph" at the risk of being crushed. "Compagno Taresov" rapidly became popular in the South and made the most of the triumphant welcome.

Di Vittorio points out the absolute unanimity with which the masses manifested their admiration for the Soviets, the victorious Russian Army, their genial chief Comrade Stalin, each mention of whose name raised tempestuous and prolonged applause. All the Democratic authorities besides wished to receive the Delegation and express the gratitude of the Italian people for the great contribution of the U.S.S.R. to the cause of common liberation".

Some days the Soviet Delegates "were literally exhausted". Whereas 20 meetings had been arranged, there were 80 large conventions as at Toronto, at which, according to the "Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno" there were present about 30,000 followers. It is estimated that the Soviet delegates spoke directly to at least 250,000 Italian labourers in the course of these

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The Delegates showed a great and fine political sensitiveness, comprehending and underlining with applause, the necessity of maintaining at any price a solid Anglo-American-Soviet alliance in order to win the war and attain a just peace; therefore to redouble the efforts being made to speed the victorious ending. Any mention also by the delegates, of the generous terms made by Russia towards Rumania, Finland and Bulgaria were received with acclaim.

Di Vittorio concludes that the most evident result of the delegation's visit, is that the friendship not only between Italian and Soviet workers, but between the two peoples, has been strongly cemented. On the other hand, their presence in Italy has brought a notable contribution to the potentiality of syndical unity and has served further to cement the unity of the progressive and popular strength of the war of liberation.

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The fascist reaction which perhaps expected to find "a sort of Vandea" in the South, finds itself confronted with an organized popular mass hitherto unheard of in the South, which is firmly decided to defeat any attempt at a return to the past.

The "Italia Libera" in a "Salute to the Soviet" affirms the sincere tie of friendship binding the Italian people to the people of Russia which was shown during their visit to the Italian provinces. It asks that the delegation carry with it a message of Italian solidarity to the Russian combatants. The article desires to bring to the attention of the Great Soviet Union, the Italian will to fight for the creation of an effective democracy in which labour will be the determining factor, and affirms above all the belief in free and united Syndical Organisations.

4 Return to Rome - Mass Meeting at the Teatro Brancaccio.

On Sunday, November 5th, 15,000 workers attended the mass meeting at the Brancaccio theatre which climaxed the Soviet Labour Delegation's tour of Italy, and their return to Rome. Throughout the meeting applause and shouts interrupted the proceedings as the enthusiastic audience welcomed the Delegation.

Cesare Massini, Secretary of the Rome Camera del Lavoro, spoke of the genuine welcome extended the Soviet Delegates throughout Italy, and presented a bronze medal to the Delegates on behalf of the Camera.

Comrade Tasarov, Head of the Soviet delegation, spoke through a translator of the good feelings that exist between the Russian and Italian workers, despite 20 years of Fascist propaganda. The Soviet Delegation participated in more than 60 meetings with labour leaders and more than 20 meetings with large workers' audiences, thus making direct contact with more than 250,000 Italian workers. He extended an invitation on behalf of the Soviet Labour Unions to Italian Labour delegates to visit Russia, which was received with very great applause.

After a brief speech by Comrade Soiuplozov on the immense destruction in the Ukraine by the Germans, the meeting was brought to a close with short addressed by ... Grandi, Lizzadri, and Di Vittorio, representatives of the C.G.I.L., in which labour unity was affirmed as the strongest weapon against a recurrence of fascism. At the end of the meeting hundreds of workers pressed up on the stage to shake hands with the Soviet Delegates.

Trade Union Movement.

The invitation extended by the Russian delegation to the C.G.I.L. will strengthen C.G.I.L. in its contacts with labour organizations in the

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Trade Union Movement.

The invitation extended by the Russian delegation to the C.G.I.L. will strengthen C.G.I.L. in its contacts with labour organizations in the industrial north. (B.2)

In this connection it should be noted that in an order of the day of November 1st, the Action Party, which originally backed the C.G.L., reaffirms the unity of the Italian Trade Union movement, and expresses the hope that democratic methods will always prevail in the activities of the Confederation.

AGRICULTURE

5 Seizure of land by peasants

(i) Memorandum of conversation held at Bracciano between Signor Castaldi, agent for estate of Prince Odescalchi and a P.W.B. officer.

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Signor Castaldi works in the Amministrazione Principe Odescalchi at Bracciano under the Estate Agent, Ing. Vaccari, who was absent in Rome. He seemed a quiet, intelligent and reliable man of middle-age.

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Bracciano is a small agricultural town of about 8,000 inhabitants, made up mostly of day labourers, workmen, or small tradesmen. Its police force numbers about 30 Carabinieri, one-third of whom are usually on duty. The Commune comes within the Province of Rome, thus falling under the Rome Prefect for questions of law and order.

A Committee of Liberation exists on which all parties are represented, with the exception of the Democrazia del Lavoro. Signor Castaldi believed the Communists and Socialists formed the great majority of the people, though the Communist Party seemed badly organised and had no evident leaders. Next important were the Christian Democrats. Speakers from the various parties came down to Bracciano from time to time, and in their speeches often made extravagant promises about the distribution of land. The people were interested in these political speeches and went to hear them and were generally most influenced by the last speaker.

On the whole very little damage was done to Prince Odescalchi's property by the Germans. The wine distillery was wrecked, one cowhouse for fifty cows dynamited and one or two dwellings destroyed. Only about 20% of the livestock was carried off or killed. (120 cattle in 600). The Germans paid 7 lire a kilo (liveweight) for the animals they took, this being the controlled price. Later on they paid 15 lire a kilo.

The property of Prince Odescalchi at Bracciano consists (1) of 700 hectares divided into six farms let out on the Mezzadria system (whereby landlord and tenant share 50% of the produce), and (2) 600 hectares farmed directly by the Odescalchi administration. The same rotation of crops is practiced in both areas. Every year two-sixths is put under corn, one-sixth under vegetable and three-sixths to pasture.

On October 10th, 1944, approximately 500 men from the town of Bracciano and a fraction from Castelli, took possession of 350 hectares of land then under pasture. These men came neither from the farms nor from among the labourers on the estate, but were all members of the local Consorzio Agrario. The Consorzio Agrario is itself a big landowner, owning 7,000 hectares but according to Signor Castaldi it farms its lands in an uneconomic and primitive way. One half of the land is yearly ploughed for corn and the other lies fallow and is used for grazing. The utmost strain is therefore put on the land in the interests of corn production, and not sufficient time is given it to recover, nor are efforts made to grow fertilizing crops such as potatoes or beans. The tillers of the Agrario intend getting the most out of the soil, with the least responsibility or labour, and thus eventually the land value of the entire estate deteriorates.

The Consorzio Agrario has about 2,000 members, mostly made up of day labourers, craftsmen, fishermen and small tradespeople. The land is held communally and divided up among them, each member getting a new strip of about 3½ hectares every year. No one is interested in his strip beyond

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In contrast to this are the well cared for estates of Prince Odescalchi with forests, orchards, olives, vegetables, pasture and arable. Also in contrast are the 1,700 hectares ceded by Prince Odescalchi in 1921 in "enfiteosi" (or long lease with option to buy) to small holders and market gardeners. Here the tenant is interested in developing the soil, because he has a long-term policy in his plot of land, and aspirations to make it his own. Consequently the strips are planted with fruit trees, vines and

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olives, with vegetables and corn growing between. Signor Castaldi emphasized that it was those who were bad husbandmen belonging to the Consrezio Agrario who were the trouble makers. Their seizure of 35 hectares of pasture land meant that more corn would be grown for next year, but there was now insufficient pasture for Prince Odescalchi's live-stock.

Those same people moreover took 200 quintals of chestnuts which constituted the entire chestnut crop, and 30 quintals of olives. To prevent further thefts of the olive crop the Estate had decided to pick the olives while they were yet green, which meant that a considerable reduction in the quantity of olive oil was to be expected.

It is interesting to note that the Ministry of Agriculture sent down an Ispettore Agrario, Dr. Conti, to inspect the land at Bracciano, and this man pronounced no part of Prince Odescalchi's land as uncultivated. Consequently none was technically or legally liable to seizure. Moreover in Bassano, where Prince Odescalchi had another estate, the Carabinieri, under the Prefect of Viterbo, (and not of Rome as at Bracciano) took a definite stand and drove away the invaders on October 31st. No land therefore had been seized in that area.

(ii) Extracts from reports on conversation with Signor Giacomini and Signor De Domenico, as well as the agent of Prince Odescalchi's Estate - landowners - at Bracciano on Sunday, 5th November, 1944.

On the 16th October about forty people armed with machine-guns and hand grenades suddenly came to the estate of Signor Giacomini, near Bracciano, and warning the farmers to keep back if they wanted to save their lives, gathered the chestnuts. They declared that according to the ordinances of the Minister's Council, the land was theirs. (It seems that the day before, October 15th, in an open-air meeting held in the market-place of Manziana, an orator had told the farmers that the proprietors no longer counted, that the land and its products were theirs.)

The next day the number of the demonstrators had increased to over 200. The Carabinieri, called from Manziana and Bracciano (5 in number) were powerless. This same violence was used in the olive groves.

The farmers are frightened that future crops will share the same fate and do not want to plough and sow the land.

It was the opinion of Signor Giacomini and De Domenico that the peasants had been encouraged to take this action by Communist agitators, well supplied with funds for propaganda, who had been placed in the villages by the Communist Party in Rome. Some former Fascists were probably encouraging the peasants in order to

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They said the Communists are the best organised party in the area and that they had funds "probably from Russia" but that the Christian Democrats had the largest following.

As for a solution there was little they could do without help. In Signor Giacomini's case, out of a population of 300 in his area only 40 people would support him. The police force - CC.RR. - was insufficient as

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there were only two Carabinieri in the district. They asked for some CC.RR. to be sent from Rome until the situation bettered, otherwise they were powerless to do anything. Furthermore although they know who was responsible, the CC.RR. in the nearby villages were supporting the peasants.

Owing to the lack of public security in the district, many peasants had not planted their crops this autumn for fear that they would be stolen by their neighbours. (E.3.)

6 Agricultural problems - Tuscany

Oil Harvest. The olive crop in Tuscany is exceptionally abundant this year. As most of the milling of the olives is done by electricity production will inevitably be difficult owing to lack of electrical power. The old ox-worked mills, wherever they still exist, will have to be put into action again.

Vintage. The grape harvest promised to be exceptionally abundant, but shortage of sulphate of copper has led to the spread of phylloxers; lack of crittogama has resulted in much of the crop being lost, while the remainder is of bad quality. Moreover troops, passing through and camping in vineyards, have consumed quantities of grapes, and for this reason also, the harvest is poorer than was expected. It is suggested that copper should be supplied to Italy as soon as possible so that, in future, vines may be treated with the usual copper dressing which saves them from disease.

Potatoes. The retreating Germans dug up most of the potatoes then ready for use, and the remainder of the crop is scanty. Nothing can be done about this, save to encourage and advise super-production for next season.

Fertilisers. The total lack of perphosphate has been felt in the production of wheat, beans and cereals in general, which are very scarce, and it is hoped that supplies will be available soon.

Among all the factories, producing artificial and chemical manures such as nitrate of soda, potassium and sulphate of ammonia, have been destroyed by the Germans.

Farm Machinery. The problem of ploughing is a hard one, as the oxen were carried off by the Germans. The use of tractors is possible only in a few Tuscan districts owing to the conformation of the ground and the intensive cultivation of olive trees and vines in the land where wheat is sown. The necessity for naphtha and petrol must again be emphasized. Many of the existing tractors run on naphtha, and as yet none is available.

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Wages and Labour. The very ancient system of mezzadria or share cropping has been dealt with in previous reports from the same source. It is considered the best for Italy. Some of the political parties aim at abolishing it.

The Communist and Socialist Parties and the Party of Action intend to expropriate the land without compensation and give it to the peasants.

The Party of Action's plan is to divide the land into farms, according to its nature and produce; then to divide these farms, among a certain number of families and have them administered by a state official. This looks well on paper, but it is held that to eliminate the owner's private initiative and his personal interest, would result in increased costs and reduced production.

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Land-owning peasants work little, their instinct being to produce merely family requirements and no more. There are many examples of peasants who, having bought their own farms, reduced production to such an extent as to be heavily in debt after a few years and obliged to sell out.

Occasional labourers are employed by Tuscan farmers for the breaking up of new ground and the general care of crops.

.. level wage scale for farm labourers and others is suggested, in order to balance available labour.

It must be borne in mind that the farm labourer is at present in a very favourable position, as he receives part of his wage in kind, and so, in his case the terrible problem of feeding himself and his family, so pressing for others, is considerably eased.

The idea of revolution, everywhere rife, is hampering and preventing any regular and tranquil life. Unless the law is enforced and discipline maintained, production will decrease, revolution break out and disaster ensue. (B.3.)

EPURATION

7 .rrest of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno

Interest in this subject has been maintained this week by the arrest of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno; the dismissal of six generals of the Air Force, destitution of a further batch of senators, and the sequestration of the estates of Mussolini.

The two main trends of public reaction may be stated as follows: firstly that epuration is still too slow and not energetic enough; secondly that it does not start at a high enough level.

Surprise was generally expressed that it has taken all this time to confiscate the estates of Mussolini, Ciano and Clara Petacci.

With regard to the epuration of the Senate, a student of Political Science, aged 22, complained that it was at once too slow and too mild. Destitution was not a sufficient punishment for offenders: they ought to be brought to trial. The people want a new Senate, elected by popular vote. A housewife of 45, a member of the Republican Party, thought "All Senators should be epurated, beginning with Badoglio".

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The Court Martial of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno is awaited with some scepticism on the one hand and keen interest on the other, especially among soldiers who served under the two last-named in Sardinia. A student of letters aged 23, who had been an officer in Sardinia, ascribed the escape of the Germans there almost without loss to the treachery of the generals. At the same time he added that "orders should have come from Rome". A soldier aged 24, however, defended Basso and Castagno. He was certain that the trial would never take place, because if it did both the King and Badoglio would be implicated. If however, Basso were brought to trial he hoped that he would have full liberty to produce all the evidence in his defence, even if higher personalities should be incriminated. A clerk aged 50, little interested in party politics, said: "The trial of the generals will not take place, because the former Supreme Commander must not be implicated".

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Much the same reactions were produced by the announcement of the dismissal of high officers of the Air Force. A newsagent was inclined to think they were perhaps not really to blame; they may not have known what to do due to lack of leadership. After the Armistice Italian soldiers were fighting and beating the Germans at Monterotondo, Viterbo, San Paolo, Cecchignola etc. but when they learned that the King and Badoglio had fled they were completely demoralised and all fighting ceased. He was very bitter against the House of Savoy and resented what he described as a fact that the Allies, especially England "are trying to impose the Monarchy on the Italian people".

8 Trial of General Martini and Rag. Pirisino

Further particulars of the trial of Fascist conspirators headed by General Martini, by the Military Tribunal of Cristano.

The trial of General Martini and 18 others accused of high treason by the Military Tribunal of Oristano has been going on since October 25th.

A large public including Allied authorities are present daily at the hearings.

The first to be interrogated was General Martini. He began by saying that family troubles in the north of Italy drove him to get into contact with a Petty Officer who was to take him there in an M.T.B. On the evening of the 3rd December, 1943, at Palau, at the moment of embarcation, he received from the person who accompanied him to the M.T.B. an iron tube containing the documents to which we referred in our previous report. Martini denies any knowledge of the individual who handed him the tube. When he was arrested Martini was searched and in his overcoat was found the papers and the iron tube. The latter contained a verbatim report of the secret meeting held at Sassari on the 7th September, 1943, on the reconstituion of the Republican Fascist Party in Sardinia, laying down an initial programme and assigning duties. There was also in the tube a message to the Secretary of the Republican Party. This message was signed by the 18 members of the Committee, who were at once arrested. (The President at this point stated that according to Professor Altamura of Naples all the signatures were false excepting that of Rag. Pirisino which was genuine).

General Martini does not know who drew up the documents. He states that he only asked Rag. Pirisino to provide him with some documents of a fascist nature so that his trip to the mainland would be justified in the eyes of the Republican Government showing that he had achieved something in Sardinia. General Martini stated that these documents were also neces-

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In fact General Martini denied any participation in the plot, in spite of the many inconsistencies which the President revealed.

The second day of the trial opened with the interrogation of Rag. Pirisino, who, next to General Martini, is the chief figure in the conspiracy.

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Reg. Pirisino systematically denied any connection with the matter particularly participation in the meeting on the 13th September, 1943. He also denied that there was a meeting to found a Fascist Committee in Sardinia. He confessed to having received the iron tube containing the documents from an unknown person by means of a clerk in his office. He denied having signed any manifesto or appeal and said that his signature is deposited in the Bank and therefore, according to him, cannot be forged. (The President again observed that Professor Altamura had stated that Pirisino's signature was genuine.) Thus after three hours' interrogation Pirisino returned to the bench of the accused.

On the days following the Court interrogated the others accused, who denied any knowledge of the matter as did General Martini and Pirisino.

The Court will move in a few days from Oristano to Corsica in order to interrogate a witness (the same who accompanied General Martini in the M.T.B. in order to confirm several new factors which resulted from the interrogations. For the moment it is impossible to see the outcome. The most astute lawyers from Cagliari, Oristano and Sassari are defending the accused.

The public have no great interest in the proceedings. Although most of the accused are well known in Sardinia for their high Fascist positions, the slowness of the proceedings has made the majority of the public suspect some tendency to minimize the importance and seriousness of the crime. There is a great deal of talk regarding the release of the most important among the accused, namely Offedda, Maccari and Chirmm. (B.4.)

9 Protest against the Prefect of Florence (Marchese Paterno)

The following is a translation of a small poster affixed to the walls in Florence on Sunday, 29th October, 1944.

"ALLY WITH THE FASCIST PREFECT OF FLORENCE.

While the Florentines were enduring all kinds of privations and facing death during the tragic days of the emergency period, and while partisans and patriots were sacrificing their lives for the liberation of the city, Marchese Paterno, now Prefect of Florence, was probably living in some comfortable Hotel in Rome or on his Sicilian estates.

Now, when the war with its risks and dangers is far removed from our city, the new Prefect has come to Florence with the intention of re-establishing order, which, according to him, is jeopardised by the new democratic institutions of the city.

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Now, when the war with its risks and dangers is far removed from our city, the new Prefect has come to Florence with the intention of re-establishing order, which, according to him, is jeopardised by the new democratic institutions of the city.

Naturally his first business on arrival was to reinstate civil officials who, until the day of the liberation, had been zealous servants of the Germans and of Manganiello, such as Comm. Gigli, notorious carocrist and the ex-vice-Prefect De Francisci, the vice-podesta during the Nazi occupation of our city.

It is natural that the Prefect Paterno's first contacts should have been with well-known Fascist Republicans and informers of the S.S., such as Dr. Torrini, in whose house he was a welcome guest as soon as he arrived in Florence and for whom he secured immunity together with car permit to travel freely.

It is also natural that the Prefect Paterno, should immediately manifest a keen antipathy towards the C.T.L.N. ordering all officials of

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the Prefecture to break off any relations with the Committee and to suspend the work of the Commission of Epuration; also that he should boycott all the democratic organizations which had arisen out of the C.T.L.N. which worked for the liberation of our city from the nazi-fascist oppression and was the genuine expression of the will of the people of Florence.

The Florentine people cannot tolerate that this prefect should be issuing orders, like a little Duce, for the return to squadristi and republicans of premises which local organizations had requisitioned for the homeless.

Neither can the Florentines tolerate that, to the many calamities brought upon them by Fascism, should be added the shame of having a Fascist Prefect, a reactionary and enemy of the people.

The Florentine people want and demand epuration and first of all that of Marchese Paterno, actual Fascist Prefect of Florence.

The people of Florence."

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POLITICAL

10 Interview with Dr. Grilli, Communist Leader, by a P.W.B. official

The Communist leader Dr. Grilli has been in Sardinia for some days and has visited Cagliari and Iglesia. As delegate of the Italian General Confederation of Labour he is interested in forming a Chamber of Labour. He has presided over numerous reunions of the Communist Party and took part in the Christian Democrat Party reunion. He also wrote articles for the newspapers.

Dr. Grilli when interviewed, stated that he had found, especially at Iglesia, conditions of semi-starvation and an almost total lack of shoes and clothing.

He stated that reactionary groups still dominated in many communities of the island. The people want to get rid of these groups but they lack precise political directives so that their efforts more often than not do more harm than good. The press could do much to enlighten the people but paper shortage is such that only very few newspapers are on sale in the larger towns.

Grilli added that it is essential to open communications with continental Italy. There are ships in Sardinian ports, he said, which could be used to carry salt to Italy, especially to Rome, where salt costs 400 lire a kg. Cork and other products could be exported and sulphur, wine and other products available in Italy and not in Sicily imported. A safe route could be arranged and some of the Italian seamen now in the service of the Allies employed.

He found the Sardinian Communist Party functioning normally. It is endeavouring to get the workers to join in the Allies' war effort and to prevent them, notwithstanding their wretched conditions, from making demonstrations. It must be stressed, however, that the position of the workers' is very serious indeed and that urgent measures must be taken for their relief.

As to the recent discussions in the papers on freeing the market, Grilli stated that it would only be an advantage if wages were increased to meet the higher cost of living which would result. A free market is practicable when there are enough commercial products, but when goods are in short supply only people with money can buy which means that the working man has to go without.

INTERIOR

11 The Carabinieri Reali

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INTERIOR

11 The Carabinieri Reali

The continued public discontent with the police services has been focussed of late on the Carabinieri. A proclamation issued by the commander of this force, General Taddeo Orlando, appears to have awakened public interest.

This proclamation was attacked by various newspapers notably "Unita" and "Italia Libera", on the grounds that it was not in harmony with the traditional apolitical character of the force. General Orlando replied with a second proclamation calling this very tradition to the attention of all ranks.

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The grievances against the Carabinieri are of various natures. The most general is that whatever their claims, the Carabinieri cannot by their very constitution and tradition be apolitical at a time when the institutional question is being raised. They are generally regarded as the servants of the monarchy.

Accessory causes of this unpopularity are: alleged inefficiency:

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use of the carabinieri to arrest young men who have failed to answer the recent call to the colours.

The charge of inefficiency is admitted even by some members of the service. One carabiniere said: "So long as I know that my family has not enough to eat my principal preoccupation will be their welfare, to the exclusion of all else including duty".

It is interesting to note the warm welcome given by the press to the recently instituted night-patrol of the city by Allied military police, using 16 vehicles, for the protection of the public.

12 New Prefect of Catania - Commendatore Gianmichele

The new Prefect of Catania, Comm. Gianmichele, formerly Prefect of Grosseto and until now at the Ministry of the Interior, was to have arrived in Catania at the end of October. Owing to the incidents at Palermo, however, he came earlier.

Comm. Gianmichele is a career prefect and his appointment to Catania means the dismissal of Prefect Avv. Fazio, a politician who was appointed Prefect by Aimoto on the advice of the Archbishop of Catania.

With the arrival of the new prefect a complete reorganization of Italian bureaucratic institutions is evisaged, to enable suburban offices to contribute efficiently to the central government.

The new prefect finds himself between two fires: on the one hand the heads of the Liberation Committee who wish to eliminate all ex-fascists, and on the other, the ex-fascists themselves who not only have no inclination to leave out intend to use the new atmosphere of freedom to make fresh positions for themselves and keep the upper hand.

There is much speculation as to how the new prefect will cope with the situation.

B.2.

13 Sicilian Bandit Captured

There was much interest in the news that on the 23rd October Giuseppe Russo, head of one of the main armed bands of brigands on the island, was arrested by the police and carabinieri.

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Russo's father was killed and he swore a vendetta against the murderer. Later he killed four members of the family in question. For some months the band had been terrorizing Adrano and the neighboring countryside.

Trudu Italo, a deserter from the Sabauda Division, was arrested at the same time, and several local persons who had given shelter to the brigand.

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PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

14 Proposed Delegation of Authority to Italians

In keeping with the speed-up tendency in Allied policy to consign more authority and responsibility to the Italian Government, PWB and APB this week got busy. They put up a suggestion to AFHQ to delegate additional powers to the Italian Press Commission. Those additional powers have been summarized as authority to ratify newspaper licenses in territory under Italian jurisdiction without reference to APB. APB, however, would retain power to revoke or suspend licenses on the demand of the Allied authorities. This suggestion (which means an amendment of Order 80) is now being put through A.C. en route for AFHQ.

15 U.S. Elections

A large window-map of the U.S. showing the States in the propaganda-shop in Largo Tritone in Rome was a centre of attraction several days before it was used to show the progress of the voting. Crowds stood in front of the blank map apparently absorbed in contemplation of the mere shape of that land of free democratic elections and material plenty. It was, therefore, doubly unfortunate that owing to the accidental breaking of an adjoining show-case, the associated display, illustrating the method of voting by secret ballot, had to be removed to a less prominent position.

The posting of the election returns was followed by a large crowd with the keenest interest and some envy. The re-election of Roosevelt was welcomed by all.

Some comments from the crowd:

A haberdasher: "This will shorten the war".

A radio-operator and a surveyor: "There should be a United States in Europe on the American pattern".

A surveyor: "Italy, unlike America, is not rich enough for democracy. You Americans have leisure in which to study. Here the people will follow any leader who promises them bread".

16 Reception of Publications and Shortage of Newsprint in Sardinia

Publications. Interest of the Sards toward our publications has considerably increased. "Victory", "Mondo Libero" and the novels [illegible] number of publications we get

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16 Reception of Publications and Shortage of Newsprint in Sardinia

Publications. Interest of the Sards toward our publications has considerably increased. "Victory", "Mondo Libero" and the novels are best-sellers. In view of this, the number of publications we get is definitely insufficient to cover our needs. Most booklets are sold out in a few days in Cagliari and Sassari, and never get to the other regions of the Island, such as Oristano, Nuoro, Iglesias, Carbonia, etc. Three or four times the amount of publications now received could be disposed of. Furthermore, it would be appreciated if the intervals between one shipment of booklets and another were shorter.

Newspapers. Toward the end of the month the newsprint situation became extremely critical and both newspapers of the Island were contemplating closing down on November 1st, but Mr. Canepa, from the Press Committee, flew to Naples and came back with three tons of newsprint to meet the immediate needs of the papers. The newsprint was distributed as follows: 1½ tons to the Cagliari "Unione Sarda", 1 ton to the Sassari daily "Isola", and ½ ton to the Sassari PWB backed weekly "Riscossa" All three papers were warned to use the newsprint with the utmost economy until further supplies arrived from Naples. The utmost importance of regular and sufficient

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shipments of newsprint to the Island cannot be too greatly stressed. 'Unione Sarda' was lately compelled to cut down its copies from 30,000 to 15,000 and it is reasonable to expect that the papers will be sold on the black market while this situation lasts. Several political weeklies which have been authorized by the Press Commission await the arrival of newsprint in order to start publication. In general this newsprint question causes great dissatisfaction and criticism. It was pointed out that it should be possible for the Allies to send more paper to Sardinia since in Rome there is enough newsprint to feed 60 newspapers.

Cinema

17 Rome

"Tom, Dick and Harry" at the Splendore cinema, 3 November 1944.

The cinema was crowded; the audience consisted of one third soldiers and the rest was an average Italian audience with a preponderance of women. The film was very much liked by everyone, especially women, as it was easy to follow.

Roman audiences enjoy this type of film and would gladly see more of them.

The news-reel was "Notizie del Mondo Libero". It would have been better if in a scene showing epuration proceedings in France the words "Come in Italia" (as in Italy) had not been used, as the audience laughed when they heard this as they know how slowly epuration is proceeding here.

The public is always eager to see more of domestic and national life in England and America.

18 Naples

"Gli Angeli Del Mare"

This is the first new American film to be shown in Naples which has been sound-tracked in Italian instead of being spoken in English with Italian sub-titles. It was shown at the cinema S. Lucia, Naples for the first time on 6 November. The cinema was packed, most of the audience being young people.

This was a simple story of the [illegible] and some of the scenes were hardly credible but the acting of Francis Dee, Randolph Scott and Ralph Bellamy was greatly appreciated. To sum

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B.2.

19 Bari

"Il Diavolo va in Collegio" (The Devil Goes to Boarding School)
New Italian film, produced by Minerva Films with Lilia Silva and Leonard Cortest and shown at Bari.

The cinema was crowded for the most part by middle-class Italians, factory workers and Italian soldiers. There were also some English and American forces present. During the film there were frequent outbursts of applause. The film, skilfully directed and well-acted in a lively way can hold its own with any of the much lauded American productions. The plot is slight but has been cleverly handled. The luxurious sets are in good taste and do not give offence as is sometimes the case with overseas films. The music is light and melodious.

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"I prefer light comedies such as this to heavy handed Allied propaganda. The Anglo-Americans have an almost German persistence and they thrust productions on us which are the complete opposite to what we want". - An Employee.

"I dont want to criticise what has been shown to us up to now. I only want to express my opinion freely on this film. I like it. It is just to my taste". - An Italian Soldier.

"After a hard day it is really amusing to see such a film". - A Merchant.

It should interest those who choose films for Italian audiences that this film is extremely popular. It is the type of film which appeals to Italians. Also, the resumption of film-production by the Italians is a matter of urgency, especially in view of the number of unemployed of this industry.

20 Sicily - Reactions to American Films in Palermo

"Convoglio verso l'Ignoto" (Action in the North Atlantic)

Mr. R. J. Frantz went to the Teatro Cinema Biondo with a Sicilian friend on the first night this Warner Bros. film was shown. Herewith information according to Film Sections' questionnaire:

(i) The theatre was filled, and some people were standing at the rear of the house. The audience was very mixed, comprising some persons of obviously good circumstances, others apparently unemployed, a fair percentage of Italian soldiers, sailors and carabinieri. The largest single class seemed to be young men between the ages of 16 and 24. Men far outnumbered women in the audience. The previous night Mr. Frantz went to the same cinema to see "Il Figlio Contesa", a Swedish film, well produced and with a sympathetic subject. On that night there were very few people in the theatre, perhaps partly because the film had been shown for a week. However, it seems obvious that the mere announcement of an American film is sufficient to pack the theatre.

(ii) Audience reaction was very noticeable when submarines were seen gliding under water to attack the convoy; there were gasps of apprehension and much excitement when torpedoes struck the merchant ships; there were exclamations of satisfaction when submarines were in their turn destroyed, and applause when enemy planes were shot down. Other [illegible]

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It should interest those who choose films for Italian audiences that this film is extremely popular. It is the type of film which appeals to Italians. Also, the resumption of film-production by the Italians is a matter of urgency, especially in view of the number of unemployed of this industry.

20 Sicily - Reactions to American Films in Palermo

"Convoglio verso l'Ignoto" (Action in the North Atlantic)

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(ii) Audience reaction was very noticeable when submarines were seen gliding under water to attack the convoy; there were gasps of apprehension and much excitement when torpedoes struck the merchant ships; there were exclamations of satisfaction when the submarines were in their turn destroyed, and also when attacking planes were shot down. Chief excitement occurred when the most relentless of the submarines was finally rammed by the merchant ship it was pursuing, and this created obvious satisfaction, though there was no cheering or clapping. Scenes showing the burial of merchant seamen at sea were watched in respectful silence. The few love scenes were greeted with vulgar comments by the younger element in the audience, but these in turn brought hisses from the others.

(iii) The entire film is excellent for impressing on Italians the war effort of the Allies. It is especially important for Sicily where there has been too much of a tendency to depend on the Allies for help of all kinds. This film should make Sicilians realize the risks involved in transporting merchandise across submarine-infested seas. 1735

(iv) The film is an excellent presentation of American courage and the unselfishness of the unsung heroes of the merchant marine. Scenes of the captain's home life also give a good

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impression of America.

(v) Technical quality is excellent.

(vi) Nothing in this particular film to point out to Italians the way to rehabilitate their own country, unless it is the portrayal of the willingness of Americans to risk their lives in the interests of greater liberty for the world.

A Sicilian friend who attended the film remarked that American films are usually superior to Italian productions. This particular film has an English sound-track and Italian sub-titles, but lack of Italian conversation did not seem to distract one bit from the spectators' enjoyment. The sub-titles were well done, and some of the numerous dialogue of the sailors brought hearty laughter.

"Strictly Confidential" (An old American film with dubbed Italian dialogue)

Due to the fact that the theatre where this was shown - the Dante - has very poor sound equipment, little of the dialogue could be understood, not even by an Italian companion. The film which deals with horse racing, was negative from a propaganda standpoint; however, it was not harmful either. Being a class B picture and ten years old into the bargain, its showing does nothing to enhance the prestige of American films.

"The Human Comedy"

A Sicilian woman went to the Olympia Cinema, Palermo, on 25 October to see "The Human Comedy", an American film with Italian sub-titles. The house was crowded, and the film seemed to appeal to the audience. Favourable comments were heard from the audience. The Sicilian woman remarked that American films were invariably superior to Italian productions. The film was excellent from a propaganda angle.

Mondo Libero newsreel No. 25 was shown. While interesting, it provoked no particular audience reaction.

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LOCAL CONDITIONS

21 The week in Tuscany. A P.W.B. officer writes:

At the present moment there are two entirely conflicting trends of opinion in Tuscany. The first is a very real appreciation of the technical achievements of the Allied Civil Administration. In Florence there are already effective supplies of electricity and water, and these services are gradually being re-established in other towns. In the city a limited number of private subscribers have had their telephones restored. Within a few weeks it is hoped that gas will be available for cooking to help out the limited supplies of fuel. The gas used will be Methane, which is drawn from natural resources and has to be specially treated before it is suitable for domestic use. It should be both cheap and effective and its use will economise considerable quantities of coal both now and in the future. It is also hoped that trains will be running shortly between Leghorn and Florence. Since the shortage of food in the towns is largely due to the lack of transport, this should bring considerable relief to a very anxious population.

On the other hand Tuscans are very much alarmed by the fact that so many ex-Fascists are employed in positions of trust in Allied offices. They cannot understand why so many officers are to be seen daily with people who compromised themselves, not only with the Fascists and Germans; but also with high ranking members of Mussolini's latest regime. This concern appears to be growing daily and may be a source of serious trouble.

The bad weather of the past week has undoubtedly increased the hardships of the population. With the increasing cold people who are living on limited rations may develop diseases and show signs of malnutrition.

Whilst the Industrialists of Tuscany are showing considerable initiative in trying to re-establish their works, the land-owning classes are notable for the apathy with which they view the poverty which surrounds them. Indeed it is to be hoped that the aristocracy, who have profited considerably from the rise in prices, will make some effort to help the poor of their country, and in particular the Partisans, who arrive from the occupied zone in many cases wearing only the shorts and singlets in which they have been fighting.

This problem of the Partisans is still far from solution. The Italian authorities concerned do not seem to have the means or the methods to assist these unfortunates, many of whom have sacrificed themselves in the fight against the Germans. Among these Partisans, however, are many people who are playing a purely political game, and have succeeded

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DESTRUCTION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF LORETO

During the night of 5/6 July, soon after the Poles had occupied Loreto, the Luftwaffe bombed the town with the obvious intention of destroying the famous Cathedral. The dome was set on fire, the internal wooden structure burned all night, melting the lead coverings. The raid lasted until 5 a.m., the Germans appearing to concentrate on the Cathedral and adjourning ecclesiastical buildings. The last bomb penetrated the dome, causing severe damage and destroying some of the frescoes inside. The damage is estimated at about 7-8 million lire.

The inhabitants and Polish troops, aided by the Bishop, Monsignor Melchiodi, worked hard to save as much as possible and to repair the damage. Difficulties of transport, materials and labour were overcome, largely owing to the Bishop's zeal: "I serve God by turning bricklayer," he said jokingly to the writer. New tiles, destined at one time for the replica of the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul at the World Exhibition, were sent from Rome, and petrol and transport permits were granted by the Allies.

The ground floor of the Bishop's Palace, which was formerly used for the sick during their pilgrimage to Loreto, at present houses about 100 refugees from the neighbouring districts. Their food is provided by the municipality and the Church.

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SITUATION AT CERVIA.

Partisan Activities.

Italian patriots, many of whom had worked in close liaison with the Allied forces further south, were largely responsible not only for the liberation of this Emilian town, but for the speed of the Allied advance northward.

The enemy, retreating along the coast Road, destroyed an important bridge across a drainage canal on the edge of the town and demolished buildings on the main square to form a road block. Hours before the first Allied troops appeared and, indeed, while partisan skirmishers were stalking German rear guards within the town itself; members of the local committee of liberation aided by dozens of the townspeople, set to work clearing away the road block. By the time the first Allied vehicles arrived the road was clear. Later a volunteer crew of citizens, directed by the Communal Engineer, Sig. Matteo Boccaccio, constructed a temporary bridge of heavy timbers replacing the span destroyed by the enemy. As a result, Allied tank and armoured cars were rumbling across the bridge in pursuit of the enemy only a few hours after the liberation of the town.

Allied officers were warm in their praise of the skill and courage with which the work was carried out.

Flooding by Retreating Germans.

Thousands of acres of rich farm land in the once prosperous commune were ruined for years to come when the Germans destroyed coastal flood gates turning the countryside into a vast, shallow lake. The gates demolished by the enemy were at the entrance of a canal used to carry seawater to the evaporation beds of the local salt refinery, one of the largest in Italy. Water is still pouring in at the rate of 1,000,000 litres an hour and since the canals to the north, which normally drain the area, are blocked by other demolitions, the inundated area is slowly growing in extent. Allied engineers have surveyed the problem, however, and it is hoped that the inflow will shortly be stopped by a temporary dyke.

Food Supplies.

On the brighter side of the picture, the food position of the commune is comparatively good. Besides 4,000 qintels of salt in store at the refinery, which will be welcome to the whole region, more than 1,500

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Food Supplies.

On the brighter side of the picture, the food position of the commune is comparatively good. Besides 4,000 quintals of salt in store at the refinery, which will be welcome to the whole region, more than 1,500 quintals of wheat is on hand. Milling facilities were, as usual, put out of action by the retreating enemy but in this case the actual machinery was not destroyed and with the installation of an emergency power-plant, within the next three or four days, milling will be resumed. In the meantime, citizens are drawing on a supply of 30 quintals of flour brought in by AMG shortly after the liberation of the town.

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TO	INIT	DATE
COL CHAPMAN		
COL YOUNG		
LT. COL WILCOX		
MAJ LUCKMAN		
MAJ WILSON		
MAJ HANBURY		
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS		
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Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy 16 November 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 42

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Appendix II Situation at Cervia

Explanation of Reliability Rating

Source (reliability)		Report	(probability)
A	always reliable	1	confirmed
B	usually reliable	2	probable
C	sometimes reliable	3	possible
D	frequently unreliable	4	doubtful
E	a bad source	5	improbable

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy 16 November 1944

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED No. 42

A. CURRENT EVENTS

1 Signor Orlando's Speech on Italian Armistice Day.

Vittorio Emanuele Orlando, former Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary, spoke on Saturday, 4th November, at the Teatro Quirino. The occasion of the speech was his inauguration as President of the Italian ex-Servicemen's Association on the anniversary of the armistice of the last Great War. The Teatro Quirino was full to capacity. Entrance ot the theatre was by reserved ticket only, and there were present officers of the Allied Commission and P.W.B. and many representatives of the Italian Gove nment, including Bonomi, Sforza, Nesse and De Gaspari. Benedetto Croce was also there.

The octogenarian statesman and well-known orator held the attention of his audience from beginning to end, playing with supreme skill on the human emotions. At one time he would address the assembled company, at another he would talk to some individual person known to him in the audience, and yet at other times he seemed to have forgotten the presence of the audience altogether and extemporized aloud to himself.

At the mention of Trieste the audience rose to its feet and clapped with prolonged enthusiasm, showing in no uncertain way its will to consider this town as part of Italy, not to be detached.

Monarchists at the end threw leaflets from the gallery, which created resentment and a minor commotion. Some people cried "All officers are fascists and traitors" at a handful of officers who were trying to make their way out in the crowd, and in the lobby a fight started between Monarchists and Republicans. Many people deplored such undignified behaviour and brought the fight to an end when some Allied officers approached. Both sides parted sullenly shouting "Viva l'Italia".

On good authority it is believed that Orlando applied for a

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On good authority it is believed that Orlando applied for a much larger theatre than the Quirino in which to hold his meeting but this was apparently met with the inflexible antagonism of the Mayor of Rome, Prince Doria Pamphili.

2 Interview-Article on the Luogotenente Generale in the "New York Times"

(a) Press Reactions and Party Opinions

Two Rome newspapers - the POPOLO (Christian Democrat) and ITALIA NUOVA (Monarchist) - published the text of the article written by Mr. H. Matthews after his interview with the Luogotenente. That ITALIA NUOVA should have emphasized this interview, given its monarchist sympathies, was not unexpected. More odd was its publication in the organ of the Christian Democrats - a party which, as was the case with the old Partito Popolare, has not taken a definite line one way or another with regard to the institutional question, on which its members are divided. 1739

Both papers commented on the article. The POPOLO, with its characteristic caution, regretted that the article should have

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appeared in a form which left unclear how much of the substance of it was the Luogotenente's own view and how much that of the "New York Times" correspondent: but it showed itself not antagonistic to the possibility of a plebiscite for or against the Monarchy which - according to Mr. Matthews - is the solution for the institutional question most approved by the best advisors of the Prince of Piedmont. It insisted at the same time, however, on the claims of the Constitutional Assembly which the New York Times' interview-statement minimized. ITALIA NUOVA, on the other hand, took a decided monarchist line and noted the similarities between the views ascribed to the Luogotenente and those which appeared in the speeches made by Signor Orlando and Signor Bonomi on Italian Armistice Day. According to this comment the Luogotenente had made, in this strangest of strange ways, a kind of "speech from the throne," and had indicated as his programme (1) a prebiscite on "the institutional question" (2) the revision of the 1848 Statuto by a Constituent Assembly, and (3) the establishment of a "democratic monarchy of a nordic type".

ITALIA NUOVA suggested that after the disastrous experience of a previous "interview" given by the Prince of Piedmont, without the approval of the Cabinet, which caused much indignation amongst the parties, that on this occasion the Government must have been fully aware of the Luogotenente's action. But this assertion was not born out by ITALIA LIBERA, which maintained that the Prince, in supporting a plebiscite on the institutional question - the most controversial point made in the original article - had ranged himself against the Constituent Assembly from whose sovereignty neither he nor his father would escape. In view of the serious political implications of the Prince's declarations the organ of the Action Party asked for a Government statement on the issue raised.

The declarations of the Lugotenente naturally provided ground for further press polemics and statements: from that of Croce in the RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE 5 November on behalf of the Liberals, to the accusation in the VOCE REPUBBLICANA that the Lugotenente was merely trying a manoevre to save the throne.

An official Government statement was issued on 7 November saying: "The Government, having seen declarations which derive from the account of an audience conceded by the Luogotenente to a journalist, reaffirms that the parties of which the Government is the emanation are the expression of the will and of the aspirations of the people struggling for its liberty; and reconfirms the solemn engagement to decide the institutional

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In a private conversation Dr. Ugo La Malfa, the prominent journalist who represents the less Left Wing tendency of the Part of Action and is closely in touch with members of the Italian Cabinet, said that he was certain that the Government as a whole was not informed of the Luogotenente's interview though Bonomi had, he thought, known of it. He did not think that the text of the original article would appear to Italian readers to give a particularly favourable impression of the Luogotenente, and he was rather surprised when it was suggested that the text might give a good impression of the Prince's capabilities to Anglo-Saxon readers. Dr. Gonella, the editor of the POPOLO, in a personal statement to a P.W.B. officer, denied that he had had any intention of particularly favouring the monarchists by publishing the text of the interview in his paper. The Luogotenente himself had said that there was only one Monarchist paper in Rome - viz.

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the ITALIA NUOVA - and this authoritative assertion should appease those who might be inclined to think that the POPOLO was monarchist in sympathy.

(b) Popular Reactions

The statements that appeared in the various newspapers have had a large echo in public opinion. It is necessary to take note that a large majority of the population now professes republican tendencies.

A Scholastic Professor of about 58 years said: The Monarchy is taking a fairly firm position against the actual Government which, by expression of the programmes of the six parties comprising it, is absolutely hostile to re-establishing the Monarchy in Italy. However, one must keep in account the more important factors represented by the Allies. Let us analyze the respective positions of these with regard to Italian politics.

(i) America, in my opinion, is not interested in our political problems because her aim is the cornering of the European market. It suffices for her to eliminate all dictates representing obstacles to her commercial system. On the other hand she is too far away to feel the necessity of interfering in political questions.

(ii) Russia wants an opening to the sea, and will have it in the Balkan states who will represent her zone of influence after the war. Therefore, Italy is only of relative interest to her being too far removed towards the West to be in her possible sphere of influence.

(iii) England. Here is the kernel of the situation. Great Britain has no interest in the formation in Europe of a European Confederation of States of republican character. The efforts she is making to win the war would be of no avail should she have to take part in the European Confederation. She, the conquering nation, would find herself in the same position of importance and power as Germany or Italy. What could be more absurd than this? Therefore, all of England's interest lie in reinforcing the throne of Savoy and in shipwrecking the cause of the Italian Republicans. We had proof of this when the Republican Party was excluded from the Government and the C.L.N.

Finally, if the Allies on arrival in Italy had not desired [illegible] they did not desire Fascism, they would have

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Finally, if the Allies on arrival in Italy had not desired the Monarchy, as they did not desire Fascism, they would have permitted the people to take care of this themselves, in which case by now the Government of republican character would be flourishing.

A tailor of about 56 years of age said: I have always hoped after the 8th September that one would hear no more of the aristocracy or privileged classes. I am beginning to see after what the Luogotenente said, that Italy will still have to suffer the monarchical system and the Carabinieri.

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B. GENERAL REPORTS

LABOUR

3 Tour of the Russian Trade Union Delegation in Southern Italy.

The Soviet Trade Union Delegation has finished its tour of Southern Italy and has returned to Rome. The defective communications prevented the Press of the Capital from getting news and from giving due importance to the ovations which greeted the Delegation, wherever it went.

The newspapers of the right wing were almost unanimously indifferent to the Russian Delegates' visit, not even mentioning their recent journey to Southern Italy. The "Unita" on the contrary has two articles, signed by the Onorevole Di Vittorio, about it, giving the first summary from his own personal experiences. He accompanied the Delegation on the greater part of the trip, with Colesanti of The Demo-Christian Syndical group. Di Vittorio states he was surprised at the "profound wave of sympathy, affectionate outbursts, unrestrained admiration" which drew large masses of people, in all the provinces visited, toward the U.S.S.R.

All the workers wanted to see, hear, and touch the Soviet Delegates. Thousands of proletarians, peasants, artisans, came miles on foot, on donkey-carts, on bicycles, to get to meet the Delegation. During all the trip, they waited patiently; under the rays of the autumn sun (like the 12,000 demonstrators of Severo and 15,000 of Corignola) or under the pouring rain like the 20,000 of Cosenza. The cars were surrounded by the crowds and the Delegates "pulled out and carried in triumph" at the risk of being crushed. "Compagno Taresov" rapidly became popular in the South and made the most of the triumphant welcome.

Di Vittorio points out the absolute unanimity "with which the masses manifested their admiration for the Soviets, the victorious Russian Army, their genial chief Comrade Stalin, each mention of whose name raised tempestuous and prolonged applause. All the Democratic authorities besides wished to receive the Delegation and express the gratitude of the Italian people for the great contribution of the U.S.S.R. to the cause of common liberation".

Some days the Soviet Delegates "were literally exhausted". Whereas 20 meetings had been arranged, there were 50 large conventions as at Taranto, at which, according to the "Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno" there were present about 30,000 followers. It is estimated that the Soviet delegates spoke directly to at least 250,000 Italian labourers in the course of these

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The Delegates showed a great and fine political sensitiveness, comprehending and underlining with applause, the necessity of maintaining at any price a solid Anglo-American-Soviet alliance in order to win the war and attain a just peace; therefore to redouble the efforts being made to speed the victorious ending. Any mention also by the delegates, of the generous terms made by Russia towards Rumania, Finland and Bulgaria were received with acclaim.

Di Vittorio concludes that the most evident result of the delegation's visit, is that the friendship not only between Italian and Soviet workers, but between the two peoples, has been strongly cemented. On the other hand, their presence in Italy has brought a notable contribution to the potentiality of syndical unity and has served further to cement the unity of the progressive and popular strength of the war of liberation.

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The fascist reac[illegible] which perhaps expected to find "a sort of Vendee" in the South, finds itself confronted with an organized popular mass hitherto unheard of in the South, which is firmly decided to defeat any attempt at a return to the past.

The "Italia Libera" in a "Salute to the Soviet" affirms the sincerotie of friendship binding the Italian people to the people of Russia which was shown during their visit to the Italian provinces. It asks that the delegation carry with it a message of Italian solidarity to the Russian combatants. The article desires to bring to the attention of the Great Soviet Union, the Italian will to fight for the creation of an effective democracy in which labour will be the determining factor, and affirms above all the belief in free and united Syndical Organisations.

4 Return to Rome - Mass Meeting at the Teatro Brancaccio.

On Sunday, November 5th, 15,000 workers attended the mass meeting at the Brancaccio theatre which climaxed the Soviet Labour Delegation's tour of Italy, and their return to Rome. Throughout the meeting applause and shouts interrupted the proceedings as the enthusiastic audience welcomed the Delegation.

Cesare Massini, Secretary of the Rome Camera del Lavoro, spoke of the genuine welcome extended the Soviet Delegates throughout Italy, and presented a bronze medal to the Delegates on behalf of the Camera.

Comrade Tessarov, head of the Soviet delegation, spoke through a translator of the good feelings that exist between the Russian and Italian workers, despite 20 years of fascist propaganda. The Soviet Delegation participated in more than 60 meetings with labour leaders and more than 20 meetings with large workers' audiences, thus making direct contact with more than 250,000 Italian workers. He extended an invitation on behalf of the Soviet Labour Unions to Italian Labour delegates to visit Russia, which was received with very great applause.

After a brief speech by Comrade Sciuplesov on the immense destruction in the Ukraine by the Germans, the meeting was brought to a close with short addressed by ... Grandi, Lizzadri, and Di Vittorio, representatives of the C.G.I.L., in which labour unity was affirmed as the strongest weapon against a recurrence of fascism. At the end of the meeting hundreds of workers pressed up on the stage to shake hands with the Soviet Delegates.

Trade Union Movement.

The invitation extended by the Russian delegation to the C.G.I.L. will strengthen C.G.I.L. in its contacts with labour organizations in the [illegible] (2 f)

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Trade Union Movement.

The invitation extended by the Russian delegation to the C.G.I.L. will strengthen C.G.I.L. in its contacts with labour organizations in the industrial north. (E.2)

In this connection it should be noted that in an order of the day of November 1st, the Action Party, which originally backed the C.G.L., reaffirms the unity of the Italian Trade Union movement, and expresses the hope that democratic methods will always prevail in the activities of the Confederation.

AGRICULTURE

5 Seizure of land by peasants

1730

(i) Memorandum of conversation held at Bracciano between Signor Castaldi, agent for estate of Prince Odescalchi and A.F.L.B. Officer.

Signor Castaldi works in the Amministrazione Principe Odescalchi at Bracciano under the Estate Agent, Ing. Vaccari, who was absent in Rome. He seemed a quiet, intelligent and reliable man of middle-age.

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Bracciano is a small agricultural town of about 8,000 inhabitants, made up mostly of day labourers, workmen, or small tradesmen. Its police force numbers about 30 Carabinieri, one-third of whom are usually on duty. The Commune comes within the Province of Rome, thus falling under the Rome Prefect for questions of law and order.

A Committee of Liberation exists on which all parties are represented, with the exception of the Democrazia del Lavoro. Signor Castaldi believed the Communists and Socialists formed the great majority of the people, though the Communist Party seemed badly organised and had no evident leaders. Next important were the Christian Democrats. Speakers from the various parties came down to Bracciano from time to time, and in their speeches often made extravagant promises about the distribution of land. The people were interested in these political speeches and went to hear them and were generally most influenced by the last speaker.

On the whole very little damage was done to Prince Odescalchi's property by the Germans. The wine distillery was wrecked, one cowhouse for fifty cows dynamited and one or two dwellings destroyed. Only about 20% of the livestock was carried off or killed. (120 cattle in 500). The Germans paid 7 lire a kilo (liveweight) for the animals they took, this being the controlled price. Later on they paid 15 lire a kilo.

The property of Prince Odescalchi at Bracciano consists (1) of 700 hectares divided into six farms let out on the Mezzadria system (whereby landlord and tenant share 50% of the produce), and (2) 600 hectares farmed directly by the Odescalchi administration. The same rotation of crops is practiced in both areas. Every year two-sixths is put under corn, one-sixth under vegetable and three-sixths to pasture.

On October 10th, 1944, approximately 500 men from the town of Bracciano and a fraction from Castelli, took possession of 350 hectares of land then under pasture. These men came neither from the farms nor from among the labourers on the estate, but were all members of the local Consorzio Agrario. The Consorzio Agrario is itself a big landowner, owning 7,000 hectares but according to Signor Castaldi it farms its lands in an uneconomic and primitive way. One half of the land is yearly ploughed for corn and the other lies fallow and is used for grazing. The utmost strain is therefore put on the land in the interests of corn production, and not sufficient time is given it to recover, nor are efforts made to grow fertilising crops such as potatoes or beans. The members of the Agrario intend getting the most out of the soil, with the least responsibility or labour, and thus eventually the land value of the entire estate deteriorates.

The Consorzio Agrario has about 2,000 members, mostly made up of day labourers, craftsmen, fishermen and small tradespeople. The land is held communally and divided up among them, each member getting a new strip of

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In contrast to this are the well cared for estates of Prince Odescalchi with forests, orchards, olives, vegetables, pasture and arable. Also in contrast are the 1,700 hectares ceded by Prince Odescalchi in 1921 in "enfiteosi" (or long lease with option to buy) to small holders and market gardeners. Here the tenant is interested in developing the soil, because he has a long-term policy in his plot of land, and aspirations to make it his own. Consequently the strips are planted with fruit trees, vines and

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olives, with vegetables and corn growing between. Signor Castaldi emphasized that it was those who were bad husbandmen belonging to the Consrozio Agrario who were the trouble makers. Their seizure of 350 hectares of pasture land meant that more corn would be grown for next year, but there was now insufficient pasture for Prince Odescalchi's livestock.

These same people moreover took 200 quintals of chestnuts which constituted the entire chestnut crop, and 30 quintals of olives. To prevent further thefts of the olive crop the Estate had decided to pick the olives while they were yet green, which meant that a considerable reduction in the quantity of olive oil was to be expected.

It is interesting to note that the Ministry of Agriculture sent down an Ispettore Agrario, Dr. Conti, to inspect the land at Bracciano, and this man pronounced no part of Prince Odescalchi's land as uncultivated. Consequently none was technically or legally liable to seizure. Moreover in Bassano, where Prince Odescalchi had another estate, the Carabinieri, under the Prefect of Viterbo, (and not of Rome as at Bracciano) took a definite stand and drove away the invaders on October 31st. No land therefore had been seized in that area.

(ii) Extracts from reports on conversation with Signor Giacomini and Signor De Domenico, as well as the agent of Prince Odescalchi's Estate - landowners - at Bracciano on Sunday, 5th November, 1944.

On the 16th October about forty people armed with machine-guns and hand grenades suddenly came to the estate of Signor Giacomini, near Bracciano, and warning the farmers to keep back if they wanted to save their lives, gathered the chestnuts. They declared that according to the ordinances of the Minister's Council, the land was theirs. (It seems that the day before, October 15th, in an open-air meeting held in the marketplace of Manziana, an orator had told the farmers that the proprietors no longer counted, that the land and its products were theirs.)

The next day the number of the demonstrators had increased to over 200. The Carabinieri, called from Manziana and Bracciano (5 in number) were powerless. This same violence was used in the olive groves.

The farmers are frightened that future crops will share the same fate and do not want to plough and sow the land.

It was the opinion of Signor Giacomini and De Domenico that the peasants had been encouraged to take this action by Communist agitators,

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It was the opinion of Signor Giacomini and De Domenico that the peasants had been encouraged to take this action by Communist agitators, well supplied with funds for propaganda, who had been placed in the villages by the Communist Party in Rome. Some former Fascists were probably encouraging the peasants in order to create trouble for the Allies and the new Italian Government so that the people would say that things were more settled under Fascism.

They said the Communists are the best organised party in the area and that they had funds "probably from Russia" but that the Christian Democrats had the largest following.

As for a solution there was little they could do without help. In Signor Giacomini's case, out of a population of 300 in his area only 40 people would support him. The police force - CC.RR. - was insufficient as

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there were only two Carabinieri in the district. They asked for some CC.RR. to be sent from Rome until the situation bettered, otherwise they were powerless to do anything. Furthermore although they know who was responsible, the CC.RR. in the nearby villages were supporting the peasants.

Owing to the lack of public security in the district, many peasants had not planted their crops this autumn for fear that they would be stolen by their neighbours. (E.3.)

6 Agricultural problems - Tuscany

Oil Harvest. The olive crop in Tuscany is exceptionally abundant this year. As most of the milling of the olives is done by electricity production will inevitably be difficult owing to lack of electrical power. The old ox-worked mills, wherever they still exist, will have to be put into action again.

Vintage. The grape harvest promised to be exceptionally abundant, but shortage of sulphate of copper has led to the spread of phylloxers; lack of crittogama has resulted in much of the crop being lost, while the remainder is of bad quality. Moreover troops, passing through and camping in vineyards, have consumed quantities of grapes, and for this reason also, the harvest is poorer than was expected. It is suggested that copper should be supplied to Italy as soon as possible so that, in future, vines may be treated with the usual copper dressing which saves them from disease.

Potatoes. The retreating Germans dug up most of the potatoes then ready for use, and the remainder of the crop is scanty. Nothing can be done about this, save to encourage and advise super-production for next season.

Fertilisers. The total lack of perphosphate has been felt in the production of wheat, beans and cereals in general, which are very scarce, and it is hoped that supplies will be available soon.

Almost all the factories, producing artificial and chemical manures such as nitrate of soda, potassium and sulphate of ammonia, have been destroyed by the Germans.

Farm Machinery. The problem of ploughing is a hard one, as the oxen were carried off by the Germans. The use of tractors is possible only in a few Tuscan districts owing to the conformation of the ground and the intensive cultivation of olive trees and vines in the land where wheat is sown. The necessity for naphtha and petrol must again be emphasized. Many of the existing tractors run on naphtha, and as yet none is available.

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Wages and labour. The very ancient system of mezzadria or share cropping has been dealt with in previous reports from the same source. It is considered the best for Italy. Some of the political parties aim at abolishing it.

The Communist and Socialist Parties and the Party of Action intend to expropriate the land without compensation and give it to the peasants.

The Party of Action's plan is to divide the land into farms, according to its nature and produce; then to divide those farms, among a certain number of families and have them administered by a state official. This looks well on paper, but it is held that to eliminate the owner's private initiative and his personal interest, would result in increased costs and reduced production.

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Land-owning peasants work little, their instinct being to produce merely family requirements and no more. There are many examples of peasants who, having bought their own farms, reduced production to such an extent as to be heavily in debt after a few years and obliged to sell out.

Occasional labourers are employed by Tuscan farmers for the breaking up of new ground and the general care of crops.

A level wage scale for farm labourers and others is suggested, in order to balance available labour.

It must be borne in mind that the farm labourer is at present in a very favourable position, as he receives part of his wage in kind, and so, in his case the terrible problem of feeding himself and his family, so pressing for others, is considerably eased.

The idea of revolution, everywhere rife, is hampering and preventing any regular and tranquil life. Unless the law is enforced and discipline maintained, production will decrease, revolution break out and disaster ensue. (B.3.)

EPURATION

7 Arrest of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno

Interest in this subject has been maintained this week by the arrests of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno; the dismissal of six generals of the Air Force, destitution of a further batch of senators, and the sequestration of the estates of Mussolini.

The two main trends of public reaction may be stated as follows: firstly that epuration is still too slow and not energetic enough; secondly that it does not start at a high enough level.

Surprise was generally expressed that it has taken all this time to confiscate the estates of Mussolini Ciano and Clara Petacci.

With regard to the epuration of the Senate, a student of Political Science, aged 22, complained that it was at once too slow and too mild. Destitution was not a sufficient punishment for offenders; they ought to be brought to trial. The people want a new Senate, elected by popular vote. A housewife of 45, a member of the Republican Party, thought "all Senators

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The Court Martial of Generals Negro, Basso and Castagno is awaited with some scepticism on the one hand and keen interest on the other, especially among soldiers who served under the two last-named in Sardinia. A student of letters aged 25, who had been an officer in Sardinia, ascribed the escape of the Germans there almost without loss to the treachery of the generals. At the same time he added that "orders should have come from Rome". A soldier aged 24, however, defended Basso and Castagno. He was certain that the trial would never take place, because if it did both the King and Badoglio would be implicated. If however, Basso were brought to trial he hoped that he would have full liberty to produce all the evidence in his defence, even if higher personalities should be incriminated. A clerk aged 50, little interested in party politics, said: "The trial of the generals will not take place, because the former Supreme Commander must not be implicated".

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Much the same reactions were produced by the announcement of the dismissal of high officers of the Air Force. A newsagent was inclined to think they were perhaps not really to blame; they may not have known what to do due to lack of leadership. After the Armistice Italian soldiers were fighting and beating the Germans at Montorotondo, Viterbo, San Paolo, Cecchignola etc. but when they learnud that the King and Badoglio had fled they were completely demoralized and all fighting ceased. He was very bitter against the House of Savoy and resented what he described as a fact that the Allies, especially England "are trying to impose the Monarchy on the Italian people".

6 Trial of General Martini and Rag. Pirisino

Further particulars of the trial of Fascist conspirators headed by General Martini, by the Military Tribunal of Cristano.

The trial of General Martini and 18 others accused of high treason by the Military Tribunal of Oristano has been going on since October 25th.

A large public including Allied authorities are present daily at the hearings.

The first to be interrogated was General Martini. He began by saying that family troubles in the north of Italy drove him to get into contact with a Petty Officer who was to take him there in an M.T.B. On the evening of the 3rd December, 1943, at Palau, at the moment of embarcation, he received from the person who accompanied him to the M.T.B. an iron tube containing the documents to which we referred in our previous report. Martini denies any knowledge of the individual who handed him the tube. When he was arrested Martini was searched and in his overcoat was found the papers and the iron tube. The latter contained a verbatim report of the secret meeting held at Sassari on the 7th September, 1943, on the reconstitution of the Republican Fascist Party in Sardinia, laying down an initial programme and assigning duties. There was also in the tube a message to the Secretary of the Republican Party. This message was signed by the 18 members of the Committee, who were at once arrested. (The President at this point stated that according to Professor Ascarra of Naples all the signatures were false excepting that of Rag. Pirisino which was genuine).

General Martini does not know who drew up the documents. He states that he only asked Rag. Pirisino to provide him with some documents of a fascist nature so that his trip to the mainland would be justified in the fascist nature so that his trip to the mainland would be justified in the [illegible] showing that he had achieved something

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The first to be interrogated was General Martini. He began by saying that family troubles in the north of Italy drove him to get into contact with a Petty Officer who was to take him there in an M.T.B. On the evening of the 3rd December, 1943, at Palau, at the moment of embarcation, he received from the person who accompanied him to the M.T.B. an iron tube containing the documents to which we referred in our previous report. Martini denies any knowledge of the individual who handed him the tube. When he was arrested Martini was searched and in his overcoat was found the papers and the iron tube. The latter contained a verbatim report of the secret meeting held at Sassari on the 7th September, 1943, on the reconstituion of the Republican Fascist Party in Sardinia, laying down an initial programme and assigning duties. There was also in the tube a message to the Secretary of the Republican Party. This message was signed by the 18 members of the Committee, who were at once arrested. (The President at this point stated that according to Professor Alcamura of Naples all the signatures were false excepting that of Rag. Pirisino which was genuine).

General Martini does not know who drew up the documents. He states that he only asked Rag. Pirisino to provide him with some documents of a fascist nature so that his trip to the mainland would be justified in the eyes of the Republican Government showing that he had achieved something in Sardinia. General Martini stated that these documents were also necessary to him as he had fought against the Germans in Corsica and he therefore feared reprisals on the part of Mussolini's Government. He added further that he was never in contact with the Fascists, whom the Judge said met at Sassari, because on that date he was in Corsica. He stated besides that the notes on the ex-militia troops, found on him when he was searched, were office notes.

In fact General Martini denied any participation in the plot, in spite of the many inconsistencies which the President revealed.

The second day of the trial opened with the interrogation of Rag. Pirisino, who, next to General Martini, is the chief figure in the conspiracy.

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Rag. Pirisino systematically denied any connection with the matter particularly participation in the meeting on the 13th September, 1943. He also denied that there was a meeting to found a Fascist Committee in Sardinia. He confessed to having received the iron tube containing the documents from an unknown person by means of a clerk in his office. He denied having signed any manifesto or appeal and said that his signature is deposited in the Bank and therefore, according to him, cannot be forged. (The President again observed that Professor Ottenura had stated that Pirisino's signature was genuine.) Thus after three hours' interrogation Pirisino returned to the bench of the accused.

On the days following the Court interrogated the others accused, who denied any knowledge of the matter as did General Martini and Pirisino.

The Court will move in a few days from Oristano to Corsica in order to interrogate a witness (the same who accompanied General Martini in the M.T.B. in order to confirm several new factors which resulted from the interrogations. For the moment it is impossible to see the outcome. The most astute lawyers from Cagliari, Oristano and Sassari are defending the accused.

The public have no great interest in the proceedings. Although most of the accused are well known in Sardinia for their high Fascist positions, the slowness of the proceedings has made the majority of the public suspect some trickery to minimize the importance and seriousness of the crime. There is a great deal of talk regarding the release of the most important among the accused, namely Offedda, Maccari and Chiama. (B.4.)

9 Protest against the Prefect of Florence (Marchese Paterno)

The following is a translation of a small poster affixed to the walls in Florence on Sunday, 29th October, 1944.

"AWAY WITH THE FASCIST PREFECT OF FLORENCE.

While the Florentines were enduring all kinds of privations and facing death during the tragic days of the emergency period, and while partisans and patriots were sacrificing their lives for the liberation of the city, Marchese Paterno, new Prefect of Florence, was probably living in some comfortable Hotel in Rome or on his Sicilian estates.

Now, when the war with its risks and dangers is far removed from our city, the new Prefect has come to Florence with the intention of re-establishing order, which, according to him, is jeopardised by the new

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The following is a translation of a small poster affixed to the walls in Florence on Sunday, 29th October, 1944.

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While the Florentines were enduring all kinds of privations and facing death during the tragic days of the emergency period, and while partisans and patriots were sacrificing their lives for the liberation of the city, Marchese Paterno, now Prefect of Florence, was probably living in some comfortable Hotel in Rome or on his Sicilian estates.

Now, when the war with its risks and dangers is far removed from our city, the new Prefect has come to Florence with the intention of re-establishing order, which, according to him, is jeopardised by the new democratic institutions of the city.

Naturally his first business on arrival was to reinstate civil officials who, until the day of the liberation, had been zealous servants of the Germans and of Mangeniello, such as Comm. Gigli, notorious carcerist and the ex-vice-Prefect De Francisci, the vice-podesta during the Nazi occupation of our city.

It is natural that the Prefect Paterno's first contacts should have been with well-known Fascist Republicans and informers of the S.S., such as Dr. Torrini, in whose house he was a welcome guest as soon as he arrived in Florence and for whom he secured immunity together with car permit to travel freely.

It is also natural that the Prefect Paterno, should immediately manifest a keen antipathy towards the C.T.L.N. ordering all officials of

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the Prefecture to break off any relations with the Committee and to suspend the work of the Commission of Epuration; also that he should boycott all the democratic organizations which had arisen out of the C.T.L.N. which worked for the liberation of our city from the nazi-fascist oppression and was the genuine expression of the will of the people of Florence.

The Florentine people cannot tolerate that this prefect should be issuing orders, like a little Duce, for the return to squadristi and republicans of premises which local organizations had requisitioned for the homeless.

Neither can the Florentines tolerate that, to the many calamities brought upon them by Fascism, should be added the shame of having a Fascist Prefect, a reactionary and enemy of the people.

The Florentine people want and demand epuration and first of all that of Marchese Paterno, actual Fascist Prefect of Florence.

The people of Florence."

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POLITICAL

10 Interview with Dr. Grilli, Communist Leader, by a P.W.B. official

The Communist leader Dr. Grilli has been in Sardinia for some days and has visited Cagliari and Iglesia. As delegate of the Italian General Confederation of Labour he is interested in forming a Chamber of Labour. He has presided over numerous reunions of the Communist Party and took part in the Christian Democrat Party reunion. He also wrote articles for the newspapers.

Dr. Grilli when interviewed, stated that he had found, especially at Iglesia, conditions of semi-starvation and an almost total lack of shoes and clothing.

He stated that reactionary groups still dominated in many communities of the island. The people want to get rid of these groups but they lack precise political directives so that their efforts more often than not do more harm than good. The press could do much to enlighten the people but paper shortage is such that only very few newspapers are on sale in the larger towns.

Grilli added that it is essential to open communications with continental Italy. There are ships in Sardinian ports, he said, which could be used to carry salt to Italy, especially to Rome, where salt costs 400 lire a kg. Cork and other products could be exported and sulphur, wine and other products available in Italy and not in Sicily imported. A safe route could be arranged and some of the Italian seamen now in the service of the Allies employed.

He found the Sardinian Communist Party functioning normally. It is endeavouring to get the workers to join in the Allies' war effort and to prevent them, notwithstanding their wretched conditions, from making demonstrations. It must be stressed, however, that the position of the workers' is very serious indeed and that urgent measures must be taken for their relief.

As to the recent discussions in the papers on freeing the market, Grilli stated that it would only be an advantage if wages were increased to meet the higher cost of living which would result. A free market is practicable when there are enough commercial products, but when goods are in short supply only people with money can buy which means that the working man has to go without.

INTERIOR

11 The Carabinieri Reali

The continued public discontent with the police services has

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INTERIOR

11 The Carabinieri Reali

The continued public discontent with the police services has been focussed of late on the Carabinieri. A proclamation issued by the commander of this force, General Taddeo Orlando, appears to have awakened public interest.

This proclamation was attacked by various newspapers notably "Unita" and "Italia Libera", on the grounds that it was not in harmony with the traditional apolitical character of the force. General Orlando replied with a second proclamation calling this very tradition to the attention of all ranks.

The grievances against the Carabinieri are of various natures. The most general is that whatever their claims, the Carabinieri cannot by their very constitution and tradition be apolitical at a time when the institutional question is being raised. They are generally regarded as the servants of the monarchy.

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Accessory causes of this unpopularity are: alleged inefficiency:

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use of the carabinieri to arrest young men who have failed to answer the recent call to the colours.

The charge of inefficiency is admitted even by some members of the service. One carabiniere said: "So long as I know that my family has not enough to eat my principal preoccupation will be their welfare, to the exclusion of all else including duty".

It is interesting to note the warm welcome given by the press to the recently instituted night-patrol of the city by Allied military police, using 16 vehicles, for the protection of the public.

12 New Prefect of Catania - Commendatore Giammichele

The new Prefect of Catania, Comm. Giammichele, formerly Prefect of Crosseto and who now at the Ministry of the Interior, was to have arrived in Catania at the end of October. Owing to the incidents at Palermo, however, he came earlier.

Comm. Giammichele is a career prefect and his appointment to Catania means the dismissal of Prefect Avv. Fazio, a politician who was appointed Prefect by Amgot on the advice of the Archbishop of Catania.

With the arrival of the new prefect a complete reorganization of Italian bureaucratic institutions is evisaged, to enable suburban offices to contribute efficiently to the central government.

The new prefect finds himself between two fires: on the one hand the heads of the Liberation Committee who wish to eliminate all ex-fascists, and on the other, the ex-fascists themselves who not only have no inclination to leave out intend to use the new atmosphere of freedom to make fresh positions for themselves and keep the upper hand.

There is much speculation as to how the new prefect will cope with the situation.

B.2.

13 Sicilian Bandit Captured

There was much interest in the news that on the 23rd October Giuseppe Russo, head of one of the main armed bands of brigands

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Russo's father was killed and he swore a vendetta against the murderer. Later he killed four members of the family in question. For some months the band had been terrorizing Adrano and the neighboring countryside.

Trudu Italo, a deserter from the Sabauda Division, was arrested at the same time, and several local persons who had given shelter to the brigand.

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PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

14 Proposed Delegation of Authority to Italians

In keeping with the speed-up tendency in Allied policy to consign more authority and responsibility to the Italian Government, PWB and APB this week got busy. They put up a suggestion to AFHQ to delegate additional powers to the Italian Press Commission. Those additional powers have been summarized as authority to ratify newspaper licenses in territory under Italian jurisdiction without reference to APB. APB, however, would retain power to revoke or suspend licenses on the demand of the Allied authorities. This suggestion (which means an amendment of Order 8) is now being put through A.C. en route for AFHQ.

15 U.S. Elections

A large window-map of the U.S. showing the States in the propaganda-shop in Largo Tritone in Rome was a centre of attraction several days before it was used to show the progress of the voting. Crowds stood in front of the blank map apparently absorbed in contemplation of the mere shape of that land of free democratic elections and material plenty. It was, therefore, doubly unfortunate that owing to the accidental breaking of an adjoining show-case, the associated display, illustrating the method of voting by secret ballot, had to be removed to a less prominent position.

The posting of the election returns was followed by a large crowd with the keenest interest and some envy. The re-election of Roosevelt was welcomed by all.

Some comments from the crowd:

.. haberdasher: "This will shorten the war".

.. radio-operator and a surveyor: "There should be a United States in Europe on the American pattern".

.. surveyor: "Italy, unlike America, is not rich enough for democracy. You Americans have leisure in which to study. Here the people will follow any leader who promises them bread".

16 Reception of Publications and Shortage of Newsprint in Sardinia

Publications. Interest of the Sards toward our publications [illegible] "Mondo Libero" and the novels

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Publications. Interest of the Sards toward our publications has considerably increased. "Victory", "Mondo Libero" and the novels are best-sellers. In view of this, the number of publications we get is definitely insufficient to cover our needs. Most booklets are sold out in a few days in Cagliari and Sassari, and never get to the other regions of the Island, such as Oristano, Nuoro, Iglesias, Carbonia, etc. Three or four times the amount of publications now received could be disposed of. Furthermore, it would be appreciated if the intervals between one shipment of booklets and another were shorter.

Newspapers. Toward the end of the month the newsprint situation became extremely critical and both newspapers of the Island were contemplating closing down on November 1st, but Lt. Canepa, from the Press Committee, flew to Naples and came back with three tons of newsprint to meet the immediate needs of the papers. The newsprint was distributed as follows: 1½ tons to the Cagliari "Unione Sarda", 1 ton to the Sassari daily "Isola", and ½ ton to the Sassari PWB backed weekly "Riscossa". All three papers were warned to use the newsprint with the utmost economy until further supplies arrived from Naples. The utmost importance of regular and sufficient

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shipments of newsprint to the Island cannot be too greatly stressed. "Unione Sarda" was lately compelled to cut down its copies from 30,000 to 15,000 and it is reasonable to expect that the papers will be sold on the black market while this situation lasts. Several political weeklies which have been authorized by the Press Commission await the arrival of newsprint in order to start publication. In general this newsprint question causes great dissatisfaction and criticism. It was pointed out that it should be possible for the Allies to send more paper to Sardinia since in Rome there is enough newsprint to feed 60 newspapers.

Cinema

17 Rome

"Tom, Dick and Harry" at the Splendore cinema, 3 November 1944.

The cinema was crowded; the audience consisted of one third soldiers and the rest was an average Italian audience with a preponderance of women. The film was very much liked by everyone, especially women, as it was easy to follow.

Roman audiences enjoy this type of film and would gladly see more of them.

The news-reel was "Notizie del Mondo Libero". It would have been better if in a scene showing epuration proceedings in France the words "Come in Italia" (as in Italy) had not been used, as the audience laughed when they heard this as they know how slowly epuration is proceeding here.

The public is always eager to see more of domestic and national life in England and America.

18 Naples

"Gli Angeli Del Mare"

This is the first new American film to be shown in Naples which has been sound-tracked in Italian instead of being spoken in English with Italian sub-titles. It was shown at the cinema S. Lucia, Naples for the first time on 6 November. The cinema was packed, most of the audience being young people.

This was a simple story of the [illegible] triangel and some of the scenes were hardly credible but the acting of Francis Dee, Randolf Scott and Ralph Bellamy was greatly appreciated. To sum

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B.2.

19 Bari

"Il Diavolo va in Collegio" (The Devil Goes to Boarding School)
New Italian film, produced by Minerva Films with Lilia Silva and Leonard Cortest and shown at Bari.

The cinema was crowded for the most part by middle-class Italians, factory workers and Italian soldiers. There were also some English and American forces present. During the film there were frequent outbursts of applause. The film, skilfully directed and well-acted in a lively way can hold its own with any of the much lauded American productions. The plot is slight but has been cleverly handled. The luxurious sets are in good taste and do not give offence as is sometimes the case with overseas films. The music is light and melodious.

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Public Opinion

"I prefer light comedies such as this to heavy handed Allied propaganda. The Anglo-Americans have an almost German persistence and they thrust productions on us which are the complete opposite to what we want". - An Employee.

"I dont want to criticise what has been shown to us up to now. I only want to express my opinion freely on this film. I like it. It is just to my taste". - An Italian Soldier.

"After a hard day it is really amusing to see such a film". - A Merchant.

It should interest those who choose films for Italian audiences that this film is extremely popular. It is the type of film which appeals to Italians. Also, the resumption of film-production by the Italians is a matter of urgency, especially in view of the number of unemployed of this industry.

20 Sicily - Reactions to American Films in Palermo

"Convoglio verso l'Ignoto" (Action in the North Atlantic)

Mr. R. J. Frantz went to the Teatro Cinema Biondo with a Sicilian friend on the first night this Warner Bros. film was shown. Herewith information according to Film Sections' questionnaire:

(i) The theatre was filled, and some people were standing at the rear of the house. The audience was very mixed, comprising some persons of obviously good circumstances, others apparently unemployed, a fair percentage of Italian soldiers, sailors and carabinieri. The largest single class seemed to be young men between the ages of 16 and 24. Men far outnumbered women in the audience. The previous night Mr. Frantz went to the same cinema to see "Il Figlio Conteso", a Swedish film, well produced and with a sympathetic subject. On that night there were very few people in the theatre, perhaps partly because the film had been shown for a week. However, it seems obvious that the mere announcement of an American film is sufficient to pack the theatre.

(ii) Audience reaction was very noticeable when submarines were seen gliding under water to attack the convoy; there were gasps of apprehension and much excitement when torpedoes struck the merchant ships; there were exclamations of satisfaction when the

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(ii) Audience reaction was very noticeable when submarines were seen gliding under water to attack the convoy; there were gasps of apprehension and much excitement when torpedoes struck the merchant ships; there were exclamations of satisfaction when the submarines were in their turn destroyed, and also when attacking planes were shot down. Chief excitement occurred when the most relentless of the submarines was finally rammed by the merchant ship it was pursuing, and this created obvious satisfaction, though there was no cheering or clapping. Scenes showing the burial of merchant seamen at sea were watched in respectful silence. The few love scenes were greeted with vulgar comments by the younger element in the audience, but these in turn brought hisses from the others.

(iii) The entire film is excellent for impressing on Italians the war effort of the Allies. It is especially important for Sicily where there has been too much of a tendency to depend on the Allies for help of all kinds. This film should make Sicilians realize the risks involved in transporting merchandise across submarine-infested seas.

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(iv) The film is an excellent presentation of American courage and the unselfishness of the unsung heroes of the merchant marine. Scenes of the captain's home life also give a good

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impression of America.

(v) Technical quality is excellent.

(vi) Nothing in this particular film to point out to Italians the way to rehabilitate their own country, unless it is the portrayal of the willingness of Americans to risk their lives in the interests of greater liberty for the world.

A Sicilian friend who attended the film remarked that American films are usually superior to Italian productions. This particular film has an English sound track and Italian sub-titles, but lack of Italian conversation did not seem to distract one bit from the spectators' enjoyment. The sub-titles were well done, and some of the humorous dialogue of the sailors brought hearty laughter.

"Strictly Confidential" (An old American film with dubbed Italian dialogue)

Due to the fact that the theatre where this was shown - the Dante - has very poor sound equipment, little of the dialogue could be understood, not even by an Italian companion. The film which deals with horse racing, was negative from a propaganda standpoint; however, it was not harmful either. Being a class B picture and ten years old into the bargain, its showing does nothing to enhance the prestige of American films.

"The Human Comedy".

A Sicilian woman went to the Olympia Cinema, Palermo, on 23 October to see "The Human Comedy", an American film with Italian sub-titles. The house was crowded, and the film seemed to appeal to the audience. Favourable comments were heard from the audience. The Sicilian woman remarked that American films were invariably superior to Italian productions. The film was excellent from a propaganda angle.

Mondo Libero newsreel No. 25 was shown. While interesting, it provoked no particular audience reaction.

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(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only)

LOCAL CONDITIONS

21 The week in Tuscany. A P.W.B. officer writes:

At the present moment there are two entirely conflicting trends of opinion in Tuscany. The first is a very real appreciation of the technical achievements of the Allied Civil Administration. In Florence there are already effective supplies of electricity and water, and these services are gradually being re-established in other towns. In the city a limited number of private subscribers have had their telephones restored. Within a few weeks it is hoped that gas will be available for cooking to help out the limited supplies of fuel. The gas used will be Methane, which is drawn from natural resources and has to be specially treated before it is suitable for domestic use. It should be both cheap and effective and its use will economise considerable quantities of coal both now and in the future. It is also hoped that trains will be running shortly between Leghorn and Florence. Since the shortage of food in the towns is largely due to the lack of transport, this should bring considerable relief to a very anxious population.

On the other hand Tuscans are very much alarmed by the fact that so many ex-Fascists are employed in positions of trust in Allied offices. They cannot understand why so many officers are to be seen daily with people who compromised themselves, not only with the Fascists and Germans; but also with high ranking members of Mussolini's latest regime. This concern appears to be growing daily and may be a source of serious trouble.

The bad weather of the past week has undoubtedly increased the hardships of the population. With the increasing cold people who are living on limited rations may develop diseases and show signs of malnutrition.

Whilst the Industrialists of Tuscany are showing considerable initiative in trying to re-establish their works, the land-owning classes are notable for the apathy with which they view the poverty which surrounds them. Indeed it is to be hoped that the aristocracy, who have profited considerably from the rise in prices, will make some effort to help the poor of their country, and in particular the Partisans, who arrive from the occupied zone in many cases wearing only the shorts and singlets in which they have been fighting.

This problem of the Partisans is still far from solution. The Italian authorities concerned do not seem to have the means or the methods to assist these unfortunates, many of whom have sacrificed themselves in the fight against the Germans. Among these Partisans, however, are many people who are playing a purely political game, and have succeeded

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the city a limited number of private subscribers have had their telephones restored. Within a few weeks it is hoped that gas will be available for cooking to help out the limited supplies of fuel. The gas used will be Methane, which is drawn from natural resources and has to be specially treated before it is suitable for domestic use. It should be both cheap and effective and its use will economise considerable quantities of coal both now and in the future. It is also hoped that trains will be running shortly between Leghorn and Florence. Since the shortage of food in the towns is largely due to the lack of transport, this should bring considerable relief to a very anxious population.

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DESTRUCTION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF LORETO

During the night of 5/6 July, soon after the Poles had occupied Loreto, the Luftwaffe bombed the town with the obvious intention of destroying the famous Cathedral. The dome was set on fire, the internal wooden structure burned all night, melting the lead coverings. The raid lasted until 5 a.m., the Germans appearing to concentrate on the Cathedral and adjourning ecclesiastical buildings. The last bomb penetrated the dome, causing severe damage and destroying some of the frescoes inside. The damage is estimated at about 7-8 million lire.

The inhabitants and Polish troops, aided by the Bishop, Monsignor Malchiodi, worked hard to save as much as possible and to repair the damage. Difficulties of transport, materials and labour were overcome, largely owing to the Bishop's zeal: "I serve God by turning bricklayer," he said jokingly to the writer. Now tiles, destined at one time for the replica of the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul at the World Exhibition, were sent from Rome, and petrol and transport permits were granted by the Allies.

The ground floor of the Bishop's Palace, which was formerly used for the sick during their pilgrimage to Loreto, at present houses about 100 refugees from the neighbouring districts. Their food is provided by the municipality and the Church.

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SITUATION AT CERVIA.

Partisan Activities.

Italian patriots, many of them had worked in close liaison with the Allied forces further south, were largely responsible not only for the liberation of this Emilian town, but for the speed of the Allied advance northward.

The enemy, retreating along the coast Road, destroyed an important bridge across a drainage canal on the edge of the town and demolished buildings on the main square to form a road block. Hours before the first Allied troops appeared and, indeed, while partisan skirmishers were stalking German rear guards within the town itself, members of the local committee of liberation aided by dozens of the townspeople, set to work clearing away the road block. By the time the first Allied vehicles arrived the road was clear. Later a volunteer crew of citizens, directed by the Communal Engineer, Sig. Matteo Facaccia, constructed a temporary bridge of heavy timbers replacing the span destroyed by the enemy. As a result, Allied tank and armoured cars were rumbling across the bridge in pursuit of the enemy only a few hours after the liberation of the town.

Allied officers were warm in their praise of the skill and courage with which the work was carried out.

Flooding by Retreating Germans.

Thousands of acres of rich farm land in the once prosperous commune were ruined for years to come when the Germans destroyed coastal flood gates turning the countryside into a vast, shallow lake. The gates demolished by the enemy were at the entrance of a canal used to carry seawater to the evaporation beds of the local salt refinery, one of the largest in Italy. Water is still pouring in at the rate of 1,000,000 litres an hour and since the canals to the north, which normally drain the area, are blocked by other demolitions, the inundated area is slowly growing in extent. Allied engineers have surveyed the problem, however, and it is hoped that the inflow will shortly be stopped by a temporary dyke.

Food Supplies

On the brighter side of the picture, the food position of the commune is comparatively good. Besides 4,000 quintals of salt in store at the refinery, which will be welcome to the whole region, more than 1,500

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On the brighter side of the picture, the food position of the commune is comparatively good. Besides 4,000 quintals of salt in store at the refinery, which will be welcome to the whole region, more than 1,500 quintals of wheat is on hand. Milling facilities were, as usual, put out of action by the retreating enemy but in this case the actual machinery was not destroyed and with the installation of an emergency power plant, within the next three or four days, milling will be resumed. In the meantime, citizens are drawing on a supply of 30 quintals of flour brought in by AMG shortly after the liberation of the town.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy 9 November 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 41

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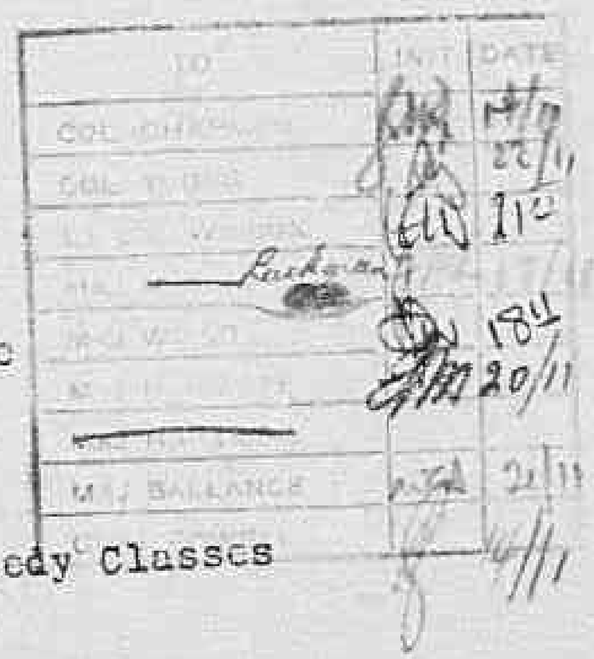

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Explanation of Reliability Rating

Source	(reliability)
A	always reliable
B	usually reliable
C	sometimes reliable
D	frequently unreliable
E	a bad source

Report	(probability)
1	confirmed
2	probable
3	possible
4	doubtful
5	improbable

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NO. 41.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit N.. 12 APO 512

Central D Section Liberated Italy November 9, 1944.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 41

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PART II ANNEXES

A - CURRENT EVENTS

1 Exchange of Ambassadors - Press Reactions

The most important news of the week was the announcement of the forthcoming "exchange of Ambassadors" with London, Washington and Moscow, and the restoration of diplomatic relations with all the Latin American republics.

Press comment was naturally favorable and showed every sign of pleasure even if in several of the more critical newspapers -- especially those of the left -- optimism was tempered by some feelings of hesitation about the anomalies which still exist in Allied policy towards Italy. In addition several Rome papers recently have been devoting some space to the question of epuration in the Italian diplomatic service -- perhaps the most thorough criticism on this point has appeared in the ITALIA LIBERA, organ of the Action Party -- and the future of career diplomats is obviously a preoccupation now that the time has come for nominating personnel for embassy staffs abroad.

AVANTI (Socialist) as often happens, was amongst the most outspoken in its doubts about the reality of Allied favors and struck a a warning note in the general expressions of optimism. "This graduation in recognition", it said, " is making the international juridical state of Italy a political and juridical monstrosity... It is time the Allies determined clearly the position of Italy. The Italian people needs to know if it is considered as a friend or as an enemy, if the Allied army present on its soil is an army of liberation or of occupation; if its statute is that of a free people or of one under control. To these questions can only be received one answer: the declaration that the armistice is obsolete, and the recog-

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B. GENERAL REPORTS

EPURATION

2 "Against the Senate and the Constitution" - Resumé of Pamphlet by SENEX.

The following is a summary of an anonymous pamphlet which has been privately circulated and has received a wide distribution especially in conservative, liberal and monarchist circles:

Epuration of Fascist criminals is a vital necessity for Italy today. How is it to be carried out? By legal and constitutional means. In the case of Senators these means are laid down in the Stat-

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ute of the Kingdom of 1848, which states that Senators cannot be arrested or accused without the authorization of the Senate and that they are to be tried by a High Court constituted by the Senate itself.

In the present case however, all the relative provisions of the Statute are violated. The Statute forbids the creation of Special Courts or Extraordinary Commissions; the BONOMI government appoints Count SFORZA High Commissioner by a decree of the Lieutenant-General which is ipso-facto unconstitutional. The Statute (art. 26) forbids "Arrest and judgment except in the cases provided by law and in the forms legally determined;" and declares (art. 71) that no one "can be deprived of the right of judgment by his peers (giudici naturali)". The peers of Senators are the Senate constituted as the High Court -- the High Court as determined by the Statute: 15 Senators forming the Committee of Instruction and 60 the Tribunal. Under the present procedure one Senator - Count SFORZA - arrogates to himself the functions of the Committee; and instead of 60 Senators it is proposed to constitute a Tribunal of 9 members, 5 of whom have no better claim to sit on it than that of representatives of the Parties.

It cannot be objected either that a sufficient number of unbiassed Senators could not be found. Count SFORZA himself has publicly exculpated 111.

This illegally constituted High Court proposes furthermore to apply illegal procedure. Laws are to be made retrospective. In ROME itself the principle "where there is no law there can be no crime" is to be set aside. Secondly, the so-called High Court is to have power to judge Senators on their speeches and votes in the Senate, a flagrant breach of the right of freedom of speech and also of art. 51 of the Statute, which declares that "Senators are not subject to criticism for the opinions they express and the votes they cast in the House". But for that principle, upheld in the Senate itself in the teeth of Mussolini, SFORZA would long since have been judged and expelled from the Senate.

The Special Tribunal and the setting aside of the Statute constitute a grave usurpation of judiciary powers by the executive and pave the way for totalitarianism. Moreover, they strike at the roots of the Constitution, which the BONOMI Government undertook to preserve. As is recognized in the Constitution of the USA, it is the duty of the

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Epuration? Of whom, and by what means? Legal action means the epuration of rogues; arbitrary action, the epuration of honest men. Count SFORZA has chosen -- to strike the honest men.

The BONOMI Government must now choose:

a) To pursue a serious, constructive policy of true national union as a constitutional government, without collaboration of the subversive parties, which should go into opposition; or

b) To throw off the mask and continue openly its present policy as a dictatorial, revolutionary régime.

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3. Postponement of Trial of Generals Pentimalli and Del Tetto

The following is a memorandum of a conversation between a PWB officer and a member of the Commission for Fascist Crimes on the trial of the Generals Del Tetto and Pentimalli.

A magistrate, who is a member of the Commission for Fascist Crimes, told a PWB Officer that a great deal of opposition to the trials of these Generals was to be expected from high quarters in the Italian Army. Marshal Messe had been against holding the trial but the Commission had decided to carry on with it in spite of him.

The magistrate thought that right wing circles, monarchists and the army were fully aware of the issue at stake. The two generals ought unquestionably to be shot, but this would only be the beginning as many other persons, even those in the highest positions, had behaved as badly. Consequently the accusations and legal proceedings might go "up and up."

To some extent the trial of the Generals is also a trial of strength between the Left and the Right and the question as to whether it takes place or not and if so in what circumstances, attains a special significance. There appears to be some ground for thinking that the two generals have turned against one another and that if General Del Tetto is incriminated he will leave damning evidence to incriminate many others.

4. Reactions to the Trial Postponement

A Left Wing source considered this postponement "another" Allied blunder, and a victory for reactionary forces. Comparing the rate of epuration in Italy with that attained in France, he blamed the Allies for protecting Right Wing interests. (B-3)

A retired business man, well educated, and a great admirer of Don Sturzo, expressed the opinion that the King and Badoglio should be brought to trial first. When the Germans occupied Rome several Italian divisions stood around doing nothing for lack of orders. The blame attaches to those who should have issued these orders. The blame attaches to those who should have issued these orders. The epuration is being held up by the Allies; in fact all real power

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5. Forthcoming Trial of General Martini, before the Military Tribunal at Oristano, Sardinia

The trial of General Martini and 18 others accused of high

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treason and Nazi-Fascist complicity will take place before the Military Tribunal on the 25th of this month at Oristano. The facts which led to the arrest of the band headed by General Martini, took place at Sassari, and the Sardinians learned the details of the plot (though confused and vague) with great interest.

The 18 involved are all ex-gerarchi of the Fascist Party who attempted to set up a committee of the Republican Fascist Party in Sardinia. Amongst these were Lt. Col. Felice Chiama, Doctor Martino Offeddù, Rag. Giovanni Pirisino, Doctor Gino Demartis, Lt.Col. Luigi Pensa, Major Gustavo Scanu of the Militia, Major Francesco Bertolotti, Maria Giua, Doctor Antonio Maccari (former Federal Secretary for Sassari), Lt. Dario Lai, Lt. Emanuele Tola, Raffaele Morelli, 2nd Lt. Livio Matze, 1st Lt. Giovanni Mannatzu, Vittore Sabino, Antonio Cau, Guglielmo Loru, and Giovanni Sechi.

The situation devoloped on the evening of the 18th September, 1943, when at a secret meeting the conspirators decided to get into contact with the Republican Fascist Party and to organize action and sabotage squads while waiting for arms to be supplied to them by the Germans. General Martini decided to leave in order to get into contact with the Secretary of the Fascist Party while Rag. Pirisino undertook to procure him the means of crossing over to the peninsula.

Rag. Pirisino got in touch with a Petty Officer to whom he offered the sum of 35,000 lire. The Petty Officer however informed the Police and on the 3rd December General Martini, aboard an M.T.B., thinking he had succeeded in his plans, was taken by surprise and arrested, together with all his band, by agents of the Police and Carabinieri disguised as sailors. In General Martini's mackintosh was found an iron tube containing the text of the famous meeting of 18th September, a secret cypher for radio transmission and an appeal, written in perfect Fascist style, addressed to Pavolini, Secretary of the Republican Fascist Party.

The appeal bore a number of signatures, amongst them those of Lt.Col. Chiama, Doctor Offeddù, Doctor Maccari, Rag. Pirisino and others. Professor Federico Altamura of Naples, when asked to check up on the signatures, expressed the opinion that they should be considered doubtful, with the exception of that of Rag. Pirisino.

31,000 lire were found in General Martini's pockets as well as a collection of bits of papers on which curious notes were written, some of them incomprehensible, two letters to General Magli, at that [illegible] Commander of all the Armed Forces in Sardinia (the letters had

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An inquiry was immediately begun and lasted over a year because of the tragic air accident in which Captain Loppane, Judge in charge of the proceedings, lost his life. He was flying an S.81 aircraft on his way to place all data of the case before General Messe, Commander-in-Chief of the Army. Major Michele Greco was asked to take over the inquiry and all the data of the case had to be worked out again by means of photographic copies available of some of the data.
(B-2)

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There was a rumor in December, 1943, that the air accident in which Captain Lopane, entrusted with the evidence, was killed, had been treacherously provoked by the Italian military authorities as they too were involved in the case.

The case continues to arouse wide interest throughout the whole island, and public opinion awaits the sentence which the Military Tribunal of Oristano should pronounce justly and objectively on the traitors. (B-1)

6. The Chair of Constitutional Law at Naples University

Ever since the Allies entered Naples, the Neapolitan students have protested against the retention of Prof. Tesauro in the chair of Constitutional Law, when he should have been among the "purged" of the University for his well-known Fascist precedents. In spite of the students' protests and demonstrations, Tesauro remains at his post.

On October 30th, at the ceremony for the opening of the academic year the president, Prof. Arangio Ruiz, named as Professor "emeritus" Enrico Presutti, ordinary professor of Constitutional Law who had been retired in 1926 because of his antifascist attitude. But owing to his advanced age and the condition of his health Presutti will not occupy the chair. The law students consider that they are being mocked, since they have an "emeritus" professor who is only honorary, while the actual lecturing is still done by the very Fascist Prof. Tesauro. (B-1-)

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6. The Chair of Constitutional Law at Naples University

Ever since the Allies entered Naples, the Neapolitan students have protested against the retention of Prof. Tesauro in the chair of Constitutional Law, when he should have been among the "purged" of the University for his well-known Fascist precedents. In spite of the students' protests and demonstrations, Tesauro remains at his post.

On October 30th, at the ceremony for the opening of the academic year the president, Prof. Arangio Ruiz, named as Professor "emeritus" Enrico Presutti, ordinary professor of Constitutional Law who had been retired in 1926 because of his antifascist attitude. But owing to his advanced age and the condition of his health Presutti will not occupy the chair. The law students consider that they are being mocked, since they have an "emeritus" professor who is only honorary, while the actual lecturing is still done by the very Fascist Prof. Tesauro. (B-1-)

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PUBLIC OPINION

7 A Socialist Viewpoint: Dr. Ugo Calosso on Pietro Nenni and the Communists.

Dr. Ugo Calosso is now working in close collaboration with Nenni and has become a prominent leader writer on the "Avanti" (Socialist). In a recent conversation he seemed anxious to make clear that Nenni's bark is really worse than his bite and that privately Nenni does not hold the extremist views which seem to be suggested at times by his articles in the "Avanti". He admitted that Nenni is a "spiky" writer and that his style causes unnecessary irritation. Italians, however, have no sense of humour in politics. Nenni is Nenni, a Romagnolo; one has to take the good with the bad and he is particularly useful to the Socialist cause at present. In fact, had there been no Nenni it would have been necessary to invent him.

According to Calosso Nenni is at heart a "Fabian" or evolutionary Socialist like the other prominent leaders: Saragat for instance or the newly arrived "fuorusciti" Ignazio Silone and Modigliani, all of whom give an impression of greater moderation and reasonableness than Nenni.

Calosso was obviously labouring the point that Socialists should obtain more Allied support and sympathy because they were not revolutionary. By the violence of his opinions Nenni, he explained, was able to take some wind out of the sails of the Communists whom he, like the other Socialists, distrusts and fears.

There were only three parties which really counted in Italy: the Communists who were the best organised and had the inspiration of world power behind them, the Socialists and the Christian Democrats. These three were the only mass parties which could make any widespread appeal to the people. Calosso evaded the question of the present understanding between the Socialists and the Communists and spoke as though the recent embittered press polemics between the Socialists and the Christian Democrats had not happened. The future should lie in a strong understanding between all three parties but achieved in such a way that the Communist sting would be removed.

How then did the Socialists intend to do this? By aiming at a programme of unity especially between the three main parties. In such a united front, were it ever to come into being, the Socialists [illegible] position between the Christian Democrats and

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Not without giving an impression of some special pleading - and an inclination to play off one Ally against another - Calosso then said that if the other Parties, especially the Socialists and Christian Democrats were to take a strong line about Trieste's return to Italy after the war - as part of the programme for unity - the Communists would be placed in an awkward position. He knew Togliatti intimately and esteemed him very highly. Togliatti had one weakness which was that his hands were tied by the foreign policy of Moscow. While Italians were indifferent regarding the former colonies, an appeal for a frontier with Yugoslavia which gave Trieste and Pola to Italy would not leave them unmoved. Italy would never settle down if Trieste were not in Italian hands. Several evenings ago Nenni had said to him: "If we raise the question of Trieste we will catch the Communists out". Togliatti

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would inevitably lose prestige by failing to support this claim - which support Calosso appeared to presume would never be countenanced by Russia. Togliatti's private views and sympathies he thought, were those of a man who was too big for Communist orthodoxy, but that did not remove the limitations imposed on what he could say in public.

6 Votes for Women

The subject of votes having been discussed in several articles in the Rome press recently, a few representative opinions were taken this week.

There is no doubt that the political parties are keenly interested in women's suffrage, the general opinion being that the Christian Democrtas would gain very largely by this innovation in Italian political life.

A Trade Union Official said that in the city of Rome there was no doubt that there was widespread interest among women - especially among women workers - in this question. They are showing a new interest in politics and in our labour unions they are taking part in the directive councils; this is the first time that this has happened in the history of our labour unions. As soon as one goes into the country, however, there is very little interest in this subject.

A University graduate, aged 27, was of the opinion that the importance of this question was greatly exaggerated in Rome. In Italy you would not find one woman in a thousand interested in this question, and if votes were given to women they would not know what to do with them. Most women have too many domestic problems - especially these days - to think about politics and voting.

B.2

9 A Land Owner's Views on the Agricultural Problem

The following information was given to a P.W.B. officer by a nd owner of a medium sized property (180 hectares) in the Provinc of Foggia.

There has been a great deal of propaganda spread abroad on th miserable conditions in which it is claimed that the peasant lives in Southern Italy. Latifondisti (large land owners) have been especially attacked for their feudal ways and conditions in Sicily

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Labour. There are two systems of labour in this part of Italy, the Mezzadria and the Bracciante.

(i) The Mezzadria by which a family of peasants lives on the proprietors land, has a house, a certain amount of land tax free and sufficient food for his family from the produce - with grain the government has fixed the allow-

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wance at two quintals per head. My own man Peppino has worked on my land for the past twenty years at a fixed rate of 8 lire a day. His family now supplies four workers including himself and in the last few years the monthly wage bill per head that I have paid has risen as follows:

1940	300 lire
1941	500 "
1942	1200 "
1943	2500 "
1944	3000 "

Besides this he has 12 hectares of arable land which he works himself and some land given him by the Fascist Government as an ex-soldier (Opera Nazionale Combattente). He has in fact become a small land owner, despite his recent adhesion to the local Communist Party - and a few months ago bought a horse for 80,000 lire, a purchase which I could not make at the moment. Particularly with the new law giving him and his family half the price of the grain sold it will be seen that his present condition is far from miserable.

(ii) The Bracciante is a daily hired labourer who has no privileges beyond his pay and in the past his position has often been unenviable. I employ about 100 of these men to gather in a particular harvest whether oil, wine or grain for a limited period, say one month at a time. Their wages have now risen to 200 lire a day for a ploughman and for the coming olive harvest pickers are even asking 300 lire a day. This has the natural effect of raising the cost of production.

Grain. My property comprises 180 hectares, of which 110 are arable. The harvest this year was good and I returned the whole of it to the Granai del Popolo at the government's fixed price of 9,000 lire per quintal for soft wheat (tenero) and 10,000 lire for hard wheat (duro). For the whole harvest I was paid 250,000 lire, which was satisfactory, but the government then passed a law (after fixing the price) by which I had to give half of this, i.e. 125,000 lire to Peppino and his family. After calculating the cost of production, cost of labour and taxes of 20,000 lire per annum, it will be seen how vast my nett profit was!

Oil. As everybody knows olive oil is a staple item of food

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Oil. As everybody knows olive oil is a staple item of food for the average Italian and the present ration of 200 grammes is quite insufficient. Owing to the good prospects of this year's crop, hopes have been raised that this will be increased but I see no chance of the legal market benefiting at all this year. The cost of production and particularly wages have risen so sharply that the government price of 60 lire a litre is quite insufficient. When you consider that the Black Market price here in the area of production is 230 lire a litre you will have some idea of the amount of oil that the government pools ... expect to receive this year, despite the excellent harvest and the crying needs of the cities. Wages should be fixed at once for no producer can afford to run at a loss.

Wine. The same conditions apply to the wine harvest. The fixed price is 13 lire a litre but as it costs 20 lire to produce,

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it is sold at 25-30 lire a litre. The wine in this part of the coun ry is of particularly good quality and recent purchases made in this village for export and chiefly for consumption in Rome had the effect of putting the local prices up to over 30 lire.

These statistics may help to clarify the difficulties of the proprietor producer and I fear that the present impossible conditions may have political consequences. Whoever may have been to blame in the past, the fact remains that the masses of peasants are ignorant and have only aim - to gain more land. They join the Communist party little realising that they are the perfect example of "Kulaks", which are such a menace to pure Communist theory. Their political theories can be summed up by the maxim "what is yours is mine and what is mine stays mine".

PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

10 Allied Publications and Displays

The displays continue to attract large crowds and the publications are in great demand. Of the periodicals "Victory" is the most popular, "Il Mese" a close second and "Il Mondo Libero" a good third. It is interesting to note that considerations other than a desire for general information help the diffusion of publications. The "Times" (leaflet edition) is bought, for instance, not only by the well-educated, but by students of English.

Reactions to the new lay-out of "Il Mondo Libero" are favourable. Back copies are sold at 10 lire instead of 5 Lire. It is said that certain shops specialize in back numbers of all P.W.B. periodicals, and that early numbers of "Il Mese" reach a price of 75 life.

It would therefore seem advisable:-

(a) to advise the general public, through the press, that a new edition of the first six copies of "Il Mese", in one volume, is now available.

(b) to print the price prominently on the cover of all periodicals.

Silone's novels are said to be much appreciated in lower middle-class circles, though less so among the better-educated. The reverse

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B.3

11 "The Great Dictator" - Reception in Naples

The film was shown in Naples for the first time on November 1st at Sala Roma and Sala Filangieri which, between them, can accommodate 2,000 people. About 6,000 saw the film and the box receipts amounted to 216,000 lire. The crowds were so large that Allied Military Police and Carabinieri were called out to keep order. A number of women were frightened by the crowds and abandoned the waiting queues. 1719

Opinions on the merits of the film are very divided: "Not the Charlot of old" - "Chaplin at his best" - "He seems more at home among the poor Jews than among the generals" - "Some of the best

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scenes are spoilt because they are too prolonged"; "The speech at the end is very impressive, it shows Chaplin as a first-class speaker;" "Some of the scenes between the two Dictators are too vulger"; "Chaplin's speech on Democracy is quite out of place, it has nothing to do with the rest of the film."

Nevertheless, there was much evident enjoyment and a great deal of hearty laughter; a long run is expected. (B-1)

12. Cinema - Florence

The newsreel of the United Nations is preferred by the public to all other films. Experts define them as perfect from the technical point of view and all find them most interesting. They have aroused the warmest sympathy. It is significant that, during the showing of a newsreel of the "Liberation of Paris" a few days ago, the appearance of General De Gaulle before Notre Dame and the playing of the Marseillaise were greeted with enthusiastic applause. The spectators, having lived through the experience of liberation, were deeply moved by these French liberation scenes.

The film "The Great Dictator", with Charlie Chaplin, is eagerly awaited. It is hoped that the documentary film of the liberation of Florence, already shown in other cities of Liberated Italy, may soon be shown in the Florentine cinemas. (B-2)

The first enthusiasm over the reopening of the cinemas has cooled on finding that the films are not reproduced in Italian. The complaints that almost all the dialogue is thus lost are justified; the films are over-advertised, especially in the case of the film "The Golden Door." The news reels are enthusiastically received. The appearance on the screen in some cinemas of German officers and soldiers has led to hostile demonstrations. (From an Italian source)

Much of the mutual distrust still evident between the people as a whole and the Allied Troops is attributed to the lack of the right kind of propaganda. Many Florentines are undecided whether to consider the Allies as invaders or friends. The chief cause of this lies in the apathy into which the people have sunk. Indifference, not hostitlity, holds them aloof from the life of the Allied troops. The most popular forms of propaganda are :

a) The PWB Radio Van, which gives the news without comment, and is listened to by large numbers, being preferred to the programmes of the Florence Radio or BBC.

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b) The PWB propaganda shop in Via Calzaioli. Many frequent it, buying and disseminating its publications

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INTERIOR

13 Public Safety
From F.S. Section Report 22 Oct

The civil population is becoming considerably alarmed at the lack of public safety not only in the city ofRome, but also along the highroads connecting the cities of Liberated Italy. There are constant reports of highway robbery by night and even sometimes by day along the roads south from Rome. It is probable that many Allied deserters are responsible for these incidents, but further light on this situation and on the dangerous possibility of its growing more serious has been thrown by a recent conversation with an Italian from the South. He stated that such incidents are due not only to possible Allied deserters but also to large numbers of deserters from the Italian Army, classes 1920-22 recently called up. If, as is at present proposed, the 1914-19 classes are called up, it is foreshadowed that the number of these Italian deserters will increase to alarming proportions either because the men have no particular desire to be sent the the Far East or because conditions of pay and food in the Italian Army are fairly desperate. These deserters must live somehow and it is foreseen that a large percentage of them will take more or less to open brigandage along mountain roads etc., many of which, incidentally, are important Allied L. of C. In this connection also a rumour has been heard in Rome to the effect that some of the gangs of deserters who have been carrying out raids on the outskirts of Rome are led by an American Colonel and an Italian officer!!

14 P.W.B. Employee killed

The following communication has been published in the Rome newspapers: "At about 2,45 in the morning of October 29th a Carabiniere stationed in the Via del Cordello, ordered a public vehicle Number 77165 to stop. The driver, Giuseppe Porchetta continued in his course. The Carabiniere then fired and wounded Alberto Pirelli, an employee of P.W.B., who was in the car. The wounded man who was taken to the hospital of San Giovanni died shortly afterwards."

Pirelli was employed in the Monitoring Section of P.W.B.. The unfortunate accident occurred on the first occasion on which the new nocturnal police patrol was introduced into Rome. The case in favour of the police is that there are so many thefts of automobiles and similar means of transport are being used by so many of the bandits who infest the streets of Rome at night - that a car which failed to obey the police summons to stop was not unnaturally thought to be bent on some unlawful business. Nevertheless it appears that the Carabiniere in question must at least have acted in a rash and hotheaded way.

FINANCE

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FINANCE

15 Speculation in Dollars and Hoarding of Allied Military Lire (From an Italian source).

The Blue-Seal dollar is now said to be quoted on the financial Black Market at Lire 200.

Hoarding of Allied Military Lire is believed to have increased as a result of President Roosevelt's assurance that such money has Allied backing and will eventually be accepted in payment for goods sold to Italy. A business-man from Lecce stated that Allied Military Lire are at a premium there.

A little incident illustrating the position was witnessed in a Rome market. A woman receiving change of a 500 Lire note asked that it should all be in Allied Military Lire, as Allied soldiers were rather distrustful

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of Italian notes. It is stated that Allied soldiers have on occasion refused to accept Italian notes in change on the grounds that they bear the symbol of the Fasces. B.3.

Trading in foreign currency centres round the stock Exchange, but has its ramifications throughout the city. Needless to say, no large quantities of foreign currency are involved, as they simply do not exist in Rome. The capital engaged is largely that resulting from Black Market operations.

The following are current rates on the financial Black Market.

Dollar (Blue-Seal).....	Lire	190
" (Yellow-Seal).....	"	120
French Franc.....	"	1.50
Swiss Franc.....	"	80

The currency most in demand is the American dollar. According to an employee of the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, in the Bank's Stock Exchange department, large sums are not available, and the same amount often changes hands at different prices.

Capitalists, that is, those who possess large sums of Italian money, are eager to get foreign currency, in the belief that it will maintain its value. They do not invest it in a real estate, as this would involve heaby expenses. Some feel that by having a sufficient amount of American currency at their disposal, they may be able to migrate to America at some future date. Many of those belong to the clergy and to the aristocracy. 1

Allied soldiers are aware of this financial Black Market and take advantage of it.

Capitalists do not attach much value to occupation money. On the other hand many Roman shopkeepers and some peasants prefer it to Italian currency as it facilitates dealings with Allied soldiers. C.2.

LABOUR (see also Appendix I)

16 Cost of Living Bonus

The belief that this question had been finally settled by last week's announcement that the Cabinet had approved the text of the appropriate decree was shattered by a leader in "Unita", the Communist Party organ, of 29th October. This article claimed that employers

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As a result a meeting of Cabinet Ministers, A.C. officials and representatives of C.G.I.L. was held on 30th October; assurances were apparently given that the decree would be published on the 31st (it had not been published by 2nd November) and other concessions were made to labour, with the result that the strike was called off.

It is worth pointing out that throughout the negotiations organised labour, as represented by the CGIL has pursued a very moderated policy. The proposed sit-down strike of 31st October was only called to put an end to a situation which had dragged on for over two months and was clearly designed to put pressure on employers, not the Government or Allied authorities. Moreover employees in essential public services - transport, communications - were expressely excluded from its scope.

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Giving an unofficial picture of the attitude of labour Mario Baldelli, Secretary of Achille Grandi of the CGIL, stated that, whereas most industrial concerns had started paying advances towards the bonus long before the final figures were settled by the authorities, many commercial undertakings, especially small ones, had taken advantage of every technicality to avoid payment to the last possible moment. Baldelli blames the Allied authorities entirely for the three months' delay in bringing the bonus into operation.

Other concessions to labour. The following improvements in the food situation of workers were agreed to at the meeting of Government. A.C. and C.G.I.L. representatives.

(a) Extra bread rations raging from 75-100 grms per person per day for workers engaged in heavy manual labour.

(b) Normal functioning of all factory messes in the city and province of Rome as from 6th November. These provisions come as a result of a long campaign of protest in the Rome press by representatives of labour.

It is hoped to include reaction to these concessions in next week's report.

LOCAL CONDITIONS -ROME

17 The Electricity Rationing Scheme.

The following are detail of the new electricity rationing scheme, which is based on a monthly quota of 10 kw per apartment per month. There are about 250,000 consumers; to supply all of these with a regular daily supply of current (on a quota system) will require another month's work. In the meantime the city will be divided into four areas. Each area will have current every day for one week out of four. For the other three weeks it will have current only one day in three (as compared with one day in four under the present scheme). At the end of the interim period it is hoped to provide current, on a quota basis, to all consumers every second day, and eventually every day.

The scheme has had a very good press. "Italia Libera" of 21st October, for instance, exhorted consumers not to abuse the concessions and published the penalties for overstepping the quota fixed: for the first offence, the offender's supply will be cut off for 60 days; for the second offence, 180 days.

Various other points have been raised in the press. "Avanti" of

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Other concessions to labour. The following [illegible] situation of workers were agreed to at the meeting of Government. A.C. and C.G.I.L. representatives.

(a) Extra bread rations raging from 75-100 grms per person per day for workers engaged in heavy manual labour.

(b) Normal functioning of all factory messes in the city and province of Rome as from 6th November. These provisions come as a result of a long campaign of protest in the Rome press by representatives of labour.

It is hoped to include reaction to these concessions in next week's report.

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Various other points have been raised in the press. "Avanti" of 18th brought to the notice of the authorities the claim of radiologists to a supply of current. "Unita" of the 20th drew attention to a case in which lack of current for pumping purposes results in a group of 300 families having no water-supply.

As the new scheme only came into effect on 1st November, it is as yet too early to gauge its effect on industry and morale. The situation will be kept under observation.

18 Food Situation

The "Corriere di Roma" of 20th October announced that the following food-stuffs will shortly be sent to Rome: 300 tons of grain from Perugia; 30.000 hectolitres of wine from Apulia, to be sold at a retail price of lire 30 per litre.

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price of lire 30 per litre.

In spite of the above and similar announcements the food situation remains unchanged, and public opinion is very sceptical as to the eventual appearance of the goods concerned.

"Unita" of 19th October reported that 600 quintals of tinned tunny-fish were lying in the Rome warehouses of the firms charged with the distribution of food-stuffs (S.E.P.R.A.L.); five days later the same newspaper declared that the fish was being sold at exorbitant prices, quite as high as those charged in the Black Market.

Referring also to the Black Market "Voce Repubblicana" pointed out that military ambulances, which are exempt from inspection at road blocks, are being used to bring goods into Rome for sale. "RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE" went so far as to suggest the abolition of the road blocks, as their only effect is to send up prices on the Black Market.

In an article devoted to the bread question ITALIA NUOVA of 18th October remarked that an increase in price would do no great harm if only the quality of bread provided were better than at present.

13 Black Market - Rome. (From 276 F.S. Section Report)

At the risk of undue repetition of remarks already made in these reports on the food situation and its connection with civilian morale, it must be reiterated that the present system of food supply to the city is nothing short of disastrous in the way it is resulting in the legitimisation of a Black Market where practically everything can be bought by those willing or able to pay the price. Two conversations with an absolutely reliable source have this week thrown further light on the almost criminal futility of the present attempts to impose a coercive system of import permits and road blocks to control food supplies to the city.

One example, which concerned informant's friend was the following. On 22nd October 1944 a lorry containing 40 quintals of industrial alcohol worth nearly a million lire was stopped at the road block on Via Appia Nuova and not allowed to proceed although all its papers were in order, until the owner had agreed to pay the control post staff the sum of lire 30,000. The owner was furthermore told that he could import any quantity of any kind of goods through this road block provided he was willing to come to similar arrangements with the staff.

A second example of this kind of corruption concerns the system in

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A second example of this kind of corruption concerns the system in force in the central markets. There, when a trader wishes to import a load of e.g. fruit from the South, he applies to the Food Control Tpt Office for a lorry. He is then given a chit addressed to one of the large firms registered with Food Control, but on going to make arrangements to despatch the lorry, he finds that unless the lorry owner's palm is greased with something like 50,000 lire, the lorry is either "broken down" or if it leaves ROME at all, mysteriously breaks down a short distance outside the city. The result of this is, of course, that the bribes are paid over to the transport firm and the tradesman bringing in the goods not only takes care to hide in the load a quantity of some profit making commodity like oil or meat, but also recoups himself by selling the greater part of the original load at Black Market prices to his local contacts.

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An example given concerned a load of apples recently brought from the South. Local price fixed for apples on ROME market is about 24 or 25 lire a kilo. Food control bases this on the following figures. Cost on farm 15 lire, transport 6 lire, profit 3 lire. However, in view of the bribery which has to be indulged in before the apples can be got to ROME under the system outlined above, if the apples were sold in ROME at the list price, the trader would lose heavily. A small percentage therefore appears on the market at the Food Control official price, while the rest disappears into the Black Market.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the attempted use of coercive measures in this way merely defeats its own object as not only can any normal Italian see at least three ways round any regulation affecting his pocket, but the money to be made out of avoiding the regulations is at present such as almost to try the integrity of an archangel. It is most urgently recommended that the system of permits and road blocks and other barriers to the free import of food to ROME be abolished before popular exasperation during the coming winter degenerates to such a state that repetitions of the PALERMO demonstration may be expected.

This exasperation is mainly based on the fact that the case for free inter-province and inter-city transport in liberated Italy south of Rome is unanswerable, since (a) there is a glut of oil, wine, dried figs, chestnuts etc. in parts of Puglia and Calabria, and given a free hand, private enterprise will soon provide for transport of large quantities of those goods to places where they are scarce and (b) only by putting sufficient of these goods on the open market can prices be brought down within reach of the "fixed salary" categories of workers and the Black Market will disappear. The present system is actually discouraging merchants from even attempting to transport goods to Rome since many refuse to spend the time and trouble and bribes required. If only bread, pasta and fats were left as rationed food and steps taken to see that they were available, free exchange of goods between provinces and cities would soon restore the completely disordered situation of food distribution.

Many people have also remarked with regard to this matter that it should be the business of the Allied Commission to intervene in this situation not only because it is that body's function to guide the Italian administration but also because the whole matter presents itself more and more as a long term civil security problem which may rapidly develop

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2C Minor Tragedy

A woman was crossing the Via Nazionale at a busy hour around noon. She accidently dropped a bottle of olive oil that she was carrying. A crowd collected at once in a circle around the precious oil that was spreading rapidly over the street. The rather well-dressed woman, moaning, dropped to her knees and began soaking up the oil in her handkerchief and then wringing it out into a small can. The crowd was full of cries and sympathy. They held their places and kept the traffic from running through the oil until the woman had finished mopping up every saveable drop.

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Note: A bottle of olive oil in Rome sells for about 1,200 Lire; a well-paid Italian civilian working a 48 hour week for the Allies earns about 1,200 Lire.

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LOCAL CONDITIONS - NAPLES

21 The most pitiable of the needy classes - (Conversation with a lady investigator for a benevolent institution).

It is my duty to investigate the condition of people who apply to us for assistance.

. . I never dreamed that there could be in the world so much sorrow, so much suffering, such resignation, and often such dignity in the bearing of overwhelming misery.

I visit the poor of the street, but, while they may be the most ragged ones they are not the most needy. In one way or another they manage to get along, their methods for procuring a meal are perhaps not quite orthodox, but they do manage to get it. Accustomed as they are to doing with little, they do not feel the weight of strained circumstances and privations, the hovel they lie in may be dirty but that does not interfere with their sleep.

But the others? Those who have known comfort, cleanliness in their person and household, have raised a family and who are now obliged to beg, what of them?

All of them have used first their capital, then they have sold their jewels and clothes, then their furniture and linen, everything; now there is nothing left to sell, and starvation is staring them in the face. There is no means for raising money, even sufficient to buy bread, so they must beg or literally die from hunger.

It is the humiliation of begging that is so heartbreaking for these poor people. I see it and I feel for them. I see what a dreadful struggle it is for some of the younger generation to see their parents in such straits. It is no wonder then that some of them have sacrificed their ideals for the sake of bringing home some relief, even at the heaviest of all costs to themselves.

One day I had gone to investigate an application. The lady lived at the top of the house, and as I climbed the stairs I heard much laughter issuing from one of the lower floors, voices of Neapolitan girls and foreign men. On my way out, the girls I had heard upstairs, there were three, were at the house-door saying good-bye to their soldier friends. I passed by but one of the girls called after me: "Signora, aren't you

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LOCAL POLITICS

23. Political Meeting at Sparanise (Caserta)

The meeting was organized by the Communist Mayor of Sparanise, Avvocato Corrado Graziadei, who is very popular in the region and its object was to commemorate the brutal murders committed at Sparanise by the Germans on October 22, 1943.

The proceedings began with a religious service, then new streets were opened bearing the names of the martyrs of German and Fascist brutality, after which there was a meeting of the people; several thousand people attended from Sparanise and the neighboring places.

The first speaker was the Mayor, who was followed by representatives of the local sections of the Socialist and Demo-Christian parties. The speeches were short, but each speaker stressed the policy of his own Party, and all insistently demanded that the contemplated distribution of land to the peasants should be carried out at once in the local zone between the Volturno and the Garigliano (Sparanise is the most important centre in the region). The question is one of considerable importance locally where there are many large estates (latifondi) and a great many peasant day labourers.

In the afternoon the Communist Party held a meeting for the purpose of discussing problems of Party organization in the zone between the Volturno and the Garigliano; the meeting was attended by all the Communist sections in the zone, by Avvocato Graziadei, and by the representatives of the Naples Federation Valenzi, Cacciapuoti and Magliotta.

It appears that this meeting proved that in this zone the Communist Party is powerful and well-organized. This is explained by the presence of a strong and numerous contingent of daily workers on the land, and by the activity of Avvocato Graziadei who appears to be an extremely able political organizer. (B-2)

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CONFIDENTIAL ENCLOSURE I to No. 41.

L A B O U R

SUMMARY

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T U S C A N Y

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c. [illegible] and [illegible]

ANNEXURE A - Graphs

Graph I — Hourly wage scale in Printing Industry in Rome Area — 6

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX I NO. 41

L A B O U R

(This is the second in a series of appendices in which an attempt will be made to give a comprehensive picture on a given subject in different parts of Italy.)

R O M E

A. Labour Problems

(1) Exceptional Position of Rome Area - In considering labour problems the exceptional position occupied by Rome in Italian national economy must be constantly borne in mind, a position comparable almost to that of Washington in the United States. Rome is not a great industrial centre. On the other hand its position as administrative capital means a great concentration of white-collar workers -- civil servants, employees of semi-official organizations and those of private firms, and professional workers -- quite exceptional in a city of its size. This situation was of course greatly aggravated by the Fascist tendency to bureaucracy and centralization.

(2) Unemployment - The destruction caused by war, the closing down of many businesses and the disruption of the Armed Forces following 8 September 1943, which resulted in partial demobilization, created widespread unemployment.

Re-employment even for the black-coated classes depends very largely on a resumption of industrial production throughout the country. Re-employment for workers in industry, in this area as throughout Liberated Italy, is faced with many almost insuperable obstacles: lack of power, transport, raw materials, accessible markets and even capital, which is at present reluctant to run the risks of legitimate business under these overwhelming handicaps, but finds an outlet rather in prompt business deals (legal or otherwise) and in the buying of gold and other valuables.

A state plan for reconstruction and consequent re-employment in agriculture, public works and industry can scarcely be expected before the complete liberation of Italy. As a first step to such a scheme the Italian Government has included in the census which is now in progress a section designed to ascertain the skilled and unskilled labour available for the work of reconstruction.

(3) Trade Unions - It is believed in some circles that the CGIL

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(3) Trade Unions - It is believed in some circles that the CGIL (Confederazione Generale del Lavoro) claim to represent the whole of Italian Labour is decidedly premature. In the first place CGIL policy has not yet crystalized;,its constitution is as yet unwritten and its claim to be apolitical has still to be proved. Moreover, the great massof industrial labour in N. Italy is believed to be very well organized. The CGIL itself may therefore meet the same fate as befell the Naples-Bari CGL on the liberation of Rome, and succomb to a stronger organization. (++)

++ Finally while the recent visits of Trade Unions Delegations from America, Great Britain and Russia undoubtedly raised the prestige of CGIL in the eyes of Italian workers, it is doubtful whether American and British labour at any rate can regard with favor the Labour-Communist alliance carried over from Italian party politics into the Trade Union movement itself. (B-3)

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At the same time there can be no doubt that the CGIL at present does represent organized labour in the Rome area, and does so on the whole very efficiently. It has always so far managed to voice Labour's legitimate grievances and press for their redress without on the other hand laying itself open to any accusation of non-cooperation with the authorities for the fullest prosecution of the war. A good example of its method is to be found in the recent negotiations for a cost-of-living bonus. CGIL approached the Italian Government with a concrete plan in August. The Italian Government approved the plan and submitted it to AC. AC approved the principle but suggested a different scale, including family allowances. CGIL accepted this amendment and during protracted discussions lasting two months waited patiently for results. When however, the Italian Cabinet finally passed the decree authorizing payment of the bonus, and it was discovered that many employers were still refusing to pay it on the pretext that the decree had not yet been officially published, CGIL took action and called for a general half-hour strike on 31 October. This firm action at the right moment had the desired results; assurances as to the immediate publication of the decree were received from the Government and the strike was called off. It appears, moreover, that the announcement regarding increased rations for "heavy workers" and provision of meals in factory canteens, published 1 November 1944, were at least accelerated by the CGIL's action.

(4) Labour Discontent - Discontent is very wide-spread in working class circles in view of the inadequacy of wages to the present cost of living, the insufficiency of rationed foodstuffs necessitating purchases at exorbitant prices on the Black Market, the increased cost of heating and lighting and the impossible prices for the most elementary of consumer goods such as clothing. The discontent is expressed partly in the press, partly in threats of strike action; within the past fortnight printers, bakers, taxi-drivers and cab-drivers, as well as employees of certain individual firms, have all employed the threat of strike action to support their claims.

B. UNEMPLOYMENT

(5) Unemployment figures - As mentioned in paragraph 2 of this [illegible] unemployment in the Rome area is undoubtedly very wide-

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B. UNEMPLOYMENT

(5) Unemployment figures - As mentioned in paragraph 2 of this
Appendix, unemployment in the Rome area is undoubtedly very wide-
spread, but it is difficult to obtain precise figures. Estimates are
all submitted with caution. The obstacles in the way of an accurate
return are: the large numbers of registered workers who are P.W. or
undergoing forced labour in Germany and North Italy; the presence in
Rome of many refugees who are not registered here; and the fact that
registration at Employment Exchanges is now voluntary. In view of the
insignificance of unemployment relief payments many unemployed do not
trouble to register.

The Rome Camera del Lavoro put the figure of unemployed at 150-
180,000 including all workers not employed at their regular trade,
though they may be earning a living by other work or on the Black

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Market. This seems a very conservative estimate. A reliable private source puts it at over 200,000 (A-2). Other official sources agree on a figure of "about 200,000".

(6) Lack of Incentive to Work - Much technical unemployment is no doubt caused by the lowness of wages. Workers throw up regular jobs in favor of more remunerative and lighter, if less honest, work. Offers of certain jobs are ignored owing to the poor wages, in no relation to the cost of living. (A-2)

(7) Refugees in Rome - It may be pointed out that the presence of large numbers of refugees in Rome has less influence than might be expected on the employment situation, as these people are mainly agricultural workers from the devastated Frosinone and Lake Trasimene regions. They are thus not merely unemployed but virtually unemployable as long as they remain in the city.

(8) Unemployment Relief - Unemployment relief is still being paid at the old, pre-liberation rates, which average Lire 5-6 per diem; as will be seen from the figures for cost of living in Para. 15 of this report, this is barely sufficient to cover the cost of rationed foodstuffs, and leaves no margin whatever for such elementary necessities as shelter and clothing. Moreover, the rationed foodstuffs, if not supplemented by purchases on the open market or Black Market, provide a chronically insufficient diet.

At the moment the Social Assurance Institute (Istituto di Previdenza Sociale - the Fascist Social Assurance body) is in process of liquidating the unemployment insurance payments outstanding for the period 8 September 1943 - 4 June 1944. Men serving with the colors before 8 September 1943, who were originally included in the scheme, have now been excluded.

C) WAGE SCALES AND COST OF LIVING

(9) Close Inter-relation of Problems - In the present state of war-time economy in Liberated Italy it is pointless and indeed impossible to attempt any separate discussion of wage-scales and cost of living. The position of the country as a theatre of operations, the fact that all parts of liberated Italy have in turn been fought over, with

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c) WAGE SCALES AND COST OF LIVING

(9) Close Inter-relation of Problems - In the present state of war-time economy in liberated Italy it is pointless and indeed impossible to attempt any separate discussion of wage-scales and cost of living. The position of the country as a theatre of operations, the fact that all parts of liberated Italy have in turn been fought over, with consequent destruction of the means of production and disruption of communications, have produced a grave shortage of consumer goods and foodstuffs. In the absence of a comprehensive and well-enforced system of price control this simply means that any increase in the purchasing power of the masses produces a corresponding rise in prices. Prices in fact, as invariably happens in times of inflation, rise faster than wages, with disastrous results for wage-earners. This situation, general throughout the country, is aggravated in the case of Rome by the city's dependence on imports, even for the part of its food-supply; by the popular tendency, prevalent already in fascist days, to hoard stocks with a view to a rise in prices; and by the apparent inability of the authorities to suppress the Black Market.

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(10) Official Policy on Wages - Official policy with regard to wages is based on the supply problem and the danger of inflation. It is pointed out that until supplies of food, clothing, etc., can be improved any increase in wages would be of no real benefit to the working classes. Consequently official policy is, generally speaking, aimed at pegging wages while attempting to increase the supply of goods at moderate prices.

For this purpose the basic wage scale is that paid to Italian employees of the Allied Armed Forces. In order to assist the war effort, industrial wages are fixed slightly below the basic scale.

(11) Real Wages - In Rome today real wages cannot be expressed in terms of money. The provision by employers of a free or cheap meal to workers is a type of payment more sought after than, say, a 50% increase in cash payments. The same applies of course to firms which run cheap food-shops for the benefit of their staff.

For these factory canteens (mense aziendali) A.C. provides a daily ration per head consisting of 4/5 oz. dehydrated soup, 1 oz. dry vegetable and ½ oz. macaroni. This is generally supplemented by the individual factory managements, and a good, hot meal provided at an average cost of probably Lire 8-10. Including soup kitchens for the indigent it is believed that about 180,000 such meals are served daily in Rome. (B-2) The agreement of 30 October between the Italian Government, AC and Labour representatives may mean a considerable increase in this figure.

(12) Cross Section of Monthly Earnings - The following examples of monthly earnings show how heavily the present situation bears on the very large class of salary-earners:

Surgeon	Lire 15-20,000
Fruit-Seller	" 18,000
Lawyer	" 8-15,000
Carpenter with own business	" 6-9,000
Waiter	" 6,000
Baker	" 6,000
Civil Servant, Grade A, 50 yrs. old	

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For this purpose the basic wage scale is [illegible] employees of the Allied Armed Forces. In order to assist the war effort, industrial wages are fixed slightly below the basic scale.

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Lawyer	"	8-15,000
Carpenter with own business	"	6-9,000
Waiter	"	6,000
Baker	"	6,000
Civil Servant, Grade A, 50 yrs. old with family	"	5,000
Clerk for private firm, 40 yrs. old with family	"	4,500
Lieutenant in Army, with allowances	"	4,000
Truck driver with Allied forces	"	3,900
Civil Servant, Grade B, 30 yrs. old unmarried	"	3;500
Civil Servant, Grade C, 50 yrs. old with family	"	3,000
Brick-layer, 60 yrs. old, with family	"	2,400
Tramway man, 60 yrs. old, with family	"	2,400
Truck-driver worker for private firm	"	2,000

(B-2)

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(13) Cost of Living Bonus. - After two months of consideration (see paragraph 3) the following scales have been finally approved:

A fixed payment made directly by employers to workers. In the Provinces of Rome, Naples and Florence, the amounts are:

(a)	Heads of families, of either sex earning up to L. 3,000 per month	Lire	30	per day
(b)	Heads of families, of either sex earning between L. 3-5,000 per mo.	"	20	" "
(c)	Heads of families, of either sex earning over L. 5,000 per month	"	10	" "
(d)	Women other than heads of families	"	20	" "
(e)	Juveniles (under 18) either sex	"	15	" "

For workers in other areas the fixed payment is L. 5 less.

A supplementary payment for families to be paid out of appropriate funds administered by the Istituto Nazionale della Previdenza Sociale. This amounts to a 50% increase in present rates plus L. 5 per dependent per day.

The bonus has effect from 15 August 1944.

According to an estimate by the Rome newspaper "Ricostruzione" between 6 and 7 million workers will be entitled to the bonus, and the total cost to employers will be about 100 milliards per year.

(14) Increases in Pensions - It is estimated that there are approximately 1,000,000 retired workers drawing pensions in Italy today. On their behalf the CGIL has proposed a flat-rate increase of L. 30 per day, the State to contribute along with employers and insurance societies.

(15) Comparative Cost of Rationed and Non-Rationed Foodstuffs - The following figures are taken from the monthly economic bulletin of the Confederal Chamber of Labour of Rome, and show how small a part rationed foodstuffs play in the average weekly expenses of an average working-class family of four persons:

Food Black Market and Free Market [illegible]

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(c)	Heads of families, of either sex earning over L. 5,000 per month	"	10	" "
(d)	Women other than heads of families	"	20	" "
(e)	Juveniles (under 18) either sex	"	15	" "

For workers in other areas the fixed payment is L. 5 less.

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Food	Black Market and Free Market	L.	1,158	87%
	Rationed Goods	"	130	13%
	Total food expenditure	"	1,286	
Clothing		"	80	
Rent		"	50	
Light and heating		"	31	
Extras		"	132	
Average total expenditure per week			1,581	

Average quantity of food consumed:

		Black Market Free Market	Ration	Total
Solid foodstuffs	Kgs.	18 (++)	8	26
Liquid "	Litre	1	2	3

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Eggs	Nil	0,462	0,462
Soup	Nil	17,676	17,676

(++ of which 13 kg. consisted of fruit and vegetables)

(16) Cost of living for an Average Working-Class Family - Estimates of the average monthly sum required to support a working-class family of four persons vary widely, the actual expenditure depending on such factors as income, employment, skill and patience in shopping, availability of rationed foodstuffs and standard of living.

The figures of the Chamber of Labour quoted in Paragraph 15 of this Appendix give a monthly-total of lire 6,300. This appears to be a very conservative estimate, based probably on expert shopping and minimum free and black market prices. Informed private sources would place it as high as Lire 9,500. (B-2) The Chamber of Labour figure may however be accepted as rock bottom.

(17) Relation between Wages and Cost of Living - Attached at Appendix A to this report are a series of six graphs showing respectively the increases of wages in four key industries (printing, building, quarry industry and engineering) and the increase in cost of living over the past fourteen years. The figures for wages are averages of the fixed wages paid to various classes of workers in each industry. The graphs show that fixed wages have increased perhaps two to three times, whereas living costs have increased from 12 to 15 times.

Graph 6 require particularly careful study; it represents the average monthly expenditure on food only of a working-class family of five persons living in the Rome area. The point which must be borne in mind is that the standard of living of such a family has declined to an almost unbelievable extent. Pre-war menus are things of the past. The figures on which the graph is based represent at least for the past year a standard of nutrition far below that required for health.

In 1938 a middle class family of five persons spent on an average L. 525-50 per month for food, according to the following prices and quantities of food needed daily:

Bread	Lire 1.20 a Kilo	Grams 1200	Lire 1.40

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availability of rationed foodstuffs and standard of living.

The figures of the Chamber of Labour quoted in Paragraph 15 of this Appendix give a monthly total of lire 6,300. This appears to be a very conservative estimate, based probably on expert shopping and minimum free and black market prices. Informed private sources would place it as high as lire 9,500. (B-2) The Chamber of Labour figure may however be accepted as rock bottom.

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In 1938 a middle class family of five persons spent on an average L. 525-50 per month for food, according to the following prices and quantities of food needed daily:

Bread	Lire	1.20	a Kilo	Grams	1200	Lire	1.40
Macaroni	"	2.30	" "	"	2000	"	4.60
Oil	"	5.00	" litre	"	200	"	1.00
Meat	"	7. 0	" Kilo	"	500	"	3.50
Fats (bacon, pork fat)	"	12.00	" kilo	"	100	"	1.20
Beans	"	1.20	" "	"	1000	"	1.20
Fruit	"	1.20	" "	"	1000	"	1.20
Milk	"	1.20	" litre	"	1000	"	1.20
				Lire per day		"	15.30

This represents a monthly expenditure of Lire 460 to which must be added the daily expenses for salt, gas or coal, and for any variation of menu for holidays, birthdays, which naturally meant increased expenditure.

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In 1940-41 when prices were stabilized, food cost as follows:

Bread	Lire	1.50	a kilo
Macaroni	"	3.60	" "
Oil	"	14.00	" litre
Meat	"	28.00	" kilo
Pork fat	"	42.00	" "
Fruit	"	2.50	" "
Milk	"	1.50	" litre

The monthly cost of food was about L. 1,200. It must be borne in mind that not all staple foods were rationed, that rations were more liberal and the Black Market practically did not exist. Only imported goods of foreign origin, which were luxuries, were then sold on the quiet, before the term "Black Market" became generally known.

During the 9 months of Nazi-Fascist occupation (September 1943 - June 1944) there was almost no distribution of rationed food at fixed prices, so it was necessary to buy on the Black Market. Prices varied according to political events and the military situation, and became somewhat lower as the Allies drew nearer. The highest prices were reached in March.

Bread (with ration card)	Lire	2.30	a kilo
" (Black Market)	"	220.	" "
Paste	"	230	" "
Flour	"	260	" "
Oil	"	1400	" litre
Meat	"	320	" kilo
Pork fat	"	540	" kilo
Beans	"	230	" "
Fruit	"	90	" "
Milk	"	50	" litre

It must be remembered that the amount of food consumed daily was greatly reduced in this period; but the monthly sum spent on food rose to about Lire 9,000.

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Milk

The monthly cost of food was about L. 1,2[illegible]. It must be borne in mind that not all staple foods were rationed, that rations were more liberal and the Black Market practically did not exist. Only imported goods of foreign origin, which were luxuries, were then sold on the quiet, before the term "Black Market" became generally known.

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Meat	"	320 " kilo
Pork fat	"	540 " kilo
Beans	"	230 " "
Fruit	"	90 " "
Milk	"	50 " litre

It must be remembered that the amount of food consumed daily was greatly reduced in this period; but the monthly sum spent on food rose to about Lire 9,000.

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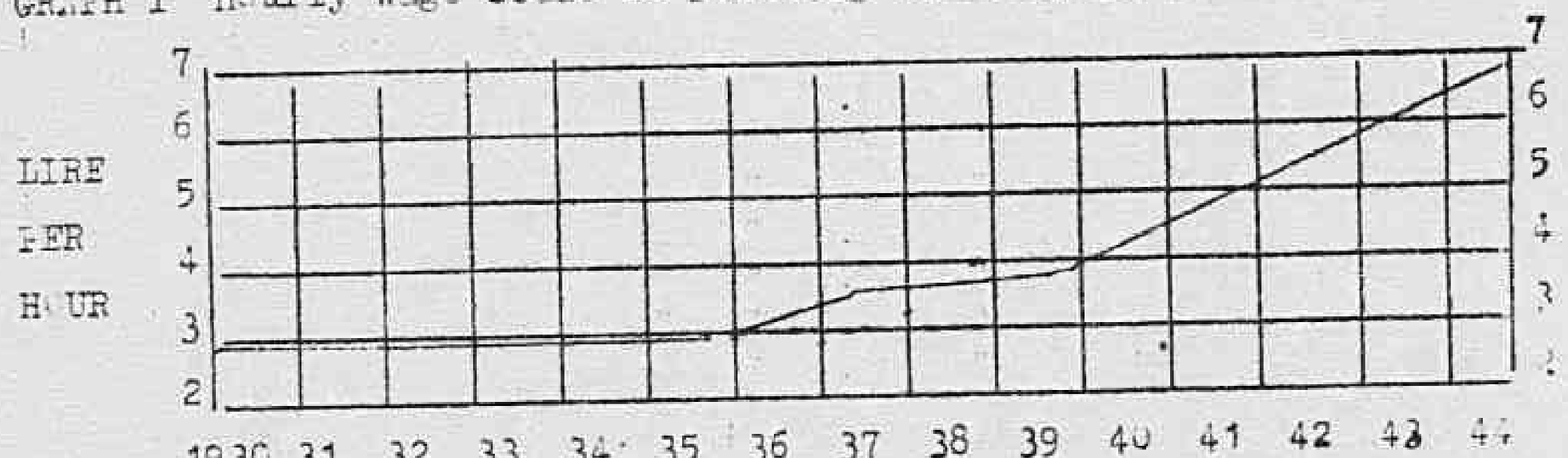
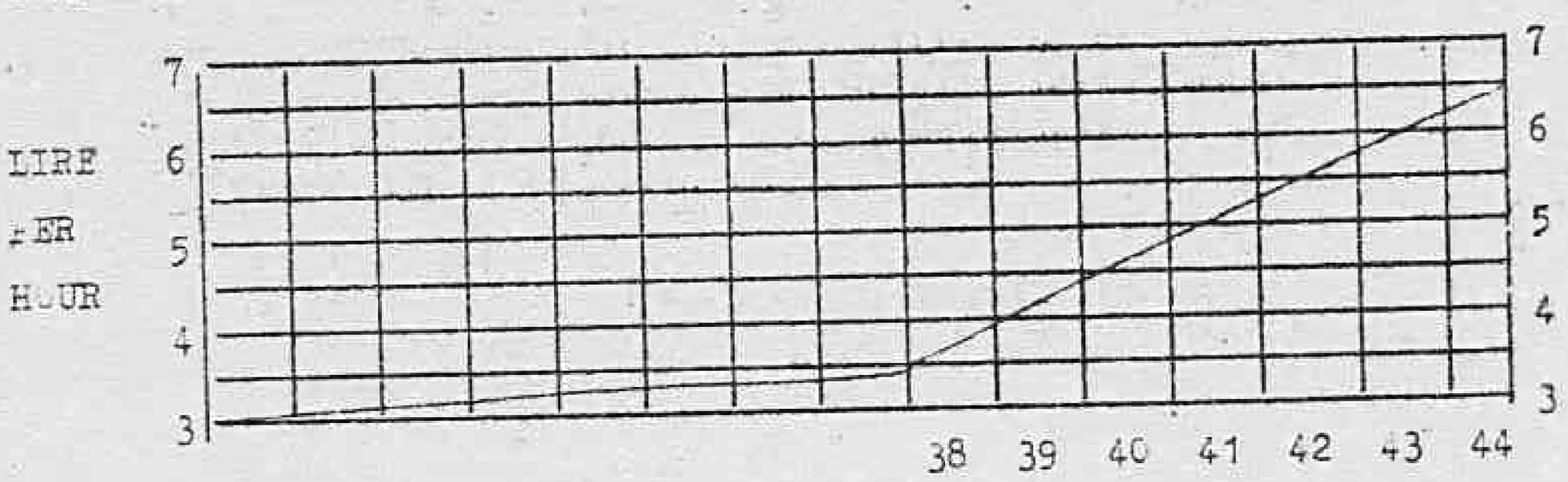
APPENDIX A - Graphs

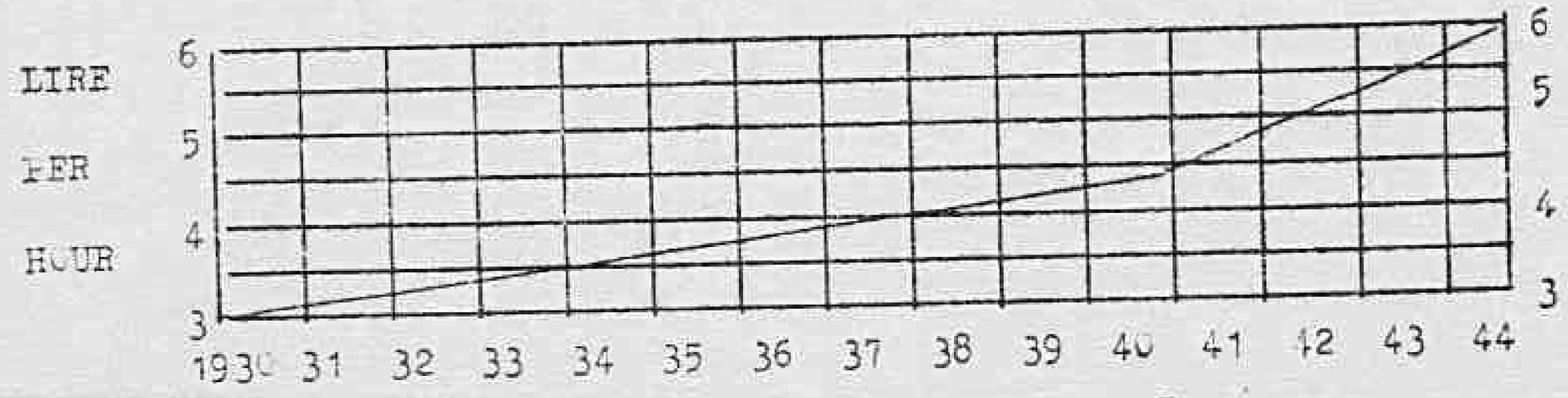
GRAPH I Hourly wage scale in Printing Industry in Rome Area



GRAPH II Hourly wage scale in Building industry in Rome Area



GRAPH III Hourly Wage rate in Quarry Industry.



Wages of Engineering Industry in Rome Area

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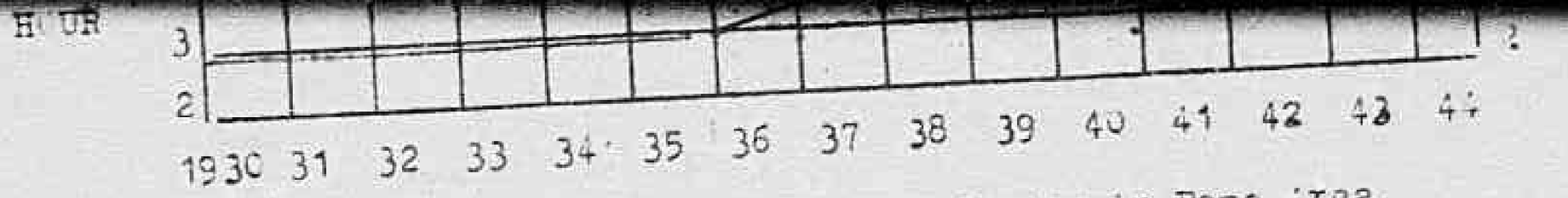
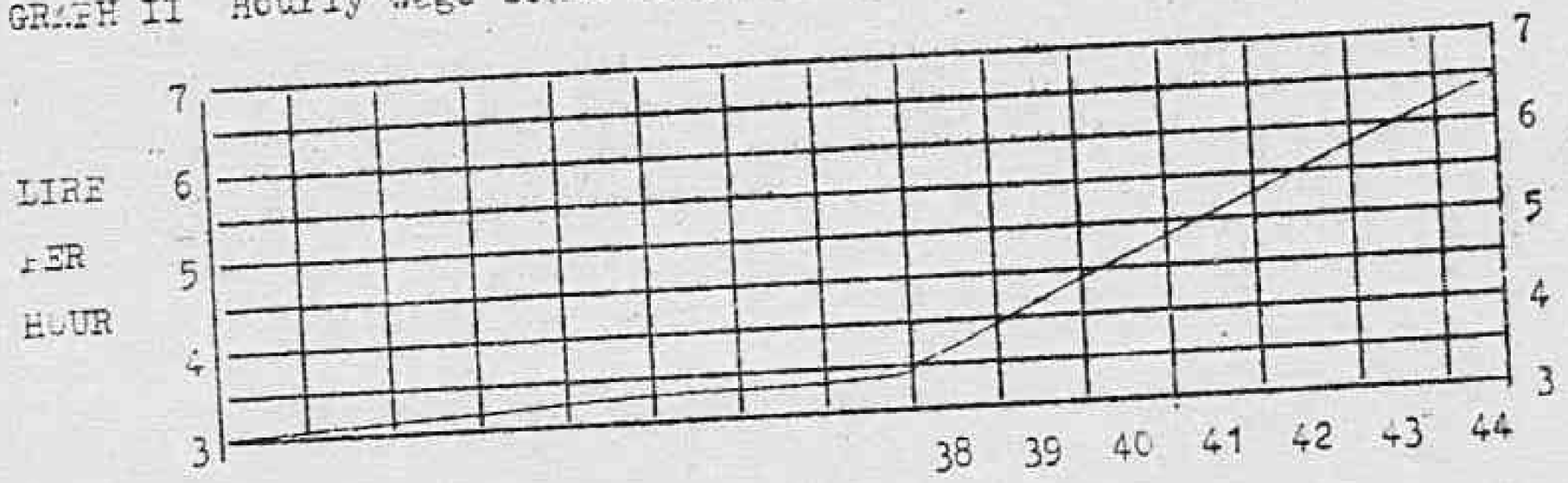
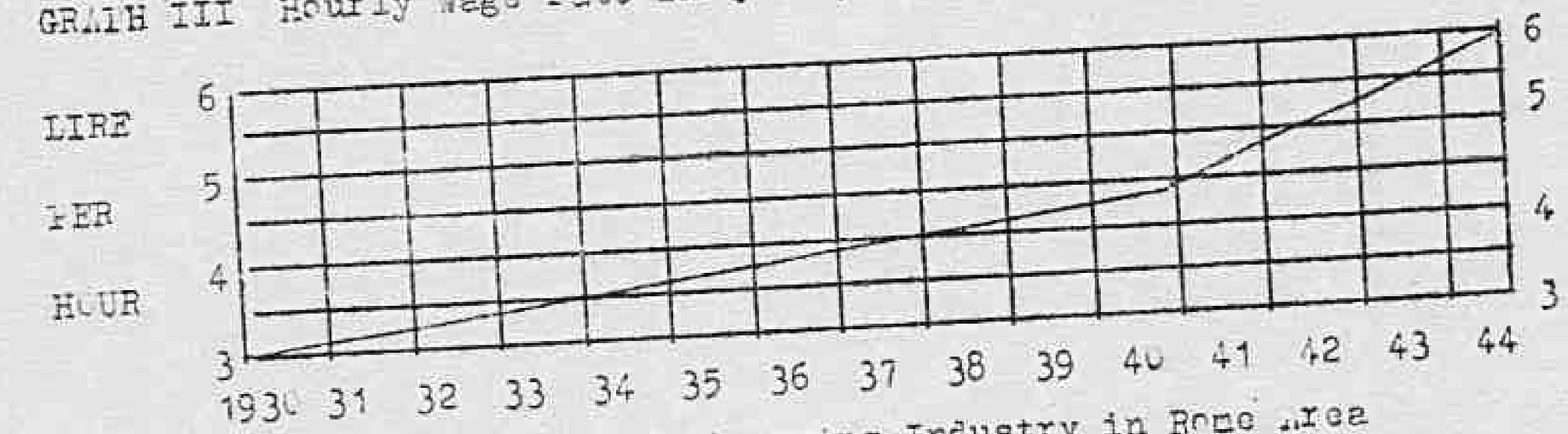


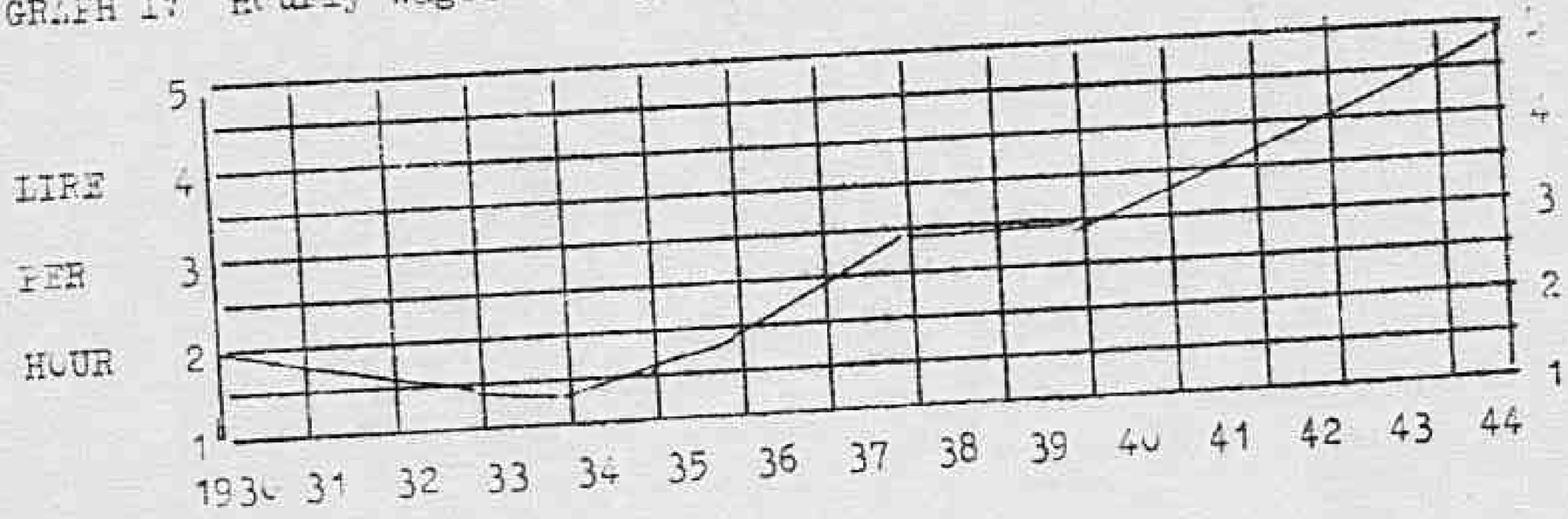
GRAPH II Hourly wage scale in Building industry in Rome Area



GRAPH III Hourly Wage rate in Quarry Industry.



GRAPH IV Hourly wages of Engineering Industry in Rome Area



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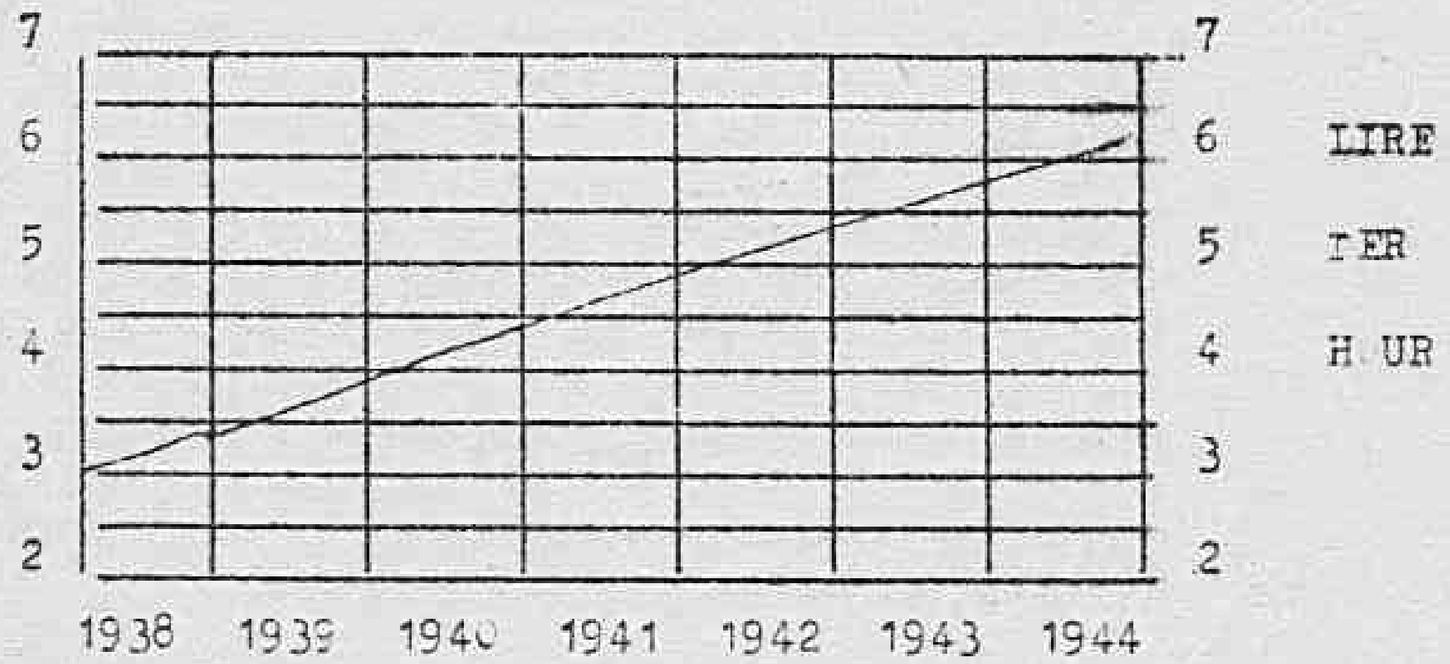
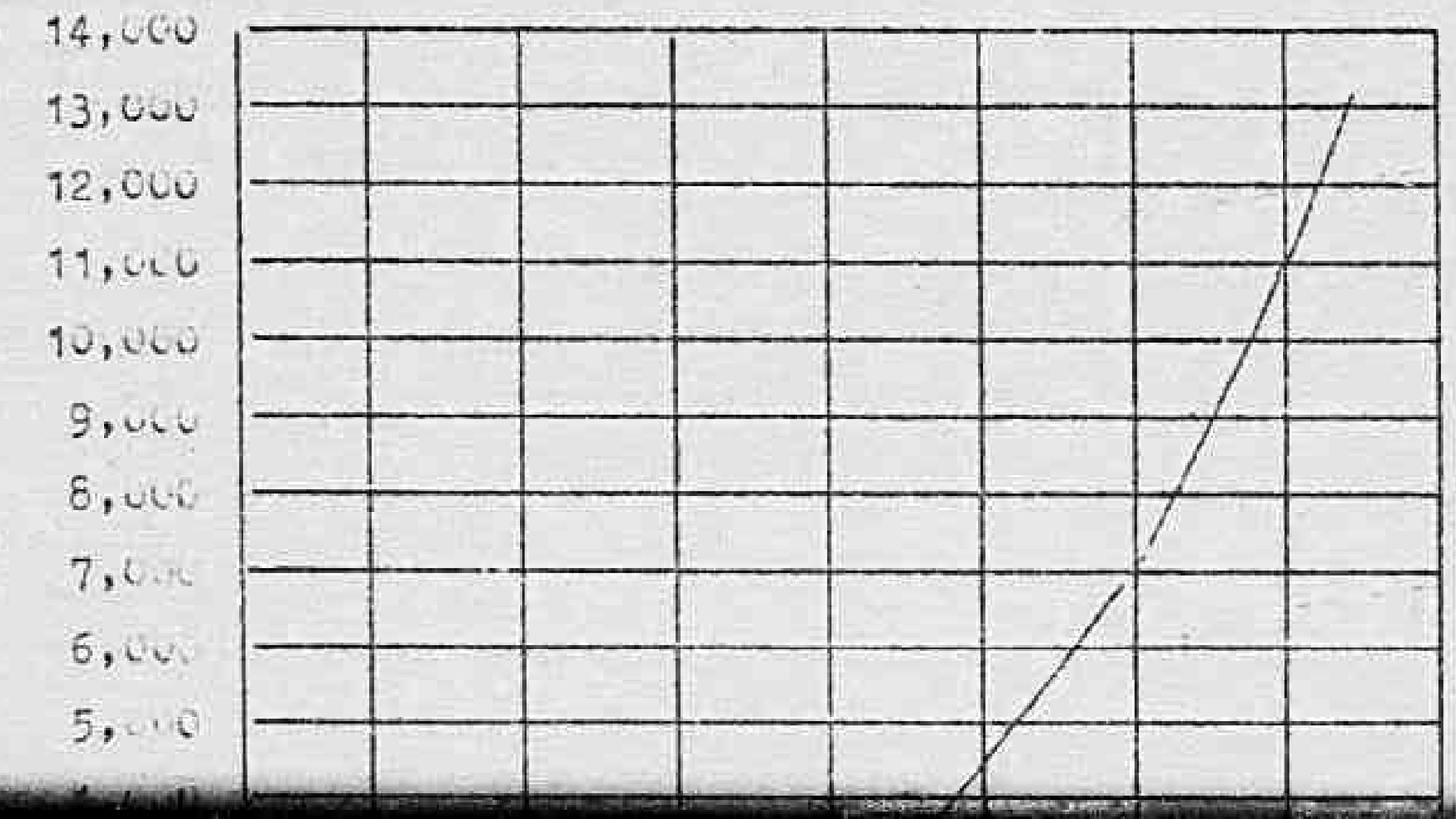
GRAPH V Representing the rise in hourly wages of workers in key industries: building, engineering, mining and printing. Rome Area from 1938 to 1944. Figures taken from Rome Camera Del Lavoro



GRAPH VI Showing the average cost of food per month for a family of five in the Area of Rome during the year 1937-44.



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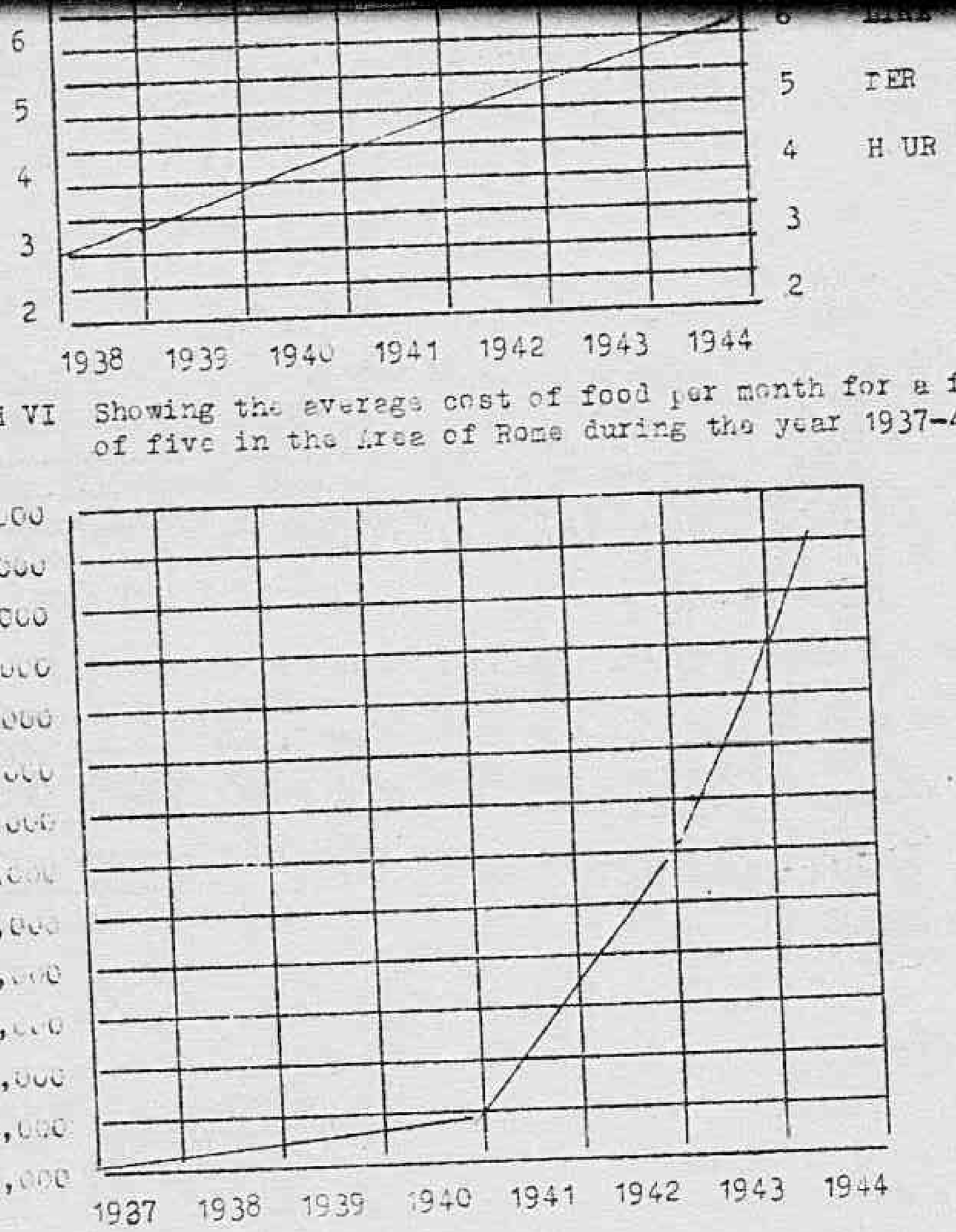

GRAPH VI Showing the average cost of food per month for a family of five in the area of Rome during the year 1937-44.

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N A P L E S

I. LABOUR PROBLEMS

The chief labour problems in Liberated Italy are the following:

1) Wages are too low and for the most part do not give the workmen and their families the necessary means of subsistence. All manual and blackcoat workers think that instead of increasing wages it would be better to give the workers and their families a small ration of food, at a fair price.

2) Extensive unemployment due to the destruction of several factories and to the inactivity of many other plants, although not seriously damaged. So far in the province of Naples 63,826 unemployed have registered; many others, however, are not registered as they prefer to engaged in some illegal or at least non-productive activity (Black Market, retail trade on the side, etc.) The number of workers who have a real productive activity is very small. Unemployment dole ranges from 3-12 lire per diem.

3) Inactivity of the workers' organizations (Trade Unions and cooperatives). In fact the demands for labour are not made through the Trade Unions concerned, but through other offices which engage workmen without knowing them. In this connection the harbor workers complain that Allied Authorities contract for the discharge of ships with contractors who make very high profits though incompetent, and who do not deal direct with the cooperatives of harbor workers.

4) Dispersal of specialized labour, as many workers prefer non-specialized work, if it is more remunerative; among these activities we may note work in Allied messes, Black Market, etc.

5) Lack of transport - Many workers cannot take a job in districts far from their homes.

II. WAGES IN SOUTHERN ITALY

Agriculture

Daily workers ... lire per day plus 2 full meals a day

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ration of food, at a fair price.

2) Extensive unemployment due to the destruction of several factories and to the inactivity of many other plants, although not seriously damaged. So far in the province of Naples 63,826 unemployed have registered; many others, however, are not registered as they prefer to engaged in some illegal or at least non-productive activity (Black Market, retail trade on the side, etc.) The number of workers who have a real productive activity is very small. Unemployment dole ranges from 3-12 lire per diem.

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II. WAGES IN SOUTHERN ITALY

Agriculture	
Daily workers	[illegible] lire per day plus 2 full meals a day
Industry	
Workers with Allied Authorities	80/100 lire per day with or without one limited meal
Workers with Italian Authorities	120-200 lire per day without meals
Workers in large factories and public services	130/210 lire per day without without meals.
Workers in medium and small factories, and artisan workers	220/450 lire per day with or without meals

This last category of workers gets much good wages because it is well organized.

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Offices

Allied offices	80/140 lire per day without meals
Italian public offices	120/200 lire per day without meals
Italian private offices	100/300 lire per day with or without meals.

III. EXPENDITURE OF AN AVERAGE FAMILY

Budget of expenditure of an average working class family composed of father, mother, and three little children (from 5-15 years old). We are taking into account only the absolutely necessary expenses at the lowest prices.

Expenses for food - Reckoning on a wholly vegetarian diet barely sufficient for an average man, taken at the lowest price.

Breakfast	100 gr. bread 100 gr. milk 10 gr. sugar
Lunch	200 gr. soup 50 gr. bread 200 gr. fruit 10 gr. fats
Supper	400 gr. greens 400 gr. potatoes 50 gr. bread 10 gr. fats

The monthly expenses for this sort of diet for 5 persons are:

Rationed food

Bread	30 kilos at 5 lire a kilo	L. 150.
Pasta	12 " " 7 " " "	84.
Oil	1 litre " 25 " " "	

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without meals.

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The monthly expenses for this sort of diet for 5 persons are:

Rationed food

Bread	30	kilos	at	5	lire a kilo	L. 150.
Pasta	12	"	"	7	" " "	84.
Oil	1	litre	"	35	" " litre	35.
Dehydrated vegetable	1	kilo	"	29	" " kilo	29.
Dry vegetables	1	"	"	30	" " "	30.
Meat and vegetables	1	"	"	60	" " "	60.
					Total	L. 388.

Black Market and Free Market purchases

Greens	60	kilos	at	30	lire a kilo	L. 1800.
Potatoes	60	"	"	30	" " "	1800.
Fruit	30	"	"	25	" " "	750.
Vegetables	14	"	"	150	" " "	2100.
Fats, oil	2	litres	"	340	" " litre	680.
Sugar	1½	kilos	"	360	" " kilo	540.
Milk	15	litres	"	30	" " litre	450.
					Total	L. 8120.

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Other monthly expenses

Rent		L. 200.
Electric light		150.
Gas		200.
Soap		300.
Salt		75.
Matches		75.
Thread, needles, etc.		300.
Shoe repairs		400.
		L. 1700.

ANNUAL EXPENSES

Wearing apparel

For a man	1 suit of clothes	L. 6000.
	1 pair of shoes	3000.
	1 shirt	500.
	1 vest	1000.
	1 pair of drawers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	400.
		L. 11200.
For his wife	1 dress	L. 3000.
	1 pair of shoes	1500.
	1 vest	1000.
	1 petticoat	500.
	1 pair of knickers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	700.
		L. 7000.
For the children	1 dress	L. 2000.
	1 pair of shoes	1500.
	1 vest	700.
	1 shirt	500.
	1 pair of drawers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	400.

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Shoe repairs L. 1700.

ANNUAL EXPENSES

Wearing apparel

For a man	1 suit of clothes	L. 6000.
	1 pair of shoes	3000.
	1 shirt	500.
	1 vest	1000.
	1 pair of drawers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	400.
		L. 11200.
For the wife	1 dress	L. 3000.
	1 pair of shoes	1500.
	1 vest	1000.
	1 petticoat	500.
	1 pair of knickers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	700.
		L. 7000.
For the children	1 dress	L. 2000.
	1 pair of shoes	1500.
	1 vest	700.
	1 shirt	500.
	1 pair of drawers	300.
	2 pairs of stockings	400.
		L. 5400.
3 children at 5400 each		L. 16200.

Total of annual expenses for wearing apparel L. 34400.
This amount divided over 12 monthly budgets comes to 2866 L; per

We may calculate the monthly expenses as follows:

Food	L. 8528.
Other monthly expenses	1700.
Wearing apparel	2866.
Total	L. 13094.

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If this amount is divided over 26 working days, it may be stated that the average wage of an average worker or black-coated employee should be at least 500 lire per day. Even this wage, however, is not sufficient, as the following expenses have not been taken into account: transport, doctors and medical attention, school books, repairs at home, purchases of replacements for broken or worn articles, all amusements, cigarettes and other incidental expenses. Neither have the following basic foods been included: meat, eggs, fish, butter, cheese, dried fruit and marmalade, chocolate and sweets for the children; wine, tea and coffee for the adults.

The cost of summer dresses is reckoned on those made from second rate material.

So it may be stated that even a wage of 500 lire a day is insufficient for a family of 5 persons.

T U S C A N Y

I. General Confederation of Italian Labour

All the Tuscan Organizations of Workers, including the various Syndicates, have joined the General Confederation of Italian Labour, which is divided into three branches:

Agriculture
Industry
Commerce

Personnel, recruited from the various parties -- Communist, Socialist, and Christian Democrat -- all belong to the General Confederation of Italian Workers.

Good results have already been obtained. The workers dismissed because of present conditions, are paid wages plus family allowances (from July to October 31st.)

New contracts between employers and workers will come into force dating from Oct. 1st, under the CGIL (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro). The employers and the CGIL are reported to be discussing the issue of a public loan for the industrial reconstruc- the Government will be asked to guarantee the in-

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New contracts between employers and workers will come into force dating from Oct. 1st, under the CGIL (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro). The employers and the CGIL are reported to be discussing the issue of a public loan for the industrial reconstruction of Tuscany. The Government will be asked to guarantee the interest. This attempt is considered to be the first instance of a possible participation by Labour in industrial profits.

Factory Commissions -- These have been established under the CGIL and Camera del Lavoro. These aid in the reorganization of the factories (inventory-taking, repairs, etc.) and examine the possibility of reopening the factories. Theoretically non-political and designed solely for the protection of the worker's interests, these Commissions really act under the direct influence of the political parties of the CGIL. Their functions are:

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To regularize the work
To settle disputes
To better the output and conditions of the workers
(Salaries, hygien, etc.)
To study the collective contracts.

The ultimate aim of these Commissions is certainly the nationalization of the industries.

The charge of the worker's pay, will as has been stated, lapse on October 31, and it remains to be seen what the attitude of the Industrial Directors will be.

The Inside Factory Commissions will in all cases present lists of workers to be dismissed. The Trato industrialists are said to have decided to dismiss the whole personnel and close the factories although some of them could be worked.

System of Agricultural Contract -- Share-cropper's contract as stipulated Dec. 21, 1928:

a. The Capoccia (legal male head of a peasant household) represents the whole family, which is pledged to work only on the land.

b; The farm stock belongs to the land-owner (grain reserves, machinery, etc.) and the share-cropper, when the contract expires, must return it complete in quality, weight, number and quantity.

c; The livestock is estimated according to the valuation of each head at current market prices. A subsequent contract of 31.10.38 allowed a half-share between owner and farmer of the livestock capital in Tuscany.

d. Farmhouses and outbuildings are conceded rent free to the sharecropper.

e. Building repairs, safeguarding the property, land reclamation or improvement are the owner's responsibility.

f. The same holds good for tree-planting.

g; The technical and administrative direction is the responsibility of the owner.

h. Small tools are provided by the sharecropper and kept in r-

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f. The same holds good for tree-planting.

g) The technical and administrative direction is the responsibility of the owner.

h. Small tools are provided by the sharecropper and kept in repair by both parties.

i. The sharecropper provides for maintenance of farm roads, irrigation channels and boundary ditches.

j. Land taxes are all paid by the owner, and agrarian taxes are divided between the two parties.

The two parties also share the expenses of:

a. Fertilizers, seed, Etc.
b. Protection of crops from disease and damage.
c. Repairs and ordinary maintenance of machines and tools.
d. Irrigation (with special regulations in particular cases.)

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e. The use of machines, ploughs, etc.

f. The threshing and oil-pressing expenses are also divided between the two parties more or less equally. The crops are halved.

g. For the raising of industrial crops (tobacco, tomatoes, beet, etc.) silkworm culture, mating of livestock, the cropper receives special grants.

There are special rules laid down to regulate the kitchen-garden, poultry yard and pig-breeding for the use of the peasant.

This farming contract has to be registered, and when revised must among other points keep in view the necessity of a minimum basic salary.

The sharecropping category ought also to be ensured the benefit of family bonus from which it is at present excluded.

Wages and Salaries - In the province of Florence pay is according to the old tariff of the emergency period (previous to the 70% increase), and averages:

5.20 lire an hour for specialized workers.
4.[illegible] lire an hour for unskilled workers.

The 70% increase will be applied from October 31st, but the Ministry is still debating the rate of indemnity for increased cost of living.

The Working Population of Florence

The metallurgic industry normally employs 13,000 workers. At the present time 5600 persons are employed, 25[illegible] of whom are at FIAT which is now requisitioned and working for the Allies. (This factory will probably absorb another 1000 workers in the future.) The "Pignone" Factory, were it reopened, would employ about 3000 workers.

Unemployment

Applications for employment exceed 21,000. The employment office has been able to place 3[illegible]00 workers so far. There is a great demand for workers in the Building industry, the only industry that

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II AGRICULTURAL SECTION OF GENERAL ITALIAN CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR

The total number of landworkers (including families) amounts to about 21[illegible],000, divided as follows:

a) Laborers and sharecroppers - 25,7[illegible] families (182,000 persons)
b) Day laborers, skilled workers, employees of Agricultural Firms, farms, etc. - 13,[illegible] units (25,000 persons)

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These are subdivided as follows:

1083 employees
4750 at fixed wages
815 share-croppers
4739 day laborers.

The Collective Contracts of other Categories of agricultural workers (overseers, skilled workmen and paid laborers) also require revision as regards increase of pay (already accorded to industrial workers); special indemnities for hard times should conceded; indemnities for dismissal and holidays should be increased for some categories. There should be indemnities for long service, even in the case of dismissal or resignation of the worker. Family bonus should be increased, and the relief system further developed in order to bring the agricultural workers to the same level as the industrial.

III. THE RISE IN WAGES

The system on which the rise in wages is based has caused considerable discontent, especially among the younger workers, who complain that the difference between the pay of older and younger workers is too great. Food prices are the same for all, and therefore the increase should have specially favored those who, earning little, are unable to meet even ordinary expenses.

As the labour parties and especially the Movimento Giovanile Comunista (Young Communists' Movement) are fomenting discontent, complaints may presently lead to disturbances, especially in outlying industrial centres, such as San Giovanni Valdarno, Sesto, Figline, etc. where 90% of the inhabitants are of the working-class. (B-3)

C E S E N A

Cesena is the first industrial town of the Padua valley occupied by Allied troops. Now there are only about 15,000 inhabitants, though the normal population is 40,000 (60,000 with suburbs.)

The residential quarter has not suffered much, compared to other places. About 20% of the houses are damaged, but most of them can be readily repaired.

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The chief industry, which gives work to some 5,000 workmen, is the Arrigoni Cannery Co., which produces jam, tomato paste, canned fruit and vegetables. The factories adjacent to the station somewhat damaged by the frequent Allied bombing. When the days of the German Command were numbered, the German demolition squads came to destroy the machinery. But the factory directors did not lose their heads and by offering the squad a million lire bribe, were able to save the machinery from destruction. This machinery is still in Italian hands and will soon give work to people of the town and produce valuable food supplies.

The Allied Command immediately took the buildings under its protection and hopes soon to have them in working order. There

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also a sugar refinery of the Italian Sugar Refineries Co., whose production is limited to the summer months and gives work to 800 men. The electric machinery was blown up by the Germans but the building and other meterial is intact. As soon as the destroyed parts are replaced work can begin again.

However the mills of Cesena are badly damaged. The Allied Command ordered the immediate importation of flour which will continue until the two least damaged mills are in working order again. There is enough wheat stored to last four months, so the Allied authorities have not a difficult problem.

Guns are still heard at Cesena, the front being only 3 kms. away and the faces of the population still show traces of their recent suffering and fear. But they are elated because they have at last been liberated.

S A R D I N I A

UNEMPLOYMENT IN SARDINIA

The unemployment of commercial and industrial workers in Sardinia is increasing every day. Because of the lack of transport and means of communication with the continent, many shops, big and small, are obliged to shut and dismiss their employees. For lack of raw material of any kind, the factories are in a similar predicament.

Only builders can find work in Cagliari, which was badly damaged. The Public Works Department (Genio Civile) employs workmen as it needs them but for the most part the work is done by the soldiers.

There is also an increase of unemployment among the black coat class (employees). The change in politics has caused many offices to shut.

The population of Cagliari, Sassari and Nuoro live by agriculture, as their fathers and grandfathers did. Theirs is a quiet, unpretentious existence not complicated by modern exigencies. However in the later years of Fascist domination when the crops were poor and insufficient for the peasants' needs, they went to work in the mines, so that agriculture lost many laborers. At the present mo-

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The Social Insurance Institute generally aids the unemployed workers and has its main offices in Cagliari. The worker who has regularly paid the worker's insurance contributions receives a daily subsidy from the Institute, but the sum is small compared to prices of today and is no longer sufficient to live on. The worker's family also receives a daily subsidy.

The authorities of the Island have taken no steps as yet to solve the unemployment problem. The workers try to find any work they can, even though it has nothing to do with their usual occupation. They generally traffick in the black market where the profit is quick and easy.

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The present pay of a factory worker is far below the cost of living. A mason gets from L. 80 to 90 a day, a manual worker from L. 50 to 60. A miner in any Sardinia mine gets about L. 90.

The employees of various categories get from L. 1980 to L.3000 a month. Besides their pay, the workmen get a family subsidy for every dependent child. These sums do not include the new increase to meet the high cost of living.

However the above-mentioned pay is insufficient to meet the high cost of living and it is impossible for the workman to meet his expenses. If the cost of living for an average family in Sardinia is far above what the head of the family earns, it is because the rations of staple foods are not given out regularly, and are quite insufficient. Bread and macaroni have only recently been given out regularly, while oil, pork fat, and soap have been lacking for months. Olive oil has not been distributed for five months, but can be bought on the black market at L. 400 a litre. A family of four must spend about L. 200 a day to live. (B-3)

EMILIO LUSSU ON MINERS' CONDITIONS

The following is an account of a conversation between an Italian PWB collaborator and Emilio Lussu.

"We met On. Emilio Lussu for the second time in Sardinia after his return from exile. He had come to examine into various economic problems. He stated that he had noted, on visiting the town of Carbonia, several problems that required immediate solution. He spoke of the pitiable condition of the miners who need clothes and shoes and sufficient nourishing food.

"Emilio Lussu told us of one thing about which the miners had spoken during his visit. With the new bread ration which went into effect on October 1st, some laborers were deprived of the extra bread ration they had received daily hitherto. In fact, in the same mine, he said, some workmen of the distillery do not get the extra bread ration of 150 grs. while the workmen of the furnace of the same mine do get it.

"He has explained this situation to the Allied Commission',

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"'I have explained this situation to the Allied Commission', he said,' which is willing to extend the extra ration to the distillery workmen, who are in such disastrous conditions. I hope to obtain some advantages for them at Rome, where I shall speak of the problem.'" (B-1)

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX II No. 41.

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POLITICAL SITUATION IN CALABRIA (O.S.S. REPORT).

In the region of Catanzaro, Crotone and Cosenza, there are two strong political tendencies. The foremost and better organized is leftist, led by the Communist and Socialist parties. The other is reactionary, represented officially by the Christian Democratic and Republican parties, and unofficially by a strong and potentially dangerous rebirth of Fascist sentiment. Nevertheless, political activity in this region is still in a formative stage.

CATANZARO: The principal agricultural city of the area is the hub of activity for political party organization throughout the smaller towns of the province, rather than a political battleground. Although most of the Italian parties are represented by at least a few members, the strongest groups are the Communist, Christian Democratic, Socialist, Action and Republican parties. Within the city itself, there does not seem to be any attempt to increase the following of any of these parties either by mass-meetings, speeches, demonstrations or any of the other political methods. The objective of the Catanzaro political representatives seems to be to recruit and strengthen their foothold in the outlying towns and villages. There, as one Communist leader said, "the foundations for a permanent political structure are being laid." This seems to be the opinion of the other parties also, for from Catanzaro political representatives are sent to the smaller villages, where they recruit men to form local branches.

CROTONE: The political situation in this city, which is the only important seaport and industrial center in the region, is quite different from that in Catanzaro. Here the political parties are jockeying for position within the city itself. Although the Christian-Democratic party has recently gained some strength, it is still only a weak second to the Communist party, which has the strongest following in the city. There are numerous reports - impossible to confirm - of clashes between the Communists and other groups. These include outbreaks at mass-meetings, assaults on political leaders, etc.

COSENZA: Of the three main cities in the region, this is the only one where the conservative Christian-Democratic party has gained a really strong foothold. The only newspaper published in Cosenza, the ITALIA NUOVA, is conservative, and its popularity seems to be based on a programme of physical rather than social reconstruction. It is said that this is because rebuilding the city, which was damaged by bombardment, is foremost in the mind of the population.

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The following are a few examples of how the different parties have taken root in the smaller towns:

(a) Petrona: Population 4,000; Communist membership 300, Republican membership 180, Christian-Democratic membership 80.

(b) Sersale: Population 7,000; Communist membership 75, Republican, Christian-Democratic and Action parties represented by only a few inactive members.

(c) Cropani: Population 5,000; Action party membership 165, Communist membership 55, several other parties poorly represented.

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(d) Catanzaro Marina: Population 6,000; Socialist membership 500 (this is mainly among the railroad workers), Communist membership 80, other parties insignificantly represented.

It is worth remarking that even though the Communist party is not always the major party, it seems to be well organized and always present to some extent.

The population of this area can be roughly divided into the following four political groups, listed according to their numerical rather than political strength:

I. Peasants, whose sympathies seem to be conservative and monarchical. Although this is unquestionably the largest block of the population, its support does not seem to have been sought by any of the political parties.

II. Lower middle-class and industrial workers form the most active political group, whose support is most eagerly courted by all the parties. The Communist party has the strongest following in this group.

III. Upper middle-class, land-owners and aristocracy. This group is not unlike the peasant group in its political sentiments. Its members are conservative and for the most part favor the monarchy. It seems to be generally shunned by all parties, possibly because many of its number were formerly Fascist party members.

IV. Railroad employees. This group, though not numerically strong, is widely distributed and almost unanimously Socialist in sentiment, if not membership. According to their spokesmen, they expect a strong national movement immediately following the liberation of Northern Italy. They claim to be the oldest anti-Fascist bloc in Southern Italy, a claim which is even confirmed by many of their opponents, who admit their connection with, and support of, the Socialists in the North Italian centers before Fascism came to power.

The Fascist sentiment referred to in the first paragraph is confined almost entirely to the upper middle-class, land-owners and aristocracy. It is impossible to say whether there is actually any pro-Fascist organization, or whether it is still merely a reactionary

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then political strength:

I. Peasants, whose sympathies seem to be conservative and monarchical. Although this is unquestionably the largest block of the population, its support does not seem to have been sought by any of the political parties.

II. Lower middle-class and industrial workers form the most active political group, whose support is most eagerly courted by all the parties. The Communist party has the strongest following in this group.

III. Upper middle-class, land-owners and aristocracy. This group is not unlike the peasant group in its political sentiments. Its members are conservative and for the most part favor the monarchy. It seems to be generally shunned by all parties, possibly because many of its number were formerly Fascist party members.

IV. Railroad employees. This group, though not numerically strong, is widely distributed and almost unanimously Socialist in sentiment, if not membership. According to their spokesmen, they expect a strong national movement immediately following the liberation of Northern Italy. They claim to be the oldest anti-Fascist bloc in Southern Italy, a claim which is even confirmed by many of their opponents, who admit their connection with, and support of, the Socialists in the North Italian centers before Fascism came to power.

The Fascist sentiment referred to in the first paragraph is confined almost entirely to the upper middle-class, land-owners and aristocracy. It is impossible to say whether there is actually any pro-Fascist organization, or whether it is still merely a reactionary sentiment. The latter seems to be the case. One of these "pro-Fascists" summed up the situation as follows: "We don't want Mussolini back, and we don't want Germany to win the war, but we do want a central government strong enough to maintain law and order throughout Italy. If a multi-party system of government cannot accomplish this - and so far it has not - then we will support another totalitarian government, whether it be backed by America, England, Russia or the Fascists." It seems that the situation is not dangerous as yet, but that it should be watched carefully, for the field is believed to be fertile for subversive organization.

No trace of the existence of a pro-Fascist organization was uncovered, but Communist party members related incidents which might indicate the existence of such a movement. The following are samples of these:

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I. In the town of Soriano one night the hammer-and-sickle emblem over the Communist headquarters was painted over and the Fascist Party initials "P.N.F." carefully painted in its place.

II. A secret meeting was held at Borgia to elect members for a widespread Fascist organization. It was broken up by the local Communist and Socialist party members.

III. In many ofthe small towns and even in Catanzaro itself, crudely painted signs "RITORNEREMO" (We shall be back) have appeared. It seems this has recently become a Fascist motto.

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX III No. 41.

(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only).

CONDITIONS IN VITERBO

Economic Conditions

Viterbo, about 80 km. north of Rome has a population of 25 or 30 thousand, and is likely to experience a slow recovery from the war which left schools, houses, factories and churches in heaps of rubble. The water situation in the town is normal and there is electricity every other day, power being sent on the odd days to Rome where shortage of electricity is much more acute. Gas is available every morning from 7.20 to 10.00 and sometimes in the afternoons.

Food

The food and black market situation in Viterbo is greatly influenced by the economic conditions in Rome as the latter is only two or three hours away by the electric trains that make the round trip every night. People from Rome can be seen every day in Viterbo and the surrounding country buying fruit, vegetables and other produce, at prices that are extremely high for the Viterbese; this has resulted in a system of barter among the local people who cannot afford to pay so much as the Romans. A peasant will give 4 kilos of flour or beans for 1 kilo of salt but he cannot afford to pay 350 lire for salt, which is the market price. Some other black market prices:

Flour	60-80 lire per kilo
Beans	100
Potatoes	1,500 - 2,000 lire per quintal
Bread	90 lire per kilo (unobtainable)
Oil	500 lire per litre (unobtainable)
Cigarettes	120 lire per package (few soldiers around here now)
Sugar	300 lire per kilo.

The black market operating between Rome and Viterbo is at present the towns biggest business. For a time a law awarded 35% of any goods taken in such transactions to the person who discovered and disclosed the black market activities; this was suspended however two months ago and now there is no black market control. Except for bread and flour there are no regular rations. Twice there has been a ration of tinned goods. The two greatest needs are oil and fat; the last oil ration was in April; there has never been a fat ration. There was one soap ration about two months ago and sugar rations at the same time for babies. As olive oil and fats for cooking are prime necessities to the Italian diet, many people speak of having a public demonstration because of the continued shortage.

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Flour	60-80 lire per kilo
Beans	100
Potatoes	1,500 - 2,000 lire per quintal
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Industry

A principal industry in Viterbo was ceramics and this has had 90% of its buildings destroyed by Allied bombings. No reconstruction is anticipated for a long time. A small foundry and three sawmills are functioning. The greater part of the population is made up of artisans, tradesmen, builders etc., and no shortage of work is expected for them as there is much to be rebuilt.

Propaganda

Three cinemas are open and they are very crowded; they show the old films of pre-war days and those new films that have arrived from America.

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Documentaries are usually popular with the young people of the town. There are two independent weekly newspapers L. VOCE DI VITERBO and LO SPORT VITERBESE; a newspaper published by some students is expected to appear soon. Newspapers arrive from Rome a day late and the most popular are IL POPOLO, IL TEMPO, and L'UNITA. Allied publications arrive in quantities far too small but are very popular and bought just as soon as they appear on the newsstands...the people would like to see more of them.

Public security

The Carabinieri and the questura are very unpopular...mainly because they do nothing about the black market. Also people complain because many "republicani" are still in office.

Attitude towards Allies

There is a general feeling of friendliness towards the Allies. All the young people would prefer to come under American influence, perhaps because they think this country is rich and more egualitarian. They feel the English come more as dominators than as liberators. They are a little bitter against the French - especially against some of the North African troops - who said they were revenging themselves in Italy for the damage done by the Italian soldiers in France and North Africa; though the Moroccans stole a few sheep and cattle there were only isolated cases of rape, and so the feeling does not run extremely high against them. As to Russia they profess to know nothing.

The Colonies

There was much discontent at Eden's statement on Italian colonies. The loss of Ethiopia was conceded but the rest of Italy's overseas possessions should not be taken away from her. Roosevelt's statement announcing a dollar credit for occupation lire called forth a general feeling of satisfaction.

The Italian Government

The Viterbese seemed content with the present Italian government, but the general feeling was unmistakably anti-monarchical. The young people definitely do not want to be soldiers again because (1) they dread being sent to Japan; (2) not knowing the Armistice terms, they do not want to fight as co-belligerents believing they will be treated as inferiors; (3) they don't want to fight under the monarchy.

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Education

Antonio Marzullo, provveditore of the schools, says they will not be able to open in November as expected. "First of all 80% of the school buildings have been destroyed by Allied bombing, and the remaining space is used for housing refugees and sick people; we cannot send those people away because they have no homes, and our plans for building temporary barracks for them are continually delayed. We have sufficient funds and sufficient material to reconstruct the school buildings, but we cannot get the labor because the carpenters, masons etc. in Viterbo prefer to work for private people who pay them in kind with oil, flour and grain etc. They do not care to receive more lire. The state of our students is pitiful, they have not studied for two years, as schools were closed last January and they did not study in the previous year because of

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war excitement. Many teachers live in Rome and teach in Viterbo, but there is no tram in the morning to bring them to the town, which is consequently short of teaching personnel; the same is true for some 300 students who normally come to Viterbo to school from the surrounding districts. There is furthermore a great shortage of textbooks and there is no way of overcoming this at the present time because all publishing houses are in the north of Italy." It was the opinion of the provveditore that epuration had been too severe: he knew of two teachers (anti-marcia) who had lost their posts and were in deplorable circumstances. The schools in the rest of the commune are all functioning; only the 3,000 students who attend the schools in Viterbo are without facilities. Sig. Marzullo, who was also professor of Greek and Latin said that he thought there should be a shift in emphasis from classical teaching to technical subjects, as classical education had always received too much prominence in Italy.

A group of students encountered in the streets appeared very discontented that epuration had not been carried out more thoroughly in the schools; they said that the provveditore was a Fascist and a Squadrista and that he too should have been epurated. A short time ago the Unione Studenti Italiani had a demonstration to gather funds for refugees, poor, sick etc. The students hope soon to publish their own newspaper.

Camera del Lavoro

The Camera del Lavoro was about to open; its membership will be largely composed of agricultural workers since there is little industry in Viterbo, and it will concern itself mainly with land problems. There are ten or fifteen villages near Viterbo where the peasants have already occupied the land of the owners and will not go away. Sig. Zampanti, who now works in conjunction with the Allied labor office, and who will be active in the Camera del Lavoro, says that from 1500 until 1850 the peasants worked the land under a feudal system; then a land law was passed that gave the peasant a small piece of property, though he continued to work the large estates of the big property owners; this lasted until 1934 when another division of land was made through legal means. Now the peasants have occupied the land of the landowners (in villages of Nepi and Bonarzo) and they say that the law was made in Fascist days and therefore is invalid now - so they have made their own law and intend to remain on the land they have occupied and worked. Another problem centers around that of the property of Prince Torlonia; he has 8,600 hectares of land and will not permit the peasants on it. However, on the morning of October 14th, 1944, the peasants intended occupying the land by force.

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It should be noted that land problems in Italy receive different consideration than, say, in America, where land is much more plentiful and its relation to existence is not so keenly felt.

Political parties

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Zampanti is also a leader of the Communist Party; he said that it is the second strongest party in Viterbo, the first being the Christian Democrat. The Communists have about 6,000 members, made up chiefly of agricultural workers, few intellectuals; they are very near the socialists and are very friendly with the other parties. In fact, the only difference in the parties in Viterbo are slight intellectual differences between the party leaders most of whom seem to be old friends with each other.

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The "Movimento Communista" hardly deserves mention as far as political strength goes, but its members had pasted signs all over the streets announcing their pure communist aims; and considered the Communist Party as a traitor to Marx and Lenin. Zompanti (29, modest, intelligent, democratic) says that the leaders of this small party have frequently been in jail. In their office numerous signs and red flags cover the walls and a crowd of people gathered around us when we went to speak to the secretary. At first they were afraid that we were the American "gestapo" coming to spy or put a stop to their activities. Then the secretary said that they were a new party in Viterbo, a branch of the Rome Movimento Communista, and with the same ends: they are the extreme left and have no patience with socialist or republican tendencies of the regular Communist party

Fernando Molini, leader in the Christian Democrat Party (also on C.L.N.) said that the political organization for their party was getting under way very slowly, in fact they were holding their first public meeting on Sunday, October 15th. He said "in our region everyone is very calm about politics. We don't get excited like the people in Rome. Our party has only about 250 members at the moment, but we know that we have hundreds of sympathizers. Besides, we have had so much destruction, over a thousand civilians killed during the Allied bombings, that we have not had much time for politics; our people have always been very calm and conservative. We were one of the last communes to come under the Fascist rule; we think that our party will be the strongest one in the commune from all present indications; the communists are next to us in strength, then perhaps the Republicans. As soon as the Germans left we formed a Committee of Liberation with representatives of seven political parties, Communist, Dems Christian, Socialist, Democrazio del Lavoro, Action Party, Republicans and Liberals. The C.L.N. then restored public order, organized the cleaning up of the bombed quarters of the town, took measures for improving public sanitation, food conditions etc., and it still functions as an advisory body in all matters of public interest.

Church

Bishop Adelchi Serena said that the people in the commune of Viterbo continue to have a very high opinion of the Allies. He spoke of the many people from Viterbo who still lived in caves because their homes had been destroyed by the bombing, and said that many refugees were in need of further aid. During the summer there had been a good deal of typhoid but it is now declining. The Italian Red Cross distributed "minestra" every day in Viterbo under the auspices of the Vatican.

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In these Italian towns, whose number are legion, of which Viterbo is one, where civilian casualties have been extremely heavy and the destruction of public and private property has been extreme, a very long post-war adjustment must be expected. People who have lost husbands, wives, children, close members of their families, cannot be expected to forget these things in a moment. It is improbable that they can have any kind of political or national enthusiasm for a long time. Every day they pass piles of rubbish and wrecked buildings where their relatives and friends were killed. The armies pass and leave these scenes of wreckage which are only a memory to them; but for the civilians who live in these towns they are a daily reality. The image of this wreckage will be impressed on the minds of the people and will doubtlessly dampen any enthusiasm for war for many generations. Viterbo is the centre of an agricultural district, there is an atmosphere of extreme conservatism about the remarks and expressions of the people.

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THE REFUGEE CAMP AT CASTIGLION FIORENTINO AND A NOTE ON PERUGIA AND ASSISI

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The Refugee Camp of Castiglion Fiorentino lies on the road between Perugia and Arezzo. The Commandant is a British Captain, Frederick W.D. Taylor, who has already organized 3 other camps: at Capua, north of Capua and at Cesano. The camp is situated on a sloping plain, watered by canals, with a housing capacity of 7,000. The Allied personnel consists of Captain Taylor and two warrant officers, there is also a representative of the British Red Cross who distributes clothing to the refugees. They are helped by a small detachment of Italian soldiers and Carabinieri who maintain order. Sanitary arrangements are in the care of two Italian doctors, assisted by ten voluntary Italian Red Cross workers; some of the refugees work in the administrative office of the camp. Captain Taylor is high in his praises of the Italian personnel.

Allied transport, taking ammunition to the front and returning empty, presents the ideal means of bringing to safety refugees who have been forced to leave their homes in the battle area and seek refuge with the Allied authorities. From the front they are taken first to the ammunition supply depots and then transported by other vehicles to the refugee camps. There are transit camps at these supply depots where refugees can stay the night, and if necessary longer.

Two other camps similar to that of Castiglion Fiorentino, one on the Adriatic and the other on the Tyrrhenean, serve the two other war theatres.

Three kitchens, which are supplied with British military rations, serve hot meals twice daily. The hospital (consisting of half a dozen tents) is beautifully furnished and fully equipped with Allied medical supplies. Two babies have been born there since the middle of August. Large wash rooms with running water ensure hygenic conditions.

Amusements are few, but the traditional Italian game of bowls is popular!

Refugees on arrival are directed to a tent where they are dusted with DDT, an anti-parasite powder - a recent American discovery. In a second tent the head of the family gives his name, particulars of the members of his family, and states the place where he desires to be sent (if they have another house or relatives who can take them in, transport is arranged, otherwise they are sent towards Rome or even further south). In the third tent each refugee is given two woollen blankets and eating utensils. Then they are taken to have a meal.

Three tents are used as a store for clothes sent by the American

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Three tents are used as a store for clothes sent by the American Red Cross - shoes, woollen clothing, trousers, warm overcoats etc.

This camp gives a clear idea of Allied effort to help Italian refugees.

Perugia

Perugia has been little touched by the war. The Collegio del Cambio, the Palazzo del Municipio and the Cathedral with the Fonte Maggiore are intact. At the University, courses in Italian culture are being held for Allied soldiers.

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The ceramic factory, under the Directorship of Arcangelo Foloni, is going ahead with its work. Enameling, baking, ornamentation and design continue as before. Wood is being used for the furnaces as there is no electricity.

Assisi

Assisi is completely untouched by the war. The inhabitants, at the time of the German occupation, were so certain of the protection of St. Francis as to be completely unmoved. The German Commandant was a fervent Catholic and a jealous guardian of the city and its treasures. A story is told that at the time of the German occupation a contingent of S.S. was sent to Assisi to show the people that times were hard, even for them, but the Commandant succeeded in persuading them that their presence was useless, and they went away without leaving behind their usual legacy of devastation.

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CONFIDENTIAL SUMMARY NO. 40

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
UNIT NO. 12 APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy November 2, 1944

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 40

8691 - - -

Great Britain and of diplomatic relations between Italy and the United States and Russia, was hailed by the Italian press as an important step towards emerging from the isolation in which Italy had been living since the Armistice. As Signor Bonomi put it in an interview with the press, Italians felt that their country had returned to the family of free nations of the world. The Prime Minister was however quick to seize on the ulterior consequences of this move by declaring that the fact that Italy had regained full possession of her individuality as a nation with an authority and will of her own was no longer compatible with a state of complete subjection such as that laid down by the clauses of the armistice. Italy, he added, cannot have a voice in the council of nations and yet not have one in her own affairs. He pointed out that Roosevelt and Churchill had promised that the Italian administration would be given greater authority. This had not been effected yet in internal affairs, and he expressed the hope that this would take place. Thus the establishment of relations with the Allied powers is regarded as a step towards greater autonomy for the Italian government. Although many Italians share Bonomi's view, they do not conceal their pleasure at the announcement of the appointment of ambassadors. Count Carandini, the leader of the Liberal party and Minister without Portfolio, has been appointed the Italian representative in London, and it is rumored that Count Sforza may be ambassador in Washington. M.Kortylev the present Russian representative, has been given the rank of ambassador, and the Italian representative in Moscow has reciprocal privileges. Speculation is now current as to whether professional diplomatists will be sent to London and Washington to accompany the ambassadors, or whether Italians will be chosen from outside the diplomatic service.

(2) The Cabinet in its meeting on Friday approved a scheme concerning the constitution of a "body of guards of public safety." This measure is intended to reform and reorganize the police force of the country. Not only has the name of the force been changed, but other substantial changes have been introduced. The new police force will be purged of compromised elements, and will be reinforced by new, sound elements, recruited principally from the ranks of ex-service men and partisans. It is believed by the government that if the police force is renewed and reformed in this way it will acquire the authority necessary to preserve law and order. From several reports it is clear that this reform is one of the most urgently needed, as there have been signs that individual acts of aggression in Rome and elsewhere were on the increase until recently. The reforms will be initiated at once, and recruiting for the new police force has al-

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ready been opened. On November 1st courses will be opened for cadets for the police force in Rome. The resumption of night police patrols in Rome has already resulted in a diminution of acts of crime, it is reported.

(3) The political parties are still largely in a fluid state. There have been reports, so far unconfirmed, of a fusion between the Party of Action and the Democratic Labor party. There are two distinct currents within the Socialist party, one which leans towards a form of democratic socialism and consequently looks to the British Labour party for guidance and support, and would welcome a closer association with the Party of Action and the Christian Democrats. The other is more totalitarian in sympathy and hankers after a dictatorship of the proletariat while looking towards Russia for support and upholding the alliance with the Communist party. Saragat is considered to represent the democratic current, while Nenni is regarded as the representative of the more extremist current. On the other hand, even Nenni in an interview with Reuter's correspondent made it clear that he places great hope in the cooperation of the British Labor party. In this interview he said that the Italian Socialist party had taken the initiative in promoting the summoning of an International Conference of Labour to be held before and during the Peace Conference. He added that the proposal was being considered by the Labour party and that it had already been accepted by the Swiss Socialist party. He said that he believed that at the end of the war a new "International" would arise which would include the workers of all nations. In particular, he concluded, this organization should include the workers of Great Britain, America and Russia, so that a third war might be avoided. In the Christian Democrat party there are also visible two tendencies -- one which would welcome a closer association with the moderate elements of the Socialist Party and the Party of Action, and one which leans more to the right.

(4) The postponement of the trial of General Del Gatto and General Pentimalli has evoked much comment in the press, and given rise to different interpretations. Rumors circulated that there was opposition to the trial in high places.

(5) Mario Palermo, Under Secretary of State for War, returned during the week from a visit to Yugoslavia where had had been inspecting the Italian soldiers of the Garibaldi Division which has been fighting at the side of the Yugoslav troops. Up till now little has been published on the activities of Italian troops in Yugoslavia, and

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Labour party for guidance and support, and would welcome a closer association with the Party of Action and the Christian Democrats. The other is more totalitarian in sympathy and hankers after a dictatorship of the proletariat while looking towards Russia for support and upholding the alliance with the Communist party. Saragat is considered to represent the democratic current, while Nenni is regarded as the representative of the more extremist current. On the other hand, even Nenni in an interview with Reuter's correspondent made it clear that he places great hope in the cooperation of the British Labor party. In this interview he said that the Italian Socialist party had taken the initiative in promoting the summoning of an International Conference of labour to be held before and during the Peace Conference. He added that the proposal was being considered by the Labour party and that it had already been accepted by the Swiss Socialist party. He said that he believed that at the end of the war a new "International" would arise which would include the workers of all nations. In particular, he concluded, this organization should include the workers of Great Britain, America and Russia, so that a third war might be avoided. In the Christian Democrat party there are also visible two tendencies -- one which would welcome a closer association with the moderate elements of the Socialist Party and the Party of Action, and one which leans more to the right.

(4) The postponement of the trial of General Del Bono and General Pentimalli has evoked much comment in the press, and given rise to different interpretations. Rumors circulated that there was opposition to the trial in high places.

(5) Mario Palermo, Under Secretary of State for War, returned during the week from a visit to Yugoslavia where had had been inspecting the Italian soldiers of the Garibaldi Division which has been fighting at the side of the Yugoslav troops. Up till now little has been published on the activities of Italian troops in Yugoslavia, and in an interview to the press, Palermo revealed many interesting facts showing the contribution given by Italian troops to the war effort in that area. He said that two battalions contributed effectively towards protecting Tito when German parachutists tried to capture him. The same two battalions helped in the liberation of Belgrade. The morale of the troops was high, and the division had been reorganized on democratic lines. The divisional Commander is a Lieutenant-Colonel The Commanders of companies and battalions have been selected by those

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(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only.)

in the ranks. Uncertain Fascist elements have been eliminated from the division. The soldiers have learned to fight the hard mountain warfare of the Yugoslavs, he said. They are however badly clothed, and in need of uniforms. Many had died in the last year either as the result of casualties or disease. A collection of gifts will be organized by the Ministry of War to help these soldiers.

(6) In Sicily events appear to have calmed during the week. The government has made provisions for improving conditions there. The denial by the British Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs that Great Britain supports Sicilian separatism has been given publicity and welcomed by the Italian press, as the Separatists continue to spread rumors that the Allies are supporting them. From Naples it is reported that grumbling is louder than ever, and that the Neapolitans are becoming war-weary. In Rome the representatives of the Italian press went on a tour of the damaged electricity plants, and as a result explained to the public the cause of many of their difficulties with regard to the shortage of light.

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ALLIED HEADQUARTERS.
Information and Censorship Section.
Psychological Warfare Branch.
Unit N° I4. APO 5I2.

"D" Section, November 2nd I944 .

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL ITALY, NORTH OF ROME.
REPORT N°25.

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Eric Whelpton Major

Eric Whelpton, Major.
O.C."D" Section.

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THIS WEEK IN TUSCANY.

At the present moment there are two entirely conflicting trends of opinion in Tuscany. The first is a very real appreciation of the technical achievments of the Allied Civil Administration. In Florence there are already effective supplies of electricity and water, and these services are gradually being re-established in other towns. In the city a limited number of private subscribers have had their telephones restored. Within a few weeks it is hoped that gas will be available for cooking to help out the limited supplies of fuel. The gas used will be Methane, which is drawn from natural resources and has to be specially treated before it is suitable for domestic use. It should be both cheap and effective and its use will economise considerable quantities of coal both now and in the future. It is also hoped that trains will be running shortly between Leghorn and Florence. Since the shortage of food in the towns is largely due to the lack of transport, this should bring considerable relief to a very anxious population.

On the other hand Tuscans are very much alarmed by the fact that so many ex-Fascists are employed in positions of trust in Allied offices. They cannot understand why so many officers are to be seen daily with people who compromised themselves, not only with the Fascist and Germans; but also with highranking members of Mussolini's latest régime. This concern appears to be growing daily and may be a source of serious trouble.

The bad weather of the past week has undoubtedly increased the hardships of the population. With the increasing cold people who are living on limited rations may develop diseases and show signs of malnutrition.

Whilst the Industrialists of Tuscany are showing considerable initiative in trying to re-establish their works, the land-owning classes are notable for the apathy with which they view the poverty which surrounds them. Indeed it is to be hoped that the private

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Whilst the Industrialists of Tuscany are showing considerable initiative in trying to re-establish their works, the land-owning classes are notable for the apathy with which they view the poverty which surrounds them. Indeed it is to be hoped that the aristocracy, who have profited considerably from the rise in prices, will make some effort to help the poor of their country, and in particular the Partisans, who arrive from the occupied zone in many cases wearing only the shorts and singlets in which they have been fighting.

This problem of the Partisans is still far from solution The Italian authorities concerned do not seem to have the means or the methods to assist these unfortunates, many of whom have sacrificed themselves in the fight against the Germans. Among these Partisans, however, are many people who are playing a purely political game, and have succeeded in getting hold of a certificate which they use for their own personal advantage. 1694

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P O L I T I C S. Confidential.

1. ACTIVITIES OF THE ANARCHIST PARTY IN FLORENCE. Oct. 1944.

The Anarchist Party has very few members in Florence, the percentage is higher in the country, especially towards Tavernelle And San Casciano.

A small Party poster appeared some time ago in Florence, and the Party's newspaper "Umanita Nova" is on sale fairly often.

At the first Tuscan reunion held a few days ago, the amalgamation of the Italian Anarchist Party with the Communist Party was discussed. The need to create a single Worker's Front was reasserted, and active participation by the Anarchits in the Central Confederation of Workers was decided upon. (B.3.)

2. MOVIMENTO DEI GIOVANI REPUBBLICANI ITALIANI. (Young Italian Republicans). From an Italian Source.

The Florence offices of this Association are in the Via dei Magazzini. Though autonomous, it was closely associated with the Fascist Republican Party and was definitely pro-German.

The first meeting was held on Oct. 13the 1943 in Florence. Among the speakers was a member of the "Scuola Mistica Fascista". Public meetings were held in Oct/Nov. 1943 at which the speakers, mostly young officers, incited Italian Youth to expel the Allies from Italy. Members also contributed to the official Fascist newspaper, Repubblica.

The Movement published two papers, La Patria and Il Campano. The former only appeared twice and was then suppressed by Pavolini. Il Campano was published in Pisa and lasted until February 1944, when it too was suppressed by Pavolini. In spite of its pro-German and Fascist tendencies, the Movement was opposed to Pavolini personally, and was finally repudiated by the Republican Party in 1944. From this time onwards the Movement carried on a semi-clandestine existence, tolerated by the authorities and transferred its offices to the Via Bolognese.

About this time contact was made with the Communist Party. Meetings took place at which the Communists asserted, in a

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In June 1944 a revolt was planned against the Fascist Republican Government, for the formation of a new Ministry in opposition to Pavolini. The plan was abortive and members were left uncertain whether to follow the Republican authorities northwards, or to remain in Florence to sabotage the Allies.

It is rumoured that many ex-members of the Movement have now joined the Republican and Communist Parties.

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Confidential.

E C O N O M I C S

1. AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS.

OIL HARVEST. The olive crop in Tuscany is exceptionally abundant this year, as most of the milling of the olives is done by electricity, production will inevitably be difficult owing to lack of electrical power. The old ox-worked mills, wherever they still exist, will have to be put into action again.

VINTAGE. The grape harvest promised to be exceptionally abundant, but shortage of sulphate of copper has led to the spread of phillexera; lack of crittogama has resulted of much of the crop being lost, while the remainder is of bad quality. Moreover troops, passing through and camping in vineyards, have consumed quantities of grapes, and for this reason also, the harvest is poorer than was expected. It is suggested that copper should be supplied to Italy as soon as possible so that, in future, vines may be treated with the usual copper dressing which saves them from disease.

POTATOES. The retreating Germans dug up most of the potatoes then ready for use, and the remainder of the crop is scanty. Nothing can be done about this, save to encourage and advise super-production for next season.

FERTILISERS. The total lack of perphosphate has been felt in the production of wheat, beans and cereals in general, which are very scarce, and it is hoped that supplies will be available soon.

Almost all the factories are producing artificial and chemical manures such as nitrate of soda, potassium and sulphate of ammonia have been destroyed by the Germans.

FARM MACHINERY. The problem of ploughing is a hard one, as the oxen were carried off by the Germans. The use of tractors is possible only in a few Tuscan districts owing to the conformation of the ground and the intensive cultivation of olive trees and vines in the land where wheat is sown. The necessity for naphtha and petrol must again be emphasized. Many of the existing tractors run on naphtha, and as yet none is available.

WAGES AND LABOUR. The very ancient system of mezzadria or share-cropping has been dealt with in previous reports from the same source. It is considered the best for Italy. Some of the political parties aim at abolishing it.

The Communist and Socialist Parties and the Party of Action intend to expropriate the land without compensation and give it to

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The Communist and Socialist Parties and the Party of Action intend to expropriate the land without compensation and give it to the peasants.

The Party of Action's plan is to divide the land into farms, according to its nature and produce; then to divide these farms, among a certain number of families and have them administered by a state official. This looks well on paper, but it is held that to eliminate the owner's private initiative and his personal interest, would result in increased costs and reduced production.

Land-owning peasants work little, their instinct being to produce merely family requirements and no more. There are many examples of peasants who, having bought their own farms, reduced production to such an extent as to be heavily in debt after a few years and obliged to sell out.

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E C O N O M I C S . (continued). Confidential.

Occasional labourers are employed by Tuscan farmers for the breaking up of new ground and the general care of crops.

A level wage scale for farm labourers and others is suggested, in order to balance available labour.

It must be borne in mind that the farm labourer is at present in a very favourable position, as he receives part of his wage in kind, and so, in his case the terrible problem of feeding himself and his family, so pressing for others, is considerably eased.

The idea of revolution ~~is~~ everywhere rife, is hampering and preventing any regular and tranquil life. Unless the law is enforced and discipline maintained, production will decrease, revolution break out and disaster ensue.

From an Italian Landowner (B-3).

2. PROBLEMS OF FUEL SUPPLIES FOR FLORENCE, October 1944.

The fuel problem presents many difficulties for the new Communal and Provincial administrations. The small reserves are being gradually exhausted; fresh supplies are not as yet available and it is the duty of industrialists and dealers to cooperate in finding a pratical solution before the situation deteriates still further.

The shortage of gas and electric power has more than tripled the need of fuel for kitchen use and heating, in the city of Florence alone. As no coal is to be had, fuel can only be supplied by tree-felling, (charcoal or logs) or by lignite. Tuscany is fortunately rich in this, and large quantities were formerly exported to other industrial regions.

Florence, even in normal times, was obliged to import lignite and wood. Now, when three times as much is needed, it must be obtained from other Provinces. Arezzo has all the lignite that Florence can require.

The use of lignite for heating should be enforced, especially as tree-felling has been at a standstill, for the last two years, for want of woodcutters and charcoal burners.

Florence has to import half the required amount of charcoal and wood and four fifths of the required amount of lignite; there are therefore two requirements for restoring of fuel supplies in the city:

1). To raise restrictions which block the export of exis-

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1). To raise restrictions which block the export of existing supplies of fuel in other provinces to Florence.

2). To provide the city of Florence with sufficient trucks to bring in the necessary daily supplies.

The fuel actually brought into Florence barely suffices to bake bread.

From an Italian source (B-3).

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E C O N O M I C S. Continued. Confidential.

3. THE GALILEO WORKS.

The Galileo, the most important Florentine factory, manufactures precision instrum ts. Founded with a capitql of 60.000.000 lire, subsequently raised to 100.000.000 lire, it amalgamated with the Volpi Group, Adriatica Elettricità, of Venice which absorbed the original capital.

On the liberation of Florence the directors, Fascists and Republicans, including the Managing Director Engineer Spelti, absconded, leaving the power of attorney to Engineer Martinez and Engineer Boscarn.

FORMER PRODUCTION.

a. Manufacture and repair of nautical instruments, gun-sights, projectors, range-finders etc.

b. Manufacture of optical lenses, (spectacles, fieldglasses, telescopes etc.)

c. Construction and repair of all kinds of machine tools.

d. Construction of electrical equipment.

The Galileo has a foundry for cast iron, bronze and silamina, and possesses a fair supply of raw material.

CONDITION OF THE BUILDINGS.

The works consist of two groups of buildings divided by roads. The main building and three immense machine shops were blown up; glass roofing was destroyed and the premises are flooded whenever it rains. Still in good condition, however, is the part of the factory used for the repair of electrical and optical equipment.

POTENTIALITIES.

The factory could now begin production of precision instruments etc, specialised electrical construction and repairs could also be undertaken.

Obviously the factory should resume work either for military

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The factory could now begin production of precision instruments etc, specialised electrical construction and repairs could also be undertaken.

Obviously the factory should resume work either for military or civil purposes. If work is not begun soon, skilled workers will be dismissed and probably disperse.

LABOUR CONDITIONS.

Normally the Galileo employed 5000 workers. Only 500 are now employed and they are engaged on non-productive work.

This firm, unlike other industrial concerns, has not paid salaries and allowances from July 1st to October 31st. This is causing much discontent and may lead to trouble.

In September 1943 most of the machinery and some operators were taken from Florence to North Italy. Workers who refused to go were dismissed. These men now claim settlement of wages and indemnities from that date up to Oct.31st 1944, for which a worker rightly dismissed would not be eligable, but to which these people feel entitled.

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L O C A L C O N D I T I O N S . Confidential.

1. FREE SOUP KITCHENS IN FLORENCE.

Free soup kitchens are to be opened in various parts of Florence this week. A bowl of hot soup will be given to about 6.000 of the very destitute, it is hoped that before long the number will be extended to 10,000.

The soup will be made with vegetable soup ration and contain pasta one day and bread the next. A portion will cost one lire, and if the person cannot pay so much, he will be given a free ticket. The weekly expense for these soups will amount this year to 45.000 lire, as against 22,000 lire per week last year, when each bowl cost 50 centimes. The maintenance of these kitchens is entirely through charity. Organization this year is in collaboration with the E.C.A. (Ente Comunale Assistenza) and the A.M.G.

2. COMUNE OF PERETOLA (FLORENCE) October 1944.

COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION. Only three Parties are represented in the National Committee of Liberation at Peretola:

Communist Party,
Socialist Party,
Demo-Christian Party

The Demo-Christian Party seems to be the most popular and propaganda of other Parties finds no response.

The 3 Parties of the C.L.N. work together, trying in every way to overcome present economic difficulties.

ACTIVITIES. An inter-party Youth Front has been organized. All boys from 15 upwards are admitted. Naturally the Communists and Demo-Christians each compete to attract the larger numbers to their Party.

With Allied help, the local Cinema will soon be opened, and most of the profits will go towards the maintenance of a kindergarten attended by more than 200 children of the poorest families.

A Cooperative Supply Store will be opened shortly.

GENERAL SITUATION. This is gradually improving. There is still a shortage of essential food-stuffs. The only rations dis-

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A Cooperative Supply Store will be opened shortly.

GENERAL SITUATION. This is gradually improving. There is still a shortage of essential food-stuffs. The only rations distributed are 200 grammes of bread a day. Conditions could be considerably relieved by allowing the population to circulate over a wider area in order to buy food direct from the peasants, without resorting, when their means permit, to the black market, carried on by local peasants, or by tradesmen who have managed to secure circulation permits.

COMMUNICATIONS. Peretola was connected with Florence by an electric tramway. If there is to be no electric power, communications could be temporarily maintained by one of the Tramways Company's motor buses.

MORALE OF THE POPULATION. The population is very hospitable and shows every possible courtesy to the Allied Troops. There have been no disagreeable incidents. The Communists however criticise Allied restrictions and claim that conditions would be better under the Russians.

From an Italian source (B-2).

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L O C A L C O N D I T I O N S . Confidential.

3. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TRENDS IN SAN GIOVANNI VALDARNO.

Political activity is not very strong in San Giovanni Vald'Arno, since the various parties have not begun any membership drives. From random inquiries it appears that the village is strongly pro-Russian, if not Communist. Although the population is religious, the influence of the Church on their political views has not gained any substantial support for the Christian Democratic Party.

The following two incidents may indicate the trend of opinion.

A few days after the village was liberated, the body of an escaped Russian prisoner, who had been fighting with the partisans, was found and taken to the village for burial. In order to prevent any possible political manifestations, AMG asked that the cortège should not use the main street, but the huge funeral procession wended its way through every other street of the village, attracting what was described as nearly the whole population. One eye-witness said that a number of Polish soldiers, who happened to be in the village at the time, expressed loudly their dissatisfaction at the homage being paid to this dead "Bolshevik".

Recently, a senior British AMG officer spoke to the population in English, discussing the current situation and outlining what the Allies had done and were doing for the Italian people, asking for their cooperation and assistance. When he finished his talk the crowd cheered: "Viva Stalin".

San Giovanni was not destroyed or demolished by the Germans before retreating and is therefore in fairly good condition. One of the few buildings destroyed, at least in great part, was the village church, built in the 14th century. The priest pointed out that main-line railroad tracks ran right alongside the rear of the church. Trying to use it for their military ends, the Germans took to storing their locomotives and freightcars on that part of the track next to the church. The day the Allies hit two locomotives on the adjoining track, they also hit the church.

The Germans blew up the power plants, there is therefore, no light and little water. The main industry of the village, a large iron ore smelting plant which used to employ up to 8000 workers, is not functioning. Some people are trying to earn a livelihood by chopping wood and eventually selling it as charcoal(using a disabled German tank as a power plant.)

FOOD RATIONS IN FLORENCE

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4. FOOD RATIONS IN FLORENCE.

AMG announce that during November there will be two distributions of pasta, each of 300 grammes per head: the first about 10th the other before the end of the month.

5. FLORENCE TELEPHONE SERVICE.

Partial service is being restored within the city. Some 6000 subscribers will have their telephones reconnected.

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L O C A L C O N D I T I O N S . Confidential.

6. POLITICAL SITUATION IN VALDARNO.

The only two Parties which are vitally active in S. Giovanni Valdarno and district are Christian Democrats and Communists.

Prudent people are waiting until the situation is more clearly defined, before openly adhering to any party, and deprecate the excesses of the Communists. Those of a more mature political conscience and who are attached to national and family traditions, adhere to the Christian Democrats.

In the Comune of San Giocanni alone, 200 belong to this Party and many others virtually so.

As a whole the situation may be defined thus:

Democracy =pro Allies.
Communism =pro Russia.

Recent political demonstrations in the district have been definitely Communist and unfavourable to the Allied Government. The inciting motive was the very distressing food and labour conditions of the district. (B- 2).

7. CRITICISMS OF THE VALDARNO "SOCIETA MINERARIA".

This Company is criticised for its speculative tendencies. For instance the Society possesses about 200.000 metric tons of lignite.The price was recently fixed at 290 lire a metric ton: the Company is now asking 700 lire a metric ton. This price is too high and should not surpass 300 lire according to experts. The cost of transport to San Giovanni is 200 lire per metric ton, and to Florence the net price including transport should be about 3000 lire.(B-2).

8. RELATIONS BETWEEN LOCAL AND ALLIED AUTHORITIES IN SAN GIOVANNI VALDARNO.

There are complaints here that the Civil Affairs Officer will allow no infraction of the controlled price lists. They declare that as there are times when the local authorities can buy food at slightly higher prices, this veto prevents supplies coming in to the town.

Also it is stated thattravel permits, even on the most legitimate grounds are given with the greatest reluctance. The local authorities seem to be discontented because the C.A. Officer is said to act without consulting them. Some, however, believe that the C.A. Officer is right in taking matters into his own

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WAGES IN THE VALDARNO.

The wages of a workman in this district are from 40 to 60 lire a day. The Allies pay 60 lire a day without food.

Actually, owing to the present crisis, workmen are obliged to work on shifts of not more than three days a week.

The political and social situation is reported to be tense.

From an Italian source. (B-2)

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N . Confidential.

1. CRITICISMS CONCERNING THE INADEQUACY OF EPURATION.

There is increasingly bitter feeling in the city on account of the numerous personalities of the past Fascist Régime, still going about Florence.

The resentment is keenest among those who have belonged to partisan bands and brigades, and the mothers and wives of those who lost their lives in the struggle against Nazi-Fascists.

Many demand justice, declaring that if the authorities don't act, they are ready to do so themselves.

This discontent may lead to violence, because only a very small percentage of the people in Florence have handed over their arms.

SEPRAL. In particular people complain that the Sepral retains in all aspects the Fascist stamp and framework and that it it is very badly organized.

A good deal of this is attributed to the interpreters who are alleged to assume an arrogant attitude towards the public, and obstruct instead of facilitating contact with the Allied Officers, who are generally held to be competent, courteous and anxious to be helpful.

CONSIGLIO DELL'ECONOMIA(ECONOMIC COUNCIL). This organization is charged with restricting the concession of transport needed to bring food supplies into the city and revive the markets.

Many Italians demand an energetic epuration and the installation of a more honest, intelligent and energetic personnel.

2. PROTEST AGAINST THE PREFECT OF FLORENCE.(MARCHESE PATERNO).

The following is a translation of a small poster affixed to the walls in Florence on Sunday, 29th October 1944.

AWAY WITH THE FASCIST PREFECT OF FLORENCE.

While the Florentines were enduring all kinds of privations and facing death during the tragic days of the emergency period, and while partisans and patriots were sacrificing their lives for

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While the Florentines were enduring all kinds of privations and facing death during the tragic days of the emergency period, and while partisans and patriots were sacrificing their lives for the liberation of the city, Marchese Paterno, now Prefect of Florence, was probably living in some comfortable Hotel in Rome or on his Sicilian estates.

Now, when the war with its risks and dangers is far removed from our city, the new Prefect has come to Florence with the intention of reestablishing order, which, according to him, is jeopardised by the new democratic institutions of the city.

Naturally his first business on arrival was to reinstate civil officials who, until the day of the liberation, had been zealous servants of the Germans and of Manganiello, such as Comm. Gigli,notorious careerist and the ex-vice-Prefect De Francisci, the vice-podestà during the Nazi occupation of our city.

It is natural that the Prefect Paterno's first contacts should have been with well-known Fascist Republicans and informers of the S.S. , such as Dr. Torrini, in whose house he was a welcome guest as soon as he arrived in Florence and for whom he secured

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N . Confidential.

immunity together with car permit to travel freely.

It is also natural that the Prefect Paterno, should immediately manifest a keen antipathy towards the C.T.L.N, ordering all officials of the Prefecture to break off any relations with the Committee and to suspend the work of the Commission of Epuration; also that he should boycott all the democratic organizations which had arisen out of the C.T.L.N. which worked for the liberation of our city from the nazi-fascist oppression and was the genuine expression of the will of the people of Florence.

The Florentine people cannot tolerate that this prefect should be issuing, orders, like a little Duce, for the return to squadristi and republicans of premises which local organizations had requisitioned for the homeless.

Neither can the Florentines tolerate that, to the many calamities brought upon them by Fascism, should be added the shame of having a Fascist Prefect, a reactionary and enemy to the people.

The Florentine people want and demand epuration and first of all that of Marchese Patermo, actual Fascist Prefect of Florence.

The people of Florence.

3. CREDIT IN STERLING DESIRED. (October 1944.)

The people ask why England has not yet granted a credit in sterling to Italy corresponding to the money issued by A.M.G.

From and Italian source. (B-2).

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E D U C A T I O N .

Confidential.

1. FLORENCE UNIVERSITY.

Special courses were started on October 9th for those students unable to attend classes during last year.

These courses are in no way compulsory and attendance is, generally speaking, not very good, except in the case of the Rector's Lectures on Constitutional Law, Professor Sansone's on Mathematical Analysis and one or two others. The number of entries last year was between 8000 and 10.000 the normal figure being nearer 8000.

Many professors are not teaching, for reasons connected with the present situation, therefore the number of courses is limited, especially in the Faculty of Law. Many subjects have to be purged of Fascist influence and sometimes completely changed. Teaching in certain cases is, therefore, on very abstract and general lines The Faculty of Political Science has been dissolved and students are temporarily attending law courses instead. This is causing a certain amount of discontent, as it is felt that the courses could have been modified rather than abolished.

STUDENT OPINION. Political opinion is as yet unformed. Many of the politically conscious students belong to the left wing parties. The attitude towards the Monarchy, the House of Savoy, in particular, is very often unfavourable. There is less political scepticism among the students than in other classes of the population. Resentment towards Fascist and German collaborators is strong. The attitude towards religion and the Church is generally favourable.

Non-publication by the Nazione del Popolo of the Students' manifesto suggesting that all university activities should be non-political, was much resented. The enquiry into the activities of Professors Marsili-Libelli, Maranini and Mazzei was also resented, as those men are considered tried anti-Fascists. It is reliably reported that Marsili-Libelli accepted the offer of the Rectorship during the Republic in order help professors and students. A letter in his defence was signed by many students and sent to the Minister of Education. The students also resent the fact that many who collaborated with the Fascists, who have now joined the Communist Party are on the Students University Epuration Commission. The Rector has been accused of allowing his personal sympathies to sway him in his task of epuration.

From an Italian Student.(B-2).

STUDENT ACTIVITIES. As the political parties and especially the Communist "Youth Front" have tried to dominate University life

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STUDENT ACTIVITIES. As the political parties and especially the Communist "Youth Front" have tried to dominate University life the students have formed an"Associazione Goliardica Fiorentina" (Florentine Student Association) with cultural aims, independent of political bias.

This Association is composed of five members, one for each Faculty, elected by the students themselves. (B-3)

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2. UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 1943-1944.

Number of students attending the Courses during the past five years:

1937-1938 - 3974.
1938-1939 - 4450.
1939-1940 - 4839.
1940-1941 - 6238.
1941-1942 - 7874.

During 1943-1944 attendance was very poor, except at the Schools of Medicine and Surgery, whose students were exempted from military and labour service. In the other Faculties the male element was almost entirely missing and the female greatly reduced.

Examinations were held in two sessions and at a very short interval:(end of May and beginning of June). Results were negative since, except for a minority of students under arms who seized the opportunity to secure a short leave, the majority preferred not to present themselves.

A complete plan for the future has not yet been evolved and would be premature, as precise instructions are still awaited from the Ministry of Education.

The principal requirements are:

a). To grant new short courses to afford those students who were unable to attend last year, the opportunity of making up for lost time.

b). To reinstate as quickly and satisfactorily as possible the Faculty of Political Science, which has been dissolved.

c).To give the greatest possible impulse to all activities of cultural nature.

d). To exercise a stricter control on the attendances of students, and to gain a clearer personal knowledge of each one.

e).To insist on the utmost seriousness in study from students and professors alike.

f). To reestablish the ancient student traditions and make these the basis of that autonomy and independence absolutely indispensable and proper to every University. (B-3).

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3. ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY LECTURERS IN FLORENCE.

According to the present Italian University system, the teaching staff may be divided into two categories:-

a). Regular Staff.

b). Voluntary and assistant Lecturers.

Salaries of the latter category are very low, and voluntary lecturers are not paid at all.

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Towards the end of September the ~~voluntary~~ assistant Lecturers met and decided to found an Insurance Society, national in character, to protect their rights. They have never before been united in any syndicated form. A temporary Committee was chosen, in which all the University Faculties are represented. It may prove possible to have this Committee inscribed in the General Confederation of Labour. It is hoped that this may enable Assistant Lecturers to earn a decent livlihood.

From an Italian source.(B-3).

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EDUCATION Confidential.

4. REPORT ON SCHOOLS IN THE PROVINCE OF FLORENCE.

RECENT SCHOOL STATISTICS.

	No. of Schools.	Normal No. of Pupils.	No. of Teachers.
Nursery Schools.	193	12.189	386
Elementary Schools.	587	65.759	2000
Secondary Schools.	39	10.332	977
Senior Schools (Lycée)	4	-	-

CONDITIONS DURING 1943-1944.

At the beginning of the scholastic year all the schools were open and almost all functioned regularly until December 1943. From January 1944 those schools whose buildings had been damaged, or occupied by evacuees or troops, gradually closed. Some managed to carry on in temporary premises or by sharing buildings with other schools and working on a reduced time schedule. Sometimes two or three schools taking turns in the same building. The usual time table is from 8.30 to 12.30.

The number of pupils dropped slightly below normal owing to war conditions, evacuation, bombardment etc. The number of teachers was increased by about 200 who had been evacuated from other provinces.

PLANS FOR THE NEW SCHOLASTIC YEAR.

The following schools will be opened :-

Nursery Schools. 189.
Elementary Schools. 575.
Secondary Schools. 36.

At present about 300 school buildings are either requisitioned or damaged. Classes will be resumed in their own buildings if these can be repaired or adapted, if not in other school premises using especial alternate timetables.

An increase in the number of pupils is expected now that the danger of air raids is over and evacuated families are re-

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The purge of Fascists resulted in the dismissal of about 80 elementary school teachers and about 25 from the senior schools. The increased demand for teachers will be met by employing those evacuated from other provinces who cannot yet return to their own centres.

TRANSPORT AND ACCOMODATION.

The lack of transport for teachers is a great difficulty. Permits are issued by the Allied Authorities to reach the various schools, but the teachers have to rely on chance means of transport. It is also very difficult for them to live near the schools owing

/over.

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to the difficulty of finding lodgings in places where the little available accommodation is rented at exorbitant prices. Something might be done towards meeting this need by granting compensation for residential displacement.

TEXT BOOKS AND SCHOOL MATERIALS.

Only text books chosen by the specially appointed Provincial Commission will be approved by the Central Commission for use during the new school year.

Most of the school equipment has been destroyed or looted. The loss is greatest, about 80%, in the small centres. As there is little such material on the market, replacement will be difficult. It is calculated that from four to five million pupils of the elementary and secondary schools resumed their studies in Liberated Italy on October 8th. The number of text books printed amounts to only 3.573.000. The shortage of stationary, especially exercise books, is also serious. Provision for adequate supplies should be urgently made.

The price of text books will be fixed by the Allied Commission in agreement with the Commission of Publishers.

(From an Italian Source. B.2.)

5. REOPENING OF THE FLORENTINE SCHOOLS.

The Florentine schools opened on October 8th, with some few exceptions. Many difficulties had to be overcome, but about 75% of the children are already at work, and the remainder will be so shortly.

All the schools have been throughly cleaned and disinfected. Many schools have little or no window glass and the need for repair is urgent.

Among the schools which have not been able to reopen is the great building in Via Lamarmora, which formerly housed five secondary schools. This is now occupied by the "Ente Comunale di

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Among the schools which have not been able to reopen is the great building in Via Lamarmora, which formerly housed five secondary schools. This is now occupied by the "Ente Comunale di Assistenza". If this could be transferred elsewhere about 2000 pupils might be accommodated there, thus relieving the congestion of the Leon Battista Alberti School, which could then in turn take pupils from the half destroyed "Cesare Battista" and "Margherita" which have been requisitioned. This would be an improvement for many children of that district, who at present have to go to schools far away from their homes.

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APPENDIX 1. P E R S O N A L I T I E S . Confidential.

1. THE PREFECT OF FLORENCE.

Signor Paterno is considered by those in close contact with him, to be a weak man and unfitted for his present position, especially during this difficult period.

He is accused of being tactless and has aroused the opposition of the Tuscan Committee of Liberation with whom he has never succeeded in coming to terms. Members of this Committee are anxious to see him replaced by someone from their organization.(C-3)

2. FASCIST COLLABORATORS IN FLORENCE.

DR. RENATO MONTI

Squadrista. March on Rome. Well known at Fiesole, besides being proprietor of the"Aurora" Hotel, he carried on activities based on cudgels and castor-oil. He filled important positions under the Fascist Régime, and served as Captain at the Military Geographic Institute during the Republican period. He is believed to be living at the corner of Via del Proconsolo and Via del Corso.

COMM. ARTURO SANTONI-MARZI.

Member of the Fascist Republican Party and a Fascist from the beginning. Was Console of the Militia. After 8th September he denounced and secured the arrest of General Gritti, ostensibly for anti-Fascism, but really for personal motives. General Gritti died in prison in consequence of ill-treatment.

BARONE GUALBERTO ANTINORI

Very active collaborator of the GESTAPO.Notoriously impecunious, he derived enough money from his activities to live extravagantly at the Excelsior Hotel, in order to be in close touch with the Nazi authorities. Among other things he secured the arrest and sentence to the "confino" of the Coletti family, whose son was subsequently shot.

DONNA IRENE DE'PAZZI.

Had no financial means, but lived at the "Excelsior" on the money earned as collaborator of the GESTAPO.

THE PAOLETTI BROTHERS.

Owners of an industrial plant, Aldo-Vieri and Arrigo Paoletti, were not only ardent Fascists but bad employers. Aldo took part in

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xious to see him replaced by someone from their organization.(C-3)

2. FASCIST COLLABORATORS IN FLORENCE.

DR. RENATO MONTI

Squadrista. March on Rome. Well known at Fiesole, besides being proprietor of the"Aurora" Hotel, he carried on activities. based on cudgels and castor-oil. He filled important positions under the Fascist Régime, and served as Captain at the Military Geographic Institute during the Republican period. He is believed to be living at the corner of Via del Proconsolo and Via del Corso.

COMM. ARTURO SANTONI-MARZI.

Member of the Fascist Republican Party and a Fascist from the beginning. Was Console of the Militia. After 8th September he denounced and secured the arrest of General Gritti, ostensibly for anti-Fascism, but really for personal motives. General Gritti died in prison in consequence of ill-treatment.

BARONE GUALBERTO ANTINORI

Very active collaborator of the GESTAPO.Notoriously impecunious, he derived enough money from his activities to live extravagantly at the Excelsior Hotel, in order to be in close touch with the Nazi authorities. Among other things he secured the arrest and sentence to the "confine" of the Coletti family, whose son was subsequently shot.

DONNA IRENE DE'PAZZI.

Had no financial means, but lived at the "Excelsior" on the money earned as collaborator of the GESTAPO.

THE PAOLETTI BROTHERS.

Owners of an industrial plant, Aldo-Vieri and Arrigo Paoletti, were not only ardent Fascists but bad employers. Aldo took part in the Sarzana expedition, he also took part in the destruction of the"Nuovo Giornale" offices and printing works.

3. ARCHCONFRATERNITY OF THE MISERICORDIA.

1680

The expulsion of Comm. Romoli, Administrator of the Confraternity, is demanded. Comm. Romoli had no scruples in consigning to the Germans all the motor-ambulances of the Misericordia which has been previously taken to pieces and hidden, but were hastily put together again to be handed over. He took good care, however not to hand over his own car.

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