

acc

10000/145/496

CIVIL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK ON ITALY

SECTION SIXTEEN ON PUBLIC WELFARE

HANDBOOK ON ITALY

EDN ON PUBLIC WELFARE

- 1 - 1 -

13
CONFIDENTIAL

Preliminary Draft

CIVIL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK

on

I T A L Y

Section Sixteen

2937

on

P U B L I C W E L F A R E

Prepared by

The Office of Strategic Services

for

The Military Government Division
Provost Marshal General's Office

10000/145/496
THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM

Preliminary Draft

NO DATE

CATALOGUE-

CIVIL AFFAIRS HANDBOOKS

TOPICAL OUTLINE

1. Geographical and Social Background
2. Government and Administration
3. Legal Affairs
4. Government Finance
5. Money and Banking
6. Natural Resources
7. Agriculture
8. Industry and Commerce
9. Labor
10. Public Works and Utilities
11. Transportation systems
12. Communications
13. Public Health and Sanitation
14. Public Safety
15. Education
16. Public Welfare

CONFIDENTIALINTRODUCTIONPurposes of the Civil Affairs Handbook.

International Law places upon an occupying power the obligation and responsibility for establishing government and maintaining civil order in the areas occupied.

The basic purposes of civil affairs officers are thus (1) to assist the Commanding General of the combat units by quickly establishing those orderly conditions which will contribute most effectively to the conduct of military operations, (2) to reduce to a minimum the human suffering and the material damage resulting from disorder and (3) to create the conditions which will make it possible for civilian agencies to function effectively.

The preparation of Civil Affairs Handbooks is a part of the effort of the War Department to carry out this obligation as efficiently and humanely as is possible. The Handbooks do not deal with planning or policy. They are rather ready reference source books of the basic factual information needed for planning and policy making.

Revision for Final Publication.

Significant area information is immediately needed (a) for civil affairs officers charged with policy making and planning, (b) for the use of civil affairs officers-in-training and (c) to make certain that organized data is in hand, whenever events require it.

Arrangements were therefore made with the cooperating agencies to organize all immediately available material in accordance with a prepared outline. Hence, this section on Public Welfare in Italy was hastily assembled to meet emergency needs and should be considered a preliminary draft only. It is being revised with special emphasis upon recent developments in the field of Public Welfare.

OFFICERS USING THIS MATERIAL ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS AND CRITICISMS INDICATING THE REVISIONS OR ADDITIONS WHICH WOULD MAKE THIS MATERIAL MORE USEFUL FOR THEIR PURPOSES. THESE CRITICISMS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE CHIEF, SURVEY AND RESEARCH SECTION, MILITARY GOVERNMENT DIVISION, F.M.G.O., 2805 MUNITIONS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C. (OR PHONE WAR DEPARTMENT EXTENSION 76370).

CONFIDENTIAL

PUBLIC WELFARE — ITALY

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>Page</u>
<u>a. Organization</u>	1
(1) Introduction	1
(2) State Relief Organizations: <u>Enti Comunali di Assistenza</u> (Communal Public Welfare Boards)	3
i. Functions	3
ii. Administration	4
iii. Finance	4
(3) Fascist Party Welfare and Relief Agencies	5
i. <u>Gioventù Italiana del Littorio (GIL)</u> — (Italian Youth of the Lictor)	5
(a) Organization	5
(b) General activities	5
(c) Public welfare activities	5
ii. <u>Opera Nazionale Dopolavoro (OND)</u> — (National After-Work Organization)	8
(a) Fascist Party units	8
(b) Fascist Party subsidiaries	9
(4) Private Relief Organizations	10
i. <u>Croce Rossa Italiana (CRI)</u> — (The Italian Red Cross)	10
(a) Organization	10
(b) Functions	11
(c) Institutions	12
ii. <u>Croce Verde</u> — (Green Cross)	12
(5) Minor Welfare Organizations	13
i. <u>Istituto Nazionale di Assistenza Magistrale Rosa</u> <u>Maltoni Mussolini</u>	13
ii. <u>Ufficio Assistenza Minorati di Guerra</u> (Office for the assistance of those disabled in war)	13
iii. Organizations aiding orphans	13
<u>b. Institutions (reference)</u>	13
<u>c. Maternal and Child Welfare</u>	14
(1) General	14
(2) Functions	14

CONFIDENTIAL

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Page</u>
(3) Administration	16
i. Central administration	16
(a) The CNMI	16
(b) The Central Council	17
(c) The Executive Committee	17
(d) The officers	17
ii. Provincial Administration	17
iii. Communal administration	18
(4) Finance	18
(5) General Activities	19
(6) Juvenile Delinquency	20
i. Observation centers	20
ii. Juvenile rehabilitation centers	21
iii. Juvenile Courts	21
<u>d. Public Housing</u>	21
(1) <u>Istituti ed Enti Autonomi per le Case Popolari</u> — (Autonomous Organizations for public Housing)	21
(2) <u>Istituto Nazionale per le Case degli Impiegati dello Stato</u> (<u>INCIS</u>) (National Organization for Houses for Government Employees)	22
(3) Others	22
<u>e. Welfare Personnel</u> (reference)	23
Selected References	23

CONFIDENTIAL

TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
I. State Expenditures for Social Welfare, exclusive of Public Health	1
II. Welfare and Relief Expenditures of Communes with more than 100,000 Inhabitants	2
III. Public Welfare Activity of Public Institutions	2 - 3
IV. <u>Gioventu Italiana del Littorio</u> Welfare Activities (year XIX -- 1940-41)	6
V. Children Sent to <u>Gioventu Italiana del Littorio</u> camps	7
VI. Summary of Activities of the <u>Opera Nazionale per la Protezione della Maternità e dell'Infanzia</u> , 1937-40	15 - 16

CONFIDENTIALPUBLIC WELFARE — ITALYa. Organization.(1) Introduction.

Public Welfare and relief in Italy (assistenza e beneficenza pubblica) is carried on principally under the auspices of (1) the Church, (2) private organizations, (3) the state, and (4) the Fascist Party. For a discussion of social insurance, see Section 9 on Labor, published separately.

This section will emphasize the work of organizations controlled by the state or the Party, which are enumerated in subsections (3) and (4) below.

The following tables afford a general view of the scope and character of non-private welfare and relief activity in Italy.

TABLE I: State Expenditures for Social Welfare, exclusive of Public Health
(in thousands of lire).

<u>Object of Expenditure</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>			
	<u>1936-7</u>	<u>1937-8</u>	<u>1938-9</u>	<u>1939-40</u>
a. <u>Ministry of Finance</u>				
Roman Relief (<u>Beneficenza Romana</u>)	43,611	47,001	48,974	48,445
b. <u>Ministry of Education</u>				
Education of deaf, dumb, blind	2,837	2,954	3,467	3,238
c. <u>Ministry of Interior</u>				
Miscellaneous	2,884	1,793	1,942	1,722
Subsidy to <u>Gioventù Italiana</u> <u>del Littorio</u>	750	750	750	750
Public welfare and institutions for the blind	25,829	38,632	25,235	21,832
Subsidy to <u>Opera Nazionale per</u> <u>la Protezione.....della</u> <u>Maternità e dell'Infanzia</u>	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000
<u>Enti Comunali di Assistenza</u>	—	66,381	123,661	180,000
Assistance to Commune of Naples	—	4,000	4,000	9,000
Assistance to Commune of Palermo	50	50	50	50
d. <u>Ministry of Corporations</u>				
Contributions, encouragements and subsidies for public welfare institutions and social insurance	48,416	74,083	32,859	37,094

-2-

CONFIDENTIALTABLE II: Welfare and Relief Expenditures of Communes with more than 100,000 Inhabitants (in thousands of lire).

Commune	Year	
	1938	1939
Apuania	—	2,684
Bari	3,746	4,037
Bologna	11,616	13,540
Brescia	3,719	3,760
Cagliari	2,208	2,222
Catania	4,740	4,208
Ferrara	4,982	4,712
Firenze (Florence)	15,786	15,923
Genova (Genoa)	33,111	25,638
La Spezia	2,653	2,711
Livorno	5,838	6,999
Messina	No Information	No Information
Milano (Milan)	82,519	82,648
Modena	6,593	2,435
Napoli (Naples)	16,900	17,400
Padova (Padua)	8,501	8,661
Palermo	11,113	10,260
Reggio di Calabria	759	828
Reggio nell' Emilia	3,777	3,775
Roma (Rome)	7,559	7,011
Taranto	1,162	1,442
Torino (Turin)	18,635	20,528
Trieste	12,908	13,638
Venezia (Venice)	16,213	17,071
Verona	7,505	7,891

TABLE III: Public Welfare Activity of Public Institutions.

Institutions	Persons assisted		Expenditure (1,000lire)	
	1939	1940	1939	1940
Charitable Foundations ^①	1,113,136	141,043	60,310	9,549
Building (edilizia)	—	—	—	—
Foundations	—	6,992	—	1,553
Scholarship Foundations	3,348	2,798	3,155	2,446
Nurseries (Asili nido)	—	18,582	—	8,232
Nursery-Kindergartens (Asili infantili)	375,577	309,876	44,822	42,607
Orphanages	82,527	52,292	105,529	95,617
Institutions for deaf, dumb, blind	—	2,975	—	5,775
Seaside Colonies	—	11,398	—	9,078

(continued)

CONFIDENTIAL

-3-

CONFIDENTIALTABLE III: Public Welfare Activity of Public Institutions (cont'd).

<u>Institutions</u>	<u>Persons assisted</u>		<u>Expenditure (1,000 lire)</u>	
	<u>1939</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1940</u>
Mountain Colonies	—	14,438	—	5,383
Hospitals	1,229,568	1,906,258	664,690	743,498
Homes for Beggars	125,410	288,503	86,989	102,845
Old Age Homes	34,566	16,941	52,272	41,102
Insane Asylums	87,452	71,899	311,332	245,771
Other Institutions	—	71,796	—	33,335
Total	3,051,584	2,915,791	1,329,099	1,346,796

① Figures for 1939 and 1940 not comparable in this category.

How much and to what extent persons are benefiting from the public welfare activities is very difficult to estimate. The flood of propaganda intended to publicize the alleged achievements of Fascism in the field of social welfare is deceiving. Furthermore, the measure of efficiency with which the programs are administered varies according to regions; in all probability a great deal more is accomplished in the northern provinces than in the economically backward southern provinces. Propaganda generously states that no discrimination is made between members and non-members of welfare organizations. This, however, is subject to much qualification.

(2) State Relief Organizations: Enti Comunali di Assistenza
(Communal Public Welfare Boards.)

These organizations, established by a law which went into effect July 1, 1937, are among the most important welfare institutions in Italy. The Enti Comunali di Assistenza have absorbed, replaced, and taken over the work of (1) the Congregazioni di Carità in the individual communes, and (2) the Enti Opere Assistenziali of the Fascist Party. Provision is made, however, for autonomous administration of public charitable institutions (hospitals, homes for the aged, orphanages, etc.) which were formerly administered by the Congregazioni di Carità, but have purposes not basically of a relief nature.

1. Functions.

The object of the Enti Comunali di Assistenza is to provide assistance to needy individuals and families, and to carry out relief work of various kinds among mothers, children, and the unemployed, through such means as free canteens, milk rations, free meals for poor school children, and dormitories for the homeless. (Similar activities are also carried on by the Gioventù Italiana del Littorio and the Opera Nazionale per la Protezione della Maternità e dell'Infanzia, discussed below.)

CONFIDENTIAL

-4-

CONFIDENTIAL

ii. Administration.

(a) The administration of each Ente is in the hands of a council, consisting of:

The Podestà, who presides;

A representative of the Fascio di Combattimento, designated by the Secretary of the Fascio;

The Secretary of the Fascio femminile;

Four or more representatives of the syndical associations: four for communes of 20,000 or less; six for communes of 20,000 to 100,000; and eight for communes with more than 100,000 inhabitants. These representatives are appointed by the Prefect from candidates chosen by lot by the syndical associations. They hold office for four years and may be reappointed.

(b) The Ente is required to make an annual report to the Prefect on its activities.

(c) Special provision is made for the Ente of the Governatorato of Rome, which is administered by a council consisting of:

The Governor, who presides;

A representative of the Fascio di Combattimento of Rome, designated by the Federal Secretary of Rome;

The Vice-Secretary of the Fascio femminile of Rome;

Eight representatives appointed by the Minister of the Interior from candidates chosen by lot by the syndical associations. They hold office for four years and may be reappointed.

(d) The Enti may make use of the Fasci femminili according to standards laid down by the Minister of the Interior in agreement with the Secretary of the National Fascist Party.

iii. Finance.

According to law each Ente is financed by (a) income from its own property and from the property of the public charitable institutions which it administers; (b) amounts annually assigned to it from certain revenue; (c) donations of the province, the commune, and other public and private bodies.

CONFIDENTIAL

-5-

CONFIDENTIAL

The Enti have received gifts and legacies, as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of gifts and legacies</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1939	939	6,584,000 lire
1940	1,672	25,987,000 lire

The State has contributed to the support of the Enti as follows:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1937-38	68,381,000 lire
1938-39	123,661,000 lire
1939-40	180,000,000 lire

(3) Fascist Party Welfare and Relief Agencies

i. Gioventù Italiana del Littorio (GIL) - (Italian Youth of the Lictor).

(a) Organization.

The GIL is the youth branch of the Fascist Party, virtually embracing the male and female youth of Italy from four to twenty-one years of age. Its total membership on October 28, 1942 was 8,754,589. Membership is compulsory for all school pupils. In addition to the membership fee of six lire a year, the GIL receives contributions from private individuals and from public and private institutions.

(b) General Activities.

GIL activities include sports, cinema, and competitions of various kinds. It supervises physical training in all elementary and secondary schools, and its program emphasizes pre-military preparation, general physical training, and instruction in hygiene and first aid.

(c) Public Welfare Activities.

The GIL participates more directly in public welfare by: prizes and scholarships; care of orphans and of the sick; food, clothing, and books for poor members; summer camps, aviation camps, schools of art and crafts, and free public libraries; special remissions of fees for apprenticeship to trades and professions. It has enlisted the aid of physicians, many of whom are permanent medical officers of the organization. It maintains special school boards (patronati scolastici) supplying free clothing, books, and school lunches to poor children. These boards supervise the celebration of the Befana (Epiphany, January 6),

CONFIDENTIAL

-6-

CONFIDENTIAL

when gifts are distributed to younger members and to poor non-members.

The university groups of the GIL have organized "student houses" (case degli studenti) in certain communes. These houses are chiefly for out-of-town students of limited means, and for poorer GIL members who receive free board and lodging.

Among the relief activities of the GIL is the "mutual assistance fund" (cassa mutua assistenza). Benefits are extended to young people who are incapacitated by disease or injured during work or play. These benefits may take the form of provision of orthopedic apparatus, or vocational rehabilitation.

The following table gives a general view of welfare and relief activities of the GIL:

TABLE IV: GIL Welfare Activities (year XIX - 1940-41).

Free school meals	
Number of children benefited	850,117
Amount spent (in thousands of lire)	57,816
Distribution of books, medicines, and footwear to poor pupils (in thousands of lire)	12,053
After school (<u>Doposcuola</u>) -- number	8,002
Amusement places, resorts and work centers	
Number	1,613
Daily average attendance	479,639
"A. Mussolini" Mutual Assistance Fund	
Accidents compensated	12,864
Amounting to (in thousands of lire)	1,780
Dispensaries owned by the GIL	641
Health officers rendering services	17,390
Members receiving medical examination	1,998,171
<u>Befana (Epiphany)</u>	
Gift packages distributed	1,490,279
Value (in thousands of lire)	26,700
"Balilla Policy"	
Contracts taken out	20,156
Capital (in thousands of lire)	56,711
Total amount spent for welfare and health activities	183,570

Camp facilities available to the GIL are shown in the following table:

CONFIDENTIAL

TABLE V: Children Sent to GIL Camps (Year XVIII - 1939-40)

	Seashore		Mountains		Plains		Rivers and thermal sites		Total	
	No. of camps	Children sent	No. of camps	Children sent	No. of camps	Children sent	No. of camps	Children sent	No. of camps	Children sent
Permanent Camps	11	8,710	17	7,139	6	739	5	2,968	39	19,556
Temporary Camps	221	135,216	250	62,084	25	3,354	31	5,045	527	205,699
Day Camps	173	37,408	761	69,545	1,644	225,576	448	65,736	3,026	398,265
Grand Total	405	181,334	1,028	138,768	1,675	229,669	484	73,747	3,592	623,570

A total of 750,162 children were sent to GIL camps in the year 1940-41.

TABLE V: Children Sent to GIL Camps (Year XVIII - 1939-40)

Seashore		Mountains		Plains		Rivers and thermal sites		Total	
Camps	Children sent	No. of camps	Children sent	No. of camps	Children sent	No. of camps	Children sent	No. of camps	Children sent
11	8,710	17	7,139	6	739	5	2,968	39	19,554
21	135,216	250	62,084	25	3,354	31	5,045	527	205,699
73	37,408	761	69,545	1,644	225,576	448	65,736	3,026	398,265
55	181,334	1,028	138,768	1,675	229,669	484	73,747	3,592	623,518

-7-

children were sent to GIL camps in the year 1940-41.

CONFIDENTIAL

-8-

CONFIDENTIAL

ii. Opera Nazionale Dopolavoro (OND) — National After-Work (Leisure) Organization.

This Fascist organization directs a wide variety of adult educational, recreational, and welfare activities, the scope of which resembles that of the GIL (above), except that it deals exclusively with adults. Membership in the Dopolavoro, which is "voluntary", stood at 4,612,294 on October 28, 1942. Dopolavoro centers are either communal or are organized by large firms or state employees' associations. There are branches in the provinces and centers in the communes. Funds are provided by local authorities, the Ministry of Education, banks, gifts, members' subscriptions, and compulsory contributions from the syndicates.

The following table shows the number of persons receiving welfare or relief assistance from the Dopolavoro in the years 1936-40:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Persons aided</u>
1936	287,663
1937	274,866
1938	343,625
1939	766,474
1940	1,194,958

iii. Other Fascist Agencies.

Despite the multiplicity of relief agencies in Italy, it appears that the Fascist Party is continuing, particularly under wartime conditions, to engage in relief work through its own units and subsidiary organizations. The following list of Fascist Party organizations, with their membership as of October 28, 1942, may afford a clue to certain channels through which some relief has probably been provided:

<u>(a) Fascist Party Units</u>	<u>Membership</u>
Fighting Groups (<u>Fasci di Combattimento</u>)	4,770,770
Fascist University Groups (<u>Gruppi Fascisti Universitari</u>)	159,297
Italian Youth of the Lictor (<u>Gioventù Italiana del Littorio</u>)	8,754,589
Women's Fascist Groups (<u>Fasci Femminili</u>)	1,027,409
Rural Women (<u>Massale Rurali</u>)	2,491,792
Women artisans working at home (<u>Operai e lavoranti a domicilio</u>)	864,922
Foreign Students (<u>Studenti stranieri</u>)	975

CONFIDENTIAL

-9-

CONFIDENTIAL

(b) <u>Fascist Party Subsidiaries</u>	<u>Membership</u>
Fascist School Association (<u>Associazione Fascista della Scuola</u>)	189,615
Fascist Association of Public Employees (<u>Associazione fascista del Pubblico Impiego</u>).. .. .	386,865
Fascist Association of Employees of State Undertakings (<u>Associazione Fascista Addetti Aziende Industriali dello Stato</u>)	153,421
Fascist Association of Railwaymen (<u>Associazione Fascista dei Ferrovieri</u>).. .. .	158,582
Fascist Association of Post, Telegraph, and Telephone Workers (<u>Associazione Fascista dei Postelegrafonici</u>)	87,645
National After-Work Organization (<u>Opera Nazionale Dopo-lavoro</u>)	4,612,294
Italian National Olympic Committee (<u>Comitato Olimpionico Nazionale Italiano</u>)	740,980
National Institute of Fascist Culture (<u>Istituto Nazionale di Cultura Fascista</u>)	211,990
National Association of Families of Soldiers Killed in War (<u>Associazione Nazionale Famiglie dei Caduti in Guerra</u>)	379,284
National Association of Families of Killed and Disabled Airmen (<u>Associazione Nazionale Famiglie dei Caduti in Aeronautica e Mutilati del Volo</u>).. .. .	6,202
National Union of Italian Reserve Officers (<u>Unione Nazionale Ufficiali in Congedo d'Italia</u>).. .. .	301,532
Group of Military Gold Medal Holders (<u>Gruppo delle Medaglie d'Oro al Valor Militare</u>)	126
National "Blue Ribbon" Institute (<u>Istituto Nazionale del Nastro Azzuro</u>).. .. .	23,668
National "Tricolor Ribbon" Association of those Decorated for Civilian Gallantry (land, sea or air) (<u>Associazione Nazionale "Nastro Tricolore" per Decorati al Valore Civile, di Marina e di Aeronautica</u>).. .. .	3,500

(continued)

CONFIDENTIAL

-10-

CONFIDENTIAL

(b) <u>Fascist Party Subsidiaries</u> (cont'd)	<u>Membership</u>
National Association of Disabled Ex-Service Men (<u>Associazione Nazionale Mutilati e Invalidi di Guerra</u>)	215,862
National Association of Combatants (<u>Associazione Nazionale Combattenti</u>).. . . .	907,196
Legion of Volunteers of Italy (<u>Legione Volontari d'Italia</u>)	97,841
"Arditi" of Italy Detachments (<u>Reparti Arditi d'Italia</u>)	20,037
Garibaldina Legion (<u>Legione Garibaldina</u>)	5,989
Services and Specialists' Associations (<u>Reparti d'Arma e di Specialità</u>)	497,499
Italian Alpine Center (<u>Centro Alpinistico Italiano</u>)..	45,290
Italian Naval League (<u>Lega Navale Italiana</u>).. . . .	261,499

According to recent information (June, 1943), the Fascist Party has opened rest homes for workers at the following places in the Province of Trento: Pèio, Malè, Moèna, Pozza (Vigo di Fassa), Pera (Vigo di Fassa), Canazèi, Castelpergine, Roncegno.

(4) Private Relief Organizations.

1. Croce Rossa Italiana (CRI) — The Italian Red Cross.

(a) Organization.

The history of the Italian Red Cross dates from 1864. In 1919 it became affiliated with the International Red Cross (Ligue des Sociétés de la Croix Rouge).

The headquarters of the CRI are at 12 via Toscana, Rome (25). The executive director is the Presidente Generale (in 1939 Giuseppe Mormino, Senator and Minister of State). He is assisted by a Central Committee. There is also a directing council, composed of the President, the Vice President, and twelve councilors. Six of these councilors are named by Royal Decree upon the proposal of the Minister of the Interior in agreement with the Minister of War; the other six are representatives of humanitarian organizations and of the Ministers of War and of the Interior. The King and Queen are the official patrons.

Red Cross day in Italy is celebrated on Palm Sunday.

CONFIDENTIAL

-11-

CONFIDENTIAL

Local Organization. The Italian Red Cross, both in Italy and the colonies, is locally organized in provincial committees, sub-committees, and communal delegations. For its functions in time of war, and for those peacetime functions which require military discipline, it may enroll volunteers from among citizens who are exempt from military conscription.

According to pre-war statistics, the CRI has 93 provincial committees, 250 sub-committees, 6,500 delegations in Italy, and 4 committees in the colonies.

Junior Red Cross. Associated with the CRI is a junior branch whose purpose is to teach sanitation and hygiene to Italian youth.

Membership. According to statistics published in the Annuaire de la Croix Rouge Internationale of 1939, membership in the CRI consisted of 235,000 adult members and 2,700,000 junior members.

Personnel. The following personnel statistics are available for the year 1932:

Medical officers	1,600
Pharmacists	299
Commissioners	838
Chaplains	210
Assistant Officers	
and <u>Militi</u> (field workers)	2,530
Volunteer Nurses	5,000

Finance. Assets: Real estate, 55,000,000 lire; equipment and other properties, 70,000,000 lire.

Budget (1939): 42,000,000 lire.

(b) Functions.

The primary function of the Italian Red Cross is to aid the sick and wounded in time of war. It cooperates with both the military and civilian authorities. In addition to its duties in time of war, which do not differ materially from those of other Red Cross organizations throughout the world, it renders peacetime service in the event of public calamity or distress, and works for the prevention of infectious disease and for the spread of health information and instruction in hygiene among the poor.

The CRI publishes the Bollettino della Croce Rossa Italiana (founded 1928; editor, Vittorio Minnucci), with a supplement for Italian Red Cross nurses entitled La Bianca Milizia.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 12 -

CONFIDENTIAL(c) Institutions

Statistics for the year 1934 list the following institutions maintained and operated by the Italian Red Cross:

Sanatoria	5
Preventoria	12
Anti-tuberculosis clinics	7
Clinics for children	4
Wet nursing stations	4
Playground schools	2
First Aid stations	1153
Health-Aid Services for school children	362
Anti-Malaria stations	31
Mobile Anti-Malaria units	19
Schools for nurses	4
Health-Aid schools	7

As part of its public health program, the Italian Red Cross has founded and maintains in operation tubercular sanatoria at Rome, at Bremo di Lonzo (near Turin), at Quasso al Monte (near Varese), and at Golfo di Oltra (near Trieste), with a total of 730 beds. In 1929, some 2,000 patients were received; medical aid was administered to 4,000 more from nine dispensaries.

It also operates tubercular preventoria at Fara Sabina, at Bettona (near Perugia), at Villa Camerata (near Florence), at Pozzuoli (near Naples), at Montebelluna, and at Ariccia. In addition, it operates four dispensaries for trachoma.

In 1934, the Italian Red Cross had complete equipment for field hospitals, mobile surgical units, ambulances, hospital trains, and ships, and a total of 10,500 mobile beds in addition to those maintained in regional hospitals.

The work of the Italian Red Cross in World War I received the high commendation of the Italian government. In 1940 its relief activity after the bombardment of Trapani and Palermo, and after the naval battle off the coast of Sicily, was widely praised by Italian officials.

11. Croce Verde -- Green Cross

The Croce Verde Italiana, established in 1914, is a voluntary organization of first-aid groups which provides a variety of services in cases of emergency.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 13 -

CONFIDENTIAL(5) Minor Welfare Organizations

It is not known which, if any, of the organizations mentioned in this group have been liquidated or merged with the Enti Comunal
di Assistenza pursuant to the law of 1937 which created the Enti.

i. Istituto Nazionale di Assistenza Magistrale Rosa Maltoni
Mussolini.

Founded in 1927 to promote welfare services for elementary school teachers.

ii. Ufficio Assistenza Minorati di Guerra (Office for the Assistance of those disabled in war).

This provides assistance for those who have suffered physical injury while fighting with the armed forces or with the Blackshirts.

iii. The following organizations are in aid of orphans:

Opera Nazionale per gli Orfani di Guerra (War Orphans' Foundation)

Headquarters in Rome and branches throughout Italy.

Istituto Nazionale per gli Orfani degli Impiegati dello Stato.

Provides homes and education for orphans of civil servants (ages six to eighteen)

Istituto Nazionale Fascista Umberto I.

For orphans of workmen employed by State Administration.

Istituto Nazionale per gli Orfani dei Maestri Elementari

Homes and education for orphans of school teachers and directors of primary schools.

Opera Pia per gli Orfani dei Sanitari Italiani. Headquarters in Perugia.

Provides homes, education and training for the legitimate orphans of doctors, physicians, surgeons, and veterinarians.

b. Institutions

Institutions are discussed under section a. (Organization) and section c. (Maternal and Child Welfare).

CONFIDENTIAL

- 14 -

CONFIDENTIAL

c. Maternal and Child Welfare: the Opera Nazionale per la Protezione della Maternità e dell' Infanzia (ONMI) -- (National Organization for the Protection of Mothers and Infants).

(1) General

Maternal and child welfare work was carried on before the advent of Fascism, particularly in northern and central Italy, under the auspices of local governments, private associations, and philanthropic individuals. A law of December 10, 1925 placed all public and private institutions which took care of mothers and infants under the nationally organized Opera Nazionale per la Protezione della Maternità e dell' Infanzia (ONMI), which began to function in 1927.

(2) Functions

The ONMI engages in a variety of activities, such as: prenatal care and child welfare activity; operation of maternity homes; programs for the care of homeless and illegitimate children; participation in the system for prevention of juvenile delinquency, and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders; and preventive measures against prostitution, especially through moral and material support of the mothers of illegitimate children. The following table illustrates the scope and extent of ONMI activities.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 15 -

TABLE VI: Summary of activities of the OMH, 1937-1940

	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1940</u>
Institutions	10,266	9,348	9,617	9,813
Expectant Mothers				
Visited consulting clinics	163,345	170,060	193,891	195,971
Revisited " "	170,843	189,000	227,231	208,705
Assisted at home	51,303	52,078	59,668	67,711
Admitted to refectories	36,055	34,586	33,776	34,212
Visited at home	70,848	75,198	94,182	86,148
Total number assisted	220,004	228,792	244,455	240,061
Nursing Mothers				
Visited consulting clinics	187,319	183,449	---	---
Revisited " "	247,528	249,877	---	---
Assisted at home	102,741	99,364	104,203	102,270
Admitted to refectories	46,393	39,754	42,510	42,113
Total number assisted	287,062	281,556	146,713	144,383
Infants up to 3 years				
Visited pediatric clinics	657,974	636,050	643,641	661,688
Revisited " "	1,357,837	1,469,378	1,657,701	1,725,069
Assisted with food and tonics	298,415	317,503	375,335	484,552
Placed with nurses, etc.	43,812	42,875	44,382	45,671
Received in institutions	2,403	2,640	1,366	935
Visited at home	164,679	155,806	229,472	221,906
Total number assisted	792,127	792,618	760,680	834,839
Children over 3 years				
Assisted with lunches	335,855	315,667	265,384	273,154
Assisted at home	95,321	84,397	65,163	---

(continued)

CONFIDENTIAL

-16-

CONFIDENTIAL

TABLE VI: (contd.)

	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1940</u>
Children over 3 years (cont'd)				
Received in institutions	16,471	14,828	8,991	6,754
Total number assisted	461,961	396,771	345,905	283,654
Children assisted against tuberculosis				
Total	14,389	12,725	10,487	8,973
Received in camps	8,482	7,144	7,522	4,379
Illegitimate children				
Entirely supported by ONMI	31,365	30,649	28,174	27,416
Number of these assisted by a subsidy to the mother	26,642	26,026	23,648	23,139
Partly (1/3) supported by ONMI	130,193	140,073	134,957	144,953
Number of these assisted by a subsidy to the mother	111,802	123,473	121,463	131,373
Prizes for good bringing-up	26,280	28,186	33,366	30,654

In 1941 assistance of some sort was given to a total of approximately 1,300,000 infants and children.

Children may receive assistance and intervention of the ONMI from birth up to the age of 18. However, at the age of six, matters of health are taken over by the Gioventù Italiana del Littorio (sec. a, above), except in cases of abandoned or delinquent children. Certain functions of the ONMI are also paralleled by the Enti Comunali di Assistenza (sec. a, above).

(3) Administration

1. Central Administration

(a) The ONMI is under the supervision of the Minister of the Interior. It is administered by a Central Council of 13, appointed by Royal Decree upon the proposal of the Minister of the Interior, after being designated as follows:

CONFIDENTIAL

- 17 -

CONFIDENTIAL

One by the Secretary of the Fascist Party;
 One by the Minister of the Interior;
 One each by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Finance,
 Justice, Education, and Corporations;
 One by the Istituto Nazionale Fascista della Previdenza Sociale;
 One by the Italian Red Cross;
 Three by the Minister of the Interior from among persons
 qualified in the field of maternity and child welfare.

The council holds office for four years; the members may be reappointed.

(b) The Central Council has a President and Vice-President, (appointed from among the councilors by Royal Decree upon the Proposal of the Minister of the Interior), who holds office for four years and may be reappointed.

(c) The Executive Committee (Giunta esecutiva) within the Central Council is composed of the President and Vice-President, a third member appointed by the Minister of the Interior, and an assistant chosen by the third member from among the councilors. In urgent cases, this Committee can take certain actions normally within the purview of the Council, subject, however, to ratification by the Council at its next meeting.

(d) The officers of the national organization must belong to the Fascist Party, and enjoy the confidence of the Party leaders. Membership in the ONMI is held by individuals, associations, and corporate bodies (enti morali) which make contributions to its financial support.

11. Provincial Administration

(a) The work of the ONMI is carried on in the provinces by Provincial Federations, composed of all the public and private institutions in the province concerned with protection of and assistance to mothers and children.

(b) The Federation has its seat in the chief-place (capoluogo) of the province, in quarters provided and equipped gratuitously by the province. It avails itself of the services of the Secretary and of the personnel of the provincial administration.

(c) The task of the Federation is to coordinate the activities of private and public bodies dealing locally with maternity and child welfare, and to meet such requirements as local institutions are not prepared to fulfill.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 18 -

CONFIDENTIAL

(d) Each federation is governed by a council of 11 members, including a President (the Provincial Presidente or a rector named by him) and Vice-President (the provincial trustee of the women's Fascio or a delegate named by her). Other ex-officio members are: the prefectural councilor concerned with public assistance and welfare services; the provincial physician, and the President of the Tribunale or a judge delegated by him. The other six, who hold office for four years and may be reappointed, are chosen as follows:

- One by the Secretary of the provincial Fascio di Combattimento
- Four by the prefect (two medical men and two representatives of public and private maternity and child welfare institutions);
- One by the President of the ONMI, chosen from among individual members who are expert in maternity and child welfare matters and are residents of the province.

iii. Communal Administration

Each Federation directs the work of communal committees known as the Committees of Patrons. The podestà (or his delegate) is the president of the committee for his commune. Ex-officio members of a Committee of Patrons are:

- The Communal health officers;
- A magistrato or a conciliatore designated by the president of the Tribunale (see Section 3, Legal Affairs, published separately).
- A school director or teacher;
- A parish priest chosen by the prefect;
- The Secretary of the communal Fascio or his delegate.
- The Secretary of the women's Fascio.

There is possibly included also a representative of the Ente Comunale di Assistenza in place of the President of the communal Congregazione di Carità provided for in the law on the ONMI. (See above, sec. a, concerning the suppression of the Congregazioni di Carità.) Other members are chosen by the President of the Federation from among qualified persons, subject to ratification by the Federation Council.

A Committee of Patrons may create sub-committees, their number and membership being determined with the approval of the Federation Council. The President and Vice-President of a sub-committee are chosen by the podestà and the Secretary of the women's Fascio respectively, with the ratification of the Federation Council.

(4) Finance

The ONMI is supported by: (a) state contributions which are fixed annually (108,000,000 lire in recent years); (b) percentages of the profits of operation of certain pawnshops (Monti di Pietà) reserved by law for welfare institutions; (c) percentages of the net profits that can annually

CONFIDENTIAL

- 19 -

CONFIDENTIAL

be set aside in its favor by the following credit institutions: Banco di Napoli, Banco di Sicilia, Banco di Santo Spirito di Roma, Monte dei Paschi di Siena, Istituto di San Paolo di Torino, Cassa di Risparmio delle Provincie Lombarde; (d) one-fourth of certain "resort" taxes (imposte di soggiorno e di cura); (e) income from ONMI property, consisting of gifts, legacies, and subsidies; (f) taxes on bachelors.

The Minister of the Interior may, by decree, authorize the ONMI to acquire real property and to accept legacies and gifts.

The President, Vice-President, the members of the Central Council, the members of the Executive Committee, the Members of the Federation Councils, the President and Vice-Presidents of the Committees of Patrons, and the Patrons serve without compensation. It appears that the organization depends in large measure upon volunteer workers.

The following table shows expenditures of the ONMI (in thousands of lire) for the years 1936 - 40:

	<u>1936</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1940</u>
Maternity Welfare	35,092	35,529	34,964	30,744	32,745
Infant Welfare	71,488	69,510	73,484	81,720	90,854
Subventions to Maternal and Child Welfare Institutions	10,058	7,346	8,164	45	---
Publicity	678	1,534	112	155	---
General Expenses	1,793	1,606	3,140	3,408	3,688
Miscellaneous	7,784	13,506	13,334	17,268	5,448
Total	126,893	129,031	133,198	133,340	152,735

(5) General Activities

Activity in the field is carried on primarily through the local Committees of Patrons. Their activities vary from place to place according to local circumstances, and include: (a) organization of maternity and child welfare centers; (b) securing for pregnant women the services of a midwife or, in certain cases, free accommodation in a maternity home or hospital; (c) provision of free meals for expectant and nursing mothers, and free milk for infants that cannot be nursed; (d) securing of employment for needy women and for children over 14; (e) supervision of children over 14 who are in the care of foster parents or in public or private welfare institutions.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 20 -

CONFIDENTIAL

The Committees of Patrons supervise centers known as Casa della Madre e del Bambino (centers for mothers and children), which include such activities as special clinics, nurseries, and mothers' canteens. Such centers have been established at Rome, Milan, Naples, Genoa, Leghorn, Perugia, Ancona, Bari, Verona, Cremona, Como, Cuneo, Siena, Pavia, Aosta, Arezzo, Bergamo, Bolzano, Morano, Catanzaro, Fiume, Forlì, Grosseto, Mantua, Modena, Pisa, Reggio nell' Emilia, Trapani, Trieste, Varese, Zara.

Protection is accorded to the following classes of children: (a) homeless children of unknown parents; (b) children born out of wedlock and registered as children of unknown parents; (c) children born out of wedlock and recognized by their mothers (who, however, must be nursing mothers and poor). The child may be placed in an institution or with foster parents. The provincial administration decides which course is to be followed, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee of the ONMI.

The program of assistance to homeless and illegitimate children includes, food, medicine, and other necessities. Frequent inspection of the homes of foster parents are made by provincial inspectors of the ONMI; periodic inspections are also made by representatives of the Ministry of the Interior.

The broader functions of the ONMI include: (a) broad supervisory powers over all public and private maternity and child welfare institutions, and (b) the power to ascertain violations of certain laws for the protection of minors: laws which prohibit the employment of persons under 16 years of age in itinerant occupations; the furnishing of alcoholic beverages (including wine) to persons under 16 in schools and institutions; the sale or furnishing of tobacco to persons under 16; smoking in public places by persons under 16.

Committees of Patrons investigate cases of persons applying for assistance. In performing their work of child protection, they may count upon the assistance and collaboration of the regular police and of the corporative inspectors.

(6) Juvenile Delinquency

The system for the prevention and correction of juvenile delinquency, in which the ONMI participates, centers in those communes where there are courts of appeal or detached sections of courts of appeal (see Section 3, Legal Affairs, published separately). Each such commune has an Observation Center and a Juvenile Rehabilitation Center.

1. Observation Centers conduct various services (including medical and psychiatric services) for disabled and delinquent children, and assume the custody of delinquents awaiting trial or waiting to be sent to institutions of correction.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 21 -

CONFIDENTIAL

The organization and supervision of the Observation Centers is entrusted to the Presidents of the Provincial Federations of the ONMI. Each center has an Executive Council, consisting of: (a) the President; (b) a magistrato appointed by the Minister of the Interior upon the designation of the Minister of Justice; and (c) two members, one of them a physician, appointed by the Provincial Federation of the ONMI.

ii. Juvenile Rehabilitation Centers complement the work of the Observation Centers. They include: (a) a juvenile court; (b) a judicial reformatory for minors taken into custody by the police; (c) a "center" for the rehabilitation of minors concerning whom judgment has been rendered by the court; (d) a juvenile prison.

iii. Juvenile Courts

The jurisdiction of the juvenile court is co-extensive with the territory of the court of appeal or detached section, within the limits of competency fixed by law.

The court consists of a magistrate having the grade of councilor (consigliere) of the court of appeal, who presides; a magistrate having the grade of judge; and an expert qualified by law, who has the title of honorary judge and serves gratuitously. One or more deputies may be chosen. Experts are chosen for three years by Royal Decree on the proposal of the Minister of Grace and Justice. Attached to the court is an independent office of the public prosecutor.

In proceedings against minors, investigations are made concerning the minor, his family, and his environment. The prosecutor, the court, and the section of the court of appeal concerned may make investigations and utilize expert advice.

Proceedings before the juvenile court and the section of the court of appeal are conducted privately. Attendance at the hearings is restricted to the minor involved, his close relatives, his guardian or his representative, the complainant, the witnesses, the attorneys concerned, a representative of the local Committee of Patrons of the ONMI, and representatives of such committees for the assistance and protection of minors as are recognized by the president of the court. Special counsel is provided for the minor.

There may be an appeal to the detached section of the court of appeal, in which case the place of one of the magistrates of the section is taken by a layman. If possible the section is made up of magistrates, including the presiding magistrates, who have served on juvenile courts.

d. Public Housing

- (1) Istituti ed Enti Autonomi per le Case Popolari - (Autonomous Organizations for Public Housing).

The Italian Government has assisted housing by grants representing

CONFIDENTIAL

- 22 -

CONFIDENTIAL

part of the interest charges on loans obtained by the building societies. As of 1935, there were 73 of these societies, in an association known as the Istituti ed Enti Autonomi per le Case Popolari.

Houses so built fall into two broad classes: case popolari (popular houses), for families of industrial workers; case economiche (economic dwellings), for families of the lower middle class. There are also dwellings for the very poor who cannot pay rent - case popolariissime (ultra-popular houses).

The following figures show the activities of the Istituti ed Enti Autonomi per le Case Popolari for 1940:

	<u>Entire Kingdom</u>	<u>In communes having over 100,000 inhabitants</u>
Number of dwellings built:	11,941	3,966
Of these, ultra-popular	1,374	489
Number of rooms (Kitchen is counted as a room if it is large enough to hold at least one bed):	38,820	10,536
Of these, ultra-popular	3,741	1,416

(2) Istituto Nazionale per le Case degli Impiegati dello Stato (INCIS)
(National Organization for Houses for Government Employees).

Dwellings for government employees have been built by the Istituto Nazionale per le Case degli Impiegati dello Stato. The following figures show the activities of this organization for 1940:

	<u>Entire Kingdom</u>	<u>For Communes having over 100,000 inhabitants</u>
Number of dwellings built:	334	206
Number of rooms (Kitchen is counted as a room if it is large enough to hold at least one bed):	1,513	959

Many of these popular dwellings have baths.

(3) Others.

Other housing programs have been promoted by industrial firms and by the Confederation of Industrialists. Hostels have been provided for unmarried workers. Villages have been created for miners in the Arsa region and in Sardinia.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 23 -

CONFIDENTIAL

e. Welfare Personnel

Welfare personnel is discussed in sections a. (Organizations) and c. (Maternal and Child Welfare), above.

* * * * *

SELECTED REFERENCES

- Gazzetti, Fernando: Social Welfare in Italy (Rome, 1936)
Casalini, Mario: Le Reallizzazioni del regime nel campo sociale (Rome, 1938)
Corsi, Pietro: La Tutela della maternità e dell'infanzia in Italia (Rome, 1936)
Annuario dell'Opera Nazionale Dopolavoro, 1938 (Rome)

CONFIDENTIAL

