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SEPT. 1945 - JAN. 1946

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1945- JAN. PAG

March 30, 1946

RESTRICTED

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ALLIED COMMISSION WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

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POLITICAL

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

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

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

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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

ELECTION DETAILS

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

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

Major R. B. Temple, director of the [illegible]

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

THE NORTH

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

PARTY	MARCH 10						MARCH 17						MARCH 21						TOTAL		
	Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats			Majorities		
	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total	A	B	Total
Left Concentration	—	129	**129**	2	2,419	**2,421**	—	362	**362**	21	6,368	**6,389**	1	506	**507**	56	8,881	**8,937**	1	997	**998**
Communist	2	4	**6**	81	73	**154**	1	19	**20**	31	419	**450**	5	30	**35**	128	501	**629**	8	53	**61**
Socialist	2	6	**8**	50	112	**162**	—	23	**23**	34	422	**456**	—	29	**29**	97	680	**777**	2	58	**60**
Republican	1	4	**5**	31	72	**103**	—	8	**8**	17	178	**195**	1	10	**11**	28	200	**228**	2	22	**24**
Action	—	1	**1**	1	32	**33**	—	1	**1**	1	70	**71**	—	4	**4**	3	76	**79**	—	6	**6**
Christian Democrat	3	132	**135**	77	2,491	**2,568**	4	338	**342**	78	6,181	**6,259**	5	482	**487**	181	8,725	**8,906**	12	952	**964**
Center Concentration	—	44	**44**	6	783	**789**	—	76	**76**	1	1,479	**1,480**	1	57	**58**	31	1,206	**1,237**	1	177	**178**
Right Concentration	—	6	**6**	15	141	**156**	—	36	**36**	2	672	**674**	—	27	**27**	3	496	**499**	—	69	**69**
Liberal	—	19	**19**	8	320	**328**	—	15	**15**	8	339	**347**	—	25	**25**	7	415	**422**	—	59	**59**
Labour Democrat	—	10	**10**	6	176	**182**	—	25	**25**	—	376	**376**	—	16	**16**	5	306	**311**	—	51	**51**
Uomo Qualunque	—	3	**3**	5	63	**68**	—	7	**7**	6	120	**126**	—	7	**7**	9	117	**126**	—	17	**17**
Italian Democrat	—	—	—	—	8	**8**	—	2	**2**	—	—	—	—	1	**1**	1	13	**14**	—	3	**3**
Independents	—	42	**42**	3	716	**719**	—	109	**109**	—	1,980	**1,980**	—	92	**92**	2	1,781	**1,783**	—	243	**243**
Local Parties	—	8	**8**	9	173	**182**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	**39**	10	630	**640**	—	47	**47**
Veterans	—	8	**8**	8	168	**176**	—	15	**15**	—	253	**253**	—	6	**6**	9	168	**177**	—	29	**29**
			424			**8,049**			**1,041**			**19,056**			***1,344**			**24,765**			**2,809**

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals. — *B* = Communes under 30,000.
* = 6 communes where no majority was gained.

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PARTY	MARCH 10						MARCH 17						MARCH 24						TOTAL TO DATE					
	Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats			Majorities			Seats		
	A	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total	*A*	*B*	Total
[illegible]on	—	129	129	2	2,419	2,421	—	362	362	21	6,368	6,389	1	506	507	56	8,881	8,937	1	997	998	79	17,668	17,747
[illegible]	2	4	6	81	73	154	1	19	20	31	419	450	5	30	35	128	501	629	8	53	61	240	993	1,23
[illegible]	2	6	8	50	112	162	—	23	23	34	422	456	—	29	29	97	680	777	2	58	60	181	1,214	1,395
[illegible]	1	4	5	31	72	103	—	8	8	17	178	195	1	10	11	28	200	228	2	22	24	76	450	526
[illegible]	—	1	1	1	32	33	—	1	1	1	70	71	—	4	4	3	76	79	—	6	6	5	178	183
[illegible]rat	3	132	135	77	2,491	2,568	4	338	342	78	6,181	6,259	5	482	487	181	8,725	8,906	12	952	964	336	17,397	17,733
[illegible]tion	—	44	44	6	783	789	—	76	76	1	1,479	1,480	1	57	58	31	1,206	1,237	1	177	178	38	3,468	3,506
[illegible]ion	—	6	6	15	141	156	—	36	36	2	672	674	—	27	27	3	496	499	—	69	69	20	1,309	1,329
[illegible]	—	19	19	8	320	328	—	15	15	8	339	347	—	25	25	7	415	422	—	59	59	23	1,074	1,097
[illegible]erat	—	10	10	6	176	182	—	25	25	—	376	376	—	16	16	5	306	311	—	51	51	11	858	869
[illegible]ique	—	3	3	5	63	68	—	7	7	6	120	126	—	7	7	9	117	126	—	17	17	20	300	320
[illegible]erat	—	—	—	—	8	8	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	13	14	—	3	3	1	21	22
[illegible]	—	42	42	4	715	719	—	109	109	—	1,980	1,980	—	92	92	2	1,781	1,783	—	243	243	6	4,476	4,482
[illegible]	—	8	8	9	173	182	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	39	10	630	640	—	47	47	19	803	822
[illegible]	—	8	8	8	168	176	—	15	15	—	253	253	—	6	6	9	168	177	—	29	29	17	589	606
			424			8,049			1,041			19,056			1,344			24,765			2,809			51,870

[illegible]mmunes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals. — *B* — Communes under 30,000.
[illegible]ommunes where no majority was gained.

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

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

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

ODDS AND ENDS

Land Forces Sub-Commission gives the good news that 10,300 Italian POWs in three ships are en route from India to Naples and will land on dates between the 10th and 26th of April; this is the first large-scale repatriation of such personnel from India and includes 40 per cent. of the estimated 24,000 held there... The French representative to the Allied Commission, *Capitaine de Vaisseau* Moullec has been promoted to *Contre-Amiral* or Rear Admiral and will shortly leave us to go to the United Nations Organization as French Naval representative on the UNO Security Committee; he will be succeeded here by *Capitaine de Vaisseau* Heron de Villefosse, a distinguished writer who was assistant chief of staff to Admiral Muselier of the Free French Naval Forces; we are sorry to see Admiral Moullec leave us and wish him luck in his new post... The 1924 class of Italian youth (aged 22) seem to be in better physical condition than recent predecessors, Land Forces S/C reports... Starting next week, the PRB *Bulletin* will be unclassified, authority also having been obtained from the Chief Commissioner and Executive Commissioner to declassify all past issues in order to make the document available to historical organizations and libraries... The U. S. mail situation is finally much better. Capt. Thurman Oliver, head of APO 394 reports: In January, the APO was getting an average of six or seven bags a day, in February only three or four, but in March the average built up to, first, 28 or 29 bags and, then, to 44 and 45 a day, with the peak reached March 20 when 277 bags came in; there is one catch to the picture, 60 per cent. of the mail received is usually for the U. S. Embassy or UNRRA, which use our APO facilities... Major Sam V. Noe, former A. C. education officer, is back at his old trade of principal of the Highland (Ky.) Junior High School... The following decorations have been announced: *Officer of the Order of the British Empire* – Col. Clayton P. Kerr; *Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus (Commander)* – Col. Ernest J. Ristedt; *Italian Cross of War Merit* – Pvt. Alberto V. Di Martino and Pvt. Fred Raffin; *Crown of Italy* – (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Cols. Lorenzo R. Holmes, Walter P. Scoggins and Howard K. Seith; Majors Harry M. Downer and Norbert W. Hyland; (*Knight*) Capt. Warner G. Peterson and Sergt. Thomas M. McCommas, Jr...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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March 23, 1946

Director
D/Director RESTRICTED
Chief Operations
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Chief Clerk

ALLIED COMMISSION
WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

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POLITICAL

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

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

The Republican phalanx immediately took up the cudgels reserved generally for monarchist sympathizers to swing at the Prince's remarks. *Avanti* cried: "The bitter cup. The *Luogotenente* signs and hopes in Providence". *Voce Repubblicana* commented that the letter contained "grave errors of historical and juridical interpretation". The *Statuto Albertino*, it said, was a royal concession, not an agreement. In 1848 the power continued, a Constituent Assem-

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

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

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

Skirmishes.

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

Chief Clerk

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 61

POLITICAL

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

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

The Republican phalanx immediately took up the cudgels reserved generally for monarchist sympathizers to swing at the Prince's remarks. *Avanti* cried: "The bitter cup. The *Luogotenente* signs and hopes in Providence". *Voce Repubblicana* commented that the letter contained "grave errors of historical and juridical interpretation". The *Statuto Albertino*, it said, was a royal concession, not an agreement. In 1849, the paper continued, a Constitutent Assembly was promised but never held. The plebiscites, it asserted, were not pacts but merely votes which did not discuss or agree to any charter. *Momento* also took the royal letter writer to task for saying that it would be the monarchy's charge to make social justice operative. That mission, *Momento* declared, belonged to the political parties.

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

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

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

Skirmishes.

4455

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

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

ELECTION DETAILS

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

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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ELECTION DETAILS

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

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Labour Democrat	—	10	10	—	134	134
Liberal	—	19	19	—	261	261
Republican	1	4	5	16	60	76
Socialist	2	6	8	30	72	102
Uomo Qualunque	—	3	3	—	36	36
Sardinian	—	8	8	—	128	128
Veterans	—	8	8	—	112	112
Independents	—	42	42	—	622	622
Center Concentration	—	44	44	—	636	636
Right Concentration	—	6	6	—	106	106
Left Concentration	—	129	129	—	1946	1946
			424			6253

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

Other Plans.

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

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

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

ODDS AND ENDS

Brigadier General William M. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College when he gets home 9 April... Major Richard B. Bullock is back in Rome as Adjutant of 2675 Regiment after TD in the States... The following awards to U. S. officers have been announced: *Crown of Italy* – Col. Robert F. Worden and Major R. R. Temple (Commander) and Major John W. Gilday (Knight Officer)... The PRB *Bulletin* reaches exactly two years with this issue; *tempus fugit*... A survey by A. C. executive officers shows that eight Rome hotels have been relinquished but three of these were taken over by other Allied agencies; the A. C. now has a whole or part interest in nine hostels... Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin, former DPR and now on terminal leave, writes us from Ithaca, N. Y. to say he got home at 7.30 one morning and had to start teaching as a civilian in his Cornell University classes at 11 a.m.; he passes on this priceless anecdote, too, which will not fail to strike a sympathetic note from any veterans of transatlantic army crossings:

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Eritrea, according to this gentleman, can give Italy fresh beef and pork, poultry and eggs, potatoes, tomatoes, coffee, farinaceous foods, hides and boots, buttons, matches, beer, timber and so forth. It would take from Italy, however, only wines and vermouth, motors and machinery and parts, and seeds. Egypt, he added, could use wines, liquors, glassware and artistic ceramics, financial parlay. Egypt could supply 15,000 bales of cotton for manufacture in Italy and re-export to Egypt similar to the arrangement now in effect for the import and manufacture for re-export of 645 quintals of cotton and 135 quintals of wool from Eritrea.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

FOREIGN TRADE

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

there seems no determinable basis for the mutual valuation of the respective currencies. The Italians promised fresh fruit and vegetables, hemp, silk, hairfelt, straw hats, mercury, pyrites, pumice, electrical engines and parts, cars, bicycle frames and other machinery, oils and extracts, medicinal herbs and books, magazines and newspapers, which last item appeared in practically all agreements. Austria will provide timber cellulose, magnesite, fire clays, graphite, iron, seythes and sickles, saws and files, paper, musical instruments and engines.

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

Sweden. — This signed agreement is also quite advanced as to its implementation, that is, for actual trade to get started. All RCL items have been cleared except tartaric acid, of which 90 tons have been provisionally allocated for 1946, with half of this definitely authorized for the January-June period. The agreement is for six months and renewable. The Swedes will give iron and steel, machinery, tools, precision instruments, wood, cellulose and paper. The Italians list fruit (as ever), nuts, flower seeds, wines, talc, pumice, salt, hemp, silk, rayon, oils and chemicals, men's and women's hats, marble, glassware, accounting machines and various spare parts.

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

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

Poland. — The chief goal of Italian trade to Poland lies in the coal that can be obtained. An Italian mission went to Warsaw and a Polish mission has now been invited to Rome. The negotiations, in fact, have been going on since last August. Poland, it was estimated, can provide Italy with 720,000 tons of coal a year, to be shipped by rail, a project, however, which recently was held because of difficulties of trans-shipment through Czechoslovakia. Among the Italian offers to Poland, RCL clearance has already been obtained for 12,000 tons of lemons. To obtain the critically needed coal, in fact, Italy is prepared to export even items short on the home market, such is the demand for coal to energize industry as a whole. The Italian list of exports is virtually the same as many printed above, in addition to which there are included accordions (Poles love them), tractors, nautical instruments, presses, telephone and telegraph apparatus and a wide range of machinery. Poland, incidentally, might also provide some of the raw materials, such as

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

Other Plans.

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

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

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

ODDS AND ENDS

Brigadier General William M. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College when he gets home 9 April... Major Richard B. Bullock is back in Rome as Adjutant of 2675 Regiment after TD in the States... The following awards to U. S. officers have been announced: *Crown of Italy* – Col. Robert F. Worden and Major R. R. Temple (Commander) and Major John W. Gilday (Knight Officer)... The PRB *Bulletin* reaches exactly two years with this issue; *tempus fugit*... A survey by A. C. executive officers shows that eight Rome hotels have been relinquished but three of these were taken over by other Allied agencies; the A. C. now has a whole or part interest in nine hostels... Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin, former DPR and now on terminal leave, writes us from Ithaca, N. Y. to say he got home at 7.30 one morning and had to start teaching as a civilian in his Cornell University classes at 11 a.m.; he passes on this priceless anecdote, too, which will not fail to strike a sympathetic note from any veterans of transatlantic army crossings:

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Eritrea, according to this gentleman, can give Italy fresh beef and pork, poultry and eggs, potatoes, tomatoes, coffee, farinaceous foods, hides and boots, buttons, matches, beer, timber and so forth. It would take from Italy, however, only wines and vermouth, motors and machinery and parts, and seeds. Egypt, he added, could use wines, liquors, glassware and artistic ceramics, to Egypt similar to the arrangement now in effect for the import and manufacture for re-export of 645 quintals of cotton and 135 quintals of wool from Eritrea.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

March 16, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

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POLITICAL

The Italian press chorus, in complete unanimity for once, hailed the March 10 administrative elections, the first free elections in more than two decades in Italy, as a great success. From all accounts, there was general order; a large turnout—estimated by *Popolo* as high as 80 per cent—with women showing up at the polls *en masse* to exercise their newly granted suffrage; and lastly, a singular and heartening absence of charges of fraud. The victories went mostly to the Christian Democrats and the Leftist bloc of Socialists, Communists and Action Party, who ran common lists. As of 15 March, the returns of 414 out of 434 communes announced to the press by the Ministry of Interior gave majorities as follows:

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

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

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

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

Costituente.

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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

ELECTION FOOTNOTE

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

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

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

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

POLES IN ITALY

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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

Move to Italy.

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

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

Since the end of the war, apart from its garrison duties, the Corps has done considerable

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

Civilians.

Polish civilians in Italy are a much more difficult quantity to assess. The great majority are displaced persons, dependent more or less on relief, but one can only speak with accuracy about those actually accomodated in displaced persons camps. By the end of 1945, only some 1,300 had passed through the A. C. repatriation camp for Poles at Reggio Emilia and returned to Poland. On the other hand, there has been a steady trickle into Italy of Poles from Germany and from Poland itself, persons for most part who have arrived with little or no means. Jews from Poland present another problem, which it is not our business to discuss. As to non-Jewish Poles, some indication of numbers is provided by the fact that the population of the Polish Refugee Centers at Barletta and Trani has risen in the last few months from 4,000 to 6,400. One reason for this influx, apart from the Italian climate and the search for better conditions of life, is to be near relatives in the Polish Corps.

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

Move to Italy.

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

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

Since the end of the war, apart from its garrison duties, the Corps has done considerable to organize its own welfare services. Both in sport and entertainment there has been no lack of Polish talent and an extensive scheme of education has also been developed. In addition to technical training carried out by units, the Corps staff, from its own resources, has created a number in Rome, Bologna, Turin and other centers of learning.

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

MR. HOPKINSON LEAVES US

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

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

Highlights.

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

This diplomatic career, which is ending in Italy at 41 (a prime age to get into politics, incidentally), began in the British Foreign Office soon after Cambridge about twenty years ago. His first assignment was to Washington for five years. He thence progressed to Stockholm, back to the F. O. as assistant private secretary to Sir John Simon, the Foreign Secretary of the time, then to Cairo, where he spent four years and helped in the drafting of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty, and from there to Greece.

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Highlights.

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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

ODDS AND ENDS

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

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March 9, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 49

POLITICAL

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

The *Consulta* sessions on the *Costituente* law were opened by Nenni, as Minister for the *Costituente*, who pointed out the historic character of the imminent national assembly, the first truly such in Italian history. Nitti followed Nenni, taking occasion to get a comprehensive list of complaints off his chest, including apprehension about public order at the elections, Italy's foreign status, the sweep of epuration. He predicted that the *Costituente* would "inevitably" consist of only three major parties—the Christian Democrats, the Communists and the *Uomo Qualunque*, which latter, he said, united all the malcontents. He proposed setting up a panel of high-ranking magistrates to control the results of the referendum. La Malfa, one of the dissident Action

speeches. Hearings continued through the 8th and 9th, with the draft bill to be returned to the Council of Ministers on Monday, the 11th.

Line-ups.

De Gasperi himself during the week had addressed the Consulta sub-commission which first went over the draft. At that time he called for a declaration by all parties on the institutional question. The Rome press speculated freely on possible attitudes, *Giornale del Mattino* summing up the status quo of the moment as follows: Socialists, Communists and Action Party for the republic; Liberals, Labour Democrats and Christian Democrats not yet on record, though the first two were believed to be leaning toward monarchy while the latter seemed more republican. Indeed, reports in *Italia Nuova* of a Christian Democrat meeting in Milan had the party there in a peculiar situation, perhaps typical of its party-wide dilemma. The newspaper said that of 10,000 Christian Democrats at the meeting, 7,000 abstained from voting and that of the 3,000 who voted, 79 per cent. were for a republic; *Unità* similarly analysed a Genoa provincial congress of the De Gasperi party and asserted 91 per cent. were for a republic.

The general political reshuffling occasioned a comprehensive review of the party line-ups also in *Momento* which stated that the Christian Democrats would enter the elections without allies. The Communists, it went on, would do so also if their proposed merger with the Socialists—for a union of the two parties in the elections, with an equal number of seats—fell through. The Monarchist forces, it was said, were grouping around the *Uomo Qualunque* Front, with prospect of another adhesion, that of the Demo-Liberal

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

qualunquista-monarchist on the extreme right, Christian Democrats, the Liberal aggregation, the Republican alliance of Pacciardi, Lussu and Parri and the Socialist-Communist group.

Ferment.

Local political unions made news through the week as the big guns of the parties planned trips to the sticks to speak up for their adherents. (For example, Nenni spoke at Rieti and Pescara last week.) The U. Q. Front began an apparent campaign to woo all dissidents into its ranks, publishing an appeal to members of other parties to join their ranks. At Syracuse in Sicily, the *qualunquisti* and Liberals decided on a common list for the administrative elections while at Cerignola, a bloc of Christian Democrats, Liberals, Labour-Democrats and *qualunquisti* withdrew its common list because of alleged acts of violence laid to Communists. Rumors and alarums of disorder, present and anticipated, filled the party papers of the right, an incident at Badolato, where hand grenades were supposedly used, causing editorial unease. National convocations of the political organizations were scheduled: Liberals on 1 April, Christian Democrats on 12 April, Action Party later yet in April.

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

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

Allied civilian personnel going to UNRRA will have physically moved into their new offices, changing billets and messes at the same time. The new line-up then is as follows.

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

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

Dribbles of economic news also have come in from various sources. At Merano in Bolzano 475 tons of sugar were found in jam factories. The business is being looked into. Italian charges that lumber in large quantities was being exported abroad turned out, as usual, baseless. The facts are that 2,000 tons a month have been sent to Greece purely for British military use, a program which ends this month. The rest of the cuttings were shipped regularly to other parts of Italy. The Air Forces Sub-Commission has practically

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Section, in whose once capacious folds more than 300 officers once worked, has been reorganized completely with 50 British and American officers, 24 EM OR and 12 officers in the field. By this week-end, most of the ten (A); Deputy Vice President—Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A); Chief Staff Officer—Major Norman R. Smith (A); and the following branches and directors (all other units having been abolished, including the Labor Sub-Commission)—Industry and Utilities Branch, Col. R. M. Walker (A); Transportation and Shipping Branch, Lieut. Col. W. P. Scoggins (A); Food and Agriculture Branch, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper (B); Captured Enemy Materials Branch, Lieut. Col. J. A. Campbell (B); Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, Capt. A. G. Lapthorne (B); Venezia Giulia and Udine Supply Operations Branch, Lieut. J. M. Arensberg (A), and Finance Branch, Col. Timmons, who is also Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

and soup kitchens about 20,000 kilos of food a week. A similar run to fly fish is planned from Treviso to Milan.

VENEZIA GIULIA

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

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

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

Italians.

own demonstration, which was also of considerable size, but lacking in the qualities of gaiety which the Italians displayed. It is of note that these demonstrations saw the first real public appearance of the Venezia Giulia Police Force and the success with which they handled numerous difficult situations gained them much prestige in the city.

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

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

Legal.

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

By January 1946 seven proclamations had been drawn up, 41 general orders, 65 orders, 23 administrative orders, and many minor notices and appointments of officials had been published. Up to date, approximately 60 important financial

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

VENEZIA GIULIA

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

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

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Italians.

In any event, during this period the Italian movement began to recover courage and even strength, as the AMG administration demonstrated its impartiality. The Italians held their first large demonstration on November 3rd, the holiday of San Giusto, which was very successful. On the following day the Yugoslavs held their appearance of the Venezia Giulia Police Force and the success with which they handled numerous difficult situations gained them much prestige in the city.

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

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By January 1946 seven proclamations had been drawn up, 41 general orders, 65 orders, 23 administrative orders, and many minor notices and appointments of officials had been published. Up to date, approximately 60 important financial economic regulations have been asked for by the Finance Division alone. The Legal Division also advises the Port Control Committee and all Divisions of Allied Military Government on legal matters.

Military and civil courts and tribunals were set up in Trieste, Gorizia and Pola under the di-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

Food.

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

The possibility of increasing the productivity of the area was not examined. One hundred and sixty horses were distributed to farmers in the Trieste area and 154 horses and mules to farmers in the Gorizia area. Another hundred horses will arrive shortly, thus making a total of over 400 working animals supplied.

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

Housing.

The question of providing housing and shelter in what is, in many parts, a war devastated area, has been attacked. A survey covering the whole area was made in order to obtain the maximum use of all accommodation available. A scheme was produced to rebuild the "Distressed Villages", many of which had been burned down

Labor and Industry.

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

Many industries have now been reactivated, with resultant jobs for many workers. A survey of factories showed that the majority were on the verge of bankruptcy and as a result of war damage, bombardment, the world shortage of raw materials and the necessity for paying unemployment compensation to thousands of unproductive workers, the problems faced were sizeable indeed.

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

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

Soon, as coal and raw materials started to arrive and as public confidence increased, shipbuilding recommenced and contracts were placed by Allied and Italian authorities and by private companies. Coke from the gas works enabled the foundries to start work and further factories were able to commence a limited production. For example, as a result of raw cotton being obtained from the States and Sicily, the Gorizia cotton mills during December turned out 330,000 yards of finished cotton, increasing the output in January to 459,377 yards.

The port of Trieste itself was soon working to the maximum outgoing capacity of the railways, unloading military and UNRRA supplies. In fact, the port now handles its pre-war ton-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Displaced Persons.

As elsewhere, the same problems, in terms of refugees and displaced persons, were in existence in Venezia Giulia at the end of the war. Prisoners of war, civilian internees and thousands of slave laborers who had been taken to Germany streamed back to their homes. In addition to the Giuliani who returned, there were also many thousands of Yugoslavs. Trieste became a clearing house for all these homeless victims of the Germans. Two refugee centers were set up in the city in June and until recently these two places handled all movement to and from the Balkans and Italy. In all, a total of 46,000 civilians and POWs have passed through the centers and have been returned to their homes.

There being no civil postal facilities from this territory to Germany and Austria, a Prisoner of War Message Service has been created and operated from AMG Headquarters. Liaison is also maintained with the various Red Cross Organisations in Europe and also with the Central Tracing Bureau for Germany. This last deals mainly with concentration camp deaths.

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

Welfare.

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

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

The Welfare Division further sets up [illegible]

fare Division until recently was a team of American Red Cross workers. Their record included the distribution of 100,000 articles of clothing, footwear and medical supplies such as vitamins. The Italian and Slovene Red Cross organisations also work in the territory, each dealing with their own compatriots.

Public Health.

The Public Health Division was likewise faced with a major problem at the start. Orders were given and enforced that no poor person was to be refused admittance into hospitals in Zone "A" and this ruling included those people living in Zone "B" who would normally have received treatment in AMG territory. Financial assistance was given to hospitals and a special board was set up to deal with medical supplies, which were received monthly and distributed to hospitals free. There were happily few problems in terms of infectious disease. The water supply was carefully examined and sewage systems repaired, where necessary, by the military. Port sanitary services were established. Problems dealt with by the Division included the licensing of motor vehicles for medical services and an anti-rat campaign. Medical services for refugees were provided, prison conditions improved and maternity and child welfare services strengthened.

Education.

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

The Education Division recognised the justice of the demand for Slovene and Croat schools and immediately started to establish them. As many as 105 Slovene elementary schools and eight Croat schools have to date been opened in AMG territory. It was not possible, however, to allow the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The Welfare Division further acts as an agent of sorts for people who wish to move household goods from Yugoslavia to Italy or vice versa. Old age pensions and similar subsidies have been increased throughout Venezia Giulia. Thousands of free meals are given away every day in the communal soup kitchens. Recently it distributed 20,000 blankets. Attached to the Welfare Division are the Refugee Centres mentioned above.

Displaced Persons.

Displaced persons are dealt with by the Displaced Persons Division. Its main task is to repatriate Italians and Yugoslavs who have been displaced by the war. Many Italians have been repatriated from Yugoslavia and many Yugoslavs from Italy. Many Yugoslavs have also been repatriated from Austria and Germany. Many Italians have also been repatriated from Austria and Germany. Many Italians have also been repatriated from Yugoslavia. Many Yugoslavs have also been repatriated

to inculcate nationalist feeling, Italian or Yugoslav, was withdrawn or eliminated. The appointment of teachers also caused differences of opinion between the Division and the Liberation Councils. AMG, being more concerned with the scholastic qualifications of teacher candidates, found it necessary to reject many of the nominations put forward by the Councils. The Education Division thus came under attack by the pro-Yugoslav press, a storm which AMG, of course, weathered.

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

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

Police.

One of AMG's biggest problems on taking over was the fact that in an area in which it could be expected that anything might happen (although in the main it did not happen) there was no police force that compelled general recognition. The only police organisation was the Yugoslav para-military force known as the *Difesa Popolare*. It was decided by AMG that a completely new force responsible directly to AMG was necessary, so it was agreed to disband the *Difesa Popolare*. A new police force was recruited and the methods and training were based on the

on Tribunal records to find out if he has a criminal past and finally, if he passes through this screen, he is called before a selection Board composed of Allied officers and Venezia Giulia Police officers. The successful candidate then enters a training school for a two week's course. The subjects studied include police law and procedure, foot drill and physical training.

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

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

Last Add.

As we go to press, our PRO colleagues at Trieste inform us that the energetic propaganda preparations by both Italians and Slovenes greeted the Allied Investigating Commission on its arrival 7 March, with the efforts of the latter being the more elaborate. Tito supporters have been busy with brush and flags while every village in the predominantly pro-Tito hinterland has its triumphal arch of welcome to the Commission. The arches are adorned with portraits of the Yugoslav Marshal. The AMG policy on arches, posters and wall signs, as announced by Col. H. P. P. Robertson (B), acting SCAO, is that writing on walls is not permitted on public buildings, on premises occupied by Allied troops

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Today, the force consists of 2,482 officers and men and has been recruited from local sources and drawn from all sections of the community—Slovene, Croat and Italian. Every candidate is vetted closely in order to determine whether he has a Fascist background. He is then checked drill and physical training.

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

are Jean Phillippe Woltram, French; M. Gerashchenko, Russian; C. H. M. Waldock, British, and Philip Mosely, American.

A TALE OF BUMPF

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

In the bowels of the *Corporazioni* on Via Veneto, surrounded by the symbols of his terrifying task, sits Major Harrisson, with his staff, Captains Rowlands and Cummings, British, and Lieutenants Taylor and Weeden, American. The main working room itself is frighteningly efficient and walled completely by hundreds of little green steel boxes. In this and two other rooms are files or original papers of the approximately 8,000,000 documents and their approximately 260,000 files, said to be half of all the Allied files in the MTO.

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

The general plan of the scheme is to insure that a complete record, easily handled, of the campaign and work of the Allied Commission is made available. Every one of the 8,000,000 documents is being examined and refiled. Most of the relevant documents will be photographed. After the filming of necessary documents they are replaced in their respective files, card indexed for cross reference and the record arranged by functions. There are over thirty A. C. functions listed. Since half of the records received are from regions which it is not proposed to disturb, the story of any activity in a subcommission can be found and the relevant files extracted by consulting the card index.

The importance of the work for history is equalled only by its magnitude, and the hive of energy that is the Archives Branch today makes us hang our head in shame as we recall the filing system we ourselves kept in the field—a filing system conditioned by circumstances in which we were our own director, mentor, driver, mechanic, batman and last and worst, in view of the chaos which will undoubtedly result when one certain set of archives are discovered, our own clerk and typist. To Major Harrisson and his colleagues, our admiration and deepest apologies.

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. R. C. Ross (A) succeeds Col. W. R. Jordan (redeployed to the States) as CLO in Piemonte... U. S. officers will be redeployed on schedule according to the time limits stated in their Category IV certificates, which may now no longer be extended, except to Categories I (indefinite) and II (June, 1947)... A score of EM promotions have been announced plus one of an officer—Harry Galkin to Captain... The T/O of 2675 Regiment, which was 500 officers and men, has been cut to 450, as of 1 March, with further cuts of 50 bodies a month every month, until 1 July; the MTOUSA ruling is being protested on the grounds that A. C. functions would have to be dropped in order to comply... Duty officers at A. C. Hq. during off hours will henceforth consist of one each in the offices of the Adjutant, Economic Section and Chief Commissioner... American officers will be happy to know that U. S. Army peace-time rules of property accountability have now come into force... A special Italian military courier plane between Rome and London and Paris for official business has been approved, to be used as need arises... At a ceremony in Rome attended by

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The importance of the work for history is equalled only by its magnitude, and the hive of energy that is the Archives Branch today makes us hang our head in shame as we recall the filing system we ourselves kept in the field—a filing system conditioned by circumstances in which we were our own director, mentor, driver, mechanic, batman and last and worst, in view of the chaos which will undoubtedly result when one certain set of archives are discovered, our own clerk and typist. To Major Harrisson and his colleagues, our admiration and deepest apologies.

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. R. C. Ross (A) succeeds Col. W. R. Jordan (redeployed to the States) as CLO in Piemonte... U. S. officers will be redeployed on schedule according to the time limits stated in their Category IV certificates, which may now no longer be extended, except to Categories I (indefinite) and II (June, 1947)... A score of EM promotions have been announced plus one of an officer—Harry Galkin to Captain... The T O of 2675 Regiment, which was 500 officers and men, has been cut to 450, as of 1 March, with further cuts of 50 bodies a month every month, until 1 July; the MTOUSA ruling is being protested on the grounds that A. C. functions would have to be dropped in order to comply... Duty officers at A. C. Hq. during off hours will henceforth consist of one each in the offices of the Adjutant, Economic Section and Chief Commissioner... American officers will be happy to know that U. S. Army peace-time rules of property accountability have now come into force... A special Italian military courier plane between Rome and London and Paris for official business has been approved, to be used as need arises... At a ceremony in Rome attended by Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general, MTOUSA, the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, presented the Legion of Merit to the two leading British officers of the Commission—Major General L. Browning (degree of Commander) and Brigadier M. Carr (degree of Officer); Col. C. B. Findlay (B) also has

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

been awarded the latter decoration but is away in Germany; Gen. Lee himself presented the same medal to Brigadier Alban Low of R.A.A.C... Other awards include: *Order of the Knights of Malta* — Flag Lieut. Edward Behn; *Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* — Lieut. Joseph A. Cicala (Knight); *Order of the Crown of Italy* — Col. Hannibal M. Fiore (Grand Officer), Col. J. W. Chapman and Capt. H. St. J. Butler (Commander); Lieut. Col. James R. Regis and Capt. Anthony Ciliberti (Knight Officer), and Captains Carl Banno and L. Ciros (Knight)... With 5,311 Italian communes slated to hold administrative elections, as of the latest reports, beginning 10 March (when 432 communes will vote), the Local Government Sub-Commission is busy preparing to observe the proceedings, Maj. R. R. Temple (A), the director, inspecting the North, while Capt. J. V. Vella (B) is looking at Calabria this week; all A. C. LOs have also received a directive instructing them to keep a discreet eye on what goes...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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March 2, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION
WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

POLITICAL

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

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

of the 28th) on the three major matters—referendum status of the *Costituente* and the electoral code—are as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

1492

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

Pledge.

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

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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ECONOMIC FRONT

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

Dear Mr. Cleveland:

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

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

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

ETHIOPIAN SAGA

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

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

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

Further Events.

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

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Sincerely,

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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

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

SWEEPING THE SEA

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

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

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

Approaches.

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

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

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

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

Minesweepers.

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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Minesweepers.

By an agreement between the British Admiralty and the Italian Ministry of Marine signed at the end of January by Admiral G. L. Warren, Flag Officer Italy and chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, and Admiral R. de Courten, Italian Minister of Marine, thirty-two British minesweeping vessels are being loaned to the Italian Navy and are now in process of being taken over by Italian crews at Malta, Messina and Naples. They include sixteen M/S Trawlers, used for sweeping contact mines, and sixteen Motor Minesweepers with apparatus for dealing

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

ODDS AND ENDS

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

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

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

NOVALIS

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

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

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

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

4451

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

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4451

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

Costituente.

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

The cabinet discussions were made possible, of course, by re-establishment of the full roster of ministerial posts, three of which had gone unfilled while the Action Party crisis adjusted itself. Cianca finally replaced Lussu as Minister for the *Consulta*, Lombardi went back to Transport and a new appointee, Mario Bracci, a member of the first Bonomi cabinet, went in for La Malfa at Foreign Trade. As these first meetings on the *Costituente*'s powers were begun, a report in *Risorgimento* reports false. The upshot of the discussions (on the 19th, 20th and 22nd) on the Costituente were as follows.

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

Regency.

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

ECONOMIC FRONT

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

civilian economy, the old powder for fertilizer processing and the casings for metals. Similar use has already been made of British ammo surpluses in Italy. The Labor Sub-Commission reports the latest data on the cost of living as follows for January: To feed a family of five on food with a value of 2,200 calories for each person, one spent 14,767 lire in Rome, of which sum, 1,109 were spent on food purchased by ration card and 13,658 lire on food bought in the free market. In 1938, the same food in Rome cost 416 lire. Comparisons with other Italian cities reveal that the food budget that in Rome cost 13,677 lire in December cost during the same month 13,359 in Bologna, 12,512 in Florence, 13,733 in Genoa, 14,063 in Milan, 12,948 in Naples, 14,451 in Turin and 10,891 in Palermo.

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

HOUSING THE HOMELESS

Those who have seen the effects of shells, bombs and mines on buildings in the Italian campaigns can best appreciate what the housing shortage means in this country. War damage probably can better be visualized if we talk of rooms damaged in order to give a more realistic picture of the lost living space which has created so many homeless families. According to the housing experts of the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission, it is estimated that 5,134,900 to 6,500,000 rooms have been destroyed or damaged. In the more specific estimate, 1,587,600 rooms were destroyed, 821,400 badly and 2,725,900 rooms slightly damaged, circumstances which put as many as 1,500,000 persons on the street. Indeed, one estimate of persons in one way or other displaced from their homes by war damage runs as high as 9,000,000 persons.

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

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

Barracks.

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

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

In many cases the inhabitants have gone ahead on their own repairs without bothering about the complications of bureaucratic assis-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Today, the number of homeless rehoused amounts to approximately 700,000 taken care of since September, 1944, when concerted efforts began to do something about the matter. Italian decrees were passed, with later amendments, in which the Government contributed one third of the cost of building or repair projects up to 300,000 lire, repayable at 4 per cent. If the owner of the property failed to start the project, after being told to do so by the Italian *Genio Civile*, this latter organization was supposed to take on the job, charging the whole cost, minus dinated the work, assigned priorities and adjudicated neighborly disputes and, incidentally, gave private enterprise a chance to operate. Despite handicaps of little transport and materials, by the end of last year repairs to 571,337 rooms had been reported, of which 349,596 had been completed and 241,741 were in progress. Further, another 50,000 rooms had been estimated repaired but unreported. Thus more than 500,000 persons were rehoused in repaired houses while about 75,000 more were known to be living in newly constructed barracks or *casellas*.

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

Example.

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

With this example, Emilia, immediately after the German surrender last May, also took up the problem of rehousing the Gothic Line homeless. Housing committees were appointed in every commune. In the area 35 towns existed which were 80 per cent. or more destroyed and in which towns alone 127,195 persons had no homes. Contracts were awarded for 300 barracks materials industries, which, in turn, depend on the imported materials promised by UNRRA in 1946.

THE CHIEF IS BACK

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

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

The Admiral left Rome 9 February in the C-47 of Brigadier General William L. Lee, Deputy Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission. The flight had bumpy weather, bucking a 50-knot wind all the way, and an overnight stop was necessary at Paris, arrival in London being made the next day, Sunday. The Admiral thereupon made a [illegible] Mr. Bevin, the Foreign Minister,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

THE ELECTIONS

Italian election preparations are growing like a snowball, says Major Ralph R. Temple, director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, almost the busiest single Sub-Commission in the A. C. these days. According to the latest over-all report (of 12 February) 13,731 of the 14,428 electoral lists (for males and females) in the 7,214 communes of Italy (excluding Venezia Giulia)—or 95 per cent.—have now been compiled. Better yet, more than 50 per cent. have been approved. As a consequence, 4,498 communes are now ready to hold their administrative elections on one of the four election Sundays in March and on the first Sunday in April. This number comprises twelve entire provinces (with 699 communes) as well as a further 29 provincial capitals.

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

AREA	Total Number of Communes	Lists Compiled	Lists Approved	January 31 Percentages *		January 15 Percentages *	
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Italian Government territory (as known before turnover of North)	3,586	6,948	4,359	97	61	88	43
Former AMG area in North (including Udine)	3,628	6,411	1,750	88	24	62.5	7.9
All Italy (excluding Venezia Giulia)	7,214	13,359	6,109	93	42	70.5	24.2

* C is Lists Compiled and A Lists Approved.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

The entire provinces ready to proceed to the vote are as follows (including, of course, the capital which gives the province its name): Bergamo, Grosseto, Ragusa, Campobasso, Modena, Siracusa, Cosenza, Piacenza, Terni, Enna, Pisa and Verona. The 29 other provincial capitals likewise *pronti* are Ancona, Bologna, Cremona, Macerata, Pesaro, Savona, Treviso, Arezzo, Brindisi, Forlì, Novara, Pescara, Siena, Venezia, Ascoli Piceno, Cagliari, Frosinone, Nuoro, Reggio Emilia, Teramo, Vercelli, Asti, Chieti, Imperia, Padova, Rieti, Trapani and Vicenza. The geographical spread of these communes is such as to provide straws for the political winds that will blow. As of this week, 3,953 of the 4,498 communes ready to ballot have fixed their election dates. On 10 March 436 will vote (70 per cent. of these communes have less than 5,000 population) on 17 March 1,074, on 24 March 1,462 and on 7 April 45 so far.

Background.

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

The electorate or those eligible to vote are all Italian citizens registered in the electoral lists, both men and women (for the first time in Italian history) who were 21 by 21 December 1945 and who have not since been excluded from the lists for some valid reason. Some persons cannot be registered, among whom are lunatics, bankrupts, certain criminal convicts and those found guilty of Fascist activity, which takes in ranking officials of the Fascist party or Fascist government and those subject to loss of civil rights by special provincial commissions. Neither can these latter hold office of any

sists, ineligible to hold the office are clerics, provincial and state officials, salaried employes of communes or their institutions, persons who have a lawsuit pending against the commune, magistrates, persons having direct or indirect financial relations with the commune and—with true Latin cynicism—all close relatives of the last named.

Procedures.

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

It cannot yet be said whether the compulsory vote recommendation made by the *Consulta* will be made into law by the Government in time for the first of the local elections. In any event, the experts point out that it obviously would result in an increased strain on election machinery as the many voters who have moved residence rush to get duplicate electoral certificates in their new locations. As to how many will vote, one can only recall that in the last free local elections in Italy, in 1921, approximately 12,060,660 persons or 33.3 per cent. of the population were on the election registers. Of these more than 6,000,000 or 55 per cent. actually voted. This year, with a national population of 43,000,000, 65 per cent. or 28,000,000 (including 15,000,000 women) will be able to vote, it is estimated.

ODDS AND ENDS

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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It cannot yet be said whether the compulsory vote recommendation made by the *Consulta* will be made into law by the Government in time for the first of the local elections. In any event, the experts point out that it obviously would result in an increased strain on election machinery as the many voters who have moved residence rush to get duplicate electoral certificates in their new locations. As to how many will vote, one can only recall that in the last free local elections in Italy, in 1921, approximately 12,000,000 persons or 33.3 per cent. of the population were on the election registers. Of these more than 6,000,000 or 55 per cent. actually voted. This year, with a national population of 43,000,000, 65 per cent. or 28,000,000 (including 15,000,000 women) will be able to vote, it is estimated.

ODDS AND ENDS

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

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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February 16, 1946

per MH

Col. Tibbetts from
Col. Thompson

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 46

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POLITICAL

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

BURKE.

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

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

to the Republicans, gave rise at once to the report that he would join the party.

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

Parri.

440

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

Republicans.

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

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

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

ECONOMIC FRONT

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The week did not end that easily for the tired political reporters. Today the *Uomo Qualunque* Front opens another congress in Rome, an event preceded on February 14 by a bold but not unexpected announcement (according to hindsight commentators) of an alliance between the Front and the Democratic (monar-

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

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

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

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

The black market in tobacco, of course, is flourishing in practically every Italian town, particularly in Rome, Naples, Turin and Milan, according to our informants in the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission. Nonetheless, the state monopoly is not doing so badly. Pre-war peak raw tobacco production was 45,000 tons a year while last year it was 16,547 tons. It is hoped in 1946 to produce 40,000 tons. Pre-war finished tobacco production amounted to 36,500,000 kilos. (One kilo makes 1,000 cigarets.) In 1945 were made 10,500,000 kilos of cigarets, 2,500,000 kilos of cigars and 7,000,000 kilos of cut tobacco. The 1946 outlook is for 13,000,000 kilos of cigarets, 3,000,000 kilos of cigars and 7,500,000 kilos of cut tobacco, much from imported stocks. The ration during 1944 and early 1945 was 20 cigarets, 20 grams of tobacco or four cigars a week for all males over 18. The scale has been upped since to 30 cigarets, 30 grams of tobacco and five cigars a week.

Despite the Isola del Liri competition and that of other friends of heavy smokers, the Italian Government pockets a pretty revenue from its monopolies (which include salt and matches). Currently, this income is about 1,000,000,000 lire a month, of which 3,200,000,000 comes from tobacco. To raise the ante, the monopoly is trying to import raw tobacco from the States and from Turkey, or a total monthly import of 3,000,000 kilos. All that is needed are foreign credits of $70,000,000 (*sic*) over a period of two years...

WHY POWER IS SHORT

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The police story is simpler: The village, employing as many as 1,000 persons in home manufacture, bought tobacco illegally from growers (who should have sold it all to the state monopoly) and when this source of supply dried up, report has it, the cigaret makers were not above using various other ingredients. The chief product according to our informants in the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission. Nonetheless, the state monopoly is not doing so badly. Pre-war peak raw tobacco production was 15,000 tons a year while last year it was 16,547 tons. It is hoped in 1946 to produce 19,000 tons. Pre-war finished tobacco production amounted to 36,500,000 kilos. (One kilo makes 1,000 cigarets.) In 1945 were made 10,500,000 kilos of cigarets, 2,500,000 kilos of cigars and 7,000,000 kilos of cut tobacco. The 1946 outlook is for 13,000,000 kilos of cigarets, 3,000,000 kilos of cigars and 7,500,000 kilos of cut tobacco, much from imported stocks. The ration during 1944 and early 1945 was 20 cigarets, 20 grams of tobacco or four cigars a week for all males over 18. The scale has been upped since to 30 cigarets, 30 grams of tobacco and five cigars a week.

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

Pre-war Power.

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

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

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

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

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

ANTICLIMAX AT NAPLES

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

The first thing is to get out to Bagnoli and report at one of the little white huts among many. This is easy if your driver knows where he is going, but it took me about 40 minutes from the Pareo (where I learned immediately that I couldn't stay). Then you are seated at a desk—just like school—and made to fill out three forms. Mostly the filling out is a matter of checking off documents that are supposed to be in your possession. Have you an AGO? Have you an immunization record? Have you a form 307? Another 37-54? And two copies?... The trouble was I didn't know what any of them meant and kept saying "no" and looking frustrated. Then the ser-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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

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ANTICLIMAX AT NAPLES

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

The first thing is to get out to Bagnoli and report at one of the little white huts among many. This is easy if your driver knows where he is going, but it took me about 40 minutes from the Parco (where I learned immediately that I couldn't stay). Then you are seated at a desk—just like school—and made to fill out three forms. Mostly the filling out is a matter of checking off documents that are supposed to be in your possession. Have you an AGO? Have you an immunization record? Have you a form 367? Another 37-54? And two copies?... The trouble was I didn't know what any of them meant and kept saying "no" and looking frustrated. Then the sergeant would lean over and pick something out of the little traveller's library the Regiment gave me as a going away present and say: "There it is"— almost adding, I felt, "Don't cry Colonel". Well, actually that was no so bad.

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

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

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

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

ODDS AND ENDS

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

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February 9, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Censorship
Chief Clerk

POLITICAL

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

GUICCIARDINI.

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

The Council then passed on to various other matters, allotting two billion lire to veterans' cooperatives for the building of *case popolari*, providing for the employment of *reduci* in private concerns and naming Guido Visentini president of the *Consiglio Superiore* of public works—to mention the principal items. The meeting the following day transferred to the *Presidenza del Consiglio* the functions now exercised by the *Alto Commissario* for Sanctions against Fascism and dealt with some minor technical matters [illegible] and veterans affairs, providing that the allottment of jobs should be made through competitions.

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

44/9

Uomo Qualunque.

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

Bolzano loomed larger than Trieste in the foreign news of the week. A Reuter's report from Vienna (published on the 2nd) told of an

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Bolzano loomed larger than Trieste in the foreign news of the week. A Reuter's report from Vienna (published on the 2nd) told of an Austrian note to the Allies suggesting a plebiscite in the Alto Adige and offering Italy various sugar coatings (such as a free port on the Danube) to make the pill acceptable. De Gasperi's reply was to send—through the American, British, French and Russian Ambassadors—a special memorandum to the deputy foreign ministers in London. As reported in *Il Popolo*, the memorandum

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

ECONOMIC FRONT

The grain picture for Italy is a little but only a little brighter this week, though, as Mr. W. J. Legg, director of the Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission, puts it, it will be a job of constant attention and cooperation to pull the official ration through in view of the uncertainties and complications of the situation

2,000 grams. The regular ration, however, was continued in the Marche and Umbria and the provinces of Grosseto, Matera, Rieti, Siena, Teramo and Viterbo because enough locally-grown Italian grain was available for the local populace.

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

Reserve stocks at the end of January were estimated at 236,000 tons. Imports during the month were 192,000 tons and amassing 45,000. For February, imports should reach 228,000 if the ships arrive on time. With an amassing of 29,000 in prospect, the stock situation at February's end should improve while by the end of March, the reserves should be an estimated 255,000 tons. As for the future, UNRRA tentatively proposes to bring in 1,620,000 tons of grain by the end of June loadings. Argentine wheat would help Italy—there are 100,000 tons of it available—if the grain could be moved to the ports of Argentina, which is also bedeviled by transport troubles.

Coal.

The coal situation in also less black. The U. S. steel strike, ironically enough, released more coal for export to Italy, coal which would otherwise have gone to the steel mills. Talking about strikes, the strikes in Chile are retarding nitrate shipments from that country to Italy as well as the delivery of Peruvian cotton, which is loaded on the same ships. The February coal imports will amount to an estimated 400,000 tons from the U. S. and 28,000 tons from South Africa, as of this week. For the record, here are some coal statistics recently made available:

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

In October the FEA program began, which envisaged an eventual total coal import of 1,687,000 tons valued at about $40,000,000. Despite strike and shipping difficulties, imports since September have been 358,000 tons in October, 131,133 in November, 391,831 in December and 323,000 in January. UNRRA plans, not yet fixed, contemplate, in the planning stage at least, importing 5,250,000 tons for 1946, about half the estimated essential requirements of Italy. Italian coal production itself is improving somewhat. Sardinian production is now 60,000 tons a month and steps have been taken to reduce the 70,000-ton stockpile on Sardinian docks. Lignite production is now about 110,000 tons a month and could go much higher once many mines could be connected by rail to the main lines.

Cotton.

Cotton also has come in for some examination. Italy, it is learned, has a large stockpile of finished textiles—about 75,000 to 100,000 tons—of both highgrade cotton goods and a lot of the poor, autarchic stuff made under the Fascists. The stocks, however, are still in warehouses, apparently kept for a price killing on the present inflated market. One of the main objectives of the UNRRA program is to help get prices reduced and the owners of these stocks may find themselves taking a pretty loss. Italian internal consumption of cotton used to amount to about 80,000 tons a year. Under the troop pay and FEA programs, 45,000 tons have been ordered but these have only just begun to arrive. To date, 29,928 tons have come in, with the rest now en route. This cotton will help initiate a return to substantial employment in the cotton industry which used to employ 220,000 persons. UNRRA supplies to make relief goods. Discussions on prices have also begun, seed potatoes (30,000 tons are being imported as the first UNRRA shipments of 1946) and coal being test cases. Studies are also proposed on consumer research, it being held that no sound program can be established if one does not know what to manufacture for whom. Other news includes a visit from Mr. A. G. Antolini, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, who is now president of an American export merchandising firm. The North Italy Industrial Council (set up by AMG originally) is continuing its activities until the end of March.

RELIEF TO TORRE ANNUNZIATA

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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The question of finding more permanent housing has also been dealt with by Colonel Pennycuick, who obtained material for 100 huts from 56 Area and 3 District. These will be constructed by the *Genio Civile*. Also, 45,000 square meters of sheet glass were acquired through AFHQ and this is now being collected from a factory in Salerno.

The latest casualty figures report 38 persons killed, 300 injured and 9,000 made homeless. Two mills were damaged and three pasta factories destroyed. About 250 boats were also destroyed, along with fishing material and equipment such as nets. Much of the explosion

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

LES FRANÇAIS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AWARDS

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

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

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

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

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

VENICE

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

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

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

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

One remembered the summer of the previous year, the real relief when Rome was found undamaged, and Venice was a city, in one sense, even

The People.

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

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

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

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

Fired by the success of this exhibition, a more ambitious project was planned, resulting in the "Exhibition of Five Centuries of Venetian Art", which opened on 21 July 1945. Never

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Life Resurgent.

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

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

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

The Port.

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

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

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

ARRIVEDERCI, TOM

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

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ODDS AND ENDS

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

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February 2, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. 4, No. 44

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POLITICAL

To so gridando: Pace, pace, pace!
PETRARCH.

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

On Sunday Prime Minister De Gasperi spoke at Naples. Possibly stung a little by the criticism—from some quarters of the press—that his earlier speeches had had too penitent a tone, he [illegible] had existed for a great many

also be forthcoming in this second one. Unlike his previous speeches, however, much of the talk at Naples turned on internal affairs, stressing the enormous difficulties of reconstruction. Labor must be pre-eminent over capital, he said, and a more equitable distribution of wealth must be brought about. He cautioned his hearers to remember that the State cannot do everything: "It is as absurd to form a magical idea of the power of the State as it is to expect that the *Costituente* will be able to solve, unaided, the immense and serious problems that hang over Italy." The *Costituente*, he went on, may be able to make certain reforms in the structure of the State but the rest will depend on the ability and determination of the individual citizens.

Allusions.

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

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

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

On Sunday Prime Minister De Gasperi spoke at Naples. Possibly stung a little by the criticism—from some quarters of the press—that his earlier speeches had had too penitent a tone, he affirmed that Italy had expiated for a great many of her mistakes.

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

Allusions.

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

Other News.

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

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

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

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

ECONOMIC FRONT

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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ECONOMIC FRONT

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

declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

There are some incidental pieces of economic the Allied Commission are accounted for, they are expected to amount to about six million tons worth about $700,000,000. As of 28 January, 983,600 tons of wheat have gone into the *Ammassi*. The final report of the AMG Economic Commissioner for the North has some statistics of note: The entire rice crop is being used as a substitute for pasta. Production of copper sulphate has started from 3,000 tons of imported blister copper. Synthetic methanol (as a substitute for gasoline) production is going on in one plant at the rate of 600 tons a month. An estimated 40,000 tons of "domestic coal" a month are being mined but about 5,000 tons leak unregistered to the black market. The Pirelli Co. got substantial quantities of raw materials captured from the Germans. As of the year's end, some 25,000 kilos of cotton had arrived and been distributed to 3,000 firms, together with 65,000 tons of coal. In brief, production is low, inspections have been made and everybody is waiting for raw materials and coal to get going.

ODDS AND ENDS

Eleven promotions to captain are announced, the lucky fellows being Oswald R. Anselmo, George W. Barrus, Delos De John, Joseph M. De Luca, William H. Hunter, William W. Sampson, John J. Scanlan, Odell M. Smith, Bertel W. Straight, Lewis L. Stuart and Wilson A. Treadway... Col. Leonard Densmore, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section and one of the original U. S. officers from the Sicilian landing, has left the A. C. for the States... Separate British and American messes went into effect 1 February; the British have the Flora while the Americans have the Grand, the Bella Vista, the Inghilterra and the California... U. S. strength in the Commission is now 221 officers and 291 EM and British strength 389 officers and 618 ORs, which figures include many on LIAP or in the way to surplus; the American T/O has just been cut from its previous total of 750—250 officers and 500 EM —to 500, which, roughly, will be divided into about 200 officers and 300 EM while the British W/E is also now in process of being reduced...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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January 26, 1946 RESTRICTED

FILE

C.A. Milan

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Ἀγέραστα δ' ὡς δεῖ τὸν τοιοῦτον πρὸς δὲ γελάσονται τυθέντες τοῖς νόμοις, πρός τε τὴν χώραν καὶ τοὺς ἀνθρώπους. Ἔτι δὲ καλὸς ἔχει περίβολον καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς γειτνιῶσι τόποις, εἰ δεῖ τὴν πόλιν ἔχειν βίον πολιτικόν.

ARISTOTLE, *Politics*.

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

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

4447

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

POLITICAL

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

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Press Comment.

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

4447

declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

In the course of the debate between De Gasperi's two speeches, Parri had an opportunity to express himself. He stressed his solidarity with De Gasperi on foreign policy and aligned himself with those who believe that Italy must not join one bloc or another and should not be made use of as a weapon against Russia; her function was rather "to put herself at the head of the smaller nations" and work for general world harmony. He ended his speech with an appeal for an early convocation of the *Costituente*. Sforza's contribution, made after De Gasperi had concluded, was to voice the opinion, shared, he was sure, by 14 million Italians, that a "punishing peace" would be unjust in view of Italy's services to the Allies and fatal as well to the hope of establishing democracy in Europe.

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

Liberals

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

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

ECONOMIC FRONT

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Liberals.

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

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

ECONOMIC FRONT

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

Good news comes also from England where Lieut. Col. Tooby of the Economic Section has been expediting the British part of the supply program to Italy. Col. Tooby reports that 1,000 tons of wool has been shipped (with 4,000 more to come); 570 tons of rubber is being shipped;

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

ESCAPE IN THE AFTERNOON

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

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

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

SICILY AND THE ISLANDS

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Rome has two teams in the Central-South League, *la Roma*, now at the top of the list, and the unhappy Lazio, grimly battling for last place with the Ancona boys. We are strongly pro-Lazio, a team which recalls the carefree, unstudied style of the Brooklyn Dodgers in its unpredictability. Soundly trounced by everyone, the *Laziali* arose in their might last week and beat off the invaders from Bari (until then league leaders) characteristically (just like dem Bums) too; we can't have any opinions about politics while we wear the brown suit, but we can yell "*Forza, Lazio*" with the best of 'em. And we do. We recommend the game to our colleagues. Do not fear you won't understand it; there is always an enthusiast at your elbow who will be happy to expound the fine points, either a frenzied partisan Latin or an RASC corporal probably inclined to draw unfavorable comparisons between the local boys and Manchester United, but don't let him fool you. He'll be yelling "*forza*", too, before the afternoon is over. And you can get numbers of the players and the equivalent of ice cold soda and *castagne* vice peanuts... Next to a July afternoon in Brooklyn, one couldn't ask for more.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

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

MORE ON OLD BOYS

Again we have to thank the Legal Sub-Commission (which is winning its way to honorary membership in our Branch) for a slightly out-

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

ODDS AND ENDS

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

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MORE ON OLD BOYS

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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January 12, 1946 RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

POLITICAL

Vaet en och hvar
Vrält sade på Vinget sin mening.

ESAIAS TEGNER

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

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

Communist.

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

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

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

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

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

ECONOMIC FRONT

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

The causes of all this are several: a disastrously poor harvest, caused by bad weather at planting time, late frosts and by a severe drought which resulted in the lowest yield in 25 years. Further, amassing of what grain was produced has been notably inadequate. Lastly, shipping complications—the Marche, Umbria, Emilia and Toscana. The other 63,000 tons of reserve stocks is in process of discharge from ships in port, in base and provincial warehouses or in transit and is wholly inadequate to insure regular supplies for the big urban centers. Nevertheless, our experts hope that the reserves can again be built to a minimum 320,000 tons (or about one month's supply for all non-producers), partly by importing in January and February the deficiency in the 1945 program and also by more stable shipping schedules.

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

Of the 208,000 tons of total reserve stocks available on December 31, 145,000 tons was indigenous Italian grain concentrated in four re-

the big urban centers. Nevertheless, our experts hope that the reserves can again be built to a minimum 320,000 tons (or about one month's supply for all non-producers), partly by importing in January and February the deficiency in the 1945 program and also by more stable shipping schedules.

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

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

LIAP

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

On to Milan.

wrapt in a Lombardy fog. The one—and only—warm corner was eventually discovered in the barber shop, which became the morning social rendezvous. In the afternoons one could keep warm by fighting one's way on and off the trains which went into Milan.

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

Return Trip.

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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

CLAIMS

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

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

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

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

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

RIGHT OFF THE PRESS

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

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

Mr. Bracker came on the scene the next day,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

But speaking of such G-4 matters leads us to another tale: the sad condition of some of our

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ODDS AND ENDS

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

File

ADM. 205

Director
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Chief Telecoms
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Chief Clerk

January 7, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

POLITICAL

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

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

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

This ticklish matter was the principal subject of the second meeting at which the special *ind*-

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

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

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

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Foreign Affairs.

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

445

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

The noteworthy speech of the week was made by Togliatti who addressed the Communist Congress made up of 1,800 delegates from all over the country. He made several points; on foreign policy he declared Italy must be on good terms with all the United Nations, including Russia; the Communists he affirmed were opposed to the concept of "blocs" in international politics. Togliatti also came out for the *italianità* of Trieste, and Bolzano as well. As for internal affairs, the party is in favor of a democracy based on free parliamentary principles and prefers a Republic to a Monarchy, believing that a Monarchy would always lean towards Fascism. [illegible] party's opinion should

speech (which lasted some four hours), and analyzed it for his readers the following day. The principles set forth, he wrote, could be subscribed to by any anti-Fascist party but the undertones were disquieting. He was disturbed by what seemed to him the latent anti-clericalism of the speech and naturally enough by the rather derogatory phrase which Togliatti used to describe the Christian Democrat party: "two souls in one body". He criticized, too, the scarcely veiled threat of the Communist leader to withdraw from the Government if the vote were made compulsory. And, somewhat paradoxically, he found fault with Togliatti for not drawing a sharper ideological line between Socialists and Communists, accusing the old doctrinaire party of having adopted an attitude of "pragmatism".

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

GOOD-BYE TO AMG

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

"*To the Regional Commissioners of Northern Italy.*

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

The noteworthy speech of the week was made by Togliatti who addressed the Communist Congress made up of 1,800 delegates from all over the country. He made several points; on foreign policy he declared Italy must be on good terms with all the United Nations, including Russia; the Communists he affirmed were opposed to the concept of "blocs" in international politics. Togliatti also came out for the *italianità* of Trieste, and Bolzano as well. As for internal affairs, the party is in favor of a democracy based on free parliamentary principles and prefers a Republic to a Monarchy, believing that a Monarchy would always lean towards Fascism. The *Costituente*, in the party's opinion should be sovereign. The Communist leader said that the party was not against the Church but he warned the Church not to become "an electoral agency". He alleged that the party had a membership of over 1,700,000. Gonella, of the Christian Democrat *Popolo*, took notes on the seemed to him the latent anti-clericalism of the speech and naturally enough by the rather derogatory phrase which Togliatti used to describe the Christian Democrat party: "two souls in one body". He criticized, too, the scarcely veiled threat of the Communist leader to withdraw from the Government if the vote were made compulsory. And, somewhat paradoxically, he found fault with Togliatti for not drawing a sharper ideological line between Socialists and Communists, accusing the old doctrinaire party of having adopted an attitude of "pragmatism".

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

GOOD-BYE TO AMG

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

"*To the Regional Commissioners of Northern Italy.*

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

(sigd) Ellery W. Stone
ELLERY W. STONE
REAR ADMIRAL, USNR,
CHIEF COMMISSIONER

A couple of points in the Admiral's letter might bear amplification. On 5 May, for example, the peak of the strength in the North, there were 604 American and British officers on the spot. On 27 December, there were only 258. On the respective dates, Lombardia had 187 and 68; Liguria 91 and 41; Piemonte 143 and 52, and Venezie 183 and 97. The figures speak for themselves of the job done under handicaps.

Once relations between the CLN and AMG were smoothed out, with the CLN eventually recognizing its purely advisory capacity, the main problem, of course, was economic—how to put to work the great undamaged industrial capacity of the North. In the *Bulletin* we have often told how the Economic Section arranged for over-all plans and imported supplies. Perhaps it might interest our readers to hear about a few interim production figures as obtained from the Industrial Council of North Italy, an organization sponsored by AMG. For instance, cement production is at the moment high enough to satisfy present demands. More than 1,200,000 pairs of shoes have been manufactured and distributed. During the early part of the AMG period, production of plastics was resumed and Montecatini is now producing quantities of resinous chemicals. Other figures include the production of 1,400 tons of newsprint per month and 2,000,000 note books for schools (distributed free of charge), while 8,000,000 more are in process of being manufactured.

ADMIRAL STONE K. B. E.

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

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

The citation ran:

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

P. B. S.

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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LIVORNO

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

Crime.

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

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

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

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

Latest facts.

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Relations between soldiers and civilians have been cordial for months, despite the continued presence of many soldiers. Speaking of soldiers, many who are transferred to the Livorno area bring their girl friends with them, but these latter are usually sent back home because housing is at a premium. Regular round-ups of prostitutes occur, the latest in the zone having produced 278. The functioning of the Italian courts has been so far behind schedule (and is one of the reasons why petty offenders have not much apparent fear of punishment) that it was necessary to resume AMG courts (staffed with PBS officers), which had been closed since September. Indeed, the Italian courts in Livorno are under investigation by the Italian Government.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

CRISTMAS IN THE DOLOMITES

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

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

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

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

The Congregation.

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

The Congregation.

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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

ODDS AND ENDS

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

POLITICAL

I don't know why I don't step the next person who asks me, «What's the use of voting?».

F. P. A.

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

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

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

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

On Christmas Eve a bomb was thrown at the Rome headquarters of the Communist Party.

POLITICAL

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

ECONOMIC FRONT

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

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

The "two-hat" group in the main will not only start the new UNRRA program (indeed, have already started it, of which more later) but will at the same time be liquidating the remainder of the FEA program, mostly in wheat and coal, that theoretically ends with loadings as of 31 December, but whose arrivals will dribble in for a couple of months yet. The use of one group to handle both the old and the new was felt more

ments, under U. S. military requirements, under Venezia-Giulia requirements and under special programs such as special imports of the Italian Government for the Sardinian coal and railway program.

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

On the UNRRA supply program side, the A. C. has managed to arrange already for 861 ½ millions of supplies for January loadings to get the show started with a bang. Mr. S. M. Keenty, Chief of Mission, is now on his way back from the States, and a draft of the new agreement to be signed between the Italian Government and UNRRA is already being discussed in Rome. With the A. C. and the Italians agreed on details of the total program and how its materials are to be used, the next steps are now in the percolating stage, to wit, procedures, especially port reception and so forth. The most important procedures of all—for allocation—are being worked out. Formation of a National Industrial Council to consolidate all past agencies, particularly now that the North Italy Industrial Council's authority (sustained by AMG) lapses, is also being arranged.

LIAISON ARRANGEMENTS

With the North now going back to its fathers and AMG to history, arrangements have been

declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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LIAISON ARRANGEMENTS

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

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

Sicily – Major John Lund (A).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Venezie – Brigadier J. K. Dunlop (B), with a staff of ten, until relieved by Lieut. Col. E. G. [illegible]

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

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

Then began the application of the point system and the last six months have seen a constant stream of old familiar faces checking in, packing luggage, filling out forms and joining the great westward trek. Even as the autumn leaves, the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

TRANSPORT ITEM

A recent survey of the truck situation reveals the fact that, up to early this month, 16,759 trucks and 3,285 trailers have been turned over by the Allies to the Italian Government, a figure which includes 3,960 imported vehicles. The truck turnovers have helped ameliorate a critical transport shortage whose extent can readily be appreciated when one recalls that, as of a count of 30 September last, there were only 58,992 vehicles available for road haulage with a lift of only 114,532 tons compared with a 1939 lift of 245,000 tons.

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

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

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

ODDS AND ENDS

Major Clyde A. Warren (A) has been awarded the Legion of Merit... Two more U. S. promotions: George F. Parker to Colonel and Frederick C. Barr to Captain... At least 10 Class B officers are slated to leave about 4 January, with more officers to follow as 70-pointers are redeployed... We are happy to print a correction of an egregious boner pulled last week in this department; when we occasionally succumb to human frailty, it is always a source of new news, accurate and up-to-the-minute; at any rate, the correction has to do with the electoral lists: Local Government's Director, Major R. R. Temple (A), states that there are 7,060 communes preparing electoral lists (not 28,000—where *could* we have gotten that figure!), that there are 14,120 lists (male and female) and that about 2,000 have been finally approved according to the most recent information... Col. J. L. Jones, G-1 (B), is leaving us to go with UNRRA... Twenty-three British decorations have been announced, many of them going to A. C. officers and men no longer with us; the list follow: C. B. E. – Brigadiers J. K. Dunlop, A. P. Grafftey-Smith, G. R. Upjohn, G. S. Parkinson and Col. P. R. Evans; O. B. E. – Colonels H. G. Wilmer, J. L. Henderson and H. G. Crawshaw and Lieutenant Colonels J. A. Balfour, P. F. Benton-Jones, W. M. Lapper, W. N. Stewart and P. H. G. H. S. Hartley; M. B. E. – Lieut. Col. E. A. C. Talbot, Major S. J. B. Louden, Capt. J. P. Squire, SQMS G. Morris, SSM J. S.

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At present, essential needs are provided for but goods like fruit, wine and building materials seriously lack transport. However, as the output of the Fiat and other Italian works increases, the prospects will improve, officials feel. The trucks already handed over fall into two classes: army surplus and imported. Army surplus trucks included 84 six- to ten-tonners; 7,653 one-and-a-half- to five-tonners, and 5,062 one-quarter- to one-tonners, a total of 12,799 plus 3,285 trailers. The imported transport included 255 ten-tonners, 3,470 one-and-a-half-tonners and 235 one-quarter-tonners. More than 90 per cent. of the trucks turned over were American.

December allocations of POL to operate these fleets were the highest yet made and included by Italian coasters under United Maritime Authority orders and another approximately 25,000 tons moved otherwise. UMA-directed coasters had moved only 71,225 in October. The coasters, whose total deadweight is 84,000 tons, however, have a problem in repairs and overhaul and so are often unavailable for work.

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

December 8, 1945 RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

POLITICAL

Credo che negli umani dissidi la ragione
non penda mai tutta da un lato,
nè il torto tutto dall'altro.
FOSCOLO.

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

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

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

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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

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

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

The crisis drama has, of course, held the spotlight during the week. But from Washington on the 1st came news which may be of equal if not greater interest to Italy. Secretary of

to the chorus, writing in the *New York Herald Tribune* that American policy has so far been sterile and that the United States should do everything possible "unilaterally" to help Italy until a peace treaty can be fashioned.

ECONOMIC FRONT

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The crisis drama has, of course, held the spotlight during the week. But from Washington on the 1st came news which may be of equal if not greater interest to Italy: Secretary of State Byrnes, it was reported, had started negotiations with the British and Russians with a view to revision of the armistice status of Italy. Later in the week reports also came from Washington—with no direct quotations but to the general effect that the British were sympathetic to such suggestions. Sumner Welles added his voice to everything possible "unilaterally" to help Italy until a peace treaty can be fashioned.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

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

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

WOOD FOR THE NORTH

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

The Combined Chiefs of Staff have come through with another relaxation for Italy, this time for ship repair facilities and ship building for Italian craft, that is, non-naval vessels. With the intent to assist the Italian economy, permission is now given for these Italian facilities to be applied to the following categories in the priority in which they are named: (1) Allied ships still have first crack at use of the ways; (2) repairs to merchant ships and tugs; (3) building of all merchant ships over 5,000 tons d. w. if more than 50 per cent. complete; (4) building of other merchant ships; (5) construction of coastal vessels of less than 5,000 tons and of schooners of 500 tons.

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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

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

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia, has cancelled his U. S. leave for the time being... Major Robert H. Klein has been awarded the Order of the Crown of Italy (Knight)... The first awards for the new U. S. Medal of Freedom are now in: Col. Henry G. Willmer and Lieut. Col. Alexander G. Graham, both British, are the recipients of the Medal, with Bronze Palm... All suggestions of the Allied Commission concerning the elections for the *Costituente* have been accepted by the Italian Government and practically all those concerning administrative elections, the first of which may be held as early as late this month or early next, although only nine per cent of the electoral lists have been approved... The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commissin is ex-

CC. RR., about to be demobilized, transferred over to the *Guardie di Finanza* to act as guards for the goods... A meeting of the Regional Commissioners may be held in Milan 11 December... An Italian cruiser, operating a shuttle-service, will remove 12,000 Italian POWS from French North Africa while 700 POWS are to be brought home from the Levant by similar means... All A. C. taxis in Roma have been returned to their Italian owners, which should help ease the city's civilian transport crisis... A through train between Rome and Paris is in the making while an Italian plane service from Rome to London is also being talked about; speaking of trains, there is now a sleeper from Milan to Paris... Bronze Stars have been awarded to Major Mathias F. Correa, Major William E. Scotten, Lieut. Col. Bradley D. Nash, Capt. Cecil B. Highland jr., and Technical Sergt. Irvin A. Brucker while Mr. James M. Merritt (formerly Major) and Cmmdr. Michael A. Musmano have received the Legion of Merit... A new Italian epuration decree just drawn up is giving power to government executives to fire "for the good of the service" any suspected fascist over Grade V in the civil service in order to plug a loophole whereby many Fascists have been escaping on technicalities; the decree is effective for a short time, however, a matter of several weeks... The Regiment will have, probably, a net increase of 35 EM this month after 100 replacements arrive and redeployed EM leave... The new U. S. T/O has been approved by MTOUSA, giving us 500 EM and 250 officers; the breakdown is as follows: 14 colonels and general officers, 28 lieutenant-colonels, 68 majors, 115 captains, 22 lieutenants and three warrant officers, seven master sergeants, 10 technical sergeants, 53 staff sergeants, 122 buck sergeants, 205 corporals and 103 PFC's and buck privates... Eleven officers and two enlisted men have been given 45-day leaves in the States... Major General Duff, Chief Administrative Officer at AFHQ, and Brigadier General A. L. Hamblen, assistant chief of staff, G-5, and newly-named Acting Deputy Chief of Staff, have been visiting the A. C. for high-level discussions... As reported before, U. S. officers having the MOS of 8104 (civil affairs officer) are "frozen" for redeployment; what is not as widely

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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POLITICAL

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

HAMLET.

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

It had seemed for twenty-four hours or so that the Parri ministry might carry on even without the Liberals. Parri himself suggested that their places could be filled by others not of the party but representing "the same political currents" as the Liberals. However, here again the attitude of the Christian Democrats was decisive. At the meeting of the Council on Saturday 24 November, De Gasperi made it clear that his party considered the defection of the Liberals had deprived the Parri government of its investiture. The Christian Democrat leader suggested that instead of presenting the matter to the *Consulta* (as had been suggested earlier any confidence in it, and, proceeding to the attack, went on to declare that what had really weakened Italy in the eyes of the world was the crisis itself which he had, he said, striven to prevent. A further move to the Right would make things worse, he said, adding: "This is not a threat but a warning".

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Debate.

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

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

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

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

Meanwhile the London *Times* editorially urged Italians not to forget the immediate needs of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

reconstruction in their absorption with partisan politics, adding a special word of reproach to the Liberals, whose choice of candidates of the vintage of Orlando and Nitti, proves—in the opinion of the *Times*—that the party lives in the pass and has lost touch with the present. From America came a more ominous note: an A. P. dispatch from Washington reported that in the view of some American officials the crisis strengthens the argument of certain Congressmen who have been consistently opposed to increase of European relief through UNRRA. Certainly both at home and abroad there is every pressure being exerted for a quick solution of the crisis; it may indeed come within a few days.

ITALY'S FOREIGN TRADE

Now that the Allies have let down the Allied barriers to the resumption of private trade between Italy and the outside world, it might be useful to examine just what is the position at the moment as to Italian foreign commerce becoming an actuality. The A. C. view is that it is now up to the Italians to get going. The Italians, obviously, must have a machinery that not only makes it possible and easy for Italian enterprise to trade with the world, but protects the fragile Italian economy against the risks of mass exportation of goods still needed in this country and of dissipation of the small and precious hoard of foreign exchange (chiefly, dollars) which are so sorely needed for purchases abroad.

As of this week, Italian efforts to get going are stymied. The proposal to create an Undersecretariat of Foreign Trade in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce was submitted to the *Consulta* and turned down. The *consultori* recommended that a new ministry of foreign trade and exchange control be set up, an idea, incidentally, which was proposed by the Chief Commissioner to the Italian Government, a year ago. There the matter rests for the moment. Although it cannot be otherwise than that the present political crisis will slow down the business, the attitude of the A.C., on instructions of the Chief Commissioner, will be to proceed with all business with the interim functionaries of Prime Minister Parri and to obtain Italian decisions on all except the

minutes of the meeting between the Interministerial Committee for Reconstruction and the Economic Section a couple of weeks ago. British subjects, the meeting was told, are now permitted to trade, though still under a British export licensing control, with private citizens of Italy. The U.S. is now working on a scheme to ease the wartime control of the use of foreign-owned dollars and the physical control of commodities moving between the States and other countries. At the moment the United States Commercial Company (Acting as agent of ICE) is the sole channel for Italian exports to the U. S. The USCC, however, will probably be discontinued as the sole channel by 1 January 1946 (or as soon as the Italian Government itself abolishes ICE's monopoly position) and will then act only as an aid to particular U. S. importers who are unable, for various reasons, to represent themselves in Italy.

The proposed agency for supervising the Italian end of foreign commerce faces its chief headache in what to do about the artificial relation between Italian and foreign values and the tremendous difference in price between the international and Italian home markets. The problem is in the exportation of Italian goods (high-priced in lire) versus the importation of low-priced foreign goods (low in the comparative value of lira at the official exchange rates) which would create huge profits for the Italian importers. The Italian Government points out that the free rate of exchange on the black or uncontrolled market for one dollar is between 300 and 400 lire, while one dollar's worth of imported product has a sales value of 1,200 lire, which would give the importer a profit of some 800 lire on every manipulated dollar of foreign exchange.

Foreign trade, therefore, according to present Italian thinking should be in two categories: that of the Government and that of private initiative. The Italian credits now held abroad are, in the main, government credits, which brings up, the Italians point out, the necessity for still more credits in order to give private trade room to operate in, as it were. At first, it is contemplated, the Government will import as a monopoly agent against available credits but leave a small margin for private traders to use in those credits. UNRRA imports, for ex-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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This tangled subject may perhaps be somewhat clarified by a brief review of the situation, both as to the factors involved and the present status of Italy's trade negotiations with other countries (as recently examined by the Commerce (Foreign Trade) Sub-Commission) and as revealed in the

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSC No. 785015

considerable examination at the part of at least U. S. authorities, since one of the principles of lending American money will be the banker's say-so of how the funds would be used and the U. S. position is for as free trade as possible in the world.

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

Minister of Transport Ugo La Malfa summarized the Italian position at the meeting quite [illegible] that in order to rebuild the exchange available to guarantee to each economic factor in Italy the necessary credits it might need, so the Government has to pool all needs and all credits and allot priorities in order to achieve a balanced reconstruction. La Malfa envisaged Italian foreign credits as (1) those used by the Government's agencies to make state purchases such as wheat and coal; (2) as credits given by the Government to private importers (as for bringing in machinery), and (3) as credits obtained and used directly by private traders. A coördinated form of exchange control would allow free trade to develop harmoniously within the economy, he added. A. C. experts pointed out that even the credits obtained by private individuals would still be under Italian Government control.

Signor Storoni, who had been tentatively picked for the Undersecretariat of Foreign Trade, is currently drawing up a list of commodities available for export while the Inter-Ministerial Committee will make up the same for import. Licenses will be granted on the basis of these priority lists. The channel from the field to Rome or from the private firm to the governmental license granters would be through the Provincial Chambers of Commerce, who would give the requests the first screening while the final one would be given by the new agency at Rome. Port customs offices have to be set up, shipping availabilities studied (Italy herself may buy some Liberty ships) and other details worked out before free or comparatively free exchange of goods becomes possible. It is still true, though not for long, that the A. C. will have to screen exportable surpluses as to quantity (in order not to deprive the Italian consumer and dwindling military needs of sorely needed essential goods) and to prevent the export of goods imported into Italy under Allied supply programs. The A. C. (and in the case of a few commodities, Washington) decide whether such goods would be exported, it being a nice point whether or not Italy should ask for certain imports and then export the same things manufactured here in order to obtain foreign exchange.

The Italians have been busy as beavers drumming up trade possibilities, it being practically first priority among all Italian ambassadors abroad.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

the world.

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

Minister of Transport Ugo La Malfa summarized the Italian position at the meeting quite clearly. He said that in order to rebuild the Italian economy, all branches of the economy must be able to procure what they need from the international market. It is the responsibility of the Italian Government, therefore, to control the availability of foreign currency so that all factors of economic life can have a chance to be heard and helped. There is not enough foreign Italian foreign credits as (1) those used by the Government's agencies to make state purchases such as wheat and coal; (2) as credits given by the Government to private importers as for bringing in machinery, and (3) as credits obtained and used directly by private traders. A coördinated form of exchange control would allow free trade to develop harmoniously within the economy, he added. A. C. experts pointed out that even the credits obtained by private individuals would still be under Italian Government control.

Signor Storoni, who had been tentatively picked for the Undersecretariat of Foreign Trade, is currently drawing up a list of commodities available for export while the Inter-Ministerial Committee will make up the same for import. Licenses will be granted on the basis of these priority lists. The channel from the field to Rome or from the private firm to the governmental license granters would be through the Provincial Chambers of Commerce, who would give the requests the first screening while the final one would be given by the new agency at Rome. Port customs offices have to be set up, shipping availabilities studied (Italy herself may buy some Liberty ships) and other details worked out before free or comparatively free exchange of goods becomes possible. It is still true, though not for long, that the A. C. will have to screen exportable surpluses as to quantity (in order not to deprive the Italian consumer and dwindling military needs of sorely needed essential goods) and to prevent the export of goods imported into Italy under Allied supply programs. The A. C. (and in the case of a few commodities, Washington) decide whether such goods would be exported, it being a nice point whether or not Italy should ask for certain imports and then export the same things manufactured here in order to obtain foreign exchange.

The Italians have been busy as beavers drumming up trade possibilities, it being practically first priority among all Italian ambassadors abroad. At least 13 countries have been contacted in one way or another concerning the possibilities of imports and exports. Besides talks with the U. S., U. K. and France, and the now well-known pact *in sospeso* with Switzerland (which provided for exchange of power, medicines, food and machinery), there are negotiations on foot with Bel-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

gium, Holland, Spain, Sweden, and Poland, with even approaches to Russia and also talks with the Argentine, Portugal and Turkey. Not all are down to specifics as yet, though the following notes from the Commerce Sub-Commission's latest report give evidence of hopeful activity. The Italians have consulted the A. C. on several of these prospective pacts. No agreement may provide for payment of old Italian debts, which is the reason the Swiss pact has been held up.

The Italians have been laying on the line practically everything they have, which, all in all, is darn little—like fruits, felt, marble, sulphur, mercury, zinc, hemp, assorted nuts, and juices for special products—and are banking heavily on getting the raw materials and coal which will allow them to manufacture, in their virtually undamaged Northern Italy industrial plant, the heavy products desired in exchange by many countries. Belgium has offered iron and steel products, glassware, machine tools and technical equipment. In turn, Belgium is interested, among other things, in typewriters and artificial dye-stuffs. The Dutch offer seed potatoes, flower bulbs and electrical equipment. Old debts often figure in the discussions, but as said, are ruled out when it is a question of the new Italy paying. However, in the case of Spain, for instance, it is a matter of Spain paying off on her debt to Italy for that little business of a few years ago. This is o. k. by our side. The tentative accord reached so far has been to provide for larger exports from Spain to Italy than from Italy to Spain, who will ship ox and sheep skins, fish, shoes, lead, potassium fertilizers and okoume wood, among other things. The Italians have also asked for a large amount of rosin but since this item is in world short supply, the A. C. is trying to find other ways to meet the need for Italy.

Trade with Russia so far is much more nebulous, consisting of consideration of the idea of Italy's supplying to Russia certain industrial products (motors, railroad cars, ships) on a "*lavorazione per conto*" basis, that is, payment for the work involved to be made in raw materials or possibly in dollars if the U. S. Treasury agrees. This interesting idea is being investigated. The trade agreement with Sweden (for six months and renewable) is for 1,200,000 tons of Italian goods, mostly fruits, nuts, and juices, and 1,200,000 tons of Swedish goods, mostly iron and steel products, machinery, and paper. Poland is also interested in a trade agreement, likely at the rate of 720,000 tons a year. To date the only return Italian item o.k.'d has been 12,000 tons of lemons, though what the Poles want mostly is heavy industrial equipment and agricultural machinery.

THE RIVIERA

A recent visit by one of the PRB staff to a section of the Italian Riviera, by a visitor, in fact, who knew it well in the dear, dead years, discloses that the war has by no means succeeded in dissipating the enchantment of the idyllic coast. The magic of olive, vine and cypress where the mountains slope sheer into the Mediterranean is one which no folly of man can obliterate. True, the famous profile of Portofino has been altered in one particular—the campanile of the church of San Giorgio no longer marks the neck which joins the final triple hump to the mainland. But the natural outline remains; man has merely knocked down what his ancestors put up.

The Riviera, between Genoa and Sestri Levante, in truth has suffered severely from bombing. There are places like Zoagli and Recco—villages flanking the mouths of mountain torrents which had the misfortune to be dominated by long railway viaducts spanning the valley ends—which have been almost entirely wiped out. In Rapallo and Santa Margherita the damage has been less severe: a bomb or two in the centre, an aisle of a church demolished, but the general aspect of the places are little changed.

There is a story about the rescue of Portofino from German demolition. A German Baroness, of Scotch birth, who inhabits one of the *castelli* and is remembered by the *paesani* as anti-Nazi at heart, used to entertain the German commander at times. Learning that the charges were all placed to blow up the harbor (whose military importance must have been negligeable compared with the tourist value as a picturesque anchorage for yachts) and that the commander was ready to have them fired, she immediately invited him to tea and talked him out of it.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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There was little fighting on this coast—some resistance at Chiavari, a little at Ruta. U. S. Negro units of the 5th Army were seen, and passed on. Later came an invasion of a different kind: Rapallo became a South African rest center. Hotels, which had been hospitals, now became rest camps. However, the cafés immediately put their prices up to Rome levels and did a roaring trade. With the open-air, brightly-lit cafés and dancing places, Rapallo evenings were never gayer in peace time than they were during the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

last summer. One could almost forget there had been a war—but for the uniforms, an ugly view-blocking anti-invasion wall circling the promenade, with pill boxes camouflaged as ice cream kiosks, a PRO station conveniently but discreetly close by. The South Africans, too, achieved an unusually high standard of decorous behavior—perhaps due to the presence, in one of the dreariest hotels previously patronized by the stogiest of English visitors, of an Army "School of Religion".

Recco, Zoagli and Sori are major reconstruction problems. The Sindaco of Recco gave up the proposal to run a competition for the best project for a new town; it would have wasted time, and there was no money for a prize in the municipal till. Technicians were set to draw up the best possible scheme, taking into consideration the urgency of removing rubble, reactivating the railway and providing work for the winter. The railway between La Spezia and Genoa already functions over certain tracts. The bombed viaducts are being temporarily replaced by great timber trestle bridges over which the trains creep gingerly.

One notices one great change since last June. The shops are now as full of food and goods as they are in Rome— and at not much lower prices. Nearly all the bomb rubble has been tided up; shops are being refitted, houses repaired or reconstructed. There is a little less activity at the rest center, but one South African unit has taken up residence, lock stock and barrel, in one of the principal hotels, in front of which may be seen the anachronistic spectacle of a soldier with a rifle performing all the motions of sentry duty. Atomic bomb or no atomic bomb, there seems to be some confidence among the populace in the future and the business of attracting the foreigner is again getting under way. There is talk of roulette being allowed at Rapallo instead of San Remo, and the Casino is being refurbished. Smart bars, expensive locales, cafés des snobs are appearing in a profusion unknown before the war. The fishing village aspect, the character of the informal, recherché resort is disappearing. A few advance guards of the old foreign colonies are beginning to reappear, and until the main body returns, the Riviera is not doing too badly as a rest center for Allied soldiers and a resort for the nouveaux riche.

NORTHERN RE-STUFFLE

Mention was made last week of a possible amalgamation or consolidation of the Regions in NW Italy into one Region. The idea had been to follow the line taken in Southern Italy last year and to centralise administration in Milan. The Executive Commissioner and Mr. Harland Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, however, held a meeting in Milan with the four Regional Commissioners and their deputies, and reached the conclusion that although, from the economic point of view, such a rolling up might have been desirable, administratively it would be wrong. The Chief Commissioner held the same view. We are happy, therefore, to say that the four Regions of the North will retain their identities. In order, however, to coordinate economic affairs throughout Northern Italy the Office of Economic Commissioner for Northern Italy has been set up. This office will be located in Milan and will be consolidated with and form part of HQ Lombardia Region.

Colonel A. N. Hancock will be both Economic Commissioner, Northern Italy, and Regional Commissioner, Lombardia Region. The Economic Commissioner will take his directions from the Vice President, Economic Section, and will issue directions on economic affairs to all four Regions in the North, including Venezia Region. Similarly, Regional Commissioners will correspond direct with him on all economic matters. One can only hope that no basis controversy will arise between the Economic Commission, Northern Italy, and the R. C., Lombardia. The Office of the Representative of the Chief Commissioner in Northern Italy has at the same time been abolished and such functions performed by that office will be the responsibility either of the Economic Commissioner or Regional Commissioner, Lombardia (sic). This plan had the full concurrence of all Regional Commissioners and is contained in the latest Executive Order No. 84. Mr. L. White (A) has been assigned as Executive Officer to the Economic Commissioner.

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November 24, 1945 RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Salus populi suprema lex esto.
CICERO.

The crisis—which has dominated all political activity and discussion during the past week—was formally "opened" at 10:30 p. m. 22 November by the resignation of the Liberal members of the Government. Ricci, Minister of the Treasury, and an independent, followed suit. This climaxed a week of moves and countermoves which have been extremely interesting as symptomatic of political trends and party attitudes. Analysis of the past week's events may afford some clue as to what the solution of the crisis may be.

To begin chronologically: The Christian Democrats issued a statement last week (published, without regard to our *Bulletin* deadline, just too late for the last number) which took things a little further by indicating at least a tentative sympathy with the Liberals. The key statement was to the effect that reconstruction and pacification required the co-operation of the basic parties and should not exclude "the co-operation of others who can give an effective contribution in this emergency period". In other words they were willing to add to the Government personalities outside the charmed circle of the CLN. To this statement two answers followed immediately. One, from the Socialists, catalogued the problems Italy has to face and suggested that the country proceed more speedily to their solution, rather than "lingering over a Government crisis".

The other answer came from the Liberals. Cheered apparently by the gesture of the Christian Democrats, the Liberals came out with a statement zens must have a sense of security, order and equality of rights"; Italians must have an impartial Government consisting not only of representatives of the six parties but containing as well men "whose experience and prestige will contribute to the efficiency of the Government." A further clause urged that the number of portfolios be reduced and that the men called to the Government should serve the state and not the parties.

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Liberal Thesis.

The Liberals' thesis appeared in the papers of the 18th and on the 19th its repercussions were immediately evident. Prime Minister Parri in his speech at Chieti, after telling his audience that a "spirit of renascence" is evident in every province and more specifically assuring them that the Government has not printed and does not intend to print new currency, went on to say that the Government could not carry out its tasks if there were too much talk of crisis in the air. Coming back to Rome he gave an interview to ANSA in which he said among other things:

"I consider that nothing in the general condition of the country, political or social, justifies a substantial change in the composition or the character of the Cabinet nor in the orientation of its policy... I feel myself, moreover, personally invested with the specific responsibility of representing impartially the general policy of the Government on the democratic basis on which it has been constituted. I intend to fulfill this duty."

On the 20th the Council of Ministers met and examined the political situation. Nothing decisive came of their deliberations and later in the day the secretaries of the parties met—with equally inconclusive results. The Communists on the

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The other answer came from the Liberals. Cheered apparently by the gesture of the Christian Democrats, the Liberals came out with a statement of some length which puts pretty clearly the case of the Right (the Liberals call themselves Center but there is no visible neighbor on their right, at least within the present coalition). The Liberal declaration made specifically the following points: the time has come to declare the "anti-Fascist period" at an end and to open an era of "speedy justice, pacification of spirits and reconstruction"; "with the approach of the *Costituente*, all citizens must have a sense of security, order and equality of rights"; Italians must have an impartial Government consisting not only of representatives of the six parties but containing as well men "whose experience and prestige will contribute to the efficiency of the Government." A further clause urged that the number of portfolios be reduced and that the men called to the Government should serve the state and not the parties.

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On the 20th the Council of Ministers met and examined the political situation. Nothing decisive came of their deliberations and later in the day the secretaries of the parties met—with equally inconclusive results. The Communists on the same day came out with a resolution essentially supporting Parri and opposing the Liberals; their order of the day stated in part that "the Government has coped with its main tasks and can guarantee to lead the people to the *Costituente* in an orderly and legal fashion."

Meanwhile, of course, the capital began buzzing with the usual rumors. The names of Nitti, De Nicola and Orlando were mentioned as possible

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

successors to Parri. Giannini (*L'Uomo Qualunque*) gave out that the crisis had been caused by the strength and the demands of his new movement. A more substantial Giannini, chairman of the board of the U. S. Bank of America, threw more pepper in the political pot, stating at Naples in clear-cut terms that American capitalists are now reluctant to invest funds in Italy in view of the precarious political situation and asking why Italy doesn't give her "able statesmen", such as Nitti and Orlando, a chance to see what they can do. This brought fiery responses from *Lavoro* and *Unità*; the former asserting that Giannini would like to see Italy "a nation of coolies run for the benefit of a few rajahs" and the Communists saying of the men suggested by the American banker: "We know them and they have already shown us what they can do; they gave us Fascism".

Comments.

The forty-eight hours preceding the definitive action of the Liberals were full of editorial commentary on the crisis and "expert" predictions as to its outcome. In general, the parties are following the same lines as they were last week but there have been some minor developments. The Liberals did not take at all kindly to Parri's remarks (quoted above) and thought the reference to "investiture" and, indeed, the general tone of his discourse was high-handed and "anti-democratic". They recalled that they had previously had their reservations about the President of the Council, occasioned by his silent consent to his party's "factional" (i. e. republican) declaration. On the 22nd *Risorgimento Liberale* went further and said that not only Parri but the whole Action Party apparently wanted something like the powers of a Duce or Fuehrer to be conferred on the head of the Government. Cattani, secretary of the Party, was quoted on the 22nd as saying that the Liberals would like Orlando to head the new Government and adding further that such a nomination was acceptable to the Christian Democrats. Later the same day came the party meeting and the decision to leave the Government.

The Christian Democrats themselves have made no further move save to take part in the view, make mandatory the resignation of the whole Government. Last week it was felt that the Labor Democrats would follow the lead of Liberals and Christian Democrats, but *Ricostruzione* of the 22nd announced that if the enlargement of the Government meant a move to the Right, then Labor Democracy would be opposed to it. Ruini's last statement before the opening of the crisis seemed to indicate a desire to "strengthen" but not to change the coalition.

On the Left side of the coalition, the Action party has remained militantly faithful to Parri and has strenuously rejected the idea that any change is necessary. Chiaro, however, writing in the first number of the reborn *Mondo* (once the champion of the Socialist group represented by Amendola and suppressed in 1926) conceded there would be no harm in bringing a few independent technicians into the Government so long as the general basis and orientation of the coalition remained unchanged. The most interesting development on the Left was the suggestion of Nenni that the whole matter should be discussed by the *Consulta*, thus giving opportunity for clarification and open discussion. To this end he recommended the *Consulta* be called into session at once. (Earlier in the week the convocation of the *Consulta* had been officially postponed.) This suggestion is said to have been supported by Togliatti and Lussu and opposed by Brosio.

What will happen now is pure conjecture. Consensus of opinion before the opening of the crisis was that a "broadening" of the Government would be politically practicable but that if that term were interpreted to mean a change in the presidency, no one could tell where it would all end. The papers of the 23rd mention three names as likely successors to Parri: Orlando, Nitti and De Gasperi. It is said that the Christian Democrats themselves would prefer not to expose their leader to the hazards of preeminence in a new Government. What the leftist parties would like or could be persuaded to take in place of the Parri Government is not easy to say. As we go to press, no other party has yet followed the Liberals example nor has Parri offered his resignation.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The forty-eight hours preceding the definitive action of the Liberals were full of editorial commentary on the crisis and "expert" predictions as to its outcome. In general, the parties are following the same lines as they were last week but there have been some minor developments. The Liberals did not take at all kindly to Parri's remarks (quoted above) and thought the reference to "investiture" and, indeed, the general tone of his discourse was high-handed and "anti-democratic". They recalled that they had previously had their reservations about the President of the Council, occasioned by his silent consent to his party's "factional" (i. e. republican) declaration. On the 22nd *Risorgimento Liberale* went further and said that not only Parri but the whole Action Party apparently wanted something like the powers of a Duce or Fuehrer to be conferred on the head of the Government. Cattani, secretary of the Party, was quoted on the 22nd as saying that the Liberals would like Orlando to head the new Government and adding further that such a nomination was acceptable to the Christian Democrats. Later the same day came the party meeting and the decision to leave the Government.

The Christian Democrats themselves have made no further move save to take part in the various deliberations and conferences. So far, all indications are that they would welcome a broadening of the Government but are not particularly anxious to dismiss Parri, though Foreign Minister De Gasperi did go so far as to say (according to *Giornale della Sera*) that the departure of one of the parties in the coalition would, in his *alone* of the 22nd announced that if the enlargement of the Government meant a move to the Right, then Labor Democracy would be opposed to it. Bonomi's last statement before the opening of the crisis seemed to indicate a desire to "strengthen" but not to change the coalition.

On the Left side of the coalition, the Action party has remained militantly faithful to Parri and has strenuously rejected the idea that any change is necessary. Chiaro, however, writing in the first number of the reborn *Mondo* (once the champion of the Socialist group represented by Amendola and suppressed in 1926) conceded there would be no harm in bringing a few independent technicians into the Government so long as the general basis and orientation of the coalition remained unchanged. The most interesting development on the Left was the suggestion of Nenni that the whole matter should be discussed by the *Consulta*, thus giving opportunity for clarification and open discussion. To this end he recommended the *Consulta* be called into session at once. (Earlier in the week the convocation of the *Consulta* had been officially postponed.) This suggestion is said to have been supported by Togliatti and Lussu and opposed by Brosio.

What will happen now is pure conjecture. Consensus of opinion before the opening of the crisis was that a "broadening" of the Government would be politically practicable but that if that term were interpreted to mean a change in the presidency, no one could tell where it would all end. The papers of the 23rd mention three names as likely successors to Parri: Orlando, Nitti and De Gasperi. It is said that the Christian Democrats themselves would prefer not to expose their leader to the hazards of preeminence in a new Government. What the Leftist parties would like or could be persuaded to take in place of the Parri Government is not easy to say. As we go to press, no other party has yet followed the Liberals example nor has Parri offered his resignation.

Though much of its time was necessarily given to political discussion, the Council managed to get through a considerable amount of work as well. The meeting on the 21st approved a draft law fixing the "juridical and legal position of the Alto Adige" and at the same time drawing up the regulations affecting citizenship in that region. A later session of the same [illegible] ironed out

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

details for the management of the agency for disposal of surplus war materials, to be known as ARAR (*Azienda Ricuperi Alienazione Residuati*).

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wheat ammassing for the past 3 weeks has been doing poorly. The actual percentage collected, as of 17 November, is 72, a gain of one per cent. for the second time in two weeks. Ammassed have been 936,200 tons of the 1,304,000 ton target. Central, Southern and Insular Italy figure for 389,900 tons or 75 per cent. of the goals while AMG Italy gave in 546,300 tons or 70 per cent. of the goals.

One interesting development of the week has been a revised figure in the total estimated production, which is given as 4,226,000 tons, compared with the estimated production of 4,188,588 tons. While this statistical increase in production will, unfortunately, mean little or nothing in the amount of wheat available for ammassing and, thence, for the food ration, it does show that there are several thousand more tons of wheat in Italy, probably in farmers' hoards, whose presence will help relieve possible suffering by that much in the areas where they are located.

The revision resulted as a direct result of A. C. doubts as to the accuracy of previous figures and from personal spot-checks into the procedures of gathering statistics by the Ministry of Agriculture and government field officials. To obtain this more realistic picture, teams of Italian officials were sent out to a large number of areas and local officials quizzed for confirmation or change of their previous estimates. An incidental object of the investigation, carefully watched by the A. C., was to discover just where about 12 per cent. or approximately 1,500,000 hectares of Italian crop land had disappeared to, when one compares 1936 acreage with land cultivated now. The intensive cross-checking of all pertinent figures resulted in the Ministry's increase in its estimate of total wheat production.

The table that follows tells the peculiar story of the wheat estimating game:

ITALIAN MINISTRY ESTIMATES

The Economic Section has just finished, after consultation with the three service subcommissions, a most laborious job concerning Italian munitions industry. A letter, which is going to AFHQ, provides the groundwork and recommendations for the survey of the situation which AFHQ may desire. The question arose out of the problem of finding a source of equipping the Italian Army. Roughly speaking, there is very little of the Italian armament industry left: it has been bombed out and a considerable portion of what was left has been reconverted to civilian production. Loan of small arms and ammunition to the Italians from Allied stocks takes care of immediate problems. In any event, all AMG staffs have been alerted to investigate and report any arms manufacture in their areas, with the Italian Government similarly ready to provide data on any requests for information about its own bailwick. The problem, of course, becomes important now that the Italian Government has to provide for its army out of its own resources, or rather, will have to supply it after 30 November. To help do so, the Italian Army will get first priority at surplus Allied materials among Italian claimants. Similar arrangements are expected to be made for the Italian Navy and Air Force when Allied control is handed over.

Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, is in the North, inspecting the industrial situation, among other news that we can report. Strikes are still popping up, the latest being one of school teachers in the North. They are asking for better wages and a more secure status. There is a small flock of new appointments: Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), Acting Director of the Finance Sub-Commission; Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper (B), Acting Deputy Director of the Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission; Major S. K. I. Saul (B), Deputy Director of the Commerce (Foreign Trade) Sub-Commission; Mr. W. J. Hayes (A), Deputy Director of the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commisson.

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declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Year	Area	Production (in quintals)	Quintal per hectare
1936/1939	5,141,995	75,852,830	14.8
1938/1942	5,025,530	73,799,600	14.7
1943	5,342,830	64,387,300	12.1
1944	1,788,180	64,353,300	13.4
1945 June. . . .	4,363,985	44,273,140	10.1
1945 July . . .	4,456,671	41,885,880	9.3
1945 September .	4,473,120	40,339,200	9.0
1945 October . .	4,456,671	38,749,530	8.7
1945 November .	4,498,750	42,241,000	9.4

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AMG IN THE NORTH

Allied Military Government in Northern Italy is being carried on by literally a handful of officers and it is a remarkable achievement on the part of these officers that the 10 million odd people are being governed adequately, according to reports from visitors to the North. This is due to a number of factors.

In the first place the policy laid down in the Chief Commissioner's memorandum of 1 May 1945 has been followed from the outset. Even

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

when Regional Staffs were more plentiful, indirect administration was definitely the order of the day and the local government administration has been set well into operation from the beginning. The difficulties caused by the clashing interests of the CLN's still remain but in a reduced form and recently Regional and Provincial Commissioners have shown the CLN's and the pubblic that Allied Military, and consequently Italian local, government can be the only executive authority, and that the CLN's must abide by their agreement to assume an advisory capacity only. Not all have acquiesced in this policy but public opinion has recently shown signs of helping the local government in this respect.

Secondly, the economic situation, although serious, is showing signs of a certain degree of recovery to which the arrival of coal and other raw materials has given a remarkable psychological filip.

Thirdey, the staff that are left have tackled their multiple jobs with remarkable determination and selflessness. There are a good many cases in the North of officers voluntarily foregoing their LIAP in order that the work can be carried on. The impression that one gathers is definitely that AMG may have lost in quantity but that it has definitely retained the quality.

The uncertainty as to the date of restoration of this territory has, of course, had an unsettling effect on the population and the administration. On the Italian side there is the desire to take over fully (and we hope) effectively; and on the Allied side the frustration of knowing the jobs that ought to be done by military government cannot be completed or must be completed inadequately. However everyone is hoping for restoration before Christmas and are carrying on accordingly. The U. S. staffs are having a hard time with their rations which have to be carried from Udine. The situation on the clerical staff is, of course, the grimmest and one hears of one Regional Commissioner who has to write all his letters out in manuscript block capitals for his Italian typist.

Clothing and equipment of the CC. RR. and other police agencies are really the matters which worry the administration possibly more than anything else. Much of the material is there in made recently. Fuel for cooking and heating is going to be desperately short and the shortage has brought out the old parochial and provincial feelings. 7 AGRA is helping a lot with the CC. RR. in Piemonte and Liguria and the arrival of 60 Sub-Area and some Allied troops in Bolzano has undoubtedly had a stabilising effect. The South Tyrol question, incidentally, remains a problem and De Angelis, the Prefect, is down in Rome pressing the Italian Government to some firm declaration of policy anent this Province.

Colonel Selby was found well in the saddle in Liguria and Colonel McPhee quite happy with his new Piemonte problems, Colonel Miller deep in the intracacies of bilingualism and of ethnic problem in Bolzano and Colonel Bright back in Udine after an obviously beneficial LIAP. The Montecatini building in Milan seemed strangely empty and the inhabitants of it find it difficult to keep warm. One who had been incarcerated long in their lifts almost suggested the building of stairs to run up and down! A newcomer here is the Deputy Regional Commissioner, Colonel Falck. There is talk of amalgamation of these NW Regions and before this happens a testimony must be recorded for each individual Region of a job very well done.

Venezia Giulia has suffered, like everyone else, from LIAP and release. It has not been possible to keep them right up to strength but they have suffered less than any other Region. Unemployment, of course, is their chief trouble and looms probably even more heavily than the lack of cooperation from part of their population. It is difficult for a temporary administration to formulate short-term projects to avoid unemployment in an uneconomic area which has lived on subsidies for so many years. The flow of local produce, too, has been diverted, not so much, perhaps as Venezia Giulia thinks, because of parochialism in the neighboring Italian Provinces, but because there is an all-over shortage which naturally affects a non-producing area more than anywhere else. There are hopeful signs, however, that fuel may be coming in in small quantities. The weekly Sunday demonstrations in Trieste appear to pass off peacefully, thanks no doubt to the stabilising force of military government

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Clothing and equipment of the CC. RR. and other police agencies are really the matters which worry the administration possibly more than anything else. Much of the material is there in the North, the factories are ready to make the uniforms. But is has not seemed possible to marry the two together and so the "Guardians of Law and Order" in the mountains have to swap overcoats when they come off duty. Armed highway robbery by motorised bandits is another worry. It seems to be increasing although some pretty good hauls (of robbers) have been

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The AC Liaison team in Bologna is much disturbed about the law and order in those parts. Unemployment, too, in Emilia Region is severe and the local administrative machinery is creaking a little bit in the early days of restoration.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

Throughout the North one is impressed by the steady work of the Displaced Persons staff. Their organisation runs with a smoothness which their own officers would perhaps hardly admit. Their camps even in this odd weather are remarkably well run. They have provided effective relief from suffering for many thousands of human beings and the A. C. can be proud of the camps' achievement as their inhabitants and travellers must, perhaps inarticulately, be grateful.

VENEZIA-GIULIA SIDELIGHTS

The arrival last week in Trieste of fifteen British Members of Parliament and journalists caused much fluttering in local political dovecotes. The much awaited visit, second only in importance to the even more awaited arrival of the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers, took most people, with the exception of the city's *Unione Antifascista Italo-Slovena*, by surprise. Delegations from the army, from AMG and from Local Slovenes awaited the visitors at every possible entry into Zone A (Allied-controlled), but all were disappointed as the Parliamentarians and their journalist colleagues lost their way and arrived, somehow or other, by way of Gorizia and Monfalcone. How they managed this, no one, least of all the distinguished delegation, has managed to discover, but arrive they did and hot on their heels came anxious and grim Slovene representatives.

Their one hectic evening in Trieste was followed by an equally hectic Saturday morning at AMG's Headquarters. As guests of Lieutenant General Sir John L. Harding, Commanding 13 Corps, the eminent visitors were subject to a full dose of indoctrination, and not an inconsiderable amount of it from UAIS. (Note-UAIS should not be confused with AIS—Allied Information Service, recently produced child of parent PWB. UAIS is the *Unione Antifascista Italo-Slovena* and many in the city, it is said, were much embarassed when PWB's non-partisan child received some weeks ago permission to hold a political demonstration in Trieste's now famous Piazza). At ten o'clock in the evening the dining room of the Savoia Hotel, where the delegation was staying, had been occupied and the arrival of for a two-hour grilling of the Colonel, who emerged at midnight, tired but victorious, having convinced the energetic visitors that Trieste was governed adequately by AMG.

The visitors included Mr. Zilliacus, Mr. Platts-Mills, Mr. Popplewell, Mr. Oldfield, Mr. Dodds, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Tiffany, Mrs Lea Manning, all Labour Members, and Squadron Leader Roberts (Liberal) and Mr. MacPherson (Liberal National). Journalists were represented by Kingsley Martin (*New Statesman and Nation*), Lt. Col. Basil Davidson M. C., (*The Times*) Mr. Syers (*News Chronicle*) and Miss McLurg (BBC). Mrs Lloyd, Secretary of the Jugoslav Emergency Committee, was the only non-parliamentarian or jornalistic representative. Also accompanying the party was a member of the Jugoslav Foreign Office.

ODDS AND ENDS

Bronze Stars have been awarded to Lieut. William W. Wotherspoon, USNR, Lance Corporal H. E. Hanscomb and Major A. C. Holland both British... Navy Sub-Commission reports that seven Italian crews have started training to learn to operate the first of 32 minesweepers lent by the Royal British Navy... An Italian cruiser may go help evacuate Italians from Tunisia, the sub-commissions adds... U. S. strength in the A. C., as of 1 December, is expected to be 231 officers and 218 EM... The new T/O, now under consideration by MTOUSA, calls for 228 officers... By 15 December, officer strength is calculated to be 204 U. S., and 400 U. K., officers... Perhaps—300 replacements may arrive by the same date... The consolidation of Liguria, Piemonte and Lombardia Regions into one Northern Region (like the old Southern Region) is being studied... More promotions: To Colonel—John A. Arnold; to Lieutenant-Colonel—Elior J. Bocchino, Harold V. Reilly and Fred O. Mavis... The Italian Prisoners-of-War Division reports that in the last two months more than 90,000 of the 130,000 Italian POWs held by the Russians in Germany have been repatriated, with the remainder in process of repatriation, while 8,000 of 19,640 Italian POWs in Russia itself have been returned...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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POLITICAL

Mots: petits clous pour accrocher des idees.
GOBIN.

Words rather than deeds have characterized the past week which has been on the whole a rather quiet one in the Italian political world. Comment on the Armistice terms goes on: *La-coro*, for example, has run a series of articles reviewing, rather caustically, the individual clauses and their manner of application. Prime Minister Parri in his press conference of 10 November took the view that the publication of the terms was the first step towards normalization of Italy's position since they had revealed to international public opinion "Italy's paradoxical situation" and the need for releasing her from it. From the North came the comment of Milan's *Italia del Popolo* (Republican) which used the publication of the terms as a springboard to ask when the Northern provinces would return to Italian administration. "It had been announced", commented the article, "for Sept 1st, then for Sept 15th, then for the first of October or the end of October. Now there is no longer any talk of it...". The writer ends with the comment that "the war of nerves" is being used against the Italians. Along this line *Reynolds News* reported from London that "the dissatisfied middle class is taking advantage of the unrest caused by the continued presence of the Allied military administration". Parri, questioned by the *Gazzettino* of Venice on the meaning of the prolonged stay of AMG, replied that it was occasioned by "military reasons which we cannot judge".

The President of the Council had a busy week. On the 10th he went to Udine where he conferred with General Harding, c. g., XIII Corps, on "military, political and economic matters in [illegible]". Here too, he made a speech

view of the imminent elections they must adopt "a neutral attitude". The strength of the Carabinieri would be augmented, he said, and the administrative elections would be held between mid-December and mid-January. Back in Rome on the 14th, Parri held his regular press conference. He took occasion to express his thanks to President Truman for his recommendation on UNRRA funds and he said that the Italians were expecting from the Allies not only a new juridical status but also "economic security" to enable them to get through this crucial winter. He told the press that in Venezia Giulia deportations had been made with an eye to weakening Italian resistance and changing the ethnic character of the region, adding that he was sure that "the Allied Commission would not allow itself to be deceived".

Possible Crisis.

Discussion of the possibility of a governmental crisis – arising out of the attitude of the Liberals on the epuration law – has gone on during the week. It is clear that the parties of the Left do not want one this time, for *Avanti* and *Unità* have both printed editorials (the latter over Togliatti's signature) during the week, affirming that a crisis would be the last thing the people would like, while La Malfa, speaking in Milan and presumably following the Action line, said that the parties of the C. L. N. "represent all aspects and interests of the Italian nation" and their co-existence and control is essential if Italy is to have a democratic life during this pre-*Costituente* period. From the Liberals themselves has come as yet no clear-cut indication of their intention to leave the Government, though *Risorgimento Liberale* remarked ominously on the 14th that "we have always foreseen... that a time would come when we should have to choose between our principles and the coalition". *Giornale della Sera* reported a Na-

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GOBS.

Words rather than deeds have characterized the past week which has been on the whole a rather quiet one in the Italian political world. Comment on the Armistice terms goes on: *Lavoro*, for example, has run a series of articles reviewing, rather caustically, the individual clauses and their manner of application. Prime Minister Parri in his press conference of 10 November took the view that the publication of the terms was the first step towards normalization of Italy's position since they had revealed to international public opinion "Italy's paradoxical situation" and the need for releasing her from it. From the North came the comment of Milan's *Italia del Popolo* (Republican) which used the publication of the terms as a springboard to ask when the Northern provinces would return to Italian administration. "It had been announced", commented the article, "for Sept 1st, then for Sept 15th, then for the first of October or the end of October. Now there is no longer any talk of it...". The writer ends with the comment that "the war of nerves" is being used against the Italians. Along this line *Reynolds News* reported from London that "the dissatisfied middle class is taking advantage of the unrest caused by the continued presence of the Allied military administration". Parri, questioned by the *Gazzettino* of Venice on the meaning of the prolonged stay of AMG, replied that it was occasioned by "military reasons which we cannot judge".

The President of the Council had a busy week. On the 10th he went to Udine where he conferred with General Harding, c. g., XIII Corps, on "military, political and economic matters in the Veneto region". Here, too, he made a speech protesting strongly against the Yugoslav failure to return deported Italians. Later at Treviso he made another speech, this time on the food problem; his remark that "our bread is in the hands of the Allies" was picked up by the Rome press. In Padua on the 13th, he addressed the prefects of Northern Italy and told them that in view of the imminent elections they must adopt "a neutral attitude". The strength of the Carabinieri would be augmented, he said, and the administrative elections would be held between mid-December and mid-January. Back in Rome on the 14th, Parri held his regular press conference. He took occasion to express his thanks to President Truman for his recommendation on UNRRA funds and he said that the Italians were expecting from the Allies not only a new juridical status but also "economic security" to enable them to get through this crucial winter. He told the press that in Venezia Giulia deportations had been made with an eye to weakening Italian resistance and changing the ethnic character of the region, adding that he was sure that "the Allied Commission would not allow itself to be deceived".

Possible Crisis.

Discussion of the possibility of a governmental crisis – arising out of the attitude of the Liberals on the epuration law – has gone on during the week. It is clear that the parties of the Left do not want one this time, for *Avanti* and *Unità* have both printed editorials (the latter over Togliatti's signature) during the week, affirming that a crisis would be the last thing the people would like, while La Malfa, speaking in Milan and presumably following the Action line, said that the parties of the C. L. N. "represent all aspects and interests of the Italian nation" and their co-existence and control is essential if Italy is to have a democratic life during this pre-*Costituente* period. From the Liberals themselves has come as yet no clear-cut indication of their intention to leave the Government, though *Risorgimento Liberale* remarked ominously on the 14th that "we have always foreseen... that a time would come when we should have to choose between our principles and the coalition". *Giornale della Sera* reported a Naples meeting of the Liberal party at which Croce was said to have been present and to have agreed that the time had come for the Liberals to leave the coalition and the C. L. N. There has been as yet no further confirmation of this story, however, and the *Giornale della Sera* has been wrong before on this very point, perhaps through wishful think-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

ing, which certainly is the explanation of *Italia Nuova*'s flat statement that "the crisis is open". Only official statement of the Liberals so far is the Order of the Day sent by the Rome provincial committee to the Executive Board, stating that to leave the Government now would mean that the Liberals "had failed in their pledge for the moral reconstruction of the country".

The visit of U. S. Ambassador Kirk to Washington brought from Agence France Presse and A. P. the more or less predictable rumor that a provisional peace with Italy might be in the making. However, at a press conference on the 14th, Secretary of State Byrnes denied that the Ambassador's visit had any special significance. The deporting of a number of Italians (alleged to be Fascists by the French) from Tunis brought some protest from the press. Government action was confined to preparing – through the Ministry of Post-war Relief – moral and material assistance for these new refugees.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Col. H. M. Walker (A) and Mr. R. B. Scriven (B) of the Coal Division should have at least a couple of orchids flung their way for the yeoman work done on the coal situation. Despite the loss of some 20 shipping days caused by strike and port troubles in the States, the full October allocation of 355,000 tons for Italian civilian supply was met by 10 November. When the situation looked bad a few weeks ago, the Italians were called in and asked to revise their bids for November which originally amounted to 420,000 tons which the A. C. then asked for. The revised estimate was 166,000 tons. Due to the efforts and good management, probably 297,000 tons will arrive for November. The best news yet is that probably 500,000 will arrive in December, which is about 50,000 tons more than asked for. To date this month, about 30 shiploads have been allocated, although the Coal Division is keeping about ten others now on the high seas up its sleeve for emergency allocation should the need arise anywhere. Dislocations in industry, too, have been kept to a minimum despite the unsettled

There is a rash of smaller news which promises to develop more fully later. A. C. FEA experts are studying the Italian industrial situation in the North. The Italian Government has published its plan for 1946 imports and its program for industrial rehabilitation in 1946, both extensive, well-conceived documents and a considerable advance in detailed programming over their initial efforts of nearly a year ago. The Italian prospectus calls, roughly, for about 1.3 billion dollars.

The Chief Commissioner has approved the extension of UNRRA supplementary feeding to AMG areas. The idea of making a joint survey of the Italian war materials manufacture situation is being studied by the Economic Section and the three service sub-commissions. The wheat amassing, as of 12 November, is reported the poorest to date, the record to date being only 71 per cent., a gain of one per cent. over last week's report. The wheat import supply situation, however, seems better, it being likely that 70 to 75 per cent. of the extra wheat asked for will be granted. All sub-commissions have been asked to screen Italian requests for materials by first inspecting surplus Allied goods available and making substitutions wherever possible to save in requisitions. Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission reports that Italian production is now 15 billion cigarets a year and 70 to 80 billion matches a year, with match production up to 120 billion possible, if export outlets could be arranged.

NAPLES—TWO YEARS AFTER

Lieut. Col. Guy I. Warren, Acting AMG Commissioner for Naples Commune, brightens our contents this week with a few impressions of Naples, then and now, "for the possible edification of those who passed this way, back in the days when a bath was a major operation, window glass to beat the cold was out of the question and when, just to add to discomfort, Jerry had a way of laying his eggs in a most noisy and untimely manner". Col. Warren's first AMG job was in Naples in the old Region III.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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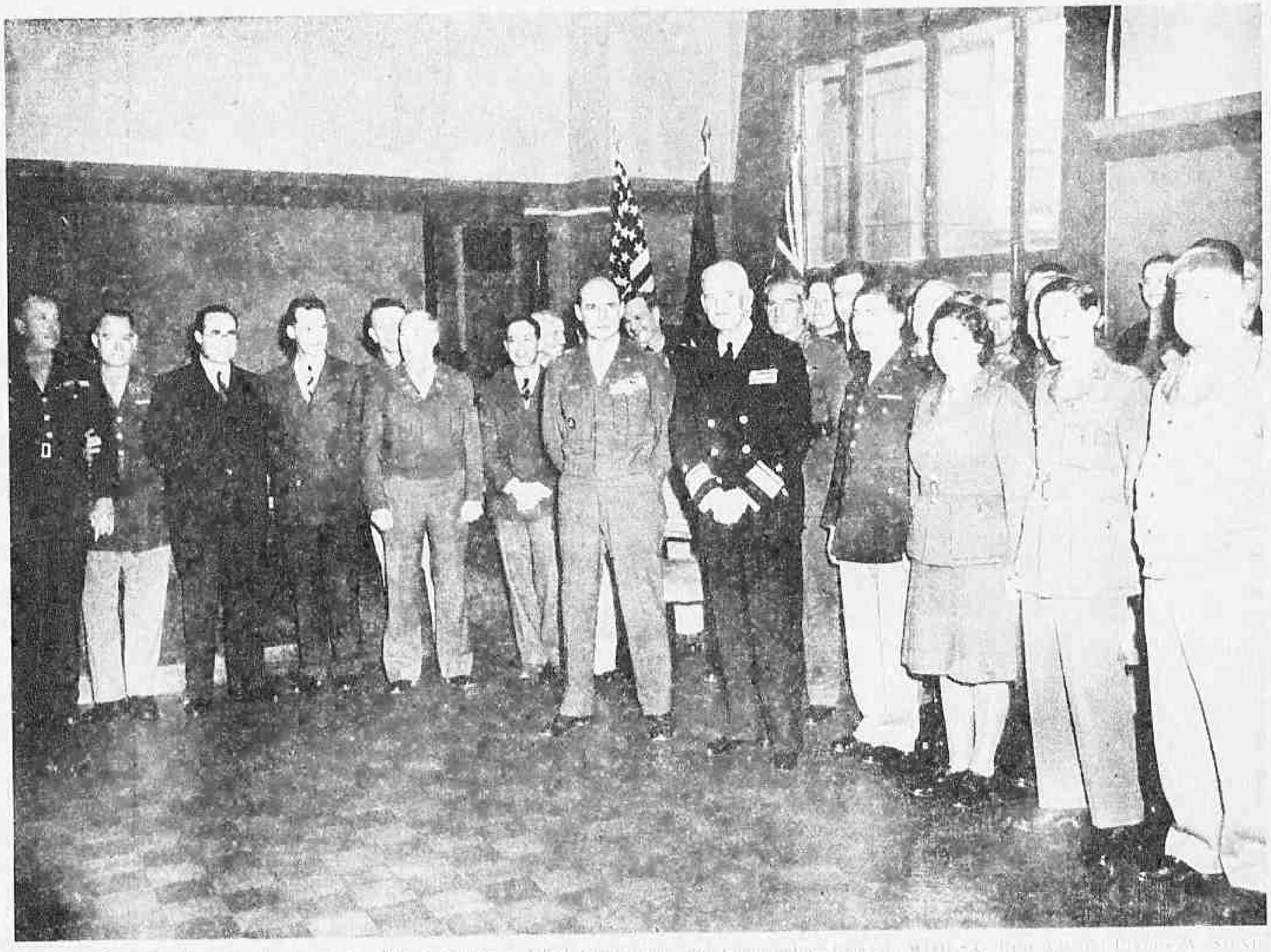
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The Colonel has seen a lot of these fellow-travellers making the return journey but as for the others, they might be glad to know that Via Roma is still Via Roma; *soldati* of all nationalities still overflow the sidewalks and spill out into the street; the peddlars, procurers and certain others still vend their wares; the beggars still pull at your coat tail or pluck at your trousers' leg; street waifs still cry "*Sigarette*", and retrieve your butt almost before it strikes the ground; the *autisti* bear down upon pedestrians in that same "hurry to murder" fashion. "It is still

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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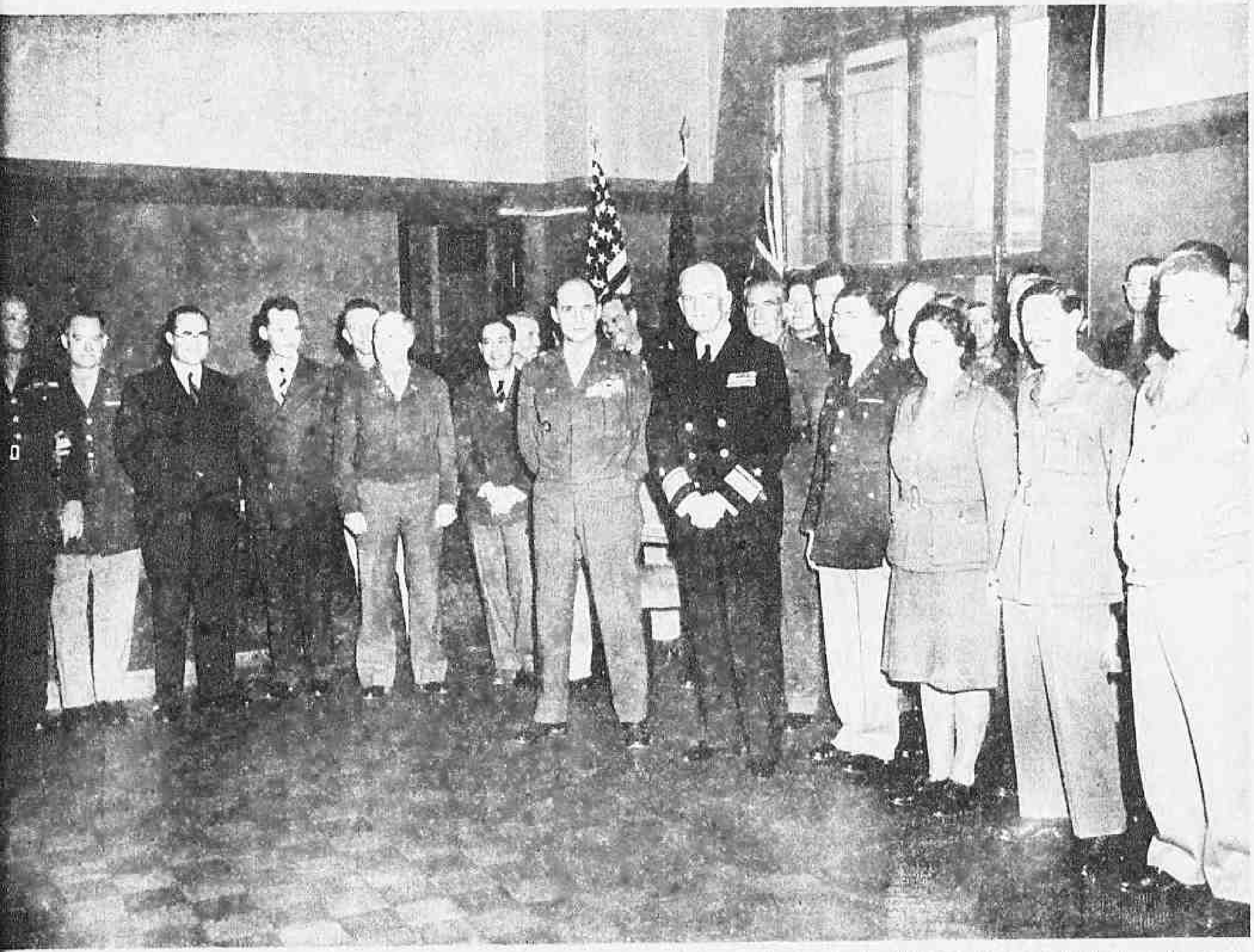
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3 NND No.



Lt. General Leonard Wood [illegible] Pedro Sainz, Allied commander [illegible] Philippine Army [illegible] Chief Commissioner Manuel Quezon and [illegible] members of the U.S. Army [illegible]

0963

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3 NND No.



[illegible] General Mark W. Clark, U.S. Army, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander and Commanding General, Allied Force Headquarters, Allied Commissioner, Allied Commission for Austria, and officers of the A[illegible] on the occasion of [illegible]

Naples" Col. Warren reports "in all its squalor and beauty, but there is a difference; the soldier strolling lackadaisically, browsing in and out of shops, stopping here and there to *parlare* with a *signorina;* gone is that purposeful look. He seems a boy again, just 4,000 miles from being a civilian again which he feels already. Now and then there is a face with some of that old eagerness—a youngster (replacement) just arrived—buying his first souvenir; and the shops, now with beautifully lighted windows, artistically display their wares; plate glass where there were boards or just holes in the wall; the pinched faces are not as pinched, the shabby are not as shabby, oftener now there is a new frock; cars which would have become a requisition slip before they could run a block, now roam the streets; rocks removed from the pavements to slow Allied trucks, for the convenience of the pilferers, are back in place. Vesuvius is quiet, breathing only now and then, and only a black stripe down her side bears witness to her eruption; boats of every description slither in and out of the grottoes and dot the bay on pretty days. Yes, Naples has changed, but there remain her many ways that are a thousand years old and before they die will live a thousand more."

More formally, the Colonel reports, there has been this last month a little more than the usual labor unrest—there was a three-day strike of 12,000 Communal employees, whose sole effect was to leave the streets rather dirtier than usual. Living costs are creeping up again. Shortage of water aggravated by the demands made by the ships which fill up at Naples, is causing some concern, though the recent rains will help a little. A lot of water was also used in fighting a major fire in a salvage depot—damage was ten million lire. Health and law and order are under control and the elementary schools opened with an attendance of nearly 70,000. The orderly and substantial withdrawal of German POW labor has been well-received. Requisitioned properties are being returned wholesale—255 apartments and three whole buildings by PBS and 52 apartments by the Town Major in October. During the six months ending September, 1945, the Italian courts received about 52 000 cases and disposed of 49,000, in the same period. At the end of the period, there were 12,000 cases pending, of which

the Crown of Italy to Major Franklin P. Luckman and Capt. Louis T. Montant (Knights) and Lieut. Col. Edmund L. Palmieri (Commander)... Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, has flown to London to meet Mr. Henry Grady, former vice president of the Economic Section, who has been named American observer in the forthcoming Greek elections; Col. Fiske will act as escort to Mr. Grady... Brigadier M. Carr, vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, is on LIAP to England... Col. Charles M. Parkin, c. o., 2675th Regiment, back from the Swiss tour, has sent Major Edward D. S. Sullivan, G-1, to Florence and other places on a personnel-hunting expedition for the A. C.... 120 EM with 60 points and five Class B officers have also been redeployed in the last few days... The Class B exodus thus started will be accelerated at the end of the month when another 27 such officers leave... The Regiment informs us that the only hold-over MOS now applicable to U. S. personnel in the A. C. is No. 8104—civil affairs officer; said officer may be held for six months after the time he would otherwise have been eligible for release... With the exception of Bolzano, Udine and Venezia-Giulia, most AMG provinces in the North now have only two Allied officers—a Provincial Commissioner and a Public Safety officer... If and when AMG withdraws, the present thinking is to leave small liaison groups in Genoa, Turin, Milan and Padua and possibly a representative in the Val d'Aosta and to concentrate all economic representatives in Milan... A recent regional meeting in Piemonte AMG resulted in an interesting paragraph in the minutes, indeed a masterpiece of balanced diplomacy:

"In view of the pending elections, R. C. raised the question as to the population's attitude towards the Monarchy. Replies differed in the various Provinces roughly as follows: *Asti*: The armed forces and police are in favour of the Monarchy, but officials are against. — *Vercelli*: 50 % pro and 50 % contra. — *Turin*: The majority of the people preferred the Monarchy, but not the King. — *Novara*: The majority are against the Monarchy, especially the farmers. — *Cuneo*: The majority are in favour of the Monarchy. — RPSO added his own opinion based on a careful study made for some considerable time past: 25 % [illegible] against the Monarchy. The

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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ODDS AND ENDS

More decorations: Bronze Stars to Lieutenant-Colonels P. Friend-James and Edward J. Bye, both British; Legion of Merit to Lieut. Commdr. Bruno C. F. Mulieri, USCG, and the Order of will act as escort to Mr. Grady... Brigadier M. Carr, vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, is on LIAP to England... Col. Charles M. Parkin, c. o., 2675th Regiment, back from the Swiss tour, has sent Major Edward D. S. Sullivan, G-1, to Florence and other places on a personnel-hunting expedition for the A. C.... 120 EM with 60 points and five Class B officers have also been redeployed in the last few days... The Class B exodus thus started will be accelerated at the end of the month when another 27 such officers leave... The Regiment informs us that the only hold-over MOS now applicable to U. S. personnel in the A. C. is No. 8104—civil affairs officer; said officer may be held for six months after the time he would otherwise have been eligible for release... With the exception of Bolzano, Udine and Venezia-Giulia, most AMG provinces in the North now have only two Allied officers—a Provincial Commissioner and a Public Safety officer... If and when AMG withdraws, the present thinking is to leave small liaison groups in Genoa, Turin, Milan and Padua and possibly a representative in the Val d'Aosta and to concentrate all economic representatives in Milan... A recent regional meeting in Piemonte AMG resulted in an interesting paragraph in the minutes, indeed a masterpiece of balanced diplomacy:

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November 10, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION
WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

La maladie principale de l'homme est la curiosité inquiète des choses qu'il ne peut savoir.

PASCAL

The Pandora box of the Armistice, so frequently eyed with doubt, suspicion and curiosity by the press of at least three countries over the last two years, was finally opened last Wednesday night. A simultaneous release—the effect of which was slightly marred by the enterprising or indiscreet revelations of an INS reporter in London who got hold of some of the terms a day ahead of time—was issued in Rome, London and Washington 6 November. The eager public was given a substantial portion to digest, for the release included, not only the long and short terms complete, but the commentary (showing to what extent the terms had been modified) as well, and the Cunningham-De Courten naval agreement (with commentary), the letter of General Eisenhower to Marshal Badoglio of 29 September 1943, the statement of De Courten of 17 November 1943 and the aide-memoire of Mr. Macmillan of last 24 February were added for good measure.

The reaction of the Rome press on learning the contents of these documents was one of discontent and resentment. One criticism was that the publication of the terms should have been accompanied by some announcement that they were no longer appropriate to Italy's case. Such was, for example, the opinion of Jacchia writing in the Government's *Giornale del Mattino*. *Unità* commented in like vein: "Most of the terms were justified at the time... But Italy has changed a good deal since then. The time has come to abrogate the Armistice. Even the clauses reflects the comprehensible mistrust of an enemy. But all this is past". *Italia Nuova*, perhaps anxious for the prestige of the monarchy, went even further and complained that "we do not know why the Allies published the document at this time".

From many quarters came the argument that the long life of the regime of the Armistice was not in accord with the "Quebec letter" (of September 1943 over the signatures of the late President Roosevelt and former Prime Minister Churchill). Publication of this letter, which stated clearly that the conditions of the Armistice did not include Italy's active assistance in fighting the Germans and that the conditions might be modified in proportion to the extent of Italian collaboration, was demanded by a substantial section of the press—not including *Lavoro* which quite simply published its version of it. Support for this school of thought came from foreign journals too; the London *Times* said in a leader that the time had come for Italy to be "readmitted to the international company to which she sincerely aspires".

44:9

Other Critics.

But there was another school of critics and of a more bitter tone. The Christian Democrat *Popolo* wrote that "we look in vain in these clauses for any attempt to understand the real condition of Italy or the position in which she was placed by the presence of German troops in the country". The independent Catholic *Quotidiano* followed with the comment that "the mere fact such clauses formed part of the Armistice, even if some of them were never enforced, is to the discredit of the Allies" and Antonio Borgoni in *Avanti*, after deploring what seemed to him the

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44:9

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

of course headlined the release: "The Italian people crucified by the monarchy". Prime Minister Parri is expected to make a statement at his press conference within the next few days; meanwhile he told reporters that the commentary (indicating modification and relaxation of the clauses) should be regarded as "more interesting" than the clauses themselves.

The epuration law (see last week's *Bulletin*) left a somewhat acrimonious aftermath. The *Consulta* felt that it should have been consulted before the Council sanctioned the decree. At the meeting on the 7th the Liberal, Cattani, expressed himself as not at all satisfied with Parri's statement that the decree could still be discussed after the event. Nenni explained that the reason was that the old law runs out on the 15th and it was felt that time was short, adding that all members of the Government had had ample opportunity to examine the draft before action. This was not good enough for the Liberals either, and one of their *consultori* proposed an order of the day censuring the Council for its tardy presentation of the decree to the *Consulta*. On the advice of Cianca, who feared such action might cause a Government crisis, this motion was rejected.

The fourth of November is a great day in Italian history, commemorating, as it does, the victory of Vittorio Veneto and the end of the war in 1918. It is an appropriate occasion for speeches and this year a number were made – of a quality and character which are worthy of attention. To Foreign Minister De Gasperi, speaking in Milan, the occasion seemed propitious for a frank examination of conscience for the Italians. Had Italy in a truly democratic fashion respected the minority rights of Slav and Teuton in the period after the first World War, he said, there would be no Trieste or Bolzano problem today. He hoped that the days of "annexationistic" policies were over. He hoped, too, that the Allies would be mindful of Italian co-belligereney as Italians, too, should be mindful of the faults of their Fascist past. As for reparations, he said, there should not be too much talk of them for there were two sides to that question.

More Speeches

Nenni, speaking in Bari, recalled how he and Marshal Tito of Jugoslavia had fought shoulder to shoulder in the Spanish civil war and said that Italians wanted a frontier, and not a barrier, between Italy and Jugoslavia. He also said, speaking of the *Costituente*, that he trusted it would lay the foundations for an Italian republic, but, whatever the outcome might be, so long as the decision was reached in freedom, the Socialists would abide by it – an unusually conciliatory comment from the normally intransigent Nenni. Zaniboni (once famous as the man who tried to kill Mussolini and more recently *Commissario* for Prisoners of War) spoke at Verona and, after thanking the Russians for their share in the victory, added politely that Italians did not want to be delivered from one dictatorship into another. He also expressed discontent with the functioning of the Government: a six-party government, he thought, was bound to be inefficient, for it was of necessity a mass of contradictions.

So much for the speeches of the 4th. On the same day the Liberals of Rome and Florence issued orders of the day. In Rome they asked for "elimination" of the C. L. N. from the national life and for a referendum on the electoral law and on the institutional question. In Florence, the Liberals also asked for the referendum and, furthermore, even went so far as to ask the steering committee of the party to abandon the Government. Discontent with the epuration law was voiced as well as concern for the freedom of the press. The Liberals, indeed, have been getting increasingly restive these days, as their action in the *Consulta* indicates. Lupinacci (in *Secolo XX*) made the point that the Liberals, if properly supported by the Christian Democrats, could have nullified the new epuration decree and hinted that the Liberals might have been willing to risk a crisis to do so, had they been supported.

On the 4th, too, the walls of Rome were covered with the *manifestini* of the *Unione Monarchica Italiana*, which admitted proudly that it had been working without publicity for more than a year. This was the proper occasion, said the *Unione*, to remind the Italian people of how much they owed the House of Savoy which had

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

indicating modification and relaxation of the clauses) should be regarded as "more interesting" than the clauses themselves.

The epuration law (see last week's *Bulletin*) left a somewhat acrimonious aftermath. The *Consulta* felt that it should have been consulted before the Council sanctioned the decree. At the meeting on the 7th the Liberal, Cattani, expressed himself as not at all satisfied with Parri's statement that the decree could still be discussed after the event. Nenni explained that the reason was that the old law runs out on the 15th and it was felt that time was short, adding that all members of the Government had had ample opportunity to examine the draft before action. This was not good enough for the Liberals either, and one of their *consultori* proposed an order of the day censuring the Council for its tardy presentation of the decree to the *Consulta*. On the advice of Cianca, who feared such action might cause a Government crisis, this motion was rejected.

The fourth of November is a great day in Italian history, commemorating, as it does, the victory of Vittorio Veneto and the end of the war in 1918. It is an appropriate occasion for speeches and this year a number were made – of a quality and character which are worthy of attention. To Foreign Minister De Gasperi, speaking in Milan, the occasion seemed propitious for a frank examination of conscience for the Italians. Had Italy in a truly democratic fashion respected the minority rights of Slav and Teuton in the period after the first World War, he said, there would be no Trieste or Bolzano problem today. He hoped that the days of "annexationistic" policies were over. He hoped, too, that the Allies would be mindful of Italian co-belligerency as Italians, too, should be mindful of the faults of their Fascist past. As for reparations, he said, there should not be too much talk of them for there were two sides to that question.

More Speeches.

Brosio who spoke at Rieti on the same occasion confined himself to economic themes. The Liberals, he explained, were by no means against confiscation of Fascist profits, nor, indeed, against progressive taxation; they were, however, extremely interested in the preservation of private initiative. Nenni, whose speech was made *Settimo*, that he trusted it would lay the foundations for an Italian republic, but, whatever the outcome might be, so long as the decision was reached in freedom, the Socialists would abide by it – an unusually conciliatory comment from the normally intransigent Nenni. Zaniboni (once famous as the man who tried to kill Mussolini and more recently *Commissario* for Prisoners of War) spoke at Verona and, after thanking the Russians for their share in the victory, added politely that Italians did not want to be delivered from one dictatorship into another. He also expressed discontent with the functioning of the Government; a six-party government, he thought, was bound to be inefficient, for it was of necessity a mass of contradictions.

So much for the speeches of the 4th. On the same day the Liberals of Rome and Florence issued orders of the day. In Rome they asked for "elimination" of the C. L. N. from the national life and for a referendum on the electoral law and on the institutional question. In Florence, the Liberals also asked for the referendum and, furthermore, even went so far as to ask the steering committee of the party to abandon the Government. Discontent with the epuration law was voiced as well as concern for the freedom of the press. The Liberals, indeed, have been getting increasingly restive these days, as their action in the *Consulta* indicates. Lupinacci (in *Secolo XX*) made the point that the Liberals, if properly supported by the Christian Democrats, could have nullified the new epuration decree and hinted that the Liberals might have been willing to risk a crisis to do so, had they been supported.

On the 4th, too, the walls of Rome were covered with the *manifestini* of the *Unione Monarchica Italiana*, which admitted proudly that it had been working without publicity for more than a year. This was the proper occasion, said the *Unione*, to remind the Italian people of how much they owed the House of Savoy which had guided them to the triumph of Vittorio Veneto and had symbolized for so many years the sanctity of their constitutional liberties. The Monarchists are now well fortified: they have an active party and two dailies, *Secolo XX* having recently aligned itself with swashbuckling *Italia Nuova*, which for so many months carried alone and unaided the banner of the monarchy.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

The Armistice was not the only revelation of the week. Friday's papers carried the contents of a note from De Gasperi to U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes written last August but hitherto unpublished. In his memorandum, which was accompanied by a message from Parri to President Truman, De Gasperi had asked for establishment of the Wilson line as the proper Italo-Jugoslav frontier. The note also suggested that the Italian Government was willing to cooperate in making Trieste a free port and was further willing to demilitarize Zara if the Jugoslavs would do the same with Cattaro. On the question of colonies, the note stated that the Italian Government "favored a regime which would guarantee the interests of Italian labor".

Two contributions from Allied sources to the political roundup may be noted. Maj. Gen. Ward, Chief of Staff, AFHQ, stated on the 5th that the Allies expected to give complete control of the Italian Army back to the Italians as soon as the Northern provinces reverted to the Government. And the newly-elected Mayor of New York, William O'Dwyer (lately Vice-President, Economic Section, A. C.) took up the mantle of Fiorello La Guardia, declaring on the day of his election (as reported by Overseas News Agency) that he knew from experience that "Italy is in great need of all the help we can give her either through public agencies or privately".

UNRRA AND THE A. C.

Now that the Armistice terms have been published, and there is talk again of a peace treaty for Italy, though but a provisional one, it seems that another milestone has been passed along the road of our gradual liquidation in the A. C. And the biggest step of all, that is, transfer of the supply functions of the A. C.'s Economic Section, are even now in the planning stage. The Economic Section has been officially reorganized to be in a state of readiness for handover to a successor supply agency, a euphemism of our official jargon which covers the probability that, eight will get you one, the agency will be UNRRA.

UNRRA or the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was conceived in

sonnel, availability of which was sadly lacking since most first-class possibilities were already in government or military service. The remedy came with drafting of key personnel from Government posts and releases from military ranks. In September, 1944, the second meeting of the Council was held in Montreal where the participating nations got down to business and began voting funds.

The money business goes like this: each uninvaded nation – there are 31 of them – pledges to contribute one per cent. of its national income, using the year ending June 30, 1943, as the base year. A total of nearly two billion dollars or more exactly 1.8 billion, is thus available. The U. S. share of the kitty runs approximately 1.350 million or about 70 per cent of the whole. Congress appropriated $800 million of this first contribution last year. The first part of the current UNRRA business before Congress is the action by the House of Representatives in passing the remainder of the U. S. contribution pledged at Montreal, a matter of $559 million. The appropriation bill has now gone to the Senate.

Montreal.

At the Montreal meeting a relief fund of $50,000,000 was voted for Italy, to be spent on a special feeding and welfare program for children and pregnant and nursing mothers, and for care of displaced persons. Of this fund, approximately $20,000,000 already has been turned over to the Italian Government in goods and services. Each UNRRA dollar expenditure is matched by 100 lire of Italian Government money which goes into a special fund that pays all operating expenses of the UNRRA program and complementary welfare and medical programs. Each 100 lire of this Italian Government fund is roughly spent as follows: two per cent. for administrative expenses; thirteen per cent. for care of non-Italian displaced persons, and eighty-five per cent. for, first—labor and transport warehousing costs, and second—for welfare activities. All lire not so spent will be used to extend the relief program after UNRRA relief withdraws, as it hopes to do by the end of 1946. The Italian story of UNRRA goes back to July, 1944, when Mr. S. M. Keeny, 52-year-old social service exe-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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UNRRA or the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was conceived in the teeming brain, so we have it, of the late President Roosevelt. The first and organizational meeting of the UNRRA Council, consisting of representatives of the 44 member nations, was held in Atlantic City, N. Y., in November, 1943. Mr. Herbert H. Lehman, former Governor of New York, was appointed Director-General, and the fledgling began scratching around to get per-

tions got down to business and began voting funds.

The money business goes like this: each uninvaded nation – there are 31 of them – pledges to contribute one per cent. of its national income, using the year ending June 30, 1943, as the base year. A total of nearly two billion dollars or more exactly 1.8 billion, is thus available. The U. S. share of the kitty runs approximately 1,350 million or about 70 per cent of the whole. Congress appropriated $800 million of this first contribution last year. The first part of the current UNRRA business before Congress is the action by the House of Representatives in passing the remainder of the U. S. contribution pledged at Montreal, a matter of $550 million. The appropriation bill has now gone to the Senate.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

war raged, shipping was naturally at a premium and UNRRA was somewhat like an orphan. The German surrender and then that of the Japs broke the shipping logjam and supplies have now been arriving for the last several months with few breaks in continuity.

The next momentous chapter for UNRRA-Italy took place in London last August at the third meeting of the UNRRA Council, where another one per cent. contribution of 1943-scale national income was voted (subject to ratification by the contributing Governments), which again would amount to 1.8 billion, with the U. S. cost being again 1,350 million. There, again, it was proposed that: (*a*) UNRRA be authorized to conduct a full-fledged relief and rehabilitation program in Italy, and (*b*) that the Italian share of the total UNRRA fund should amount to, roughly, $450 million or about one quarter of the entire UNRRA fund for 1946. The big catch, of course, is that hard cash from the contributing nations must implement the London decisions. The first installment of paying off this latest U. S. pledge is expected to be considered by the House this month.

The Big If.

The financial catch, in short, is tremendous. The final installment of the 1945 pledge is still in process, the initial installment of the 1946 pledge is about to enter the mill, but the suffering and need and unrest in Europe and Italy on the eve of what all agree will be a critical winter is here and present right now. Further, Congress is expected to recess for about a month around 10 December. These are the facts and it looks like a close call, especially since UNRRA is a spot-cash payer and has no assets beyond those specifically authorized, appropriated and assigned. Ninety per cent. of each nation's contribution must be spent in the contributing country. Some countries, of course, have not much in the way of supplies to contribute, which, in effect, cuts down the actual amount of a particular nation's real contribution. In order to keep the supply pipeline running smoothly for eventual handover to UNRRA, arrangements have been made that 61½ million dollars of supplies

rehabilitation program which the A. C. has so arduously worked out. The transition from A. C. supply to UNRRA supply is, therefore, of the utmost organizational importance. For this reason, UNRRA is already using requirement estimates for the first quarter of 1946 as estimated by A. C. to insure continuity of both requisitions and policies.

Part of the background for this A. C.–recommended program was developed by a special UNRRA analyst, Dr. William G. Welk, and adopted practically in toto. The program calls mainly for the import of coal, wheat, petroleum products, rubber, cotton, wool, raw materials and agricultural machinery, with the aims of meeting minimum clothing requirements, feeding the nation on its present below-normal ration and increasing self-sufficiency in the raising of food as much as possible. (Speaking of food, if the Italians do not get an extra import of 334,000 tons for December and January, they face the threat of having later to cut their bread ration.) Products which the Italian Government arranges to buy from other funds are omitted from the UNRRA program naturally. Coal is one of the biggest items under the 1946 program and UNRRA officials think the A. C. has recently been "astonishingly" successful on behalf of Italy. Although strikes and port difficulties in the U. S. cut down November arrivals temporarily, the October allocation was actually met and, in fact, 59 ships are now loading coal in the States for December arrival in Italy, arrivals of which will bring the monthly allocation for December to about 500,000 tons, a new high. Attempts are also being made by A. C. through AFHQ to get from the Ruhr for Italy 200,000 tons of German coal.

The Tie-in.

The tie-in of the A. C. and UNRRA on the supply program closely affects the personnel picture also. The reorganization of the Economic Section just approved by the Chief Commissioner was effected solely to put in one basket all the supply functions of A. C. which will be willed to the successor agency, that is, presumably, UNRRA. At present UNRRA has about 200 employees on its staff and expects to expand to a

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Thus, contingent upon when and if the new one per cent. contribution is available, UNRRA in Italy will take over A. C. supply functions and merge its present relief program with the estimated by A. C. to insure continuity of base requisitions and policies.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

nel familiar with the Italian supply, production, and distribution picture. Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, for example, has accepted *in future* the position of Deputy Chief of Mission for Supply when A. C. winds up and if UNRRA takes over. Col. W. J. Legg, former director of the Food Sub-Commission, likewise has agreed to go to UNRRA as head of food, agriculture, and miscellaneous consumer goods and activities under Mr. Cleveland. Of the 200 now employed by UNRRA, about half are working in the displaced persons field. Keeping the financial contingencies in mind, UNRRA plans to take over the A. C. supply functions with January loadings of supplies (February arrivals).

Besides Mr. Cleveland, there will be two other Deputy Chiefs of Mission for the combined relief and rehabilitation program UNRRA is expected to administer. They are, in fact, already in office. The first is Mr. Antonio A. Sorieri, New York State social welfare executive. He heads the Relief Services Bureau. The other is Major C. E. Hodgetts, an Englishman, who until last January was an accountant with the Allied Commission, and before that was Senior Finance Officer to the British Military Administration of Cyrenaica. He is chief of UNRRA's Finance and Administration Bureau.

Reorganization.

The reorganized Economic Section consists primarily of a Supply Group (the unit prepping for UNRRA) and three "independent" sub-commissions—Finance, Labor and Commerce (Foreign Trade), whose functions are not directly tied into the UNRRA future. The set-up in detail is as follows: Mr. Cleveland heads the show as Acting Vice President. Col. Leonard D. Densmore is Deputy Vice President. Mr. Elwood W. Holstein is Chief Staff Officer, under whom come an Administration and Personnel Branch and a Special Staff. A Price Control Branch, headed by Mr. Kenneth E. Stauffer, reports directly to the Acting Vice President. The three non-supply sub-commissions also report directly to the Acting Vice President. The director of the Finance Sub-Commission is Col. Robert B. Mena-

with the Army-Navy Liquidation Commission) and Captured Enemy Materials (the old War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission). The three sub-commissions of the Supply Group involve several consolidations. Food and Agriculture are now one, headed by Mr. James M. Merritt. Industry and Utilities have also consolidated. The director is Mr. A. H. Sullivan. Transportation and Shipping Sub-Commission is captained by Col. P. D. G. Buchanan. The Coal and POL Divisions formerly with the Commerce Sub-Commission go to the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission.

Displaced Persons.

On the displaced persons side, UNRRA has taken over from the A. C. four camps in the South since last spring after an agreement to do so last February. There are 15 more (housing 25,000 persons) to go over. The handover of camps will probably be in groups, the first group to be that in the Emilia area, consisting of centers at Bologna, Riccione, Modena, Reggio Emilia, Forli and Cremona. Next will go the repatriation camp at Genoa. The Ancona group follows on the schedule. These latter camps are at Fermo, Servigliano, Jesi and Fano. The big transit camp at Cinecittà goes next after which comes the Barletta-Bari group of camps. Finally to wind up the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission's activities will be handover of its camps at Bari and Naples proper and the supply depots at Cinecittà and Riccione. The turnover is slated to start as soon as possible and to be completely effected by 1 January in all the camps. UNRRA will take over the Sub-Commission's Records Bureau by 1 December. Most of the voluntary agencies attached to UNRRA work on the displaced persons programs.

Chief remaining problem is the repatriation of approximately one million Italians within Italy itself, a job made all the harder by the fact that nearly 3,000,000 rooms (by UNRRA estimate) have been destroyed in the war. UNRRA, too, has been extending financial aid to about 10,000 United Nations displaced persons.

UNRRA has had good record in Italy with its relief program, and indeed, in Washington the Italian program is considered to be one of the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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The Supply Group is in charge of Col. Charles M. Walton, who also supervises four staff branches—Program Coordination, Requisition, Surplus and Special Materials (which will do liaison now one, headed by Mr. James M. Merritt. Industry and Utilities have also consolidated. The director is Mr. A. H. Sullivan. Transportation and Shipping Sub-Commission is captained by Col. P. D. G. Buchanan. The Coal and POL Divisions formerly with the Commerce Sub-Commission go to the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission.

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UNRRA has had good record in Italy with its relief program, and indeed, in Washington the Italian program is considered to be one of the bright spots in the UNRRA world picture. Nine million has been allocated to health work in imported supplies and a 83 million project in lire from the Italian fund to Sardinia to eliminate malaria in that pesthole. The Rockefeller Foundation is co-sponsor. Medical supplies which began arriving about June have been in steady

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

supply since September, although only $100,000 worth of supplies have been turned over to the Italian Government to date. Anti-malaria work has been effectively carried out in scores of battle-scarred communities in Lazio Region. The child-feeding program now takes care of one million children and is expected to rise to two million by Christmas. Six million pounds of second-hand clothing from the U. S. will shortly be distributed by UNRRA and American Relief for Italy, Inc.

More than 77,000 tons of relief food have been issued in the form of supplements to institutions – hospitals, orphanages and schools, particularly in devastated areas and in towns over 10,000. It is estimated that one million Italians in 48 provinces have received such food, with further shipments now arriving for distribution in ten more provinces, and plans made to extend the distribution to another 35 provinces. The relief food had other than dietary benefits since schools were kept open this past summer, an innovation in Italy, to facilitate food distribution and summer educational and recreational projects were devised to keep children off the streets. UNRRA also has been responsible for drawing up the first social service agency directory in Italy.

With the A. C. readying itself to give over supply and with UNRRA's recent operations conference over (held in Rome a couple of weeks ago and attended by about 100 persons), UNRRA is now in the throes of an expansion which the A. C., recalling its own first, trying days, views with deep sympathy, not to say, with a shipload of the very best wishes.



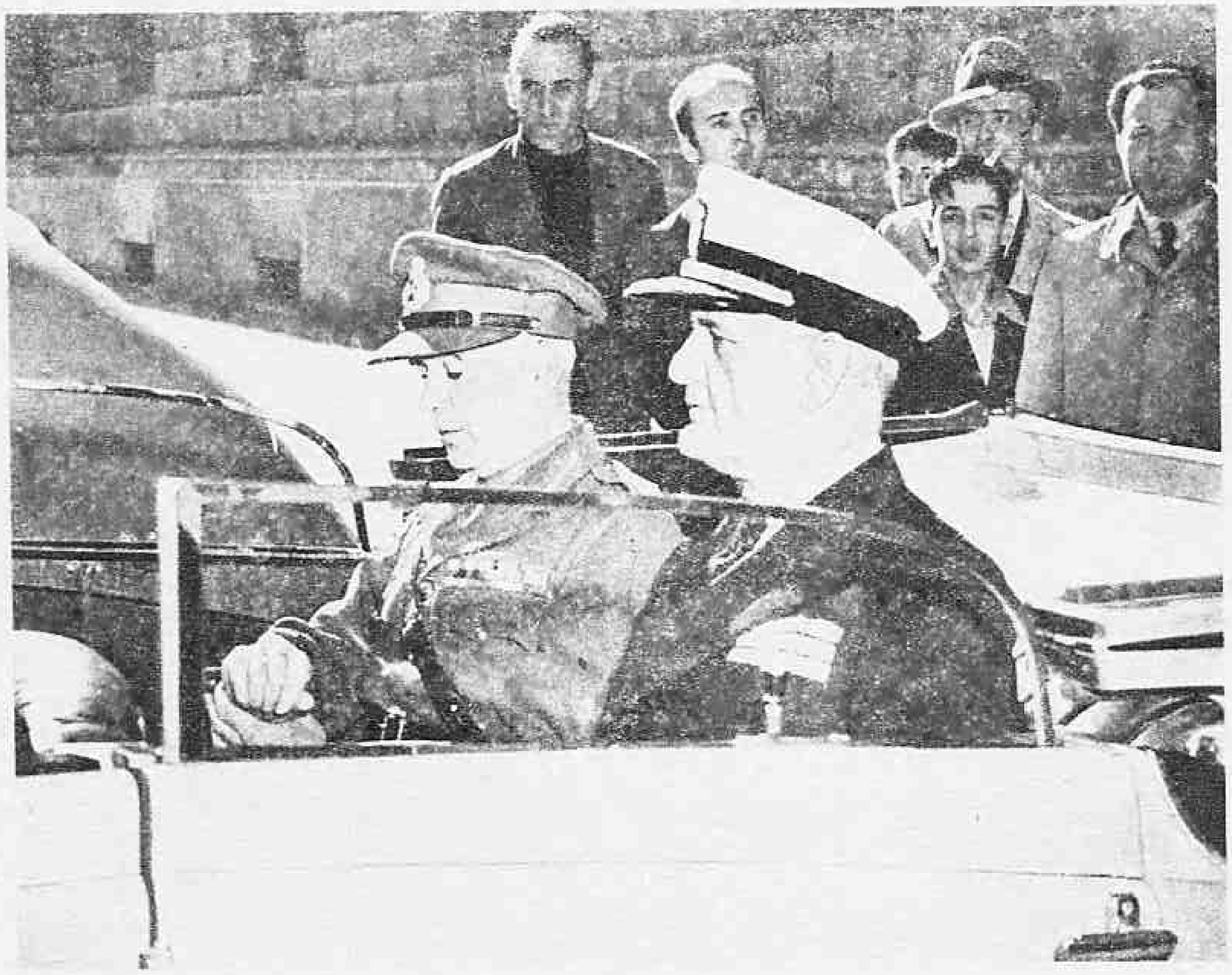
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Lieutenant General Sir WILLIAM D. MORGAN, Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theater, and Rear Admiral ELLERY W. STONE, U. S. N. R., Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, leaving the review of the Carabinieri at Rome 7 November.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. Charles M. Parkin, commanding officer, 2675th Regiment, has been awarded the Order of the Crown of Italy (Commander)... The latest redeployment survey of the Regiment, as of 8 November, lists 252 officers as follows: nine Regular Army; 61 Class A; 97 Class B, of whom 45 are due for release before 1 January 1946 and 52 after that date; and 85 officers with point scores of under 75, which is the current bottom limit for going home among Class X (releasable) officers... A few replacements among officers are now beginning to drift in... Some 50,000 sea mines are estimated to be still cluttering up the Italian sea approaches, particularly at the port of Genoa; the British Admiralty is lending minesweepers to the Italians... Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A), SCAO, XIII Corps AMG, is going home on 45-day leave 1 December; he will be replaced by Col. H. P. P. Robertson (B) in the meanwhile... Application of MTOUSA Supply Directive 74, dated 25 October 1945, will be made in behalf of U. S. businessmen visiting Italy so that, upon specific request of the State Department here, they may enjoy the facilities of the U. S. Army and not have to pay 80,000 lire for a civilian lift from Naples to Rome as an American group had to last week... Control over the Italian Army and the Ministry of War in Italian Government territory will be relinquished by the Land Forces Sub-Commission 14 November... The new Italian Army strength is 140,000 plus 65,000 Carabinieri... Getting extra wheat supplies for Italy is complicated by the fact that there have been crop failures all over the world with the exception of in the U. S... Col. G. M. Frizelle (B) has been appointed director of the Public Health Sub-Commission and Major Norman T. Newton (A) of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission... Paper production in Italy the first six months of 1945 amounted to 109,000 tons compared with 500,000 tons pre-war, our industry experts report... Wheat amassing, as of 5 November, totalled 917,900 tons or 70 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal... Mr. George W. Edman, deputy director of PWB, and chairman of the Allied Publications Board, has resigned to return to his peacetime job of managing editor of the Berkshire Evening Eagle at Pittsfield, Massachusetts... Approximately 20,000 tons of copper have been requisitioned in the U. S. for Italian needs, much of it in the electrical industry... The Advisory Committee on Electric Power for North Italy anticipates a shortage of some one hundred kilowatt hours this winter... The similar committee for Southern Italy reports opposition to the change-over to the 50-cycle frequency in its area on the part of industries; the price of progress is hard... The AMG officer in Asti Province in Piemonte reports that shopkeepers are refusing AM currency and that, as of 24 October, not a single AM lira was circulating the province... British and American film companies are now ready to distribute films directly in Italy, PWB giving up the ghost as intermediary on 25 November, though it will still be in the film business in Venezia-Giulia... News on E. M. down to 60 points departing is expected this coming week...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

November 3, 1945 RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 31

POLITICAL

All government, indeed every human benefit and enjoyment, every virtue, and every prudent act, is founded on compromise and barter.

BURKE.

"The main task of the present (Italian) government is to organize both local and national elections, and the announcement of their date would put a term to many present uncertainties." Thus *The Times* (London) in an editorial of 29 October. *The Times* must have been pleased by the action of the Government the following day, for the Council of Ministers, mindful of its promise last week, got down to dates and, to a certain extent, to details. The meeting was opened by Nenni, Minister for the *Costituente*, who began by explaining the principles on which the electoral law is based. The salient points are: direct suffrage for women and men (including soldiers), the proportional system (following the 1919 "Hont plan"), and presentation of the lists by groups of 500 to 1,000 electors. Nenni then presented a motion with three clauses: the election for the *Costituente* to take place not later than the last Sunday in March, 1946; administrative elections to be held as soon as the preparation of the lists, "with territorial criteria to be determined by the Government", should be complete; and rules for the functioning of the Assembly to be set up in the law convoking the electoral commissioners for the Assembly.

A debate thereupon ensued, five hours in duration and described as "animated" by the relatively unemotional *Giornale del Mattino*. As reported in the press, Nenni's motion was supported by Actionists and Communists as well

not later than the end of April 1946, administrative elections should be held before the end of the year, and "the means of solving the political problems connected with the *Costituente* are to be defined at the time of (the Italian is *correlativamente*) the convocation of the electoral boards". The compromise for once seems to have pleased both sides. Nenni expressed satisfaction with the result, writing in *Avanti* that the meeting had shown clearly that none of the six parties belonged to the reactionary cabal. *Unità* with equal satisfaction made the point that the action of the Council was a refutation of the charge of inefficiency so often hurled at the Government by thoughtless critics.

Brosio, chief spokesman for the opposition to Nenni's motion, was apparently equally satisfied; after the meeting he gave an interview to correspondents in which among other things he said that in his opinion the third clause left the way open to fix the powers of the *Costituente* and the limits of its sovereignty. "Trembling with eager delight" (as *Unità* put it), he added that a referendum on either or both of these points was within possibility. The only discordant note in the symphony of satisfaction was a blast from Pacciardi who professed some doubt of the Government's good intentions and wanted to have the order of the day confirmed by a decree.

Epuration.

Having made a good start on the elections, the hardworking Council later in the week tackled the old matter of epuration. A new law was drafted, differing from the old one in greater simplification, one might almost say streamlining. Only the first eight grades of government employees are to be affected; there is to be only one basis for epuration—"political incom-

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A debate thereupon ensued, five hours in duration and described as "animated" by the relatively unemotional *Giornale del Mattino*. As reported in the press, Nenni's motion was supported by Actionists and Communists as well as his own party and opposed by the Liberals, while the Christian Democrats acted as mediators. The Liberals were reported as desirous of retarding the date of the *Costituente* and of defining the limits of that body. The result was an order of the day which was essentially a compromise. The order, unanimously approved, stated that elections for the *Costituente* should take place not later than the end of April 1946, administrative elections should be held before the end of the year, and "the means of solving the political problems connected with the *Costituente* are to be defined at the time of (the Italian is *correlativamente*) the convocation of the electoral boards". The compromise for once seems to have pleased both sides. Nenni expressed satisfaction with the result, writing in *Avanti* that the meeting had shown clearly that none of the six parties belonged to the reactionary cabal. *Unità* with equal satisfaction made the point that the action of the Council was a refutation of the charge of inefficiency so often hurled at the Government by thoughtless critics.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

cases are to be brought to justice before the first of April, 1946—an earnest of the Government's desire to get through this unhappy chapter as speedily as possible.

The Council meetings are certainly the main political news of this week. However, the Action Party's statement, published on the 26th, is also worthy of note. It reiterated the usual Action battle-cries and, while admitting the Government had its shortcomings, particularly, in the party's opinion, in the matter of financial policies, the statement stressed that the unity of the coalition must be maintained at all costs and every effort made to keep the Communists within the Government. The party also affirmed (in capitals) its view that the *Costituente* must be convoked as soon as possible and must decree the abolition of the monarchy. The statement added that all members of the party, from the president of the council down to the youngest *compagno*, must fight for these ends—a pronouncement which brought from *Risorgimento Liberale* a rather strong hint that Prime Minister Parri ought to choose between being the head of the Government or leader of the Action party. Lucifero, in *Italia Nuova*, contented himself by saying the outcry from the Action party for a *Costituente* and a Republic was all very well but supposing the Assembly simply preferred a monarchy?

Foreign Minister De Gasperi, speaking at the *Teatro Brancaccio* on November 1, the *Giornata della solidarietà popolare*, made several timely points. He referred to the necessity of fraternal feeling among all Italians at this time and, alluding to those in Venezia Giulia, added that good feeling between nationalities in that region would depend a good deal on the return of deported Italians now held in Jugoslavia. On the matter of war reparations, he stated quite simply that Italy couldn't pay because she had nothing to pay with. On hearing that the publication of the Armistice terms was imminent (as reported from Washington), he expressed the hope that publication would be the first step towards abolition.

On the 28th—once a day of pomp and ceremony in this country since it is the anniversary of the March on Rome—a home-made Fascist flag was found waving from the top of the Torre

economic concern, has had a temporary deterioration, the repercussions of strikes and port tie-ups. It is estimated that the coal trouble has cost Italy 20 days of October loadings and November arrivals or 200,000 tons, the equivalent here of one million man-hours of work for idle Italian hands. Speaking of coal, efforts are being made to secure stronger representation for Italy in the various European economic organizations, particularly the one on coal, since transport of U. S. coal to Italy costs about three times the value of the coal itself. POL is likewise in a temporarily poor shape because of the oilfield strikes and longshoremen difficulties.

The wheat import situation is still being canvassed. The dozen or so Italian ships appropriated by the Argentines during the war are now ready to be sold back to Italy, but the Italian Government wants them first loaded with 100,000 tons of Argentine wheat. If the loading is too slow or the grain not quickly available, the ships may have to sail without the food. Even with this hypothetical wheat arriving, wheat requirements have soared and to keep merely one month's store of wheat on hand would require an extra shipment of 325,000 tons in the next few months.

The amassing picture was perhaps a little brighter. As of 29 October, the percentage collected was 69 per cent. or 906,400 tons of the 1,304,000-ton target figure. Italian Government territory collections were 379,100 tons or 73 per cent. of the goal while AMG area amassing was 67 per cent. or 527,300 tons.

GENERAL RIDGWAY

Lieutenant General Matthew B. Ridway, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander and Commanding General, MTOUSA, in his first official tour of inspection in the Rome area, did the Allied Commission the high honor today (3 November 1945—note the speed of our service) of saying a word of farewell to the draft of 70 U. S. officers who are leaving Rome tomorrow for home. After a brief speech, the General personally shook the hand of each departing officer and spoke a few words of greeting. He lingered to talk to First Lieut. Harold White, who was formerly a member of the

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On the 28th—once a day of pomp and ceremony in this country since it is the anniversary of the March on Rome—a home-made Fascist flag was found waving from the top of the Torre delle Milizie on Via Nazionale. It was removed by two policemen. *Sic transit...*

ECONOMIC FRONT

Most of the economic news of the week has not quite yet jelled into a fit state for publication. The supply position for Italy, which is A. C.'s main arrivals of 200,000 tons, the equivalent here of one million man-hours of work for idle Italian hands. Speaking of coal, efforts are being made to secure stronger representation for Italy in the various European economic organizations, particularly the one on coal, since transport of U. S. coal to Italy costs about three times the value of the coal itself. POL is likewise in a temporarily poor shape because of the oilfield strikes and longshoremen difficulties.

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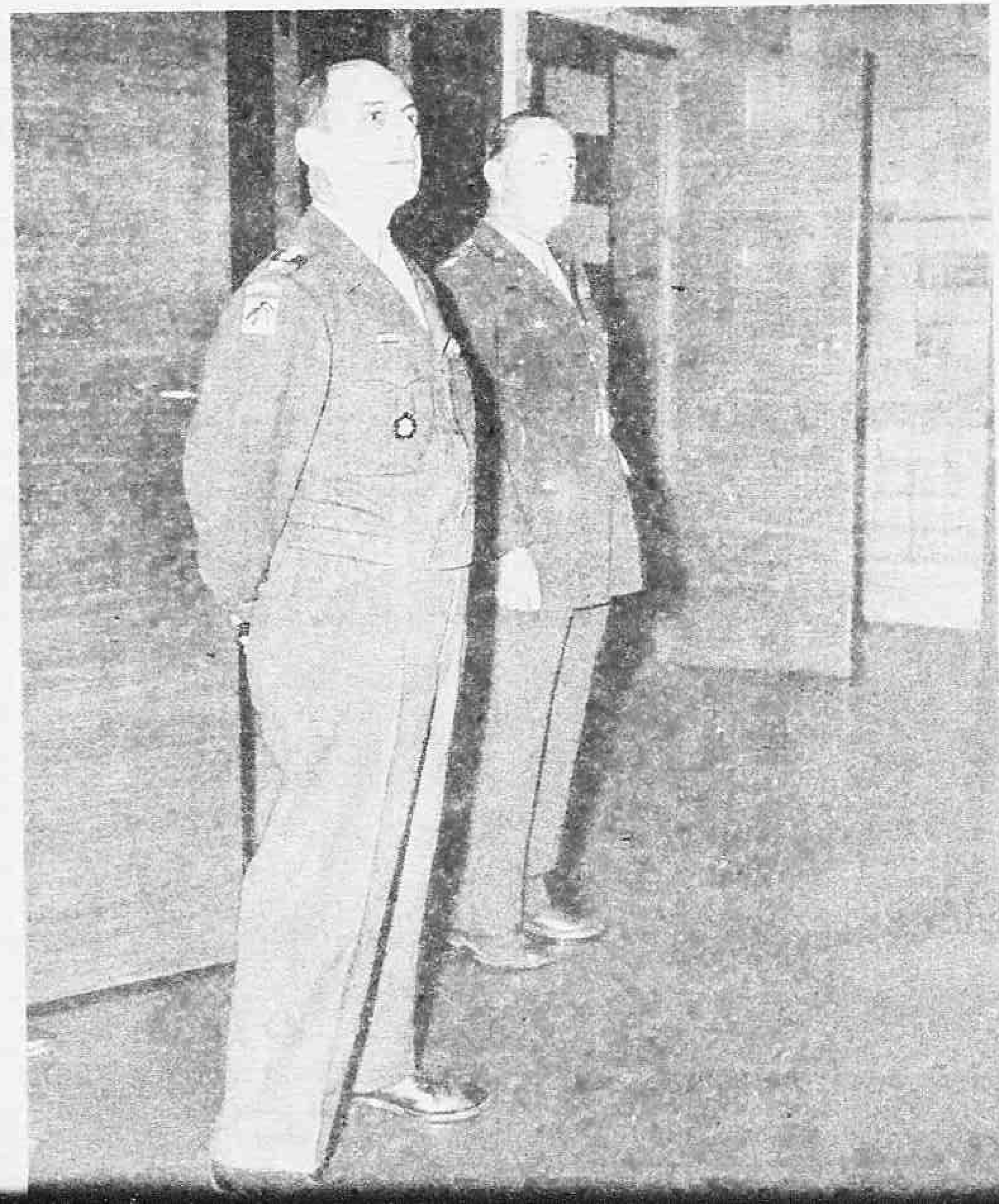
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In his greeting to the assembled officers and in the presence of the Chief Commissioner, of Brigadier General A. J. Hamblen, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, AFHQ, and of Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner and senior U. S.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

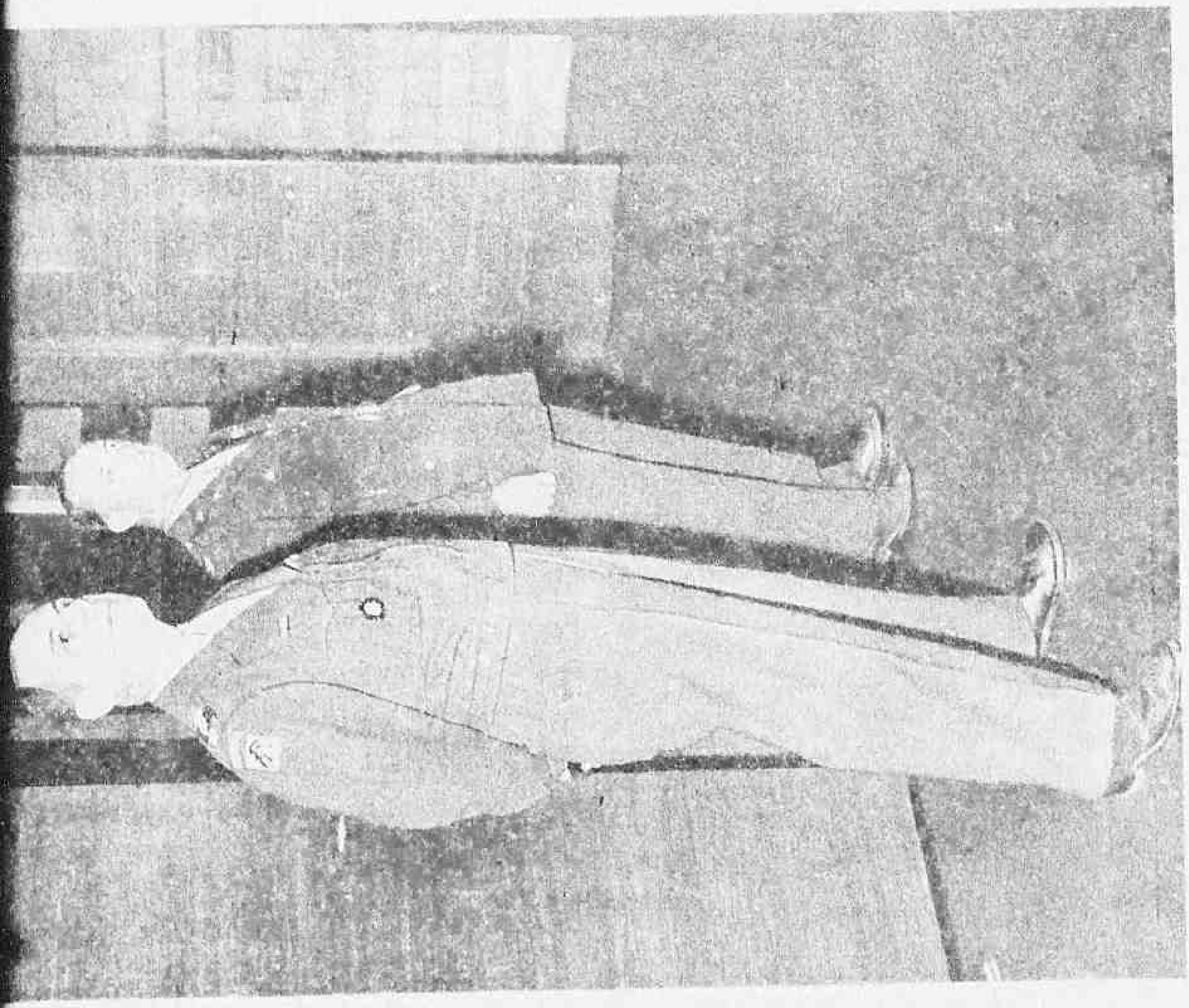


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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3 NND No.



Army officer of the Commission, General Ridgway bespoke his appreciation of the officers' efforts in military government and congratulated them on the results which their varied talents had attained in the Allied cause.

General Hamblen also spoke to the group, telling them that they had a right to be proud of their accomplishments and that they should be able to go home with the satisfaction of a job well done.

After the departing draft had left, the heads of Allied Commission and 2675 Regiment activities were presented to General Ridgway, including the heads of sections and directors and deputy directors of all Sub-Commissions. The General was afterwards entertained at a luncheon by the Chief Commissioner at his villa.

ODDS AND ENDS

A few more promotions are in: To First Lieutenant—Sam Ratchke; to Major—Richard B. Bullock; to Lieutenant-Colonel—Benson E.L. Timmons and Lloyd W. Stearns; to Colonel—Henry H. Scudder... A.C. recommendations for a new U.S. T/O are going to MTOUSA this week-end... The Transportation Sub-Commission has arranged for A.C. officer, enlisted and civilian personnel travelling on duty to ride on civilian passenger trains with special tickets... The A.C. Super Garage is doing 3d echelon maintenance now, performing motor jobs formerly sent to Ordnance... Venezia-Giulia, like AMG in the North, is feeling the redeployment personnel pinch, its U.S. strength having fallen from 126 to 86 recently, but G-1 has the tough job of keeping manpower spotted throughout the North as well as in the border area... Major Harold V. Reilly, AMG Livorno Commissioner, and Capt. Stanley Beatty, Livorno AMG public safety officer, have come in for a fine and well-deserved bouquet from Brigadier General Francis H. Oxx, commanding general of Peninsular Base Section, who has lauded their "splendid and effective" cooperation... By 10 November, all EM down to 70 points will have been redeployed, leaving the A.C. with 432 remaining U.S. EM while by 6 November, all officers down to 75 points will have been redeployed, leaving the A.C. with 253 U.S. officers... Last flash redeployment: EM down to 65 points will leave 9 November...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

October 27, 1945 RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 30

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POLITICAL

Political interest, like a moving spotlight following the gyrations of a ballet, has flitted from scene to scene during the past week but has never strayed very far or very long from the main element in the drama—the *Costituente* and the coming elections. An important development in this field came out of the Socialist party meeting which took place on October 22 and 23. The Socialists reiterated their contention that elections for the *Costituente* should be held as soon as possible, but added that, since these elections could not possibly be held before the end of the winter, they were willing to give precedence to the administrative elections. This represents a noteworthy concession for, until recently, the party has stoutly maintained that the elections for the *Costituente* should be held first. On the matter of the powers of the *Costituente*, however, the Socialist position was unchanged; the party insisted that the "will of the people and the decisions of the first C. L. N. agree in attributing to the *Costituente* a sovereign character". Other declarations of the committee were in line with previous expressions of Socialist views, though in their final statement there was a noteworthy gesture toward the Catholic parties, for the resolution ended with the statement that "the collaboration of the Socialists and Communists will be a still more efficient instrument of democratic development if the Catholic working masses, too, answer this appeal and unify their efforts for the *Costituente*". This is by no means the first appeal of the Socialists to the Catholics but it is the most direct one in recent months and some observers see in it a triumph for the anti-fusion (i.e. Socialist-Communist fusion) group

telegram to the director of *L'Aube*, Paris organ of the Popular Republicans, whose total did indeed run ahead of estimates. The Socialists and Communists, of course, congratulated themselves and each other on the fact that their combined vote represented slightly over 50 per cent. of the total cast. Even Brosio, the Liberal, could—and did—read the elections in a fashion favorable to his party; had all Rightist elements combined, he said—and presumably he included the Popular Republicans—they would have been as strong as the Left.

Armistice terms.

The question of publication and/or revision of the Armistice terms has come in for continued discussion in the press, largely under the stimulus of various rumors from Washington. *Il Popolo*, attacking the broader aspects of Italy's present situation, spoke out freely and asked the Allies to recognize Italy's "legitimate rights" and offer "attenuating" conditions; Allied understanding and sympathy are necessary, said the paper's leader, if the unrest which admittedly exists, is to be allayed. *Secolo XX* (Rightist) said even more frankly that what is needed now is not the cancellation of a few clauses "but a complete revision of the attitude towards Italy". De Gasperi, in an interview in *Il Giornale del Mattino*, stated clearly that the Italian Government was not opposed to the publication of the Armistice. Normally, he added, an armistice would have become a dead letter anyway on the signing of a peace treaty; the delay in drafting a provisional treaty was due to its connection with other peace treaties. The only hope for annulment of the Armistice, in the opinion of the Italian Foreign

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Perhaps the French elections had some part in this shift. For the French elections, which returned Socialists, Communists and Popular Republicans (French for Christian Democrats) in almost equal strength have been carefully studied in Italy. Needless to say, all Italian parties see food for hope in the results. De Gasperi sent a telegram to the director of *L'Aube*, Paris organ of the Popular Republicans, whose total did indeed run ahead of estimates. The Socialists and Communists, of course, congratulated themselves and each other on the fact that their combined vote represented slightly over 50 per cent. of the total cast. Even Brosio, the Liberal, could—and did—read the elections in a fashion favorable to his party: had all Rightist elements combined, he said—and presumably he included the Popular Republicans—they would have been as strong as the Left.

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The Council of Ministers has met twice since our last *Bulletin* number. The first meeting, on the 20th, was given over to discussion of the elections but the meeting of the 24th proceeded to definite action. It was decided that a special

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

meeting would be held on the 30th which would fix the date the *Costituente* and examine the plan for political elections. It was further decided to issue a decree to annul sentences against those guilty of anti-Fascist crimes so that they may be eligible to vote when the time comes. A number of economic measures were approved, among them such rather disparate matters as the creation of an autonomous board for the distribution of Allied material and the suppression of the once famous Fascist tax on bachelors. The Council embarked on further discussion on the confiscation of Fascist profits; Scoccimarro stated that the amount which could be confiscated would run to 30 billion lire.

The week ended with Prime Minister Parri's press conference on Friday. The President's speech covered a great number of things and the press headlines varied a good deal as each journal picked out the item most interesting to its readers. Parri began by saying that the discussions about the *Costituente* had actually brought the six parties closer together, adding that there was now general agreement that the proportional system would be the best suited to the needs of the occasion. He reminded the journalists that the *Costituente* was a "necessity for the country" and added his comment on the French elections, in which he saw the end of the old régime which had caused the defeat of France.

On the publication of the Armistice, Parri said Italy had nothing particular to gain by such action but bringing the document into the open would be useful in "deflating" the exaggerated suspicions about its contents. He pointed out, too, that obvious concessions had already been made; unconditional surrender was part of the Armistice but had that clause been enforced there would not even be an Italian Government. Further, the permission to contact other nations directly represented another concession. Parri here took occasion to express his gratitude to the Allied Commission for having facilitated this step.

Nonetheless he hoped a provisional peace would soon be arranged for, saying: "Italy needs full freedom in internal affairs, a greater auto-

ECONOMIC FRONT

Mr. Harlan Cleveland, the FEA Italian expert, has been appointed Acting Vice President of the Economic Section attaining, at the age of 27, one of the most important jobs in Italy, that of helping lay the groundwork for a real rehabilitation program. Col. Leonard D. Densmore, who, as Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section for more than a year has been in the center of economic planning and operating, will be on hand as Deputy Vice President to lend his experience and counsel, well versed in how to get things done, to the new regime. Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley who has been with A. C. since last January, leaves for a new assignment. His sometimes caustic but always penetrating analysis of economic problems will be missed. Succeeding to Col. Densmore's place is Mr. Elwood Holstein, a newly arrived FEA civilian.

Mr. Cleveland's plans are naturally in line with those previously made: that is, to liquidate functions which will disappear with the termination of military responsibility and turnover to the embassies, and to build up and integrate the supply functions eventually to be taken over by UNRRA if and when that organization receives the funds that will put it into business for 1946. Thus, while on one hand, there is a liquidating and finishing-up aspect to the Economic Section, in bare truth, a good 60 or 70 per cent. of the work is building up for the future, and especially since now the basis is laid for a real supply program, all up to the present having been more or less the required palliatives dictated by military necessity and supply shortages.

That the ground is cleared for a sound rehabilitation program is evident from an examination of the most recent facts. The B and A military supplies brought into Italy are now over the dam—no accurate estimate in toto being known but a guess of nearly $450,000,000 being not far off. The Italians also got an American credit of $120 million under the Category B of the joint program (coming as the equivalent of U. S. troop pay) and also a $100 million supply program under the Lend-Lease appropriation. Both these funds

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

of economic measures were approved, among them such rather disparate matters as the creation of an autonomous board for the distribution of Allied material and the suppression of the once famous Fascist tax on bachelors. The Council embarked on further discussion on the confiscation of Fascist profits; Scoccimarro stated that the amount which could be confiscated would run to 30 billion lire.

The week ended with Prime Minister Parri's press conference on Friday. The President's speech covered a great number of things and the press headlines varied a good deal as each journal picked out the item most interesting to its readers. Parri began by saying that the discussions about the *Costituente* had actually brought the six parties closer together, adding that there was now general agreement that the proportional system would be the best suited to the needs of the occasion. He reminded the journalists that the *Costituente* was a "necessity for the country" and added his comment on the French elections, in which he saw the end of the old régime which had caused the defeat of France.

On the publication of the Armistice, Parri said Italy had nothing particular to gain by such action but bringing the document into the open would be useful in "deflating" the exaggerated suspicions about its contents. He pointed out, too, that obvious concessions had already been made; unconditional surrender was part of the Armistice but had that clause been enforced there would not even be an Italian Government. Further, the permission to contact other nations directly represented another concession. Parri here took occasion to express his gratitude to the Allied Commission for having facilitated this step.

Nonetheless he hoped a provisional peace would soon be arranged for, saying: "Italy needs full freedom in internal affairs, a greater autonomy in foreign affairs and an improved economic situation". Reparations, he thought, would signify merely handing over war materiel and he pointed out that Italy had never had a great industrial war plant. He hoped that all Italian property abroad would not be confiscated. Lastly, he expressed his regret that the North had not yet been handed back to the Government; the delay, he said, had considerably complicated the Government's work.

ing lay the groundwork for a real rehabilitation program. Col. Leonard D. Densmore, who, as Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section for more than a year has been in the center of economic planning and operating, will be on hand as Deputy Vice President to lend his experience and counsel, well versed in how to get things done, to the new regime. Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley who has been with A. C. since last January, leaves for a new assignment. His sometimes caustic but always penetrating analysis of economic problems will be missed. Succeeding to Col. Densmore's place is Mr. Elwood Holstein, a newly arrived FEA civilian.

Mr. Cleveland's plans are naturally in line with those previously made: that is, to liquidate functions which will disappear with the termination of military responsibility and turnover to the embassies, and to build up and integrate the supply functions eventually to be taken over by UNRRA if and when that organization receives the funds that will put it into business for 1946. Thus, while on one hand, there is a liquidating and finishing-up aspect to the Economic Section, in bare truth, a good 60 or 70 per cent. of the work is building up for the future, and especially since now the basis is laid for a real supply program, all up to the present having been more or less the required palliatives dictated by military necessity and supply shortages.

That the ground is cleared for a sound rehabilitation program is evident from an examination of the most recent facts. The B and A military supplies brought into Italy are now over the dam—no accurate estimate in toto being known but a guess of nearly $450,000,000 being not far off. The Italians also got an American credit of $120 million under the Category B of the joint program (coming as the equivalent of U. S. troop pay) and also a $100 million supply program under the Lend-Lease appropriation. Both these funds have been almost entirely spent or earmarked in the procurement process already. Then there is another fund of $36 million, which is the apple of the Italian eye because it is a so-called free fund which can be spent in any manner the Italians choose, even for dollar purchases outside of the U. S. (which does not apply to the other two funds). This money comes from export credits and remittances to Italy by relatives in the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

States. This "free" fund is as yet unspent and obviously is being hoarded, as it were, for later specialized use.

A 1946 program for Italy has, in essence, already been drafted in Washington, though modifications will be made on the spot here under the direction of Mr. Bruno E. A. Luzzatto, FEA civilian who travelled here with Mr. Cleveland and who did the bulk of the programming and ordering of supplies in Washington. Roughly speaking, it is estimated that one and a half billion dollars will be the initial or 1946 cost of Italian rehabilitation. The basic facts about Italy, her special status (former enemy, first European country to be liberated, co-belligerency, her position as a Western European nation economically akin to France in supply needs but like a Balkan nation financially, that is, broke), all these factors have combined to sell Italy's needs to the United States.

The supplies needed, now that military relief is over, will naturally cost cash, the problem being, therefore, where it will come from for this ambitious program. UNRRA is expecting, though there is many a slip twixt the cup and the lip, a $450 million allocation for Italy, 75 per cent. of the funds for which will have to be voted by Congress. The second big source of operating income may come from the U. S. Export-Import Bank which is authorized to make loans for specific rehabilitation projects. Already preliminary discussions have started on a short-term cotton loan for Italy. Lastly, of course, and not within governmental channels will be such funds as accrue from export sales (which go into the aforesaid $36 million "free" fund) and from private financial circles, as for example, the Giannini Bank of America, whose chairman is now looking over the prospects here.

So, as Mr. Cleveland says, here is something to work with. The new economic head, incidentally, it will be recalled, went to Washington last spring with the original drafts of the joint program and has been working steadily on the program in Washington and also attended the London UNRRA conference. FEA civilians in A. C., who were under the jurisdiction of the Italian division of FEA back home, have now been

boss, Mr. A. H. Sullivan, who is director of the Industry Sub-Commission and also runs the new Industry and Commerce Division. Both men were with TVA in America.

Wheat.

One of the current problems Mr. Cleveland will have to study is the new Italian request for more wheat because of the poor crop and the so-so amassing. Mr. Cleveland's first reaction was: What are they going to use for money, a little item the Italians had not thought of up to that moment. But there it is: if more wheat is bought, less coal will be bought, for example. The A. C. has done pretty well by the Italians in this respect, by the way. Starting with allotments of less than 200,000 tons a month, the allocation has now been built to 450,000 tons a month which will come from the States. John L. Lewis' fortunate call-off of the threatened coal strike was a real break for the Italians, although some of the coal shipments that were lost during the strike will never be made up.

But as to the wheat position. The latest amassing report gives a 67 per cent. collection of the 1,304,000-ton goal, or 876,900 tons delivered. Italian Government territory has 71 per cent. collections of 370,900 tons. AMG territory has 65 per cent. collections of 506,000 tons from the richer Po Valley. The collectable amassing total, however, may be revised downward which would naturally make the collections look better, though by the same token, when goals are quickly approached, the amassable total is then raised.

The present rate of import for wheat for Italy – 150,000 tons a month – would be hiked to 250,000 tons a month (a decision not yet recommended by the A. C.), if the U. S. supply authorities acceded to the Italian request. The last-suggested figure for the 12-month program of starting last July 1 was 1,154,656 metric tons. The revision now being examined would raise that total to 2,304,912 tons of gross imports required, more than double previous estimates – 1,150,256 tons extra – and a sizeable alteration to swallow. The factors contributing to the change are listed as reduced availability of cereal crops (618,393 tons lost on account of the bad crop); increased

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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The crops were poor enough as of 15 July to give an estimate of only 2,089,615 tons of wheat to be collected in Italy. The estimate on

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

31 August was further slashed to only 1,820,255 tons available. The present estimate is 1,471,222 tons. Food requirements for the twelve months were 3,433,092, which has jumped to 3,706,000. After other accounting elements are taken into consideration, such as current ship arrivals, the fact remains that for the next eight months, the Italians are asking for 2,023,912 tons or 253,000 tons a month. The matter in still very much under discussion.

There are a few other economic items of interest. Demobilized Italian soldiers are becoming a labor problem. There is no work for most and they have no unemployment bonus arrangement. AMG labor officers are being asked to give them priority treatment in the labor exchanges. Col. A. N. Hancock, RC of Lombardia, will take on the post of Economic Coordinator for the North when (?) the North is given back. Col. Norman E. Fiske, head of the A. C. office in Milan, is worrying over the problem of inter-regional trade in the North; for instance, how to get wood from Piemonte to Lombardia. The Swiss have made a gift of 2,000 tons of wheat to Genoa, the port city with which they have had close relations in the past and with which they are seeking special arrangements to handle Swiss supplies. Northern Italian factories still producing war material (there are a few so doing) are to be examined by the Land Forces Sub-Commission.

A SAD TALE

It is with heavy heart that we draw our typewriter to our lap to tell this story, for we must describe trust betrayed, confidence misplaced and the faith of a considerable number of AMG officers disastrously shaken. When they recall how eager 22-year-old Alessandro Saddi used to appear to be of service, how his bright, shining face and ready will pleased his AMG bosses in the Lombardia regional office in Milan, where Saddi was chief administrative assistant in the message center, why they simply cannot believe that Saddi is now awaiting trial on charges of theft from the Allied mails. What if all Italians were like that? his former Allied friends ask. But probably such reproaches poured on Saddi's head would

ed a beautiful letter of reference as to his honesty and integrity, efficiency and zeal, signed by one of his immediate superiors, a U. S. warrant officer. Saddi, the letter testified, was a lovely character.

The plot now thickens. Things began to be missing, even though message centers immemorially have been message centers... But this was different—specific packages and letters went astray—directly into the pockets of the sly Saddi, as the evidence later proved. It took a contingent of Rome Area Allied Command C. I. D. agents plus the efforts of Major Richard D. Hildebrand, S-2 of 2675 Regiment and a former G-man (now off to Japan duty), three months to catch the rascal. Agents rode the mail planes to Milan, delved into the biographies of all civilian employees—to no avail. Major Hildebrand finally thought up the bait that trapped our *furbo*.

From Rome, the major mailed to himself at Milan several packages—Kleenex, soap, cigarets (with each pack secretly marked). There were 14 such plants. Five arrived safely, three were definitely lost and the rest were found in Saddi's possession. They are still adding up the total value of all the stuff he is charged with taking, but at the current date, the value of goods is figured at more than $300, not counting $100 in cash and a check for £38 sterling.

In Saddi's apartment was also a barracks bag full of merchandise, a suit-case crammed likewise. A number of baby dresses sent to a soldier for the layette of the child of his expectant Italian wife were also found. The backs had been cut out to make handkerchiefs. Saddi's girl friend (who thought he was a real American soldier—and typically generous) was wearing a pair of American shoes sent from the States and had many curios and other missing objects in her home. She gave them all up. Also taken were a wedding ring and a wedding gown sent from America for the prospective marriage of an American soldier here. The nuptial equipment belonged to the warrant officer who had given Saddi the sweet letter of reference.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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We may as well look at the horrid facts. As described, Saddi was the works in the message center, a place where many articles and documents of value arrive for eventual delivery every day. He had been employed since July. He carried a letter from a responsible officer authorizing him to wear G. I. clothes. He also prominently display-

missing, even though message centers immemorially have been message centers... But this was different—specific packages and letters went astray—directly into the pockets of the sly Saddi, as the evidence later proved. It took a contingent of Rotoc Area Allied Command C. I. D. agents plus the efforts of Major Richard D. Hildebrand, S-2 of 2675 Regiment and a former G-man (now off to Japan duty), three months to catch the rascal. Agents rode the mail planes to Milan, delved into the biographies of all civilian employees—to no avail. Major Hildebrand finally thought up the bait that trapped our *furbo*.

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ODDS AND ENDS

AMG redeployment is no joke, one can see after a look at the latest figures: in Piemonte, for instance, there used to 154 officers; there are now 42; after the next incursion of LIAP, there will be 28, and the rest of the Northern regions are in the same fix; you have to hand it to the RC and AMG staffs for keeping military government in force at all up there under such condi-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

tions... The A. C. has been finally declared a Category I unit by MTOUSA... Col. Chapman of G-3, MTOUSA, is visiting A. C. to see how the wheels go around in this outfit; he is definitely appreciative of our problems... 98 officers with 80 points or more are slated for redeployment 2 and 7 November as are 301 EM with 76 points and more... The A. C. turned back to the Italians last week 217 civilian requisitioned cars and the Public Safety garage... Only four replacements – teletype operators all – have arrived to date on the U. S. side... The Folgore Division of the Italian Army is to leave the Bolzano area... MMIA will withdraw from Sardinia 7 November after which there will be no A. C. representation on the island... Final details of the handover of the Italian Army to the Italian Government are now being worked out... The Italian Prisoners-of-War Division, now in the Civil Affairs Section, may shortly go to the Land Forces Sub-Commission... The Education Sub-Commission reports that two Swiss trainers for Italian Girl Guides and Scouts have arrived in Rome... Lieut. Col. Guy I. Warren (A) has been appointed Acting AMG Commissioner of Naples Commune while Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick (B) is on leave... Studies are being made relevant to the possibile turnback of Livorno and Naples to the Italians even before the North is handed over... Staff Sergt. Nicholas D. Angelini and Col. Edward H. Foley (no longer with A. C.) have been awarded the Bronze Star while Major Benson E. L. Timmons has received the Knight's Cross of the Order of the Crown of Italy... Executive Commissioner's meetings are now held only once a week... PRB is seeking permission for Italian correspondents to cover the Nuremburg war criminal trials... The AFHQ order reverting Allied correspondents to civilian status has been suspended until a more adequate provision is made for care of the newspapermen under the same conditions businessmen are to be accommodated... A cute racket has been unearthed in Cuneo Province in Piemonte: A certain firm contracts to trace missing cars for owners, requiring an initial deposit of 10,000 lire and then charging again when the car is found...

The Chief Commissioner in his role as a U. S. Navy admiral acted as host at the Navy Day reception held in Rome 27 October; the reception had been arranged by Commodore H. W. Ziroli of the Navy Sub-Commission who is now unfortunately ill in the hospital...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

The widely-advertised demonstration for the *Costituente*, which had been heralded by the Left parties for some weeks past as the opening of the campaign for a republic, took place Sunday 14 October throughout the country. Held under the auspices of the Communist and Socialist parties the meetings had the support of the Action party as well as of the Left Christian party (*not* the Christian Democrats) and workers' and women's groups. The warm autumn sunshine gave a kind of picnic atmosphere to the occasion and a crowd of approximately 100,000 (according to *Stars and Stripes*) gathered on the Palatine hill, in Rome, to ask for immediate elections for the *Costituente*. Red flags abounded, together with the customary banners and placards demanding elections, the Republic, bread and work. The demonstrations have certainly shown one thing, according to *Voce Repubblicana:* that not only the truce between the C. L. N. parties has been broken, but also the institutional truce, since all parties which declared themselves for an immediate *Costituente* have thus shown their republican leanings.

The next day all the leftist papers described the meeting under huge head-lines and pointed with pride to the calm and order that characterised the gatherings in all Italian cities, proving, according to Prime Minister Parri (in the *Tribuna del Popolo*), "the seriousness and political maturity of the Italian people". *Avanti* said that Italians, by their self-discipline, had now acquired the right to democratic consultations. The Sunday assemblies were defined by *Italia Libera* as the best answer to Nitti's speech and to the lack of faith of those who would like the people to

as alluding to Giannini, editor of *L'Uomo Qualunque*. In the leading article of *Italia Nuova*, on the 14th, "scrutator" wondered what was the good of holding a demonstration when Nenni had stated a few days earlier that the date for the elections for the *Costituente* would be fixed very shortly. *Secolo XX* – which, by the way, has shed its pretensions to being a purely financial paper and is now avowedly a non-partisan political one – suggested that all parties should unite and decide on a common program of revision of Italy's historic constitution, particularly since even those parties which call themselves republican appear almost fearful of undertaking the responsibility of forming a republic.

4436

Electoral ferment.

On the 17th, a manifesto appeared in which a number of well known figures asked for the single-member constituency electoral system to be used, rather than the proportional system. The manifesto was signed, according to the Rome press, by such names as Nitti, Orlando, Croce, Bonomi, Labriola, Zaniboni, Einaudi and others. Interviewed by *La Capitale*, the secretary of this league, which calls itself the League for the Defence of Democratic Freedom, stated that the manifesto was issued because "we don't want the present Government, whose legality we do not discuss, even though it is not a Government elected by the people, to have the power to establish an electoral system which would favor one political current rather than another, as we believe the proportional system would". The secretary of the League went on to explain that, if the League appeared more rightist than leftist, this was not done intentionally.

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Reactionary or monarchist parties allegedly feared that a "Communist revolution" was to have broken out and, it was charged, certain persons had gone in hiding already on Friday and did not dare appear again till well on Monday afternoon, according to Cadauna Mino in the *Avanti* making a reference which was widely interpreted as alluding to Giannini, editor of *L'Uomo Qualunque*. In the leading article of *Italia Nuova*, on the 14th, "scrutator" wondered what was the good of holding a demonstration when Nenni had stated a few days earlier that the date for the elections for the *Costituente* would be fixed very shortly. *Secolo XX* – which, by the way, has shed its pretensions to being a purely financial paper and is now avowedly a non-partisan political one – suggested that all parties should unite and decide on a common program of revision of Italy's historic constitution, particularly since even those parties which call themselves republican appear almost fearful of undertaking the responsibility of forming a republic.

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Voce Repubblicana promptly pointed out that the single-member constituency system lent itself much more easily to personal camarillas. C. L., in *Italia Libera*, asked out loud what the League wanted to defend democracy against. Perhaps against those same people who had installed democracy in Italy, it added. Orlando stated the next morning in *Giornale del Mattino* that he knew nothing about the existence of such a League,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

and that it was therefore impossible that he should have signed any petition. Sforza, too, made a statement to the press saying he had never heard of the League.

The Council of Ministers met on the 18th to discuss the question of increase of salary to State employees. Though the Council recognised the difficult conditions which employees have to face, it also recognised the difficult situation of the State budget. It was decided to allot, provisionally, 2,000 lire to be paid at the end of this month to each State employee, and that this sum should be considered as a first instalment on the definite increase which will probably be fixed next week. Ways of giving help to this class of employees by special distributions of food-stuffs, were also examined. The Council accordingly decided that the Ministry of Food should allot six billion lire for this purpose.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Col. Leonard Densmore, Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section, reported on an interesting trip to the Adriatic Coast last week where he had gone to straighten out a warehouse situation and to look into the problems of the independent Republic of San Marino. This mite of a democracy—population 14,000, area 60.9 square kilometers—is managing all right and has not complained until recently that it had not received any flour since last May. The Republic's communications with the outside world are simply nil, the telephone line to Rimini being as yet unrepaired, and with winter coming on, there is another problem. Col. Densmore arranged to have six trucks turned over to San Marino, took notes on food requirements and promised to see what could be done to obtain coal for the Republic's industries—some cement and pottery factories. And like everyone else, San Marino is also interested in buying some surplus war materials, another matter for which the colonel will set the wheels in motion.

As a result of a request of the Italian Government, the Economic Section is attempting to [illegible] and inventories of German-held

lians are laying the ground to make claims for the stuff. In the interim, they would like to have the material located and guarded. The Communications Sub-Commission already has recovered a considerable quantity of goods on behalf of the Italian Telecommunications Ministry.

American control of the entire dock area of the port of Naples, except for Pier K, which has been under Italian civilian control, as of 20 October, will be split up further among both Italians and British authorities, Peninsular Base Section has announced. Under the new plan, the Italians will operate Piers D, E and K, with seven Liberty and four coaster berths. The British Army will control Piers F, G and H, berthing six Liberties and four coasters. Eleven deep-water berths at Piers A, B and C will continue under PBS. UNRRA supplies will dock in the new civilian area of the Italians. PBS employed about 7,200 Italian port workers but will now retain only about 2,500, the rest being made available to the new port authorities.

The wheat amassing, as of 15 October, was 859,900 tons or 66 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton target figure. Italian Government territory has 70 per cent. collections, with 365,100 tons, while AMG areas reported 63 per cent. collections, with 494,800 tons. The accounting division of the Finance Sub-Commission is to be made stronger to catch up with its work, the accounts being about a year behind. Two new officers are coming in while four military personnel are being civilianized and added to the division. Mr. A. H. Sullivan, FEA civilian, has been appointed director of the Industry Sub-Commission. The Transportation Sub-Commission is helping the meeting of Italian women at Florence this week-end by arranging passenger train reservations. Speaking of PBS again, that organization will handle sale of its salvage material directly to the Italian Government, without recourse to the War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission.

VENEZIA GIULIA

The first 500 of the new Venezia Giulia police force made their initial appearance in the streets

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Council of Ministers met on the 18th to discuss the question of increase of salary to State employees. Though the Council recognised the difficult conditions which employees have to face, it also recognised the difficult situation of the State budget. It was decided to allot, provisionally, 2,000 lire to be paid at the end of this month to each State employee, and that this sum should be considered as a first instalment on the definite increase which will probably be fixed next week. Ways of giving help to this class of employees by special distributions of food-stuffs, were also examined. The Council accordingly decided that the Ministry of Food should allot six billion lire for this purpose.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Col. Leonard Densmore, Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section, reported on an interesting trip to the Adriatic Coast last week where he had gone to straighten out a warehouse situation and to look into the problems of the independent Republic of San Marino. This mite of a democracy—population 14,000, area 60.9 square kilometers—is managing all right and has not complained until recently that it had not received any flour since last May. The Republic's communications with the outside world are simply nil, the telephone line to Rimini being as yet unrepaired, and with winter coming on, there is another problem. Col. Densmore arranged to have six trucks turned over to San Marino, took notes on food requirements and promised to see what could be done to obtain coal for the Republic's industries—some cement and pottery factories. And like everyone else, San Marino is also interested in buying some surplus war materials, another matter for which the colonel will set the wheels in motion.

As a result of a request of the Italian Government, the Economic Section is attempting to trace records and inventories of German-held machinery taken from the Italians and shipped to Germany. The records found at the time of the German surrender in Italy were most complete and exact and some prospect of tracing the material is held out as far as learning the destination of the shipments. What happened to the machinery in Germany, now split into the four Allied zones, is another story. In any event, the Italians have recovered a considerable quantity of goods on behalf of the Italian Telecommunications Ministry.

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VENEZIA GIULIA

The first 500 of the new Venezia Giulia police force made their initial appearance in the streets of Trieste last Saturday afternoon (13 october) after being reviewed by Lt.-Gen. Sir John Harding, GOC XIII Corps. The organization, recruited from local Italian and Slovene men, has been in process of training and equipment for many weeks. Difficulties in securing uniforms and in fixing terms of engagement were finally overcome in September. For some weeks past

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

Military Police and Allied troops, with the aid of the recently reorganized *Questura*, had carried the entire burden of law enforcement throughout the Allied-occupied area of Venezia Giulia, assisted by a Jugoslav detachment south of Gorizia operating under XIII Corps command. Inauguration of the new force will free the troops in the area for other duties. Further recruits for the Venezia Giulia police are being trained and equipped in the police school in Trieste. Both Italians and Slovenes are offering their services and will work together under the tuition and command of British and American experts. The force draws Italian military rations.

The general strike of 23-24 September, called to protest against the granting by Allied Military Government of permission for employers to discharge employees for whom no work could be found, was called off after 48 hours. Not only was there no violence, but considerable good humor was shown by all parties with whom Allied Military Government officers discussed the issues. Registered unemployed in Zone "A" (Allied-held area) number less than 20,000, out of a population of roughly half a million; generous unemployment benefits have been instituted by the Labor and Finance Divisions; an Advisory Economic Council has been set up to evolve work projects for the coming months and to study practical steps to be taken to revive business in the area.

Shortly after the strike collapsed, rumors were in circulation to the effect that Allied Military Government would remain at least six months, a report believed to have originated in a request made by the Economic Section to industrialists that they submit requisitions for materials they will need during the first half of 1946. Within 48 hours local stocks had gone up several points on the Trieste Exchange, the banks loosened up commercial and industrial credits, and individual firms came forward with concrete offers to build new plants or to repair and improve existing ones. But perhaps the most striking effect was seen among industrial workers who are reported by one source to have told their Shop Committees that "political" strikes and "party" manipulations in the newspapers and by viewing their plans for development from the angle of providing jobs to workers rather than from that of immediate profits.

Not yet Rosy.

All is not yet rosy in Venezia Giulia, of course. The Slovene elements, who admit they are acting under orders from Zone "B" (Jugoslav-held area) and under pressure from the Littoral National Liberation Committee, still refuse to co-operate publicly with Allied Military Government under General Order No. 11, as the press reports fully indicate. Much activity, both open and underground, is being expended by the elements which favor annexation of Trieste to Jugoslavia to make it appear to the Deputies to the Foreign Ministers, whom they expect to visit the area, that all Venezia Giulia wants to belong to Jugoslavia. Pressure is brought to bear on Italian business people to have them put up signs in Slovene. Arches and signs on walls proclaim the undying devotion of everybody as far west as the Isonzo to the present Jugoslav Government. Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, has made it quite clear that Allied Military Government considers the display of flags, the signing of petitions, the painting of signs and the building of arches a perfectly legitimate, democratic expression of opinion, provided intimidation is not used to force men's hands. There is, in fact, a great deal of personal friendliness and frank talk in the discussions between Allied Military Government officers and the leaders of all groups and it seems fair to say that the patience, restraint and earnestness shown by the occupying authorities, in a part of Europe where feelings normally run high between conflicting elements, have toned down the bitterness which was so evident in June and July. But causes and symptoms of strain are numerous and it would be risky to call the present improved atmosphere more than a lull.

Living conditions are extremely difficult in Trieste. There is an acute shortage of accommodation, and Italian refugees from Fiume and other Jugoslav-occupied communities are entering the city in a steady stream. Wood for fuel is

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NNB No. 785015

tion of the new force will free the troops in the area for other duties. Further recruits for the Venezia Giulia police are being trained and equipped in the police school in Trieste. Both Italians and Slovenes are offering their services and will work together under the tuition and command of British and American experts. The force draws Italian military rations.

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Living conditions are extremely difficult in Trieste. There is an acute shortage of accommodation, and Italian refugees from Fiume and other Jugoslav-occupied communities are entering the city in a steady stream. Wood for fuel is selling on the black market at 800 lire a quintal. Food prices are very high, partly due to excessive charges for hauling from Italy. Energetic efforts are being made to establish price control machinery, to secure supplies of fuel and to bring in food. Allied Military Government officers who do not work seven days a week and generally far into the night are exceptions, with redeployment and Liap constantly increasing the burden.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

There is a wind which blows down upon Trieste from the hills which they call the *Bora*. For generations the Triestini have cultivated forests behind the town to moderate the force of the gales. Chains are strung along the streets for people to hang onto so they will not be blown away. Tram cars have been known to overturn when the *Bora* blows. Automobiles on the coast road are sometimes swept into the sea by the violence of the wind. This winter the *Bora* is feared and dreaded as never before, because wood thieves have stripped away the trees from the hills to help meet the fuel shortage, and the small number of personnel available for police duties so far has made it impossible to check the thefts.

Under Local Government Order No. 11, all three Areas in Venezia Giulia Zone "A" now have Area Presidents and Councils. Out of 37 communes, only 18 have set up Communal Councils, but the 17 which are not participating represent only 15 per cent of the population and no town of more than 10,000... A new Central Transport Office has been set up to control the *Consorzio Autotrasporti* of Trieste, Gorizia and Pola and eliminate many abuses known to exist... Over 90 per cent of the total amassing goal of 10,000 quintals has been reached... Delivery of 500 draft horses from Austria has begun... The greatest barrier to industrial recovery is shortage of raw materials and coal; the latter should come from Arsa but—well it does not now... Public works plans are being pushed, with urban and road repairs and repairs to war damaged houses and schools heading the list... Water, electricity and sewer services are now normal throughout the territory... Public health is good, with no epidemics in the territory, the Chief Public Health Officer, in fact, having had time to plan an anti-rat campaign in Trieste city, but turning a cold shoulder to a Triestino expert who tried to sell him on the nutritive value of rat-meat... In September 4,834 persons passed through the refugee centres, 806 of whom were ex-POWs... The currency flow turned during September to an extensive intake as against heavy outflows in the June-August period... All but one of the regular civil courts are now functioning over the Trieste and Pola radio stations in Italian, Slovene and Croat, and the first Allied Military Government press room to be established in Italy has been set up in Trieste for the use of local newspaper men, with telephones, typewriters, desks and chairs, but, unfortunately, also with a window—allegedly very unorthodox...

MARGINAL NOTES ON A MISSION

Your PRO, having just returned from a brief – all too brief – but not uneventful mission to Washington, via London, has been persuaded to record his impressions while still fresh and fragrant. For what it is worth – and without prejudice – here they are.

The neatness of London was curiously impressive. One had somehow expected to see a city battle-scarred and untidy. There are plenty of gaps in the city; any quarter will yield its quota of blank spaces and here and there a whole block is missing. But the craters are enclosed by neat little stone walls and more often than not, flowers are growing in the indentations left by the bombs. No rubble, no untidiness; one almost has the impression of little parks deliberately created to vary the monotony of rows of flats or office buildings. Another noteworthy sight was the incessant "queuing" that goes on. People "queue" for taxis, trams, busses, restaurants, theatres and of course hotels. (In vain as far as the last item is concerned, as we found to our dismay.) Queuing for restaurants is important because if you get to your table too late there is nothing left but spam – the one thing which seems to be abundant in London. Prices are up somewhat since our last visit (1937) particularly in clothing but expense is not nearly so much of a problem as sheer scarcity. True we paid 5 shillings for a Martini in the Ritz but maybe that's what it was in '37; we don't remember. (And it was a real Martini; no Benevento gin.)... We had the pleasure of seeing our old chief General Mason MacFarlane, M. P., who has come through a series of illnesses with unimpaired morale and who maintains a lively interest in the affairs of AC.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Washington was pretty much as we remembered it; shortage of space, feverish activity, an air of tension and the Pentagon labyrinth as mysterious as ever to our simple mind. In New York a notable falling off in the proportion of uniforms though many were wearing the discharge button in their tweed lapels. (We wish we had one.) New York is experiencing the biggest hotel jam in history and we narrowly escaped sleeping

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

on the floor of the Penn Station. (We wouldn't have been the first either.) On the other hand there seems to be enough of everything and "points" which have haunted the home front were in process of dropping into the limbo of forgotten things. It's a good year for oysters.

We stole a few days at home and are happy to report that once away from the big cities America is pretty much as we remember it. People are running around briskly in their cars – perhaps too briskly considering the condition of most tires – and enjoying the fall weather; where we come from the maples are just beginning to turn and the air had that health nip of the first frost that we remember so well. We thought we detected signs of a new Jazz age in the boisterous gayety of the younger generation. Football was in full swing and the T formation is much in vogue. Travel is still unpleasant back home what with lack of space, lack of taxis here and there and complete absence of porters. But if one will stay put it is a pleasant life. We ask ourselves why we came back – and can't really think of an answer.

ELECTIONS, ITALIAN STYLE

Major R. R. Temple, director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, gives us the latest report on progress of the electoral lists for the Italian elections, which prompts us to say, first, that recalling the pulling and hauling of politics in our own native lands, and second, that in Italy they have not had a regular parliamentary meeting since 1921, the progress reported is not too bad, though it is certainly nothing to shout about. In any event, the Italians apparently propose to do things in the Italian way, which is their privilege and what we always say we want them to do. The electoral proposals themselves, chiefly centering around the 1915 law, are being studied and will be submitted to the *Consulta* for approval before being made into law.

The report, as of 15 October, has to do with the electoral lists of voters in 44 out of 58 provinces in Italian Government territory and three provinces in AMG territory – Imperia, Verona and Novara. Each commune has its lists, two, in fact. Of the 3,378, male lists numbered 1,138 and female lists 2,249. It is obvious that it is much easier to compile a list of female voters who are relatively settled and usually not involved in extra-curricular activities that need checking. The key figure comes last and is significant: There are 558 lists approved by the Electoral Commissions and that approval is the act which makes the lists legally valid so that the voters can exercise their franchise. Of the lists approved, 220 were male and 328 female. The number of approved lists, however, was 239 more than the number reported on last time, so that's something. In fact, it is expected that, as clearances come in from the Central Judicial Records Office, the number of approvals by Electoral Commissions may have a little boom.

In the three AMG provinces (in AMG areas work on the lists started almost six months after the same task was commenced in Central, Southern and Insular Italy), there were 287 communes listed. There were 72 lists completed, three male and 69 female. None as yet had been approved by the Electoral Commissions.

The bottlenecks, analysis showed, are still the judicial records clearances of the *Casellario Centrale* in Rome and the inertia of the Electoral Commissions. The *Casellario Centrale* files, Major Temple found on a visit, were, to put it mildly, in a mess, with little order, loose files and bundles scattered everywhere, and with no master index. With records destroyed in many towns, the central Rome office would be the last resort of many communes which wanted to check on the possible criminal records of the prospective voters, a requirement of the Italian law. The Chief Commissioner wrote to Italian Prime Minister Parri as a result of the Temple visit and the situation was taken in hand. Returns from the judicial records offices indicate a three per cent. female criminality and a 20 per cent. male criminality, the communes report.

The *Casellario Centrale* or judicial records office, in fact, the other day was inadvertently but accurately pegged by an ingenuous translator who rendered an Italian fortnightly report on electoral operations in the Province of Vicenza as follws:

"The *Prefettura* caused all copies of voters'

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSC No. 785015

to report that once away from the big cities America is pretty much as we remember it. People are running around briskly in their cars – perhaps too briskly considering the condition of most tires – and enjoying the fall weather; where we come from the maples are just beginning to turn and the air had that health nip of the first frost that we remember so well. We thought we detected signs of a new Jazz age in the boisterous gayety of the younger generation. Football was in full swing and the T formation is much in vogue. Travel is still unpleasant back home what with lack of space, lack of taxis here and there and complete absence of porters. But if one will stay put it is a pleasant life. We ask ourselves why we came back – and can't really think of an answer.

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Reported on are 2,845 communes, 217 more since the last report. Lists completed amounted to 3,378, which was 528 more since the last report. [illegible] sions and that approval is the act which makes the lists legally valid so that the voters can exercise their franchise. Of the lists approved, 220 were male and 328 female. The number of approved lists, however, was 239 more than the number reported on last time, so that's something. In fact, it is expected that, as clearances come in from the Central Judicial Records Office, the number of approvals by Electoral Commissions may have a little boom.

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"The *Prefettura* caused all copies of voters' lists of Communes of the Province to be collected, to avoid any of them going astray and had them sent to Central Pigeon-Hole Office of Rome through a concern of motor transportation. They include all persons that were born in the Province, whose Pigeon-Hole was not in a position to work."

Fragmentary reports indicate intense activity nevertheless in the preparations for the elec-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

tions, clearly the most urgent business on the Italian calendar. Many communities have started building ballot boxes, with deliveries in some cases expected this month. Official stamps for the ballots are also ready in a large measure, 20,000 having been made to date. In Geno, the air raids were so successful in destroying official record depositories that almost the entire population register (607,650 in the 1931 census) has had to be reconstructed. The commissions set up for the disfranchisement of Fascists have been almost completely set up in Central and Southern Italy but have little to do, there being few denunciations. In Rome Province, the Electoral Commission has 30 sub-commissions (shades of the A. C.) but 24 of them had to be fired because it was found that their personnel were all state employees, not quite cricket.

ODDS AND ENDS

The Legion of Merit has been awarded to Commander J. J. Lawler, former joint director of the Finance Sub-Commission and the Bronze Star to Major Eliot J. Bocchino while higher command has approved Italian decorations for the following American officers: Order of the Crown of Italy – Col. Robert B. Menapace (Grand Officer), Lieut. Col. Carlton J. Eggstaff (Commander), Lieut. Col. Edward C. King, First Lieutenants Ira Manek and Paul Leos and Technical Sergt. Ralph Bonomo (all Knights); Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus (Knight) – Col. John W. Chapman... Allied war and political correspondents will revert to civilian status as foreign correspondents as of 1 November, after which date the military will no loner be responsible for facilities to them unless by special request of their respective embassies and except in covering specific military assignments... The PRO Villa of the A. C.'s PRB thus will close down in the near future and correspondents venturing into AMG areas will have to pay for their keep according to a set schedule of charges... British officers in Groups 21 and up will face a four-months postponement in their release because of the acute officer shortage... The matter is being considered of making Allied Commission regional and sub-commission reports available to the Italian Government... Col. Eugene R. McPhee is the new RC of Piemonte... Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin is the new director of the Public Relations Branch... AMG in the North reports the return of Italian POWs from Russia is affecting the political temper... The redeployment status of all U. S. officers in A. C., as of 15 October, has been analyzed as follows: 10 Regular Army, 59 Class A, 90 Class B, 178 Class X (awaiting release) and 94 with less than 75 points, making a total of 431 officers... More than 100 officers, however, are leaving right now, 15 having gone on 16 October and 87 slated to report in Naples Monday, 22 October, while another 90 officers (and 310 EM) have to go before 30 October... The strength of the 2675 Regiment on 1 November is expected to be 682, comprising 248 officers and 434 enlisted men... Five Class A officers have signed up to go to Japan and the Far East while Major Gardner Bump is going to Norway... Major Edward D. S. Sullivan is the new G-1 of A. C.... Class A officers can now apply for a 30-day TD tour in the States; two Venezia-Giulia AMG officers will be the first to go, that military government operation having top priority in personnel considerations, especially as to being maintained at full strength and parity with the British... The new MTOUSA promotion circular has come in, which freezes promotions for all but Category I units; the A. C. is in Category IV; efforts are being made to have this changed... The departures of U. S. officers are affecting all sections of the A. C.; for example, the Monday shipment includes 18 from Venezia-Giulia, 18 from Piemonte, 5 from Liguria, 18 from Lombardia, 11 from Venezie, 15 from Headquarters and one each from Bari and Ancona... The British military authorities are making arrangements to allow officers and men of the Regular Army or those whose release has been deferred for at least a year to bring their wives to Italy; in the Rome area there is a quota of 10 vacancies, for which the A. C. already has a dozen applications while Rome Area Allied Command has several hundred applications...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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October 13, 1945 RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 28

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POLITICAL

L'Uomo Qualunque has been bandied about for some weeks now, but during the last several days the daily press of the capital has made an increasing number of references to him, and it seems a new word has now been added to the Italian vocabulary—*Qualunquismo*. This word is supposed to define the policy of Giannini's movement, Giannini being the editor of *L'Uomo Qualunque*, though *Italia Nuova* thinks the word stands for the general feeling of discontent and dissatisfaction and dumb rebellion which is spreading, the journal asserts, through all social classes. *Qualunquismo* has been defined as a reactionary movement by others who, having wondered why Giannini always criticised the Italian Government and all it did, got the answer from Giannini that he criticised because he did not approve of the people who are in power and that, since he never expected to be in the Government himself, he felt that it would be much better to put people in power who had distinguished themselves as capable of doing something. The concensus in this city of carpers is that Giannini's criticisms are often right, but that they have, in this period when everyone should try to be helpful towards the reconstruction of the country, a defeatist effect.

Leonida Repaci, in *Epoca*, violently attacked Giannini and accused him of having made use of the innumerable difficulties which the Government had to face to breed popular discontent, and of influencing those many individuals who, Repaci said, having been born to serve, were always ready to avenge themselves on the men who led them. Giannini has shown us, continued Repaci, that the man-in-the-street (*L'Uomo qualunque*) is much more Fascist than he realized. Behind Giannini, Repaci continued, can now be identified, according to Repaci, as an active aid to Italian reactionary elements and, thus, monarchy. This atmosphere, he concluded, had engendered *qualunquismo*, whose only aim was to lower, in the public estimation, all democratic institutions.

Second Trend.

And this leads us to a second and somewhat parallel trend which has been noticeable during these last days in the Rome press; that is, a renewed form of awareness of not too friendly feelings on the part of other powers. Russia's claims for war reparations from Italy, coming after Tito's and being followed by Greece's and Albania's, have caused various comments. *Indipendente* noted that all these nations—against whom Italy fought in spite of herself and by the will of a dictatorship—seemed to forget that Italy was the first nation to understand her mistake and to redeem herself by fighting at the side of the United Nations. *Epoca* expressed the hope that the utterly miserable condition in which Italy had been left by the London conference, by the continued regime of Armistice under which she must struggle, by the fear of losing her colonies and of seeing even her national territory taken away from her, might cause a tinge of remorse to the victor powers and compel them to look at Italy, for their own sakes, as a possible source of future dangers. Commenting on the order reportedly issued by AMG in Cremona, forbidding all public officials from seeking reference to the local C. L. N., *Voce Repubblicana* wrote: "On the eve of the promised liberation, the Allies close their iron glove even tighter round the defeated enemy; we have neither the means nor the will of opposing the Allies, but one thing there is which we can put against them both in the North as in the

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Another AMG order – in Turin this time, ordering all political parties and organisations to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

evacuate premises which they had illegally occupied – has caused a strike. The Communists of Turin ordered the FIAT workers to go on strike as a sign of protest against this order; the strike took place but representatives of the Socialist, Liberal, Christian Democrat and Action parties proclaimed that they disapproved and were not responsible for this strike. Joining in the querulous chours was *Voce Repubblicana* which wondered aloud why "democratic America" placed so many obstacles to the repatriation of Italian citizens who wanted to leave the United States to return to "democratic Italy". *Momento* commented on the London *Times* article which said that as a result of the possible inclusion of political rights in the peace treaty, the Italian constitution would be placed under international protecteion. The newspaper found cause for alarm, asking: What does it mean? Is our country going to become a satellite of the Western Powers, or, still worse, their protectorate? *Momento* went on to say that it might be nice to know whether the treatment proposed for Italy was part of a plan for a general organisation to guarantee democratic institutions in all countries or whether it was a special case and part of a punitive system. The paper wanted nothing to do with any protectorate..

The Conference.

Comment on the London Conference continues. According to *Tribuna del Popolo*, the stalemate was due to the fact that "the victors will continue to examine the problems of the defeated nations from the point of view of zones of influence". Sforza, in *Giornale del Mattino*, said that all the delegates to the conference had been responsible for its failure because they all preferred secrecy to the healthy interference of world public opinion. Sforza expressed special surprise that the American people – who knew that one of Wilson's fourteen points was "Open covenants openly arrived at" – could put up with the secrecy which had surrounded all these last conferences. Sforza ended by saying that to President Roosevelt's Four Freedoms one more must be added, that is, the "freedom of knowing how things stand". *Italia Libera* also seemed rather worried that, in

press seemed rather at a loss in essaying to fathom Italy's position and apparently had not yet made up its editorial mind.

Nitti's Naples speech has been the subject of further critique. Sandro Pertini in *Epoca* said that Nitti confined himself to referring to all the negative aspects of Italy's present situation but did not refer to the positive aspects which could have re-awakened the confidence of Italians in themselves. On 7 October, Prime Minister Parri answered Nitti in his weekly press conference, remarking that Nitti's criticisms were due to his insufficient knowledge of the situation and that such a black account could not possibly be based on truth. Neither a Right nor Left Government, said the President of the Council of Ministers, could possibly at the present moment have any power of control over the country. According to *Unità*, Nitti's great mistake was to join the enemies of Italian democracy. "We do not know", said the Communist paper, "whether Nitti actually contacted these groups, but he certainly uses their language and their arguments." Enzo Selvaggi in *Italia Nuova* said that Parri's answer was not an answer, as he gave no figures to prove his arguments.

Parri Again.

On the 11th the Prime Minister held his latest foreign press conference. He noted with satisfaction British Foreign Secretary Bevin's statement confirming the statement previously made by American Secretary of State Byrnes, concerning the fate of Trieste. Commenting on Byrnes' words that the new Italian constitution should be subject, to a certain extent, to international guarantees in order to maintain peace in the world, Parri said that, in his personal opinion, should these guarantees limit Italian sovereignity as well as the sovereignty of all other European countries, then they would not merely be acceptable but desirable. Should Byrnes' words instead, he went on, be applied only to Italy, and perhaps to a few other minor states, then these international guarantees would not be justified. The same thing applied about disarmament, continued Parri, which he termed the best solution for preventing further wars, as long as all nations submitted to it and the disarming was not a one-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Parri expressed Italy's gratitude towards the Allies for the amount of help and relief they had been able to distribute, but pointed out how important it was for Italy's rehabilitation, that this relief be continued and that the food and raw materials which were so necessary be supplied. To

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

obtain this relief more easily, and because it was now evident that the Italian peace treaty would not be signed till Spring or even Summer, Italy must have a temporary juridical peace, he asserted. Parri ended by stressing the necessity of at least modifying the Armistice clauses, so as to allow Italy a greater freedom in dealing with important internal matters, such as public order, armament, demobilisation and epuration.

Questioned at the end of his conference, whether, when he said that the Armistice clauses hindered the speedy carrying out of sanctions against Fascism, he meant that there were in Italy people who could not be touched because of the Armistice clauses, Parri said: "Our hands are tied by some of these clauses. However, this does not mean what you think. Under the Armistice terms, we are free to proceed against a certain category of arrested persons whom the Allies keep at their disposal. The Allies have their reasons for this, but it means that some of the people whom we consider guilty are removed from our jurisdiction."

ECONOMIC FRONT

Personnel news is the major item in the Economic Section. Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President, has orders for a new assignment. Mr. Harlan Cleveland, former Executive Director and at present helping on the Washington end of FEA arrangements for A. C., is expected to return to head up a supply division, preparatory to handing over that function eventually to UNRRA. A minor change has been announced in the form of eliminating the Production Division and creating an Industry and Commerce Division to coordinate these functions in the over-all supply picture.

Good news for Italian business correspondents broke this week: they will be able very shortly to write freely on commercial and financial subjects to any person or firm in the non-enemy world, which at this reading means everywhere except Germany, Austria, Japan, Hungary, Roumania, Bulgaria and Finland. The Italian Treasury and Post Office will give the final word on practical arrangements.

AMG IN THE NORTH

Riddled by redeployment but in many cases with much of the work already turned over to Italian authorities, notably in education and fine arts, AMG staffs in the North are awaiting the turnover announcement with an impatience probably as keen as that of the Italians. Things continue stirring in the industrial centers, with the latest symptoms being action by various AMG officers against Italian newspapers who have been sounding off a little too blatantly. The situation has been such that the Chief Commissioner has reminded all RCs that the Allied Publication Board and the press officers attached to each RC should be fully consulted before any drastic action is taken against a newspaper. Retractions for incorrect or intemperate statements can be obtained more easily with sugar. More headaches for AMG may crop up this week in the nature of political meetings about the *Costituenta* which the Communist and Socialist parties are sponsoring all over Italy. No difficulties are anticipated, of course, but crowds invariably make a public safety officer uneasy and you can't blame him.

Other news of the North includes the fact that the Italian Government has published a decree making part of the Province of Aosta an autonomous area, which decree will not be fully implemented until a council of 25 has been nominated. So long as the northern territories are under AMG, these nominations will require AMG approval. Lieut. Col. Tooby of the Economic Section office at Milan is coordinating a master industrial plan for the North, based on the latest supply possibilities. Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, RC of Venezie, has been boosting Carabinieri morale with a series of colorful parades in his bailiwick. Reviews have been held at Venice, Prato, Padova and Udine among other places. Col. Floyd E. Thomas, RC of Piemonte, is going home.

We might add, editorially, that the PRB is grateful for the fine reports sent in by the various regions and sub-commissions on their activities in the North. The reports will be issued in a consolidated press release when the hand-over announcement is made. We will also give a more informal account in the *Bulletin*.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The wheat amassing continues slow. Collections, as of 8 October, were 836,200 tons or 64 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal. Italian Government territory collections were 69 per cent., with 359,200 tons, while AMG territory had 61 per cent. and 477,000 tons. The gain over last week was a bare two per cent.

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ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. W. Turner-Coles and Major A. H. Gardner, both British, have been made Honorary Privates 1st Class of the 29th Regiment of Algerian Tirailleurs... Lieut. Col. A. G. Graham

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

(B) has been appointed Headquarters Commandant of the A. C., succeeding Col. R. H. Robertson (B), who is going home after a long tour at that assignment so full of headaches... Lieut. Col. Henry H. Scudder has been awarded the Legion of Merit while the Bronze Star goes to Major Harry M. Downer, Major Frank L. Vecchiolla and T/4 John J. Frascino... Mr. G. Stewart Brown, director of the Public Relations Branch, is leaving the A. C. to take up the combined titles of director of the United States Information Service in Italy, special assistant to the U. S. Ambassador and USIS Coordinator fort he Balkans... British ships will soon stop using Italian ship repair facilities, according to the Navy Sub-Commission... Col. C. M. Parkin, C. O. of 2675 Regiment, reports that 202 U. S. officers in Class A and B and with less than 75 points will be available for duty as of 1 December; plus 206 EM... To get the record straight on the turnover of Naples and Livorno, here is the final and correct interpretation from the Executive Commissioner: The intention of AFHQ is to turn over the jurisdiction of both communes and ports of Naples and Livorno to the Italian Government whose writ will run in the whole area; this will not affect the technical working of the ports, part of which will remain under Allied military authority... A new American promotion: to full colonel – Eugene R. McPhee... Air mail service from Great Britain to Italy starts 13 October...

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October 6, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 27

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POLITICAL

The *Consulta*, the first assembly of popular representation to be held in Montecitorio since the last meeting of the Italian Parliament about two decades ago, completed its first cycle of plenary sessions 3 October. After Prime Minister Parri's speech on the political, economic and reconstruction plans of the Government, all the parties commented, through their orators, on the various points of these plans and all of them found the occasion notably suitable for making party propaganda. Noteworthy was General Bencivenga's speech on the 28th, particularly because he expressed the strongest criticism of the Government up to that point. Bencivenga is the promoter of a movement of the middle classes. He sat on the extreme right as part of the opposition. His speech was often interrupted by shouts of disapproval till, at a certain moment, in his capacity of President of the *Consulta*, Count Sforza had to ask him to sum up what he still had to say. Naturally, *Italia Nuova* commented on the incident, saying that after only three days of meetings, the Leftist parties were already doing all they could to prevent the opposition from speaking. The monarchist paper said that the *Consultori*'s duty was to have listened to all that Bencivenga had to say, since his criticism of the Government and of the C. L. N. was absolutely correct, and that no other orators before him had been reminded that their speeches should be shorter.

The next day Foreign Minister De Gasperi, back from London, gave a detailed account of his mission, ending with an appeal to the Allies to remember President Roosevelt's ideals, that is, that this war was fought in order to safeguard out the various problems of the moment. He promised that the date for the elections of the *Costituente* would be fixed very shortly and asked all Italians not to forget that Italy is still under an Armistice regime and, therefore, in an unsettled situation. There was hope, however, that justice would be respected and that peace would be based on constructive principles. He ended by inviting the people to unite and to work.

The press, on the whole, declared itself satisfied with this first "experiment" of the *Consulta*, though, as almost all newspapers indicated, this was no reason further to delay the convocation of the *Costituente*. Subalpino, in *Avanti*, said that the *Consulta*, being a democratic assembly, should move out of Montecitorio which, somehow, "stinks of the *saluto romano*", though it was built before Fascism; this is only a proof, said the Socialist writer, that Parri was right in stating that, even before Fascism, democracy did not exist in Italy. *Ricostruzione* pointed out that speeches should be "spoken" and not "read", because it was very easy to read somebody else's works. Sforza himself added a jest to the occasion when he announced that microphones would be available for use of the orators, so that their voices might be better heard throughout the large hall, but that he regretted he could not supply microphones to all the "interrupters". *Italia Libera* said that this first week of meetings had strengthened the union between anti-Fascist parties, but that the parties must not consider this unity as a goal, but as a means to attain more important goals. The independent paper *Tempo* said that now we could realize how wide the gap was between the leftist group and the other parties and that there was no possibility of concord between them.

Nitti Attack.

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The next day Foreign Minister De Gasperi, back from London, gave a detailed account of his mission, ending with an appeal to the Allies to remember President Roosevelt's ideals, that is, that this war was fought in order to safeguard the rights of men. He added that Italy believes that a just and constructive peace can be based only on such principles. Finally, on 2 October, Parri spoke again and answered very briefly all the various speeches which had been made during the week. He declared himself satisfied with the first experience of the *Consulta* which, rather than expressing its own opinion, had pointed out the various problems of the moment. He promised that the date for the elections of the *Costituente* would be fixed very shortly and asked all Italians not to forget that Italy is still under an Armistice regime and, therefore, in an unsettled situation. There was hope, however, that justice would be respected and that peace would be based on constructive principles. He ended by inviting the people to unite and to work.

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Nitti Attack.

On 3 October, as the *Consulta* was ending, former Prime Minister Nitti delivered his long-promised speech in the San Carlo theatre in Naples. The pre-war politician had the courage to say what so many Italians think but dare not pronounce, according to *Secolo XX*. At least his words touched to the core the sensitiveness of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

many, judging by the immediate reaction and comment they evoked. Nitti said that all the energies of a six-party Government were spent in trying to maintain order among these parties, instead of facing much more vital problems. These parties, he continued, though calling themselves anti-Fascist, were really still imbued with Fascist principles and Fascist mentality. He pointed out how absurd it was to want to have Communists in the same Government with Socialists – whose ideals he described as in absolute conflict – and even Catholics and Liberals, who were the natural enemies of all forms of Communism. He stressed the fact that Italy could not hope to receive help from abroad unless she showed the world that she was at least capable of stability, security and order: this help, furthermore, would be more likely to come from the western democracies than from anywhere else, he said. He made a spate of charges: it was high time to dissolve the C. L. N.; epuration should have been carried out a long time ago, all Italians with very few exceptions, were responsible for Fascism, as they were all Fascist. He went on to say that Italy would never be Communist and that a fusion between western Socialism and Bolshevism was not possible because of the great difference of mentality between Italians and Russians, as well as for historical and geographical reasons. Would it not be more important, he said, to know what and how we shall eat this winter, than to know when the *Costituente* is going to be convoked? Nitti ended his long speech by stating: "Should I form a new party, as many of my friends would like me to do, I would form a national party of reconstruction."

Unità, as might have been expected, immediately attacked Nitti, asserting that all those reactionary forces which did not find in the *Consulta* a man around whom to group themselves, would now naturally group around Nitti. *Italia Libera* joined the chorus and called Nitti a reactionary, saying that he had kept out of the *Consulta* because he knew that in that legal assembly his words would have provoked immediate answers. Leonida Repaci, in *Epoca*, approved of the speech in general but defended the necessity of having, at the present moment, a leftist Govern-

Other Business.

On the fourth the Ministry of the Interior announced officially the arrest or rather the "fermo" of Finocchiaro Aprile, leader of the Sicilian Separatist movement. Spataro, Undersecretary for the Interior, stated that Finocchiaro Aprile "and Company" might be tried, since they were allegedly responsible for concrete crimes covered by law, but that it would perhaps be inadvisable to hold a trial which might give too great a political importance to the matter. Pacciardi at once expressed his disapproval of the procedure; either people must be arrested and tried, according to law, or else they should be free to express their own opinions. Pacciardi added that the Republicans had always disapproved of the Sicilian Separatist movement, and ended by hinting that this belated "fermo" had been carried out because the movement was evolving and becoming something of a Republican movement. *Italia Nuova* very briefly said: "at last".

The Ministers, too, have been busy, meeting twice in these eight days. On 28 September, an agreement with the Allies on the handing over to the Italian Government of surplus war material was approved. It was decided that the agreement drawn between the C. G. I. L. and the industrialists would become legal on the 15th of October. According to this agreement, all workers who once belonged to the OVRA or who have been epurated owing to their Fascist activities, as well as those who have other sources of income apart from their work, will be discharged and paid a daily indemnity of 30 lire during a maximum period of two months; working hours will be reduced to 40 per week; as many veterans as possible will be offered work.

Commenting on these measures, *Italia Libera* said that the Government was not really solving the problem of unemployment but merely making a series of compromises. It then suggested that the Government should organise a sort of labor army in which unemployed workers could enlist. They would be housed and fed and sent to various zones to do work not requiring any special training. During the last months of the Com-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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The papers of 4 October announced in huge headlines the apparent failure of the London Conference. According to *Avanti*, this failure shows

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

clearly that international cooperation cannot be the same in peace as in war. It is no use, said the Socialist organ, to try to decide which of the five Foreign Ministers is to blame. The Conference failed because the delegates tried to solve some of the problems set before them without realizing that all problems were tied up with one another. *Epoca* pessimistically wondered how Italy could have ever hoped to obtain something from the London conference, because, (it said) "Italy is merely an unimportant pawn in the big chess game which is being played in the world". *Globo*, the economic paper, said that, even if the political questions of frontiers cannot be solved now, at least countries which find themselves in a situation as tragic as Italy's should be put in a position to rebuild their economic activity. According to *Il Popolo*, Italy is a victim of disagreements among the Big Powers; the Cristian Democratic newspaper wondered why at least the question of colonies had not been solved.

"Italian contribution to the war of liberation." This headline, more or less the same in all the papers which mentioned the matter, appeared the other day across two or three columns of the first pages. The A. M. G. and A. C. Review had been released to the press and evidently, according to the Roman journalists, the most important items of the whole booklet were the figures on the Italian contribution to the war against Germany.

THE FUTURE

What's going to happen to all of us is something any of us can make his own guess at, but at this writing and from this vantage, the official facts at the moment are nil. There are, however, several factors which our own High Command have been chewing over, factors, moreover, open to the view of anyone who will sit down for a moment and analyze the known situation. First, the A. C., as in the times of original organization and amalgamation with AMG in the dear, dead and hectic winter of 1943, is in the throes of change, but it is not merely the dissolution of a military government group aiding combat operations which is the only factor. The paratherefore, of how the peace is obtained and maintained is what fundamentally is now up for action. Diplomatic channels, of course, are the routes to international solutions. The point of the minute is whether military representation is necessary as a sort of traffic guide for the freight travelling the crowded diplomatic highway.

And that is where we, the A. C., begin to figure in the picture. If one reads the newspapers, one knows that the London Conference terminated its sessions without announcing an Italian peace treaty. The delay in the handover of territory in the North, it is obious, has been tied up with the larger diplomatic questions. One knows that the Province of Udine is slated for even later handover than the rest of the North for obvious military reasons. The claiming by Austria of the South Tyrol or Alto Adige in the area of the Province of Bolzano as reported in the press raises another complication of handover. Then, lastly, there is the matter of Venezia-Giulia, now being studied by the deputies of the Big Five's Foreign Ministers. Until the diplomatic air clarifies, military forces will sit on the lid. How long we, as the A. C., go on sitting depends on decisions of the highest policy now being reviewed in Washington as to how far the U. S. wishes to use occupation forces as one means of implementing its foreign policy. That is the issue now being described in the U. S. press as occupying the attention of American officialdom. The British, with several centuries of active experience out from the native isles, apparently already have their policy.

The latest facts about U. S. officer personnel, as brought back from MTOUSA by Col. Charles M. Parkin, Commanding Officer, 2675th Regiment, are these: No one with 75 points, of course, can be declared essential and retained if he does not voluntarily wish to stay. Therefore, he will be redeployed and probably discharged as soon as the point system gets around to his number. Those who are willing to stay on a long-term basis now have to sign a Class A certificate (unfortunately, the third – and we hope – the last of its kind), which reads that the officer elects to continue on extended active duty unless sooner relieved, until 30 June 1947 or for the duration

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

can still sign a Class B certificate (described in last week's *Bulletin*).

Col. Parkin also brought back word that the A. C. will have a top priority in replacements. Col. Parkin was also successful in clearing up what has been a rather muddled situation in the Regiment's T/O and strength. At present, on the U. S. side until 1 November, when a new T/O and strength will be fixed, the Regiment will have 443 officers and 868 enlisted men. It has already been announced that, as of 1 December, the Regiment should have a total of 700 persons, figured as 250 officers and 450 enlisted men. The over-worked personnel section of the Regiment will have to bank heavily on the promised replacements since, at present count, for the December 1st date, the known quantities who will be here are very few. In fact, at this reading, the figures are 154 officers, consisting of 46 Class A officers, 33 Class B (the six-month class) and the rest in low-score officers. Enlisted men of the Regular Army and with low scores who will be here 1 December now number only 185. One solution has been suggested: that certificates of necessity for officers whose services are essential be issued by the War Department. The Economic and Civil Affairs Sections are even now drawing up such lists of key personnel.

The British will have an equal number of officers and men which they anticipate no trouble in providing. However, the rapid redeployment is cutting wide swathes through American ranks in the North and in Venezia-Giulia, so there is actual danger of serious lapse from Allied parity, that is, equal numerical representation on the British and American sides. Besides the redeployed officers and men, though at the moment there are orders in from MTOUSA ordering any A. C. contingents in to the reppledepple depots, not a few officers are returning to civil life by application, citing the urgency of their presence in their peacetime businesses. The steady withdrawal of American personnel, not to mention the large number of British officers going home on LIAP (leave), prompted regional commissioners of the North to suggest recently the withdrawal of AMG in all except the border provinces. The proposal, of course, had to be rejected for for example, are being redeployed in one fell swoop, as in signals, which has prompted a suggestion that all hands try to keep signal traffic at a minimum to help the hard-pressed staff remaining.

A brighter note as far as retaining some enlisted personnel lies in a MTOUSA circular which says that EM can sign a Class I certificate, that is, to stay in military service for the duration and six months, or a Class II, which means to stay on in this theater as long as required but not to exceed the duration plus six months. The official interpretation of the Class II certificate is that, if a soldier signs up to continue service in this theater, he will probably be lucky enough to find that MTO will wind up about 1 December and, therefore, he will be eligible for redeployment, according to Col. Parkin, since the Class II certificate is only for this theater. Incidentally, the colonel added, no EM will be considered for promotion who has more than 60 points unless he has signed either a Class I or II paper.

PIEMONTE

Col. Floyd E. Thomas, RC of Piemonte, has been continuing the profitable (to us) custom of making minutes of his regional meetings easily available, so we take this opportunity to look more closely at the hills of Piemonte and the gay city of Turin. As usual, things are under control but there are always enough problems to plague a harrassed Provincial Commissioner. For example, the Prefect of Alessandria attended the assembly of the *Consulta* in Rome and upon his return promptly submitted his resignation. The PC is wondering what is the connection. Probably the new democrary. In Turin, 300 representatives of industrial groups told AMG officials that the newly instituted bread ration was inadequate to them. (The North's heavy worker ration has been cut down somewhat to allow a national increase in that category.) In Novara, the local partisan leader, after a huddle with the AMG public safety officer, put out a manifesto asking for the surrender of arms. Approximately 35 truckloads came in. Maybe the idea

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

have been ordered. Finally, owing to the shortage of personnel, the Region is trying to work out a system whereby at least two officers will still be stationed in each of the seven provinces.

ODDS AND ENDS

The old, familiar faces are certainly leaving us, one of the latest being Brigadier A. P. Grafftey-Smith, joint director of the Finance Sub-Commission, who has, with one exception, probably seen longer service in military government for Italy than any other British officer or OR, in fact, two years and five months of it since he joined the first civil affairs group at Chrea in North Africa after serving with British tank forces in the desert campaigns; we will miss the Brigadier, not only for his personal and never-failing charm and friendliness but also for his calm good sense and the cool dispatch with which he handled the intricate problems of his recondite specialty... The wheat mass amassing, sad to relate, had the poorest week so far, according to the report of 1 October, which listed a collection of 812,800 tons or 62 per cent. of the 1,304,000 ton goal; Italian Government territory reported 67 per cent. of its target while AMG territory 59 per cent... As usual, the Sicilian collections in Italian Government territory are the worst, only 15 per cent. having been gathered and an immediate shortage in the public food stocks being reported, probably resulting in a demand for early diversion of a grain ship to Sicily... AFHQ and the A. C. are cooking up a deal whereby Economic Section representation will be had in London to look after Italian requirements before the various European economic organizations now existing for allocation of goods and services... Erratum: The Communes of Naples and Livorno – but NOT the ports – will probably be turned back to the Italians when the handover of the North is announced... Allied political representatives will shortly be set up at Trieste: a British Political Officer and a Representative of the U. S. Political Adviser at Caserta... XIII Corps AMG is proposing that a liaison officer be appointed at Rome to expedite handling of questions between A. C. and Venezia-Giulia, particularly on the economic side... Public Safety and Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commissions are running into headaches in the form of certain nationals travelling in the North without proper authorization; 17 of one group have been arrested... Italian Prisoners-of-War Division reports that use of the port of Taranto as a port of ingress for repatriated Italian POWs may have to be abandoned because of the continued presence of the plague, the latest figures being 18 cases with nine deaths... We are happy to congratulate 17 new captains: Frank J. Amoruso, Clarence Anderson, Carl C. Banno, Salvatore A. Casale, Joseph A. Cicala, George M. Clegg, George G. Delmerico, Carl E. Fehr, Ralph F. Germann, Robert W. Lott, George M. Marinkov, Louis Mehr, Blaise J. Opulente, David L. O'Toole, Clement C. Petrillo, Milton Steinberg and Lester H. Weil...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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September 29, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 26

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POLITICAL

Un ban Governo, fiji, nun è quello
che v'abbotta l'arecchie in sempiterno.
BELLI.

Certainly the reopening of *Montecitorio* on 25 September has been a great event; not only the journalists' stalls but also the gallery reserved for the public, was full, in fact, packed. The first meeting of the *Consulta* was awaited with curiosity and anxiety by everybody. The whole of Rome seemed to be listening to hear what this new assembly would promise the country. Old politicians, and men who are at their first political essays, and also a few women – about a dozen – are among the *Consultori*. A few of the Left seats were occupied first, then Bergamini made his appearance and sat on the Right, followed shortly afterwards by Lucifero and a few others belonging to the P. D. I. (Italian Democratic party). Then more Communists arrived and sat on the extreme Left, Croce sat in the Left Center. It thus happened that the Communists, Socialists and Actionists were immediately followed, topographically by the Liberals, while the Christian Democrats sat in the very center. No one, except the few followers of Bergamini and Lucifero, seemed to want to sit on the Right. This fact was amply commented upon by the whole press the next day, and interpreted, on the whole, as a leftist tendency of the whole of Italy, by others, it was interpreted as a residue of Fascist habits, that is, as a fear of appearing to belong to the reaction.

Sforza was elected President with 244 votes, but the 95 ballots which remained blank proved, according to *Il Lavoro*, that the feelings of the assembly were evidently not quite as leftist as being elected by the people, would legally define the future of the country. The temporary president Agnini, a 90-year-old Socialist, violently accused the Italian monarchy of having helped and supported Fascism. His words were greeted with shouts of "*Viva l'Italia Repubblicana*". This cry is a sign, said *Voce Repubblicana* the following day, that as soon as the *Costituente* is formed, Italy will become a Republic. *Avanti*, too, said that these words represent a prophesy; the *Consulta*, the Socialist paper continued, though it has appeared late, indeed at a time the *Costituente* should be meeting, represents nevertheless "a happy beginning by which we can foresee an even happier ending". *Italia Libera* wrote that the spontaneous manifestation in favor of the Republic must not be ignored, as it is a sign of the complete renewal of the country and it shows that the spirit of the assembly is turned towards the future. Lince, in *Italia Nuova*, seemed very proud that the Democrats had not been ashamed of showing their opinion by sitting on the Right.

Second Day.

The next day the *Consulta* met again, and Parri made a long speech on the political, economic and reconstruction plans of the Government. During his statement, Parri mentioned the fact that Italian pre-Fascist regimes were not democratic; these words aroused mixed shouts of approval and disapproval among the *Consultori*, and evoked many comments in the press. *Italia Nuova* called these words a "huge gaffe" and wondered whether the President believed he had invented democracy and had therefore a monopoly of it. *Tempo*, an independent paper, disapproved entirely and expressed the opinion that, on the contrary, Italian pre-Fascist political life gave

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Sforza was elected President with 244 votes, but the 95 ballots which remained blank proved, according to *Il Lavoro*, that the feelings of the assembly were evidently not quite as leftist as the positions in the hall. A Christian Democrat, Mario Cingolani, and a Socialist, Arnaldo Lucci, were appointed vice-presidents. Prime Minister Parri then spoke, and said that the *Consulta* finds itself in the same position as the Government, that is of not having been elected by the people, but that it was its duty to collaborate with the Government in preparing the *Costituente* which, being elected by the people, would legally define the future of the country. The temporary president Agnini, a 90-year-old Socialist, violently accused the Italian monarchy of having helped and supported Fascism. His words were greeted with shouts of "*Viva l'Italia Repubblicana*". This cry is a sign, said *Voce Repubblicana* the following day, that as soon as the *Costituente* is formed, Italy will become a Republic. *Avanti*, too, said that these words represent a prophesy; the *Consulta*, the Socialist paper continued, though it has appeared late, indeed at a time the *Costituente* should be meeting, represents nevertheless "a happy beginning by which we can foresee an even happier ending". *Italia Libera* wrote that the spontaneous manifestation in favor of the Republic must not be ignored, as it is a sign of the complete renewal of the country and it shows that the spirit of the assembly is turned towards the future. Lince, in *Italia Nuova*, seemed very proud that the Democrats had not been ashamed of showing their opinion by sitting on the Right.

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4433

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

the disastrous Axis policy. *Avanti* gave whole hearted approval to Parri's words. The Christian Democrat organ, *Il Popolo*, was rather on the defensive and wondered whether the *Consulta* would prove to be an active organ or not; it also blamed Parri for his words which only had the effect of setting two generations – the pre-Fascist and the young one – against each other.

SACMED DEPARTS

We would like to take this opportunity to reprint a couple of lines from Marshal Alexander's farewell speech the other night at AFHQ. The Allied Commission must deeply appreciate such a tribute from a great leader, a great general, and we know it in our bones, a great Governor-General-to-be of Canada. Here are the Marshal's words:

"The Allied Commission, under the capable direction of Admiral Stone, has been a very corner stone in our whole Allied setup and I owe him an immense debt of gratitude too for his extremely efficient handling of affairs and for the close and friendly relations we have always enjoyed."

HIDDEN TALENT

With the stress of urgent operations over, more personal news of our personnel is sifting through. We have it that Capt. Anthony Ciliberti (A), besides being the crack executive officer of Turin Province in Piedmont, is also a song writer. The Captain has written one of the latest song hits on the Italian radio – *Bruenilde* – both music and lyrics. He holds an Italian copyright, too. The orchestration was done by a Turin dance-band leader. The profits from the song, more than 8,000 lire in six weeks, are going to the *Reffortoria dei Poveri* at Torretta, Sicily. Capt. Ciliberti began his AMG career back in July, 1943, when he landed on the Sicily beaches as a spearhead CAO. This unveils another chapter in the modest captain's tale, for, we learn, that no less than six towns in Sicily now have *Piazze Ciliberti* as a token of local appreciation spearhead and welfare work, Capt. Ciliberti has been a legal, administrative and provincial officer in AMG.

ECONOMIC FRONT

With everybody somewhat impatiently waiting for the turnover of the North and the chance to go home, news is really at a low ebb this week. The Economic Section is busy making reorganization plans under the guidance of Col. Charles W. Walton (A) and dividing functions into (1) those which can be turned over to UNRRA supply officials; (2) those which may be turned over to the embassies or some type of economic mission attached to the embassies, and (3) those which can be dispensed with. The work of the Sub-Commissions also has tapered off to a great degree, much of the work in the North having already been virtually handed over to Italian authorities.

For the nonce, the labor scene is quiet, the Naples German POW fracas having adjusted itself, with the help of A. C., and the Trieste general strike petering out after a couple of days. At its peak 100,000 workers were reported involved in the latter event. The chief cause was said to have been suspension of surplus workers especially in shipyards.

The wheat amassing continues fair to middling, collections as of 24 September being 801,500 tons or 61 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal. Italian Government territory collections were 65 per cent. of the target (64 per cent. at the same time last year in the same area) and AMG collections 59 per cent. of the desired amounts, although it should be pointed out that the AMG total is 464,900 tons against the Italian territory total of 336,600 tons.

Col. Leonard Densmore, Chief Staff Officer of the Economic Section, in a visit to five Food Sub-Commission warehouses in Naples, found quantities of goods belonging to Sub-Commissions other than Food. Inasmuch as all the items had been ordered because urgently needed, Sub-Commissions have been jacked up to get their goods to the customers as soon as possible, particularly

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Food Sub-Commission transportation liaison officers report a pretty situation in wine movements. Although 12 wine trains from Apulia to the North in the last two weeks have moved 6,600 tons of wine in cistern cars, 90,000 tons of shipping made available to move wine surpluses

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

have hardly been used, less than 20,000 tons having been shipped in the last month. Price speculation is named as the big trouble.

THE GIRLS HE LEFT BEHIND

Meandering through the mazes of A. C. Headquarters building, it might not be immediately noticed that there is something amiss, a *je-ne-sais-quoi*, a trifle perhaps, but definitely an item of lack that somehow changes the atmosphere. For Cpl. Rolando Maiale (A) has been redeployed. Rolando, or rather Maiale, for the last two years has been in charge of the 42 A. C. receptionists and escort guides, the little Italian girls at the information desks and in uniform who conduct the Corporazioni's myriad visitors to their destinations. Maiale was a good soldier and fulfilled the duties assigned to him, even though they involved being a chaperon, a father confessor and a nurse, not to mention a big brother and a bouncer, at various times. And the girls miss him tremendously. When he left, they all cried and all 42 kissed him good-bye. Maiale's charges, not an inconsiderable number of whom are handsome and nubile, have one 100 per cent. record which Maiale boasted of in an interview granted the press upon his retirement. Every one of the girls has been proposed to since being employed by the A. C. And not a few have gotten married to American soldiers. Indeed, stricken G. I.'s were always one of Maiale's problems, which he sometimes had to solve by physical force, i. e., ejection of the suitor. Sometimes, the situation was a little more complicated as the time a young Air Corps major was paying suit. Inevitably, too, there were the little tiffs and spats of girls to straighten out and the necessity to keep harmony in his group. Operationally, Maiale had to be on hand to answer questions which floored his girls, such as, "How can I get to the United States: You see, I am almost an American citizen as my mother-in-law's sister's cousin lives in Brooklyn." There was also the daily $64 question: "What is the name of the blond over there?" As he sails home, ending three and a half years of war, the Corporal, who is single and 37, must also feel a nostagic pang now and then, particularly when he recalls the birdlike chatter of 42 Italian maidens that fills the A. C. Headquarters building lobby of a morning about 10 a. m. with a high hum like an aviary in springtime.



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Cpl. Maiale and Family.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Fergus McCleary (B) has been appointed Chief Staff Officer to the Executive Commissioner, succeeding Lieut. Col. Evan Talbot, who is going home... It's proposed that Allied war correspondents will revert to full civilian status as foreign correspondents 15 October and will come under care of the press attachés of the British and American Embassies, although military authorities will give the correspondents what facilities they can while the army is still around... Brigadier M. Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, reports that Bolzano still has the problem of epurating occasional Nazis and that progress in epuration is rather slow, only 600 of an estimated 5,000 required *schede personali* having been received and only one suspension having resulted so far... The latest awards are as follows: *Legion of Merit:* Maj. Ralph R. Temple and Col. Edmund O. Howell; *Bronze Star:* Pfc. Joseph A. Nardini, Pfc. Nathan Schiff, T/4 Ernest C. Nusca, First Lieut. Ralph F. Germann, Capt. Guido A. Alasia, Major John W. Ballew, Major Frank Brannigan, Master Sergt. Ido A. Gracis, Major Clayton C. Craig, Pfc. James I. McCormick, T/5 Charles A. Palmer, T/5 Rembert F. Swilling, T/4 Paul J. Furlani, T/4 Robert F. Middlekauff, Staff Sergt. Bernard M. Peebles, First Lieut. Carl C. Banno, Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin, Major John P. Leacacos, Major Franklin P. Luckman and Col. Clarence P. Bolick, First Lieut. Joseph E. Amoruso, Capt. Louis T. Montant... Lieut. Col. E. L. Palmieri (A) is acting as observer for the Civil Affairs Section at the current meeting of the Consulta in Rome... Now that any U. S. officer may be released from military service and redeployed home if he has 75 points or more and can be retained only if he volunteers to stay, the Establishment Section will shortly ask American officers to sign up under two classifications: (1) For the duration plus six months; (2) for six months but not later than 5 March 1946 and not earlier than 31 December 1945, although release from this latter clause may be obtained if the A. C. declares such an officer surplus in the interim...

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September 22, 1945

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 25

POLITICAL

Calamitosus est animus futuri anxius.
SENECA

Anxiety has been the feeling prevalent in this last week's press. Everybody is awaiting, in a kind of fever, the results of the London meeting. Every newspaper seems to have a special correspondent in London, who sends in news and rumors daily. Headlines are being written in block letters and high sounding words are used, but not much concrete is said. Comments are vague, except for the fact that all parties—the Communists alone abstaining—ardently hope that the matter of the Italian Northeastern frontier will be settled so as not to give way to Tito's claims. The question of the Italian colonies has also given vent to a spate of comments. Molinari, in *Avanti*, pointed out that Italian Socialists have always been opposed to imperialism and the old-fashioned way of colonization, and suggests that this would be a good time to overhaul the whole problem of colonies, Italian or others, and make a fresh start, doing away with exploitation. Italy should realize that her colonies have been profitable to only a few and that the results of fifty years of efforts have not been proportional to the expenditure of money and labour. Sforza, interviewed on the matter, said that whoever does not foresee the imminent awakening of the Arab world must be utterly blind. *Tribuna del Popolo* continued the argument which had been taken up last week by *Risorgimento Liberale* and said that it cannot be forgotten that Italian pre-Fascist colonies were occupied with the consent of other powers and never were a menace to anybody.

The question of Italy's Northeastern border the cession of Trieste to Yugoslavia is simply inadmissible. *Il Popolo* ended by saying that a peace based on such a line of conduct would be the denial of the principles of nationalities and of all the claims for which the Western Democracies say they have been fighting. Nenni declared, in one of his speeches, that he did not think Yugoslavia should be asked to go back to her frontiers of 1919—which were not based on any principle of justice—but that Italy's right to Trieste should be recognized. Should Italy be deprived of Trieste, added Nenni, then Italian internal reaction would start.

London invitation.

After having received London's invitation to send an Italian mission to the Conference, Prime Minister Parri stated in the *Giornale del Mattino* that the Italian people and the Italian Government realized quite well that they would have to pay for Fascism. "However," he said, "we shall not go to London with the mental attitude of one who begs for indulgence; the Morgan line is exclusively a military line which can satisfy neither Italians nor Yugoslavs." He added that Italy hopes to obtain the co-operation of every victorious country and that justice is the only possible foundation for peace. After De Gasperi's first speech at the London Conference, *Momento* pointed out that Italian public opinion was bound to be hurt by the fact that the Italian delegation had to speak in the presence of the Yugoslavs, but had to retire when it was the Yugoslavs' turn to speak. *Momento* said bitterly that, though the war is over, the world has as yet no peace, because none of the promises made during the war have been kept.

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4432

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Calumniamur est animus futuri anxius.
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The question of Italy's Northeastern border was naturally the chief source of comment. *Il Popolo*, the Christian Democrat organ, expounded De Gasperi's statement, that Italy is ready to make further concessions based on the Wilson line, but that no Italian Government would ever take in consideration the absurd Yugoslav claims, unless it is a Government of traitors, and that the cession of Trieste to Yugoslavia is simply inadmissible. *Il Popolo* ended by saying that a peace based on such a line of conduct would be the denial of the principles of nationalities and of all the claims for which the Western Democracies say they have been fighting. Nenni declared, in one of his speeches, that he did not think Yugoslavia should be asked to go back to her frontiers of 1919—which were not based on any principle of justice—but that Italy's right to Trieste should be recognized. Should Italy be deprived of Trieste, added Nenni, then Italian internal reaction would start.

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Unità, in open opposition to the rest of the press, declared that Italian Communists will always react against anyone who might want to use them as a pawn in an international anti-Soviet intrigue. *Unità* accused the British press of being anti-Russian in its comments on the London meeting, and Anglo-American news agencies of releasing lies against the USSR. It accused the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Italian press of servility for repeating these lies. *Unità* has also had a series of carping articles against the Allies. It blamed Brig. J. K. Dunlop for "incomprehension" in the matter of the Schio slaughter, the Allies for an allegedly anti-democratic attitude in dealing in matters which do not concern them directly. It made a violent attack against the Allied authorities in Naples for dismissing Italian workers in order to give work to German prisoners, thus causing discontent and not a few incidents in the town.

Council of Ministers.

Parri held his regular press conference on 17 September. He pointed out that Italy did not wait for the end of the war to change her front as other countries have done. On the Schio trials, he said that such events put Italy in a very sad position because Italians cannot but recognise the unfortunate repercussions of such deeds. Speaking about the elections, he said that they may have to be postponed by a few weeks as the Government is determined to solve the problem of public order.

Nenni, speaking in Bologna, said that the elections for the *Costituente* may be held either during the winter or at the beginning of Spring, hedging from his previous position of holding the *Costituente* by the end of the year. Meanwhile, the first meeting of the *Consulta* should be held about the 25th, it was decided during the Council of Ministers meeting on the 19th. The *Consulta* patently cannot replace the *Costituente*, wrote *Italia Libera*, but it is, however, one step forward towards democratic rebirth of the country. The Action Party paper went on to say that the *Consultori* should take the oath to the country and not to the king; that the *Consulta* should hold public meetings; that all its members should have the right to question the Government on any subject whatsoever and to receive an answer to their questions. Other items discussed by the Council were the handing over to the Ministry of Finance the task of confiscation of Fascist profits; allotment of three and a half billion lire to the Ministry of Post-War Relief, and approval of five and a half billion lire for repairs by the Ministry of Public Works.

considerations so as to leave the least possible number of inhabitants under foreign administration, and to study the conditions which would insure an international regime of the port of Trieste by which this port would be used by both Italy and Yugoslavia as well as by the nations of Central Europe. The Italian mission in London was reported to have accepted this line of conduct. *Italia Nuova* pointed out that it must be very difficult, not to say impossible, to mark an ethnic line in a region such as Venezia Giulia where Italian and Slav populations are mixed up together. *Italia Nuova* also wondered whether the commission which will be sent to study the possible ethnic line on the spot, will study the country as far as Fiume.

GORIZIA HOT SPOT

Behind the current news of negotiations for an Italian peace treaty and adjudication of the Venezia-Giulia dispute lies an interesting tale, according to Lieut. Col. J. C. Smuts (B), Area Commissioner of Gorizia, which is regarded as the most delicate area in the region on account of the patent fact that it is more wholly Slovene than either of the other Venezia-Giulia areas, those of Pola and Trieste. The Slovenes, as everybody now knows who has been reading the newspapers, are simply not cooperating in carrying out AMG General Order 11, which asks for representation in local government. All Slovene representatives on various committees have resigned, both those which had to do with administration and those which were advisory. The Slovene gentleman who occupied the post of Area President, equivalent to prefect, likewise has quit.

In short, the CAOs of the Gorizia area, some 18, have thus had to become practically entire governments in themselves except where there are Italian officials, that is to say, in the localities where Italian population strength has permitted the appointment of Italian officials. That the Slovene non-cooperation or passive resistance, openly discussed in the Venezia-Giulia press, is impeding the work of AMG, there can be no question, though, to date, without too serious results. Food had already been issued in August

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

anti-democratic attitude in dealing in matters which do not concern them directly. It made a violent attack against the Allied authorities in Naples for dismissing Italian workers in order to give work to German prisoners, thus causing discontent and not a few incidents in the town.

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Anti-Climax.

On the 20th, a *Reuter* report announced that the Big Five foreign Ministers had charged their deputies to study the possibility of fixing a demarcation line between Italy and Yugoslavia based on ethnic Italy and Yugoslavia as well as by the nations of Central Europe. The Italian mission in London was reported to have accepted this line of conduct. *Italia Nuova* pointed out that it must be very difficult, not to say impossible, to mark an ethnic line in a region such as Venezia Giulia where Italian and Slav populations are mixed up together. *Italia Nuova* also wondered whether the commission which will be sent to study the possible ethnic line on the spot, will study the country as far as Fiume.

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Power and light apparently do not seem to have been interfered with since most of these companies are Italian-run. Public safety is still being handled entirely by Allied soldiers—

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

British military police and men of the U. S. 88th Division. There is no public health hazard, thankfully enough. The matter of school teachers is being watched carefully: will they teach in the Slovene schools or decline to do so?

Gorizia is the northern part of Venezia-Giulia and is estimated to have 110,000 residents, of whom 60,000 are Slovene and 50,000 Italian. The hilly country of the Isonzo Valley and the southeast portion of the area are Slovene almost solidly while the southwest section is mostly Italian. The city itself is some 35,000 to 40,000. The Slovene population is farming stock, working on small tracts. Many Italians are middle-class people, professional, artisan and business. In Gorizia city is one cotton mill, which employed 3,000 before the war, but now operates at low ebb because of lack of raw materials. There are also two iron foundries, brick and tile works and several saw mills and furniture factories in the vicinity. Economic activity, in general, is dormant.

A pretty problem in cooperation will be posed the Slovenes shortly by Col. Smuts who is trying to help rebuild before winter approximately 1,500 dwellings which the Germans burned down. It is expected that local materials will be found but the pressing problem of the moment is transport, 90 vehicles being needed. An attempt is being made to obtain them from a vehicle park in the area under control of AFHQ. The Colonel plans to dump the raw materials in the center of each affected village and, in effect, say to the villagers: Here is the stuff; will you help to help yourselves?

ECONOMIC FRONT

When and if the full supply program for Italy goes through and the requested materials for industry and railroads arrive, it has been predicted that 85 per cent. of full employment in Italy may again be achieved. Depending on the imponderables of the situation, that happy state would then arrive in *two* years. Anent this topic, Mr. S. M. Keeny, head of the UNRRA Mission to Italy, is leaving for the States to discuss the UNRRA supply program. He is being treks through the mountains and even stealthy voyages across the mine-strewn Gulf of Genoa. Italian Army troops as well as the CC. RR. and customs guards are on the job against the smugglers. Total collections in Italy as of 17 September, have been 748,200 tons of wheat or 57 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal. Italian Government territory collections were 61 per cent. of the targets while AMG-area were 55 per cent.

There is more labor news in Milan where a conference will be held 24 September on extending or modifying the Milan Agreement on wages. How many persons are still being paid the 75 per cent. "dole" for showing up at the factory and doing nothing is not known at present, although three months ago in Turin more than 90,000 persons were working less than 48 hours a week. Employers who have been paying this "wage" from their own pockets are reported desirous of ending their donations.

Other economic items include: The Allied Forces Local Resources Board may be abolished soon. The trade negotiations between France and Italy concerning exchange of Italian pyrites for French phosphate rock are still bogged down on prices. The possibility of revival of Italian-Austrian trade is being looked into.

ODDS AND ENDS

While to date only a mere sprinkling of U. S. officers have gone home under the redeployment program, 25 will leave this coming week in the biggest shipment to date, with promises held out by 2675 Regiment, that, subject to the overriding necessities of military government in the North, an increasing number of officers may now anticipate the pleasant prospect of early redeployment, particularly if they have more than 90 points... Shipping back the enlisted men has progressed very well, with only five EM left in the Regiment with over 80 points; 142 left in the past week... Col. Charles Poletti, RC of Lombardia, is going home; Col. A. N. Hancock (B), the Deputy RC, moves up while Col. W. A. Falck (A) takes the latter's place... Errata: Brigadier General William L. Lee has been appointed *Deputy Director* of the Air Forces Sub-Commis-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The wheat amassing report this week has a new angle—wheat smuggling. Not completely verified reports indicate something amiss in Alessandria Province, in Piemonte, where persons unknown are taking wheat over the French and Swiss borders to exchange for goods. This means tember, have been 748,200 tons of wheat or 57 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal. Italian Government territory collections were 61 per cent. of the targets while AMG-area were 55 per cent.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

trol at the time of the transfer of the North to Italian jurisdiction, once the date, as yet uncertain, is fixed... The Transportation Sub-Commission is being asked to help obtain special allocation of passenger space for Italian representatives to the first meeting of the *Consulta* next week... The Legion of Merit has been awarded to Lieut. Col. William M. Spann and Lieut. Col. Orpheus J. Bizzozero while Bronze Stars will go to Lieut. Col. Romayne T. Uhler (no longer with A. C.), T/4 Edward Vito, Major Paul S. Savage, Sergt. Nelson E. Reconini, Staff Sergt. Ralph D. Schifano, Technical Sergt. Dennis Giardina and First Lieut. Blaise J. Opulente... Several British awards have come through, many for officers no longer with A. C.: The O.B.E. has gone to Col. W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. P. Fried-James, Lieut. Col. M. A. M. Dickie and Lieut-Col. R. A. C. Routh, while the M.B.E. has been given to Major H. P. Drysdale and Major T. R. Ward...

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISS.
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/vs

17th September 1945

SUBJECT. : Weekly Bulletin.

TO : F.R.O.

1. Reference is made to Weekly Bulletin Sept 15 1945, which under odds and ends (towards the end) carries the statement that there are more telegraph circuits in Italy than before the war. This is not accurate, and should have read "between some of the major cities in Italy, etc."

H.H. SCUDDER
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director

6431

September 15, 1945 RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

ISSUED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 24

Director
Dy/Director
Chief, Pl[illegible]
Chief, Pers[illegible]
H Q, Comm. C.
Asst. Chief Pers[illegible]
Leadership
Chief Clerk

POLITICAL

Der weg zur Ruhe geht nur durch das Gebiet der allseitigsten Tätigkeit.

NOVALIS.

A very dull week on the whole. The Rome press has been chiefly concerned with rumors about the possible decisions which will be taken at the London meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the five big powers on the terms of the peace treaty with Italy. In one of *Avanti*'s leading articles, Nenni said that, though it is evidently true that Italy must take her share of responsibility for letting Fascism lead her into war, nevertheless it is to be hoped that her efforts on the side of the United Nations will not be forgotten. Nenni did not seem to mind the Greek claims on the Dodecanese but thought that the logical solution of the Venezia Giulia problem would be for both sides to recognise the "obvious" facts, that is, that while the hinterland is Slav, the cities on the west coast of Istria are Italian. Nenni believed that it would be possible to work out a reasonable boundary and again suggested that Trieste might be made an international port.

The leader of the Communist party, Togliatti, wrote in *Unità* that public opinion is still rather confused and that this is due, in part, to the disquieting information – often false – received from abroad. Italy will have a just peace, said Togliatti, only if she is able to free herself from the remains of nationalism and imperialism which still encourage foreign reactionary groups to attempt to strengthen internal reaction. However, during his weekly press conference which he held on 7 September, Prime Minister Parri assured the country that Italy's peace would not be a [illegible]

ers who are at present paid by their employees though not actually working, these masses would probably not be as large as was at present feared. Answering *Italia Nuova*'s attack (see last week's *Bulletin*), Parri said that he had no intention of setting any limit at criticism made against him or his Government, but that these limits must merely be dictated by a "sense of responsibility and tact". This statement offered Enzo Selvaggi, in next day's *Italia Nuova*, the occasion of pointing out the difference between the stenographic report of the press conference in which Parri is said to see no objection to "unlimited" criticism in the press, and the first-hand account according to which criticism must be "limited".

Council meeting.

The Council met on the 12th and studied the possibility of speeding up administrative elections. It will meet again in about ten days to decide whether these elections will take place progressively or whether they will be held simultaneously all over the country. Nenni expressed the opinion that it would probably be possible to hold them towards the end of November throughout Italy. At the same meeting of the Council of Ministers matters of internal administration were approved, such as allotment of a hundred million lire to the Italian Red Cross (which also has to look after relief to veterans) and allotment of a further billion lire to the Ministry of Agriculture for repairs to public works damaged by the war.

On the 9th the Action party held a meeting at the Brancaccio. After Cianca's speech on Italian political problems two years after the Armistice, Parri stated that "freedom of propaganda and opinion must be granted to everybody, monarchists included". Naturally, these last

4480

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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During the same press conference the President of the Council spoke also about the unemployment problem and stated that, in spite of the fact that by November the number of unemployed would be increased by those numerous workers who are at present paid by their employers though not actually working, these masses would probably not be as large as was at present feared. Answering *Italia Nuova's* attack (see last week's *Bulletin*), Parri said that he had no intention of setting any limit at criticism made against him or his Government, but that these limits must merely be dictated by a "sense of responsibility and tact". This statement offered Enzo Selvaggi, in next day's *Italia Nuova*, the occasion of pointing out the difference between the stenographic report of the press conference in which Parri is said to see no objection to "unlimited" criticism in the press, and the first-hand account according to which criticism must be "limited".

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On the 9th the Action party held a meeting at the Brancaccio. After Cianca's speech on Italian political problems two years after the Armistice, Parri stated that "freedom of propaganda and opinion must be granted to everybody, monarchists included". Naturally, these last two words aroused *Italia Nuova's* indignation; Menippo said that "liberty and democracy are not things which Parri can give away".

Several other matters got play in the press. The execution of Bellomo, which took place on the 11th, brought strong criticism from both leftist and rightist parties. A rumor that the King of Italy

4480

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

was about to abdicate was immediately denied by the press office of the Presidency. At the same time the second anniversary of the "flight of the King from Rome" provided a subject for criticism, particularly from the Republicans who insisted on the necessity, for the good of the country, of doing away with monarchy.

Rumors from Washington and London, according to which Italy may possibly be deprived of all or part of her colonies, have met with indignant protests, mostly based on the *leit-motif* that African territories which have been cultivated and civilized through Italian money and Italian labor, should be left to Italy, and that Italy needs her colonies in order to allow Italians to emigrate. *Risorgimento Liberale* said that the Allies should keep in mind that, after all, Italy occupied Eritrea and Somaliland with the full consent of Great Britain, or rather, following Great Britain's request, and asked if it were logical to believe that the motives which made Great Britain ask for Italian cooperation have ceased to exist.

Indications of an increasing separatist movement in Alto Adige has caused comment. The organ of the Labor Democrat party, *Ricostruzione*, deplored the fact that the local C. L. N. does nothing to persuade the population that it should be Italian and holds Fascism responsible for this. *Tribuna del Popolo* said that Italy insists on wanting at all costs to keep that bit of Northern Italy which is decidedly German for a matter of frontiers; it is not possible, for Italy, says the paper, to abandon the Brenner line; this would, it is true, rectify an ethnic error, but would on the other hand be a serious political mistake.

SCRAP AND SURPLUS

The long and short of it, the experts say, is that the Italian Government will reap a bonanza out of the fact the war in the Far East ended as fast as it did. American Army units were refurbishing their equipment prior to redeployment to the Japanese battle zone and no hard-headed G-4 was going to leave anything behind that could be used and shipped. Now in the European theater there is already a pool of more

office of the Army-Navy Liquidation Commission is available.

Meticulously the catalog, the first of a series, describes every item from typewriters and vehicles to innumerable gadgets, lists a unit price in dollars, and then fixes goods by lots, with the lot price being the simple addition of all the unit prices in the lot. In this manner, of course, the ANLC protects itself from having to act as a retailer to any stray customer who might want a pair of shoes or one lamp bulb. American governmental agencies get first crack at the goods, the agencies including FEA which acts as a procuring agency for the AC and UNRRA, though the latter may shortly be given the right to buy in its own name. The priority list roughly then names the Italian Government, Allied Governments and, lastly, individuals of sound financial capacity. Payment is made in dollar consideration, though the Italian Government payment is naturally a matter of bookkeeping. Sales are made only after a 30-day waiting period to avoid fly-by-night speculators from reaping profits ahead of persons with true priorities.

In the Economic Section, Mr. Albert E. Dickens, U. S. civilian, has been studying the problem preparatory to the Section's probable early establishment of a unit to act as liaison between the ANLC and the AC whose Sub-Commissions are actively in the market to get needed materials, especially for industry. The unit also would have the function of knowing all availabilities and of so informing the Requisition Division, since it is basic policy that surplus materials should be substituted wherever possible for all items now being procured through the Requisition Division by FEA. In this manner, considerable of the $150,000,000 "troop pay" credit and the $100,000,000 former Lend-Lease credit can be used here in Italy and thus save shipping costs by buying on the spot, a trade advantage no one is going to overlook. The AC's first contacts with ANLC are resulting in 40,000 second-hand tires and 20,000 tons of trucks being made available to the Italian Government and industry.

British side.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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British side.

The British side of army surplus is also now being worked out, with present indications being that the British system will be considerably simpler than the American one. As Brigadier D. L. Anderson put it, it costs too much to take the stuff home and there are not enough products in Italy to exchange. He said that to get a ton of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

scrap steel to the dockside at Naples, ready for shipment to England, would cost 7 pounds, with further shipping and handling charges in Great Britain raising the final cost to probably 10 pounds while such scrap handling costs in the British Isles are only three or four pounds. As with American stores, there are no accurate figures on quantities, although British engineer stores alone recently ran as high as 250,000 tons. Likewise, the brigadier said he believed, it would be much more economical for the Italians to use material in derelict vehicles as scrap to make new ones which would be more efficient machines and so burn less gasoline and oil and provide many more jobs rather than repair the broken-down vehicles which, in the end, would burn an uneconomic amount of fuel.

These advantages now accruing to Italy from the Allied side—this theater had a million Allied soldiers with their equipment and supplies at one time, with most of the latter still here—are multiplied by the availability of captured German Army material, of which there are also vast amounts now being finally tabulated and the lists turned over to the War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission. With its job barely begun, this Sub-Commission in the last four months turned over nearly 35,000 tons of salvaged material to Italian agencies, including armor plate, scrap iron and aluminum, rubber, paper and canvas, oil drums, boot soles, sandbags and a host of other items, most of which needed re-processing. The Sub-Commission also got its hands on 100,000 tires and 500 scrap vehicles, likewise turned over for reconditioning.

Besides the quantities of German Army material given over to the Sub-Commission, in brief pratically everything the Allied Armies themselves had no use for, there are large stores of non-military goods in North Italy which the Germans had set aside to transport to Germany. These include clothing, silk, spirits, motor car spare parts, tires and also machine tools and heavy machinery removed from Italian factories, and much of it stored in the tunnels of the Dolomites.

German stores.

since much of the material will be returned to Italian agencies with which these Sub-Commissions are in touch. Signal supplies are abundant and the Communications Sub-Commission can hardly wait to get its hands on them. They include 1,250 types of stores, comprising, 89,000 insulators, 10,000 radio valves, 1,700 switchboards, 6,600 telegraph poles and 750 transmitters. Along this line, the AFHQ has ruled that civilian radio sets found in German stores and known to have been taken from Italian civilians be returned to them. That will be a nice one to untangle.

Public Works and Utilities and Industry Sub-Commissions similarly will be able to channel most effectively the quantities of German engineer supplies, which have 700 different items such as 500 gas cylinders, 7,900 brass rods, 10 generators, 138,000 glass plates, 2,850 electric motors, 99,000 steel bars and 150 water pumps. Public Health Sub-Commission has its eye on German medical supplies covering a wide field of drugs, salves and chemicals listed under 750 headings and amounting to 40,000 kilograms of certain items and 12,000,000 tubes of others. Chemical warfare supplies interest also Industry Sub-Commission, available being 490 oxigen breathing masks, 163 oxygen cylinders, 1,771 tons of rubber gloves and 625 tons of charcoal activators. Public Safety Sub-Commission will be thankful for the ordnance material of 57,000 small arms for its police as well as 900 binoculars. Considerable German salvage material has been collected in depots throughout the North and will be made available to Italians through Industry and Commerce Sub-Commissions. This stuff includes 7,000 large drums, 50 tons of light ferrous scrap, 50 tons of lead dross, 100 tons of scrap battery cases and 341 tons of scrap vehicle parts—bodies, gas tanks, car cabs, etc.

There are various German vehicle dumps that will be inspected in detail by the Transportation Sub-Commission. Near Rimini are nearly 600 vehicles. Also shortly available will be 658 horse-drawn wagons for farmers. In the Bolzano area are 814 lorries and 600 cars. In fact, final lists of all materials are not yet drawn up, especially of stores as yet not inventoried in the North, which AFHQ will allocate and which will remain frozen until such decision is made. This will

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The German military material lists are so full and complicated that no accurate compilation of totals has yet to be made but some indication of the scope of avaiability may be had from the following examples. (5th Army has been the compilative agency for AFHQ.) Incidentally, practically all Sub-Commissions of the AC will have some hand in eventual handling of the items, include 1,250 types of stores, comprising, 80,000 insulators, 40,000 radio valves, 1,500 switchboards, 6,600 telegraph poles and 750 transmitters. Along this line, the AFHQ has ruled that civilian radio sets found in German stores and known to have been taken from Italian civilians be returned to them. That will be a nice one to untangle.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

MORE ECONOMICS

Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, who, to the regret of all of us, will shortly be leaving the Commission after doing a most effective job here in stimulating Italian production, reports, after a swing through the North, that Italian heavy industry is definitely getting back on its feet. Coal and materials are arriving and are being put to immediate use. In Turin the Fiat works, where 11,000 are employed, are a good example, the Brigadier said, production now being about 30 vehicles a day—three- and seven-tonners and the little Fiat runabout car. It is hoped to step up the monthly output shortly to 1,000 for September and soon thereafter to 3,000 a month, which would be exactly half of the pre-war normal production. Biggest handicap at the moment is the supply of tires, a problem now being tackled with a hope to obtain some satisfaction from military sources in the shape of 40,000 second-hand tires. Further, and even more important in the long run, the American synthetic rubber process may shortly be available to Italian industry.

Brigadier Anderson also paid a flying visit to Trieste where he sat as chairman for the last time of the Joint Allied-Yugoslav Economic Committee. There are no striking economic problems on this front, it was indicated: rather a mild sort of freeze, with little actual trade to supervise, although an agreement has been reached whereby currency may now be transferred across the Morgan Line. Brigadier Ritchie of 13th Corps has taken over the chair of the Economic Committee.

Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, has returned from his trips to London and Washington with some clarification of the previously confused supply picture for Italy. The British supply agencies in London have agreed on certain commitments for Italy while in the U. S., the end of Lend-Lease will not mean the end of the $100,000,000 Lend-Lease credit to Italy, since FEA will take over.

The general was concerned with the scarcity of adequate civilian personnel to take over AC's economic mission after this command winds up. He is planning steps to insure further coordination

goal or 693,900 tons collected. Italian Government collections were 59 per cent, while AMG-supervised amassing still lagged behind at 50 per cent. Coincident with this news, announcement will be made in a few days of the official details of the new uniform ration scale for all Italy. As previously reported, normal consumers everywhere will get 200 grams of bread and 2,000 of *generi di minestra* (pasta and rice) a month. Heavy workers and agricultural workers, the latter for the first time as a year-long proposition, will get supplements of 100 grams of bread and 20 grams of *generi di minestra* a day. Very heavy workers will get an extra 200 grams of bread and 20 grams of *generi* a day. As both an inducement and a reward, coal miners and foresters will get a supplementary 400 grams of bread and 20 grams of *generi* a day, in order to help spur the production of fuel now so essential to Italian reconstruction.

The Advisory Committees for Electric Power set up by the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission have been proving their worth in real coordination and joint action in the rehabilitation of the key power industry. The North Italy committee reports an urgent need for copper conductors and mica while indicating an increasing industrial load but also, unfortunately, a sharply increasing domestic consumption for cooking and heating. In fact, the latter in some places has already exceeded the normal winter peak, pointing up again the dire lack of fuel. In Sicily, the power committee's latest minutes sound like the reports on Sicilian wheat amassing. The rationing system put in last April to meet the shortage of power electricity has failed because of lack of enforcement. Power demand was met by drawing more water out of the reservoirs, with the result that, unless there are heavy rains, the reservoirs will be virtually empty any day now. That is, unless the rationing rules are enforced, a consummation apparently not in the Sicilian scheme of things.

UNRRA, picking up steam and AC responsibilities slowly as it gets more money and authority, is asking for personnel. It has approached AC for officers and there have been some discussions, but nothing definite, on posting of officers to UNRRA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The general was concerned with the scarcity of adequate civilian personnel to take over AC's economic mission after this command winds up. He is planning steps to insure further coordination and organization of the AC's civilian staff. General McKinley also reported, anent Venezia-Giulia, that that area was still a military responsibility for supply and that it was AC's technical responsibility to oversee this program.

The wheat amassing, as of 10 September, had mounted to 53 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton

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ODDS AND ENDS

More candidates for the decoration parades which have been held on Saturdays at AC Headquarters in recent weeks have come through: Bronze Stars have been awarded to Major Robert

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

M. Hill, T/5 Guy V. D'Aleo, Technical Sergt. Louie B. Croce, Capt. Alva A. Simpson, Major Earl A. Heassler, Major Francis F. Hoelscher, Cpl. Vasco Ciardella, T/4 Joseph P. Latella and First Lieut. Frank J. Amoruso while the Legion of Merit will go to Capt. Richard B. Bullock, Lieut. Col. Edward C. King and Lieut. Col. John McSweeney... Land Forces Sub-Commission reports progress on plans for demobilization in the Italian Army, the Class of 1917 being slated for civilian ranks in October, the Class of 1918 in November and the Class of 1919 in December, all calculated to boost Italian Army morale no end... Besides the internal problem of the AC archives, there is the voluminous matter of Italian Government archives in the North which are now in process of being moved from the ministries established by the Fascist Republicans back to Rome under the direction of Major H. E. Bell (B) of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, a job of tremendous proportions when one considers the fact that the records are located in a myriad of places, large and small, throughout Lombardia and Venezie Regions and that, for example, for one ministry alone, archives unearthed to date run to more than 5,000 chests; the importance and magnitude of the task cannot be over-estimated since possession of proper records will immeasurably help the planning and administration necessary to an effective rehabilitation of the Italian nation... Lieut. Col. S. H. White (B) has been appointed Chief Staff Officer of the Civil Affairs Section... Copies of the Public Relations Branch's *Review of Allied Military Government and the Allied Commission in Italy* will shortly be available to all officers, EM, OR and Allied civilians in field and headquarters through the agencies of the 2675 Regiment and G1 (B)... Effective at 2 a.m., 16 September, all clocks will be put back one hour to go on winter time... Major Harold V. Reilly, AMG Livorno Commissioner, has a good report on the results of a system of check points, road blocks and roving patrols established in the Livorno area by CC. RR., MPs, other Italian police and mechanics of U. S. Ordnance and British R. E. M. E. units: In one month 339 persons were picked up for questioning, including four counterfeiters with more than 5 million in forged currency, five fleeing burglars, four fugitive Fascist Republican officers, two escaped German POWs, and 50 smaller fry with criminal bent, while recovered were one stolen truck, three passenger cars and literally tons of army tires, tubes, batteries, accessories, blankets, cigarets, clothing, food, tools, gasoline, motor oil and diesel oil... Size of proposed liaison groups to be left in the North after the turnover will probably be reduced, with the exception of public safety officers, as a result of recent discussions between AFHQ and AC... U. S. enlisted men's promotion boards have made 100 new corporals in the AC... Officer promotions are still up in the air as a result of insistence by higher comand that recommended officers sign up statements that they will stay in service for the duration plus six months... There are more telegraph circuits in Italy now than before the war, the Communications Sub-Commission reports... Public Health Sub-Commission reports 12 cases of bubonic plague at Taranto, all off one ship, of whom four have died; proper steps have been taken... Brigadier M. Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, on returning from a Northern trip, says the public safety situation is somewhat better but that the problem of rearming the CC. RR., many of whom still have obsolete arms, is still acute... AC will lose 529 EM by 20 September while MTOUSA is suggesting a new T/O of 709 U. S. officers and men for AC by 1 December, with the British probably following suit as to the latter project...

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

Mutat enim mundi naturam totius aetas,
ex alioque alius status excipere omnia debet;
nec manet ulla sui similis res; omnia migrant...
LUCRETIUS

Time, in the words of one of our better known contemporaries, marches on. And as we swing into September of this fateful year, the question of the *Costituente*, which some parties had hoped to solve before the year's end, is looming larger—if still somewhat vague like the shape of an iceberg in the fog. Nenni made two moves to sharpen the outlines during the week. On the second of the month the Committee appointed to study the electoral law for the Assembly began its work and Nenni, in his capacity as Minister for the *Costituente*, stressed the urgency, "for internal and international reasons", of having the law ready by the end of the month, suggesting as well that the system of proportional representation might be suitable to the particular occasion. Speaking at Frascati the following day, he told the crowds of the Socialist faithful that the *Costituente* must be "sovereign"; anyone who did not concede its sovereignty "should be cast out like a common delinquent".

Parri, too, alluded to the *Costituente* in his speech before the CLNAI at Milan on the first of the month. He said that the elections must be orderly and free, adding that he would be the first to declare them null and void if they were based on violence. The more important part of his speech, however, was perhaps the passage in which he defined the role of the C. L. N. in the present circumstances. The C. L. N.s, he said, must respect those decisions which the [illegible] to represent its needs; it further believes that the C. L. N.s have served their purpose (indeed *Italia Nuova* was saying this a year ago when Bonomi was in power) and finally the party would like to ask Parri a series of direct questions: how long is the C. L. N. to last? What are its powers? Does he consider himself the head of the Government or does he intend passively to allow the power to pass into the hands of the C. L. N.—under Communist direction?

Open war.

In fact the open war that *Italia Nuova* has waged on Parri during the week has been a most noteworthy development in the field of purely partisan politics. Its main grievances are three: the alliance between Parri and the C. L. N., the refusal of the authorities to permit publication of a Democratic paper in the North and—as a climax—Parri's request that *Italia Nuova* send to the periodic press conferences someone capable of reporting his words less "tendentiously" than the present agent—or abstain from sending anyone. This last item of discord originated in the form of a note from the *Presidenza* on the 4th (with specific references to *Italia Nuova*'s reporting of the press conference of the 18th of August—see *Weekly Bulletin* for August 25th). There is now open hostility; Lucifero, *Italia Nuova*'s most vitriolic writer, wrote that Parri was now clearly not the ingenuous amateur he had affected to be (and that, said Lucifero, would have been bad enough at this critical moment in Italy's history) but a downright "*furbo*".

From the point of view of the Democratic party it was a strategic moment, for the party was holding its convention during the week and ironing out its program. Like all the "opposition" parties, the Democrats declare that they

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From the point of view of the Democratic party it was a strategic moment, for the party was holding its convention during the week and ironing out its program. Like all the "opposition" parties, the Democrats declare that they represent the great majority of Italians and periodically point out that the C. L. N. is a non-elected group, implying—and frequently stating—that the six parties represent only a self-appointed monopolistic minority. The Democratic program was the same as ever: support of the monarchy, more or less *laissez-faire* economy and an

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

end to the six-party "tyranny". The party spokesmen affirmed that the *Costituente* was indeed necessary but neither the C. L. N. nor the Government was suited to the task of organizing the election. Further, the party reiterated its demand for a plebiscite on the institutional question. One speaker even suggested the party should take on the defense of Victor Emmanuel, but the secretary reminded him that the party was concerned with institutions and not individuals.

There was good news for Italy in the announcement made by Mr. Lehman in Washington that UNRRA was planning a 450 million dollar program for Italian rehabilitation... Otherwise the week was chiefly noteworthy for flurries which filled the papers for a day and then blew away in denials or indifference. The rumors about the peace circulated briskly, the most arresting being the alleged opinion of "informed British circles" that the peace treaty will not be signed until after Italian political elections. (Denied.) Another rumor which had at least *Avanti* up in arms was the story of Churchil meeting the Luogotenente in the North. (Repeatedly denied.) Then there was the end of the pilgrimage of Edda Ciano who was expelled from Switzerland and turned over by the Allied Command to Italian authorities. This was true enough but no one seemed to care very much...

Laski's reminder to Nenni that there was some danger that the present policy of the Socialist leader might bring about a "bureaucratic dictatorship" in Italy was, of course, greeted with joy by the conservative press; the mischievous Babeuf wrote that it was only what Italian conservatives had been telling Nenni for a long time and suggested affably that Nenni might go off to Capri for a month or two now and forget politics—even if the Government had to pay it would be worth it.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wheat amassing, according to latest reports of the Agriculture Sub-Commission, now stands at 653,200 tons or 50 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal, with AMG territory

tion Sub-Commission announces inauguration of passenger train service between Venice and Turin, commencing 12 September... Naples is turning to cleaning up bomb damage (somewhat belatedly) as an unemployment relief project... Cotton from the States—to the tune of 91,000 bales—should be arriving in Italy by October... Trucks of all kinds, having a total life of 20,000 tons, are being turned over to the Italian Government from military sources... The uniform ration scale for all Italy will go into effect 1 October...

REFUGEES

In a week of scarce news, we are happy (and very relieved editorially) to run the account that follows of our esteemed Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission.

During August approximately 180,000 Italians have been returned to Italy. This number fell rather short of the original estimate of 225,000 for the month of August due, almost entirely, to the breakdown of bridges over the Brenner Pass route which is the main repatriation route, carrying an average of 5,000 Italians per day. Only 5,362 persons were received over the Brenner route throughout the period 11th-16th August, causing a drop of more than 30,000 in the total for the month, and a subsequent delay in the completion of the repatriation of Italians.

On 31st August it was estimated that only 75,000 Italians remained to be repatriated from Germany and Austria. This number does not, of course, include any numbers which have yet to come into the American, British and French Zones from the Russian areas. It has been agreed with the Soviet authorities to move 60,000 Italians into the U. S. zone from a Soviet area North of Czechoslovakia. There are a further 15,000 reported to be in the Soviet area in Austria.

A total of 180,000 Italians have been received from Germany and Austria to date. Since January 1944, 693,308 Italians have been returned to their homes. There are 1,150 Italians in Norway, 90 per cent. of whom fought with the Germans. These will not be moved until the Italian Government has facilities for internment. In any case the more deserving Italians elsewhere

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Laski's reminder to Nenni that there was some danger that the present policy of the Socialist leader might bring about a "bureaucratic dictatorship" in Italy was, of course, greeted with joy by the conservative press; the mischievous Babeuf wrote that it was only what Italian conservatives had been telling Nenni for a long time and suggested affably that Nenni might go off to Capri for a month or two now and forget politics—even if the Government had to pay it would be worth it.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wheat amassing, according to latest reports of the Agriculture Sub-Commission, now stands at 653,200 tons or 50 per cent. of the 1,304,000-ton goal, with AMG territory improving its standing in comparison with last week: the percentage collected in AMG-areas this week was 47 per cent. (last week: 39 per cent.) compared with 55 per cent. in Italian Government territory (53 per cent. last week)... Some 12,000 workers are affected in a cotton textile mill strike in Turin, which also has a strike of hall porters on its hands... The Transportation as an unemployment relief project... Cotton from the States—to the tune of 91,000 bales—should be arriving in Italy by October... Trucks of all kinds, having a total life of 20,000 tons, are being turned over to the Italian Government from military sources... The uniform ration scale for all Italy will go into effect 1 October...

REFUGEES

In a week of scarce news, we are happy (and very relieved editorially) to run the account that follows of our esteemed Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission.

During August approximately 180,000 Italians have been returned to Italy. This number fell rather short of the original estimate of 225,000 for the month of August due, almost entirely, to the breakdown of bridges over the Brenner Pass route which is the main repatriation route, carrying an average of 5,000 Italians per day. Only 5,362 persons were received over the Brenner route throughout the period 11th-16th August, causing a drop of more than 30,000 in the total for the month, and a subsequent delay in the completion of the repatriation of Italians.

On 31st August it was estimated that only 75,000 Italians remained to be repatriated from Germany and Austria. This number does not, of course, include any numbers which have yet to come into the American, British and French Zones from the Russian areas. It has been agreed with the Soviet authorities to move 60,000 Italians into the U. S. zone from a Soviet area North of Czechoslovakia. There are a further 15,000 reported to be in the Soviet area in Austria.

A total of 480,000 Italians have been received from Germany and Austria to date. Since January 1944, 693,308 Italians have been returned to their homes. There are 1,150 Italians in Norway, 90 per cent. of whom fought with the Germans. These will not be moved until the Italian Government has facilities for internment. In any case the more deserving Italians elsewhere will be repatriated first.

The present rate of receiving Italians from Germany and Austria into Italy is approximately 5,000 per day through the Brenner Pass; 2,500 per day over the Bregenz route from Switzerland; and 2,000 per week through Annemasse to Como. Small numbers are coming through to Bordighera from France.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Greeks.

In addition to the movement of Italians from Northern Europe, Greeks are also being transported from Switzerland through Italy to Bari for repatriation to Greece. They are arriving at the rate of about 800 per week and are shipped to Patras. So far approximately 5,000 have been received in Bari, of which 3,300 have been repatriated to Greece. A party of 700 Jews from Switzerland, destined for Palestine have, after much discussion, arrived and are now awaiting onward sea movement to Palestine.

There were over 25,000 Allied and other nationals in Camps of the Sub-Commission on 31 August 1945. During August, 60,652 Italians have been transported from Rome to destinations in the South of Italy, and 59,469 have been moved down from the north to Rome. Small parties of Italians have arrived at Bari, Taranto and Naples from Greece, France, Sardinia, Yugoslavia and Albania. These parties total 3,548. Almost 3,000 Italians have been shipped from Piombino to Messina and Sardinia.

The repatriation of Italians should near completion by the end of September. It will take a short time after that to disperse them to their homes, but by the middle of October it is hoped all of them will be home. This does not, of course, apply to the large numbers of Italian POWs in England, America and North Africa.

Allied Nationals.

There will be a rather large Allied and other National population to be cared for during the winter months. To this end, certain camps have been earmarked as Collecting Repatriation Centers, others as Shipping Camps, and others to accommodate dissident, stateless and Jewish populations. They are as follows:

Repatriation Collecting Centers at *Milan* (French and Northern Europeans, Yugoslavs for return to Yugoslavia in transit to Padua); *Verona-Bolzano* (Germans, Hungarians, Czechs, Rumanians and Bulgarians); *Bari* (Greeks—except Tripolitanians—Albanians, Near East and Far East nationals), *Aversa* (all American continent, Britrated at *Servigliano*, *Fano*, *Fermo*, *Chiaravalle*, *Emilia* (Modena or Reggio).

Stateless and Jews are being concentrated in *Di Bagno*, *Di Leuca* and *Ferramonti* (UNRRA Camps). Recent influxes of Jews (over 4,000) from Austria will probably necessitate a special Jewish Camp in Emilia. A Center for dissident Poles has been established in the *Barletta-Trani* Area under the administration of *Polcorps*, but with the supervision and advice of the Sub-Commission. On 31 August the population had risen to 3,500 with an ultimate possible total of 12,000 in mind.

It may be said that the Sub-Commission will soon reach the climax of its activities—but, unlike a well-written story, the "falling-off" is likely to be very prolonged with a distinct possibility of the all important word "Finis" never being penned. True it is that DPRSC as such will not see the work through to the end. Rather will it be finished by UNRRA, IGCR and other organizations. It will be their job to return the nationals who wish to be returned to their own countries. It will be their job to find homes for the thousands who, by virtue of political uncertainty, are unable or do not wish to return to their own countries. In any event, it is clear that the settlement of the remaining thousands will take much longer than has done the earlier handling of almost 900,000.

FELICITATIONS

We think it appropriate to print the following comradely letter from the Executive Commissioner (B) to the Commanding Officer of the 2675th Regiment (U.S.) who received, in the name of the Regiment, the MTOUSA Meritorious Service Unit Plaque, from the Chief Commissioner 5 September in an impressive ceremony in Piazza Venezia, Rome, complete with troops, band and attendant dignitaries.

Col. C. M. Parkin
Dear Colonel Parkin,

May I add my congratulations to you and the 2675th Regiment for the honour which they

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Shipping Camps (*Aversa*, *Bari* and *Genoa* are to be maintained as Shipping Camps and will probably be required the whole winter, whilst *Cine Città* will be required as a Transit Camp).

Camps for Dissident Nationals, Stateless and Jews. Dissident Yugoslavs are being concentrated from Austria will probably necessitate a special Jewish Camp in Emilia. A Center for dissident Poles has been established in the *Barletta-Trani* Area under the administration of *Polcorps*, but with the supervision and advice of the Sub-Commission. On 31 August the population had risen to 3,500 with an ultimate possible total of 12,000 in mind.

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Dear Colonel Parkin,

May I add my congratulations to you and the 2675th Regiment for the honour which they have received and for the very smart turn-out which the H. Q. Coy achieved to receive that honour. Having worked with and almost in the Regiment since it came over here, I do know how much that honour has been deserved by you and the Regiment, and I felt very privileged to be invited as a guest to see you receive it yesterday.

Yours sincerly,
(*Signed*) MAURICE S. LUSH, *Brigadier*.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. James E. Regis (A), chief of the new Italian Prisoners-of-war Division of the Civil Affairs Section, has received some good news already, to wit, that the French are now willing to talk details about releasing 40,000 Italian prisoners in North Africa... Brigadier General William L. Lee has been appointed director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission... Major General Kislenko, Soviet Russian representative to the Allied Commission, is back in Moscow, leaving Col. V. V. Savko as his deputy... The date of turnover of the North is still up in the air... A raft of U. S. enlisted men's promotions—144, to be exact—has been announced: four men to master sergeant, 31 to technical sergeant, 55 to staff sergeant and 54 to sergeant... Twenty-two officers and men have been officially commended in MTOUSA General Orders for meritorious service, as follows: Pfc. Walter V. Ruisi, Pfc. Eric B. Shearer, Pfc. Pantilo Silvestri, Pfc. Lee E. Tradewell, T/5 John P. Kachmer, T/5 Paul Moriconi, T/5 Richard V. Rosenblum, T/5 Ralph M. San Filippo, Corp. Frank N. Solina, T/4 Bruno J. Nardi, T/4 Rocco A. Rizzo, Sergt. William Amorino, Sergt. Giacinto G. Mancusi, T/3 Robert F. Reggiani, T/3 Domenic F. Storino, Staff Sergt. William Segal, Staff Sergt. Ernest Toscano, Master Sergt. Anthony J. Giuliano, Lieut. (s. g.) Perry B. Cott, USNR, Capt. Neil C. Baker, Capt. John Y. Elliott and Capt. James F. Keim... Master Sergt. Aldo L. Picetti and Capt. Mortimer Cornin (formerly of AC) have received Bronze Stars... Major Lloyd Stears, staff officer to the Chief Commissioner, has received the Legion of Merit...

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Director
Deputy Director
Chief Telecoms
Chief Postal
Fin & Coms O
Asst Chief Postal
Censorship
Chief Clerk
September 1945
WJHe.

ALLIED COMMISSION

RESTRICTED

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL.

Once again Prime Minister Parri's weekly press conference affords a convenient point of departure for the political summary of the week. The conference given to the foreign press on 27 July began with Parri's expressing his surprise at the rumors of territorial sacrifices being requested of Italy by way of war reparations. He hoped that such rumors were without foundation. As for the *Costituente*, he said that the important thing was not so much the date of the elections, which depends on technical factors, as the simple intention to make it as soon as possible. Convocation of the *Costituente*, according to Prof. Parri, depends on four conditions: the peace terms and the international juridical position of Italy must be clear; technical preparations for a sound election must be complete; public order must be such as to ensure there will be no disturbances; and lastly, the parties must pledge themselves to a free, legal and honest contest. He then reaffirmed his statement of last week to the effect that public order while not as perfect as it might be has greatly improved.

For equipment and arming the police and the *Carabinieri*, he added, the Government has had to ask the help of the Allies. The Council President then answered questions put by correspondents. To a French journalist who asked what would be the policy of the Italian Government in the Val d'Aosta, Prof. Parri answered that the recent cultural autonomy accorded the region should satisfy French aspirations, adding that friendship between Italy and France was very important to the peace of Europe. He was then asked about the present exchange rate of the lira and answered that while the present rate does not truly represent the purchasing power of the lira, there is no possibility of changing it till after the peace confe-

25th) stating rather vaguely that such sacrifices were "foreseen in Washington". This caused some uneasiness in the Roman press. *Tempo* – an independent and rather sensitive journal – commented that the old policy of the "stick and the carrot" was apparently yielding to that of the stick *tout court*. *Momento* took a calmer view however and cautioned its readers not to worry too much about rumors of peace terms as probably they were largely made up by journalists anyway. Sforza, too, urged Italians to be "intelligently selfish and remain serene", observing in rather sybilline fashion that some conditions which seem hard could really be advantageous.

A more effective antidote to the poisonous talk was forthcoming in Sir Noel Charles' statement to "Orbis" News Agency. He thought that, following the meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Italy would be invited to join the United Nations and said that for his part he would like to see this done immediately. He added the further encouraging tidings that Italian prisoners in England would probably be repatriated by next spring. On the question of prisoners, it was reported on the 26th and officially confirmed a few days later, that the Russians intended to release all Italian prisoners in Russia and repatriate them as soon as transportation permitted. *Italia Nuova* sourly regretted that this action probably represented a triumph for Di Vittorio rather than the official channels of the Foreign Affairs Ministry but admitted it was good news nonetheless.

Costituente.

On the *Costituente* the big news of the week is that the Council, meeting the 29th, appointed a committee to study the electoral law to govern the voting. This is a very necessary preliminary and there has been considerable anxiety about

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Presumably, the rumors of territorial sacrifices to which the President of the Council referred were based on an AP dispatch (published the 25th) stating rather vaguely that such sacrifices were "foreseen in Washington". This caused some uneasiness in the Roman press. *Tempo* – an independent and rather sensitive journal – commented that the old policy of the "stick and the carrot" was apparently yielding to that of the stick *tout court*. *Momento* took a calmer view however and cautioned its readers not to worry too much about rumors of peace terms as probably they were largely made up by journalists anyway. Sforza, too, urged Italians to be "intelligently selfish and remain serene", observing in rather sybilline fashion that some conditions which seem hard could really be advantageous.

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On the *Costituente* the big news of the week is that the Council, meeting the 29th, appointed a committee to study the electoral law to govern the voting. This is a very necessary preliminary and there has been considerable anxiety about getting such a committee started on the necessary work of examination and possible revision of the electoral law. (See *Weekly Bulletin*, vol. II, No. 11, for 7 July 1945.) The parties have reached the stage of iteration and reiteration on the question of whether or not the administrative elections should precede. De Gasperi, speaking

4128

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735015

on the 27th in Frascati, reaffirmed his party's stand on the matter; the Labor Democrats did the same in *Ricostruzione*, and Pertini, speaking for the Socialists made it clear that *they* hadn't changed *their* mind. And so it stands.

Incidentally the Labor Democrats' thesis (namely, that there is no point in holding up the administrative elections if, as seems likely, the Constitutional elections may be of necessity delayed till next spring) brought forth a brisk interparty skirmish. *Avanti* said that Labor Democracy was not very strong and didn't represent a very important part of Italian opinion. *Unità*, attacking on the flank, said the party was misnamed and could not be said to represent labor: it only created confusion "however good its intentions might be".

If the Costituente seems to lag somewhat, the *Consulta* is moving along briskly. At the Council meeting on the 29th the first list of *Consultori* was approved and the names published in the papers of the 30th. There has not been entire satisfaction with the nominating procedure. Labriola, writing in *Tempo*, said that the very foundation principle is wrong because members are chosen by the same self-appointed power which they are supposed to control. *Il Momento* felt the same way about it and added that the body would be too big to be useful anyway. But these are independent papers: the six parties presumably are satisfied.

The most sensational item of news in the week was the more or less all-out action taken against the Senators who survived Sforza's first purge. On the 28th it was announced that all Senators, excepting only those few who will take part in the *Consulta* and Ricci, new Finance minister, have been turned over to the High Court of Justice for epuration proceedings. This includes such figures as Marshal Badoglio and Admiral Thaon di Revel. In the course of defending the latter from what was described as the summary action of the "*sommo epuratore*", *Italia Nuova* charged that the move was not aimed so much at Senators as at the Senate, a charge which *Avanti*, in its rebuttal, did not entirely deny. At any rate this rather drastic action led to some discussion within the cabinet itself; as reported [illegible] Nenni was asked to explain the

for public works projects for the island were discussed. It was stated that more coal would be sent to the island as soon as possible. At the end of the second meeting the Council passed a resolution confirming the Government's desire of satisfying the autonomistic aspirations of Sicily and Sardinia. A message from Stalin in answer to Parri's victory greeting was read (also at the second meeting) and Lussu described the unhappy condition of prisoners and internees in Germany. Other business was largely routine.

The Communist party held a meeting devoted to economic matters during the week at which Togliatti had some very interesting things to say. The Communists, he declared, are in favor of a policy of production and not of subsidies. A wide scope must be left to private initiative both in the field of production and distribution, asserted the Communist leader, a rigid plan under present circumstances would be absurd. Governmental controls must be similar to those obtaining in the U. S. and England. He ended by saying that the battle must not, therefore, be waged against capitalism in general but rather against speculation and "corruption in some capitalistic group". This program elicited the approval of even *Risorgimento Liberale* at the opposite end of the six-party spectrum. The Liberal organ stated that nothing would be more satisfying than to see Togliatti's theory put into practice but, added the writer sadly, in practice "the policy of the Left (and hence of the Government) does everything to discourage initiative".

On Venezia Giulia there have been the usual crop of reports and one new item worthy of record. Orbis Agency published on the 29th the manifesto of the Separatist Front of Trieste, declaring itself in favor of an Adriatic Free State. The Front has already distributed pamphlets and started its campaign. Another tender spot on the Italian frontier was the subject of a communiqué from the *Presidenza* (published the 24th) in which it was stated that the government intends to accord to the inhabitants of the Alto Adige (roughly Bolzano Province) and Venezia Tridentina the same measure of autonomy already given the Val d'Aosta.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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Other business.

Other work which the Council handled in its meetings of the week may be briefly summarized. Aldisio continued his report on Sicily and plans

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The survey of the week may well end on the social-political note. On the 28th the Italian Government offered a reception to the Allies in honor of their victory. The reception took place in the Campidoglio. There were two speeches. Parri greeted the allies and Admiral Stone replied. His phrase, "Italy is for us more than a friend", was widely quoted in the Italian press and *Indipendente*, for one, waxed lyric, finding

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

in the reception an evidence that Italy and the Allies were now "united in the hope of a future based on the ancient traditions of the Campidoglio".

AMG IN THE NORTH

Regional and Provincial Commissioners in the North are determined that when the turnover to the Italian Government does come they will hand over as tidy a packet as possible, though it may well be a packet of trouble, officers returning from the North report.

This was emphasized especially at Brigadier J. K. Dunlop's Venezie Regional meeting in the Dolomites where, amidst autumn crocuses and warm hospitality, a great deal of serious work was done. Naturally discussions centered largely round the turnover; there was a quiet note of optimism on the question of public security and Provincial Commissioners reiterated what Brigadier Dunlop's Prefects had told him two days before at the same kind of party; that there was an increase in confidence among the public—and among the CC. RR. and the Prefects themselves. One gets the same impression in other Regions, though there are plenty of rocks ahead in this respect. The Dolomites, incidentally, are now quite clear of German surrendered army, and one wonders if the hotels will be open for winter sports this year.

Lombardy, too, is ready for the turn-over and in many respects it has already begun, so that when the bell rings there will be little or no dislocation. The general feeling among the public there is that so long as Allied troops remain, they don't need AMG any longer. The first arrivals of coal (and the Chief Commissioner's press release thereon) have given a great fillip to morale in the cities. The Lombardy plain escaped the full fury of the storm which recently swept down the N. E. corner of Italy and is reported to have destroyed 20,000 tons of standing corn.

General Nares, incidentally, whose command extends over most of Northern Italy, has just been appointed to the Berlin command—a high honor—and will be succeeded by Gen. Heydeman from No. 1 District, which now closes up.

The CC. RR. of Piemonte and Liguria have littoral present a ticklish problem for security and banditry goes on not very far from the smiling Riviera resorts.

Liguria, too, presents a difficult Public Works problem. For various reasons they seem to have lagged behind a little in this respect. But Lt. Col. Lee is quite determined to get the bulk of his program financially approved before the hand over—so look out C. F. A.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The economic news is suffering the same sort of doldrums as everything else these dog days, though the Industrial Council of North Italy is getting quite busy and there are a lot of meetings and talk on surplus and captured materiel. The Italian Prisoners-of-War and War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission has finally been split, the latter part going to the Economic Section and the former going for the time being to a special division of the Civil Affairs Section. Col. J. A. Campbell (B) will continue to head the new Materials Sub-Commission.

The wheat amassing continues as do the exhortations for more cooperation. As of 27 August, the collections were 593,300 tons or 45 per cent. towards the goal of 1,303,000 tons. AMG Italy has collected 39 per cent. of the target while Italian Government territory boasts of a 53 per cent. amassing. *Forza*, AMG!

The only other question of moment—and as yet not finally ironed out—is the matter of responsibility for civilian supplies to Italy now that military responsibility has ended. UNRRA is expected to take over this responsibility after the first of the year, some sort of interim arrangements being worked out with FEA. The question of Congressional appropriations looms large before the entire matter can be considered settled, which brings up the observation that UNRRA supplies for Italian rehabilitation hinges in essence upon the definition of rehabilitation, the UNRRA program largely stressing food, clothing and welfare whereas Italian rehabilitation previously has meant heavy industry reconstruction. We shall see what we shall see.

Lieut. Col. Frank Toscani (A), former 5th

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Regional and Provincial Commissioners in the North are determined that when the turnover to the Italian Government does come they will hand over as tidy a packet as possible, though it may well be a packet of trouble, officers returning from the North report.

This was emphasized especially at Brigadier J. K. Dunlop's Venezie Regional meeting in the Dolomites where, amidst autumn crocuses and warm hospitality, a great deal of serious work was done. Naturally discussions centered largely round the turnover: there was a quiet note of optimism on the question of public security and Provincial Commissioners reiterated what Brigadier Dunlop's Prefects had told him two days before at the same kind of party; that there was an increase in confidence among the public—and among the CC. RR. and the Prefects themselves. One gets the same impression in other Regions, though there are plenty of rocks ahead in this respect. The Dolomites, incidentally, are now quite clear of German surrendered army, and one wonders if the hotels will be open for winter sports this year.

Lombardy, too, is ready for the turn-over and in many respects it has already begun, so that when the bell rings there will be little or no dislocation. The general feeling among the public there is that so long as Allied troops remain, they don't need AMG any longer. The first arrivals of coal (and the Chief Commissioner's press release thereon) have given a great fillip to morale in the cities. The Lombardy plain escaped the full fury of the storm which recently swept down the N. E. corner of Italy and is reported to have destroyed 20,000 tons of standing corn.

General Nares, incidentally, whose command extends over most of Northern Italy, has just been appointed to the Berlin command—a high honor—and will be succeeded by Gen. Heydeman from No. 1 District, which now closes up.

The CC. RR. of Piemonte and Liguria have found a good friend in Brigadier Graham commanding Agra on the Italo-French frontier. The artillery Brigadier has been quick to see the potential value in the CC. RR. if properly trained and helped sympathetically by Allied troops, and his determination to have the police force in that area smart, self-confident and efficient will soon be achieved. The Liguria mountains behind the [illegible] Lt. Col. Lee is quite determined to get the bulk of his program financially approved before the hand over—so look out C. F. A.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The economic news is suffering the same sort of doldrums as everything else these dog days, though the Industrial Council of North Italy is getting quite busy and there are a lot of meetings and talk on surplus and captured materiel. The Italian Prisoners-of-War and War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission has finally been split, the latter part going to the Economic Section and the former going for the time being to a special division of the Civil Affairs Section. Col. J. A. Campbell (B) will continue to head the new Materials Sub-Commission.

The wheat amassing continues as do the exhortations for more cooperation. As of 27 August, the collections were 593,300 tons or 45 per cent. towards the goal of 1,303,000 tons. AMG Italy has collected 39 per cent. of the target while Italian Government territory boasts of a 53 per cent. amassing. *Forza*, AMG!

The only other question of moment—and as yet not finally ironed out—is the matter of responsibility for civilian supplies to Italy now that military responsibility has ended. UNRRA is expected to take over this responsibility after the first of the year, some sort of interim arrangements being worked out with FEA. The question of Congressional appropriations looms large before the entire matter can be considered settled, which brings up the observation that UNRRA supplies for Italian rehabilitation hinges in essence upon the definition of rehabilitation, the UNRRA program largely stressing food, clothing and welfare whereas Italian rehabilitation previously has meant heavy industry reconstruction. We shall see what we shall see.

Lieut. Col. Frank Toscani (A), former 5th Army AMG Supply Officer, has been appointed director of the Food Sub-Commission, with Major V.R.A. Cowper (B) as deputy director. The Rail Division of the Transportation Sub-Commission announces a sleeping car service on the Rome-Naples-Reggio Calabria run; the Sub-Commission last week put in service a wine train from Bari to Milan. Incidentally, as the result of the intro-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

duction of an extra train this past week, black-market prices for Rome-Naples tickets fell drastically.

EN FAMILLE

Just to give you an idea of what goes on behind the scenes and to give you some simple notion of the multifarious activities of your versatile Public Relations Branch, we summarize briefly the final report of our Captain A. F. Braydon (B) who is soon to leave for Austria. Capt. Braydon has had charge of the Political Correspondents' Mess, a service which PRB runs for the benefit of homeless political correspondents of the United Nations at 5, Via Romagna in Rome.

The report alludes to such humble but persistent problems as lack of cutlery, infrequent and adventitious supplies of soap, geyser troubles, the fuel question ("it is not known" writes Captain Braydon with commendable restraint, "whether the fuel situation for the coming winter will enable the upper part of the house to be heated") and sundry other matters. But Capt. Braydon's principal concern has been the correspondents themselves, strong-minded folk, individualists to the core and calling for the combined characteristics of lion-tamer and kindergarten teacher.

Aside from one or two nondescript characters, difficult to describe but with properly authorized claims on the mess, Capt. Braydon lists the present residents as nine. Four actually live regularly in the house, one is peripatetic and may be anywhere between Washington and Algiers but wants his room kept; one takes only lunch and dinner in and wants his breakfast sent to him "in bulk"; three ignore the mess entirely—but not the rations to which membership entitles them. Capt. Braydon has kept a fatherly eye on this group for the last eight months and presumably has learned much and profited much from the association. He admits though, when pressed, that he is rather looking forward to Austria. *Mach's gut!*

GENTLEMEN, THE REGIMENT!

The 2675 Regiment (AC) may not have a history of centuries as some of the illustrious

An administrative unit running a most complicated job, with few or no precedents in American Army history, the Regiment is composed of flesh and blood creatures instead of the shadowy figures who always appear to cry for triplicates and indorsements to the men in the field. We will give you a little line on what the regimental headquarters men have been doing.

As everyone knows, the Regiment was organized by Col. Charles M. Parkin back in the last days of the Tizi-Ouzou and has an actual birthday—September 30, 1943. Col. Parkin has commanded the outfit ever since in the chain of U.S. military command that comes down from Headquarters Command, AFHQ. His Executive Officer is Lieut. Col. Howard K. Seith. The news comes appropriately just as we go to press that Col. Parkin has been awarded the Legion of Merit for his outstanding performance of duty.

The mission of the Regiment has been to provide administration, supply, housekeeping facilities and motor maintenance for AMG and the Allied Commission. To this end, several companies were organized, many of which have already been discontinued and the personnel transferred to new companies. The discontinued companies include: Co. A (Sicily), Co. C (Southern), Co. D (Lazio-Umbria), Co. E. (Umbria-Marche), Co. F. (Sardinia), Co. H (Tuscany) and Co. I (Emilia). Still functioning are Co. G (5th Army AMG), Co. O (IV Corps AMG), Co. M (Venezie), Co. N (Liguria), Co. R (Lombardy), Co. S (Piemonte), Co. J (Venezia-Giulia), Co. T and 2696 Technical Supervision Co. (Allied Motor Transport Group) and Hq. Co. in Rome.

The busiest part of the regimental staff has been S-1, which is natural enough when one thinks that the Regiment has always had between 500 and 600 officers (once close to 700), more than a complete infantry division possesses, and more than 1,200 enlisted men. Headed by Capt. Howard E. Lee, the S-1 section has had a staff of only four officers, 20 enlisted men and two civilians. As Regimental Sergeant Major, Master Sergeant Adolph E. Costello bosses the enlisted staff. Capt. Lee is also Adjutant of the Regiment and Adjutant of the Allied Commission, which makes his office even busier. Capt. Lee is helped

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The 2675 Regiment (AC) may not have a history of centuries as some of the illustrious units in the British line can boast of but it can point with more than pride to the Meritorious Unit Service Plaque which has been awarded to us by MTOUSA in recognition for the American contribution to the success of Allied Military Government and the Allied Commission in Italy from the shores of Sicily to the mountain passes of the Alps.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015



Left to right (Back row): Staff Sergt. Peter Domelci, Lieut. Nicholas P. Theodore, Capt. James R. Reed, CWO F. Robert Wermuth, Staff Sergt. John Poletti; *(Center)*: Capt. Howard E. Lee, Lieut. Col. Howard K. Seith, Col. C. M. Parkin, Major Clayton C. Craig; *(Bottom)*: Master Sergt. Adolph E. Costello, Master Sergt. Anthony J. Giuliano.

the regimental staff were put to full utilization. Col. Parkin, for example, has been Executive Officer (U.S.) of the AC and often Acting Vice President of the Establishment Section.

The clearances and reports for higher military echelons filed by the Regiment by now run into astronomical figures, nearly 400 cables and letters arriving here each week and as many leaving. Working files of the office alone take up 636 cubic feet of space. Not a little of this space has been given over to the awards file which, since V-E Day, has been the special province of Mr. Wermuth. He has processed more than 165 awards to date. To process one award in the precise military way required takes eight hours. No comment needed. To date 65 per cent of the award recom-

The S-2 section is usually on the road with investigations—automobile accidents (mostly Italian drivers of WD vehicles), thefts, claims against the U. S. Government, lost baggage. Lieut. Col. Alexander R. Troxell, Major Richard D. Hildebrand and Lieut. Joseph E. Amoruso work in this department, while special mention should be given to T 4 Ernest C. Nasca for some fine undercover sleuthing, according to Col. Parkin. Nearly 1,000 reports have been filed.

S-3 is Capt. James R. Reed who runs Hq. Co. and is assisted by Capt. Robert A. Arens, the officer who normally pays out the lire on payday at Hq. Besides supervising the military training program for the EM, S-3 operates a Special Service unit under Capt. Arens which provides periodicals and

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

bilities and enrolling students in the University Training Center at Florence. The section also carries on safety in driving campaigns and is responsible for reports to higher headquarters on a variety of matters.

Major Clayton C. Craig is S-4 of the Regiment and G-4 (U. S.) of AC and has charge of requisitions, procurement, issue and accounting for all American supplies used by the Regiment. In the past year, rations have been drawn and issued for 443,406 U. S. military requests, 36,452 U. S. civilian, 47,947 foreign military, and 353,055 Italian labor. Cash payments for rations have averaged $2,277.75 a month while Lend-Lease accounts average $2,996.25 a month.

The post exchange has handled 32,225 rations, averaging $14,000 a month, and having total sales of $200,579.55 for the last 14 months. The whisky sold to officers under the euphuistic title of "Special Service merchandise" has average sales of $1,300 a month. The liquor is drawn for every officer in the Regiment and distributed to headquarters and companies according to roster. Major Craig's staff also handles the 760 WD vehicles of the Regiment not to mention the accounting on civilian requisitioned vehicles numbering 1,700 since the days of Sicily.

The Postal Officer of the Regiment, First Lieut. Neil Farris, also can contribute to the picture of the welter of administrative detail the Regiment is loaded with. Since 1 December 1944, to date, APO 394 has handled 2,240 pouches (weighing 89,600 lbs.) and 3,501 sacks (weighing 245,070 lbs.) of outgoing mail and 1,356 pouches (weighing 54,240 lbs.) and 6,668 sacks (weighing 466,760 lbs.) of incoming mail. Stamp sales have amounted to $20,278.25. Nearly 16,500 money orders worth nearly $1,000,000 have been sold. More than 4,000 money orders for more than $200,000 have been cashed. The APO handles all mail of the AC, the American Embassy (including diplomatic pouches), UNRRA and the rest camps near the Hq. building.

Reverting to the S-1 section, it might be put on record that the G-1 side is charged with the administration of 5,698 Italian civilians, 1,757 of whom are on headquarters records. The assignment of officers involves considerable clear-

to their eyes in the business. Of the EM, 60 high-point men and 26 men who were 38 years old or older, have gone home while another 110 high-point men and 15 38-year-olds are awaiting orders to go home. Of the officers, only three high-point men (with points ranging from 116 to 138) have gone home. Awaiting orders for redeployment are 24 officers with 100 points or more. The next lot will consist of 34 officers with 85 to 100 points. The classification of "essential" or "non-essential" no longer holds for purposes of redeployment, according to Capt. Lee. Regardless of how one was previously classified, if your turn to go home comes, home you will go unless the officer personally and voluntarily agrees to stay on until he is no longer needed.

On this hopeful note we shall close and wish the Regiment (and ourselves) hearty congratulations for the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque, which will be formally presented to the Regiment Wednesday, 5 September, in a ceremony in Piazza Venezia in Rome.

ODDS AND ENDS

Advance information from the Directorate of Civil Affairs in London, according to the Executive Commissioner, indicates that British officers in the Allied Commission, after the Italian show winds up, will be offered civil affairs posts in the BMAs of the Middle East and East Africa (which are hard pressed for personnel) and also in the Allied Control Commission for Germany, from which latter post the officers may later, subject to age and other qualifications, transfer to the civilian Control Service... G-1 (B) reports that Groups 1 to 13 have gone home, that Group 14 is now being worked on and that Group 23 is slated for release 20 January 1946; there are 75 groups in all... Promoted to First Lieutenant is Paul L. Gallagher... Lieut. Col. Robert A. Martino, T/4 Armando Di Vincenzo, CWO F. Robert Wermuth, and Capt. Emanuel M. White have been awarded the Bronze Star... A posthumous award of the Soldier's Medal has been sent to the next kin of the late Technical Sergt. Earl A. Schulz who lost his own life as a result of exhaustion in saving an Italian [illegible] from drowning at Fregene 1 July... The

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The most pressing subject of the moment, of course, is redeployment, S-1 and G-1 being up have gone home. Awaiting orders for redeployment are 24 officers with 100 points or more. The next lot will consist of 34 officers with 85 to 100 points. The classification of "essential" or "non-essential" no longer holds for purposes of redeployment, according to Capt. Lee. Regardless of how one was previously classified, if your turn to go home comes, home you will go unless the officer personally and voluntarily agrees to stay on until he is no longer needed.

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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POLITICAL

Party divisions, whether on the whole operating for good or evil, are things inseparable from free government.

BURKE.

What may be called the political routine of the week got off to a start on 18 July when Prime Minister Parri held his customary press conference. He spoke vigorously about the "sad necessity" of enforcing the *ammassi*, gave a moderately optimistic survey of possibilities of industrial rehabilitation and expressed his hope that the *Consulta* would begin functioning by September 15. He took occasion also to chide "a certain section of the press" for its "alarmistic" accounts of unrest in the provinces. (This stung *Italia Nuova*, whose conscience was apparently uneasy, into indignant rebuttal and counter accusation to the effect that Parri is trying to muzzle the press.)

The Council held its regular meeting later in the week; here again the *Consulta* was discussed. It was decided to start work on the actual formation of the assembly on September 15 and the suggestion was made that Nitti and Orlando should be invited to become members. Nenni was reported to have expressed the hope that in three months epuration will be concluded. Other matters dealt with included further readjustments of social benefits and measures to facilitate industrial loans.

Aldisio gave an account of the general condition in Sicily, categorically denying that there was any truth in the most recent pronunciamento of that old Sicilian *cantastorie*, Finocchiaro Aprile, accusing the Allied Military Government of selecting such officials from Sicilian-American stock. Additional denials of these Separatists' yarns have been made by Allied spokesmen; as far as can be deduced from here, the stories seem to be malicious embroidery on the simple fact that more American personnel has recently arrived in Palermo which is serving as a U.S. naval base.

Labor.

The CGIL issued another appeal to the Government on the 21st. It ran along familiar lines. Asking for a vigorous campaign against the black market, co-operative management of mills and bakeries, employment planning and special increases in rations for needy elements among the working classes. There was general press approval of these objectives. *Risorgimento Liberale*, however, pointed out mildly that there exists a problem of production as well as distribution and that Italian agriculture might be more productive than it is now if "social peace" were allowed to exist.

Aside from routine political activities, there are two main problems that interest politically minded Italians at this time. One is the whole business of elections, the other is the kind of peace treaty that is in the making and, more specifically at the moment, the kind of machinery that will make it. On the question of whether *Costituente* or administrative elections come first, the week has brought nothing new. The Action party has formally confirmed its attitude already expressed informally and is prepared to press for the constitutional elections. The Government as such has still taken no stand on the matter. Reforms in the electoral law are still hanging fire and there has been some discussion of two pos-

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Aldisio gave an account of the general condition in Sicily, categorically denying that there was any truth in the most recent pronunciamento of that old Sicilian *cantastorie*, Finocchiaro Aprile. Prominently displayed in *Indipendente*, the statement referred to contained the usual Separatist charges and programs with the picturesque addition that "hundreds of Sicilian-American functionaries" had arrived in Sicily in the last few days to take over the administration of the island. Aprile even went so far as to thank President Truman for the "delicacy" he had shown in selecting such officials from Sicilian-American stock. Additional denials of these Separatists' yarns have been made by Allied spokesmen; as far as can be deduced from here, the stories seem to be malicious embroidery on the simple fact that more American personnel has recently arrived in Palermo which is serving as a U.S. naval base.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

the Government to allow the young people to prepare their own lists and guaranteeing they would be ready on time. No other paper has taken up the cause as yet. Then there is the matter of whether voting should be made obligatory. *Il Popolo* thinks so. *Unità* has already come out against it, arguing that there are times when abstention from the polls is a form of political expression.

Peace Treaty.

The papers have been full of discussion of the peace treaty. The most burning question is the very natural one: Will Italy be allowed to be represented by a properly accredited delegation authorized to negotiate or will she not? To this, no answer has come. Rumor, as abhorrent of vacuum as nature itself, has been busy: it was said that an Italian delegation consisting of Tarchiani, Visconti-Venosta, De Courten and Ricci and presided over by Sforza and Orlando was already prepared to go to London, but there has been no official confirmation of this. Closely allied to the kind of treaty in prospect is the question of colonies and during the week there have been a number of articles defending Italy's right to keep her colonies "unless we are to have a peace of punishment" as *Tribuna del Popolo* puts it. Orbis news agency quoted "one of the members of the American Congressional mission at present visiting Italy" as saying it is possible that the pre-Fascist colonies may be given back.

Bevin's speech made news in Italy, as it did in all countries. There was something in it to please everyone. Moderate Leftists were pleased with his observations on Eastern European governments (conservatives like *Italia Nuova* were delighted) whereas Nenni dwelt with pleasure on the assertion that the *Costituente* should be called as soon as possible. And of course, all Italians cheered the reiteration of the statement that Italy must no longer be treated as if Mussolini were still in power. There was news, too, from France of some interest to the political scene on this side of the Alps. The rejection by the French Socialists of the projected fusion with the Communists represents a check to Nenni's policy within his party and, like Bevin's statement, tends to strengthen the moderate Left.

lected members from various Congressional committees dealing with war agencies of one sort or another and headed by Rep. Victor Wickersham (D., Okla.). The committee held a hearing on the afternoon of 21 July in AC Headquarters to which representatives of AC, FEA, OWI, UNRRA, ANLC, and the embassies were summoned. The hearing was not open to the press and was conducted in an informal atmosphere, almost chummy in tone – rather surprising to one who attended with anticipation of grim congressional grilling and sternly truculent defense. Actually, the distinguished visitors approached their task with humility, being principally concerned with learning details of recruitment of personnel, training, expense and objectives and accomplishments as seen by the men in the field, since presumably they get the more statistical stories in Washington. They had come, as their spokesman put it, not to embarrass anyone, but rather to learn what they could of problems and purposes and, if need be, what they could do to assist. Congressional amazement reached a new high, we suspect, when the spokesman for one agency (we won't give him away) actually confessed his organization had enough money and was quite content with his equipment. We were rather impressed ourselves with the coherent pattern emerging from the account of our overseas war-born institutions, not forgetting our own AC. We were, too, a little shaken by the realization that came upon us as we listened to some of the questions that we have been living in a world apart, taking for granted on our simple way that everyone knows what AC is, that everyone has heard of the CLNAI, that all intelligent men are at home in our alphabetical labyrinth beginning with AFHQ, running down through R. C., PC, etc., even to PRO (Advt.). Well, 'taint so... At the end of the hearing the *patres conscripti* kindly suggested that it was our turn to ask questions and if there was anything they could tell us, they would be very happy to oblige. We wanted to ask: When do we go home? but pity for our visitors stayed our tongue. They've probably heard that one before.

CULTURAL RELATIONS

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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WASHINGTON IN ROME

Following on the trail blazed some time ago by a party of pioneering U. S. Senators, a Committee of U. S. Congressmen made its way into Rome last week. The group consisted of se- to which representatives of AC, PBS, CCAC, UNRRA, ANLC, and the embassies were summoned. The hearing was not open to the press and was conducted in an informal atmosphere, almost chummy in tone – rather surprising to one who attended with anticipation of grim congressional grilling and sternly truculent defense. Actually, the distinguished visitors approached their task with humility, being principally concerned with learning details of recruitment of personnel, training, expense and objectives and accomplishments as seen by the men in the field, since presumably they get the more statistical stories in Washington. They had come, as their spokesman put it, not to embarrass anyone, but rather to learn what they could of problems and purposes and, if need be, what they could do to assist. Congressional amazement reached a new high, we suspect, when the spokesman for one agency (we won't give him away) actually confessed his organization had enough money and was quite content with his equipment. We were rather impressed ourselves with the coherent pattern emerging from the account of our overseas war-born institutions, not forgetting our own AC. We were, too, a little shaken by the realization that came upon us as we listened to some of the questions that we have been living in a world apart, taking for granted on our simple way that everyone knows what AC is, that everyone has heard of the CLNAI, that all intelligent men are at home in our alphabetical labyrinth beginning with AFHQ, running down through R.C., PC, etc., even to PRO (Advt.). Well, 'taint so... At the end of the hearing the *patres conscripti* kindly suggested that it was our turn to ask questions and if there was anything they could tell us, they would be very happy to oblige. We wanted to ask: When do we go home? but pity for our visitors stayed our tongue. They've probably heard that one before.

CULTURAL RELATIONS

Before the Allied Commission goes bye-bye, a project it wants to insure of a sound foundation is the resumption of cultural relations between Italy and the Allies and even more particularly, a greater understanding by the Italian people of the free institutions of the United States and the United Kingdom where elections of almost revo-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

lutionary portent can take place without the recrimination and blood-letting that sometimes occurs in other lands. The British and American Embassies, with the Education Sub-Commission of the AC as aide and counsel, are now going full blast on this program, operated specifically by the United States Information Service and the British Council and the Ministry of Information.

The USIS, for example, has quite a few activities lined up to explain democratic processes in the U.S.A. which should be of interest to the Italians in connection with their own proposed elections. Four booklets in Italian pertaining to the American democratic processes in general have now almost reached completion. They are: *Elections in the United States*, *How the United States Government Works*, *Documents of Liberty* and *The Making of the American Constitution*. About 100,000 copies each will be distributed throughout Italy.

In addition, USIS, in conjunction with MOI, has undertaken an educational film campaign concentrating on documentaries about democratic processes. Arrangements have been made for the widespread distribution in commercial cinemas throughout Italy of a British documentary on the recent election and a specially-prepared American documentary on elections in the United States. Further, the two agencies have just concluded an arrangement with ENAL (*Ente Nazionale Assistenza Lavoratore*) for the widespread showing of all such documentaries. ENAL is the successor agency to Dopolavoro and has taken over numerous cinemas and auditoriums throughout Northern Italy. A joint mobile film project has also been prepared. Vans completely equipped with 16-mm. projectors will tour the market places of small towns, and outdoor showings will be provided to the assembled crowds.

Long Experience.

The long experience of the Education Sub-Commission in all parts of Italy and in contact with all phases of education and cultural activities, of course, renders it especially useful in interpreting Italy's needs and desires. The Sub-Commission, indeed, has made cultural contacts consistently expressed a strong wish to have available, in Italian, books which would give Italian educators a knowledge of the organization, methods, experience and problems of education, from nursery school through the university, in Allied countries. Leading authorities in Britain and the United States have been consulted, and about fifty books have been received for consideration. The Russian and the Chinese Embassies have likewise been consulted and the Chinese Minister of Education has sent an excellent pamphlet on Chinese education during the war years. No Russian publications have arrived.

A leading publisher, Le Monnier, of Florence, has been selected to have a series of books on Allied education translated and published. One of these books is now in the press. Others are in various states of translation or composition. British and American books are equal in number. Half a dozen comprehensive and significant books on American history, politics, and economics have been received for consideration as part of a similar series in the social science field analogous to the series on education.

For Juveniles, too.

An expert in juvenile literature, in consultation with the American Library Association, has selected 40 of the best children's books for publication in Italian. The books describe life in many lands, and include also science and general literature. While some of the books have their origin in Britain and other nations, the translation rights have been obtained from American publishers by USIS. The books themselves have been given by the Education Sub-Commission to USIS which has arranged for their publication in Italy.

The USIS is also publishing monthly bulletins in Italian in the fields of medicine, agriculture and veterinary medicine; industry, engineering, education, psychology, and social assistance. These are composed of digests of technical and professional articles in American reviews. They are printed in large quantities and distributed gratis. They are supplemented by monographs dealing more completely with single topics in the various fields. The Sub-Commission helps select most of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The activities of the Sub-Commission, independently or in collaboration with one or more of the national cultural agencies, have been various. A systematic drive has been launched to obtain Allied books for publication in Italian. For example, Italian Ministers of Education have Allied countries. Leading authorities in Britain and the United States have been consulted, and about fifty books have been received for consideration. The Russian and the Chinese Embassies have likewise been consulted and the Chinese Minister of Education has sent an excellent pamphlet on Chinese education during the war years. No Russian publications have arrived.

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In response to the request of the Italian Society of Engineers, considering the reform of engineering education in Italy, literature has been obtained from the leading engineering schools of Britain and the United States and presented to the Society's committee. Boy Scout and Girl

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Guide publications also have been obtained from both Britain and the United States for the Italian organizations.

Numerous similar requests for information and publications have been filled: university catalogues and bulletins, catalogues of school supply houses, literature on the Association of University Women, technical books on radio technology, etc.

Libraries.

An extensive survey of the scholarly books and periodicals most urgently needed by the universities, technical institutions, and libraries of Italy has been made. The tabulated results have been sorted by nations of origin of the publications. The USIS is attempting to secure the American publications, the British Council is doing the same for the British publications, and the Education Sub-Commission has written direct to the other countries in an attempt to get their publications.

Two commissions have been appointed by the Minister of Public Instruction, one to work out plans for exchange of professors between Italy and the Allies, the other to work out similar interchange of students. A movement is being fostered to provide fellowships for scholarly Italian prisoners-of-war in the United States, and conversely for American military personnel already in Italy and desirous of remaining to study. All arrangements, except permission to travel by Allied transport (which is awaiting War Department approval) have also been made for sending Professor Cacciapuoti of the University of Rome to the United States to study recent developments in the field of nuclear physics and cosmic rays.

The Education Sub-Commission further has been negotiating with the Metropolitan Opera Company and Columbia Concerts on the one hand, and with Italian agencies, on the other, for the interchange of concert artists and singers between Italy and the United States. The British Council feels that the time is not yet ripe for such interchange with Britain.

Scouts.

Much energy has been expended in furthering the development of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides formed of the Catholic Girl Guides and the non-sectarian Girl Scouts. The female organizations have also been put in communication with British, American, and International organizations.

The Allied Scout groups have, in fact, been full of good turns. A grant of one thousand dollars has been obtained from the American Girl Scouts to help the Italian Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, to be used for goods, for uniforms, for Italian publications, etc. The International Boy Scouts has set up a credit of one hundred fifty pounds for similar purposes for the Italian non-denominational Boy Scouts. The American Boy Scouts are raising a "World Friendship Fund" to aid scouting in liberated countries and have promised to allocate part of this to Italy. Arrangements have been made to bring two trainers for Girl Scout and Guide leaders from Switzerland to help with the work in Italy, at the expense of the International Girl Guides. The American Girl Scouts have offered to attempt to send an expert on camping. The British Boy Scouts have offered full expenses for six young Boy Scout leaders from each of the two Italian associations to go to England for a training course.

The Education Sub-Commission has been cooperating also with UNRRA: in assisting Italian institutions for child care to avail themselves of the expert knowledge of a British specialist; with the European Student Relief Fund in arranging for teaching materials for universities and aid to university students; with the International Bureau of Education in Geneva in securing literature on various phases of education now being restudied by the Italian Ministry, and in general, acting as a sort of co-ordinating center for cultural interchange between Italy and the Allies.

Mr. UPJOHN, K. C.

Speaking as one who followed the departing practically up to the plane, Public Relations feels that the exit from A. C. of the ex-Vice President, Civil Affairs Section, should not go unnoticed and unchronicled. Brigadier G. R. Upjohn was indeed one of the *vieux grognards* of our brigade, an old Tizionsien and a member of the show from the early Palermo days. As head of the Legal Sub-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Much energy has been expended in furthering the development of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides in Italy. In cooperation with the international, British, and American organizations, it has facilitated the federation of the Catholic and non-denominational Italian Boy Scout organizations. Both Scout groups and the federation have been accorded provisional recognition by the International Boy Scouts. A similar federation has been full of good turns. A grant of one thousand dollars has been obtained from the American Girl Scouts to help the Italian Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, to be used for goods, for uniforms, for Italian publications, etc. The International Boy Scouts has set up a credit of one hundred fifty pounds for similar purposes for the Italian non-denominational Boy Scouts. The American Boy Scouts are raising a "World Friendship Fund" to aid scouting in liberated countries and have promised to allocate part of this to Italy. Arrangements have been made to bring two trainers for Girl Scout and Guide leaders from Switzerland to help with the work in Italy, at the expense of the International Girl Guides. The American Girl Scouts have offered to attempt to send an expert on camping. The British Boy Scouts have offered full expenses for six young Boy Scout leaders from each of the two Italian associations to go to England for a training course.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

crucial period a supervising vigilance over such activities as Public Health, Public Safety, Local Government, all of which have had some complicated knots to unravel. We wish the Brigadier *buon viaggio* and *tante cose*. We hope that when he looks back on his life in AC, it may be not only with legitimate satisfaction but with just a touch of nostalgia for the mud of Tizi Ouzou, the fireplace in Brindisi, the Cava mess and the rambling maze of the Corporazioni. We have reason to believe he will; his last words to us were: "Send me the Bulletin."

ODDS AND ENDS

MTOUSA has awarded the 2675 Regiment the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque which entitles all U. S. personnel to wear a gold wreath on their right sleeve; the insignia will be ready for issue shortly... There have been further awards as follows: *Bronze Star:* CWO Nicholas Piombino, Major Harold V. Reilly, Lieut. Col. Raymond Kenny, Col. John W. Chapman, Col. Robert P. Marshall, T/4 John F. Falkland, Major John G. Andrews, Staff Sergt. Cosmo Spinosa, Capt. Arthur M. McPhail, Capt. Samuel V. Noe, Lieut. Col. James O. Babcock, First Lieut. Mario Ravarino, Capt. Willis E. Pratt, Major Robert Levitt, Lieut. Col. Jack M. Rorimer, T/5 Anthony Selvaggio, Master Sergt. Adolph E. Costella, Capt. Arthur Carter, Major Joseph L. C. Ruisi, Major Benson E. L. Timmons, Lieut. Col. Paul D. Banning; *Legion of Merit:* Col. Alfred C. Bowman, Col. Martin E. Griffin, Col. Thomas N. Page... Col. J. G. Selby (B) has been appointed RC of Liguria while Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters (B) has been made Liaison Officer at Bologna... Brigadier General Lucas V. Beau has joined the Allied Commission as Deputy Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission... The Labor Sub-Commission reports that 380,419 Italians were employed by Allied forces on 1 July... Three Italian Army military tribunals have been established at Bologna, Milan and Turin to take care of disciplinary action among Italian troops, the Legal Sub-Commission reports... The wheat amassing looks better: As of 20 August, amassed were 491,200 tons of wheat or 38 per cent. of the 1,303,000-ton target figure, with Italian Government territory doing better (47 per cent.) than AMG areas in the North (31 per cent.), according to the Agriculture Sub-Commission... The Navy Sub-Commission says that the Port of Genoa will probably be turned back to Italian control about 1 September...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Dir August 18, 1945
D/Director
Chief Telecoms
Chief Postal
H Q Comm Gp
Asst Chief Postal
Censorship
Chief Clerk

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 20

POLITICAL

Melior tutiorque est certa pax, quam sperata victoria.

LIVY.

Perhaps, it was the hovering shadow of peace, at once exhilarating and sobering; perhaps, the awe still lingering as the aftermath of the atomic bomb; perhaps, simply the dog days; whatever the cause, the past week has been almost without events worthy of note in the field of Italian politics.

The Council, to be sure, had a two-day session (July 9 and 10) but its agenda contained no surprises and nothing controversial. Administrative autonomy was granted to the Val d'Aosta; plans for welfare and reconstruction were discussed and it was decided to allot one billion lire for "shelter houses" for those whose homes have been destroyed. The exact definition of the word "partisan" was studied but no conclusion reached—or at least none announced. Approval was given to Italy's joining the Central European Railway organization, after exposition of its merits by Transport Minister La Malfa. Paretti-Griva, Commissioner for Epuration, was appointed President of the Brescia Court of Appeals. The Council then adjourned, presumably, like the rest of us, to wait for the official end of the war.

Comment.

Prime Minister Parri, commenting on the Japanese surrender, which he said "marked the end of one of the most despicable régimes", hoped that it would allow the United Nations to turn to the work of world reconstruction and herself, had shown her solidarity with the free peoples of the world by declaring war on the common enemy. He, too, said that it seemed "logical to expect that eventually more shipping and supplies will become available to the stricken countries".

On the question of the precedence of administrative or Constitutional elections, the issue is now very clearly drawn, Liberals and Labor Democrats having come out in favor of having the administrative elections first. This lines them up on the side of the Christian Democrats and divides the six parties into two groups of three. The Democratic party, outside the C. L. N., is also in favor of early administrative elections, thus balancing the Republicans whose contrary sentiments we recorded last week.

4426

Not Ready.

The thesis of the moderate parties is that the country is not yet ready for the grave decisions that the *Costituente* will have to take; this point of view was put forward by Rossetti in *Ricostruzione* and supported by the non-partisan *Secolo XX*. Morandi, the socialist leader, speaking in Genoa, said, however, that the Socialists would come to the *Costituente* elections with a complete program for the solution of all major problems.

Parri, interviewed by Overseas News Agency, was quoted as saying that Italy must be a member of the United Nations before the *Costituente* elections can be held, but added that he hoped negotiations would not be long delayed. (He also said, when questioned, that, in his opinion it would be unjust to deprive Italy of Eritrea, Somaliland or the "Mediterranean colonies".)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

Asst Chief Press
Censorship
Chief Clerk

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 29

POLITICAL

Melior tutiorque est certa pax, quam sperata victoria.

Livy.

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Comment.

Prime Minister Parri, commenting on the Japanese surrender, which he said "marked the end of one of the most despicable régimes", hoped that it would allow the United Nations to turn to the work of world reconstruction and that, in particular for Italy, more tonnage might be now available for relief and greater help forthcoming from the Allies to help put Italy on her feet.

Admiral Stone, in a statement given to the press, said that Italy could share in the universal satisfaction inasmuch as she, though still suffering herself, had shown her solidarity with the free peoples of the world by declaring war on the common enemy. He, too, said that it seemed "logical to expect that eventually more shipping and supplies will become available to the stricken countries".

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Parri's speech is indeed the clue to the week. Italian politics are not so much inactive as expectant. Italy is waiting; waiting for the Council of Foreign Ministers, for the peace treaty, for a final clarification of her position, waiting, too –and more hopefully now– for more economic help from the victorious United Nations.

4426

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ITALY TURNS THE FIRST CORNER

As a change from the rather gloomy picture of Italian industrial prospects a month ago, it is good to report that, in the calculated opinion of Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, Italy has now turned the first corner on the long road back to economic recovery, keeping our fingers crossed over shipping despite the end of the war. One solid fact buttresses this thesis, namely, that the critical deficiency of coal will be met, in part at least. Brigadier Anderson brought this news back from London where he attended the conferences of the European Coal Organization and of the European Economic Council. To sum up, here is the story: As a result of the now verified coal imports and of a steel master plan basically drawn up by Col. Glendinning, director of the Industry Sub-Commission, and now being put into effect, Italian key industries should be back operating of least to 50 per cent. of capacity instead of the 10 per cent. or less they have been. The productive cycle has been planned to have a cumulative effect and should give employment to 500,000 persons in the related basic industries. Chronologically, the significant events are as follows:

Coal, of course, has been the great deficiency, being, as everyone knows, Shortage Item No. 1 in the world. A definite commitment has been obtained for 350,000 tons a month, perhaps even a little more, for the rest of 1945. For September 367,00 tons were promised and some of the shipments have already arrived and been delivered to factories where the coal has been welcomed with cheers by the workers and an immediate lift in morale. Coal allocation has been the subject of considerable thinking at A. C. Headquarters where an allocation committee has been set up which includes Italian Government representatives. The coal is allocated by user, that is, railroads, public utilities, industry, hospitals, bakeries and food plants. It is then re-allocated by bulk to regions which, within their own discretion, re-allocate within the area on the same principles.

The chief criterion of allocation within these Supply and Production in England, as top dispensers of priorities and materials.

Keystone of the industrial recovery plan is the steel industry, for which a plan has been drawn up which envisages an annual production of 1,000,000 tons of steel a year or 50 per cent. of Italian steel capacity. Choosing only the most efficient plants, it is planned, for example, to produce this million tons by using only about 400,000 tons of coal a month and utilizing electric power to the highest degree possible, by conversion of furnaces where necessary. In fact, to produce the second million tons of steel would require another 1,300,000 tons of coal a month since second-class steel plants are involved. Thus, for the time being, only the first-class plants will be used since they can fully utilize the amount of coal that it will be feasible to import.

In the next six months, 565,000 tons of steel are programmed, of which electric furnaces, mostly in the North, will make 372,000 tons; Central Italy steelworks (Terni, Piombino and San Giovanni Valdarno) will make 154,000 tons and Southern plants (Torre Annunziata) will produce 36,000 tons. Terni, by the way, once one of the biggest armament works in Europe, has already been converted into one vast railroad repair shop and is fixing up locomotives and railroad cars and making electrical equipment. Terni plans to make 93,000 tons of steel by March, 1946. In the steel situation, it is imperative that swift progress be made this fall since steel depends on pig iron, which, with electricity falling off in the winter months, will have to be made the next few months. Manganese ore and chromite from Rhodesia for ferrous alloys and refractories from Austria are being arranged for.

Another basic industry being restored is that of textiles. Enough cotton and wool is on the way virtually to restore full production, which requires a monthly import of 13,000 tons of cotton (from Egypt and the United States) and 2,500 tons of wool. It is expected that 50 per cent. of full production will be reached within another month.

The Italian power situation, discounting the current cutback forced by the record dry weather, is also now in basically a more favorable condition than expected, although the lack of rainfall

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The chief criterion of allocation within these premises is the productive efficiency of the plant and, naturally, the need for the product, counsel on which is given by the recently-established National Industrial Council, (comprised of representatives from industry and from the Government) which acts similarly to the War Production Board in the States and the Ministries of

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The Italian power situation, discounting the current cutback forced by the record dry weather, is also now in basically a more favorable condition than expected, although the lack of rainfall in the South will make that area a deficiency one this winter. However, the introduction of the 50 cycle frequency universally in Italy is now making it possible for real exchange of power between all sections, which had never been done before. Power from the North can be fed into Central Italy and power from Central Italy will

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

shortly be available to the South, subject only to the capacity of the conductors. To this end, the present emphasis is upon the repair of heavy transmission lines interconnecting North, Central, and Southern Italy. Already several transmission lines are in service to supply the Florence area from the North and will be supplemented by others. A line connecting Central and Southern Italy is expected to be ready this fall. With a transmission system available once more, it will be possible to move blocks of power through Italy to areas needing it most.

Water Supply.

There is a difference sometimes between the present generating capacity and the electrical demand for actual use because of insufficient water supply at various points to make full use of the available generating capacity. In Central and Southern Italy, and in Sicily, the electrical demand is the maximum that can be produced with the available water and fuel. If more electricity could be produced, it could be used. In Northern Italy, there is still a surplus of power, which will diminish as more electricity is used for industrial and domestic purposes, and as less water becomes available from melting snows in the North during the cooler months. Because of a scarcity of fuel in the North, electricity is being increasingly used for domestic cooking purposes and will also be used extensively for heating this winter.

The table that follows tells its own story:

Area	Pre-War Capacity (Kilowatts)	Capacity Available Upon Allied Entrance	Present Installed Capacity
North Italy	4,645,000	4,200,000	4,245,000
Central Italy	1,292,336	45,000	351,000
Southern Italy	350,935	156,900	286,000
Sicily	91,573	45,800	64,000
Sardinia	96,080	96,080	96,080
	6,476,024	4,543,780	5,042,080

The fertilizer industry this year will also be close back to normal. There are two complementary fertilizers used in Italy—nitrogenous and superphosphate. The latter in peacetime used a million tons of phosphate rock a year; at least 500,000 tons for the rest of 1945 have

Coal will also help the building trade industries—brick and cement—rise to 50 per cent. of production. Sardinian coal production is once more satisfactory, July having seen an output of 50,000 tons, which is 50 per cent. above the average of the 17 months ending last April.

Procurement.

On the general supply question, Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, head of the Economic Section, is in London also and will now go to Washington to clear up the matter of who will be responsible for procurement of civilian supplies for Italy, now that military responsibility is ending (officially 31 August). The way matters stand at the moment, the supply responsibility would be in somewhat of a snarl by October if the channel is not laid down now. There has been talk of UNRRA assuming this responsibility but that has to be decided at the UNRRA Council now in session and in any event could not occur before the first of the year. On the American side, the FEA will probably do the procurement, with the War Department acting as its agent as long as there are military channels in the Italian theater.

The Italian foreign exchange situation—denoting the wherewithal to buy raw materials and fuel—is also a little clearer, though not rosy by any means. From the U.S., Italy now has $150,000,000 in credits for the Category B part of the joint program against which purchases are currently being applied. There is also another $100,000,000 of U. S. Lend-Lease aid, under different arrangements. The British Government has another earmarked $12,000,000 for the B program and also has other plans of assistance in the hopper.

In brief, Italy, can at least see the future. Italy will have to produce enough goods to obtain foreign exchange credits to buy coal and raw materials to produce goods to get credits to buy coal and raw materials, etc. This means one thing: Not as many commodities will be available for the civilian population as they require or want. To pay her way, Italy will have to sustain herself on a lower standard of living than before the war and trust to hard work, ingenuity and luck to bring her economy gradually and slowly to a higher level.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NED No. 785015

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The fertilizer industry this year will also be close back to normal. There are two complementary fertilizers used in Italy—nitrogenous and superphosphate. The latter in peacetime used a million tons of phosphate rock a year; at least 500,000 tons for the rest of 1945 have now been obtained in contracts from the French. Nitrogen production depends on power. One third of the plants are in the North and so adequately supplied with power; one third are small, scattered ones using coal, which is now arriving, but the remaining third of production is at Crotone, which has had to shut down because of the deficiency of power in the South.

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MORE MEDALS

In a ceremony at A. C. Headquarters attended by Regional Commissioners and all top executives of the Commission, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, the Chief Commissioner, pre-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

sented decorations to six officers and three enlisted men 14 August. Given the Legion of Merit were Colonels Leonard D. Densmore and Nelson W. Monfort; Lieutenant Colonels James H. Penick, Joseph D. Scholtz and Rowland W. Rushmore, and Major Joel Rosenbaum. Given the Bronze Stars were First Sergt. Robert A. Reid, Staff Sergt. Nicholas D. Angelini and T/4 Lawrence W. Shenfield.

Further awards were announced in MTOUSA General Orders, as follows:

Legion of Merit – Major Henry E. Hudson, Major Edmund L. Palmieri, First Lieut. Louis Mehr, Lieut. Col. Ernest T. DeWald, Lieut. Col. Harry G. Hershenson, Major Harry B. Bradbury, Col. John K. Weber, and Lieut. Col. Guy I. Warren.

Bronze Star – Lieut. Col. William A. Hartman, Lieut. Col. Wilson C. Williams, T/4 Donato A. Pascale, Sergt. Henry C. S. Piper, Staff Sergt. Louis J. Padula, T/3 Vincent Gambardella, Staff Sergt. Eugene J. Journalist, Staff Sergt. Erie Stein, First Lieut. Frederick Hartt, First Lieut. Edward E. Nevans, jr., First Lieut. Edmund W. Nash, Capt. Milton T. Hill, Pfc. Gaetano F. Avveduto, Pfc. Anzo A. Grassi, Pfc. Bernard Horkheimer, T/5 John V. Apicella, T/5 Emanuele Di Matteo, T/5 Augustus J. Pusateri, Cpl. Albert L. Lavorato, T/4 Adolph S. Grossi, T/4 Joseph Luizza, T/4 Anthony E. Visco, Sergt. Guy Ferri, Technical Sergt. Maurice G. Picciotti, T/4 Marshall Ruscetti and Major William H. Savin.

TURNOVER HUDDLE

Regional Commissioners of the North were called in to Rome 3 and 14 August to give last-minute reports on conditions preparatory to handover of the territory to Italian Government jurisdiction next month. The RCs were in general agreement that the sooner the turnover took place the better, with the only alternative being to remain until after the elections (probably in April) a contingency dependent strictly upon the retention of Allied troops in the country. It was thought probable that the return of territory would include Liguria, Piemonte, Lombardy and Venezie, with the exception of the Province of enough to put into effect all the necessary legal machinery of the operation.

From an administrative and economic standpoint, the turnover, it was pointed out, was feasible any day, but from a public safety standpoint, there were a lot of reservations, the Executive Commissioner said in summary. Col. Norman E. Fiske, the Deputy Executive Commissioner, remarked that AMG without Allied troops was futile and that a position of AMG being supported by the Italian Army not satisfactory. The Italian Army, incidentally, is to be returned to the operational control of the Italian Government by September 30. It was proposed that, after the turnover, a group of liaison officers, probably 150, be kept in the North to help in residual problems in industry and public safety as well as displaced persons until UNRRA takes over from the latter.

Col. W. J. Legg, director of the Food Sub-Commission, in his last appearance before the top field officers, since he is being invalided home, was paid tribute by Brigadier Lush for his energy and devotion to duty in feeding Italy up to the Alps. The Colonel explained his proposal for instituting a uniform food scale throughout Italy, making the 300-gram ration universal and equalizing present discrepancies between the North and the rest of the nation.

The plan, which is now going through the final coordinating clearances, would go into effect just before the AMG withdrawal. It is a return to the Italian system of rationing, contrasted with that imposed by the Allies, and is expected materially to simplify the present complicated rationing system. The equalization will give increases and decreases to both the South and the North. The proposed ration scale for all Italy would then be 200 grams of bread a day for the normal consumer and 66 grams of pasta. Normal consumers in the 9 to 18 age group would get 225 grams a day. Heavy workers would get a supplement of 100 grams of bread and 20 of pasta, the same amount of pasta going to very heavy workers plus 200 grams of bread. The nation-wide supplement to heavy workers would substantially assist in the cause of general reconstruction, Col. Legg said.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The North, whose special ration setup was not disturbed upon Allied entry at request of the civilian leaders, would be affected as follows: Normal consumers' ration would gain 50 grams, rising from 150 grams a day to 200. Workers who have been getting 325 grams would drop 125 grams as normal consumers but be eligible for the workers' supplements. In the South,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

heavy workers who have not been getting supplementary rations except in isolated cases would get the new supplement while the normal consumers would have their pasta ration dropped by 14 grams—from 80 to 66.

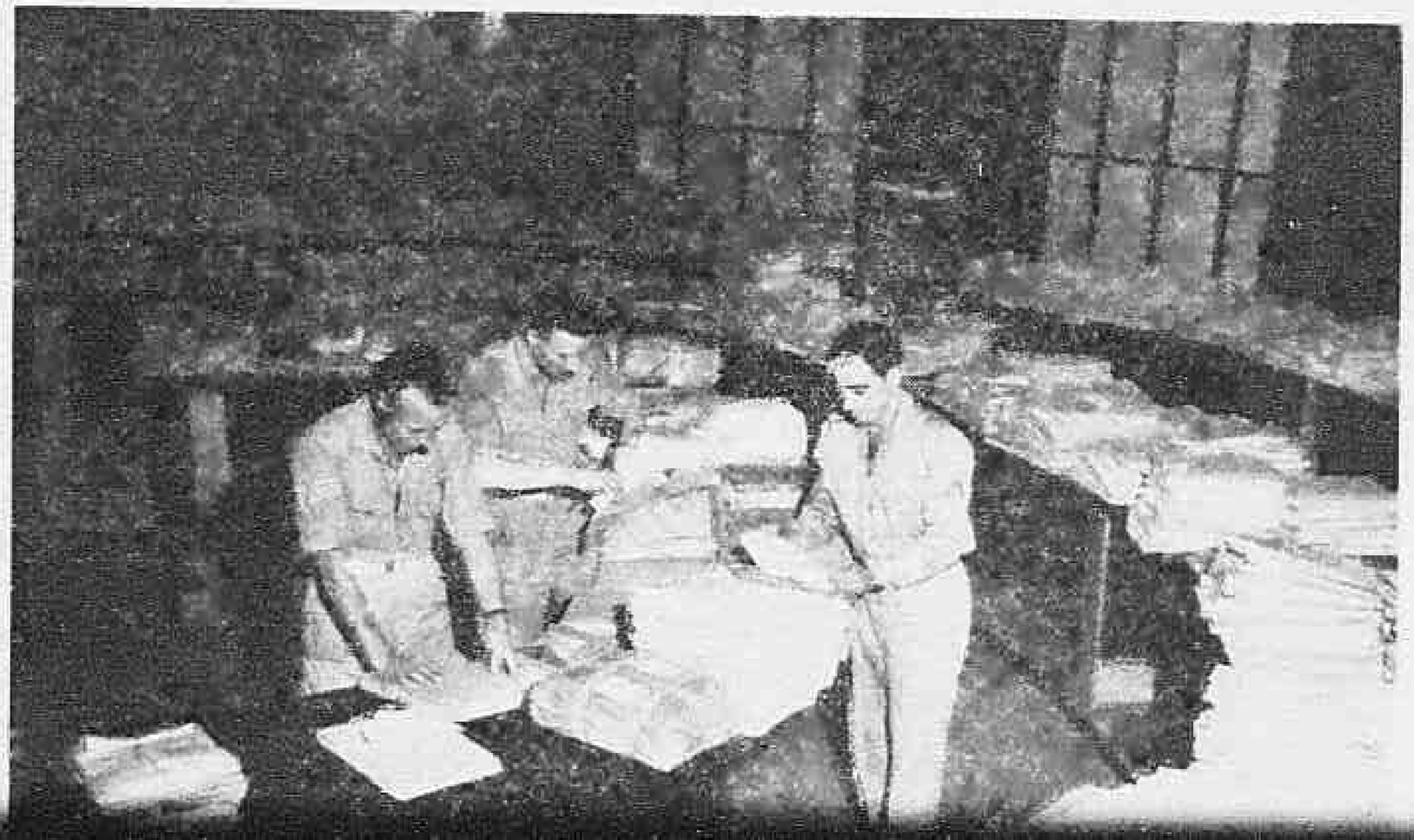
FOR THE RECORD

The photograph accompanying this item tells the story of Allied Commission archives problems better than most words. In a phrase, there are a hell of a lot of documents floating around and we had better tidy them, for history's sake, ere we depart this scene. As for Capt. A. J. Collins (B), A. C. Archives Officer (in the center in the picture), he conservatively expects to remain on the job until at least 1964. Sergt. L. V. J. Atterby (B), his assistant, is not quite certain whether to engage for so long a term, feeling he has his nostrils full enough of dusty records already. The American soldier in the picture is strictly a ringer to round out the esthetic requirements of photographic art. The papers strewn around—the important part of the picture—are the records from one region alone, Marche-Umbria.

With AFHQ itself showing a keen interest in archives these days, requiring that all units appoint records officers, the Allied Commission itself, with records that will undoubtedly be gold mines for the historians of the future, will now have regional archives officers to organize the documentary residue of the regions, work on which will be given high priority on request of Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, Executive Commissioner.

Material received at headquarters to date, from regions and sub-commissions, amounts to approximately 1,500 cubic feet or nearly 15 tons. No accurate estimate of the eventual volume of records that will be accumulated can be ventured, though Capt. Collins makes a guess of 6,000 cubic feet. From past experience, a region will have about 200 cubic feet. It goes without saying that the bumpf from headquarters will outweigh the field. (It always has, say the regions.) In any event, if the regional archives officers follow the administrative instructions and take to heart the pointers to be given by Capt. Collins in a tour of the North, the time necessary to prepare a region's records for proper interment should take only about one month.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ODDS AND ENDS

While there's life, there's hope, say the rest of us, as we lern that, promoted to First Lieutenant have been Peter F. Natale of Venezia-Giulia AMG, Joseph W. Durber, jr. and James M. Arensberg, both of the Economic Section... Col. Floyd E. Thomas (A), former law professor at the University of Arizona, gave a lecture the other day before the faculty of the University of Bologna on " Aspects of the American Legal System "... As a result of recent transfers of prisoners from Regina Coeli Prison in Rome, only about 1,000 inmates now inhabit the famous gaol... The Records Bureau of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission is approaching 100,000 names, 95,139 of 72 nationalities being on the rolls 31 July... During the past week, 37,688 Italians were received into Italy and 8,958 were moved from Rome to the South for dispersal... Major Harold Bentley, A. C. Liaison Officer at Catania in Sicily, reports that the current grain ammassing there amounts to one fifteenth of that collected for the same period in 1944, which was bad enough... Brigadier Lush is making a week's tour of the North...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

August 11, 1945

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ALLIED COMMISSION
WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

The past week has been perhaps more remarkable for activities of the parties rather than for progress on purely governmental affairs. Following the victorious motion of Pertini (see last week's *Bulletin*) the directorates of the Socialist and Communist parties met and proposed to form a "board of management" to ensure the smooth functioning of the pact of unity. The urgency of convoking the *Costituente* was again stressed and the joint committees recommended that elections for the *Costituente* should precede administrative elections. Later in the week the Action party indicated its sympathy with this attitude, *Italia Libera* arguing that while administrative elections would have been very valuable at a time when Italy was half under occupation, it would now be more logical, since the whole country is free to express itself, to lay the foundations for the new democracy before giving attention to the personnel of the lower echelons, the whole structure of which may be affected by the new constitution, especially if, as is expected, greater regional autonomy is granted.

The Central Committee of the Republican Party also joined this school of thought, urging, in a statement published on 7 August, that all republican elements should unite for the *Costituente*, elections for which, the Committee said flatly, must precede those for local administration. The Committee further recommended proportional representation. As noted in last week's *Bulletin*, the sequence recommended by the Leftist parties and the Republicans is the reverse of that proposed by the Christian Democrats. *Il Popolo* chided *Avanti* on this point, recalling that a year ago Naopi was crying out for immediate administra-

More deliberations.

The Council of Christian Democrats, concluding their deliberations on the 2nd, resolved to issue a statement to the effect that a majority of their members were of Republican sympathy, thus clarifying in some degree the party's attitude, though presumably De Gasperi's pronouncement of party neutrality on the institutional question still stands. Under the heading of party activity should also be noted the communiqué of the Communist party, released on the 7th, calling on all political parties and other groups to give up any arms they might have and to cease fighting the remnants of Fascism with "illegal" weapons. The Communist appeal also recommended that all partisan associations other than the ANPI be disbanded and denied official recognition.

The Council met on the 7th and listened to reports from Treasury Minister Ricci, Industry and Commerce Minister Gronchi and Transport Minister La Malfa. Further measures in favor of partisans and repatriates were approved as were the budgets of the various ministries. Earlier in the week progress was reported on the preparation of the *Consulta;* it was given out that the parties have submitted their lists of representatives and the new body may be expected to meet early in September. The Republicans are firm in refusing to take part. Brosio described the *Consulta*'s functions in a statement issued on the 4th; he was particularly anxious to make it clear that there was no "antithesis" between the role of the *Consulta* and of the *Costituente*.

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POLITICAL

The past week has been perhaps more remarkable for activities of the parties rather than for progress on purely governmental affairs. Following the victorious motion of Pertini (see last week's *Bulletin*) the directorates of the Socialist and Communist parties met and proposed to form a "board of management" to ensure the smooth functioning of the pact of unity. The urgency of convoking the *Costituente* was again stressed and the joint committees recommended that elections for the *Costituente* should precede administrative elections. Later in the week the Action party indicated its sympathy with this attitude, *Italia Libera* arguing that while administrative elections would have been very valuable at a time when Italy was half under occupation, it would now be more logical, since the whole country is free to express itself, to lay the foundations for the new democracy before giving attention to the personnel of the lower echelons, the whole structure of which may be affected by the new constitution, especially if, as is expected, greater regional autonomy is granted.

The Central Committee of the Republican Party also joined this school of thought, urging, in a statement published on 7 August, that all republican elements should unite for the *Costituente*, elections for which, the Committee said flatly, must precede those for local administration. The Committee further recommended proportional representation. As noted in last week's *Bulletin*, the sequence recommended by the Leftist parties and the Republicans is the reverse of that proposed by the Christian Democrats. *Il Popolo* chided *Avanti* on this point, recalling that a year ago Nenni was crying out for immediate administrative elections. *Avanti* simply answered that times have changed. The inner cabinet considered the matter on the 9th and rejected Nenni's suggestion that a date be set immediately for the elections; it was the cabinet's view that all parties should have time to express themselves on this debatable subject.

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Venezia Giulia came into the headlines again when Prime Minister Parri told a group of *Giuliani* that he intended to ask the Allies to consider reviewing the existing conditions under which the Italian Government is powerless to do anything for the inhabitants of the region since it is not allowed even to have an observer there. Jacchia, in the *Giornale del Mattino*, supported Parri's attitude; the situation, he wrote, has undoubtedly improved since the Allies moved in, "but we feel they must keep in mind that the region,

4425

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

until it is definitely decided otherwise, is still a part of Italy".

During the week Eugenio Reale, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs, was named Ambassador to Poland, and Celeste Negarville, Communist, as is Reale, took over the undersecretaryship. Press comment on Russia's declaration of war has been rather scant so far; *Avanti* rejoiced in the "reaffirmed solidarity" between the Big Three which is symbolized by the declaration. *Tempo* mischievously sees in it a natural consequence of the first demonstration of the atomic bomb; other papers are speculating on how much the war may be shortened.

McPHAIL RIDES AGAIN

The Allied Commission's Supergarage employs over 500 civilians including drivers, mechanics, etc. In these days, when anything connected with transport fetches astronomical prices on the black market, it is not surprising that all kinds of odds and ends like petrol, tires and even cars have occasionally a tendency to disappear from the Supergarage. So Capt. Arthur M. MacPhail (A) has transformed his domain into a little fort guarded by a picked police force of about 30 Allied and Italian men, and far from just sitting down behind his prepared defence, he sallies forth at times, counterattacking vigorously.

For several days recently Capt. McPhail's cloak and dagger boys had been hot on the tracks of some black marketeers, the A. C. men posing as prospective buyers of good Allied tires. The haggling went on for several days; our sleuths were very particular about the quality of the tires: so, better and more attractive ones were produced every night. One black marketeer tried to tempt our " buyers " with a jeep engine.

Last Monday, 6 August, the time for action came. A flying squad of ten Italian (Supergarage) coppers armed with everything but an atomic bomb, set forth at 9 a. m. The scene of the A. C. raid was the already notorious neighbourhood of the "Quarticciolo", 10 miles out of Rome on the road to Tivoli and once the stronghold of the notorious and deceased " Hunchback, v. i. p.

The jeeps were found nearly completely buried, at the end of a 150-yard-long cave just off the Via Prenestina. The tires had a more idyllic setting: Some were buried between rows of tomatoes; some were mixed up with the bedclothes of some peasants, several of whom were invited to police headquarters for further conversation.

CROP OUTLOOK

The wheat crop, according to the latest view of the Agriculture Sub-Commission, is now estimated at 41.8 million quintals. This is the lowest figure since 1920 when the wheat crop total was 38 million quintals. Last year the figure was 64.3 million quintals. In peacetime the yearly consumption of wheat in Italy was approximately 80 million quintals. The problem thus arising for the Food Sub-Commission and the Italian authorities cannot be measured by this old figure, which appears now almost a mirage to hungry Italians, but by the much more sober and realistic little statistic of 300 grams of bread a day.

The problem amounts to this: Can the bread ration be *maintained?*

The answer lies only to a very small extent in Allied Commission hands. Italian farmers will decide the question by complying or failing to comply with the numerous appeals made by Italians leaders that they hand in the largest possible quantity of wheat to the *Granai del Popolo*. So far little progress has been made, wheat ammassed, as of 7 August, being only 3,322,529 tons. In the last week, however, following two broadcasts by Enrico Molè, Italian Food Minister, the percentage of wheat handed in has increased slightly. The ammassing situation has been particularly bad in Piedmont, and only slightly less so in Lombardy. The agriculturally opulent Region of Emilia has, by and large, " delivered the goods ".

The change in the estimated " ammassable total " from 15 milion quintals (forecast June 15) to 13 million (current forecast), which means a reduction of 2 million quintals in the total amount of wheat expected to be available for distribution to the non-agricultural population of Italy, has

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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The change in the estimated "amassable total" from 15 milion quintals (forecast June 15) to 13 million (current forecast), which means a reduction of 2 million quintals in the total amount of wheat expected to be available for distribution to the non-agricultural population of Italy, has given yet another headache to the harrassed officers of the Food Sub-Commission. Besides the factor of the weather, the reduction is due, to a large extent, to the inclusion of refugees returning to Italian farms in the category of persons entitled to legal retentions. The A. C. food officers are now working out what additional quantity of wheat will have to be requisitioned from outside

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Italy to make good the anticipated deficit, taking into account that the large estimated corn crop will in part compensate for the poor wheat crop.

Requisitions for 10 million quintals of wheat have already been filed with the Combined Chiefs of Staff Supply board and there is a surplus of 2 million quintals from last year, but even if the 10 million quintals of wheat were granted, it is a toss-up whether the 300-gram bread ration can be maintained. Expected to arrive in Italy during the month of August are 50,000 tons of wheat and about 70,000 in September. In the meantime, to complicate matters, Austria has had to be supplied with wheat destined to Italy.

Other Crops.

Other crop estimates are good and bad. The corn (maize) crop is estimated at 23 million quintals, a normal crop. The acreage planted has been estimated at 120 per cent. of normal in Northern Italy. This was due to the inability of the farmers to complete the sowing of wheat in the autumn of 1944. Thus, more land was planted to corn in the spring of 1945. The greater acreage under corn is offset by the drought conditions which have reduced the yield per acre; so the crop finally balances up to about normal.

The olive crop is expected to be smaller than last year's. It is quite usual for a small crop to follow a large one, and last year's crop was a large one. It is too early yet to predict final results, as scirocco winds may still materially reduce the yield, but the final figure may well be 9.5 million quintals.

The only important crop which has not materially suffered is that of fruits and fresh vegetables. Half a million quintals of early fruit will be available in the North and up to 800,000 quintals of apples and pears. The grape crop is in good condition due to dry wheather, which has prevented the spreading of disease. There is also promise of a good yield in tomatoes, about 9 million quintals. Potatoes will be nearly normal.

But most of the other crops have suffered heavily. Barley (1.3 million quintals) and rye (8.6 million quintals) will be scarce. Rice (4 million quintals) has taken a beating from considerable

per cent. of normal; apart from this the crop has further been reduced by drought and lack of fertilizers. Damage to hay crops has been most severe in Sardinia and Apulia, the total crop is estimated at 60 per cent. of the normal one. Transportation for re-distribution of livestock and local surpluses of forage is so limited that slaughtering has already been increased to bring the herds in line with the local availability of forage. Northern farmers, incidentally, are releasing, through AMG, 13,500 tons of forage to help maintain the dairy and breeding herds in the hard-hit areas of Southern Italy and Sardinia.

ODDS AND ENDS

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by the War Department and the Order of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus by the Italian Government... The Soldier's Medal for has been awarded to WOJD Daniel Coley (who has since left the A. C.) for saving an officer from drowning at Fregene last May... Capt. Richard L. P. Garzarilli of Piemonte Region, Col. Clayton P. Kerr, deputy director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, Maj. Andrew J. Malatesta and Staff Sergt. W. J. Davini have received the Bronze Star... Recipients of the Legion of Merit this week include Col. Charles Poletti, RC of Lombardia; Col. Leonard D. Dennmore, chief staff officer, Economic Section; Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG; Lieut. Col. Rowland W. Rushmore of the Public Health Sub-Commission; Col. Lester J. Hensley, A. C. Liaison Officer with PBS, and Lieut. Col. Frank E. Toscani, 5th Army AMG... MTOUSA has now ruled that it is permissible for U. S. officers to accept Italian decorations with approval of higher headquarters... A conference of Regional Commissioners will be held in Rome 13 and 14 August... Steps are under way to hand over to the Italian Government all Fascist Republicans now in Allied prisoner-of-war camps... Lieut. Col. Carleton W. Washburne, director of the Education Sub Commission is in Switzerland to obtain suitable textbooks in Ger-

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But most of the other crops have suffered heavily. Barley (1.3 million quintals) and rye (8.6 million quintals) will be scarce. Rice (4 million quintals) has taken a beating from considerable reductions in acreage and yield. Lack of fertilizers, severe frosts and drought have inflicted more damage on the *legume* (beans, broad beans, peas, etc.) crop than on any other crop in Italy. Lack of processing facilities and combat operations have drastically curtailed the production of sugar beets. The acreage of hemp is estimated at 50

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

succeed Brigadier Gerald R. Upjohn as Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, the latter going home, as is Lieut. Col. A. D. Bonham Carter, who will be succeeded by Lieut. Col. P.H.G.H.-S. Hartley; Col. Robert P. Marshall, RC of Piemonte, will be replaced by Col. Floyd E. Thomas, with Lieut. Col. William Turner-Coles as his Deputy; Col. W. R. Jordan, present Liguria Deputy RC, will go to Venezie to act in that capacity for Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, the RC, while the Venezie Deputy RC, Col. Thomas N. Page, will come to Rome to be director of the Public Health Sub-Commission; Col. W. J. Legg, director of the Food Sub-Commission, at present in the hospital, is going home... Olive oil ammassed, as of 7 August, amounted to 524,080 qls... Since 1 August Greece has received 1,570 tons of sulphur and Malta 214 tons of wine, from Italy... Subscriptions to the Italian loan in the North amount to more than 30 billion lire... Production had commenced of 4,000 tons of double-concentrated tomato paste... With the putting into operation of another 35,000 kw. unit at the Galleto generating station, three out of the four machines that were operating before the war are now again back in use, giving a capacity of 105,000 kw.; the fourth is scheduled to resume this fall... The Shipping Sub-Commission has been abolished and its functions taken over by Transportation Sub-Commission...

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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August 4, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 18

114

POLITICAL

He that goeth about to persuade a multitude that they are not so well governed as they ought to be, shall never want attention and favourable hearers.

SAMUEL JOHNSON.

On Sunday, 29 July, the first day of the National Council of the Socialist party, *Avanti* appeared with a leading article by Nenni. "This congress", said Nenni, "is awaited with great interest, especially now, after the crushing victory of our British *compagni*: this victory shows that in Socialism lies the political directive of the new Europe which is looking for its way through the destructions caused by the infamous war imposed by Nazi-Fascist bandits". Two years ago, when the Socialist party took up its activities again, he continued, the fight for national liberation was the necessity of the moment, now the Socialists must carry to its end the democratic revolution, create a new State and reorganise its economy. "Who, if not the working masses, can undertake such a task?" the Socialist chief asked. Nenni charged that reactionaries and moderates have not yet abandoned hope of putting off convocation of the *Costituente* indefinitely. He pressed for holding elections as soon as possible.

The congress lasted three days, with Togliatti invited to attend all discussions. The three days were almost entirely taken up by the tactical problem of the fusion between the Communist and the Socialist parties. There was no talk whatsoever of crucial Italian domestic or international issues nor of reconstruction, nor of relations with other parties. Indeed, as many observers put it, the meeting was characterised by continuous and monotonous reference to the Marxist tradition, to

However, when members were asked to choose between two motions (signatures on the first of which were headed by that of Sandro Pertini, ex-secretary of the Socialist Party of Northern Italy and the second headed by Ignazio Silone and Giuseppe Saragat, Italian diplomatic representative to France, the former won 76 per cent. of the votes. The two groups, having stated their confidence in the political line followed so far by the Socialist party and agreeing that the *Costituente* must be convened without further delay, diverged in that the Silone-Saragat one, representing the more moderate trend of the party, said that unity of action between Communism and Socialism must be strengthened, but without hindering the political independence and autonomous administration of each party. They deemed it necessary, in the interest of the whole proletariat, that the Socialist and Communist parties maintain their different ideals, in any event until internal and international circumstances are such to allow a union of all the working classes. The Pertini motion asked for all the working masses of the country to form a single bloc as soon as possible. It was requested that all the organisms of collaboration between the two parties be strengthened and new offices of liaison created. This latter motion represented the views of the present Secretary of the Socialist party, Pietro Nenni.

5424

Lament.

Tito Zaniboni, the man who in 1925 tried to kill Mussolini, sent a letter to the meeting expressing his disillusionment at the petty fights going on among parties which had been united as long as the clandestine struggle against Fascism lasted. He asked the Socialists if they really believe that after twenty years of Fascist dictatorship the nation now wants a proletarian one. He question-

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424

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

The Council summarized the current duties of the party as follows: "*Costituente* immediately; through the *Costituente*, the Republic; at the head of the Republic, a government of workers".

The event elicited full comment from the Rome press. Speaking on the proposed fusion between the two leftist parties, Pacciardi said, in *Voce Repubblicana*, that though no one wanted to see any misunderstanding arising between the two workers' parties, all the same an alliance rather than a fusion would have been better. For the fight against monarchy the help of all democratic forces would be needed and it would, therefore, be better if each party maintained its own physiognomy, he said. Incidentally Pacciardi and Nenni met and talked the evening of 2 August. Lucifero, in *Italia Nuova*, remarked that Italians, worn out as they are by the endless talks and discussions which have been poured over them for two years now, were not paying enough attention to the deep crisis that Italian Socialism was undergoing. On the closing of the congress, *Secolo* said in the same paper that the Congress had been full of philosophical and political discussions but that no time to speak of had been dedicated to the problems of the working classes or of the nation. The Silone-Saragat motion was defeated, *Secolo* went on, by an act which has become customary in this "Nennistically" democrat country; that is, by having accused one of the signers of the motion of his Fascist past, as if everybody did not all know, that all those present were ex-Fascist hierarchs who have self-appointed themselves members of the Socialist party. *Risorgimento Liberale* gave the Socialists credit for being the only party to date, to expound its internal difference of methods and doctrine in public meeting.

Christian Democrats, too.

Meanwhile, the Christian Democrats were also in a general session, which opened 31 July. Aldo Airoldi, in *Tempo*, pointed out that while Socialists agreed on practical matters (*Costituente*, pact of unity, etc.) and disagreed on ideological matters (fusion with the Communists), the Christian-Democrats agreed on all ideological problems, but not on the practical ones such as the institutional question. On this question, expressed doubt as to the wisdom of the *Consulta* being held before the *Costituente*, for fear it might overthrow democratic methods and ideals. He also said that he favored holding administrative (local) elections before the national elections for the *Costituente*.

The Republicans, too, had a meeting, in Milan, of the federations of the North. The Republican Central Committee meets in Rome on 4 August. The Action Party passed a motion outlining its aim to lead the masses towards the real participation in political power, and with a program similar to that of western Socialism, more particularly of the British Labour party, but not at all hostile to revolutionary projects realized by Russia.

Council of Ministers, etc.

The Council of Ministers met on 27, discussing claims of the C. G. I. L. and of the State employees and laying down the functions of the Ministry of Food (distribution and control, rationed food, non-rationed food, transport and food-relief). At the second session of the meeting the following day, a formal request was passed to the Allied Governments to give back to Italy her prisoners-of-war and to consider them as free workers until this return was possible. Disposition of textile inventories was examined and a decree on the functions of the Ministry of Labor and Welfare approved. In other governmental news the Ministry of Post-War Relief announced that it would select its personnel from repatriates, war orphans and widows.

On 28 July Prime Minister Parri held his weekly foreign press conference. He hailed the victory of the British Labour party on the ground of the economic international collaboration in its program. Questioned as usual about the elections, Parri replied that they cannot be held until Italy's international status is changed, evoking the speculation amongst some journalists that Parri may be using the date of the elections as a strong card in his bargaining with the Allies concerning Italy's needs.

Parri spoke on Radio Milan on 19 July, reminding Italians that though Italy's international situation had greatly improved of late, they should not forget that they still had to pay a high price for Fascism. He warned against im-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

in *Voce Repubblicana*, that though no one wanted to see any misunderstanding arising between the two workers' parties, all the same an alliance rather than a fusion would have been better. For the fight against monarchy the help of all democratic forces would be needed and it would, therefore, be better if each party maintained its own physiognomy, he said. Incidentally Pacciardi and Nenni met and talked the evening of 2 August. Lucifero, in *Italia Nuova*, remarked that Italians, worn out as they are by the endless talks and discussions which have been poured over them for two years now, were not paying enough attention to the deep crisis that Italian Socialism was undergoing. On the closing of the congress, *Scrutator* said in the same paper that the Congress had been full of philosophical and political discussions but that no time to speak of had been dedicated to the problems of the working classes or of the nation. The Silone-Saragat motion was defeated. *Scrutator* went on, by an act which has become customary in this "Nennistically" democrat country: that is, by having accused one of the signers of the motion of his Fascist past, as if everybody did not all know, that all those present were ex-Fascist hierarchs who have self-appointed themselves members of the Socialist party. *Risorgimento Liberale* gave the Socialists credit for being the only party to date, to expound its internal difference of methods and doctrine in public meeting.

Christian Democrats, too.

Meanwhile, the Christian Democrats were also in a general session, which opened 31 July. Aldo Airoldi, in *Tempo*, pointed out that while Socialists agreed on practical matters (*Costituente*, pact of unity, etc.) and disagreed on ideological matters (fusion with the Communists), the Christian-Democrats agreed on all ideological problems, but not on the practical ones such as the institutional question. On this question, De Gasperi said in his speech that Christian Democrats are free to declare themselves in favor either of the Republic or of the Monarchy but that this division has not been encouraged so far, in order to avoid making definitive commitments without having begun consultations from the bottom of the party's rank and file. De Gasperi

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In Florence, Lucini, Minister of War, said that he intended reorganising the Italian Army as a small, compact, well trained body, organised according to democratic principles, though re-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

taining the respect for noble traditions that it has always had. Food Minister Mole further appealed to farmers for the *ammasso*. In Sicily the Separatists' "army" is reported as disbanded and the whole Separatist movement apparently dying out as an organized entity. Senator Federico Ricci was appointed Minister of the Treasury; he is well known for his opposition to Fascist financial policy and is reported good administrator.

As we go to press, the Potsdam communique has been issued, in which Italian support of the Allied war effort was praised and announcement made of an Italian peace treaty to be negotiated, after which Italy was promised a seat among the United Nations. The entire press, of course, carried the news in banner headlines. Parri was quoted as expressing his pleasure at the recognition accorded Italy for her efforts to acquire a democratic order and voiced gratitude to the Allies for recognizing Italy's needs. He said he hoped that the nation's "just aspirations will be satisfied in the peace treaty".

ECONOMIC FRONT

Heading the economic news of the week was the virtual complete freedom of foreign trade restored to the Italian Government, effective 1 August. All activities of the Allied Commission with respect to exports in Italy, with the exception of Venezia Giulia, ceased as of July 31. The Commission will no longer serve as a channel of communication for export orders. Hereafter, all countries are free to deal directly with the appropriate Italian Government export authorities or with private Italian dealers subject only to such regulations as the Italian Government itself may impose.

The United Kingdom will use both the British Embassy and private British dealers in its trade relations with Italy. British Government purchases will be made through the British Embassy while private British buyers will contact appropriate Italian authority. For the time being, the United States Government will act as agent for private American buyers through the intermediary of the United States Commercial Company of the Foreign Economic Administration. This channel has already been accepted by the Italian

follows: (1) *In order not to upset* the Allied civilian supply program already formulated for Italy by conflicting export activities, all Italian declarations of exportable surpluses will be examined by the Allied Commission. (2) *In the interests* of the United Nations world-wide war economy, any goods falling under the Reserved Commodities List of the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington will be exported only to specified countries. The list in question is one of articles in short supply throughout the world and to which Allied military necessities have prior claim. (3) *Exports from AMG-controlled areas* will be handled by the general agency established by the Italian Government as part of one economic unit, but such AMG-area exports will be subject to AMG approval, under the powers of military government, as long as AMG authority prevails in the territory. (4) *No dealings* will be had with firms on Allied "black lists".

The Allied Commission will cease making reports on exports but will keep itself informed as to amounts and destinations of exports and of the value of foreign exchange placed to Italy's credit by different countries. The freeing of restrictions on Italian foreign trade has come about as a gradual evolution under Allied Commission guidance, the first step having been to authorize government-to-government trade dealings with practically all Allied and neutral countries under arrangements somewhat similar to those used by the United States and the United Kingdom themselves.

Since the liberation of Sicily two years ago, the Allied Commission has supervised the exports of more than 167,000 tons of commodities worth more than $18,000,000. Of this total, $8,000,000 went to the United Kingdom, $1,000,000 to Malta, $2,000,000 to the United States, and $4,000,000 to other countries, including France, Greece and Yugoslavia.

The question of disposition of captured enemy material is occupying the War Materials Disposal and Italian Prisoners-of-War Sub-Commission these days. Currently, a considerable amount of equipment is being used by the Italians but on a loan basis, no actual turnover having yet taken place. For instance, 745 German vehicles are being utilized in Lombardy civilian truck pools

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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Despite the mines, the port of Genoa will be used in part by 15 August, according to the Economic Section, which reports one channel satisfactorily swept and fuel docks ready to handle

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

up to 8,000 tons a day. Control of cement production has been handed over to the Italian Ministry of Industry and Commerce. Sir Eric Speed, Permanent Undersecretary for War (Finance) has been visiting the A. C. The Agriculture Sub-Commission reports several items: The slaughter up to 15 per cent. of live weight of cattle a year for meat has been authorized for Northern Italy. A survey has shown a critical lack of forage for livestock in Southern Italy and Sardinia, owing to the drought. Wheat ammassed, as of 31 July, amounted to 2,218,190 quintals and olive oil to 524,080 quintals.

The first meeting of the Northern Italy Industrial Council was held 31 July in Milan. Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, is going to London to join M. Harlan Cleveland (A) and Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President, in vital supply discussions. Mr. Franck Upman, jr. is to replace Mr. Merritt Taylor as director of the Transportation Sub-Commission. Both are Americans.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Public Relations Branch is proud (and awfully relieved) to be able to announce that the long-awaited history of the AC/AMG is finally written and actually in the production stage. The opus, which will run to 128 (maximum) of text, maps, chart and photographs, had to be cleared with the director of every Sub-Commission, the Vice Presidents of Sections, the Executive Commissioner, the Chief Commissioner, the British and American Embassies and AFHQ. It came through with only minor scratches. Now being produced are 100,000 copies in English and 100,000 copies in Italian. The work is entitled *A Review of Allied Military Government and the Allied Commission in Italy*, from D-Day, 10 July 1943, to the German surrender in Italy, 2 May 1945. The Information and Education Section of MTOUSA has asked for 50,000 to 75,000 copies for American troops while the British Education Office at AFHQ will take 15,000 copies. The Italian edition, which is being printed by U. S. [illegible] to at least 30,000 persons

VENEZIA GIULIA SCHOOLS

Of all the problems faced by AMG in Venezia Giulia, the question of gratifying the demands of the numerous national entities for the development of educational institutions is by no means the lightest. In this sphere are crystallised all the national political contradictions and difficulties which today beset AMG officers in the less erudite and more mundane fields of supplies, finance, labour and so on. Education in the disputed zone produces a problem which digs deep down to the source of the question of national dignity and culture, perhaps the very source of the whole problem itself.

Here has to be faced the stern fact that there are a number of quite distinct national entities involved and old cultural, racial and historical desires of peoples. Before any aspect of education, development or rehabilitation can be considered and before any attempt can be made to set up even schools of the most elementary type, it must be decided what text books are to be used and in what languages they are to be written. They must be free of Fascist doctrine and they must show bias neither in favor of the Italians nor of the Slovenes. This applies to all subjects—from a geography to pure mathematic.

The question of language is not simple. It is not always a question of Italian or Slovene alone. In Pola, for example, citizens complain that they cannot understand AMG proclamations because they are printed only in English, Italian and Slovene. The people of Pola insist that they only understand Croat. To all these problems must be added that created by the recent past. The people, culturally, have suffered severely under Fascism.

The question of education therefore is a serious one. During the partisan campaign, Slav troops established and created Slav schools in partisan-controlled areas and even organised clandestine classes in German and Fascist Republican-dominated Trieste prior to the liberation of the town. The main problem appears to be caused by shortage of trained teachers but already application has been made and permission granted for the opening of a Slovene teachers training school.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The problems are immense and AMG's intention is that they should be treated with impartiality. Preparation for the setting up of a fair and equitable educational system based on fair treatment to all racial, national and cultural groups in the zone is thus going ahead and should soon bear fruit, it is hoped.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735015

BRIGADIER DUNLOP'S BAILIWICK

Major Thomas Goddard Bergin, Deputy Director of the Public Relations Branch, professor-on-leave of Romance Languages at Cornell University (no pupils accepted at the moment, however) and the shark who usually writes the wise and graceful Political column of the *Weekly Bulletin*, has been touring the North these last few weeks, seeing for himself how the people live away from the metropolis of Rome. He has penned a few observations on the goings-on in the command of Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, Regional Commissioner of Venezia, at Padua. The report concerns a recent staff meeting.

The Exhibition of Five Centuries of Venetian Art at Venice is going strong and highly worthwhile to make a special trip to see. The Legal Officer told the group that the Courts of Special Assizes are now functioning. The most urgent problem was getting Black Brigade Fascists out of prisons into regular prisoner-of-war camps. Public Health reported that the Red Cross was about to begin distribution of 200,000 articles of clothing.

Good progress was reported on the electoral lists. It was suggested that T. B. refugees be placed in a summer camp. School textbooks may be late to arrive, maybe as late as the end of September. Some Provincial Commissioners complained about foraging trucks carting away grain and sugar and bringing no supplies in at all. The *Ammassi* were quite unsuccessful. The best province—Rovigo—had only 20 per cent. of its goal. All the farmers feel grain prices will skyrocket later in view of the poor crops in the South. The Deputy Regional Commissioner reported he had been unable to learn anything about U. S. redeployment. Verona Province reported a large supply of tear gas available. The neighboring contadini are somewhat upset.

The Region's officers were encouraged to take a rest at San Vito, a small Alpine village about ten miles from Cortina. It is also used as forward regional headquarters. A modest hotel serves as the regional rest center. The hotel used to be a convalescent home for German wounded. The place is cool and sometimes it rains. It is left 35 years ago. This is an attraction of the resort of which Brigadier Dunlop probably is as yet unaware.

TAXI! TAXI!

Among the claimants for the hardest-working single office in the Allied Commission, one of the strongest contenders will not fail to be the Dispatch Office which comes under the Headquarters Com-



Maj. H. J. Birch

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Sgt. P. J. Sullivan



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Pte. J. R. Davis



Tatiana Wolodimeroff



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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Office dispatches about 40,000 persons every month by land, sea and air. Maj. Birch is an old hand at the game, having been in the same business for 20 years before the war.

The biggest part of the job, of course, is land transport, which is handled by Sergeants Patrick J. Sullivan and Harold V. Hill (both British), Pte. John R. Davis (B) and an energetic young

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Italian civilian by the name of Albert J. Scoggin. Sergts. Hill and Sullivan have been with Maj. Birch for 17 months, Scoggin for 14 and Davis for ten months. The Office is responsible for the proper allocation of 430 assigned vehicles. Of these, 152 are WD vehicles, which are used for long-distance trips, in July, for instance, 168 such trips having been made. The next class of cars number 69 and are used for one-day trips and trips of more than one hour.

Best-known and most over-worked are the 106 ancient, green taxis. These are used in three shifts: 56 are on duty from 0730 to 1730 (dispatched from A. C. Hq.); 45 are used from 1730 to 0130, and five are on call from 2300 to 0800. The last two groups are dispatched from the Super-Garage. Taxi drivers are paid 300 lire a day, the garage furnishing gasoline and repairs. The taxis make an average of 350 trips a month. One can usually get a taxi easily enough by simply asking for one save at lunch-time, the end of the day or when it rains. Then, there is a subway train scramble.

It is of interest to us lesser fry to learn that 40 civilian and War Department vehicles are assigned to the chief officers and directors of the A. C. for their exclusive use. This pool of 40 is also used to transport visiting VIPs. In addition, there are 61 cars regularly assigned to Hq. personnel requiring daily transport in performance of their duties. These cars have to be returned each night. Lastly, the Dispatch Office also controls the two A. C. ambulances, and of course, dispatches the road couriers to the Army AMGs (twice weekly) and to Naples (daily).

The air transport section is now a considerably expanded activity since the A. C. has been flying its own line, or more precisely, using converted Italian bombers with Italian pilots. Sergt. Louis Galanga (U. S.), Lance Corporal Leonard V. Smith (B) and Pfc. Vincent Arnone (U. S.) work this end of the business. Sgt. Galanga has been at it in the same office 17 months and Cpl. Smith 10 months while Private Arnone is a newcomer of a few months. (May we at this point say we are sorry we could not run Sgt. Galanga's picture: it was not reproducible for technical reasons.) Helping with both air and road transport, as well as inter-

red bags, Italian Government documents, and when requested, even telegrams from the hard-pressed Italian communications system.

ODDS AND ENDS

The British in A. C. will have Bank Holiday off on 6 August... The Commune of Ancona, as well as Emilia, Lucca and Apuania, is being returned to the Italian Government 4 August... Enlisted men in 2675 Regiment are eligible for promotion again, but promotions for U. S. officers are still in doubt until the new T/O is clarified... Col. Hamilton T. Walker, SCAO, IV Corps, has been awarded the Legion of Merit... Pfc. Frederick W. Campo has received an official commendation from Headquarters Command, AFHQ, for his "meritorious" work in taking care of Naples billets the last two years... The Education Sub-Commission reports progress in working out a scheme whereby Italian students will receive U. S. scholarships (plus board, room and tuition) and similar arrangements will be made for members of the U. S. Armed Forces who remain in Italy to study... Supplies from Italian educational institutions in the shape of 150 cases of physics laboratory equipment has been found at Linz, Austria; steps are being taken to determine if the equipment was looted... On the recommendation of the Legal Sub-Commission, the summer holidays of Italian judicial personnel are being reduced, which should have a beneficial effect on the dockets... The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission announces that approximately 35,000 Italians came back to Italy in the last week, that 15,000 Italian refugees were evacuated from the North to Rome, that another 21,000 were sent to their homes in the North, that 10,000 were sent to their homes in the South from Rome, that 30 T. B. refugee patients have arrived at Verona, where another refugee died of typhus, and that all 400,000 Italians abroad in the former SHAEF area should be repatriated by 1 October... Col. Nelson W. Monfort (A) has been awarded the Bronze Star for "heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy"... Col. Dickens S. Adams (A), who has left the A. C., has received the Legion of Merit, as has Capt. Deane Keller (A), Fine

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The air transport section is now a considerably expanded activity since the A. C. has been flying its own line, or more precisely, using converted Italian bombers with Italian pilots. Sergt. Louis Galanga (U. S.), Lance Corporal Leonard V. Smith (B) and Pfc. Vincent Arnone (U. S.) work this end of the business. Sgt. Galanga has been at it in the same office 17 months and Cpl. Smith 10 months while Private Arnone is a newcomer of a few months. (May we at this point say we are sorry we could not run Sgt. Galanga's picture: it was not reproducible for technical reasons.) Helping with both air and road transport, as well as interpreting and being a general factotum, is another civilian, a Russian, Miss Tatiana Wolodimeroff.

The air section last month took care of 1,600 passengers and 50 tons of freight while also booking passages on the ATC runs for Cairo, London, Paris and Zurich. The A. C. courier planes fly to Milan, Turin, Bologna and Treviso and, aside from passengers, carry mail, baggage, officiel

The British in A. C. will have Bank Holiday off on 6 August... The Commune of Ancona, as well as Emilia, Lucca and Apuania, is being returned to the Italian Government 4 August... Enlisted men in 2675 Regiment are eligible for promotion again, but promotions for U. S. officers are still in doubt until the new T/O is clarified... Col. Hamilton T. Walker, SCAO, IV Corps, has been awarded the Legion of Merit... Pfc. Frederick W. Campo has received an official commendation from Headquarters Command, AFHQ, for his "meritorious" work in taking care of Naples billets the last two years... The Education Sub-Commission reports progress in working out a scheme whereby Italian students will receive U. S. scholarships (plus board, room and tuition) and similar arrangements will be made for members of the U. S. Armed Forces who remain in Italy to study... Supplies from Italian educational institutions in the shape of 150 cases of physics laboratory equipment has been found at Linz, Austria; steps are being taken to determine if the equipment was looted... On the recommendation of the Legal Sub-Commission, the summer holidays of Italian judicial personnel are being reduced, which should have a beneficial effect on the dockets... The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission announces that approximately 35,000 Italians came back to Italy in the last week, that 15,000 Italian refugees were evacuated from the North to Rome, that another 21,000 were sent to their homes in the North, that 10,000 were sent to their homes in the South from Rome, that 30 T. B. refugee patients have arrived at Verona, where another refugee died of typhus, and that all 400,000 Italians abroad in the former SHAEF area should be repatriated by 1 October... Col. Nelson W. Monfort (A) has been awarded the Bronze Star for "heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy"... Col. Dickens S. Adams (A), who has left the A. C., has received the Legion of Merit, as has Capt. Deane Keller (A), Fine Arts officer of 5th Army AMG... Colonel W. G. Pidsley (B) of Land Forces Sub-Commission, has received the O. B. E... Lieut. Colonel J. Imrie, Food Sub-Commission, and Major C. E. Keysell (B), Legal Officer, Venezie Region, have received the M. B. E...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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July 28, 1945
D/Director
Chief Telecoms
Chief Postal
Asst Chief Postal
Censorship
Chief Clerk

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 17

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POLITICAL

Si vous soupçez un nombre de sottises qui doivent vous échapper, vous serez moins prodigue de vos paroles.

MICHELET

Whether because of the heat, which has been terrific throughout the entire week, or for some other reason, there seem to have been a lot of speeches by numberless Ministers. The Romans have spent these torrid nights tossing on their beds through the sleepless hours. One can not, of course, read all the time, so one starts thinking. And, in a Minister, these thoughts apparently take the form of speeches to deliver on the first occasion.

Prime Minister Parri held his weekly press conference on 20 July, and explained at length to the journalists that war against Japan must be considered merely as the last act of the war of the Italian people against dictatorship, and that Italians must realize that their contribution to it will naturally be limited by the shortage of means at their disposal. He then spoke about the wheat situation, which he described as very serious but not tragic. He said that the Allies will help Italy in spite of all the difficulties they have to face and stressed the importance of having all peasants and producers accomplish their duty and hand over all wheat to the *ammassi*. On the subject of the change of currency, Parri said that it will be only a physical change which will have no effect whatsoever on anybody. Concerning the *Costituente*, he said that the elections would be held as soon as possible in spite of the great material difficulties. Elections must, he said, be preceded by the establishment of the *Consulta*. Parri also announced that the Soviet Government had been informed once more of the desire of all Italians to receive some kind

carried him to meet assembled economic and political representatives of the island. He told them that his administration makes no promises which it can not keep, but that all the same it will do all that is in its power to solve the Sicilian problems which, he said, are, more or less, the same as those of all the other regions, but which deserve priority because of the bad treatment received by the island in the past. Sicily's *Consulta*, Parri said, represents the first step towards regional autonomy; the rest will follow in due course. He added that the necessities of the island would be kept in mind when distributing public works.

Nenni.

While Parri was busy in Palermo, Nenni was equally so in Milan, where he told the press on 21 July that the organization of the Ministry of the *Costituente* had only just started. He said that it would be a center of propaganda to call the attention of the country to the importance of the problems which will be solved through the *Costituente*. He said that, contrary to general belief, the problem of "monarchy or republic" is not the only one, but merely the first of a long series of equally important questions. Nenni added that, as soon as the AMG administration in the North came to an end, the "*pre-Costituente*" period would start. The next day in the *Castello Sforzesco*, Nenni spoke to several thousands of workers. He pleaded the importance of the public loan, warmly urged all peasants and farmers to hand in all the wheat to the *ammassi* and then passed on to his chief love, the *Costituente*, and stated that the Socialists would ask the *Costituente* to give Italy a republic. Winning the fight for the *Costituente*, he said, will mean winning the fight

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Two days later, on the 22d, Parri paid his long-promised visit to Sicily. In spite of it being a Sunday, he was kept pretty busy all day long, meeting people, listening to grievances and making speeches. Sicilian High Commissioner Aldisio and Orlando met Parri on his arrival and carried him to meet assembled economic and political representatives of the island. He told them that his administration makes no promises which it can not keep, but that all the same it will do all that is in its power to solve the Sicilian problems which, he said, are, more or less, the same as those of all the other regions, but which deserve priority because of the bad treatment received by the island in the past. Sicily's *Consulta*, Parri said, represents the first step towards regional autonomy; the rest will follow in due course. He added that the necessities of the island would be kept in mind when distributing public works.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

by it, nor workers or employees for whom the *tessera del partito* represented a necessity to which they had to submit if they wanted to live. But on the other hand all leaders and all those who profited by fascism or collaborated with Nazism, must pay, the Socialist leader said.

In the rash of comment that followed, Enzo Selvaggi, in *Italia Nuova*, warned that a *Costituente* formed without taking into account grave problems such as the absolute sovereignity of the Italian people, the independence of disputed territories, the repatriation of all Italian prisoners, the return to order and freedom and the alleviation of economic distress, would mean looking at the question in a false light, merely supporting the parties in the Government (which, he asserted, represent only a small part of the Italian people), and finally forcing Italians to accept certain political ideologies. Igino Giordani, in the Christian Democrat paper, *Il Popolo*, said that epuration, as in a surgical operation, must be carried out very swiftly; patients cannot be kept on the operating table more than a very limited time, unless they are supposed to die.

More Speeches.

Food Minister Enrico Molè also made a speech, addressed to all agricultural producers. Outlining the very serious food situation in Italy, Molè said that the life of the country was at stake, and that very severe measures would be taken against those who are discovered cheating the *ammassi*. Almost all papers have had long articles on the *ammassi* failure, blaming mostly the big landowners. Jabbing the needle into the Government as ever, *Italia Nuova* said that it was surprising that peasants should refuse to obey orders issued by a Government "presided over by one of the leaders of the insurrections of the North, and seconded by none other than the leader of the Socialist party himself". The newspaper went on to argue that those guilty of not doing their duty cannot possibly be the big landowners – whom all leftist papers seem to accuse – because the landowners were controlled by Communist and Socialist Unions and syndicates and thus would never dare to do anything but the right thing. But what about small farmers who

billion lire. Treasury Minister Marcello Soleri, while on a bond-selling speaking tour, died suddenly in Turin on 23 July. It has not been decided yet who will take his place. Togliatti also made a kind of speech, though under special circumstances. A serious riot broke out among the prisoners of Regina Coeli, and on the second day, Togliatti, his name having been insistently shouted by 2,400 inmates, went to listen to their claims and to ask for order.

British Elections.

As we go to press, the first comments of the Rome press on the result of the British elections are appearing. Headlines announce the "crushing victory of the Labour party". Nenni, in *Avanti*, called it a "peaceful revolution" and "the greatest political event in Europe after the victory against Germany". He praised the Labour party for its past achievements and particularly for its opposition to Munich and to the non-intervention policy and said that Churchill was great in war, but that "our friends," Attlee and Bevin, will surely understand Italy's problems better. He concluded by saying that the Labour victory should be a warning to the Italian middle classes to give up their struggle for political leadership, and an incentive to the progressive forces to continue until final victory their struggle for a workers' Government.

Unità, under the headline "The British people have voted for a democratic and progressive policy" said that the British desire for a fresh start was clearly evidenced. According to Ivella, in *Italia Libera*, Churchill did not sufficiently realize the social significance of the war. Even *Italia Nuova* feels sure that the British Left will continue Churchill's international policy because, says Scrutator, the defeat of the Conservatives does not mean the defeat of Churchill himself. Naturally, Bevin's recent words that "Italy should not be treated as if Mussolini were still in power", are reported by a number of papers as a promise of better understanding between Great Britain and Italy. Parri, interviewed by Reuter, said that the Labour victory "will contribute to free the world from the atmosphere of misun-

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Minister Meuccio Ruini, in Florence, spoke on the destruction and reconstruction of Italy and stated that war damage amounts to 2,000 yet who will take his place. Togliatti also made a kind of speech, though under special circumstances. A serious riot broke out among the prisoners of Regina Coeli, and on the second day, Togliatti, his name having been insistently shouted by 2,100 inmates, went to listen to their claims and to ask for order.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

ECONOMIC FRONT

In general, the economic news is not of a startling nature, affairs more or less having fallen into a pattern and the major problem remaining the over-all one of national import supply, a matter the Economic Section is assidnously and continually studying with the Italian Government. There are many incidental items of interest, however.

The Commerce Sub-Commission reports the arrival from the Middle East of 850,000 salvage garments, which will have to be dyed. The U. S. Foreigns Economic Administration has been promised more personnel, what with several civilians returning home soon. Wheat ammassed, as of 23 July, totalled 801,270 quintals, the Agriculture Sub-Commission says. Industry Sub-Commission tells of a production increase in Sardinian coal to 1,901 tons a day, with 400 more workers recruited on the mainland and awaiting passage to the island. The Italian Ministry of Industry and Commerce has also made a preliminary allocation of 3,000 tons of sulphur for AMG-territory. The C. I. S. A. Viscosa synthetic staple fiber plant in Rome has commenced a 3,000-kilogram a day production. The Central Italy electric system operated at a frequency of 50 cycles for the first time 22 July.

VENEZIA GIULIA

Outwardly Trieste does not strike one as being the hot spot or the powder-keg of Europe, as it has been variously described. Except when there is a general strike, a superficial air of normality abounds. The bulk of the population seems to be either in the sea, bathing alongside the Allied troops, or in the trams which take them to and from the beaches. Food does not appear to be very short and flour was being sold on the quay-sides from little ships coming in from the coastal towns at 40 to 50 lire per kilo. Maize was cheaper and potatoes were going at 22 lire and there did not seem to be a vast crowd of purchasers.

But that is only on the surface. Underneath there is a complex problem of nationalism and politics, of economic distress and, at any rate in the one object of establishing good government without fear or favour. There is no doubt that stability is being established: it may probably be upset from time to time by forces beyond control but the effect of impartiality and firm administration is being felt: it can be seen.

The general strike on 19 July was well and rapidly organised which shows the powers of the forces with which AMG has to contend, but it passed off without incident, without casualties and with only one or two arrests, a tribute to the stabilizing influence of Allied troops and the military government, a tribute which is even more creditable when it is realised that there are practically no indigenous police and that law and order is maintained by the machinery of the military police and special troops allotted to them. The organisation however of a composite police force is going ahead, including the training of some 3,500 indigenous police who will eventually form the civil police force for the territory.

Progress – Slow but sure.

The Area Commissioners are slowly but surely producing a structure of local government following the policy laid down. It needs infinite patience. The SCAO had a four-hour meeting with the "Regional Committee" left behind by the late regime and he got across to them one of the basic principles that AMG means military *government*.

One reads in a late Venezia Giulia report that talks with representatives of the two Yugoslav Committees in Trieste regarding representation for the area have so far met with no response from the City Committee, although the District Committee gave a favourable reply. In Gorizia, the President of the Provincial Committee and all the District Presidents met the Area Commissioner and listened to the definition of AMG as the governing power through the local committees. In Pola the institution of *Sepral* should result in a more efficient handling of food supplies.

Allied military courts are functioning throughout the territory and orders have been given for the native civil courts to resume their functions. Long discussions have taken place with regard to wages and it is probable that they will be brought

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But that is only on the surface. Underneath there is a complex problem of nationalism and politics, of economic distress and, at any rate in Pola and Monfalcone, the pressing problem of war damage, all of which are producing for the AMG authorities under 13 Corps one of the most difficult tasks that has faced the Allies in Italy.

But one and all are tackling it quietly and efficiently and in the true spirit of AMG's position as trustee in a disputed territory. AMG is dealing with the territory as an administrative case with but the effect of impartiality and firm administration is being felt; it can be seen.

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The country does not look so dry as other parts of Italy, and although the crop will not be large, it will not suffer from the climatic damage prevalent in Central and Southern Italy. There

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

is already a grave shortage of timber and fuel and unfortunately most of the wood is located East of the Morgan Line. It is hoped that the Economic Committees, which appear to be working well, will be able to provide some remedial arrangement. A great deal of work has been done in collating lists of Italian civilians deported into Yugoslavia before occupation by Allied troops. A few have been returned.

The port of Trieste looked moribund as regards shipping and the great naval harbor of Pola, which has suffered tremendous damage from Allied bombing and is still full of mines (at any rate in the commercial harbor), was empty.

Altogether the AMG team there, which will be progressively built up until its has a strength of some 50 US and 50 British officers under its SCAO, Colonel Alfred C. Bowman (A), is doing, with tremendous help from 13 Corps and in spite of many difficulties (of which the torrid climate is not the least), a quiet and efficient job.

HONORS

Awards are coming thick and fast for AC personnel in recognition of jobs well done, though it could probably be said there are not enough decorations to equal the amount of tireless devotion to duty and extraordinary ingenuity exercised by many of the officers and men. In any event, here are some of the latest honors, from both British and American sources, but the recipients this time are all U. S. personnel:

Legion of Merit. — Col. Robert Kirkwood, former RC of Tuscany; Col. Nelson W. Monfort, former SCAO of Venezia Giulia AMG and former assistant chief of staff, G-5, 15th Army Group.

Officer of the Order of the British Empire. — Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia AMG; Col. Leonard Densmore, Economic Section; Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner; Col. Charles J. Farinacci, formerly of the 8th Army AMG who has now gone to Austria; Col. Monfort, again; Lieut. Col. Frank E. Toscani, 5th Army AMG.

Member of the Order of the British Empire. — Lieut. Col. Ernest T. De Wald, former director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission; Corp. George D. Sheehan of Liguria Region.

Mention in Dispatches. — Col. Charles Poletti, RC of Lombardy; Corp. George D. Sheehan of Liguria Region.

Likewise mentioned in General Orders of Headquarters Command, AFHQ, on the American side, were the following men and officers: Pfc. Daniel S. Hacker of Emilia Region; Pfc. Oscar A. Ornati of the Agriculture Sub-Commission; Corp. Angelo A. Greeco of Naples Commune; T/4 Robert L. Principiano of the Legal Sub-Commission; Sergt. Joseph A. Marcuzzo and Staff Sergt. Charles D. Moses, both of the former Southern Region; First Lieut. John P. Simoni of Venezia-Giulia AMG, and Lieut. Col. John W. Clarke, former finance officer of Tuscany Region.

Congratulations to all.

THE RETURNING TIDE AND OTHERS

The repatriation of Italian and other nationals is rising to a peak, the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission indicates according to its latest sitrep, which mentions that home-comings of Italians from SHAEF via the Brenner Pass has increased to 4,500 a day and from Switzerland to 2,500 a day. About one third of the SHAEF Italians (mostly from Germany) are from South Italy. Re-settlement within Italy is also proceeding apace. In the last week 9,310 refugees with homes in the South went back to their native towns while another 10,155 refugees arrived in Rome from the North to await the dispersing process. Allied and other nationals are also going home – 927 of various nationalities leaving for France and 710 Greeks returning to Greece by sea.

In brief, the results of the Bolzano conference of 14 June are working out exceedingly well, according to Lieut. Col. C. F. Fothergill (B), deputy director of the hard-working Sub-Commission. Close liaison is maintained with the Transportation Sub-Commission. All major movements are made by rail. The some 60 camps, which, besides Italians, hold some 15,000 United Nations nationals, are all active on a virtual assembly-line production basis. Sanitary conditions in the camps have received the o. k. of medical ex-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Awards are coming thick and fast for AC personnel in recognition of jobs well done, though it could probably be said there are not enough decorations to equal the amount of tireless devotion to duty and extraordinary ingenuity exercised by many of the officers and men. In any event, here are some of the latest honors, from both British and American sources, but the recipients this time are all U. S. personnel:

Legion of Merit. — Col. Robert Kirkwood, former RC of Tuscany; Col. Nelson W. Monfort, former SCAO of Venezia Giulia AMG and former assistant chief of staff, G-5, 15th Army Group.

Officer of the Order of the British Empire. — Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia-Giulia AMG; Col. Leonard Densmore, Economic Section; Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner; Col. Charles J. Farinacci, formerly of the 8th Army AMG who has now gone to Austria; Col. Monfort, again; Lieut. Col. Frank E. Toscani, 5th Army AMG.

Member of the Order of the British Empire. — Lieut. Col. Ernest T. De Wald, former director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, who has also left for Austria; Major Huston D. Crippen, likewise Austria-bound; Capt. Louis T. Montant, jr; of Col. Fiske's office; Lieut. Michael J. Desiderio of Lombardy Region.

British Empire Medal. — Technical Sergeant Dennis Giardina, chief clerk of Industry Sub-Commission.

side, were the following men and officers: Pfc. Daniel S. Hacker of Emilia Region; Pfc. Oscar A. Ornati of the Agriculture Sub-Commission; Corp. Angelo A. Greeco of Naples Commune; T/4 Robert L. Principiano of the Legal Sub-Commission; Sergt. Joseph A. Marcuzzo and Staff Sergt. Charles D. Moses, both of the former Southern Region; First Lieut. John P. Simoni of Venezia-Giulia AMG, and Lieut. Col. John W. Clarke, former finance officer of Tuscany Region.

Congratulations to all.

THE RETURNING TIDE AND OTHERS

The repatriation of Italian and other nationals is rising to a peak, the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission indicates according to its latest sitrep, which mentions that home-comings of Italians from SHAEF via the Brenner Pass has increased to 4,500 a day and from Switzerland to 2,500 a day. About one third of the SHAEF Italians (mostly from Germany) are from South Italy. Re-settlement within Italy is also proceeding apace. In the last week 9,340 refugees with homes in the South went back to their native towns while another 10,155 refugees arrived in Rome from the North to await the dispersing process. Allied and other nationals are also going home — 927 of various nationalities leaving for France and 740 Greeks returning to Greece by sea.

In brief, the results of the Bolzano conference of 14 June are working out exceedingly well, according to Lieut. Col. C. F. Fothergill (B), deputy director of the hard-working Sub-Commission. Close liaison is maintained with the Transportation Sub-Commission. All major movements are made by rail. The some 60 camps, which, besides Italians, hold some 15,000 United Nations nationals, are all active on a virtual assembly-line production basis. Sanitary conditions in the camps have received the o. k. of medical experts, who are especially keeping close tabs on stray cases of typhus. A case of smallpox was found in one refugee and proper steps taken to prevent spread of the disease. The Como-Berne terminals on the Switzerland route (which opened 29 June) and the Munich-Verona points on the Germany route are functioning smoothly, with SHAEF liaison officers stationed in Italy to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

straighten out tangles with AC officers at this end. Switzerland is reported to have had 32,000 Italian refugees and the SHAEF area 350,000.

Since the complete liberation, more than 265,000 refugees are said to have entered Italy. There were 80,000 in May, 81,000 in June, and 103,000 in July up to the 22d. Statistics are not as accurate as could be wished, since many refugees streamed over the Austro-Italian border in the first days before adequate controls could be set up. 5th and 8th Army AMGs heroically took care of most of them. The Records Bureau of the Sub-Commission is fast expanding its rolls, now listing nearly 90,000 names covering 72 nationalities and being very busy answering inquiries from families in search of relatives.

Books Closed.

The Sub-Commission has finally closed its books of financial assistance to hard-pressed refugees of more than a score of nationalities, including Germans. The program, started in October, 1944, wound up in June with a total c st of more than 75 million lire. Loans up to 4,000 lire a person a month or 12,000 lire for a single household were made and helped prevent malnutrition and privation for many. UNRRA now has taken over this program and also expects to take over United Nations nationals Northern camps (they are already operating in most of the South) this fall. When the money aid program was started, heads of 273 families were receiving help. The number rose to 5,000 persons last winter.

The job pioneered and organized by the Sub-Commission is no doubt in its last stage, (since January, 1944 to, date, the Sub-Commission has handled 190,000 Italian and 70,000 United Nations refugees). In its latest report, for example, the Sub-Commission states that 58,873 refugees were repatriated by land, sea and air through other organized movements. UNRRA is now taking an increasingly larger share of the burden. The report also refers to the ubiquitous but little-known IGCR or Inter-Governmental Committee for Refugees, which is not primarily an operating agency but a general advisor on the problem and lastly, the final catch basin for the refugees of other than Italian and Allied origin who do with the IGCR for the simple reason there will be refugees with no place to go to.

The IGCR was formed in 1938, on the initiative of the late President Roosevelt, and with the prime purpose at the time of succoring victims of Nazi persecution, for instance, Jews, deprived of German citizenship by Nazi laws, who fled on account of their race, religion or political beliefs. As an official humanitarian organization representing 36 member governments, IGCR, which one day might well be converted into one of the auxiliary agencies centered around the nascent United Nations Organization, has had as its particular baby the problem of what has been commonly but rather erroneously called "the stateless". More accurately, it is a complex and far-reaching problem concerned with individual conditions of "non-repatriability". Of those who might be loosely termed "stateless" now in Italy there are relatively few.

However, the number of Poles, Yugoslavs, Russians, Greeks, Spaniards, Balts and others now in Italy who for one reason or another do not wish to return home runs into many tens of thousands. They present another and analogous problem which may clarify as general post-war conditions in Europe improve.

Italian citizenship.

Sir Clifford E. Heathcote-Smith was IGCR representative in Italy until a short time ago when Lieut. Col. Julian L. Tomlin (B) took over. Sir Clifford arrived on the scene in the spring of 1944. A letter of his is on record to Mr. Harold Macmillan, former British Resident Minister at AFHQ and former Acting President of the AC, in which Mr. Macmillan is given the credit for suggesting in April, 1944 in Algiers that Italy herself help take care of part of the problem of the stateless. As a result of IGCR efforts and Italian cooperation, a decree of the Italian Government was published which offered Italian citizenship to IGCR-certified stateless refugees and cut red tape and costs to allow such refugees to accept Italy as an official haven. The first eight stateless refugees received their citizenship applications in October, 1944 and by March of this year had finally become Italian citizens. The usual residence requirement of five years was

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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A recent survey of post-war refugee aspirations among about 1,000 families showed that

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

148 would like to go to the States, 40 to England, 57 to France, 93 to Austria, 13 to Germany and 91 to Poland. Italy was the preference of 154 while about another 100 wanted to emigrate to South America, various colonies and miscellaneous other places. Unable to make up their minds were 152, and 72 others apparently thought the question too academic to bother with. Only about one third were willing to take their chances in their native lands again. Most of the non-repatriables are over 40. Of some 600 sample backgrounds, 108 were professional men—doctors, lawyers, authors; 100 had led an academic life or as journalists, artists; 94 were skilled craftsmen and 310 were in commercial lines.

Approximately 1,600 Jews among the non-repatriables have been sent to Palestine, under authorized quotas, in three convoys since May, 1944. The last one sailed last month. In addition, 1,000 of the "stateless" were sent to the United States last fall. In Italy, the IGCR tries to look after cases which fail to meet the legal requirements of UNRRA, paying out about 260,000 lire a month for financial relief. In addition, a convalescent home for about 50 patients was started in a villa about five miles from Rome last May and sick refugees who could afford to pay 8 10 a month have been taken in and nursed back to health.

Of course, no account of these relief and welfare activities would be complete without paying tribute, however brief, to the invaluable assistance always forthcoming from the many voluntary organizations working in the refugee field.

AVE ATQUE VALE

On the departure of Brigadier G. S. Parkinson, Director of the Public Health Sub-Commission, who is going home on release to England next week, we are losing not only an eminent director of medical administration and a real friend of the Italians, but an outstanding figure of the Commission itself. One has only to think of the difficulties which have faced the officers, EM/OR and civilian experts of Public Health Sub-Commission and the work that has been done. They medical authorities to make them, in their turn, achieve results. Allied military responsibility has been and is to prevent disease and unrest in Italy. Brig. Parkinson and his staff, in the field and at headquarters, have certainly fulfilled the first of these duties.

ODDS AND ENDS

AFHQ has agreed that Emilia Region and the Provinces of Lucca and Apuania can go back to the Italians 4 August; a Liaison Officer and specialists will be kept at Bologna... Lieut. Gen. Sir Frank Noel Mason MacFarlane, former Chief Commissioner of the AC, has been elected to Parliament on the Labour ticket while Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the AC, lost his seat on the Conservative side... After the September 1 turnover of territory, the Establishment Section will make every effort to prevent officers from long stays in replacement depots before they are shipped home (not necessarily for discharge) or to other theaters... AFHQ is getting interested in the archives question, which may mean an increase in the staff of one captain and one sergeant now in charge of old AC documents... Plans are being made to evacuate practically the entire prisoner population of Regina Coeli in Rome while repairs are made; this was decided after the latest outbreak in the woefully overcrowded prison... The CC. RR. may get a change from their traditional costume: green-dyed British battle dresses are being made available for them... AFHQ is to be asked to return a number of army-requisitioned hotels to the Italian Government... The royal jewels of Abyssinia are finally to be taken from the Italian Ministry of Italian Africa and returned to the Emperor of Ethiopia... Ten million multi-vitamin tablets have been released to the Italian Government by the U. S. Quartermaster at AFHQ, the Public Health Sub-Commission reports... The end of July should see all Patriot centers closed down in Italy... Italo-American labor unions of New York have sent 4,600 new dresses to Italy, which will be distributed among school teachers, the Education Sub-Commission announces, adding the news that the British Boy Scouts have offered

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

July 21, 1945
Director
D/Director
Chief Telecoms
Chief Postal
H. Q. Comp. O.
Asst. Chief
Economics
Civil Affairs

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 16

12

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

POLITICAL

« Quella guerra è giusta che è necessaria ».
MACHIAVELLI.

The main feature of the week and the one to which naturally the press gave most prominence was Italy's declaration of war on Japan. The communique appeared in the papers of 15 July, accompanied by scare head-lines. All the leading articles in the morning papers praised the steps taken by the Italian Government. Sforza, in *Il Giornale del Mattino*, defined it "an act of faith" and added that Italians should be proud to be allowed to contribute to the liberation of the Japanese people from "the cruel domination of the militaristic and feudal classes". Nenni, in *Avanti*, praised the moral value of the gesture. Even reactionary and monarchist *Italia Nuova* expressed its approval and seized the occasion to utter a long panegyric on the Italian Navy. Only Pacciardi, in *Voce Repubblicana*, commented bitterly that the Government should not have unconditionally thrown Italy—in the sad condition in which the country finds itself at present—into this new war. Evidently, said Pacciardi, no one can any longer have any doubts about De Gasperi's Christian and heroic feelings in having a whole nation "voluntarily" crucified in order to redeem the world from the crime of Fascism. De Gasperi must have asked the Allies' permission for the Italians to fight and die for them, Pacciardi added, which permission must undoubtedly represent a great success of Italian diplomacy.

But apart from this acid comment, the press was unanimous in pointing out that the new declaration of war proves that now Italy is linked to the United Nations and that it is a democratic country which joins in this fight, in which she has no direct interests, in order to express her anti-dictatorial feelings and to give all number of partisans will be allowed to volunteer for the Far East. The Milan paper *Il Giornale Lombardo* said that Parri was thus trying to solve the problem of "what to do with the partisans".

Council Business.

Last week's second session of the Council of Ministers – a long and lively one – was being held while we were sending our *Bulletin* to the printers. The meeting approved a decree concerning the establishment of the Ministry of the *Costituente* and which outlined its functions. The new Ministry is charged with preparing for the convocation of the *Costituente* and drawing up a program for the new political order of the State and the lines of its economic and social future. A Commission for the study of the election laws will also be formed within this Ministry. Reaching an agreement on this basic instrument was a process both protracted and laborious because both Liberals and Christian-Democrats tried very hard to limit the Socialists' and Communists' apparent tendency to give too much executive power to the new Ministry.

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The Council met again 18 July and produced organizational decrees for two more Ministries, despite the press campaign – Socialist and Communist papers excepted – against overloading the already topheavy bureaucratic machine. *Il Popolo* made the crack that "we must be grateful that the C. L. N. consists of only six parties, otherwise God knows how many new Ministries we would have". These latest additions were the Ministries of the Consulta and of Post-War-Relief. The decision on this last-named, particularly, gave rise to some hearty give-and-take. Though the creation of the Post-War-Relief Ministry replaces various High Commissariats (par-

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But apart from this acid comment, the press was unanimous in pointing out that the new declaration of war proves that now Italy is linked to the United Nations and that it is a democratic country which joins in this fight, in which she has no direct interests, in order to express her anti-dictatorial feelings and to give all the contribution she can to the building of a new democratic world. The general expectancy of the week was that Italy's international status would soon change, everybody awaiting anxiously the decisions which the Big Three will think fit to take at Potsdam. Meanwhile, Parri has announced that, besides the navy and air forces, a number of partisans will be allowed to volunteer for the Far East. The Milan paper *Il Giornale Lombardo* said that Parri was thus trying to solve the problem of "what to do with the partisans".

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

The gestation of these two new departments over, the Council passed on to less high-sounding matters, such as trying to obtain coal from Upper Silesia: once again re-assuring the High Commissioner for Sardinia that measures will be taken to help the island; examining the functions of the High Commissariat for Hygiene and Public Health; discussing the always thorny problem of the *epurassi* and the problem of text books for schools.

Puglie.

The situation in Puglie is now more or less calm, but the deadline for handing in arms has been postponed till 31 July. In the North, the situation has been less than tranquil: On 6 July an armed, masked band broke into the prison of Schio—near Padova—and machine gunned 76 political prisoners, of whom nearly 50 died. Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, AMG Regional Commissioner of Venezie, hurried to Schio as soon as he was informed of the matter and in an impromptu speech to the local C. L. N., he expressed regret that such thing should take place in Italy and said that Italians will never be able to gain British and American friendship as long as they continue to behave in such a manner. The Dunlop speech evoked sundry Italian soul-searchings and comment. *Libera Stampa* said that Parri should have spoken in this vein first and should have followed it by drastic action. *Capitale* said that Italians deserve Dunlop's "strong and hard" words, while *Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican paper, said that the Regional Commissioner should have remembered, before speaking so harshly, that Schio is not the whole of Italy and that anyhow the country is now going through a specially tragic period of hard moral and material conditions.

The busy week had little other news worth recording. With final agreement on extending the public loan to the North, Soleri went to Milan where he urged everyone to support the loan as an effort of the Italian Government towards stabilization of the lira. Togliatti spoke on the radio on 16 July, promising that he would do his best to give back to Italian magistrates their complete independence.

As we go to press, new incidents in Trieste and an agreement has been reached and that the strike is being called off. What the true facts may be in this latest boiling of the Trieste pot, are not yet clear. All we can say for sure is that we shall hear more about Trieste before we hear less.

THE NORTH

Publication of *La Stampa* in Turin a few days ago resulted in a mixup between organized demonstrators and employees of the newspaper plant when the demonstrators raided the publishing plant and burned copies of the paper, all in alleged protest against the Fascist record of the journal. The demonstrators were apparently ignorant of the facts in the case: namely, that the paper had been epurated and was in the hands of a Commissario who had been instructed to freeze all profits and turn the property over to the Italian government with the cessation of AMG rule for eventual unscrambling of ownership. The incident highlighted the crisis which arose at the beginning of the week when it was learned that the Allied Publications Board regional staff and PWB press officers in the north were to be withdrawn, the order having been goven by AFHQ without prior notification to AC. The Chief Commissioner promptly got in touch with Brigadier General A. D. McCrystal, chief of INC at AFHQ, and in a conference attended by the Executive Commissioner, the Political Advisors and PRB, obtained the assurance that the APB shutdown order would be revoked and a press officer attached to each region to handle applications for licenses to publish and to give press advice to the RCs. A directive on the subject will be issued shortly.

Mr. Henry Hopkinson, British Political Advisor, raised a nice point at a staff meeting this week on the question of the surrender of arms. Higher authorities would like to know if the number of weapons turned in anywhere approximates the number estimated to have been held. Figures are most misleading and vague, no strict and correlated accounting having been made to date. Patriots Branch of AC, for example, itemizes 259,034 weapons, including 72,995 hand grenades, as having been handed in in the five Northern provinces. 5th Army also lists thou-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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As we go to press, new incidents in Trieste and comment from Yugoslav sources fill the Roman newspapers but as yet without provoking any response, official or otherwise. On the heels of the AMG arrest of several journalists in Trieste, a general strike broke out, apparently in "protest" against the arrests. Reported interviews between AMG and the CLN of the area indicate

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

less.

THE NORTH

Publication of *La Stampa* in Turin a few days ago resulted in a mixup between organized demonstrators and employees of the newspaper plant when the demonstrators raided the publishing plant and burned copies of the paper, all in alleged protest against the Fascist record of the journal. The demonstrators were apparently ignorant of the facts in the case: namely, that the paper had been epurated and was in the hands of a Commissario who had been instructed to freeze all profits and turn the property over to the Italian government with the cessation of AMG rule for eventual unscrambling of ownership. The incident highlighted the crisis which arose at the beginning of the week when it was learned that the Allied Publications Board regional staff and PWB press officers in the north were to be withdrawn, the order having been given by AFHQ without prior notification to AC. The Chief Commissioner promptly got in touch with Brigadier General A. D. McCrystal, chief of INC at AFHQ, and in a conference attended by the Executive Commissioner, the Political Advisors and PRB, obtained the assurance that the APB shutdown order would be revoked and a press officer attached to each region to handle applications for licenses to publish and to give press advice to the RCs. A directive on the subject will be issued shortly.

Mr. Henry Hopkinson, British Political Advisor, raised a nice point at a staff meeting this week on the question of the surrender of arms. Higher authorities would like to know if the number of weapons turned in anywhere approximates the number estimated to have been held. Figures are most misleading and vague, no strict and correlated accounting having been made to date. Patriots Branch of AC, for example, itemizes 259,034 weapons, including 72,995 hand grenades, as having been handed in in the five Northern provinces. 5th Army also lists thousands. After cross-checking the duplications, there is the intricate matter of figuring the number of weapons that have been extant among the civilian population. Besides the arms dropped by the Allies, there are those taken by force from the Germans or Fascist Republicans, not to mention guns looted from the Italian Army

stores at the time of the Armistice. The fact remains, according to Public Safety, that there are still plenty of arms in hiding.

Devastated Belt.

Col. Floyd E. Thomas (A), RC of Emilia, has come forward with a detailed analysis of the problem in the 35 devastated communes in his region, scene of the bitter fighting of late 1944 and early 1945. Of the 252,939 persons in the area, 127,195 are homeless. Towns were damaged, on the average, to an extent of 70 per cent., with a third more than 90 per cent. The area is heavily mined, it being estimated that there are 2,000,000 mines still to unearth. Food reserves are gone and 80 per cent. of the livestock missing. To clothe the stricken population, 300,000 garments are needed and to house the shelterless 1,000 Nissen huts, salvage canvas for 15,000 makeshift tents and another 10,000 regulation army tents. The area's 11 hospitals were all damaged and there are no ambulances. Each of the devastated communes now has a doctor but he has to work with no transport, equipment or medical supplies. In the midst of worrying about the economics of the North, aid to meet this individual and most pressing problem has been somewhat overlooked, Col. Thomas said.

Bolzano has been figuring in the news, with reports that the former prefect and former mayor had gone to Allied capitals to plump for autonomy. The AC had to put its foot down on such rumors, officially denying that any travel permits had been issued for political purposes. The Local Government Sub-Commission met with the present prefect of Bolzano, and later with the Italian Government, on preparation of the electoral lists in that border area where so many of the residents are German. The apparent idea at the moment is to exclude those who opted for German nationality in 1939.

The Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission reports that plans are under way to establish an international center for art studies in Florence. The Public Health Sub-Commission, an eye peeled out for typhus, reports a case at the Verona refugee camp and another at Parma. The Communications Sub-Commission says that, of

ECONOMIC FRONT

In a rather quiet week, economically speaking, the chief item on the boards is the new financial directive from the Combined Chiefs of Staff, completing, in most particulars, the Macmillan Aide Memoire of 24 February to the Italian Government. The financial memorandum comes ten months after the Quebec Conference and in the midst of the Potsdam meeting. In brief, the directive gives free internal action on finances to Italy in territory under its own jurisdiction but retains control over external transactions. The AC must be consulted before any external claims prior to the Armistice are paid and also as to how Italy proposes to handle foreign exchange abroad. Further, rights under the Armistice are reserved and no promises made yet concerning sequestrated Italian property in Allied countries.

Speaking of foreign exchange, the black market in such currency has been active of late, presumably because of rumors of an impending conversion of the present lira for the new currency now being printed by the Italian Government. In the last month, the gold sovereign has jumped from 6,950 lire to 9,550; the pound sterling from 780 to 950; the blue seal U. S. dollar from 267 to 307, and the Swiss franc from 124 to 176 lire.

The free and easy use of gasoline by Italian civilians is being checked somewhat by stricter control of circulation permits by the Italian authorities. In Naples, for example, cancellation of 1,600 permits helped reduce thefts of Allied gasoline, not to mention another reason: Removal of the Allied pipeline to the North, from which artery Italians have at times removed as much as 1,000 gallons at one time. The Land Forces Sub-Commission is also trying to stop another leak: Italian Army vehicles, which are of British make, may stop at any British petrol point and fill up. Some charge that the Italian Army drivers then sell the gas to a civilian and then go to another petrol point for a re-fill and a repeat on the whole process.

Cost of Living.

The wage level in Rome is reported by the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Cost of Living.

The wage level in Rome is reported by the Labor Sub-Commission as 500 per cent. above that of 1942, when an unskilled worker made 58 lire a day compared with 270 lire a day the same man makes now. Prices are down, the Sub-Commission further reports. A family of five in Rome needed 9,865 lire in June for its food budget, compared with 11,607 lire in May and 12,456 in March. In June, the equivalent

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

food budget in Bologna was 7,962; in Turin, 10,418, and in Venice, 9,867... Employed by the Allied Forces in Italy last month were 445,000 persons. Italian industrialists are showing interest in U. S. work simplifications methods and are asking for courses to be started here.

In response to U. S. pressure to permit more commercial travelers to come to Italy, the AC is advising the FEA that such travelers had better be forewarned that responsibility for food, lodging and transport will be their own and that return to the U. S. will have to await the fortunes of redeployment and available shipping space... The Montecatini nylon plant at Verbania has been found in A-1 condition and is now making 500 kilograms of nylon fiber a day for yarn and tooth- and hairbrush bristles. The plant will get a high priority on available coal.

Plans are being worked out to have the Italian economy support an Italian Army of 140,000 and a CC. RR. of 65,000. Seven Italian labor leaders are going to Moscow to return the visit of the Russian trade union delegation last year... Major H. A. Gent (B) is the new director of the Commerce Sub-Commission... The new ammassing season has started, 342,560 quintals having been collected as of 17 July... The first shipment of Chilean nitrate—9,000 tons—is being unloaded at Naples.

A TRUE STORY

Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick, AMG Commissioner for Naples and AC Liaison Officer for Southwest Italy, has given the Executive Commissioner a report on the grasshopper plague in his bailiwick. Col. Pennycuick has an eye for details. To combat the plague of the insects near Battipaglia, DDT powder is now being used, the result of long and careful research. The colonel recalled that in April the 'hoppers' eggs had hatched and swarms of the dear, little things appeared. The Italian civilians, however, paid no attention to their chance, then, of simply stepping on the recumbent hordes. By May, Colonel Pennycuick tells us, the insects had grown enormously, being semi-winged and extremely, extremely voracious already. In June, the grasshoppers began trying out their wings in their first solo flights and also began playing at biological tiddlywinks, enemy of the grasshopper is the *Zanabris*, a certain wasp-like creature, to whom AC is now making overtures. The *Zanabris* lays its eggs in the same ground as the female grasshopper, according to Col. Pennycuick (who is a professor of entomology in his spare moments). The *Zanabris* grubs, being no slouches themselves, eat the grasshopper eggs, which is good to hear. However, the *Zanabris* likes wet weather. This year Italy has had dry hot weather, and perhaps the grasshopper eggs have been rather brittle, because the Pennycuick report gives us the news that the *Zanabris* babies are currently favoring wild honey as their principal diet. In any event, sterner steps had to be taken.

Poison.

Poisoning the grasshopper brats had been suggested. Sodium arsenate and copper arsenate, mixed with bran, had been used but the cast-iron stomachs of the grasshoppers did not seem unduly affected. A malarial control unit came up with the idea of using DDT, 5 per cent., in a kerosene spray. A test worked beautifully disastrous results on the grasshoppers. It was about decided to use the new method widely when an Italian came up with this remark:

"And what about the birds? If they eat the poisoned grasshoppers, they may die. And there are so few birds in Italy now."

This provoked widespread discussion in the Commune of Battipaglia, even the CLN being divided among itself. Italian authorities scoffed at the fear, asserting that birds do not often eat dead grasshoppers, not being tasty enough. But an experiment was insisted on. Some old hens, of no value, were selected; hens, moreover, chosen thriftily because they were past laying. The finding: The DDT-fed hens did not die. Instead, they re-commenced laying eggs.

This has inspired the following tribute from one M. S. L.:

ODE TO DDT

It pulverizes lice on men
This famous DDT
And stimulates a barren hen
To great fertility.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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The grain is practically stripped by the swarms, and heroic measures must be taken. A natural *Zanabris* grubs, being no slouches themselves, eat the grasshopper eggs, which is good to hear. However, the *Zanabris* likes wet weather. This year Italy has had dry hot weather, and perhaps the grasshopper eggs have been rather brittle, because the Pennycuick report gives us the news that the *Zanabris* babies are currently favoring wild honey as their principal diet. In any event, sterner steps had to be taken.

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BACKGROUND ON SOCIALIZATION

As somebody has said, Mussolini, before he received his due, like a wasp, left a sting in the body of North Italy which he hoped would fester to the embarrassment of the nation. That sting was the Fascist Republican attempts at socialization of industry in the North. Opinion has it

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

on one hand that he was attempting to woo the workers with socialistic projects. Somewhat overlooked was the fact that the disintegrating Duce also wanted to use the threat of socializing plants as a club to force employers to meet German demands for an 80 per cent. increase in war production. Mr. William H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, who has been investigating the situation, has some interesting remarks on the subject.

The Fascist Republican Government, we are told, started its attempt at socializing industry by the issue of Legislative Decree No. 375 on 12 February 1944. This Decree provided that joint stock or limited liability companies having a capital of more than 1,000,000 lire should be liable to reorganization under a management composed of a head, appointed by an assembly of equal worker and employer representation, and a council, appointed by the assembly and also having equal representation of workers and stockholders. Private undertakings, whether partnerships or under personal ownership, and having more than 1,000,000 lire capital and over 100 employees were also liable to be similarly organized.

The head of any socialized undertaking would be liable to dismissal or replacement if his conduct did not conform to the production plans or social policy of the State, and such replacement could be proposed by the management council. The management council was empowered to give decisions on all questions of scope, expansion and general production; it could deal with the protection and disciplining of all labor and it would be responsible for preparing a balance sheet of the undertaking and for proposing the allocation of all profits. Profits allocated to the employer interests of any undertaking would be limited by annual regulation and workers would take a share in profits according to the amount of pay received during the year. The share of any worker was not in any case to exceed 30 per cent. of his total annual pay. Surplus profit, after calculation of employer and worker entitlement, would be appropriated by the State.

Slow Start.

For some time after the publication of this North of Italy and finally, by Fascist Republican Decree of 1 April, 1945, all undertakings were ordered to implement the policy of socialization. Three dates were fixed for the completion of socialization of industrial establishments, the time limits ranging from 20 April 1945 to 10 May. The liberation of the North, of course, put *finito* on Benito's plans.

During the immediate pre-liberation period, the clandestine Italian resistance movement, conducted by the Central C. L. N. for Northern Italy, made use of workshop C. L. Ns. in industrial establishments. The C. L. Ns. arrived at agreement among themselves on various questions affecting industry (as, for example, the promise of payment of a liberation bonus to industrial workers in the North). With regar to socialization of industry, the C. L. N. A. I. issued a "decree" on 17 April, 1945, just before the general uprising against the Fascists. The C. L. N. A. I. edict purported to annul the Fascist Republican socialization decree and to suppress the management councils established by the Fascists, substituting for them temporary management boards (*Consigli di Gestione Aziendali*), containing equal representation of owners and workers. Within three months of the date of liberation, workers' representatives would be freely elected by employees of the establishments concerned, to take the place of those appointed by the factory C. L. Ns. The C. L. N. A. I. ruling also provided for the continuance of the system of allocation of profits, limited the share to be given to the owners and required the workers' share to be paid into a national fund which would be used to meet the needs of the working classes arising from current circumstances, such as popular messes, assistance to children and to war orphans.

C. L. N. Activity.

In the interval before assumption of full administration by Allied Military Government, there was activity on the part of certain local C. L. Ns. and factory C. L. Ns. in the nature of interference with management by removal of managers, supervisors and foremen and widespread establishment of the workshop management committees. In some cases removal of managerial and

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Slow Start.

For some time after the publication of this decree, little effort was made to put it into effect extensively, although the Fascist *Ministero dell'Economia Corporativa*, at intervals, applied the new policy in selected concerns by way of trial. However, following a Supplementary Decree No. 561 of 12 October 1944, socialization was extended to a number of specified firms in the

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In the interval before assumption of full administration by Allied Military Government, there was activity on the part of certain local C. L. Ns. and factory C. L. Ns. in the nature of interference with management by removal of managers, supervisors and foremen and widespread establishment of the workshop management committees. In some cases removal of managerial and technical staff was based, unfortunately, upon personal grounds rather than on reasons of collaboration with the Fascists. The effect threatened for a time to impair the technical and administrative efficiency of industrial concerns. The situation was rectified early in June by AMG which reviewed all C. L. N. appointments of Com-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

missioners and Receivers to act as heads of industrial concerns, made appropriate removals and appointed its own Receivers and Commissioners where necessary.

As indicated, time did not permit general socialization under Fascist administration as intended by the Fascists. The C. L. N. A. I. regulations, however, were interpreted by various elements in Lombardia as giving authority for the introduction of socialization into establishments which would have been liable to this process under the Fascist decree, even through they had not in fact been socialized at the time of liberation. A state of uncertainty thus existed in numerous plants.

Information is being collected on the subject but it is not yet complete. Reports received to date show that in Genoa four printing and publishing firms were socialized. In Piemonte Region firms which are concerned include Fiat, Italgas, Snia Viscosa, Venchi Unica, Vetrocoke, Ferrovie Torino-Nord, Soc. Editrice Torinese, S. I. P., Cartiere Burgo, Stipel, La Stampa, Officina Meccanica Zansi and I. N. C. R. T. Lombardia statistics have not yet come in.

Nationalization.

The nationalization of key industries, the socialization of general industry, participation of workers in management and sharing of profits for workers, are basic questions of the political future, of course. The statements on the socialization of industry which have been issued by responsible Italian authorities are therefore important. On 3 June, 1945, the representatives of the six parties belonging to the central C. L. N. arrived at an agreement which *inter alia* laid down that C. L. Ns. should act in a consultative capacity and that workshop C. L. Ns. should be transformed into technical and syndical agencies which should prove themselves adequate to meet the requirements of production and social justice.

The next day Prime Minister Bonomi informed the Allied Commission that the Italian Government would immediately study this question of workshop management committees which embraced a complex problem having wide social, political and economical implication. He suggested

Italian Government to support a socialization program, the new Parri Government has not committed itself. A communiqué of 26 June, 1945, however, included the following reference to socialization:

"The Government intends to develop and organize the control of industrial establishments by the various categories of employees, in such a manner as not to disturb the productive capacity of the country and not to obstruct the revival of economic activity for which it widely relied on private initiative."

The Monarchist newspaper, *Italia Nuova*, on 27 June commented: "These are, as you see, beautiful and nebulous words capable of any interpretation from the most extreme socialism to the most reactionary liberalism."

Epuration.

On 2 June, 1945, AMG issued General Order No. 46 dealing with "Epuration in Private Industry". The order makes it an offence for any person other than properly appointed managers or receivers of an industrial establishment to dismiss or suspend any person from employment, or to prevent or endeavor to prevent a person from continuing in his employment. Dismissal or suspension on account of Fascist activities or collaboration must first be considered by an Epuration Commission for the firm concerned, duly appointed by a Provincial Commission and subject to the approval of Allied Military Government.

Besides allowing for proper consideration of complaints against employees, the Order provides that the employees dismissed for alleged collaboration with Fascists since the date of liberation and prior to the date of the Order, may appeal to the duly appointed Epuration Commission of the firm in question for reinstatement. There is also provision for appeal to a higher board against a decision of the Epuration Commission. The Order applies not only to employees and workers, but also to managers and persons of similar standing. The operation of the Order already has had a good effect and will help to rectify arbitrary acts of the first hectic days of liberation.

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The next day Prime Minister Bonomi informed the Allied Commission that the Italian Government would immediately study this question of workshop management committees which embraced a complex problem having wide social, political and economical implication. He suggested that it would be desirable that any action which AMG might take in this connection should be such as not to prejudice any more stable and definite solution which the Italian Government would propose in the shortest possible time.

Although some workers' representatives in the North may have expected the post-liberation [illegible] Government intends to develop and organize the control of industrial establishments by the various categories of employees, in such a manner as not to disturb the productive capacity of the country and not to obstruct the revival of economic activity for which it widely relied on private initiative."

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In brief, AMG has not committed itself on the socialization question, which is as it should be. The attitude has been that the issue is one for decision by the Italian Government and that AMG should not take any action to prejudice that Government's deliberation. This attitude on the part of AMG has not been easy to maintain amid C. L. N. pressures, to say the least.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ODDS AND ENDS

The Deputy Executive Commissioner is busy these days re-assigning personnel of 5th Army and IV Corps AMGs since their authority was turned over 15 July in the North... Although arrangements were made to enlist as many as 1,000 Patriots into the Italian Army (a figure set despite cries for a higher quota in some quarters), only 400 Patriots joined the Italian forces in June, the Land Forces Sub-Commission reports... Col. S. W. Miller (B), AC Liaison Officer at Bari, reports two items of particular interest: In the Brindisi area, there are already some 4,000 unemployed, another 7,000 persons will be laid off soon, and the district is expecting the return of another 8,000 Italian POWs who will want work; despite the personal requests of Italian Ministers for handing in of arms in the Andria-Minervino area, where disturbances occurred recently, only 198 weapons have been collected, the majority of which were from persons not concerned with the disorders and who had previously declared their ownership, while 50 of the arms were Balilla muskets... The first war crimes trial in the MTO will be held 23 July, when Italian Maj. Gen. Nicola Bellono goes before a British military court charged with killing a British officer-prisoner; AC PRB is arranging to send Italian and political correspondents to cover the story... The Italian Government is preparing a decree giving the vote to persons who will be 21 on 31 December 1945, the Local Government Sub-Commission reports... The Education Sub-Commission announces completion of its exhaustive study of the Italian educational system started more than a year ago... The AC educators also tell of a pretty gesture by the Italians who, hearing that the House of Commons wanted a 35-volume set of the *Enciclopedia Italiana*, have presented one as a gift... Lieut. Clement Petrillo (A) has been awarded the Bronze Star... T/3 Frank E. Cleone (A) has received an official commendation from the 5th Army for "outstanding performance of duty" in helping distribute civilian supplies (as much as 200 tons a day) in the forward areas during the campaign with 5th Army AMG... AC is trying to persuade AFHQ to derequisition more hotels for the Italian Government, having in mind, for example, the prospective convention of the *Consulta* in Rome this fall... Approaches of Italian *Ex-Combattenti* organizations to AC about volunteers to fight in the Japanese war are being referred by the Land Forces Sub-Commission to the Italian Ministry of War; to date, incidentally, there has been no official request from the Government for permission to use the Italian armed forces against Japan...

Mr. Ivor Thomas, British Labor MP, and chairman of the Anglo-Italian Committee of the House of Commons, is visiting Italy; in an interview with *Avanti*, he told of meeting the Chief Commissioner whom he described as a "great friend of Italy's"... Mr. A. S. Halford of the British Embassy who also fills in as British Political Advisor to AC, is producing, directing and even acting in "Berkeley Square" at the Argentina in Rome...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

RESTRICTED

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POLITICAL

Work is the grand cure of all the maladies and miseries that ever beset mankind.

CARLYLE.

During the past week, a large part of the energy of the still new Italian Government has been directed to the economic battle. Last week's strikes in the Northern cities focussed national attention on this front, but the battle was not confined to this area even though it was here that the biggest battalions were thrown into the fray. There was a flanking movement from Sicily which Gullo was dispatched to attend to, and from the Puglie came echoes of rear guard skirmishing, perhaps more strictly political in nature. In the North the action began at the end of last week with the arrival of the Government ministers in Milan to investigate the workers' claims. On 9 July the CLNAI gave out the news that following a conference on 8 July between members of the CGIL, the *Camere del Lavoro* and the *Unioni industriali* of Milan, Turin and Genoa "in the presence of the Ministers Rubini, Gronchi, Romita and Barbareschi," it had been agreed to give the workers of the North an emergency subsidy. According to this agreement, later ratified by the Council of Ministers in its session of 11 July Northern workers who are unemployed or on part time will receive 75 per cent of the emergency subsidy (*indennità di contingenza*) and 75 per cent. of the total compensation for the hours of enforced idleness. According to the calculations of *Il Globo*, this arrangement will cost about six billion lire, one third to be paid by the industrialists and two thirds by the state.

The sporadic agitations in Sicily to which we referred last week were of sufficient magnitude question of the *mezzadria* with some spirited debating between the various parties. *Italia Nuova* sees the whole matter as "purely political" and suspects it is merely a tactical move by the Communists towards eventual expropriation, *Risorgimento Liberale* defended the institution as traditional and, on the whole, beneficial in Southern Italy. Lizzadri, writing in *Avanti*, replied that until a few years ago the ten-hour working day, and for that matter even malaria, might have been called "traditional", indignantly rejecting at the same time the idea that the CGIL attitude on the matter was a result of Communist pressure. We shall probably hear more from both sides.

No further outbreaks have occurred in Apulia but there has been considerable criticism from a large section of the press that the disarming of civilians is not proceeding as rapidly as could be desired. The CLN of Bari met on 11 July and confirmed its intention of settling all questions which may arise "in a spirit of reciprocal comprehension". The committee's report also called the attention of the Government to the unemployment situation in Apulia and recommended a program of public works, while, in stressing the urgency of turning in arms, it tacitly confirmed the suspicion that the citizens have been a little lax in complying with this particular civic duty.

New international status?

4421

In the field of international affairs, the imminent meeting of the Big Three has again aroused the hopes of a new international status for Italy. On 6 July the Government announced its decision to petition for just that and the next day Parri said that he had "good hopes" that the petition would be well received. After the Council meeting of the 11th, De Gasperi reported that such an appeal had been sent. Italian expecta-

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The sporadic agitations in Sicily to which we referred last week were of sufficient magnitude to cause the Government to send Gullo down. On his return after a few days negotiation, it was announced that a new distribution of the produce had been arranged on a kind of sliding scale in which the share of the *mezzadro* varies between 40 and 50 per cent., according to the quantity produced. There has been, as might be expected, a re-awakening of interest in the whole question of the *mezzadria* with some spirited debating between the various parties. *Italia Nuova* sees the whole matter as "purely political" and suspects it is merely a tactical move by the Communists towards eventual expropriation, *Risorgimento Liberale* defended the institution as traditional and, on the whole, beneficial in Southern Italy. Lizzadri, writing in *Avanti*, replied that until a few years ago the ten-hour working day, and for that matter even malaria, might have been called "traditional", indignantly rejecting at the same time the idea that the CGIL attitude on the matter was a result of Communist pressure. We shall probably hear more from both sides.

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Closely related to foreign affairs is the problem of Italy's non-Italian minorities and the Council

4421

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

registered the attitude of the new Italy on this matter in a statement, also issued on the 11th, guaranteeing the free use of local languages and even the teaching of them in schools where the majority of the population demands it. Furthermore, according to the statement, all special necessities of such zones will be safeguarded by "free local autonomy". Specifically, a committee of ministers is to draw up a program for local autonomy of the Val d'Aosta, based on a memorandum drafted by the Valdostan CLN, and submit it for the consideration of the cabinet on 25 July. By a happy coincidence, the papers of the 12th carried the news that in Ventimiglia French troops had been replaced by Americans, thus removing at least one source of pre-occupation to the government.

Some attention has recently been given to the Bolzano situation by the Rome press. Some time ago a "Reuter's" dispatch from London reported that emissaries from Bolzano had been allowed to make direct contact with Paris, London and Washington. This was called "disquieting" news by Zingarelli, writing in *Tempo*; he made the point that presumably these emissaries were going to advance the cause of annexation of the *Alto Adige* to Austria, yet they were going without consulting the Italian Government, recognized by Britain and America who have not as yet given their blessing to the new government in Austria. Flaminio (in *Momento*) commented in the same vein. The party press has so far allowed the news to pass without comment.

Nenni's plans.

Nenni's plans for the Commission on Sanctions against Fascism have been approved. All that has emerged so far is a streamlining of the Commission by doing away with the *Commissariato* on confiscation of Fascist patrimony and the nomination of three new "*alti commissari aggiunti*" viz., Domenico Griva of the Appellate Court of Turin, for Epuration, Giovanni Macaluso of the Court of Cassation in Rome, for Punishment of Fascist Crimes and Ferdinando Carbone, once Councilor of State, for Confiscation of Fascist Profits.

ists frankly look to the *Costituente* to get rid of the monarchy and clear the way for "a democratic workers' republic".

Other business in a busy week: Formal appointment of Bergami (Liberal) as High Commissioner for Health, with Perrotti (Socialist) as his Associate Commissioner; designation of Carlo Bassano as Prefect of Rome, and recognition of the new Polish government... And in the middle of it all Parri found time to pay a visit to Naples where he again made a speech on the unity of Italy and said that he regarded Naples as "the Milan of the South".

ECONOMIC FRONT

A special economic conference was held at AC Hq. 13 July on general economic problems, particularly wages and prices. The occasion was notable by the attendance for the first time of practically the whole of the Italian cabinet headed by the Italian Prime Minister Ferruccio Parri. On the Allied side, the Chief Commissioner, flanked by Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, and the Executive Commissioner, plus the AMG RC's of the North (with the exception of Col. R. P. Marshall who could not attend for urgent reasons), had an opportunity to hear Italian views on a variety of subjects in one place and at one time. In general, agreement of opinion was reached by both sides, though what the specifics might be exactly will have to wait until next week to be told because of the almost labyrinthine nature of the discussions which progressed laboriously through interpreters.

The central theme of all the talks was how to integrate the economies of North and South Italy and achieve one uniform policy for the nation. AMG procedures in the North anent the granting of wage increases were approved and the stipulation requested by the Italians that wage demands over and above the scale set by the Milan agreement of 8 July be referred to the Italian Government. Plans were made to apply the Milan increases, which refer only to industry, to commerce and agriculture. The increases are expected to cost the Italian Treasury, through

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

majority of the population demands it. Furthermore, according to the statement, all special necessities of such zones will be safeguarded by "free local autonomy". Specifically, a committee of ministers is to draw up a program for local autonomy of the Val d'Aosta, based on a memorandum drafted by the Valdostan CLN, and submit it for the consideration of the cabinet on 25 July. By a happy coincidence, the papers of the 12th carried the news that in Ventimiglia French troops had been replaced by Americans, thus removing at least one source of pre-occupation to the government.

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In the field of party politics the Communist statement of program issued on the 9th should be noted. This calls for re-conquest of national independence, epuration, creation of a really democratic regime in Italy and reconstruction. The party expresses the hope that these goals can be achieved by harmonious collaboration of the six parties. The statement adds that the Communist Party will not participate in any government which does not include the Socialist Party.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Public Works.

This prospect gave rise to review of public works projects, where the main difficulty, besides the great cost of financing them – as much as 500 billion lire was indicated – was reported to be lack of transport for the workers. In any event, work will start on simple projects within a few weeks. One complication was mentioned in the fact that many companies are keeping hold of their workers rather than dismiss them, at which time the workers would be available for public works. It was suggested that labor battalions be formed to work on projects in the vicinity of the plants where the men are regularly employed instead of dispersing the industrial labor force.

Speaking of the need for coal, the Executive Commissioner told the meeting of his conversations on the subject in London. He reported that, until Italy obtained the maximum production from her own coal resources, viz., the Sardinian coal mines (where production is about half what it was under the Fascists in 1941), Italy's demands for coal would not be looked on too favorably in the light of the desperate cry for coal in Europe this year. Minister of Industry and Commerce Giovanni Gronchi said Italy was doing her best to produce more coal but was limited by factors beyond her control, such as lack of transport. He added that a share of military timber production would help to remedy the lack of lumber supports in the mines.

Bread.

The price of wheat and bread came in for some hot and heavy – not to mention long drawn-out – debate. A new economic price of bread, based on a uniform flour price throughout the North, but with the bread price varying provincially, is in the making. The anticipated range is from 13 to 16 lire, about two lire below the bread prices in the South. Signor Soleri wished that the bread price were the same throughout the country.

Bread led to the subject of increasing the bread ration – a point brought up by several Italian speakers. Col. W. J. Legg (B), director of the Food Sub-Commission, said that 60,000 tons of added, the deficiency may increase. Col. Legg asserted that bread consumption on a per capita basis in the North exceeded that of the South and that the North had a better all-around standard of living. He warned that neither the Italian economy nor the import program could stand further increases in the ration. Food Minister Enrico Mole had a different version of the amount that might have to be imported. Col. Legg had mentioned that, according to earlier estimates 560,000 tons would have been needed, but that added deficiencies of 664,000 tons were envisaged, making a total possible import need of 1,224,000 tons. Signor Mole stated that Italy needed 35 million quintals annually. Predicting a production of approximately 15 million quintals in all – nine in the North and five in the South, roughly, – he said that 20 million quintals more or two million tons would be needed.

The meeting went on to discuss price policies generally, Minister of Reconstruction Meuccio Ruini making the point that the way to control wages would be to keep a lid on prices. Examined was the proposition whether to control all goods or only a restricted number of items, and if so, which ones. Trade between the North and South was also touched on – exchanges of finished products where available (like shoes and textiles) and of raw materials (such as pyrites and rock salt).

The Chief Commissioner told the assemblage that further meetings might be held later.

Other news.

There was other economic news of the week outside of the conference. Already permitted to become a member of the European inland transport organization, Italy, with AC help, is now aspiring to join the European coal organization.

In Milan, the Industry Office set up recently is going full blast, helping put into effect the plan for control of manufacturing plants and their products in North Italy. The Office works with the AMG regions and a North Italy Industrial Council and a North Italy Price Fixing Board, which are both in process of formal organization. Twenty-two committees, representing as many industries, have been set up and will survey existing production facilities and make recommenda-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The 1944-1945 ammassing season ended officially 9 July with 520,341 quintals of olive oil

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

and 26,786,000 quintals of wheat. Of the latter, 15,636,980 quintals were gathered in North Italy. Delivery of 11,716 captured enemy horses from Austria has been completed to farmers. As a result of U. S. Congressmen complaining about what appeared to be excessive non-essential civilian use of gasoline (most of which comes from the strictly rationed U. S.), the AC has made representations to the Italian Government, which in turn has started an investigation of the whole business. Direct rail service is now available from South Italy to Milan, Turin and Venice. The new Italian Government bond sale, which closed in Central and Southern Italy 19 May with 33 billion lire sales, will open in the North 15 July. It is expected that 30 to 50 billion lire worth may be bought before the sale closes 5 August.

EMILIA

Io udi' già dire a Bologna
Del Diavol vizi assai.
DANTE

Col. Floyd E. Thomas (A), who took office 4 July as Regional Commissioner of Emilia, is asking for appointment of a civilian commission with wide powers to supervise reconstruction of approximately 37 communes in his Region. Both Fifth and Eighth Armies fought their bitterest battles last winter and this spring in Emilia and great areas were blasted. Damage from concentrated air attacks is also extensive. "The problem," Col. Thomas says, "is as acute as in the Cassino area. Thousands of people are without homes for this winter." He has in mind an active group which will secure the release of blocked materials and speed temporary construction before the winter months, which will plan and arrange for long-term building after the Allied forces have been withdrawn, and which will reorganize and intensify the mine removal program. Emilia Region is dotted with mines and the Germans did not map their mine-fields.

Reconstruction of Bologna University, oldest in Europe and second oldest in the world, is also claiming Col. Thomas' attention. Damage to buildings housing various faculties and equipment is estimated at 450,000,000 lire. Worst hit were the School of Economics and Commerce, the Genio Civile, with AMG advisors, to go ahead with detailed plans and specifications, but much liaison and co-operation with Allied and Italian agencies will be needed to get the necessary materials and money. The Faculty recently elected a Rector and some classes and examinations have been resumed, but only a fraction of the 10,000 students so far registered can be accommodated. Bologna University, when the war hit it, was not only the oldest but one of the biggest Italian seats of learning. Figures of registrations since the unification of Italy show steady expansion, with a tremendous development in the last 15 years. In 1870 there were only 562 students. By 1910 the figure had increased to 1,903. In 1920 it was 2,908; in 1930, 3,121. By 1940 there were 9,146 in attendance, and in 1943 the total reached 13,952. University engineers have prepared a detailed survey of war damage, with maps showing every bomb-hit and charts indicating the exact condition of each building. There are scores of photographs and many pages of explanatory text. This survey, which will facilitate planning for reconstruction, is a model of its kind.

All Quiet — Almost.

In Emilia Region as a whole there have been no major political developments lately and all is calm on the surface. But the RC says there is a deliberate policy of deferred action on the part of the more lawless elements and the CC. RR. seem to fear that any zeal on their part will invite reprisals after the Allies leave. Communists are the most active of all parties as usual and are trying to get control of public offices. Public Safety officials report that, though the number of crimes has decreased, the situation is far from satisfactory. Intimidation of land-owners and even of public officials continues in the form of anonymous threats and acts of extortion. At Ferrara a number of men in British battle-dress got into the prison and shot the chief guard and 17 prisoners; nine others were injured and 34 escaped. At Carpi, in Modena Province, another armed band entered a prison guarded by Partisan police and shot 16 well-known Fascist prisoners. All Patriot Centres in Emilia were closed on or before 10 June but officers are functioning in

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

tial civilian use of gasoline (most of which comes from the strictly rationed U. S.), the AC has made representations to the Italian Government, which in turn has started an investigation of the whole business. Direct rail service is now available from South Italy to Milan, Turin and Venice. The new Italian Government bond sale, which closed in Central and Southern Italy 19 May with 33 billion lire sales, will open in the North 15 July. It is expected that 30 to 50 billion lire worth may be bought before the sale closes 5 August.

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In Emilia Region as a whole there have been no major political developments lately and all is calm on the surface. But the RC says there is a deliberate policy of deferred action on the part of the more lawless elements and the CC. RR. seem to fear that any zeal on their part will invite reprisals after the Allies leave. Communists are the most active of all parties as usual and are trying to get control of public offices. Public Safety officials report that, though the number of crimes has decreased, the situation is far from satisfactory. Intimidation of land-owners and even of public officials continues in the form of anonymous threats and acts of extortion. At Ferrara a number of men in British battle-dress got into the prison and shot the chief guard and 17 prisoners; nine others were injured and 34 escaped. At Carpi, in Modena Province, another armed band entered a prison guarded by Partisan police and shot 16 well-known Fascist prisoners. All Patriot Centres in Emilia were closed on or before 10 June but officers are functioning in each of the provinces and Patriots in transit are fed and accommodated in Refugee Centers. In June, 801 arms of all types were surrendeder.

Unemployment is serious throughout the Region, with estimated numbers out of work in four provinces as follows: Ferrara, 40-50,000; Ravenna, 30-35,000; Piacenza, 15,000; Reggio

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

Emilia, 20,000. Parades and short stoppages of work have been general but there were no actual strikes in June. The Regional Commissioner believes the *Camera del Lavoro* in some instances has fomented agitation and instigated demonstrations. More than 110,000 refugees, both Allied and Italian, passed through Emilia in June. Mines, shells and bombs neutralized, lifted or destroyed during the month totalled 17,233, with two Italian soldiers killed and 13 wounded and 11 civilians killed. There has been some trouble about indiscriminate requisitioning of private property by Polish troops in Forli and Bologna.

Industry Resuming.

Reactivation of industry in Emilia is going ahead rapidly: 82 factories have resumed production since the beginning of June and 21 more will open in July. Shortage of coal and lack of transport are the two greatest obstacles to industrial recovery. Cement is in short supply for lack of transport to carry it and POL cannot be distributed in sufficient quantities. The present food situation is exceptionally good, except for a shortage of meat caused by a ban on slaughtering. In June some 5,000 head of cattle were moved from the Provinces of Parma, Reggio Emilia and Modena to Bologna, Ferrara and Ravenna, 1,000 head were sold to Toscana and between 500 and 1,000 to Northern Regions. There is an acute shortage of fodder in all provinces. Wheat crops, after first threshings, are estimated to be down between 40 and 50 per cent. below former yields. In areas where there are generally four cuttings of hay, a second cutting has not yet been made. Rice alone is almost normal.

Health is good except for cases of typhoid and paratyphoid in Bologna Province. There have been two acute outbreaks of dysentery among very small children in Refugee Camps and the source of infection is not yet definitely known, though control measures have been taken. The water supply in Bologna has been increased by a million gallons a day; 21 drainage and flood control projects were completed in June; the health hazard from damaged sewage collectors in Bologna has been eliminated. Foreign mail service was

ODDS AND ENDS

Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, Executive Commissioner, is back from London... Discussions are now going on concerning a further transfer of territory to the Italian Government on 31 July; subject to AFHQ approval, turned back may be the whole of Emilia Region, the Provinces of Lucca and Apuania and the Communes of Ancona and Naples... PWB is turning over to private agencies in the North on 15 July... Col. Lester J. Hensley (A) has been appointed AC liaison officer to PBS... Mr. J. Wesley Jones, First Secretary of the American Embassy in Rome, is the new U. S. Political Advisor to the Chief Commissioner... A new case of typhus – in a refugee – has been found at Alessandria in Piemonte... Practically all the classic art in national collections removed by the Germans from Allied territory below the Gothic Line last year has been recovered, with the exception of nine masterpieces from Tuscany and 15 cases of bronzes and paintings from Monte Cassino... 5th Army turns over its administrative responsibilies in Northwest Italy to No. 2 District 15 July... Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, was presented with the Legion of Merit 12 July by the Chief Commissioner for his outstanding work as chief of the Fiscal Division of the Office of the Quartermaster General of the U. S. War Department, the position the general held before coming to AC... Brigadier General Archelaus L. Hamblen (A) has succeeded Brigadier General Charles M. Spofford as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, at AFHQ... Air Commodore C. E. Benson announces the liquidation of 8th Army AMG and cessation of any concern with military government affairs of Italy or Venezia Giulia; any pertinent matters arising later for 8th Army will be dealt with directly through SCAO, 13th Corps, and RC, Venezia Region...

THE TOLL

We extend our heart-felt sympathy to Col. Charles M. Parkin, commanding officer of 2675 Regiment, and to Col. Robert P. Marshall, RC of Piemonte Region. Col. Parkin has just received word that his son, captured by the Germans on

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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July 7, 1945

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Chief, Telecons
Chief, Postal
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Asst. Chief Postal
Chief Telegr.
Dept. Clerk.
RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION. [illegible] VOL. II, N. 14

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POLITICAL

The pattern of the Parri Government of brisk and, on the whole, smooth-working political activity complicated by inconvenient interruptions of social-economic nature from the provinces, was maintained through its second week. All in all it may be said that the purely political operations (if there is any such thing as pure politics) were carried out with even more dexterity and the social-economic interruptions were even more serious though less violent. The Council meeting on 4 June got through a good share of its agenda: Nenni was formally appointed High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism and the special economic committee previously set up was officially approved. This committee will consist of the Ministers of Reconstruction, Treasury, Finance, Industry and Commerce, Public Works and Transport, thus bringing in the properly interested agencies and observing the six-party parity as well. The Council also approved the abolition of the Undersecretariat of Press, Theatre and Tourism and named Arpesani (one of the undersecretaries of the *Presidenza*) temporary Commissioner for its administration and liquidation. Three new Undersecretaries were appointed: Post War Relief, Ernesto Berardinone (Communist), Industry and Commerce, Ivan Matteo Lombardo (Socialist) and Reconstruction, Ernesto Rossi (Action). The last two replace Canevari and Foa, respectively, on our previous list.

A good deal of time in the Council meeting was spent discussing the formation of the *Consulta*. According to recent decisions, this body will now contain some 400 members, distributed as follows: 311 members of the six parties, 20 members of Parliament and the ministers and undersecretaries of the governments formed since the liberation of Rome (i. e., of the two Bonomi cabinets). This will be a somewhat larger body than originally planned (See *Weekly Bulletins*, vol. II, Nos. 2, 3, 4, for April 15, 22 and 27) and it is possible, too, that its function may be more important than was originally believed. Brosio (as quoted in *Tribuna del Popolo*) said that the *Consulta* must "accustom Italians to public debates and to free and meditated elaboration of legislation", and *Ricostruzione* urged that it be summoned as soon as possible, suggesting that vexing questions such as the pending decree on rents would be more expeditiously solved if the Consulta were available. Fear that the new body might indeed be too large and cumbersome was expressed by Gonella in *Il Popolo*, who unkindly called it an "unwieldy caravan" and wondered, sarcastically if it had been designed as a part of the Government's announced intention of providing employment projects. For once *Avanti* concurred with the Christian Democrat organ and advised "streamlining".

Still Dissatisfied.

Still dissatisfied with the situation in Bari province, the Government dispatched Scoccimarro to follow the trail of Barbareschi. Scoccimarro made a report on his return and the Government issued a communiqué (3 July) stating that "order, which had been previously re-established" had not been "further disturbed". To the press Scoccimarro stated that he had worked through the local Communist party and then through the CLN and had encouraged the latter to contact the local Carabinieri and co-operate with them for the preservation of [illegible]

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A good deal of time in the Council meeting was spent discussing the formation of the *Consulta*. According to recent decisions, this body will now contain some 400 members, distributed as follows: 211 members of the six parties, 20 members of parties outside the CLN, 24 representatives of the CGIL and 22 from other workers' groups, 16 spokesmen for the partisans, four representatives of the Associazione *Combattenti* and two *Mutilati*. The rest of the membership will be made up of the surviving members (uncorrupted by Fascism) of Italy's last freely elected Parliament and the ministers and undersecretaries of the governments formed since the liberation of Rome (i. e., of the two Bonomi cabinets). This will be a somewhat larger body than originally planned (See *Weekly Bulletins*, vol. II, Nos. 2, 3, 4, for April 15, 22 and 27) and it is possible, too, that its function may be more important than was originally believed. Brosio (as quoted in *Tribuna del Popolo*) said that the *Consulta* must "accustom Italians to public debates and to free and meditated elaboration of legislation", and *Ricostruzione* urged that it be summoned as soon as possible, suggesting that vexing questions such as the pending decree on rents would be more expeditiously solved if the Consulta were available. Fear that the new body might indeed be too large and cumbersome was expressed by Gonella in *Il Popolo*, who unkindly called it an "unwieldy caravan" and wondered sarcastically if it had been designed as a part of the Government's announced intention of providing employment projects. For once *Avanti* concurred with the Christian Democrat organ and advised "streamlining".

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However, hardly had the situation in Bari province been officially declared well in hand when reports of unrest began to come in from

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

the North. A general strike began in Turin on 4 July and spread to Milan where on the following day, according to an AP dispatch "all of the city's workers" demonstrated. The number was given as "several hundred thousand" by *Italia Nuova*. The workers whose demonstration was called "orderly" by the AP dispatch, were protesting against high prices, low wages and spreading unemployment. Their formalized demands asked for a number of specific remedies including better pay, higher pension rates and an all-out attack on the black market, using the weapons of blocked prices and an efficient co-operative system. They also asked for implementation of the agreement of 23 June between the *Camere del Lavoro* and the *Unioni industriali* on partial unemployment benefits. The special economic committee referred to in our opening paragraph approved the request, subject to concurrence of the Allies, and the ministers Romita and Ruini were dispatched Northwards to survey the situation on the ground. Less voluminous but persistent rumblings have been heard from Sicily during the week; here the age old grievances of the share-croppers as well as sulphur miners seem to be at the root of the trouble.

Parri's Speech.

On his first visit to Milan after taking over the Government, Parri made a speech to the press expressing hope for a new accord with the Allies which would "give Italy a more satisfactory international position". He is reported to have said that the Allies had reserved to themselves the right under the Armistice to decide when Italy is ready to pass on the institutional question. Italy's main problems to-day, he said, could be summed up in four words: Bread, work, order, peace. He stressed, as well, the urgent need of coal to start industry going again and to insure employment.

There have been a crop of rumors regarding Italy's international position. It was said (and written) that the American State Department had approved a motion to admit Italy to the United Nations, the A. C. was going to break up by the first of September, the Italian Government was opposed to publication of the Armistice clauses and that England was going to make a separate

of carrying on the war in the Far East." Bonomi, too, received a note from the same source expressing satisfaction with the work he had done.

AMG IN THE NORTH

One of the most interesting stories to come out of the North recently concerns the so-called People's Courts or more precisely, the Extraordinary Courts of Assizes, to try cases of persons charged with collaboration with the German enemy. Col. W. E. Behrens, Chief Legal Advisor, and Lieut. Col. G. G. Hannaford, head of the Legal Sub-Commission's Italian Section, have just returned from a special meeting held in Milan June 30 at which the whole question of improving and expediting the judicial processes in connection with collaboration trials was reviewed.

The prisons of the North are chock-full with nearly 50,000 persons, either awaiting trial or investigation. Of these, it is estimated that as many as 20,000 might eventually be released from their arbitrary imprisonment by Patriots in the first hectic days of liberation. In Lombardy alone, there are 15 courts and 15,000 prisoners. There have been 600 cases tried, more than 50 of which resulted in death sentences since the first courts sat at Milan and Savona on 23 May. However, because of the legal necessities of appeal, at the time of the June 30 meeting, not one person had yet been executed. This, of course, accounts for many of the popular demonstrations in the North where crowds milled around the prisons clamoring for vengeance. Buffarini, Fascist hierarch, who was sentenced to death June 1, had not been shot a month later, but on July 3, a telegram was finally dispatched informing the Milan authorities that it was now legally clear to carry out the execution. Appeals to the Court of Cassation, the Italian Supreme Court, a special section of which sits at Milan, take about 15 days, and as many other days are consumed in final appeals to the King under Italian law, which in this case means the authority of Allied military government. AMG forwards the appeals to the Legal Sub-Commission, which simply asks the Italian Ministry of Justice for its opinion, and then gives the formality of

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Real Difficulties.

The real difficulties in expediting the prosecution of these cases, however, have been in administration, pure and simple. There are 48 special courts in the North. Each court has to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

have a presiding judge of Grade V (appellate) rank and four lay judges. This amounts to 240 persons on the bench. There are not enough high-ranking judges to go around and the matter is now being discussed with a view to permitting lower-rank judges to preside. Even more difficult has been the manning of the offices of the Ministero Pubblico or prosecutor. This official of the court interrogates the prisoners and witnesses, examines documents and prepares the case for trial. Each such offices requires about ten to 15 persons to function at all, or about 500 for all the North. Italian attorneys have been loath to accept such appointments because of the poor pay – 4,000 lire a month – when they could possibly make 100,000 lire for defending a Fascist who is in the frying pan. Taking a pointer from the French – in fact, French experience has been closely followed in the whole business – a project is under way to force attorneys to serve in turn in these prosecutor's offices, force to bee applied either by decree or else by "voluntary" agreement amongst the lawyers' groups. Incidentally there are plenty of lawyers, nearly 8,000 up North.

The meeting, which AMG regional legal officers and officers of the special Italian courts, as well as representatives of the Rome epuration authorities, also attended, discussed a variety of other problems, including the definition of collaboration, which sometimes is somewhat nebulous. In any event, only water-tight cases are being tried in continuous session. One of the improvements reviewed was the matter of denunciations. In Milan, for example, there were 1,800 persons in prison on general suspicion of collaboration but denunciations or charges existed against only 110. A public notice was given that all persons against whom there were no denunciations would be released. Denunciations promptly increased to more than 3,000. The mills of justice grind exceedingly slow, but thanks to the Legal Sub-Commission, they are grinding swifter and the teeth are beginning to bite.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wage situation in the North is getting lively and Mr. W. H. Braine, director of the Labor

The Property Control Division of the Finance Sub-Commission reports that five French officers have been attached to AC to assist in the job of looking after French properties in the North. One officer is with Liguria Region, one with Piemonte and three in Lombardy. French interests up North are considerable. Of 1,000 real estate properties under Allied protection in Piemonte, the majority are French-owned. Of 300 industrial and commercial properties in Lombardy, more than a third are also French, according to Lieut. Col. E. C. King, chief of the division.

The Agriculture Sub-Commission reports that the locust threat in Sardinia is rather exaggerated, only one per cent. of the wheat-producing area being affected. Much damage to fava and forage has been done, however. The livestock situation is critical also, chiefly becaus of disease. Commerce Sub-Commission reports that North Italy can manufacture 60 tons of newsprint a day for some time to come. The newsprint requisition placed in the U. S. has therefore been cancelled. Sardinian coal production is now 1,700 tons a day; an Industry Office has been established in Milan; substantial stocks of mining supplies have been located in North Italy; and sodium carbonate production is rising, 1,500 tons being produced in the last six days of June, the Industry Sub-Commission reports. At least 500,000 tons of phosphate rock, and possibly 200,000 more tons later, have been allocated to Italy, which will bring the fertilizer industry back to par, the Economic Section announces.

TOWARDS A REAL DEMOCRACY

The Local Government Sub-Commission, directed by Col. R. R. Cripps (B) which all along has been doing yeoman work and remained more or less unsung, is coming into its own. One of the most fundamental points of the Allies' mission in Italy, voiced as early as the Moscow Declaration of 1943 and reiterated several times since, has been that Italy must hold free elections as the first step toward re-birth as a real democracy. Putting that fine ideal into shape for realization some day is falling on the shoulders of the small but expert staff of the Sub-Commission

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The Agriculture Sub-Commission reports that the locust threat in Sardinia is rather exaggerated, only one per cent. of the wheat-producing area being affected. Much damage to fava and forage has been done, however. The livestock situation is critical also, chiefly becaus of disease. Commerce Sub-Commission reports that North Italy can manufacture 60 tons of newsprint a day for some time to come. The newsprint requisition placed in the U. S. has therefore been cancelled. Sardinian coal production is now 1,700 tons a day; an Industry Office has been established in Milan; substantial stocks of mining supplies have been located in North Italy; and sodium carbonate production is rising, 1,500 tons being produced in the last six days of June, the Industry Sub-Commission reports. At least 500,000 tons of phosphate rock, and possibly 200,000 more tons later, have been allocated to Italy, which will bring the fertilizer industry back to par, the Economic Section announces.

TOWARDS A REAL DEMOCRACY

The Local Government Sub-Commission, directed by Col. R. R. Cripps (B) which all along has been doing yeoman work and remained more or less unsung, is coming into its own. One of the most fundamental points of the Allies' mission in Italy, voiced as early as the Moscow Declaration of 1943 and reiterated several times since, has been that Italy must hold free elections as the first step toward re-birth as a real democracy. Putting that fine ideal into shape for realization some day is falling on the shoulders of the small but expert staff of the Sub-Commission in this final phase of AC activity. As now everyone knows, before elections can be held, there must be electoral lists of qualified voters. And before the lists can be prepared, there has to be a dickens of a lot of work done by a great many agencies. And before hardly any of these can get into action, there have to be duly appointed and functioning local government officials. In

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

these three steps, one has the obstacles that must be overcome before the AC can call this particular job not well done, but well-started, on the proper foundation.

When all this can be completed, so that elections for communes and provinces can be held and delegates to the Constituent Assembly elected, is at most a guess at this time. Recalling that in the South, where local government has by now been pretty well-established, the preparations of the electoral lists began in February and ought to be pretty well finished this month, the best opinion says, as to the rest of the country, meaning the North, that the lists, preparation of which will begin July 15 on order of the Chief Commissioner, should be ready by December. Winter weather making holding of an election difficult, the earliest time for an election is thus set further back, possibly March or April of spring, 1946. Umbria-Marche and part of Tuscany started their list preparations in May and the rest of Tuscany in June.

First Steps.

The immediate step in the North is to insure that every one of the 4,083 communes in the 10 provinces (excluding the 178 communes in the five provinces of Venezia-Giulia, of course) have proper officials, from prefect to *Sindaco* and communal secretary. Sub-Commission officers will visit every province – where they have not already done so – to advise both on getting local officials into office, which means chiefly clearing up CLN appointees with AMG, and to give pointers on starting preparation of the electoral lists themselves. Why this job is one of the most difficult confronting AMG can easily be appreciated from the fact that there has not been a so-called free election in Italy since 1925 in a commune nor since 1933 in the nation and that even the last going to the polls – in 1939 – was merely for one of the Mussolini calls for a rigged vote of confidence. Plainly, hardly any officials exist who are familiar with the techniques of the duties involved. Extant are no electoral lists which might have been revised. Records of all kinds are in a parlous state—lost, burned, destroyed, scattered. And the amount of record-checking basic law governing the function in Italy. At the present time, the Italian Government is proceeding on the basis of the 1915 election law, which, however, is not quite up to truly protecting the rights of the Italians themselves to cast a free, secret ballot in the security of their own consciences and untouched by any intimidation at the polls. Many other questions are also being raised: The use of proportional representation, the qualification and nomination of candidates, the eligible offices, the extent of suffrage, the establishment of election boards to supervise the impartial mechanics of the process, the safeguarding of the independent nominee, the printing of the official ballot papers. All these are matters which in the United Kingdom and the States have been taken for granted but here in Italy, where, as Major Ralph R. Temple (A), deputy director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, says, they are practically starting from scratch, the objections of the AC do not seem quite comprehensible to the Italian mind, perhaps somewhat obfuscated beyond its will by a generation of Fascist obscuratism. In any event, possible further revision of the law, which already has sustained some modifications, is up for discussion between the AC and the new Italian Government. One of the chief discrepancies, in addition to those mentioned, lies in the vote being given to officers of the Italian armed forces but not to ORs.

Material Shipped.

The material for the business has now been dispatched to the Northern regions and steps are being taken to free locations which may be of use as polling booths or election offices. Transport is being made available as freely as possible for the officials on electoral list duties, particularly to deliver the forms and instructions to country communes. Lombardy is getting 14 ½ tons of bumpf (Milan Province alone has a share of five tons.) Venezia is receiving 12 ½ tons, Piemonte nearly 10 tons, Emilia 9 ½ and Liguria 4 ½. The monumental task of compiling the lists themselves, for which the Italian Government has piously set the time schedule of 100 days (to be precise 105 days according a detailed time-table) is something which the Italian agencies

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

tions for communes and provinces and [illegible] and delegates to the Constituent Assembly elected, is at most a guess at this time. Recalling that in the South, where local government has by now been pretty well-established, the preparations of the electoral lists began in February and ought to be pretty well finished this month, the best opinion says, as to the rest of the country, meaning the North, that the lists, preparation of which will begin July 15 on order of the Chief Commissioner, should be ready by December. Winter weather making holding of an election difficult, the earliest time for an election is thus set further back, possibly March or April of spring, 1946. Umbria-Marche and part of Tuscany started their list preparations in May and the rest of Tuscany in June.

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One more sizeable hurdle remains to be met before the elections can be held and that is the consciences and untouched by any [illegible] at the polls. Many other questions are also being raised: The use of proportional representation, the qualification and nomination of candidates, the eligible offices, the extent of suffrage, the establishment of election boards to supervise the impartial mechanics of the process, the safeguarding of the independent nominee, the printing of the official ballot papers. All these are matters which in the United Kingdom and the States have been taken for granted but here in Italy, where, as Major Ralph R. Temple (A), deputy director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, says, they are practically starting from scratch, the objections of the AC do not seem quite comprehensible to the Italian mind, perhaps somewhat obfuscated beyond its will by a generation of Fascist obscuratism. In any event, possible further revision of the law, which already has sustained some modifications, is up for discussion between the AC and the new Italian Government. One of the chief discrepancies, in addition to those mentioned, lies in the vote being given to officers of the Italian armed forces but not to ORs.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

most recent tour of the sub-commission's officers who have discovered that in many provinces the *Deputazione Provinciale*, which chooses three out of four members of the all-important electoral commissions, has not yet been established.

The Provincial Commissioners, on whom the brunt of the AMG mission of needling the Italian authorities will fall, will have to rely most heavily on the prefect on his staff – the Vice Prefect Inspector, the Prefectural Electoral Official and the various *Commissari* which it may be necessary to appoint if towns and villages fall too far behind in the lists. The Communal Secretaries will be key men in the individual spots, even more than the *Sindaci*, since in many cases they may have the job of drawing up the lists in a combined group of several small communes. Lastly, the Electoral Commissions previously mentioned will have to be alert and active since it is they who finally pass on the validity of the lists and proclaim them definitive.

Preparation of Lists.

The process of preparation of the lists will inevitably be impeded as a result of mass movement because of the war such as Italy has not experienced for generations. Refugees and persons who have changed residence are expected to be numerous, of course. Refugees will be able to register in the province they are presently located. Before registering anyone, the preliminary task is to decide who is to be registered. The answer is: All Italian citizens, both men and women, who were 21 by 31 December 1944. This means qualification to be registered but *not* necessarily to be able to vote, for which there are other complications in the form of a whole series of disqualifications, every one of which has to be investigated and verified. Among those who cannot vote are lunatics, habitual drunkards, brothel-keepers, registered prostitutes, permanent inhabitants of welfare institutions, certain police suspects, bankrupts, certain criminal convicts and certain Fascists, including former ranking party officials, those convicted of Fascist crimes and any whom a special Provincial Commission has decided to deprive of civil rights for offenses against the public

come forward and apply. Next, he begins to compile the *Elenco* or roll from the permanent population record of the town, which automatically will give the names of those obviously qualified because of age. Where these population records have been lost, registers of births, marriages, etc. may serve. Further, come the additions and subtractions. The former are fairly easy. The latter will be a nuisance. The properly constituted authorities for public assistance and for public safety have an original duty of sending the *Sindaco* the names of persons in his commune from their own records. Where criminal records in *Casellari Giudiziali* have been destroyed, the Sub-Commission is asking RCs for immediate notification so that adequate substitutes may be provided. Persons affected by any disqualification may appeal to the courts.

After receiving these surgical excisions, the electoral lists then go to the Electoral Commission itself, which reviews all relevant documents and again may add or subtract names on the basis of later information. There will be such a commission in every judicial district or *mandamento* and a Sub-Commission for every 50,000 inhabitants or fraction thereof of the district. The lists are then declared valid, are posted publicly in the communal municipio and cannot be changed except by death of a voter, disqualification through criminal conviction, or loss of civil rights or by an appellate court decision.

All that remains is selection of the polling booths, routine transfers of voting residence, the names of the candidates and the date of elections, but of course, that is where we came in.

THE BRITISH GO TO IT

The United Kingdom is first a democracy and then the heart of an empire, the schoolbooks tell us, and here we have an election coming up today (7 July) to prove it. Allied Commission British personnel at headquarters who did not take the trouble to vote individually by proxy—most of them did vote that way—had the privilege on 5 July of casting their secret ballot in Rome, which, in sealed envelopes, were straightaway air-mailed to England by Captain A. J. Dowsett

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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The basic steps to construct the lists are simple, however hard their execution may be. First, the *Sindaco* advertises for all who want to vote to

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While on the subject, news comes that Lieut. Gen. Frank Mason MacFarlane, former Chief

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Commissioner of the AC, who has now recovered from his serious illness, is running for Parliament on the Labor tic et. His opponent is no less than Brendan Bracken, crony of Prime Minister Churchill and holder of the key post of Minister of Information during the war. The contested constituency is North Paddington which went Tory by 7,000 votes in the last election, but has been known also to go Socialist. We are somewhat torn in our sympathies between Mr. Bracken, to whom we owe professional respect as one of our superiors on the stratospheric echelons of public relations, and General "Mason Mac", who was such a doughty leader of our at times disorganized ranks in Italy. Inasmuch as this particular writer votes in Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A., perhaps it would be politic to wish them both the best of luck.

BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY

A couple of weeks ago our erudite director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, Lieut. Col. Ernest T. De Wald (A), who at the end of this month will transfer his allegiance to the Allied Commission for Austria, much to our regret, was taking a stroll in the streets of Florence after having arranged for the delivery of the recovered German art loot to the city when he spied a pretty, little ikon in a shop window. Loving art personally as well as professionally, the good colonel entered to price the piece. He did not buy – the price asked was $ 200 – but thought vaguely it would be a nice thing to own. The next day Col. De Wald had lunch with Bernard Berenson, the famous American art critic who lives in Florence. After lunch Berenson was telling the colonel about a worthy Italian curator who ought to have a job and proceeded to bring out some books the Italian had written. Leafing through one of them, the colonel saw the picture of an ikon from the 17th century Greek Orthodox Church at Livorno. He noted a resemblance to the ikon he had wanted to buy. The next day Col. De Wald re-visited the shop and his artistic nostrils flared. Asking the shop owner to hold the ikon for him in reserve, the colonel sent one of his Fine Arts officers, Lieut. Frederick Hartt, to substantiate his suspicions while he returned to Rome. Back at headquarters, he ran across the Italian superintendent of monuments of Livorno who told him, yes, the Greek Church had been badly damaged by bombs an' some items were, indeed, missing, in fact, about 14 ikons. This was Saturday. By Monday, Lieut. Hartt, hot on the trail, had recovered four ikons in all from the shop and had traced the trail back to a Livorno Italian who lived near the Greek Church. The church neighbor was found with about eight more ikons. Total recovery: 12 ikons worth from $ 300 to $ 1,000 each.

ODDS AND ENDS

The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission reports that in the past week 12,441 refugees with homes in the South were repatriated; 22,947 refugees arrived in Rome from the North, and 11,331 refugees were repatriated by other organizations... Postscript to Texas: After reading the dithyrambic panygeric by Col. Floyd E. Thomas (A) in the last week's *Bulletin*, Col. Clayton P. Kerr, ever a loyal son of the Lone Star State, inquired: "...and where is Arizona?"... Capt. Santo W. Crupe (A), attached to the IV Corps AMG, has been awarded the Bronze Star for his work in food supply... Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, has gone to England... We regret to announce the death of Technical Sergeant Earl A. Schulz (A) who suffered a heart attack at Fregene near Rome 1 July while engaged in rescuing an Italian girl from drowning... The Education Sub-Commission estimates that 15 million textbooks will be printed for all Italian schools this coming year... Cases of art believed to be from Monte Cassino have been reported at Alt Aussee in Austria; AC fine arts officers are to check the report... U. S. personnel may now apply for one week rest leaves in London and Paris...

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June 30, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 13

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

POLITICAL

The list of *Sottosegretari* approved by the Council in its first meeting on 26 June is as follows:

Presidency:
GIUSTINO ARPESANI, Liberal
GIORGIO AMENDOLA, Communist
Agriculture:
ANTONIO SEGNI, Christian Democrat
Air:
Gen. ERNESTO PELLEGRINI, Independent
Education:
ACHILLE MARAZZA, Christian Democrat
(*Fine Arts*) CARLO RAGGHIANTI, Action Party
Finance:
ENRICO PARESCE, Labor Democrat
Food:
RENATO SANSONE, Socialist
Foreign Affairs:
EUGENIO REALE, Communist
(*Italiani all'Estero*) RENATO MORELLI, Liberal
Industry and Commerce:
(*Industry*) EMILIO CANEVARI, Socialist
(*Commerce*) ENZO STORONI, Liberal
Interior:
GIUSEPPE SPATARO, Christian Democrat
Justice
DANTE VERONI, Labor Democrat
Labor and Welfare:
GENNARO CASSIANI, Christian Democrat
Navy
(*Military*) CARLO ARDIZZONE, Labor Democrat
(*Merchant*) ANGELO CORSI, Socialist
Post:
MARIO FANO, Independent
Post War Relief:
Treasury:
GIOVANNI PERSICO, Labor Democrat
PIETRO MASTINO, Action Party
War:
POMPEO COLAJANNI, Communist
Gen. LUIGI CHATRIAN, Independent

It will be observed that each party is to have four Undersecretaries; a post is ear-marked for the Communists in the Post War Relief Ministry and another is being saved for the Socialists in Industry and Commerce. Comparison with last week's list of Ministers will also indicate that the usual system has been followed of "scrambling" the parties, so that in no case are the minister and the undersecretary of the same party.

* * *

The new government is off to a brisk start. Even before the Council meeting, Parri spoke over the radio to the country, telling the people they could expect no miracles but with united effort and hard work, much could be done. Reaction to the speech was good. Parri's prestige remains high: Stories circulate about his devotion to duty and capacity for hard work; it is reported that he has set up a simple cot in the Viminale, choosing to sleep at his post rather than in an *albergo di lusso*. Allied correspondents found him earnest but not without a sense of humour, when he spoke to them at a press conference. "I feel like St Sebastian, waiting for the arrows", he said. The general feeling was that he acquitted himself well.

Niente donne, niente Eccellenze.

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Public Works:
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Reconstruction:
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Transport:
ANTONIO PRIOLO, Socialist
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Niente donne, niente Eccellenze.

The first meeting of the new council got through a rather heavy agenda. The list of undersecretaries was approved (see above). There had been some talk of the possibility of giving one of the *sottosegretariati* to a woman. This plan fell through, however, because no party wanted to yield the primacy to another in this chivalrous and politically valuable gesture. Hence, there would have had to be six women in the new government – which, as several papers put it, would have been going a little too far. An-

4419

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

other matter attended to was the abolition of the title of *Eccellenza*. This measure was approved on the urging of Nenni but all parties expressed themselves as pleased. Indeed, "Eccellenza" had been accorded so freely in the recent past that it had become something of a joke and may well have detracted from the dignity of the office of Minister. From now on it is "Signor Ministro", though Parri is quoted as saying "since I am a professor, why not call me that?".

The Council then heard a report from Soleri and approved a budget for the next two months. A few days later it was announced that the campaign for the new loan will now be extended to the North. A special inter-ministerial committee was set up for economic co-ordination of North and South. The Committee is to be made up of Ruini, La Malfa, Gronchi, Scoccimarro and Barbareschi and is specifically to study the questions of prices, wages and salaries. The Council then decided to postpone publication of the decree on rents which the Bonomi government had approved but had not issued in the *Gazzetta*.

Nine point program.

Aside from these specific measures, the Council spent considerable time in preparing a statement of a general program. A steering committee, consisting of Parri, Nenni, Brosio, Togliatti, Ruini and De Gasperi, had prepared the day before a nine-point draft for approval of the ministers. The nine points, incorporated in the subsequent statement of the Council, are as follows: (1) preparation of the *Costituente*; (2) appeal to the Allies to replace the Armistice clauses by a peace treaty; (3) direct negotiations with Yugoslavia on the Venezia-Giulia question; (4) re-organization of the High Commission for sanctions against Fascism; (5) recognition of the advisory function of the C. L. N.; (6) holding of administrative elections as soon as possible; (7) inclusion of representation from the North in the *Consulta*; (8) collaboration with the CGIL and other workers' groups on problems of labor and supplies; (9) reconstruction.

This program received, not unnaturally, a good deal of applause from the party press but from *Tempo* (Ind.) came the gentle observation

"Unsatisfactory arrangement"

There are two statements in the government's program, as phrased by the Council, that call for special reference in the light of recent events. For one thing, the Council branded the Venezia-Giulia agreement an "unsatisfactory arrangement". The papers during the week have carried an obbligato on the same theme, the *Tribuna del Popolo*, for example, asking the Allies if there is any *arrière pensée* in the division of administrative spheres, since "Italians do not quite understand what the line means in the minds of those who drew it" and *Globo* pointing out, in a realistic vein, that Italy has "lost" by the terms of the accord "about half the national production of coal, almost all her bauxite and a good part of her mercury". In Venezia-Giulia itself, however, the week passed without serious incident; a one-day general strike took place in Trieste on the 26th but there were no complications, and marshal Tito's latest speech, as quoted in the *Stars and Stripes*, expressed his belief that "the day will come when Yugoslavia and Italy will live in friendly relations in an atmosphere of progressive democracy."

The other statement alluded to above referred to the need of "ensuring respect for the law" and, indeed, Parri made the same point in his radio speech. Particular point was given to this part of the government program by the troubles in the little town of Minervino Murge in the province of Bari. The origins of the agitation are obscure, but on the 27th and 28th reports came to the press of Carabinieri set upon and subsequently besieged in their barracks by armed contadini. The infection spread to nearby Andria where the jail was stormed and some 40 prisoners released. *Avanti*, while hesitating to accept as gospel the account of the local authorities, admitted on the 28th that the situation was tense. The new Minister of Labor, Barbareschi, was sent to investigate and deal with the matter and the next day it was reported – though perhaps prematurely – that "calm had been restored."

Lussu, the incumbent of the new ministry of Post War Relief, issued a statement on the 27th

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

that it has become something of a joke and may well have detracted from the dignity of the office of Minister. From now on it is "Signor Ministro", though Parri is quoted as saying "since I am a professor, why not call me that?".

The Council then heard a report from Soleri and approved a budget for the next two months. A few days later it was announced that the campaign for the new loan will now be extended to the North. A special inter-ministerial committee was set up for economic co-ordination of North and South. The Committee is to be made up of Ruini, La Malfa, Grouchi, Scoccimarro and Barbareschi and is specifically to study the questions of prices, wages and salaries. The Council then decided to postpone publication of the decree on rents which the Bonomi government had approved but had not issued in the *Gazzetta*.

Nine point program.

Aside from these specific measures, the Council spent considerable time in preparing a statement of a general program. A steering committee, consisting of Parri, Nenni, Brosio, Togliatti, Ruini and De Gasperi, had prepared the day before a nine-point draft for approval of the ministers. The nine points, incorporated in the subsequent statement of the Council, are as follows: (1) preparation of the *Costituente*; (2) appeal to the Allies to replace the Armistice clauses by a peace treaty; (3) direct negotiations with Yugoslavia on the Venezia-Giulia question; (4) re-organization of the High Commission for sanctions against Fascism; (5) recognition of the advisory function of the C. L. N.; (6) holding of administrative elections as soon as possible; (7) inclusion of representation from the North in the *Consulta*; (8) collaboration with the CGIL and other workers' groups on problems of labor and supplies; (9) reconstruction.

This program received, not unnaturally, a good deal of applause from the party press but from *Tempo* (Ind.) came the gentle observation that it contains nothing very new; every government has set itself the same goals, generally speaking. The government must not forget, said *Tempo*, that the great majority of Italians, "in their instinctive political wisdom" have remained aloof from the parties and are waiting for action rather than words before letting themselves be convinced that the parties really mean business.

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Lussu, the incumbent of the new ministry of Post War Relief, issued a statement on the 27th to the effect that assistance must be given to veterans and repatriates "without any distinction whatsoever between Fascists and anti-Fascists." In the Italian view, this is sensible and it is a cheering symbol of the lack of vindictiveness in the new Italy, particularly coming, as it does, from a man who has suffered so much himself from Fascism.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Latest items as we go to press: *Lavoro* is much concerned over the replacing of Italian workmen by German prisoners-of-war, specifically in Florence and Livorno. This action by the Allied Armies, *Lavoro* fears, will increase unemployment and add to Italy's labor troubles. *La Capitale* and l'*Epoca* report that Carandini is back – possibly with the draft of a treaty of peace between England and Italy in his pocket. Carandini is indeed back in Italy; for the rest we cannot say.

TRIESTE

Venezia-Giulia, the latest sitreps indicate, is quiet but tense underneath, since basically the area must await the decision of the peace conference. AMG has its work cut out in making speedy decisions on immediate problems and the unprecedented task confronting the Allied civil affairs officers are calling forth the highest diplomatic skills. Col. Nelson Monfort (A), SCAO, XIII Corps, will shortly go home and be relieved by Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A), RC of Emilia Region, who in turn will be succeeded by Col. Floyd E. Thomas. Col. Monfort allowed the news to break through PWB that the Yugoslavs had taken 160 million lire from the Trieste branch of the Bank of Italy. Sufficient funds are now on hand or on the way to remedy the currency deficiency. AMG further announced that arrests were also being made of Fascists who had escaped Yugoslav surveillance. Supplies amounting to 1,850 tons already have been delivered to the Trieste-Gorizia-Pola area, including flour, milk, sugar, salt, lard and meat. More than 9,000 tons of grain and 750 of flour are also expected, thus guaranteeing the 200-gram bread ration for several months. There are 6,000 displaced persons in the district. Other non-Triestini are being evacuated but 4,000 remain in the city. Property control reports 337 Allied properties in the region. Six tons of medical supplies have been received, although there is still a shortage of insulin and sulpha drugs. All medical supplies are being distributed free.

An AMG proclamation throughout the corps area has announced the disbandment of all police organizations, including the *Difesa Popolare*, and remain in a circumscribed area, are now moving to their concentraion point. CC. RR. are being moved into Gorizia. The PWB *Corriere Alleato* – 3,000 copies daily – is being flown to Pola.

On 26 June a one-day strike took place at Trieste and Monfalcone, where the dock workers, shipbuilding, chemical and tram employes (but not electrical or waterworks employes) were involved. Mr. William H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, had just left the spot a day or two before. There were no incidents. The cause was bruited to be a sort of protest against the disbandment of the police. The shipbuilding yards at Monfalcone, incidentally, before the war employed 14,000 persons. Now 5,200 are on the payroll but there is actual work for about 3,200, which leaves plenty of time for chatter amongst the others.

GATHERING OF THE CLANS

Allor fe' cenno il console Ghecardo
E squillaron le trombe a parlamento.
CARDUCCI

The first Regional Commissioners' Conference of the Allied Commission since the liberation of all Italy was held this week (Wednesday and Thursday, June 27 and 28) in Rome. The conference was held this time in the comparatively small room which used to house the Central Reference Library. At least everybody could hear for a change – and there was plenty to listen to, the two-day meeting being packed with meat. The first day was devoted to general policy matters, with the Chief Commissioner – cool, imposing and decorative in one of those Navy uniforms – opening the session. The second day was marked by the attendance for the first time of Italian officials who were called in as needed to participate in discussions of particular problems. Following the pattern set by the Siena meetings instituted by the Executive Commissioner, RCs brought up points aplenty and one would never accuse the RCs of not being frank in any event. Col. Charles Poletti (A), Lombardy RC, held up the opening of the first day's session for nearly half an hour and on eventual arrival announced that the Roman heat had just made him oversleep. The colonel made up

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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An AMG proclamation throughout the corps area has announced the disbandment of all police organizations, including the *Difesa Popolare*, and disarmament parades were held 24 June, passing off with good results. In Trieste, for example, there had been an estimated 2,500 *Difesa Popolare* police before AMG took over. On parade were 1,420. Of these, 616 volunteered for the AMG police force (which will also number 2,500). Seventy elected to cross the Morgan line. Yugoslav troops, of whom 2,000 will be permitted to

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In his opening remarks, Admiral Stone touched on the possible future status of Italy and advocated full aid. He stressed intensification of cultural relations, especially explanation of the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

democratic methods of the Allies and noted that U. S. I. S. (United States Information Service) and the British Council would be opening offices in the North as soon as AMG folded up. In the interim period, use of AC officers to promote such democratic explanations and to help in the distribution of literature was urged by Brigadier Lush. The U. S. I. S., incidentally, it was announced, was bringing out its first labor bulletin, telling how labor grievances are negotiated in the States.

The Admiral queried the RCs as to the date they thought they would be ready to close shop in the North and received replies of August 1 from Col. Poletti, Col. R. P. Marshall of Piemonte and Col. A. C. Bowman of Emilia (which region he had headed for exactly one year that day). Brigadiers J. K. Dunlop of Venezia and M. Carr of Liguria gave the date of September 1. Brigadier General E. E. Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, mentioned the fact that the army, including IV Corps, would probably be ready to move out by July 15. The Admiral, noting that Brigadier Dunlop had mentioned as exceptions the border provinces of Bolzano, Belluno and Udine (contiguous to unsettled Venezia-Giulia), where AMG might have to be continued a while longer, said September 1 was pretty well settled as the date of withdrawal. If the port of Genoa could have been re-opened for supplies, the AMG period in Northwest Italy could have been even shortened, according to Col. Marshall. As it is, the navy has announced indefinite closing of the Genoa port because of the apparent impossibility of removing the mines laid by the Germans. Last week a minesweeper hit a mine and blew up with a loss of 51 lives. Even the Germans who laid the mines and have been brought back to help aid in their removal are stumped, saying they sowed in such a hurry that no charts were kept. Only one sixth of the mines have been removed to date.

Elections

The hot subject of the first morning session turned out to be free elections in Italy, a consummation devoutly to be wished, but in the consensus of the moment, somewhat dubious of early execution. Brigadier Gerald R. Upjohn, vice presi-

task needing at least 100 days of work if the organization to do the spadework were at hand. Admiral Stone directed that work be started on the lists by at least July 15. Brigadier Lush brought up the problem of allaying fears of voters against intimidation on election day and mentioned that there would obviously not be enough troops around to put a man at every polling booth but the physical presence of Allied troops would help to allay fear. Most RCs agreed that the use of troops was desirable, since it was held that it was an Allied responsibility to see that Italy had a free and honest-to-goodness election. Col. Poletti went further and said the Allied Governments should issue a strong directive (and make it public) to the effect that the Allies proposed to take a direct interest insofar as insisting that the election be truly democratic. "Guys have died for democracy here in Italy", the colonel added, "We can't walk out now and leave chaos". The Admiral, however, recalling the cry in England and America to "get the boys home" stressed the difficulty of retaining troops for election policing, although he had advocated this.

Public safety in the North came in for a review, all RCs agreeing the situation was under control, but later in the day, practically none of the RCs were willing to give up any public safety officers to Venezia-Giulia which is in dire need of them. Brigadier Upjohn emphasized that the queasy status of the border region made it unavoidable that the quota of public safety officers be way out of proportion to the population. It seemed as if Brigadier Lush had pulled a fast one in the morning session when he innocently asked the RCs to report on public safety. The afternoon description of public safety was somewhat different. General Hume said the 5th commander had instructed him not to release any such officers. Col. H. T. Walker, SCAO, IV Corps, said ditto for his general. One never knew when trouble would break out, everybody said sagely. Each RC said he needed a minimum of 12 public safety officers or exactly the number mentioned in the T/Os. Col. Poletti said he never concerned himself with personnel matters and got along on as best he could on what was sent him. Whereupon Brigadier Lush asserted he would order

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The Establishment Section discussion aroused everyone from the tea-time lethargy. Vacation leaves for personnel were up to individual RCs.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Col. Poletti wanted to know if a cash fund could not be set up for "reciprocal entertainment of Italians." Provincial commissioners, often poor majors, were being given the social rush by their Italian constituents and the necessity of reciprocal invitations was eating into the limited exchequeurs. Brigadier Lush sympathetically referred the matter to the Finance Sub-Commission, which promised to have a recommendation ready by Christmas.

The problems raised by the Economic Section were inevitably vital to the RCs' interests and talk was fast and pointed. Col. Poletti urged economic centralization of the North. Already 23 committees covering as many industries exist for coordinated action. Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, vice president of the Economic Section, feared this might lead to industrial autonomy of the North. All RCs followed closely the report on coal. For July, 66,000 tons, not counting coal for railroad operations, was earmarked for the North. In August, there would be 286,000 tons imported, of which 146,000 was slated for Northern industries. June had had a promise of 40,000 tons, but there had been no ports open for delivery. The question was asked: What about coal from the Ruhr? Answer: Ruhr mines are operating at about 3 per cent. of capacity at the moment, due to manpower shortage, lack of food and bombed-out rail transport. Only about 6,000 to 9,000 tons a day are being produced. In 1938 the Ruhr produced 127,000,000 tons. The Allied authorities have drawn up a schedule of 30,000,000 tons to be produced by April, 1946, all but five million tons for use in Liberated Europe outside of Germany. Specialist German prisoners-of-war – 250,000 of them – are being released to man the mines. What Italy might get from the expected production, no one knew.

Mr. W. H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, pointed out that the repatriation of Italian refugees and prisoners-of-war would further aggravate the unemployment situation. The Finance Sub-Commission, incidentally, was pressing the Italian Government for a more equitable unemployment compensation benefits – 50 lire a day instead of the present miserable 8 lire. Col. Poletti at this juncture related that in Milan labor committees had already approached him Lush to tell the importunate labor delegations that the matter was being taken up with the Italian Government in Rome.

Food Control.

Control of food movement in North Italy, the RCs were told, was about to be eliminated except for cereals, fats, milk, salt and sugar. Italian regional food commissioners were to be appointed as part of a national food plan and ration scales maintained substantially the same as now. The ration in the North is 150 grams of bread (compared with 200 in the South) but more pasta is issued, as recompense. Butter, cheese, jam, and tomato paste will be included in North Italy ration schemes because of the quantities available there. Private bartering, that is, farm for factory products, will not be permitted, but long-standing trade exchanges, such as Italian fruit and potatoes for Austrian salt and copper sulphate, will be allowed to continue. Only the corn crop looks good this year in the North.

Transport is better than expected. The Italian State Railways are getting 1,860 trucks. Military units disbanded during July will hand over their trucks to Italian truck pools, whose formation should be encouraged. The port of Savona is being opened for general cargo and as soon as enough coal is delivered, there should be ample rail capacity to move whatever supplies are on hand. Finance also had an item of interest. AMG in the North will suspend debt service during its regime, but this does not mean repudiation of, for example, municipal loans. The Italian Government later will look into each case separately. One billion 200 million French francs have been turned in for conversion to lire. Still unsolved is the problem of German Reichmarks brought back by returned Italian workers. The national loan has been extended to the North but the bonds are selling for 99 instead of 97 ½ as in Rome.

Most notable among the Italians invited to attend the second day's technical meetings were Signor Menci Ruini, Minister of Reconstruction, and Signor Giovanni Gronchi, Minister of Industry and Commerce. Operating through interpreters, including among which at times was Col. Poletti, the two ministers came through

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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Most notable among the Italians invited to attend the second day's technical meetings were Signor Menici Ruini, Minister of Reconstruction, and Signor Giovanni Gronchi, Minister of Industry and Commerce. Operating through interpreters, including among which at times was Col. Poletti, the two ministers came through in good enough shape despite some pretty straight cross-examination from the RCs. Ruini said that North Italy had an abundance of textiles, which, if collected and properly distributed, would have a healthy effect on present high prices. The Northern surplus arose, it was added, as a result of German freezing stocks preparatory

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

to requisitioning. Not only would prices fall, the minister asserted, but the black market, which thrives on shortages, would then be forced to bring its own stocks out into the open. It was a corollary of the project, he continued, that the Allies import wool and cotton for Italy so that the Northern mills could maintain a steady production of goods. Ruini also wanted a national price control plan, listing shoes and textiles as priority items. Both Ruini and Gronchi wanted the Italian Government to have a Minister to the North to deal directly with the Northern industrial committes. Admiral Stone, after a long debate with the two officials—all through an interpreter—had to decree that the Italian proposal was unfeasible but gave assurances that satisfactory liaison would be achieved by other means.

We could go on, but these are the high spots. And here is a lyric epilogue:

Au conseil des barons.

Seeming at once alert and dégagé
Sits stout San Marco's doge, the blythe J. K.
Beside him, with an air aloof, impartial
Behold Piemonte's sovereign, lordly M.....l;
Both listen spellbound while industrial snarls
Are unwound by the eloquence of C.....s.
Meanwhile the soft and soporific Roman
Sunshine and warmth have conquered sturdy B.....r;
His eyes are closed, his fancy wanders far
(A similar course is followed too by C.r.)
Lo, C.....s has spoken and a solemn hush
Precedes the fixed and fateful word of L..h.
The word is given and the ready F...e
Consents to share the burden and the risk.
Their council done the lords who hold in fee
The embattled North arise and take their tea.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wheat crop estimate features the economic news of the week, though a variety of economic matters have been discussed under the heading of the RCs' conference. The wheat crop this year is expected to be two million tons less than last years's, largely due to the prolonged drought, which in turn has accentuated the fertilizer deficiency. The loss of the expected acreage reduces the food supply and raises other economic

been producing enough for the needs of their owners. Illegal distribution of available food is generally current in such periods and the black market in food gains the profit.

The estimate of the wheat crop cannot be definite until the crop is threshed but the dangers are clear enough to warrant calling attention to them in all fields of governmental activity, Italian as well as Allied, since the all-important question of increased imports is sure to rise again, the Sub-Commission points out. For the record, the crop last year in all Italy was 6,390,661 tons compared with an expected 4,427,000 tons this season. Acreage planted showed an 8 per cent. decrease, due largely to retirement of marginal land in the mountains. This year's acreage is estimated at 10,783,799 while last years's was 11,769,770. The drought, incidentally, has continued since March and is said to be the worst since 1922. The many small farms are harder hit than the large surplus-producing ones but there are so many of the former. Low yield is anticipated also because of other factors—late seeding, frosts, hot winds, flooding and war damage.

The Granai del Popolo for the seasons of July 1, 1944 to June 30, 1945 (but with actual reports to hand dated only June 26) reports that 11,123,472 quintals of grain or 95 per cent. of the 11,600,000 quintals target figure were ammassed south of the Pisa-Rimini line. In Liberated Emilia during this past season, another 591,081 quintals were collected, a making a grand total of 11,714,553 quintals.

Power.

The Electrical Division of the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission has sent an interesting report to the Electric Power Committee of AFLR. In the month of July in Southern Italy there should be 155,000 kw. of generating power available, which amount is expected to rise to 195,000 by December, 1945. In Central Italy, July will have 226,000 kw. and December 300,000. The drought has affected the power situation also, drying up streams and reservoirs. Individual reductions will occur at Sila in the South because of the breakdown of the generating plant while the Terni-Pescara transmission line repairs are

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

...ges import wool and cotton for Italy so that the Northern mills could maintain a steady production of goods. Ruini also wanted a national price control plan, listing shoes and textiles as priority items. Both Ruini and Gronchi wanted the Italian Government to have a Minister to the North to deal directly with the Northern industrial committes. Admiral Stone, after a long debate with the two officials—all through an interpreter—had to decree that the Italian proposal was unfeasible but gave assurances that satisfactory liaison would be achieved by other means.

We could go on, but these are the high spots. And here is a lyric epilogue:

Au conseil des barons.

Seeming at once alert and dégagé
Sits stout San Marco's doge, the blythe J. K.
Beside him, with an air aloof, impartial
Behold Piemonte's sovereign, lordly M.....I;
Both listen spellbound while industrial snarls
Are unwound by the eloquence of C.....s.
Meanwhile the soft and soporific Roman
Sunshine and warmth have conquered sturdy E....r;
His eyes are closed, his fancy wanders far
(A similar course is followed too by C..r.)
Lo, C.....s has spoken and a solemn hush
Precedes the fixed and fateful word of L..h.
The word is given and the ready F...e
Consents to share the burden and the risk.
Their council done the lords who hold in fee
The embattled North arise and take their tea.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The wheat crop estimate features the economic news of the week, though a variety of economic matters have been discussed under the heading of the R©s' conference. The wheat crop this year is expected to be two million tons less than last years's, largely due to the prolonged drought, which in turn has accentuated the fertilizer deficiency. The loss of the expected acreage reduces the food supply and raises other economic problems, the Agriculture Sub-Commission reports. The income of 47 per cent. of Italy's population dependent upon farming will thus be cut by $ 220 million. The farm, too, will not be able to absorb the surplus labor from shutdown industries as hoped for. Food shortages further raise the problems of public safety and even public health since subsistence farms have not definite until the crop is threshed but the dangers are clear enough to warrant calling attention to them in all fields of governmental activity, Italian as well as Allied, since the all-important question of increased imports is sure to rise again, the Sub-Commission points out. For the record, the crop last year in all Italy was 6,390,661 tons compared with an expected 4,427,000 tons this season. Acreage planted showed an 8 per cent. decrease, due largely to retirement of marginal land in the mountains. This year's acreage is estimated at 10,783,799 while last years's was 11,769,770. The drought, incidentally, has continued since March and is said to be the worst since 1922. The many small farms are harder hit than the large surplus-producing ones but there are so many of the former. Low yield is anticipated also because of other factors—late seeding, frosts, hot winds, flooding and war damage.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

The North has had only 9.6 per cent. of its electrical capacity damaged and of that, half is repairable within three months. Pre-war capacity was 1,645,357 kw. Found damaged by the Allies were 443,100 kw. of plant. Another factor governing resumption of full use of the capacity is the damage to the transmission lines. Much of the power in the North, of course, is now unused because of the shutdown of factories lacking raw materials.

Captured enemy horses from Austria to the number of 10,099 have been distributed in Italy up to June 27, reports the Agriculture Sub-Commission, which further informs us that the Italian High Commissioner for Alimentation has begun negotiations with Turkey for resumption of fresh fish imports, which used to amount to 10,000 tons a year. The Commerce Sub-Commission announces that distribution of tires and tubes in Italian Government territory has been handed over to the Italian administration. In June 1,000 truck tires with tubes and 750 automobile tires with tubes were turned over, although 100 automobile tires with tubes were held apart for use of the diplomatic corps, consular service, the Vatican, etc. The Sub-Commission also reported the export of 350 tons of sulphur to Yugoslavia. If coal and coke can be supplied, 50,000 tons of sugar and 12,000 tons of molasses will be produced this year, Industry Sub-Commission says.

THE EYES OF ARIZONA ARE UPON US

Forwarded through proper channels (meaning, in this case, via Col. A. C. Bowman, Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region, who adds the irreverent indorsement "anything for a gag") the following *cri du coeur* comes to our desk. We publish it gladly, adding that we are glad to set the record straight, even if it seems to us – as it must to anyone born in Connecticut (the true intellectual capital of the United States) a rather trivial matter. The letter:

Subject: HONORARY TEXANS.

"A very eulogistic article in the AC *Weekly Bulletin* of 16 June 1945 attempted friend the Governor, the dignity of becoming an honorary Citizen of Texas was *first* obtained way back in 1944 for Air Commodore (then Group Captain) C. E. Benson of 8th Army AMG.

"The writer, being from Arizona, U. S. A., that incomparable land of gorgeous sunsets, of soft moonlight on the desert, of all the wonders of nature in flora and fauna and geology, cannot help but take a rather dim view of this doubtful honor; but for what it is worth the Air Commodore and Emilia Region should have its just dues.

"It is requested that by proper indorsement this information may be forwarded to the proper authorities in order that the record may be corrected to conform to the facts."

(*sgd*): FLOYD E. THOMAS, *Colonel, Inf.*
Provincial Commissioner

ODDS AND ENDS

Major David H. Kennemur, jr., has been awarded, with permission of higher command, the Order of the Crown of Italy in the grade of Officer, by the Lieutenant General of the Realm, for his work with refugees in the 5th Army AMG... During the past week, the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission reports, 16,651 persons with homes in the South were repatriated, 18,559 refugees arrived in Rome from the North and 14,329 refugees were repatriated by other organizations... The Sub-Commission also announces that 600 Greeks are being flown from Bari to Greece at the rate of 100 a day, the movement having started 26 June... Apuania schools are 20 to 30 per cent. destroyed, but a summer session is commencing nonetheless, according to the Education Sub-Commission... Three cases of typhus have been reported from Crespina in Pisa Province, all hospitalized now, and 3,000 persons in the affected commune are being given dustings, reports the Public Health Sub-Commission, which is also asking AFHQ for 150 ambulances to turn over to the Italians... The CC. RR. situation is improving: Strength has been increa-

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"A very eulogistic article in the AC *Weekly Bulletin* of 16 June 1945 attempted to spot Major Gen. Langley Browning (Br) as the first Allied Commission recipient of honorary citizenship in the State of Texas, obtained for him *circuitously* by one Col. Clayton P. Kerr.

"As the attached letter shows, on *direct* request from Capt. Harry S. Pollard of Bologna Province, Emilia Region, to his C. S. A., that incomparable land of gorgeous sunsets, of soft moonlight on the desert, of all the wonders of nature in flora and fauna and geology, cannot help but take a rather dim view of this doubtful honor; but for what it is worth the Air Commodore and Emilia Region should have its just dues.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Star, in charge of the Emilia Region motor pool and first sergeant of Co. I, was killed in an automobile accident 24 June at Parma... Col. Floyd L. Simmons (A), former Land Forces Sub-Commission liaison officer in Sardinia and who has now gone home to the States, has been awarded the Legion of Merit... Four British officers with AC have received the Bronze Star: Capt. Richard C. L. Limbert, Major Ernest G. Tweedle and Lieutenant-Colonels Walter Doherty, deputy director of the Public Safety Sub-Commission, and John E. Pollock, former public safety head in Rome... Radio telephone calls on family and personal matters can be made on and after 1 July to the United States from Rome, the Communications Sub-Commission announces: Cost—$12 to 15 for three minutes; members of the armed forces and Italian civilians are eligible; in fact, there were nearly 50 calls booked by GI's a week ago...

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Censorship
Chief Clerk

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June 23, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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D/Director
Chief Telecoms
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POLITICAL

Die Politik ist keine Wissenschaft, wie viele der Herren Professoren sich einbilden, sondern eine Kunst.

BISMARCK.

The government crisis, though some 50 days in incubation, moved rapidly to a solution once it had been formally "opened" by Bonomi's resignation last week. After a few days of negotiations, Parri accepted the designation of the six parties and the official charge from the Luogotenente on Sunday night, June 10. By the following Wednesday the slate was ready, on Thursday the Ministers took the oath and the first Council meeting is to take place on Saturday. The new government lines up as follows:

OFFICE	NAME	BIRTHPLACE	DATE OF BIRTH	PARTY
President	FERRUCCIO PARRI *	Genoa	1890	Action
Vice-President	PIETRO NENNI *	Faenza	1891	Socialist
Vice-President	MANLIO BROSIO	Rimini	1896	Liberal
Agriculture	FAUSTO GULLO	Cosenza	1889	Communist
Air	MARIO CEVOLOTTO	Treviso	1887	Labor Democrat
Education	VINCENZO ARANGIO-RUIZ	Naples	1884	Liberal
Finance	MAURO SCOCCIMARRO	Udine	1895	Communist
Food	ENRICO MOLÈ	Catanzaro	1889	Labor Democrat
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Justice	PALMIRO TOGLIATTI	Genoa	1893	Communist
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Navy	RAFFAELE DE COURTEN	Milan	1888	Independent
Post and Telegraphs	MARIO SCELBA *	Caltagirone	1901	Christian Democrat
Postwar Relief	EMILIO LUSSU *	Armungia (Cagliari)	1890	Action
Public Works	GIUSEPPE ROMITA	Tortona	1887	Socialist
Reconstruction	MEUCCIO RUINI	Reggio Emilia	1877	Labor Democrat
Transport	UGO LA MALFA *	Palermo	1903	Action
Treasury	MARCELLO SOLERI	Cuneo	1832	Liberal

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Transport	UGO LA MALFA *	Palermo	1903	Action
Treasury	MARCELLO SOLERI	Cuneo	1882	Liberal
War	STEFANO IACINI *	Milan	1886	Christian Democrat

* First appearance in cabinet.

[1] To have charge of preparation of the Costituente and take over the Sanctions against Fascism, including epuration.

[2] To have charge of preparing the Consulta and the municipal elections. Also to be "coadjutor" in Foreign Affairs.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

It will be observed that there are three new ministries, giving the relatively large total of twenty portfolios. Pacciardi, his sturdy Republicanism still smarting from indignation at the vision of the leader of the partisan movement actually calling on the Luogotenente, calls it "elephantine" and sees in its unusual size evidence of the need of satisfying purely party demands. However, it is fair to point out that Post War Relief will absorb the work of various High Commissions and other agencies set up to deal with returning refugees, prisoners of war and veterans. Food was represented by a High Commission in the previous government and the creation of a special ministry is logical enough at this time, quite aside from the clamor raised for it by the CGIL. Reconstruction will also supplant the work of another agency, the Interministerial Committee for Reconstruction, and if it also serves to keep Ruini in the cabinet, thus insuring the Labor Democrats of their share of representation, there is good sense in that, too, since Ruini has been the key figure in reconstruction planning. And it should also be mentioned that one Ministry has been suppressed, that for Occupied Italy, Scoccimarro moving over to Finance. A separate ministry for Labor has long been urged and its combination with welfare will absorb a number of minor agencies. Since the Ministries without portfolio have been abolished the actual number of those who will sit around the Council table has only been increased by two over the number in December.

New Blood.

The proportion of new blood is substantially higher than in the last government. Counting Parri himself, there are seven new comers, as will be seen from the table above, and some of them in important posts. As might be expected, the North has a preponderance of representation; 14 of the Ministers were born North of Rome. However, it is the most representative cabinet on geographical lines that the new Italy has yet had: There are three members from Southern Italy, two from Sicily and one from Sardinia. Sentimental regionalism has no just grounds for complaint.

belongs on the left side of the six party line-up. Then, too, the fact that the cabinet now contains Socialists and Action representatives is enough in itself to warrant the statement that a move to the left has been made. Lastly, the powers given Nenni to take charge of preparation of the *Costituente* and Sanctions against Fascism are of enormous political significance at this time.

On the other hand, the Right has had its triumphs. It has succeeded in blocking the drive for a Socialist president which a month ago seemed sure of success. For Parri, though of republican convictions, does not share Socialist views on "social problems", as Nenni himself has stated. Further, the *Consulta* and municipal elections will precede the *Costituente* and will in all likelihood guide it at least to some extent, and a Liberal is in charge of the *Consulta*. It may be also noted that, generally speaking, whether by accident or design, the ministries that come in contact with the outside world have gone to moderates, Foreign Affairs, Treasury and Reconstruction, as well as all the service ministries; the more "internal" ministries such as Justice, Labor and Post-war Relief, as well as Interior itself, have gone to the leftist parties.

All plessed.

If it is true that both Right and Left have reason to be pleased, it is likewise true the CLN may congratulate itself on maintaining and even re-affirming its unity. There is much debate as to whether the preservation of a unity born of a resistance movement through a period of rehabilitation is a good thing or not; from the point of view of the CLN itself, it is certainly a matter for satisfaction that the individual currents of opinion have been successfully channeled into one stream. And from the national point of view, the country may well be pleased that a difficult corner has been turned without the violent and open dissension which has occurred in other countries and without falling back into the convenient pattern of dictatorship. One would think then that everyone would be happy and as a matter of fact nearly every one is. Pertini, the Socialist leader of the North, said with commendable frankness that the Socialists

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Politically, of course, the new cabinet is further to the Left than Bonomi's. For one thing, the President is a man of avowed republican sympathies and a member of a party which, though it is not Marxist and indeed, is not even ideologically coherent, has nonetheless worked in harmony with the Socialists in the past and certainly

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

on the whole content – as indeed they may well be, having one more portfolio than any other party and having won three successive battles to keep the Socialist-Communist combine out of the Presidency, the Interior and Education. Hence the comment from all shades of opinion is optimistic and confident – the exceptions being, of course, the monarchists whose *Italia Nuova* sees nothing but "the same old dictatorial monopoly of the six parties" and the Republicans who want no one to speak to the Luogotenente for any reason at all. Parri's personal prestige has, if anything, gone up after a week of tense negotiation. *Risorgimento Liberale*, in pledging Liberal loyalty to him, found time, in the best tradition of liberal courtesy, to pay homage to the serenity and poised statesmanship of the departing Bonomi.

Negotiations on the details of the accord with Tito came to a conclusion on the 20th when it was announced that the final agreement had been signed by the Yugoslav and Allied Chiefs of Staff. Among other things, the agreement defines very clearly the line of demarcation between the zones in Venezia Giulia to be administered by the two parties. Unhappily at the same time, U. P. and Reuter both reported Radio Belgrad as announcing that the administrative council in Gorizia had protested against the attempt of the Allies to "introduce" Italian laws in the territory, and that the CLN of Trieste had also protested against the suspension of the authorities elected under Yugoslav occupation. It may be that now that the agreement has been signed there will be no more of these protests. *Speriamo.*

AMG IN THE NORTH

The chief news comes again from Venezia-Giulia. Col. Nelson W. Monfort (A), SCAO, 13th Corps, and Air Commodore C. E. Benson, SCAO, 8th Army, have their hands full, putting AMG into effect. Allied troops have moved into Pola and AMG is being set up there as well as in all other places east of the Morgan line of demarcation between Allied-controlled and Yugoslav-controlled areas. The situation, politic-

safety officers are also needed for Venezia-Giulia. Priority on personnel and transport has been given the region, the former being especially important in view of the fact that only Allied personnel will be employed in the administration, no Italians or Yugoslavs being hired.

The other areas of the North are all busy stabilizing. Word comes to the Public Safety Sub-Commission that many of the C. L. N.-recommended Questori are proving unsatisfactory, mainly because of lack of police experience, and are being replaced. Permission to hold political meetings in the North has met with general approval. Udine and Venezia-Giulia are, of course, excepted for the time being. Into Milan is also moving the British Consulate General, AFHQ having given the o. k. for general re-opening of consulates on the North. In Milan, Leonardo Da Vinci's famed "Last Supper" is again on public view and only slightly damaged.

Venezie Region faces a crisis on POL, shortage of which is widespread through the North. AFHQ cut the Venezie allocation by 9,000 barrels but promised to supply the equivalent in methane gas. Containers for the gas, however, are scarce. Clothing from a 5th Army AMG allocation will go to 5,000 Venezie Patriots. Speaking of Patriots, Headquarters observers back from the field feel that the number of Patriots permitted to enlist into the Italian Army – 4,000 at this date – is much too small to absorb the number available in the whole of North Italy. Patriots in Northeast Italy are not yet disarmed but a plan is under consideration for deposit of arms in a central arsenal as an alternative.

Emilia Region reports a general improvement. Bologna water supply will shortly be increased by about 25 per cent. Twenty trucks are busy on garbage removal. Distribution is also being made of 20,000 blankets. Tuscany Region wound up formally 19 June with a simple ceremony of lowering the Allied flags over the Palazzo Vecchio. Air service to the North is being improved and a flying boat to Genoa may be available next week. A private telephone wire is finally in service between Hq. and Lombardy Region, AC using it by day and the Italian Government by night. AC also shares teletype facilities over the Army network. Internal mail censorship has

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

is optimistic and confident – the exceptions being, of course, the monarchists whose *Italia Nuova* sees nothing but "the same old dictatorial monopoly of the six parties" and the Republicans who want no one to speak to the Luogotenente for any reason at all. Parri's personal prestige has, if anything, gone up after a week of tense negotiation. *Risorgimento Liberale*, in pledging Liberal loyalty to him, found time, in the best tradition of liberal courtesy, to pay homage to the serenity and poised statesmanship of the departing Bonomi.

Negotiations on the details of the accord with Tito came to a conclusion on the 20th when it was announced that the final agreement had been signed by the Yugoslav and Allied Chiefs of Staff. Among other things, the agreement defines very clearly the line of demarcation between the zones in Venezia Giulia to be administered by the two parties. Unhappily at the same time, U. P. and Reuter both reported Radio Belgrad as announcing that the administrative council in Gorizia had protested against the attempt of the Allies to "introduce" Italian laws in the territory, and that the CLN of Trieste had also protested against the suspension of the authorities elected under Yugoslav occupation. It may be that now that the agreement has been signed there will be no more of these protests. *Speriamo.*

AMG IN THE NORTH

The chief news comes again from Venezia-Giulia. Col. Nelson W. Monfort (A), SCAO, 13th Corps, and Air Commodore C. E. Benson, SCAO, 8th Army, have their hands full, putting AMG into effect. Allied troops have moved into Pola and AMG is being set up there as well as in all other places east of the Morgan line of demarcation between Allied-controlled and Yugoslav-controlled areas. The situation, politically, is and will continue to be delicate.

The labor situation in Trieste, particularly among dock workers, requires adjustment and Mr. William H. Braine, director of the Labor Sub-Commission, has flown to the city to look into the business. Apparently, the dock workers were promised bonuses, as yet unpaid. Public

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ECONOMIC FRONT

Significant news in the economic field is scant this week, though several interesting developments are in progress which will be reported on shortly, particularly as to organization of industry in the North. The Sardinian situation is such that the Economic Section has been asked to send officers to investigate conditions. Wheat ammassed, as of 19 June, amounted to 11,702,293 qtl. and olive oil collected to 515,572 qtl. One thousand tons of binder twine have been delivered for the Northern harvest. Also, 1,000 tons of sulphur are being distributed to Northern farmers.

All public employes north of the former economic line will receive approximately one month's gross pay in anticipation of a salary increase. Cement production the past week totalled 3,868 tons, an increase of 1,177 tons over the week before. Mining in Sardinia has gone up to 1,635 tons a day and remained constant there. Naples hemp mills will shortly get 250 tons of raw hemp from the North. The handover of industry in the South is proceeding, the Giovinazzo steel works having been given back to civilian owners June 15 as a contract works. De-control of practically all controlled engineering materials has been recommended at the recent meeting of the Engineering Materials Committee of AFLR Board, a step which should greatly facilitate industrial operations generally. The Commerce Sub-Commission has received French inquiries for 50,000 tons of pyrites and Belgian and Norwegian demands for salt. The U. S., the U. K. and Switzerland have expressed interest in the stockpile of one and half million kilos of raw silk found in the North. The Finance Sub-Commission reports that the Fascist Republican Government spent 359.6 billion lire from September, 1943 to April, 1945, of which 189 billion were for German occupation costs.

ODDS AND ENDS

Bouquets have arrived for the archives officers of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission in the shape of a resolution transmitted to the Chief Commissioner from the Society of American Archivists, expressing appreciation for the "indispensable and untiring work in safeguarding European archives for current use in solving immediate problems and for future research purposes in the advancement of civilization" ... The three archivists of the Sub-Commission are all captains: Harry Bell and Humphrey Brooke (B) and William McCain (A)... Best wishes for a quick recovery to Lieut. Col. N. W. Dragneff, G-1 of 2675 Regiment, who is in a Leghorn hospital after a serious automobile accident last week... AC officers are now offered the opportunity for rest in Cairo or Palestine... Three more Bronze Stars come to notice: Lieut. Col. Eugene R. McPhee (A) of Liguria Region; Capt. Young A. Neal (A) of 5th Army AMG, and Capt. Lebre R. Garcia (A) of IV Corps AMG... MTOUSA's University Training Command has asked for 90 AC U. S. officers to help teach troops during the redeployment lull; Establishment Section will protest the attempted raid...

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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June 16, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 11

POLITICAL

Dans les crises politiques, le plus difficile pour un honnête homme n'est pas de faire son devoir mais de le connaître.

DE BONALD

Ferruccio Parri was born in Genoa in 1890. He served in the first World War, and in the post-war period, was an active enemy of Fascism, being for a while on the staff of the *Corriere della Sera*. When Mussolini came to power, Parri continued his opposition for which he suffered on several occasions imprisonment and "*confino*". At first he worked with the Socialist group headed by Morandi, but subsequently helped to found the Action Party, of which he is still a member. He was a leading figure in the organization of partisan resistance, collaborating first with Longo, the Communist, and later working under General Cadorna. He is regarded with respect almost amounting to veneration in the North and Pacciardi, whose own anti-fascism is above suspicion, says of him that he represents all that is best in the anti-fascist movement. His age and his political convictions being what they are, he has had no parliamentary experience.

On him much depends, for the six parties, worn out by long negotiations and debates and under the stimulus of the resignation of Bonomi's government, finally united on the 13th in inviting Ferruccio Parri to head the new cabinet. The following day, after a tentative acceptance, he arrived in Rome and embarked on his task, some of the difficulties of which will become more apparent if the background of the preceding week is examined.

De Gasperis letter.

under the vicepresident. (He did not say, however, who would get the portfolio of the Interior). Nenni rejected the offer on the rather general grounds that this would make a "vulgar horse trade" of what with him was a matter of principle. This left matters between these two major contestants exactly where they were before and gave some hope to the backers of Bonomi, as well as bringing into the field of speculation such names as Croce, Orlando and Nitti. (Croce has been in Rome all week and has had many contacts with political leaders of all categories.)

On the 11th, the delegation of the CLNAI arrived in Rome and stated firmly that they would not have Bonomi. On the 12th Bonomi resigned, thus formally "opening the crisis" and, in the opinion of Pacciardi, "putting initiative in the hands of the Luogotenente". Bonomi was accused by Nenni of precipitating matters but it can hardly be said that he acted without warning; he had already delayed his resignation once and his intention to act was on record in the letter he wrote the party leaders (see [illegible]'s *Bulletin*).

Action of CLNAI.

In spite of Pacciardi's charge, the actual initiative did not come from the Prince but from the Northern CLN. On the morning of the 13th a resolution of the CLNAI delegation in Rome called for action on a three point program, viz: designation of Parri as President of the Council; representation in the new government of all the political forces in the CLN by the presence of their "leading exponents" such as Nenni, Togliatti and De Gasperi; and lastly, five ministers without portfolio to be named from the North.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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De Gasperis letter.

On the seventh the Christian Democrat leader, De Gasperi, wrote a letter to Nenni, the Socialist leader, suggesting, in view of the deadlock between their two parties (see last Weeks's *Bulletin*), that a sort of dual hegemony might be advisable. He proposed that he might be President and Nenni vicepresident of the new government, with foreign affairs under the President and home affairs under the vicepresident. (He did not say, however, who would get the portfolio of the Interior). Nenni rejected the offer on the rather general grounds that this would make a "vulgar horse trade" of what with him was a matter of principle. This left matters between these two major contestants exactly where they were before and gave some hope to the backers of Bonomi, as well as bringing into the field of speculation such names as Croce, Orlando and Nitti. (Croce has been in Rome all week and has had many contacts with political leaders of all categories.)

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By the late evening of the same day they had prevailed on the six parties to accept the first point and the other two are, of course, now up to Parri to put through. On the second point, it cannot be said that he is off to a good start since Nenni, though professing great admiration for the new leader, stated flatly in the columns of *Avanti* that he would not serve in his government and Togliatti and De Gasperi are said to have

4417

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

taken the same line. Perhaps it was this consideration that prompted Parri in his first interview—given in the plane as he sped from Milan to Rome—to say that he still considered his nomination uncertain. He added also, on the questioning of Ann Springer of the UP, that the first two things he would do would be to "promote a perfect unity" of the country and raise salaries and wages. His first full day in Rome was spent in a series of interviews with party leaders, which are still going on as we write. The first to be interviewed, Ruini (Labor Democrat), expressed himself as optimistic regarding Parri's chances to form a government. Nenni's comment was somewhat ambiguous and non-committal. He said (as quoted by *Ricostruzione*): "There is a political problem existing which is connected with the consideration that the position of the popular masses and working classes will have in the government". Togliatti spoke after his hour with Parri in much the same vein and De Gasperi slipped out before the eager journalists could approach him. It is no secret, as *Tempo* pointed out, that the selection of a president is not the end of the crisis; there is the very important Ministry of Interior to be considered as well.

Agreement with Tito.

The agreement between the Anglo-Americans and Yugoslavia on the subject of Venezia Giulia was received with no particular enthusiasm and a rather tempered satisfaction in Rome. The news that the Yugoslavs are definitely retiring from Trieste, Gorizia and Pola was, of course, very welcome, but Italians point out that there is still a substantial bit of pre-war Italy (namely the Eastern part of the Istrian peninsula) under Yugoslav control, and furthermore, though there is to be left in Trieste a small group of Yugoslav observers, nothing is said about Anglo-American observers in Tito's sphere. De Gasperi, in an interview accorded ANSA, called the agreement "a compromise which will not prejudice the decision of the peace conference." This was a mild and diplomatic way of saying what some Italian papers, notably the independent *Tempo* and (rather surprisingly) the Communist *Unità* [illegible] when they said that spirit on which details of the agreement are being worked out. For the time being at least, Trieste has ceased to be a trouble spot.

News from the Val d'Aosta is also good. Definite reports of the relief of French troops have come in. The result of the French "occupation" may be some kind of regional autonomy for the Valley which has smarted under Fascist efforts made over the last twenty years to deprive it of its unique character. The Council of Ministers, at its meeting of the 8th declared itself favorable to the "main claims" of the valdostani.

Position of Italy.

The crisis has brought again to the fore the somewhat ambiguous position of Italy vis-a-vis the Allies. Now that the shooting is over in Europe, "co-belligerency" seems even more odd than ever to the Italians. All papers gave prominence to the communiqué from the *Presidenza del Consiglio* which explained the conditions laid down by the Allies that every Italian government must accept. *Italia Nuova* took it particularly hard; "if the parties do not protest", said the Democrat Monarchist organ, "it is because their consciences are not clean; the Italian people feels these conditions as a slap in the face. Have Italians no rights after two years of fighting and working?" *Avanti* made the point that the "institutional truce" could hardly be kept by a government which is to be "the government of the *Costituente*"; if there is to be a vote affecting the institutional character of the country, surely the people must be informed on the merits of the question. In connection with Italy's position, much prominence has also been given to Luigi Antonini's memorandum to President Truman calling, among other things, for Italy's admission to the United Nations and for her entry into the war against Japan. Walter Lippman's statement that America should now make peace with Italy and Sumner Welles' suggestion that the time has come to withdraw occupation forces were also very welcome to Italian ears.

Last word on crisis.

Between writing and printing of our report the following two developments have taken place

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Last word on crisis.

Between writing and printing of our report the following two developments have taken place in the crisis. The *Giornale del Mattino* speaks openly of the Socialist-Communist condition to serving in the Parri government. The price of their participation is the portfolio of the Interior, "the most delicate machinery in the life of the nation"... The *Giornale* states that the Liberals and the Christian Democrats are reluctant to concede this post to the Marxist parties. In

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

the afternoon of the 15th Parri was received by Admiral Stone. Parri's comment, as reported by *Libera Stampa* and other journals, was that the conversation was cordial and friendly, the good will of the Allies towards Italy was "repeated and confirmed" and he "had been given courteously to understand that the Allies would be pleased if a solution of the crisis could be reached as soon as possible".

AMG IN TRIESTE

On 12 June AMG took over in Trieste and matters have been lively enough ever since. Colonel Nelson W. Monfort (A) has been named SCAO 13th Corps and RC of Venezia Giulia, with Lieut. Col H. P. P. Robertson (B) as his deputy. The famous port this week has been crowded with brass, present being Lieut. Gen. W. D. Morgan (B), Chief of Staff of AFHQ; Brigadier General Charles M. Spofford (A), assistant chief of staff, G-5; Brigadier Gerald K. Upjohn (B), vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, besides a roster of military commanders. Details of the agreement of with Marshal Tito concerning the withdrawal of the Yugoslav forces beyond the Morgan line, the more explicit geographical description of the line itself, questions of the freedom of telephone and telegraph communications, economic controls, finance and so forth, are all being thrashed out on high levels.

The withdrawal from Trieste was comparatively uneventful. There was some last-minute looting and arrests and demonstrations and counter-demonstrations, reports advise us, including some by a "police force" of about 2,500 Guardia del Popolo operating under the Trieste Council of Liberation, composed of both Italians and Yugoslavs (predominantly Slovenes, of course). The Guardia was immediately ordered by AMG to cease activities and to keep off the streets. The last Yugoslav guards on public buildings are just now being removed and various Yugoslav observers, many in civilian clothes, are still in town.

AMG, which had been stockpiling food prior to taking over, began the ration distribution through Sepral at 1800 hours the first day of

expressed pleased astonishment at being allowed to continue publication, subject only to the usual military censorship.

AMG IN THE NORTH

A general easing of the situation in the entire North is evident in reports this week. French units in the Val D'Aosta are being relieved by other troops. Rumors are current that they will go to Austria to set up the French zone of occupation there. Some complaints were registered of French vehicles coming into Italy to buy food and then returning to France.

There is a variety of other news, much of it originating in Rome but affecting the North while other items of an economic nature will be found under that heading. The Local Government Sub-Commission is recommending that RCs fix uniforms dates for the formation of the registers of voters for the electoral lists. The Air Forces Sub-Commission has promised the use of a plane to fly 30 tons of forms to the North.

The special epuration courts are running full blast, the Emilia Special Court of Assizes, for instance, sentencing five persons to death. The Northern prisons, however, are still filled to overflowing, holding 95 per cent. political prisoners incarcerated by the Patriots. The epurative screening has been slow and releases few. The position of captured members of the Fascist Republican armed forces under Decree 142, which established an Extraordinary Court of Assizes for punishment of offenses committed by collaboration with the enemy, will shortly be made clear in a directive to be issued by the Legal Sub-Commission.

Refugees arriving in Rome from the North numbered 11,653 this week, during which period 6,178 with homes in the South were repatriated, the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission reports. By sea from Piombino to Messina, 1,337 refugees were moved and another 1,400 from Venice to Ancona in the same manner. Italian refugees still to come from Germany, France and Austria have been estimated as at least 400,000, according to the latest advices. The French, incidentally, have 3,000 refugees in Italy they would like to bring home.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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AMG, which had been stockpiling food prior to taking over, began the ration distribution through Sepral at 1800 hours the first day of occupation. The bread ration has been increased from 150 to 200 grams, effective June 14. Four schooners unloaded potatoes which were sold in the market place, but no queues were seen. Repatriated Italian prisoners-of-war – 2,100 of them – have just arrived. Both the Slovene and Italian newspapers printed the AMG proclamations in full. Newspaper editors, particularly,

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Teletype communication between Rome and Milan is being established by the Communications Sub-Commission, the AC to use the facility during the day and the Italian Government at night... 14,000 weapons have been turned in by Liguria Patriots up to June 10... PWB wants to pull out of the North by July, 1, leaving behind

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

press officers to advise the RCs in each region... 205,000 out of the 318,000 Emilia school children are already enrolled in the schools... Brigadier General E. E. Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, the past week installed four mayors: at Modena, Parma, Piacenza and Reggio Emilia... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, RC, Venezie Region, spoke at the Matteotti memorial service at Fratta Polesine this week... Visitors to Venice may now see at eye-level the famous Lion of San Marco and the Bronze Horses, which have been brought up from basement storage places...

ECONOMIC FRONT

The work of integrating the economies of the North and the rest of Italy is going on apace, the Allied Commission consulting with the Italian Government on several steps in the last several days. Restlessness concerning payment of the liberation bonus and the dismissals of workers elicited two public announcements by AMG, both of which were drafted by the Labor Sub-Commission. The liberation bonus was a promise made to workers during the underground period encouraging them to defend industrial plants from German demolition. The communique pointed out that there was no law or decree which compelled the payment of the bonus by employers, that there was no official opposition to such payment, but that payments made should be spread over a period of three or four months to prevent an inflationary impact and that agreements for payments should be made in free negotiations between workers and employers.

The manpower announcement concerned the current surplus of workers in the Northern plants which have no raw materials to continue production. AMG said that it agreed with the Italian Government as to the undesirability of large scale dismissals by industrial employers. AMG will try to arrange orderly transfers of workers to other jobs in agriculture and public works. A CLNAI ordinance forbidding such firings had been in effect before the arrival of AMG, which will now issue a order of its own on the subject. The Italian Government also will finance the *Cassa Integrazione Salari* so as to allow loans to

wheat will rate 830 lire a quintal. The calculation of the new prices is interesting. The prices just quoted are the aggregate prices. This aggregate price is composed of a base price of 450 lire a quintal for soft wheat and 500 lire a quintal for hard wheat; and of a cultivation premium of 300 lire a quintal for soft and 330 for hard. The cultivation premium is defined as a bonus paid to the actual or direct grower of the wheat or cerals in order to cover the additional costs incurred in cultivating that type of crop. In Southern Italy, where hard wheat is grown mostly, the price for soft wheat is 900 lire a quintal and 1,000 lire for hard, the same as last year. The higher cultivation premium in the South is paid because of the lower yields and extra labor involved in growing the crop. Sicily, incidentally, faces another poor ammassing because of discontent with the price, the same complaint that arose last year. The scirocco in Sicily and drought in Southern Italy are not conducive to the best crops this year, it is feared. The Northern wheat prices are effective in all five Northern regions, including the Provinces of Forli and Ravenna in Emilia, which up to now have been getting the Southern price. Prices have also been fixed for barley, corn, rye and oats. The new scales have been justified on the grounds of higher costs in the South, the price differential between North and South in 1942 being 16 per cent. Lastly, in the event of tenant farmers making payments in kind, the proprietor is to receive only the base price while the cultivation premium goes to the farmer who grew the grain.

Grain, by the way, is in large surplus in the Macerata area because of the lack of freight cars to move the stuff. In Sardinia, to the drought have been added locusts eating up all the forage, prompting the quick export, now under way, of 200,000 sheep and 10,000 cattle, all marked for slaughter. The 5th Army AMG in May moved 15,600 tons of foodstuffs, chiefly flour, to Northern cities to avert serious hunger conditions, the Food Sub-Commission reported, praising the work of the supply officers concerned.

Todt Organization German workers are busy repairing rail lines; the Organization's equipment may be handed over to the Italian Govern-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Wheat prices.

The price of wheat has been fixed in the North. The area produces soft wheat mostly. Its price is 750 lire a quintal, effective June 13. Hard quintal for hard wheat; and of a cultivation premium of 300 lire a quintal for soft and 330 for hard. The cultivation premium is defined as a bonus paid to the actual or direct grower of the wheat or cerals in order to cover the additional costs incurred in cultivating that type of crop. In Southern Italy, where hard wheat is grown mostly, the price for soft wheat is 900 lire a quintal and 1,000 lire for hard, the same as last year. The higher cultivation premium in the South is paid because of the lower yields and extra labor involved in growing the crop. Sicily, incidentally, faces another poor ammassing because of discontent with the price, the same complaint that arose last year. The scirocco in Sicily and drought in Southern Italy are not conducive to the best crops this year, it is feared. The Northern wheat prices are effective in all five Northern regions, including the Provinces of Forli and Ravenna in Emilia, which up to now have been getting the Southern price. Prices have also been fixed for barley, corn, rye and oats. The new scales have been justified on the grounds of higher costs in the South, the price differential between North and South in 1942 being 16 per cent. Lastly, in the event of tenant farmers making payments in kind, the proprietor is to receive only the base price while the cultivation premium goes to the farmer who grew the grain.

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Todt Organization German workers are busy repairing rail lines; the Organization's equipment may be handed over to the Italian Government... May shipping transported 56,606 tons, according to the Transportation Sub-Commission... Captured enemy trucks are being welcomed in the North, but may shortly become useless due to the shortage of petrol... The Italian Government has proposed the repair of 4,000 vehicles, which will provide work for Northern factories according to the War Materials Disposal and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Italian Prisoners-of-War Sub-Commission... The date of withdrawal of "yellow seal" dollars and BMA notes has been advanced to July 31... Mr. A. G. Antolini, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, who is on his way to the States, was honored before he left with the award of the Cross of a Grand Official of the Order of the Crown by the Lieutenant General of the Realm... Wheat ammassed, as of June 12, totalled 11,658,570 quintals, while olive oil collections were 509,776 quintals. The first post-war importation of lobsters from Sardinia occurred this week, the price ranging around 250 lire a kilo, half the black marked price... The Italian Government now has authority to import goods from Mediterranean areas under British administration... All pyrite mines have received an allocation of power and pumping has commenced to clear the flooding caused by the Germans... Salt stocks on hand, independent of current production, at Margherita di Savoia and Cagliari workings, are sufficient to cover the needs of all Italy... Cement production last week was 2,940 tons... The first 10,000 kw. of an ultimate 100,000 kw. of electric power from North Italy began flowing to Central Italy over rehabilitated transmission lines during the past week; the total interconnection will be completed by fall...

ODDS AND ENDS

A Regional Commissioners' Conference will be held in Rome June 27 and 28, the first day being devoted to high level discussions and the next to consideration of concrete problems with the various sections. Regional Commissioners will be accompanied by Italian officials who work with them in the North, thus enabling the latter to come into contact with their compatriots in the Italian government... Italian civilians owning bicycles at AC Hq. are in a whirl; ten of their bicycles have been stolen from the basement in the last few weeks: Hq. Comdt. disclaims all responsibility... Maj. Gen. Langley Browning (B), director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, had a fast one pulled on him this past week by his deputy director, Col. Clayton P. Kerr (A), who presented the general with an honorary and officially authentic membership in the State of Texas... Texas, as every schoolboy knows, is the nation to which the United States was admitted in 1845... Part of Naples harbor has been released to the Italian Government, one discharge berth entirely without restriction and three other berths with only the reservation that Allied tankers have priority on unloading, the Navy Sub-Commission reports... U. S. officers and EM may take a holiday on the French Riviera, through courtesy of 2675 Regiment, while all AC officers and EM/ORs may visit the Isle of Capri, through the courtesy of the U. S. Army Air Corps and Lieut. Col. Guy D. Warren (A) of Naples AMG... Col. Clive E. Temperley (B), former RC of Southern Region, who has left the AC, has been awarded the U. S. Bronze Star: congratulations... The Mantova Combat Group of the Italian Army is helping the British guard German POWs in the Rimini area, the Land Forces Sub-Commission announces... The Education Sub-Commission reports receiving a request to remove a provincial superintendent of schools alleged to have a bad Fascist record, to be incompetent and to be addicted to frolicking with the signorine; the request went on to recommend that he be appointed, instead, to the presidency of a teacher-training school...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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June 2, 1945
D/Director
Chief Telecome
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Asst Chief Police
Censorship
Chief Clerk

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 9

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POLITICAL

Probably no activity is more frustrating than the effort to chronicle the contemporary. Hardly had we sent our last week's stint off to the printer than the potentially pyrotechnic affair of Nenni at Vercelli burst on the political horizon. Perhaps, however, the perspective of the week helps to put the matter in proper light. What might have seemed a serious matter, indeed, can now be seen as a mere incident, rapidly diminishing in importance.

The facts are simple. Nenni arranged to hold a political meeting in Vercelli on his way to Turin. This was not permitted in Army areas and Nenni, as all other politicos visiting in the North, had agreed to refrain from such activities. In spite of formel warnings, Nenni attended the meeting. He was promptly arrested and, after writing a "lettera di scuse", was released. However, for a day or two—the 26th and 27th—the press was naturally somewhat excited about the matter. On his return to Rome a few days later Nenni told *Avanti* that it had been a result of the "impuntatura" (pedantry) of a local official and that as far as he was concerned the incident was closed. He added that nothing should be allowed to disturb good relations between the Allies and Italy but the Italian Government, and Washington and London as well, might profitably reconsider the advisability of suppressing political discussion in a country now liberated and with hostilities at an end. The Socialist Party and the CLN combined in a request to the Italian Government to take up with the Allies the granting to all citizens of the "right of propaganda" and of holding meetings and the abolition of "all restrictions still

while the conservatives like to think that the Socialist leader has been made to seem a little ridiculous.

Party differences.

Togliatti, reporting to *Unità* on his trip through the North, also referred to the difficult self-restraint he had had to exercise when surrounded by "tens of thousands" of followers. He added, somewhat unexpectedly à propos of the new government, that he himself did not expect to be in it unless called upon by his friend Nenni, whom he could not very well refuse. However, there seems to be another snag in the negotiations for the new government and one that may prove to be serious. Although a week ago the parties were reported to be substantially in accord on the program, if not on personnel, the Liberals, on returning to Rome, where the seiroceo is more conducive to meditation than to action, somewhat unexpectedly announced that before it is possible to go on with the selection of the new cabinet the whole subject of the CLNs needs further "charification". This opinion has received some support from the Christian Democrats and has been vigorously opposed by the parties of the Left. The difference in point of view is crucial; to the Leftist parties the CLN represent the "vital forces" of the nation whose energies are necessary for reconstruction and reorganization; to the Liberals the Committees, however admirable their service in resistance to the invader, now seem an ultra-governmental, undemocratic, politically dangerous element. The Liberals do not want as yet to abolish them but they want to give them a merely advisory function and confine their representation to "purely political" (as opposed to social and economic) currents. Ugo Giuffrè in *Tempo* (though *Tempo* is not a

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Both sides have stated their arguments quite freely on the subject, the Liberals more or less

4416

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

officially in a letter of the party secretary on May 29, the Socialists and Communists on a joint answer two days later. *Unità* called the Liberals' letter "a wicked action against the interests of our country" and *Avanti* accused them of trying "to discredit Italian democracy". The Action Party joined the Communists and the Socialists in support of the CLN. The Liberals have found their allies not only among the Christian Democrats but, to judge from the speech of Ruini on the 29th, among at least some factions of the Labour Democrats as well. Thus, the whole question may have very serious effects on the unity of the six parties; it has certainly retarded the formation of the new government.

The Frontiers.

On Trieste the situation is substantially unchanged. The latest development is a letter from the CLN of Venezia Giulia accusing the Yugoslavs of tampering with the municipal records. On a higher level the *London Evening News* reported that the Allies are preparing an answer to Tito's latest offers (see last week's *Bulletin*). From Piedmont came the news (on the 24th) that the French had refused to withdraw from the Val d'Aosta just now because of snow on the mountains. Radio Paris contributed two days later the announcement that 15,000 Valdostani had expressed a desire to become French citizens. AMG reports do not bear out this assertion. Italian papers pointed out that the population of the region is some, in any case 80,000.

The government is discussing the situation, having been requested by the CLNAI to ask the Allies to put "contested frontier territories under temporary and impartial administration until the conclusion of the peace negotiations".

The action of Franco in blocking all Italian holdings in Spain has not been very popular in Italy. Franco's argument that such action is in line with anti-Axis measures recommended by the Allies seems a little anachronistic; for a long time, the wits are saying, Franco did'nt seem to know there was a war on and now he does'nt know it's over. Of course, the measure has given *Voce Repubblicana* and *Italia Libera* the chance to ask

AMG OPERATIONS

With the French in the West, the Yugoslavs in the East and Patriots in the center, AMG in the North would appreciate some balmy weather. The weather, indeed, off Liguria has been such that supplies have not been able to land and the long land haul from Leghorn is resulting in a precarious bread situation. The haul of fish is excellent, however, in Liguria, the port price dropping from 130 lire a kilo to 5 lire. Otherwise, events are moving along, though it is yet too early for summings up. The French are in some 14 communes of Imperia Province and in Aosta Province have been bringing in coffee and flour by mule from France. The matter of French francs may be adjusted in some areas, in others not as yet. In one Aosta bailiwick the French commander has agreed to withdraw French francs and use AMG lire. In others, the banks have been told to accept only francs. AMG also had to put its foot down on unofficial dealings such as barter trades involving French potatoes and fish for Italian rice and flour. In Vercelli a project to prevent erosion to the banks of the Sesia River has been conceived as a good unemployment relief measure. There is a need for kerosene or diesel oil in Piemonte to lubricate farm machinery. Throughout the North the program to distribute captured enemy draft animals to farmers is under way. Some concern is also felt about the lack of fertilizers and insecticides, which the North has been short of for the last few years. A minor but perplexing problem of AMG in Turin is the plumbing. Hotel hot water taps, when turned on, give forth beautifully hot, boiling water. Cold water taps give off steam. To get cold water (or moderately cool-tepid-luke-warm), one flushes the toilet several times. These Italians.

More than 3,000 denunciations of purported Fascists have been filed in Milan alone. Newsprint manufacturers in the North have agreed to make 60 tons of newsprint a day for four months at a price of 42 lire a kilo. 5th Army has called for a team of AC economic experts to inspect the vast amounts of industrial and technical equipment found in the Bolzano area. Through Bol-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Fascist trials go on: Acerbo has been condemned to thirty years' imprisonment, Bottai, Federzoni and Rossoni to life, though they were not on hand to hear the sentences. All gerarchi and pezzi grossissimi in the dear dead days.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

12,237 arrived in Rome from the North and 8,347 left Rome for the South. The Records Bureau of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission also handled 59,000 messages from the North in this one week. (Distribution was made from Rome through the International Red Cross.)

Less than 1,000 civilians are being evacuated from the Rimini area – instead of the previously rumored 10,000 – to make way for the compounds being built for German prisoners-of-war.

To the East, where the Trieste question is going through the slow toils of diplomatic protocol, AMG teams are ready for operations but naturally cannot yet function. A separate region may be made of Venezia Giulia because of the problems involved. The food situation in Trieste is reported as "deteriorating" but not yet acute enough for alarm. A Yugoslav application to buy yeast in considerable quantities in Udine Province was turned down. The Yugoslavs are reported to have been removing machinery, spare parts, leather belting and batteries. Patriots in eastern Venezie are still armed, with some reports indicating captured enemy tanks and anti-tank guns in their possession.

ADMIRAL VISITS NORTH

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, the Chief Commissioner, made a one-day trip to the North and back to Rome by plane May 29 to confer with 5th Army, IV Corps and AMG officers on the situation. Accompanied by Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, who has been designated the Admiral's representative in the North, the Chief Commissioner conferred with Lieut. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, jr., commanding general, Fifth Army, about AMG problems. Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, 5th Army SCAO, and his executive officer, Col. Arthur E. Sutherland, jr., also attended.

In Milan the Admiral met with Maj. Gen. Willis D. Crittenberger, commanding general, IV Corps, his SCAO, Col. Hamilton T. Walker, and with Brigadier M. Carr, Col. R. P. Marshall and Col. Charles Poletti, RC's, respectively, of Liguria, Piemonte and Lombardy. Agreement has been reached that the RC's may soon activate stream-

The trip also saw the Admiral perform the honors at a ceremony at 5th Army AMG Hq, at which he presented to the senior non-commissioned officers of Company "G" of 2675th Regiment and to the British detatchment assigned to 5th Army AMG Hq the Meritorious Service Plaque awarded the 5th Army AMG by General Truscott for its "outstanding services in support of combat operations".

UPJOHN TRIP

Brigadier Gerald K. Upjohn, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, and Colonel R. R. Cripps (B), Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, are back at Hq. from a nine-day tour of the North. They report greatly varying conditions but, apart from some political headaches, in all the Regions, the problem of disarming of Patriots looms largest. While disarmament parades have been held in most provinces and large numbers of arms of all sorts have been handed in, everyone knows that there still exist very large caches as yet uncollected, which will provide a very serious Public Safety problem for some time. While few Patriots continue to carry arms by day (except in the border provinces) the nightly killings, especially in Milan, Genoa and Bologna, point to the continued existence of armed bands of Patriots or thugs masquerading as Patriots. The Carabinieri have everywhere met with a mixed reception. It is plain that the Government will have to undertake a complete reorganization of the police forces before the Public Safety situation is fully restored. Arrangements are already in hand for recruiting Patriots into police forces other than the CC. RR.

So far as Local Government is concerned, on the whole, members of the CLNs appear to be serious minded and cooperative, but all provinces have had trouble in varying degrees in getting members of the Committees to become aware of their purely advisory role. The main heat has fallen on Colonel Poletti who has to deal with the CLNAI, but he has scored a signal success in obtaining a letter from Morandi (leader of the CLNAI) to CLNs pointing out the purely advisory role of CLNs.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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In general, the Chief Commissioner said that he was "satisfied" with the trip, which, translated from the laconic style in which the Admiral usually speaks, means he thinks the plans of AC and work of AMG are working out fairly well.

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UPJOHN TRIP

Brigadier Gerald K. Upjohn, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, and Colonel R. R. Cripps (B), Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, are back at Hq. from a nine-day tour of the North. They report greatly varying conditions but, apart from some political headaches, in all the Regions, the problem of disarming of Patriots looms largest. While disarmament parades have been held in most provinces and large numbers of arms of all sorts have been handed in, everyone knows that there still exist very large caches as yet uncollected, which will provide a very serious Public Safety problem for some time. While few Patriots continue to carry arms by day (except in the border provinces) the nightly killings, especially in Milan, Genoa and Bologna, point to the continued existence of armed bands of Patriots or thugs masquerading as Patriots. The Carabinieri have everywhere met with a mixed reception. It is plain that the Government will have to undertake a complete reorganization of the police forces before the Public Safety situation is fully restored. Arrangements are already in hand for recruiting Patriots into police forces other than the CC. RR.

So far as Local Government is concerned, on the whole, members of the CLNs appear to be serious minded and cooperative, but all provinces have had trouble in varying degrees in getting members of the Committees to become aware of their purely advisory role. The main heat has fallen on Colonel Poletti who has to deal with the CLNAI, but he has scored a signal success in obtaining a letter from Morandi (leader of the CLNAI) to CLNs pointing out the purely advisory role of CLNs.

Prefects appointed.

In every case, except one, where prefects have already been appointed or nominated for appointment, Provincial Commissioners have recommended the CLN candidate. In the remaining case, the Government candidate was asked to accept the appointment of Prefect and he refused.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

Of eleven provinces in Emilia and Venezie for which figures are available, proposed Prefects wore the following party colours: Socialist 2, Non-Party 1, Communist 1, Christian Democrats 3, Action Party 3, Liberal 1.

General Order 35, providing for the dismissal of Fascists from state concerns, has been put up in nearly every province and is beginning to work without more than the usual birth pangs. General Orders dealing with the epuration of personnel of private concerns have been found to be necessary to prevent wholesale sacking of employees and workers for reasons of private vendetta and are now under preparation at Headquarters.

The decree setting up People's Courts has met with a very favourable reception and Courts have been set up in nearly every province. Illegal courts appear to have died down without undue trouble. By the time these words appear in print, Courts in most provinces will have commenced sitting. The first sitting in Milan was on 24 May and reports of convictions have already been received. Lieut. Colonel G. G. Hannaford (B) has had a very busy time providing for special sittings of the Special Section of the Court of Cassation sent up from Rome to hear appeals from these Courts.

Cultural notes.

In the field of education there are no special problems except in the East of Udine where the inhabitants appear unwilling to permit Italian to be taught. Capt. Willis E. Pratt (A) hopes to have 13,000 students, including a large number of Patriots, attending summer courses at Bologna University, as against 3,000 during the German occupation.

Many exciting things were found to be happening in the world of Monuments and Fine Arts. Nearly all the Florentine treasures have been discovered and will shortly be returned there (40 truck loads). Some of the Abyssinian crown jewels have also come to light.

The Public Health situation is on the whole good and a Deputation of experts from the North is due in Rome any day now to make plans with the Government for the manufacture in the North of considerable quantities of medical supplies

dustrial capacity found in the North. Prime Minister Bonomi, in a letter to the Chief Commissioner, asks for certain immediate supplies and further requests that these latest items have absolute priority over all other supplies previously asked for. Col. Leonard T. Densmore, chief staff officer of the Economic Section, has left for the States, bearing with him the Bonomi letter and revised requisitions, which, in brief, ask for 710,500 tons of supplies, including 383,000 tons of coal, as the first part of the transitional program (for September of this year). The Prime Minister said that he was aware of the sizeable sea transport problem involved, but pleaded, in the name of Italy's 40 million war-stricken inhabitants, for immediate help to ward off unemployment – if coal and raw materials continue lacking – and possible unrest.

Mr. A. G. Antolini, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, this week confirmed that he was leaving the Commission about June 15 to return to private business. He had announced some time ago his intention to retire. He will be succeeded by Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, who has been Deputy Vice President (Supply). Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President (Production), has just returned from a trip to London, where he took up, among other matters, the need of more British civilian personnel in AC.

Other news of economic interest: Of the more than 200 inquiries by AC officers into employment by the Foreign Economic Administration (FEA) as civilians in AC, 37 officers have been found qualified. — The Economic Section is currently working out ways and means whereby inter-regional commerce between the North and South can be most effective and controllable. — A large part of the Italian schooner fleet (once as many as 2,000 vessels) and some coast-wise ships are being turned back to Italian control by the Mediterranean Shipping Board (MEDBO). — Wheat ammassed, as of the latest report, is 11,622,539 quintals, and olive oil, 499,473 quintals. — Nine and a half tons of vegetable seeds were exported to Albania and Yugoslavia in the past week, the Commerce Sub-Commission reports. — Reclaimed rubber from salvage supplied by U. S. Ordnance Tire Repair

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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ECONOMIC FRONT

Chief news of the week economically is the formulation of the revised joint program for first-aid to the Italian economy, which has been revised, of course, by reasons of the undestroyed in-

priority over all other supplies previously asked for. Col. Leonard T. Densmore, chief staff officer of the Economic Section, has left for the States, bearing with him the Bonomi letter and revised requisitions, which, in brief, ask for 710,500 tons of supplies, including 383,000 tons of coal, as the first part of the transitional program (for September of this year). The Prime Minister said that he was aware of the sizeable sea transport problem involved, but pleaded, in the name of Italy's 40 million war-stricken inhabitants, for immediate help to ward off unemployment – if coal and raw materials continue lacking – and possible unrest.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

three days from 750 lire a kilo to 250 lire and for sodium carbonate from 300 lire to 60 lire a kilo. — Cement production in four AC-controlled plants this week was 3,428 tons, an increase of 1,036 tons over the previous week.

MACMILLAN MESSAGE

Mr. Harold Macmillan, who has just left the posts of Acting President of the Allied Commission and British Resident Minister at AFHQ to enter the Churchill cabinet, sent the following message to all ranks of the Allied Commission:

"I cannot leave without sending a message of thanks and good wishes to all my friends in the Allied Commission and Allied Military Government. Ever since the landings in Sicily, nearly two years ago, I have seen and admired your work. During recent months I have been more intimately associated with you. Many conflicting duties have hampered my capacity to do more than try to help my friends and your chief, Admiral Stone, to the best of my ability. But i shall always be proud of my association with your enterprise, and the high ideals which have inspired you all. Good luck and God speed ".

VERBA VOLANT, SCRIPTA MANENT

Whatever immortality AC/AMG will have in years to come, aside from the fireside reminiscences of old men, is in the hands of AC's Archives Branch. Sobered by this thought, which may well have been a by-product of the sense of mortality and impermanence following a discussion about age groups and release dates among certain officers (B), we called on Capt. A. J. Collins (B), head of the Branch and discovered that a lot of things have been going on that more people ought to know about. Capt. Collins has been in charge of the Branch since its inception about a year ago and emerged, willing but harassed, from behind a few packing cases to tell us something about it. The first thing he made clear was that Archives is not a reference department for current matters. If you want to look for a copy of that definitive letter that Colonel Blank wrote Maj. Whozis last week, Archives is not the place to come. This intrusion of the transitory to be catalogued and made available for research in the future.

This sounds easy but is not without its hazards, which in the aggregate might well drive anyone but a born archivist mad. In the first place (this was true particularly in the early days) the files sometimes don't turn up. They have a way of being lost in office drawers, left behind in abandoned headquarters, absentmindedly thrown into wastebaskets, of falling off jeeps and so on. This sort of thing is offensive to any right-minded librarian and leaves gaps which will be seriously annoying to the future historian. Fact is, at first many administrative centers didn't appreciate the importance of records and didn't always have time to think about them, even when their intentions were good. The worst of that period is over but other difficulties remain and are indeed of the essence of the job.

Order from Chaos.

Bringing order into a catalogue of Ming Porcellain or a collection of editions of Petrarch (oddly enough we know something about the latter) is bad enough, but when you are dealing with anything as peripatetic, chameleontic and amorphous as AC/AMG, you have what may fairly be described as a problem. A black market trial in Portici, for example, will provide materials for the files of Public Safety (Regional and Provincial), Legal (ditto) and will involve, before you get through, Hq. (Provincial and Regional), possibly Public Health, very likely Legal (Hq.) AC, maybe even Political, Liaison or PRO (Adv.). Hence, the main job of Archives has been to work out a system whereby with the least possible loss of time, the future historian (and there will be one, if not many) can untangle the snarled skein of our bureaucratic threads and make some kind of a pattern for posterity. Captain Collins, neatly combining the Functional and Regional approaches, has done just that.

The system once set up, there remains plenty to do. Archives Branch has analyzed the contents of each set of files (frequently mislabeled) and has made check lists, easily accessible, prefaced by a brief history of the set of files in question, stating its origin, scope and sequel. (Cont. p. [illegible])

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The system once set up, there remains plenty to do. Archives Branch has analyzed the contents of each set of files (frequently mislabeled) and has made check lists, easily accessible, prefaced by a brief history of the set of files in question, stating its origin, scope and sequel—if any. These little prefatory remarks are in themselves a sort of thumbnail history of the Allied Commission. Obviously things never work out even; some Sub-Commissions, for example, have deposited in archives only a few loose sheets of paper, others have sent down enough to fill a dozen or more cabinets. Any morning either the former or the latter may descend on Archives with another

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

five or six packing cases to be collated and dovetailed. (This brings up the question of space; how much will be needed to house our records is impossible to say, though in all probability it will be more than Archives has now, being a mere three rooms, two of them with three tiers of book shelves.) And as for the Regions, well, Region I is definitely dead, but its records have an awkward way of getting tangled up with those of Hq. AMGOT, and Southern Region, now almost completely in, is a little chaotic, what with tributary material from the older Regions it supplanted. Handover of territory in the North will inundate the Branch and when AC itself turns in its records – well, we didn't even dare bring that up.

Aside from the tactical head of Archives, there is a special committee which meets for strategic directives. The committee, headed by the Executive Commissioner, has one representative from each section of Hq. and two members of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, themselves archivists in civilian life. There have also been visits from advisers representing the Library of Congress and the British Records Office. What is going to happen when the Commission dissolves we don't know. Perhaps the British and American Embassies will be interested, perhaps special experts will take over. The Branch is interested in having records up-to-date, tidy and at least ready for proper indexing. All help that Sub-Commissions and Regions can give in the way of efficient listing and packing will be deeply appreciated and more than welcome. All joking aside, it's a big job and one that will hardly be through the first phase when the rest of us have arrived home. In fact, going out the door and observing the inscription *Verba volant scripta manent* we could not help adding (but very softly): Et in, Collins.

AUSTRIA

Reports are now arriving (for information only) from our former colleagues with the 5th Army in the Austrian show and indications are that AMG troubles are still the same no matter where you are. Yugoslav withdrawals from some Austrian provinces have improved the feeling of

Villach, Hermagor and Spittal, curfew infringements largely. A maximum of 2,000 refugees a day (with Italians having priority) are being evacuated from Austria to Italy. Allied Military Schillings have been introduced and banks will open shortly. The bread ration has been reinstated at 170 grams. Approximately 40 per cent. of the vehicles listed use wood fuel. Labor is short for agriculture and essential industries – sawmills, cement, wire and nails – though German POWs are now being made available.

ODDS AND ENDS

Redeployment news is practically nil, though it is of interest to report that Headquarters Command, Allied Forces, is now in process of setting up the rules for classifying units and personnel essential and non-essential in order to fit them into one of the four categories (I, occupation troops; II, redeployment to the Pacific and the U. S. for continued service; III, dispatch to the U. S. for eventual release, and IV, outright release). — All promotions, as everyone knows, have been suspended in the interim, a state of affairs which will obviously continue until the manpower re-shuffling is in the clear. — The Economic Section, however, got a new lieutenant-colonel in John M. Murtagh, who, being on TD here, got his promotion via the War Department; congratulations. — The AC Awards and Decorations Board has been meeting, considering about 15 recommendations to date. — Maj. Gen. Anderson of the British Civil Affairs Office visited Rome this past week. — The Hq. PX has moved to the basement and has been fixed up by Cpl. William H. Ferri in elegant department-store style; all that seems lacking is a floorwalker. — Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, is touring the North. — The Swiss have offered to send Red Cross help to the devastated areas and to house tubercular students in summer camps in Switzeland. — The Education Sub-Commission is aiding the Italian authorities to establish a central catalogue of historical and archeological works in Rome, so the city can become an international center for such research, already possessing Europe's best source material in this field; present collections are scattered and badly indexed. — One case of

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Reports are now arriving (for information only) from our former collegues with the 8th Army in the Austrian show and indications are that AMG troubles are still the same no matter where you are. Yugoslav withdrawals from some Austrian provinces have improved the feeling of the population, not to mention another result: declaration of hidden flour stocks. A Slovene minority delegation was informed that Slovenes would receive fair and impartial treatment from the Military Government of Austria. Search for Nazi Gauleiters to date has been unsuccessful, though two aides of one of them were caught. Military courts are functioning at Klagenfurt, seized as 110 grains. Approximately 10 per cent of the vehicles listed use wood fuel. Labor is short for agriculture and essential industries – sawmills, cement, wire and nails – though German POWs are now being made available.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

May 18, 1945
Director
Chief, Telegraphic
Chief, [illegible]
[illegible]
Asst. [illegible]
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RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 7

... e di lutti
Trieste in lunghe coronata il capo
leva tra' nembi.

CARDUCCI.

POLITICAL.

Trieste has been the center of political interest this week, and not only for Italy, for, as the Italian press has repeatedly pointed out, there is more at stake in this crisis than the rectification of a boundary line or even the fate of a historic city. The Council of Ministers, having heard the report of Bonomi and De Gasperi who had been instructed to approach the Allies on the matter, asked formally on the 12th that the occupation and administration of Italian territories be carried out by the powers with which Italy signed the armistice. De Gasperi in an interview two days later told Edward Murray of the United Press that if Tito persisted in holding Trieste by force the result would be a nationalistic and reactionary government in Italy with consequent danger to the future peace of Europe.

On the 15th the Roman papers headlined the news of the British and American notes to Tito, asking him, in essence, to turn over Venezia Giulia to A. M. G. *Italia Nuova* hailed this move exultantly as evidence that the Allies were not going to consent to the solution of problems by force and other papers followed the same line, the notable exception being the Communist *Unità* which played down the story and indeed affected skepticism as to the existence of the note or notes. The Communist position which has been rather ambiguous on the subject of Trieste was clarified by an article of Togliatti in *Unità* (16 May). He wrote: "we Communists affirm the Italian character of Trieste and we do not wish to see her destiny compromised by unilateral acts or statements", adding however that the Com-[illegible] to find a solution fair and treaty is made. The Italian point of view is set forth above; final solution of an admittedly delicate problem must take place in an atmosphere of calm and reason and meanwhile "violent, unilateral action" or the policy of the fait accompli cannot be tolerated. The Jugoslavs have taken the somewhat emotional line that since their armies liberated the territory they have a right to administer it especially for the protection of the Slav population which suffered persecution under the Italian Fascist regime. Belgrade adds furthermore that "allied occupation" might well be stretched to include Yugoslav administration, for Tito was an ally of England before the United States or even Russia.

Latest news to come in is more encouraging; it is understood that Tito has voluntarily undertaken to retire west of the Isonzo and there are rumours (unhappily unconfirmed as yet) that he will evacuate Trieste and Gorizia as well. Further, Sylvia Sprigge, *Manchester Guardian* correspondent in an interview given *Avanti*, said that concord and harmony prevail among the Slavic and Italian elements of the rural population of the region and, while the situation in Trieste itself is somewhat strained, there is no evidence of mass deportation or persecutions of Italians which earlier reports had spoken of. She feels that good will on both sides is abundant.

Piedmont no problem.

No official steps have been taken on the subject of Italy's northwest frontier where the French have occupied certain regions inside the Italian boundary. De Gasperi turned aside Mr Murray's question on that matter (in the interview referred to above) and said it was "not important".

The press however has been a little uneasy about it and in the last few days the papers have also given their attention to a fresh crop of rumours, said to emanate from London, concerning

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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All parties, at least in theory, could probably subscribe to Togliatti's words but at the moment the point at issue is not the eventual disposition of the city but the question of who is going to administer the territory until some kind of peace treaty is made. The Italian point of view is set forth above; final solution of an admittedly delicate problem must take place in an atmosphere of calm and reason and meanwhile "violent, unilateral action" or the policy of the fait accompli cannot be tolerated. The Jugoslavs have taken the somewhat emotional line that since their armies liberated the territory they have a right to administer it especially for the protection of the Slav population which suffered persecution under the Italian Fascist regime. Belgrade adds furthermore that "allied occupation" might well be stretched to include Yugoslav administration, for Tito was an ally of England before the United States or even Russia.

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The press however has been a little uneasy about it and in the last few days the papers have also given their attention to a fresh crop of rumours, said to emanate from London, concerning the disposition to be made of the African colonies, Pantelleria and Sicily.

Turning to internal matters, the reaction to Nenni's speech (see last week's *Bulletin*) was that the Socialist leader was announcing his candidacy for head of the next government. Nenni brushed this aside and asked the readers of *Avanti* and other parties to consider the content and sub-

Declassified E.O. 12356, Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

stance of the Socialist platform rather than indulge in personalities. He did not however entirely deny the soft impeachment. Meanwhile members of the CLNAI, after a trip to Naples where Morandi made another speech calling for a new government, took off for the North again where they will shortly be joined by representatives of the government and the central CLN for further negotiations. On the 16th at a convention of the CLN of Lombardy it was announced that the CLNAI had asked for the Costituente within six months. How soon the government crisis will be allowed to break is difficult to say; it is certain that the Socialists are rather impatient for it and a resolution of the executive committee of the Milanese Socialists reminded Bonomi of his promise to resign on the complete liberation of the country. In the committee's opinion this means now. Other leftist parties share the Socialist impatience though perhaps to a lesser degree. The Christian Democrats however issued a manifesto asking for time for clarification of party programs before taking action and it is reported that the Liberals too are in no hurry. For the time being the pace is that of the scirocco rather than the vento del nord but the next week may bring some development.

Council business.

Somehow in the midst of all these first priority distractions the government found time for a good deal of routine business and for some special legislation as well. At the Council meeting on the 12th plans were made for integration of police and partisans and for incorporating partisan units into the regular army. Another meeting three days later heard Bonomi announce that 260,000 German prisoners are to made available for work in Italian reconstruction. (*Acanti* thanked the Allies, but thought the prisoners would be more trouble than help, unless they could be used for clearing mines.)

Italy has asked the International War Crimes Commission for permission to try in Rome those responsible for the Fosse Ardeatine executions. — And the venerable Nitti, pre-fascist premier and staunch anti-fascist exile, interviewed in Paris, said he intends to return to Italy and offer his contribution to reconstruction, particu-

mitted as soon as possible was the concensus of the meeting, especially for commodities surplus to the North. The question of unemployment was touched on, a temporary remedy suggested being work in the rice fields which are to be planted soon. The problem of the bonus promised Italian workers in the North who would refuse to comply with German production demands was also considered. Lombardy Region alone has 1,000,000 such persons, indicating a theoretical outlay of three billion lire in bonuses. Partial payment in Italian Government bonds was talked of.

In Liguria Region the first AMG court in Genoa met, convicted and sentenced a man to a year in prison. Food supplies are beginning to arrive by sea, the ration being raised to 150 grams daily from the previous 100 grams. Approximately 6,000 arms have been handed in, but the difficulty, said reports, lies in the fact that most Patriots have more than one weapon. French in the western part of Liguria are quiet, but the situation has been such that General De Sevin, French representative to the Allied Commission, has been asked to investigate personally.

The Venezie Region situation is, as everyone knows, delicate. From Venice South things are going well, but farther inland there are refugees by the thousands and to the East there is Trieste. Brigadier D. J. K. Dunlop, RC, is also SCAO of 8th Army AMG since the departure of Air Commodore Benson for Austria. In the Bolzano area where some trouble was feared between the Germans, who were still armed, and the population, the air has been cleared by restriction of German troops to billets when not on duty and by American military police on the scene. Many of the population are reported armed, the Germans, it is said, having sold or bartered large quantities of small arms. Italian workers have refused to work with Germans in repairing the Brenner Pass railroad, so the Germans are doing it alone as best they can.

Education officers have been reporting to Hq. also. Liguria schools have been closed since April 23. Of 122 schools in Genoa, 45 are occupied by Allied troops or Patriots and 52 are unusable because of damage. Of the 52 damaged buildings, only 11 are destroyed or almost so. The CLN has cooperated well in

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

a new government, took off for the North again where they will shortly be joined by representatives of the government and the central CLN for further negotiations. On the 16th at a convention of the CLN of Lombardy it was announced that the CLNAI had asked for the Costituente within six months. How soon the government crisis will be allowed to break is difficult to say; it is certain that the Socialists are rather impatient for it and a resolution of the executive committee of the Milanese Socialists reminded Bonomi of his promise to resign on the complete liberation of the country. In the committee's opinion this means now. Other leftist parties share the Socialist impatience though perhaps to a lesser degree. The Christian Democrats however issued a manifesto asking for time for clarification of party programs before taking action and it is reported that the Liberals too are in no hurry. For the time being the pace is that of the scirocco rather than the vento del nord but the next week may bring some development.

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Italy has asked the International War Crimes Commission for permission to try in Rome those responsible for the Fosse Ardeatine executions. — And the venerable Nitti, pre-fascist premier and staunch anti-fascist exile, interviewed in Paris, said he intends to return to Italy and offer his contribution to reconstruction, particularly in the economic field.

AMG IN THE NORTH

AC and CLNAI representatives have been meeting in Milan on the economic situation and discussion of the economic boundary, of course, crisued. Free trade movement should be permitted soon. The problem of the bonus promised Italian workers in the North who would refuse to comply with German production demands was also considered. Lombardy Region alone has 1,000,000 such persons, indicating a theoretical outlay of three billion lire in bonuses. Partial payment in Italian Government bonds was talked of.

In Liguria Region the first AMG court in Genoa met, convicted and sentenced a man to a year in prison. Food supplies are beginning to arrive by sea, the ration being raised to 150 grams daily from the previous 100 grams. Approximately 6,000 arms have been handed in, but the difficulty, said reports, lies in the fact that most Patriots have more than one weapon. French in the western part of Liguria are quiet, but the situation has been such that General De Sevin, French representative to the Allied Commission, has been asked to investigate personally.

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Education officers have been reporting to Hq. also. Liguria schools have been closed since April 23. Of 122 schools in Genoa, 45 are occupied by Allied troops or Patriots and 52 are unusable because of damage. Of the 52 damaged buildings, only 11 are destroyed or almost so. The CLN has cooperated well in Liguria and also in Piedmont. In Turin 34 school buildings have been destroyed, so schools run on shifts in the remaining buildings. Venice has only four schools badly damaged but four others requisitioned. Schools along the Po, where the fighting took place, are closed because of the destruction.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Other Northern news:

Prisons are almost all in good shape, and empty of prisoners. In Ferrara Province there is the worst devastated belt since Cassino, about ten miles deep. La Spezia is worse off than "moderately damaged" as reported earlier. Lieut. Col. H. P. P. Robertson, PC, advises us that the town is 30 per cent. completely damaged, 30 per cent. uninhabitable and 40 per cent. habitable. The Finance Sub-Commission has been informed that 25 tons of gold, worth approximately $ 10,000,000, belonging to the Bank of Italy, has been found in cliff caves in the Bolzano area. Ferrara, it has been found, possesses the largest shoe factory in Italy and although the building was blasted, all but five machines have been saved. Forli will also make shoes from 10,000 kilos of heavy salvage canvas released by PBS at Leghorn.

ECONOMIC FRONT

Allied Commission action on the economic front is still waiting the return from the North of Mr. A. G. Antolini, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, although some such news from that sector will be noted in another section of this *Bulletin*. Extensive data being compiled by the Labor Sub-Commission (which is concentrating on wages) and other sources indicate, at first glance, that there may be as many as 2,500,000 unemployed up North, especially because of the lack of raw materials and coal, which latter need is being studied by Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President (Production) of the Economic Section.

With warm weather, and wheat harvesting about to start for the 1945 crop, the question again has arisen of use of Italian Army personnel for help in getting in the wheat in the same way in which Italian soldiers were used last year to harvest the Foggia crop. The matter is now under discussion between the Land Forces Sub-Commission and the Economic Section. No AC harvest control officers are to be used in Italian Government territory this year, it seems, although they will be probably employed in AMG areas. Emphasis is placed on the Macmillan aide memoire of last February which pointed out to the Italian Government that the responsibility (and a heavy one) for insuring a successful ammassing belong-

and 1,000 tons of sulphur to Yugoslavia. — Cement production last week amounted to 2,392 tons. — The first shipment of Sicilian sulphur to the Italian mainland has been scheduled, 1,000 tons going from Catania to Leghorn. — The Prato woollen textile center now has a daily production of more than 10,000 meters of blankets and heavy cloth. — Although 20,000 tons of hemp hare been reported in the North, only 165 tons have been found undamaged to date. — Two pasta factories at Gragnano (near Naples) and two food processing plants at Cesena and Sesto Fiorentino have been derequisitioned in the past week. — Mr. John A. Rudderham (B) has been appointed Deputy Director of the Agriculture Sub-Commission. — In the current internal re-organization of the Economic Section, stress is being put on fast action in answering all correspondence so that accusations of red tape and delay can be eliminated, according to Brigadier General Edward E. McKinley (A), Deputy Vice President (Supply). — Present electric generating capacity in Italy south of the former Gothic Line now is 701,580 kw., more than double the 343,780 kw. found by the Allies on entry.

REDPLOYMENT CHATTER

The Adjutant's Office of 2675 Regiment at AC Hq. has been burning the midnight oil to get out the verified records of all U. S. personnel to Natousa, as ordered, by May 19 so that first computations on releases from the Army can begin. All U. S. personnel also had to attend a command performance of the War Department film, "Two Down and One To Go," May 16 in Rome, in which the mechanics of release were explained and emphasis put on the sobering fact that the Japanese war will need a vast number of men with specialized talents. A questionnaire recently distributed to all U. S. officers who were asked to indicate their preference as to staying in the army or getting out has now been collected and will be sent to Natousa along with the 66-1's or records of each officer.

A quick and unofficial tabulation of returns from the U. S. officers at Hq. shows that a little over 30 or one fifth of some 150 officers questioned will be eligible for early release, figuring the critical number of points at 85, a figure, inci-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Other economic news is as follows:

Wheat and olive oil ammassed, as of May 15, was 11,447,585 quintals (or 94 per cent. of 11,600,000 quintals target) and 483,840 quintals, respectively. — The Commerce Sub-Commission arranged recently for the export of 18 tons of cotton seed and 8 tons of dessert olives to Malta The Prato woollen textile center now has a daily production of more than 40,000 meters of blankets and heavy cloth. — Although 20,000 tons of hemp hare been reported in the North, only 165 tons have been found undamaged to date. — Two pasta factories at Gragnano (near Naples) and two food processing plants at Cesena and Sesto Fiorentino have been derequisitioned in the past week. — Mr. John A. Rudderham (B) has been appointed Deputy Director of the Agriculture Sub-Commission. — In the current internal re-organization of the Economic Section, stress is being put on fast action in answering all correspondence so that accusations of red tape and delay can be eliminated, according to Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley (A), Deputy Vice President (Supply). — Present electric generating capacity in Italy south of the former Gothic Line now is 701,580 kw., more than double the 343,780 kw. found by the Allies on entry.

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A quick and unofficial tabulation of returns from the U. S. officers at Hq. shows that a little over 30 or one fifth of some 150 officers questioned will be eligible for early release, figuring the critical number of points at 85, a figure, incidentally, which will be officially announced later by Natousa. It might be well to add immediately, that military necessity has priority, and that even though one possesses a high credit, he may still be required for duty. Highest American officer credit to date goes to Maj. E. E. Sass of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, with 146. Other high scorers included Lieut. Col. H. K. Seith,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

executive officer of 2675 Regt., with 126; Capt. Steve Riggio, who works with the American Embassy, 138 (and he says he is not counting two Pacific campaigns for technical reasons); with others running from 125 down to 86. Regular Army officers, of course, do not have take the trouble of calculating their release dates. Four of the nine colonels at headquarters are Regular Army. Of the others, Col. L. D. Densmore of the Economic Section, at this reading, leads the pack with 198 points.

Interesting to note also was the expression of desire as to staying in or getting out. Of the group examined, 32 wanted to be discharged but would take a commission in the reserve corps (B2); 24 wanted out pure and simple (B1), which makes a total of 56. Twenty-nine others were listed as follows: 11 offered to stay for the emergency (A1); four would stay and take reserve appointments (A2), and 14 would stay and take Regular Army appointments (A3).

Although this sampling shows two thirds "want out", chances seem slim for early releases, according to the word at regimental headquarters at the moment. The British component, however, had 141 officers earmarked for early release but orders have delayed this happy event until July 31, for the reasons that AC has military necessity for these officers. Another 150 are slated to leave in August. A poll of the original May draft resulted in 60 officers volunteering to stay until no longer needed in AC. In the interim the British side is trying to find replacements for those who will leave, appealing to the British War Selection Board. Eventual departure of the British officers will put respective national officer strengths at more like parity, the British command having been more liberal in their assignments to AC.

Lastly, but not yet official, U. S. Navy personnel are talking of an imminent order sending back home a sizeable contingent of Navy men attached to AC.

ODDS AND ENDS

On May 15 a daily air courier service to cover the North from Rome was started through arrangements by the Air Forces Sub-Commission has been increased to 65,000, but there is difficulty finding an equal number of rations at the moment. — The Communications Sub-Commission will be able to start postal service to the North as soon as it finds another four of the eight trucks it needs and which it may get from the Fiat works in Turin. — Messina reports 38 cases of typhus and 8 deaths; Public Health Sub-Commission specialists with dusting powder have been dispatched to the area as a safeguard. — 50,000 older Italian soldiers are to be demobilized on AFHQ authority. — Col. Ernest T. De Wald, director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, whose staff has labored like beavers to protect Italy's classic heritage, is leaving for the North to inspect the art treasures hidden by the Germans in the Alto Adige, a trip which should help bring to a close the mission of the Sub-Commission in Italy. — Public Safety Sub-Commission reports that an armed band, in the best Wild West style, held up a train near Licata, Sicily, and robbed 100 passengers. — The Local Government Sub-Commission has made arrangements for Italian Ministry of the Interior officials to proceed North to search for the complete administrative records of the Italian Government which were removed by the Fascist Republicans. — The United States Information Service (U. S. I. S.) in Italy is seeking American speakers to talk before Italian organizations on their specialities; candidates apply to the Public Relations Branch. — Speaking of public relations, AC's PRB sent off 11 Italian and two neutral correspondents to Milan in a private plane last week in cooperation with AFHQ PRO. — All AMG officers have been requested by Hq. to give all possible help to Allied correspondents, including mess, billet and transport, who may wander into their areas in search of stories; it is one of the sure-fire ways that AC and AMG can get a good press. — Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, is acting as AC representative at German Army Hq. at Bolzano. — The German prisoners-of-war under British control will probably be concentrated in Emilia Region, in the Rimini neighborhood, a factor which may help retard turnback of that particular territory to the Italian Government. — The Germans under U. S. Army control will

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Army officers, of course, do not have take the trouble of calculating their release dates. Four of the nine colonels at headquarters are Regular Army. Of the others, Col. L. D. Densmore of the Economic Section, at this reading, leads the pack with 108 points.

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ODDS AND ENDS

On May 15 a daily air courier service to cover the North from Rome was started through arrangements by the Air Forces Sub-Commission (lending the use of Italian planes) and Maj. U. J. Birch, Hq. Dispatch Officer. — The Civil Affairs Section will for the present continue having charge of nine clearance activities, not Land Forces Sub-Commission, as we said somewhat prematurely last week but there may be changes. — The ceiling of the Carabinieri, who were reviewed by Field Marshal Alexander in Rome last week, is beside that which it may get from the Fiat works in Turin. — Messina reports 38 cases of typhus and 8 deaths; Public Health Sub-Commission specialists with dusting powder have been dispatched to the area as a safeguard. — 50,000 older Italian soldiers are to be demobilized on AFHQ authority. — Col. Ernest T. De Wald, director of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, whose staff has labored like beavers to protect Italy's classic heritage, is leaving for the North to inspect the art treasures hidden by the Germans in the Alto Adige, a trip which should help bring to a close the mission of the Sub-Commission in Italy. — Public Safety Sub-Commission reports that an armed band, in the best Wild West style, held up a train near Licata, Sicily, and robbed 100 passengers. — The Local Government Sub-Commission has made arrangements for Italian Ministry of the Interior officials to proceed North to search for the complete administrative records of the Italian Government which were removed by the Fascist Republicans. — The United States Information Service (U. S. I. S.) in Italy is seeking American speakers to talk before Italian organizations on their specialities; candidates apply to the Public Relations Branch. — Speaking of public relations, AC's PRB sent off 14 Italian and two neutral correspondents to Milan in a private plane last week in cooperation with AFHQ PRO. — All AMG officers have been requested by Hq. to give all possible help to Allied correspondents, including mess, billet and transport, who may wander into their areas in search of stories; it is one of the sure-fire ways that AC and AMG can get a good press. — Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, is acting as AC representative at German Army Hq. at Bolzano. — The German prisoners-of-war under British control will probably be concentrated in Emilia Region, in the Rimini neighborhood, a factor which may help retard turnback of that particular territory to the Italian Government. — The Germans under U. S. Army control will probably be near Brescia. — Brigadier McCarthy, former director of the AC's Patriots Branch and now in charge of Eritrea, was back in Rome still trying to get authority to bring back to Italy 5,000 surplus Italians from the colony.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

The North wind, so exultantly sniffed by Pietro Nenni many months ago, blew into Rome this week and deposited representatives of the Northern CLN in the capital for a series of conversations and negotiations sure to determine the trend of Italian political developments in the months to come. The Northern delegates were met at the airport by De Gasperi, Scoccimarro and other dignitaries and subsequently were given various opportunities to express their views. They had indeed a rather busy program, calling on the Allied Embassies and on Admiral Stone as well as having frequent contacts, not entirely social, with the central CLN, the secretaries of the six parties in Rome and individually their own opposite numbers. Only five parties were represented in the Northern delegation, the Labor Democrats not being included in the CLNAI.

Bonomi, who was unable to be at the airport because of his visit to Alexander at Caserta for reciprocal congratulations, later received the group and heard Morandi, Socialist and President of the CLNAI, voice the desire of the North for "a complete democratic revival in the life of the nation". The delegation also presented to Bonomi a specific five point program, as follows: Epuration extending from the political to the administrative and economic field; clarification of relations between prefects and regional and provincial Committees of Liberation; economic reconstruction to be financed particularly by those who profited from years of autarchy or by collaboration with the Fascists and the Germans; agrarian reform; and lastly, a foreign policy "free from any kind of nationalism" and aiming at democratic collaboration among nations. Pac-

Speeches in piazza.

On the 8th the Northern emissaries made a series of public addresses at a meeting in Piazza Santi Apostoli, headquarters of the CLN. Morandi's speech was particularly noteworthy. He made the point that the insurrection of the North should not be regarded as a regional thing; the problems and the feelings of Italians were national and not regional; it was pure circumstance that had given the North its role. This forestalled somewhat the criticism in *Italia Nuova* that the North was trying to claim the lion's share of the credit for Italy's long resistance to the Germans and it was certainly calculated to allay the feeling of being slighted which some Romans (and other Italians of points South) very naturally evidence (though not for publication) at the lavish praise accorded the Northern patriots. Morandi then went on to say that the country must have a new government to bring about national unity and truly to represent the people.

Such statements may be regarded as logical from a Socialist for the Socialists are the leading opposition party and they have made no secret of their desire to get rid of Bonomi. Whether or not he goes, the next step on the agenda of the Leftist parties is the summoning of the Constituent Assembly. Actually the other parties, notably the Labour Democrats who have recently shown somewhat more sympathy to the Left, are also concerned with this matter but it is the Socialists who have taken the lead and stressed the urgency of action. On May 4th *Avanti* stated that an immediate campaign for the summoning of the Constituent Assembly would begin and on the 10th Nenni fired the first shot, speaking from the stage of Rome's Teatro Brancaccio.

Assembly needed.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

4414

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Assembly needed.

He began by stressing the need of calling the Assembly as soon as possible and went on briskly to denounce the machinations of the reactionary forces during the Bonomi regime, which he characterized, in passing, as one of compromise with the past. These forces of reaction, he asserted, were trying to divide Italy by driving a

4414

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

wedge between the Northern worker and the Southern contadino. They were also responsible for bringing to the fore the question of Trieste, on which he took occasion to reiterate the Socialist thesis that the Italian character of the city can be preserved by a democratic understanding between the two peoples and a rectification of the Eastern frontier in such a way as to do justice to both parties. He also castigated the reaction for what he called its efforts to nullify the efforts of Scoccimarro, Berlinguer et al. in the field of epuration. The Socialist leader then went on to plead with the Christian Democrats to take a clear-cut stand on the institutional question, arguing that the socialization of industry and agrarian reform are inevitably allied to the proper – i. e. in his opinion the republican – solution of this problem.

Nenni's speech was in part a kind of oral implementation of the Socialist program announced in a communiqué from party headquarters on May 3rd. There it was stated that the time has come for a revision of Italy's political position (meaning of course an end to the ambiguous state of co-belligerency; lest there be any doubt about it *Unità* spelled it out for us very clearly later in the week: "Allied control must be liquidated"). The communique added that "a new political orientation" is needed to provide immediately for setting up the Costituente and to carry on meanwhile the work of democratisation and reconstruction.

Position on Trieste.

The communiqué had also given the Socialist position on Trieste, stating, as Nenni later repeated with embellishments, that the final solution must take into account both the "Italian character" and the "European function" of the city. Less conciliatory on this subject was the order of the day (May 4) of the Democratic (Monarchist) party, affirming the "italianità" not only of Trieste but of all Venezia Giulia and Zara as well and calling on all parties to rally to the defence of the integrity of the national territory.... The situation in Trieste is a matter of concern to all Italians at the moment; the announcement on May 8th that Tito had appointed a commander of a little sobered by the affair and have ordered their followers to abstain from street demonstrations.

Churchill's message to Bonomi, congratulating the Italian army and partisans and looking forward to the time "when Italy... will cooperate with the United Nations in the fruitful works of peace" was very well received. The phraseology, of course, is susceptible of various interpretations. Italians are on the whole inclined to an optimistic reading. *Voce Repubblicana* remarked rather mischievously, however, that Churchill's words are good but "we must learn to be like the English and put our trust not so much in words as in deeds."

...AND MORE THAN POLITICAL

The biggest event of the week, political or otherwise, was the end of the war. It came to Rome as something of an anti-climax since the fighting was already over in Italy and rumours of the surrender in Germany had been frequent enough to dull the edge of triumph. Nonetheless the screeching of the siren and the ringing of churchbells at six o'clock on the afternoon of the seventh were somehow impressive. The next two days were holidays; flags were displayed and thanksgiving services were held. Crowds of exultant Italians marched around to the Allied embassies on the evening of the seventh, and later that night and on the two succeeding evenings groups of exuberant and happy youngsters on leave milled around the streets singing more or less tunefully the proper songs for the occasion not forgetting that old favorite: "Show Me the Way to go Home." The weather of the 8th and 9th was ideal holiday weather-hot with recurrent cooling breezes and a generous and sympathetic sunshine that somehow recalled the days when the circus came to town... One could sense an air of freedom and cheerfulness though there was nothing in the nature of frenzied or hysterical celebration... So it ends, as the poet says "not with a bang" but not "with a whimper" either; rather in a sense of satisfaction and relief. And perhaps too with an underlying awareness of unfinished business. Italians were asking, after the first flush of rejoicing: "And now what?" And many of us are asking, with varying emo-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

city can be preserved by a democratic understanding between the two peoples and a rectification of the Eastern frontier in such a way as to do justice to both parties. He also castigated the reaction for what he called its efforts to nullify the efforts of Scoccimarro, Berlinguer et al. in the field of epuration. The Socialist leader then went on to plead with the Christian Democrats to take a clear-cut stand on the institutional question, arguing that the socialization of industry and agrarian reform are inevitably allied to the proper – i. e. in his opinion the republican – solution of this problem.

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AMG IN THE NORTH

Plenty of details are being carried on the official wires about the North these days but they may all be summed up thus: Everything is fairly under control, although obviously the international political situation in Venezia Giulia

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

and Trieste is one which will have be ironed out by the highest commands. SCAO VIII Army has the Venezia Giulia AMG teams close to Isonzo but only a few officers have entered Trieste as yet as Liaison Officers with the military units. Bolzano, which the Germans were methodically preparing for incorporation into the fallen Reich, now has AMG in control. It has 150,000 German-speaking inhabitants and 100,000 Italians, but no discord between the races, in fact, reports say, close accord. Bolzano sustained little damage. In the Udine there is quiet and also Yugoslav detachments. Many Italians conscripted to work for the Todt organization are now moving away from Bolzano, incidentally.

Food seems to be in hand throughout the Po Valley, though transport difficulties about getting the stocks into the cities are appearing. AFHQ has indicated that all captured German transport will be turned over to AMG for this use. Turin and Milan feel the food pinch most, but nowhere critically. Liguria, because of its location, has to be fed principally by sea and some concern is felt. Arms are being satisfactorily handed in at Genoa, as at other places. At Verona, for example, about 4,000 weapons were turned in. Verona and Vicenza have suffered more art damage than any of the other cities in the path of the fighting. The French who came into western Liguria disarmed many Partisans, although AMG is now on the ground in all parts of the region except in a small portion still held by the French. There is also talk of French electric power being relayed to Genoa.

In Milan, after protracted discussion between the Italians, IV Corps and PWB concerning the establishment of the *Corriere della Sera*, it has been decided to go ahead with publication of the famous pre-Fascist newspaper as soon as possible, under a duly appointed Commissariat. Milan also has an exportable surplus of electric power. Factories are working but are not expected to do so long since raw materials are short. Even a few railroad trains are running. Gas works are in usable conditions, but everywhere there is a shortage of, and great cry for, coal.

Prices, in general, are going up and the disparity between the North and the South seems to be disappearing, although wages were a complicated

ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Section is busy looking into the Northern economic situation, with Mr. A. G. Antolini, Acting Vice President, inspecting conditions on the spot. Other news of importance has to do with the sale of surplus U. S. war equipment to the Italian Government which is a straight deal between the U. S. and the Italians, with the Allied Commission being used as a general advisor. The list of materials to be made available is now being made up by G-4 at AFHQ while the U. S. Army and Navy Liquidation Board, sitting in Rome, is figuring out procedures for the sales and transfers of ownership.

Use of German prisoners-of-war – and there are certainly plenty of them – is under discussion by Economic Section sub-commissions. There is a question of the ration they should receive if put to work. Under terms of the Geneva Convention, they are well-off as POW's. If treated as a disbaned army, they may get a ration one third as large as the British-American one. Brigadier General E. B. McKinley, Deputy Vice President — Supply, is investigating the matter.

Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Deputy Vice President, Production, is proposing to establish an Industrial Advisory Board, with sub-committees for each basic industry, composed of representatives of the AC, the Italian Government and of each industry, to counsel on general industrial priorities and re-activation procedures.

Looking forward to the day that the Economic Section might be a mission attached (in respect of nationality) to the embassies here, the sub-commissions are being asked to keep the embassies informed of all their plans and activities. The two commercial attaches of the embassies have been privy to AC economic affairs in detail for some time, having been principals in the current negotiations concerning revival of Italian foreign trade.

A new factory has started in Ravenna for the manufacture of substitute machinery belting, where, instead of rubber, impregnated canvas is used; the plant, once materials flow in steadily, will have a capacity of 3,000 meters a month. — The wheat collection, as of May 9, was 11,423,583 qtl. and that for olive oil 474,241 qtl. — The Etruria Co. sulphuric acid plant near Florence has commenced production. — More than 185

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Prices, in general, are going up and the disparity between the North and the South seems to be disappearing, although wages were a complicated problem, being in some cases better than in the South but in most others lower.

Refugees are developing into a problem, one estimate putting 300,000 north of Verona. Many of these refugees are from Germany and Austria. Speaking of refugees, Mussolini's wife, Rachele, and two children, are being moved to an internment camp not far from Rome.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ANOTHER TRANSFER OF TERRITORY

On May 10 the fifth transfer of territory back to Italian Government jurisdiction was consummated. Umbria-Marche Region closed down May 9 and officers began to withdraw. Affected were the Provinces of Grosseto, Siena and Arezzo in Tuscany, Terni and Perugia in Umbria and Ascoli Piceno, Macerata, Ancona and Pesaro in the Marche, with the Port and Commune of Ancona remaining under AMG. This brings approximately three-fifths of Italy and 24,000,000 persons back under direct Italian rule. The Chief Commissioner, in a press release, said there would be another transfer of territory in the near future. It will probably consist, it was indicated, of the rest of Tuscany Region – the Provinces of Lucca, Apuania, Pistoia, Pisa, Livorno and Firenze – plus the Ravenna and Forli Provinces of Emilia Region. This would then close down Tuscany Region, too, thus freeing more officers for the North.

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner and Vice President of the Establishment Section, who has been acting as a sort of roving fullback for the Allied Commission in the North, has been awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star he only recently won. The Cluster was presented by Maj. Gen. Willis D. Crittenberger, commanding general, IV Corps, in recognition of the colonel's "bravery and good judgment" in seizing the commander of the German SS troops in Milan and arranging the surrender of the Nazis under SS command there. — May 12 is known as R-Day in NATOUSA, meaning that all records must be up to date so that redeployment of U. S. personnel can commence, at least from the bookkeeping side. — Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie (B) is the new director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission. — 600 tons of U. S. medical supplies are being unloaded at Leghorn while at Naples another 750 tons are being turned over to Italian authorities for distribution in Southern Italy. — The Public Health Sub-Commission has borrowed 50 tons of Paris green from military sources for the malaria campaign. — American school children are sending, through the Junior Red Cross, 20,000 gift boxes to Italian children, the Education Sub-Commission reports. — AFHQ has lent the AC 50 mine detectors for use in mine-clearing, which activity will hereafter be directed by the Land Forces Sub-Commission, using Italian Army personnel. — The Rear Army Control Line, according to the Civil Affairs Section, will shortly be moved on the line of the River Piave and due North and, in effect, result in virtually complete freedom of civilian movement in Italy again.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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POLITICAL

A new and invigorating current has flowed into the Italian political stream during the past week. If similes were not out of place in the sober columns of our *Bulletin*, we might say that this current has in it something of the fresh swiftness of the Adige and something of the serene purposefulness of the Po. The Tiber, itself not normally a stream to be sneezed at, looks a little sluggish by contrast...

What will be the final result of recent political developments in the North is as yet not predictable but certain effects are already discernible. The rapid and coordinated operations of the patriots which enabled them to seize and organize Milan, Genoa, Turin and other large cities of the North before the Allied armies entered have given Italian morale a lift perceptible even in the capital. "Italy has now not only martyrs but heroes as well", wrote Pacciardi in *Voce Repubblicana*, concluding that Italians have now the right to talk to the "heroic Tito" on terms of equality.

Summary Justice.

The case for Allied status has of course been much strengthened—and not only in Italian opinion—by the deeds of the patriots, praised by Italian and Allied authorities alike.

The summary justice inflicted on Mussolini and his henchmen brought forth cries of exultation from those who had been saying bitterly that epuration in Italy has so far been a joke and general approval from all sides—except the *Osservatore Romano*, which entered a protest against the "violent and macabre" circumstances of Mussolini's execution. Finally the end of German resistance in Italy proclaimed by General Clark on the 30th and confirmed by

should follow. (See *Weekly Bulletin*, no. 12, for June 25, 1944.)

The C. L. N. parties held a joint rally on the 29th to celebrate the glorious events in the North and speakers from all of the six parties addressed the crowd. According to reports the audience was strongly anti-monarchist in its reactions, and when the Christian Democrat speaker attempted to say—quoting Churchill—that "one man alone" had brought ruin to Italy, he was interrupted by shouts of "No, no; the King too", "Badoglio", etc. The republican party as might be expected, lost no time in taking advantage of this state of mind and published a manifesto declaring the institutional truce was over and the time has now come for summoning the Costituente (in which the monarchists may also be represented, added the manifesto) and meanwhile a provisional government should be set up.

May Day.

A May Day pronouncement of the Socialist and Communist parties likewise called for the Constituent Assembly and announced their joint platform would have three points: establishment of a republic, socialization of monopolistic industry and agrarian reform. Other parties or factions of parties are invited to support this program. Togliatti in two speeches commemorating Gramsci (Communist leader who died in a Fascist prison in 1937) and in another radio talk as well called for "a new political direction" for the country, and, at the public meeting of the 29th, recalled Bonomi's promise to resign as soon as the North was liberated.

The government's response to events has been, as is logical, somewhat less revolutionary. A message of congratulation to the Allied Armies

4413

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The government's response to events has been, as is logical, somewhat less revolutionary. A message of congratulation to the Allied Armies and the patriots was issued on the 27th with the accompanying statement that the needs and aspirations of the North would be studied and satisfied as far as possible. The government has also asked the Allied Commission for permission to contact Northern C. L. N. as soon as possible and it is reported that representatives of the Northern groups are soon to come to Rome to meet with the government and the opposition

4413

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

parties in the capital. What—if any—changes will come out of this meeting is yet to be seen. Nenni (in *Avanti*), leading the Leftist drive for immediate convocation of the Constituent Assembly, declared that anyone who retards or obstructs the formation of the new body is a traitor, and the time has come to sweep aside the "putrefying corpse of the monarchy". The government papers however have so far confined themselves to exultant and laudatory comments on liberation and the partisans.

Concern for Trieste.

The general concern for the future of Trieste and Venezia Giulia was sharpened by the rumour of Tito's occupation of the Adriatic port—recent reports which state carefully that the city was liberated by partisans and not Tito's regular troops may have somewhat allayed this concern though it is too early to assess the reaction. The government, after consultation with Allied authorities, declared on the 30th that the problem of Venezia Giulia cannot properly be studied until the war is over and that meanwhile, by the terms of the armistice, the Region must pass under Allied military administration... Italians are also somewhat troubled by the advance of French troops in Piemonte, a move which, as *La Capitale* sees it, "makes no sense at this time from a military point of view."

Another result of the pride in the heroism of the North has been the intensification of the campaign in the press against the proposed economic barrier between North and South. As noted last week there has already been much criticism of this scheme; this week's press has returned to the charge with reinforcements. Not only *Avanti* and *Italia Libera* but the Liberal *Risorgimento Liberale* and the economic journal *Secolo Ventesimo* have attacked the project as politically deplorable and economically unsound. It is clear that Italians are unanimous in wanting unity and territorial integrity; many, too want a change in the government—just how many, time will tell.

AMG WITH THE ARMIES

ably to ease the situation. Northern Italy, in brief, is largely undamaged, which makes the work of AMG that much easier. In fact, as the Chief Commissioner told the forward staffs in a recent memorandum, the period of AMG control may be shorthr and should be lighter than what was anticipated, especially with the Northern C. L. N. apparently anxious to cooperate with Allied authority in local administration.

From special reports by the two Armies, 15th Army Group and Special Force officers, whose undercover work with the Patriots has paid off in big dividends, the following summary account of key cities in the North may be made:

Bologna, little damaged outside the railroad yards, had 50,000 refugees, but with power and water limited. A large number of trucks are available, needing about two weeks to be made roadworthy. La Spezia was also only moderately damaged. Verona suffered heavily, all bridges being blown but the power station escaped unscathed. Some art damage, also. Food distribution needed and is getting a re-organization. Genoa, with Brigadier M. Carr, RC of Liguria, in charge, is normal. First food shipments by sea are on the way. Ferrara, where the 8th Army smashed into the German flank, has no water or power. Venice is completely undamaged, with all conditions normal. Milan suffered heavily from air raids naturally but all utilities are working. Food is short but not critical. Lombardy has 70,000 tons of coal but hardly any gas. Reports from Pavia, Reggio, Modena, Piacenza, Treviso and Turin, all indicate no damage and installations saved.

In cooperation with PWB, AMG is also trying out a new scheme for transport in the North. Civilians are being asked to assemble hidden vehicles and register them with AMG for food distribution. It is pointed out to the civilians that the trucks are to be rented, as it were, and not requisitioned unless absolutely needed. Other news includes another big Patriot parade, this time in Modena, where Brigadier General E. E. Hume reviewed 10,000 Patriots who handed in ten truckloads of arms. Carabinieri have moved into the North in force also, some 6,000 being there now and another 4,000 on the way.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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AMG WITH THE ARMIES

With the surrender of the German armies in Italy on May 2, an end finally came to the rush of special sitreps following the swift advance of the Allied Forces, and one may stop to take stock of what has been found in the North where AMG is in full control, having moved almost as rapidly as the combat troops. Everywhere, of course, there is praise for the Patriots whose guard on power plants and supplies has helped immeasurrecent memorandum, the period of AMG control may be shorthr and should be lighter than what was anticipated, especially with the Northern C. L. N. apparently anxious to cooperate with Allied authority in local administration.

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In cooperation with PWB, AMG is also trying out a new scheme for transport in the North. Civilians are being asked to assemble hidden vehicles and register them with AMG for food distribution. It is pointed out to the civilians that the trucks are to be rented, as it were, and not requisitioned unless absolutely needed. Other news includes another big Patriot parade, this time in Modena, where Brigadier General E. E. Hume reviewed 10,000 Patriots who handed in ten truckloads of arms. Carabinieri have moved into the North in force also, some 6,000 being there now and another 4,000 on the way.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The news from the Economic Section this week is all in the North, as with practically all other AC activity. Every Sub-Commission has sent or plans shortly to send, special delegations to the area to investigate conditions on the ground. Mr. A. G. Antolini, Acting Vice President, is

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expected to take a tour of the region also in the next few days. Mr. K. E. Stauffer of the Economic Section is currently looking into Northern price levels. Mr. L. J. Kugel, Deputy Director of the Commerce Sub-Commission, is examining the trade possibilities. The Section is also waiting on information concerning key installations and supplies from the surrendered German forces. The economic boundary, with road blocks, set up between the North and the rest of Italy came in for a press release in which the Economic Section told the Italian press particularly, that the control line would be kept only as long as was necessary to work out means to weld the two economies together.

The Industry Sub-Commission is in process of trying to derequisition the Arrigoni food processing plants, largest canners in Italy and much of whose equipment can be put back to work in short order. — Emilia Region hopes to export 5,000 tons of fruit this season. — A new system in forward regions whereby payment is required for WD transport has boosted traffic on the Autotrasporti agencies, in Emilia, for example, to 8,000 tons in March, compared with 5,000 in February. — The wheat collection, as of May 2, was 11,387,440 quintals and the olive oil collection 463,159 quintals.— The Rome Tuscolana plant resumed production of sulphuric acid April 28.

PBS IN NAPLES

Close cooperation between officials of the U. S. Army's Peninsular Base Section and those of the Allied Commission resulted in lasting benefits to Italians through the restoration of shattered utilities in the Naples area. This was revealed in a recent PBS report on rehabilitation of utilities in that zone during the first 11 months of Allied operations there. While vital to the military in the conduct of an arduous campaign, the work of restoring sewers, electric power installations, water facilities, streets, roads and sewers had an all-important bearing on the everyday lives of the civil population.

Chaotic conditions were found to prevail in the Naples area when our troops first occupied it and officials of the AC took over the administ[illegible]

out the vicinity. This called for mine clearance, the removal of huge quantities of rubble and the filling of hundreds of bomb craters using Army Engineer troops and equipment together with many civilian laborers and such rock, gravel and other materials as the immediate area afforded.

This work, which started immediately upon the arrival of Allied troops, expanded steadily from mid-December 1943 until early in May 1944 when a road net of 225 miles outside of Naples and all of the main arteries within the city were maintained by PBS Engineers. The work continued to expand until, at the end of the 11 months period, 1,284,918 Allied military man hours had been expended on the work. In addition, Italian civilians worked 2,007,650 man hours and Italian military units worked over a half million man hours. Nearly a half million truck and heavy equipment hours were expended.

Next in importance to traffic arteries was the need for swift action to repair Naples' sewers and water system. Faced with the threat of a major epidemic, PBS and AC officials rushed sewer repair work and at the end of the period covered in the report had accomplished emergency work on sewers at 24 key points in the Naples system. On this work the military expended 27,444 man hours while 136,298 civilian man hours were used.

The retreating Germans had shrewdly demolished key installations in the city's water system and this problem had to be met aggressively. The result of extensive repairs to reservoirs, aqueducts and city water mains was the immediate establishment of a series of water points for civilians, as well as to fill military needs, and the eventual restoration of normal services through a series of emergency and permanent installations.

Like work was accomplished in the restoration of minimum electric power facilities. Here again the Germans had done their usual thorough job of destruction. Despite the extent of the damage, which had completely deprived the Naples area of electric power, emergency repair work resulted in near normal conditions at the end of the 11 months period.

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Chaotic conditions were found to prevail in the Naples area when our troops first occupied it and officials of the AC took over the administration of civil affairs. As one of the first steps in restoration and rehabilitation, civilian officials and contractors were called upon for such manpower and materials as were available. The actual work started immediately under the supervision of PBS Engineers and the ensuing results were impressive, the report revealed.

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The same result was achieved in the matter of communications. Beginning two days after the initial landing at Salerno, PBS Signal troops worked steadily forward with the advancing combat units and, by the end of the period covered in the report, had restored civilian switchboards destroyed by the retreating Germans, maintained military lines of communication and re-established a minimum civilian service covering the entire metropolitan area. On all of the work done in the area by and under supervision

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of PBS troops, civilians were employed whenever possible in order to relieve Armed Forces personnel for close support of combat units.

ODDS AND ENDS

The next transfer of territory to the Italian Government will take place shortly subject to ratification by the Allied Advisory Council, and will include the Provinces of Grosseto, Siena and Arezzo in Tuscany, Terni and Perugia in Umbria and Pesaro, Ancona, Macerata and Ascoli in the Marche, with the Commune and Port of Ancona remaining under AMG. — The Umbria-Marche Region will be abolished in course and AC officers withdrawn except for a few specialist and liaison men. — Arrival of sugar shipments made possible the first distribution of sugar in four months in Perugia, Umbria-Marche Region reports. — Col. Paul F. Russell, famed Rockefeller Foundation malarialogist, who was on duty with the Public Health Sub-Commission until recently, has been awarded the Legion of Merit. — We have two new full colonels Arthur E. Sutherland, 5th Army AMG chief of staff, and Hamilton T. Walker, SCAO, IV Corps: congratulations to all. — UNRRA reports that 12,000 tons of goods have been delivered to Italy, with three more ships on the way. — More than 200 U. S. officers in AC have expressed interest in being civilianized on the spot in response to the recent circular asking for applicants for FEA and the Auxiliary Foreign Service of the State Department. Permission is about to be given for the Italian Government to discuss its hopes for civil aviation — The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission is studying the question of repatriating Libyan school children brought to Italy from that Italian colony. — Lieut. Col. C. T. Francis (B), Public safety Chief in Lombardy, has received the OBE and Lieut. Col. E. J. Pullen, SCAPO, 8th Army AMG, and Major T. Sculby, the MBE: felicitations. — Emilia Way, house organ of Emilia Region, tells us that a free election was held (with permission) in the Commune of Mondaino in Forli Province, in which voted 833 persons out of 1,085 men and women eligible and that 60 per cent. cast ballots for the Communist Party. — The first civil air mail service abroad – to Tripolitania – has started.

ERRATUM

Our face is red. In our account of the Acting President's trip to the North in the April 27th issue of the Bulletin, there was a slight mix-up of names. Mr. MacMillan was met at General Clark's headquarters by Col. Nelson Montfort, DCCAO, and Lieut. Col. P. Friend-James and not by Col. A. C. Bowman, who met the Acting President later in 8th Army territory. Our apologies.

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Chief Executive
Chief Political
Mil. Pol. Coms. O.
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April 27, 1945

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, N. 4

POLITICAL

The government's "definitive decisions" on the formation of the Consultative Assembly were announced at the end of the Council meeting on Wednesday. As noted in last week's Bulletin the parties of the C. L. N. will have a preponderant majority in this assembly which will number around three hundred in all. In addition to the representatives of the parties there will be appointed also spokesmen for the various unions, and twenty four members from the CGIL. The new partisan group (Associazione Nazionale Partigiani Italiani, known as ANPI) will have six members and representation of other agencies will bring the veterans total up to 10. The free professions will have ten delegates. As planned originally too the Consultative Assembly will include the 60 staunch anti-Fascist ex-deputati of the pre-Mussolini parliament and 9 senators. *Italia Nuova* (whose democratic non C. L. N. party gets 10 seats) doesn't like it much and described the new organization as "neither political nor technical, neither traditional nor revolutionary, founded on compromise and a typical creation of neodemocracy Bonomi style", which is to say, in *Italia Nuova*'s opinion "totalitarian in essence". It is true that the representation is weighted heavily in favor of the C. L. N. — even more heavily than is apparent since it is likely that many of the labor representatives, many if not most of the old parliamentarians and some others may belong to one of the six parties. It is also true, however, that almost every kind of political and social current has been given expression in the new assembly and since it is purely a "Consulta" and not a parliament, the actual strength of the representation is probably not as important as *Italia Nuova* would have one think.

Wednesday's meeting began with a message read to the Council by Bonomi congratulating the Allied armies on their successes in the North and lauding with particular pride Italy's two armies—regulars and the partisans—for their share in the victories. It was in a way symbolic that the meeting should begin on this strain for Italians are looking North these days and the press has been full of accounts of the physical and moral conditions encountered in Bologna, taire" between North and South planned for the early stages of AMG administration (see last weeks Bulletin: Warming up for Northern Italy). Nenni in *Avanti* led the attack and was supported by *Italia Libera* and *Il Popolo*. More discussion of this matter is to be expected.

The press is in unhappy unanimity on the subject of exclusion of Italy from San Francisco. *Marforio*, a weekly comic sheet, proposed that the opening day of the conference be declared a day of mourning—not for Italy but for the rest of the world since a new world order could hardly hope for success if it began by excluding "a country as rich as Italy in political experience". This puts the case rather more strongly than most but all parties regard the action—or rather lack of action—of the United Nations as an indication of their misunderstanding of the new Italy. Indeed at the meeting of the Council De Gasperi read a message to his fellow ministers expressing Italy's disappointment—this message is to go to the United Nations.

4412

ACTING PRESIDENT SEES AMG IN OPERATION

Anticipating events in the north, Acting President Harold MacMillan left his desk last week to make a flying four-day trip to the forward regions. He was accompanied by the Director of Public Relations and Lieutenant John Atkinson, his aide.

On the initial day he conferred with General Mark W. Clark regarding the progress of the offensive. He was met at the General's headquarters by Col. Alfred C. Bowman, Regional Commissioner for Emilia, who later conducted him by special plane to Forli where Air Commodore C. E. Benson, SCAO, 8th Army AMG, joined the party.

The second day saw the President out early to inspect various phases of AMG work in Ravenna, Rimini and Riccione. Lt. Col. Henry P. Kucera, Provincial Commissioner in Ravenna, and Major Norman Newton, Monuments and Fine Arts, showed him the splendid work that had been done in restoring damaged historical monuments in and around the city.

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Inspection of mine clearance came next with Major N. W. Harrisson conducting the party. The President interestedly watched AMG-trained Italians prodding out "SCHU" mines from a farmer's field.

The next stop was at the Saccheria Ravennate plant, near Ravenna, where Major H. B.

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Bradbury (a former Connecticut lawyer turned industrialist by the mysteries of AMG) has done a fine job in reactivating a hemp and rubber plant. The plant is concentrating on the production of machine belting made from hemp cloth and scrap rubber. The plant will soon produce enough belting to supply all the machinery of Italy. It also will manufacture sacks, tarpaulin, shoes, rubber soles, etc.

Inspects Plant.

Enroute from Ravenna to Rimini the President inspected one of a series of repaired pumping plants which have drained the land flooded by the Germans. He was shown around by Capt. C. H. Ault.

In Rimini the President was unusually interested in the new town plan and the rehousing project. He went over the blueprints with Lt. Colonel H. S. Robinson, Major T. Goodacre and Lieut. Peter Natale.

A refugee station occupied chief interest of the President in Riccione. He saw how the refugees were brought in, vetted by security, bathed, disinfected, fed and lodged. Grateful refugees spoke warmly to him of the care they were receiving.

During the afternoon word came through that Bologna had been liberated. To celebrate the news and the imminent transfer of Emilia headquarters to that city, Col. Bowman "threw" a banquet with flowers and speeches.

The third day of his visit was spent with the 8th Army Commander witnessing military operations in forward areas and meeting with members of the Guards Brigade, in which he served in the last war. The President returned to his camp near Imola covered with dust and in a happy frame of mind.

The red-letter day of the trip was the visit to Bologna and Modena, the latter visit a few hours after it was liberated. Brig. General Erskine E. Hume SCAO, 5th Army AMG, met Mr. MacMillan at the Municipio in Bologna where AMG had established headquarters.

The streets were crowded with happy Bolognese and jubiliant partisans roamed the streets looking for Fascists and collaborationists. There was an occasional bit of shooting between Partisans and members of the Black Brigade, some of which the President saw from the window of General Hume's office.

Conditions Good.

To the Allied war correspondents who had established themselves at AMG headquarters, Mr. MacMillan made the following statement:

"It has been a great occasion for me to visit Bologna so soon after its liberation, and to see that most of the city has escaped destruction. Allied Military Government, with the cooperation of the population, appears to have the situation well in hand. Essential public services are being quickly restored and life is rapidly returning to normal.

"In due course Emilia will probably pass to the administration of a freely-chosen Italian government. Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, and I call upon the people of Bologna and the population of the rest of Emilia which is being rapidly liberated from the invader, to put their hands, their hearts and their minds now to the reconstruction of a democratic Italy, welded together by the idea of national unity."

Trip to Modena.

By lunch time word had come through that Modena, to the north of Bologna, had been liberated. General Hume, without lingering at lunch, decided to hurry there on behalf of AMG. Sensing the possibility of excitement, the President insisted on going along. His civilian hat flapping in clouds of dust, the President jeeped to Modena with the General, passing long lines of troops moving forward. At the gates of Modena the President's jeep was halted by enthusiastic natives who tearfully shook his hand and that of the General. Bunches of flowers were tossed into the car.

Partisans, loaded with every variety of lethal war equipment, jumped aboard the jeep and directed the General and the President to the Municipio where they met briefly with the Partisan leaders who had been running the city since the day before.

The Partisans reported there still were a few Germans and Fascists in the city and this was verified by the sound of an occasional burst of gun fire from various sections of the city. Later, as the party moved through the streets alongside a group of German prisoners and collaborationists being taken to prison, the shooting increased in tempo and everyone (including the visiting Liberators) had to take cover temporarily. Before leaving the President received assurances from the Partisans that order would be promptly restored in Modena.

Following his return to headquarters in Rome, the *Bulletin* asked the President to give our

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Conditions Good.

Generally the President found conditions were good in Bologna and that AMG had matters in hand. He complimented General Hume on his early arrival in the city and the way things were being handled. Colonel Bowman in the meantime was scouting around for office space for his regional headquarters when the territory will revert to him.

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Following his return to headquarters in Rome, the *Bulletin* asked the President to give our readers a short message. Here it is:

MacMillan Message.

"When I was appointed Acting President of the Allied Commission last November by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill, I sent a

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message to all AC/AMG officers and officials saying that I hoped to meet them personally as often and as soon as possible.

" In spite of a number of distractions (including a visit to London to lay the foundations of the New Deal for Italy and several weeks of civil war in Athens) I have seen a good deal of the work both at headquarters and in the field. I have also had the good fortune to make two four-day trips to the forward areas in recent weeks – one upon the west of the line, and the other a few days ago upon the eastern side.

" Like every other observer I have been immensely impressed by how much you have achieved with very modest resources. The whole conception of Allied Military Government is unique in two ways: first, because never have victorious armies turned so immediately to the task of liberation and reconstruction, and secondly, because never has an alliance between two nations been accompanied by such closely woven and integrated effort. At Headquarters we deal with papers and plans; in the field one has the inspiration of seeing these plans translated into action. And what a variety of things I have seen in recent days!

"My visit to the Fifth Army a few weeks ago enabled me to appreciate the work of consolidation behind the lines and preparation for the great forward move. My visit to the Eighth Army and to part of the Fifth a few days ago gave me the privilege of seeing the actual forward spring. After many disappointments and great hardships the Allied armies have won a complete and resounding victory. The courage of the troops has been made fruitful by the rare skill of their commanders. In this triumph AMG officers can claim their share. They have at least enough taste of the risks to stimulate and inspire. I have seen this with my own eyes. They also have the satisfaction of carrying into actual operation plans so long prepared. And the variety and complexity of their work would hardly be believed by the ordinary public. Under your guidance the agricultural and industrial life of Italy is being salvaged and restored. The housing and the feeding of her people is in your hands. The preservation of the greatest and most traditional of her national resources – her arts and monuments – is in your keeping. Hardly has the smoke of battle been lifted when the work of reconstruction begins. You have to improvise by new and unconventional methods. You have to depend on resourcefulness and initiative. From the first landings in Sicily to the Pisa-Rimini line where we have stood so long you have done a splendid work.

"We now set out together on a new task.

AMG WITH THE ARMIES

The front lines in Italy are moving so fast that it is simply impossible to give an accurate and complete picture of conditions AMG is finding in the liberated towns. Two facts stand out: Italian Patriots are doing excellent work in maintaining law and order while waiting for AMG to come in and AMG staffs and regional follow-up teams are moving as rapidly as possible to assume their new tasks. Lombardy, Liguria and Venezie Regions are moving into their bailiwicks. An unverified report had a British colonel, a liaison officer with the Patriots, speaking over Milan radio early April 27. The fall of Verona, railroad link to the Brenner Pass, announced as captured in communiques of April 27, but badly damaged, caused Brigadier General Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, to rush to the city at once, shortly after reviewing a Patriot parade in Bologna and receiving the surrender of 4,000 weapons by 3,500 Patriots. Lieut. Col. Thomas Michie and a small team were also en route to Verona. An AMG team has also left for Genoa. All three RC's of the forward regions – Brigadiers Carr and Dunlop and Colonel Poletti – are now forward and on the heels of the on-rushing troops.

La Spezia, the West Coast naval base, was found only moderately damaged. Carabinieri and the provincial commissioner are already on the job. 2,500 Patriots are there, well-disciplined and under command of an Allied officer. Reggio Emilia has water, power, little damage and 5,000 Patriots. Food will last for a few days yet. The 8th Army AMG reported on a large number of smaller towns, where incidental damage was indicated and no acute problems. Ferrara was mainly undamaged except for the railroad station and outskirts. The water aequednct was broken for two kilometers but city wells had water. Power was out but food and health were o. k. Ferrara, incidentally, was first entered by two AMG officers, Capt. Keith Erskine (B) and Lieut. Don Pesauro (A), who accompanied two Patriots into town and took 30 German prisoners.

ECONOMIC FRONT

In the midst of concentrating to the utmost to help the fast-moving field operations of AMG, the Economic Section found time during the week to overhaul its shop and divide the subcommissions between the two Deputy Vice Presidents, Brigadier D. L. Anderson and Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, for general supervision. Brigadier Anderson will be in charge of production activities and so will supervise Industry, Public Works and Utilities and Labor

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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"We now set out together on a new task. I am certain that you will crown your efforts by success in the solution of the problems that await us in Northern Italy. If you can do this (and I am sure you can) and set the Italian people upon a new path towards liberty and dignity, you will be able to look back with legitimate pride as partners in an undertaking unique in history."

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

session on supply and requisition procedures and general functions under the New Deal economic directive.

Mr. Antolini will hold a press conference April 29 to explain the economic boundary line between Liberated and North Italy, the private trade program and the amount and value of the civilian supplies which the Allies have imported into Italy — Mr. David C. Sachs, American civilian, has been appointed deputy director of the Labor Sub-Commission — The trouble at the Sardinian coal mines seems about over and normal production should be reached again soon, it is hoped — The Italian Ministry of Agriculture plans to name a Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Forest among its long-range re-forestation plans — Wheat ammassed, to April 24, was 11,177,975 qtl. and olive oil collected was 449,541 qtl — A sulphuric acid plant has gone into production at Castellino at the rate of 300 tons a month — Glass production also has commenced at the Bordoni plant in Rome — Arrangements have been made to hand over to COGENA 10 ships flying the Italian flag for use in coastwise shipping — The second 35,000 kw. generator at Terni has been repaired after six months' work and is now supplying power to Central Italy — A Joint Military Finance Committee has been set up at AFHQ to coordinate Allied military financial policy in this theater; the committee will work in closest cooperation with the AC.

ODDS AND ENDS

The Commerce Sub-Commission has made 182,000 blankets available to the Welfare Branch of the Public Health Sub-Commission for distribution to needy Italians through ENDSI — Civil cablegram service to the U. S. and U. K. will be resumed, probably about May 4, the Communications Sub-Commission reports — The first call-up for recruits for the Italian Navy will take place in May and June, the Navy Sub-Commission announces — The War Disposal and Italian Prisoners of War Sub-Commission has finally worked out the status of Italian prisoners of war still held in Italy and who are called "cooperators": the lot – 34,000 – will be released to the Italian Government July 1 — Undulant fever is reported at Pisa, Tuscany Region says — The Public Health Sub-Commission, incidentally, has caused an imported American vaccine for brucellosis – the cattle disease which results in undulant fever in humans – to be manufactured on quite a large scale in Rome, 5,000 tubes having been produced, although only 12 cows have been vaccinated to date — A new transfer of territory to the Italian Government is being studied, approval for which has to be given by the Allied Advisory Council — Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, has been awarded the Bronze Star "for meritorious service in support of combat operations in Italy during May and June, 1944"; congratulations — British officers in AC are also being offered the chance to go into civil affairs in the Far East — Lieut. Col. Joseph D. Scholtz (A) and Col. John B. Thornhill (A) have been appointed Deputy PC's of Venezie and Umbria-Marche Regions, respectively — The Local Government Sub-Commission has suggested to the Italian Government that its election plans, based on a 1915 law, are not yet good enough to guarantee a free election democratic style — New U. S. Army regulations state that officers going home on TD will not be returned to this theater — Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, has returned from London.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Chief Coms
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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

SECRET

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN
Vol. II, No. 3
22 April 1945

1. Political

The Council of ministers, having posponed the scheduled meeting of the 13th on learning of the death of President Roosevelt, met on the 17th and began its activities by offering its thanks for the "gesture of generous fraternity" on the part of Argentina which has announced a gift of 100,000 tons of wheat to Italy. The Council added that it looked to the Allies for help in bringing the wheat to Italy as soon as possible. A draft decree was approved creating a Defence Committee to advise the government on military matters and a new Chief of the General Staff, General Claudio Trezzani, was named. The functions of the General Staff were carefully defined as "advisory...on principal technical questions affecting the armed forces". General Trezzani is an infantryman who fought in Africa and has recently spent some time in the United States as a prisoner of war. According to reports he is regarded in military circles as a man of monarchist sympathies.

The Council then elaborated further the rules for repression of Fascist activities which it had approved some weeks ago. One point is noteworthy; the presidency of the epuration committees may now be entrusted to University professors, lawyers or retired state functionaries as well as to magistrates, the only category eligible in the past. This is a move long since recommended in the interests of efficiency by Associate High Commissioner Berlinguer and the Left-ist press. It was also announced that special Assizes Courts would be set up in the liberated North and that punishment for fascist activities had been made more severe.- even including the death pen-alty. It was perhaps this last measure which caused ITALIA NUOVA to exclaim "The government is fighting Fascism with Fascist methods."

At this meeting too De Gasperi made a dignified commentary on the relations with Juogoslavia. The question of Trieste, he said, could hardly be settled while the patriot elements of both countries were bending all their efforts to expel the German invader. He hoped the matter would be studied on a level "above that of press polemics". The Council followed these remarks with a resolution stating its desire to see a harmonious good-neighbor relationship grow up and flourish between the two countries. These manifestations of reason and calm were applauded by some sections in the press but did not prevent others from continuing their campaign to establish the Latin character of Trieste; one Montemuliano (in ITALIA NUOVA) going so far as to prove, at least to his own satisfaction, that there were fewer

4411

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

meeting of the 15th on learning of the death of President Roosevelt, met on the 17th and began its activities by offering its thanks for the "gesture of generous fraternity" on the part of Argentina which has announced a gift of 100,000 tons of wheat to Italy. The Council asked that it looked to the Allies for help in bringing the wheat to Italy as soon as possible. A draft decree was approved creating a Defence Committee to advise the government on military matters and a new Chief of the General Staff, General Claudio Trezzani, was named. The functions of the General Staff were carefully defined as "advisory...on principal technical questions affecting the armed forces". General Trezzani is an infantryman who fought in Africa and has recently spent some time in the United States as a prisoner of war. According to reports he is regarded in military circles as a man of monarchist sympathies.

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In this context further irritation was added by the Separa-tist Convention in Palermo. The session lasted three days and was full of fiery speeches and talk of defence of Sicilian independence at all costs. The signal accomplishment of the convention was the dispatch of a message to the United Nations urging that the Separa-tist case be considered at San Francisco. The government in an official

411

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

communique called this an act of treason and the whole press of Rome fell to belaboring the separatist movement, though explanations for its existence varied. To Nenni in AVANTI a Fascist plot was clearly visible; ITALIA NUOVA saw in the movement the hand of "outside forces" which had been known to stir up trouble in the South in pre-unification days. Aldisio, Sicily's High Commissioner, called the whole business a bluff but the TRIBUNA DEL POPOLO pointed out shrewdly and sadly that Italy will not be represented at San Francisco while the Separatists, thanks to their memorandum, will.

Further and apparently final plans for the Consultation Assembly were worked out at the second Council meeting of the week (April 20.) Noteworthy is the representation accorded parties outside the C.L.N. The Republicans are to have ten representatives and the Democratic Party and the Democratic-Liberal Concentration (both Rightist and Monarchist) five each. (Each of the six C.L.N. parties will have twenty-six representatives.) ITALIA LIBERA promptly took up the cudgels for the Sinistra Cristiana (quondam Catholic Communists) and it is likely that other opposition groups will be heard from when the press has had more opportunity to study the Council's report, not yet officially published.

Baistrocchi, Fascist hierarch, once Undersecretary for War and self-appointed chief of the General Staff in the old days, has been arrested. Baistrocchi was responsible for such modernizations in the Italian Army as the introduction of the "passo romano" (else where known as the goose step) and the adoption of "Giovinezza".

The Camera del Lavoro of Messina was reported attacked by "Fascist elements" and, according to the first version of the story, was set on fire. This brought threats from EL LAVORO that the workers would take the law into their own hands if the government failed to act. However it now seems to have been a matter of minor banditry and the theft of a typewriter and the government reports the situation under control.

AMG with the Armies

Bologna, goal of Allied arms for the last six months, fell to American, Polish and Italian troops 21 April. Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume, SCAO, 5th Army AMG, following his penchant for getting into newly liberated cities as soon as possible, was one of the first Allied officers to enter the city. Colonel Norman E. Fiske, Acting Executive Commissioner, likewise was on the spot. The gist of the Bologna situation is as follows:

The city is in fairly good shape. The railroad yards are badly bombed but the center of town is practically intact. The water system is likewise intact. Sewers are all right. The electric power system also seems to have escaped destruction and connections should be made shortly. The same for the telephones. There are a lot of people in the city, but the exact number is unknown. There is enough food on hand. Partisans are in fairly good order. Just before the Fascists left, they caught and shot a few Partisan leaders, whose followers immediately retaliated with a little shooting of their own. Political problems do not appear acute. The C.L.N. has nominated a Communist for Major. Lieut. Col. Frank Wray (A) has moved into the Municipio."

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AMG with the Armies

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Towns on the 8th Army side have been falling faster than on the West Coast side where Massa and Carrara were liberated earlier in the week. Food for 12,000 was ordered for Massa. Scabies was rampant in the area. Carrara had 90,000 population. 400 Partisans were keeping order in both towns. The Aquania team has already moved in to administer the province. Power stations suffered minor damage and power is expected to be restored shortly. Water was O.K.

On the East Coast Imola fell first. A 62-year-old former Lancashire football player, William Garbutt, was found in the town and hired as an interpreter. 50,000 persons were in Imola, including 300 patients in the hospital. Mills, water and food appeared satisfactory. In its onward rush toward Ferrara, the 8th Army was

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

less than 25 miles from the first provinces of Venezia Region which has four provincial teams ready to move in. Castel San Pietro had 9,000 population on entry, including 1,500 from Bologna. Normal population is 3,500. AMG is already functioning. More than 100 tons of grain were found stockpiled. There was no electricity but two steam-operated flour mills were found. Massa Lombarda, with half its normal population of 4,000, sustained heavy damage. San Agata was 95 per cent. destroyed. Conselice was also somewhat damaged, but in all three towns food and public health gave no concern.

3. The Economic Front

Wheat amassed to April 15 was 11,604,654 qtl., while the olive oil collection stood at the same date at 438,340 qtl...The third Italian agricultural conference has opened, with AC Hq. and regional agricultural officers in attendance...A shortage of raw material has caused the shutdown of five hemp weaving plants while half the spinners are idle...The Colleferro cement plant now has a production of 164 tons a day, an increase of 43 tons over the previous week... Reconstruction of the generating unit at Casteinuovo-Lardello has increased total power capacity by 12,000 kw.; the plant is the only one in Italy and one of the few in the world - run entirely by volcanic steam, requiring no oil or coal...Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission also reports that 220 communities housing committees are functioning, that 12,000 housing projects have been initiated, valued at 1,110 million lire, and that 6,000 of the projects have been completed... In eight months the five national betting lotteries in Italy have garnered 242.5 million lire; Naples alone now contributes at the rate of 10 million a week...Umbria-Marche Region says that road blocks definitely reduced black market prices wherever tried and that 340,000 eggs are being ammassed monthly and are being sold to the public at 10 lire each...860,000 Italian Navy shell forging are to be converted to scrap to make at least 2,500 tons of steel for carpenter's nails and other construction materials...Mr. L.J. Kegel, former merchandising manager of Marshall Field & Co. in Chicago, is the new Deputy Director of the Commerce Sub-Commission...A United States Army and Navy Liquidation Board is in Italy to look over surplus war equipment and negotiate sales to the Italian Government, which, in turn, will sell/a to private dealers, netting, it is hoped, a good profit which will help as a deflationary measure...For a 2,200-calory diet/would have/ly had to spend in March 12,456 lire, compared with 10,277 lire last /of December, 2,392 in September, 1943 and 1,147 in September, 1942...Five Lucca factories are selling sewing thread at 14 lire per 100 meters while the Rome sales price for the same is 140 lire...Prato textile mills report that labor costs amount to only 8,000 lire out of a daily production cost of 300,000 lire, or only 2½ per cent. compared with the normal 33 per cent. of normal times...Imported civilian supplies, according to accounting records of the Finance Sub-Commission, amount to 1,521,00 tons since the days of Sicily through December, 1944...A further shipment of 1,860 trucks to Italy has been approved, which, with the 1,700 authorized (of which 1,552 have already arrived) will make 3,560 trucks to help relieve the transport situation...The Allied Motor Transport Group, which will use these trucks, hopes to

4410

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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4410

4. Warming up for Northern Italy.

With the final drive to clean the Germans out of Italy now going into high gear, AC Hq. and the regional teams for the North have been on the qui vive and last-minute plans and projects are going the rounds preparatory to entry of the Allied Forces into what

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

promises to be the biggest job of military government since the liberation of Sicily. Regional commissioners for the North have all been introduced to Major General Willis D. Crittenberger, commanding officer of IV Corps, which, as a separate unit under 15th Army Group, will be the first to enter the Northwest areas, first phase military government being thus under its command. The Economic Section and its sub-commission directors paid a mass visit to IV Corps this last week-end to discuss economic plans. Northwest Italy after the combat troops give over, will be in charge of No. 8 District under General Nares.

From the North, where AMG will also encounter for the first time national frontiers with France, Switzerland, Austria and Yugoslavia, reports have arrived that Italians have hidden considerable machinery and that Germans have orders to destroy as much equipment as possible on withdrawal. Grain has been systematically shipped to Germany, though there is not much germany left to ship to now. Germans are said to have bought up Italian goods right and left, using 300 billion Italian-printed lire to do so. Milan is reported crowded with refugees, 6,000 Italian workers having recently been returned from Germany. Wheat is short but adequate stocks of rice and corn are said to be available. Fats, cattle and fertilizer are scarce. Despite the low price levels of the North, sugar in Turin is said to be selling for 650 lire a kilo on the black market and butter for 700 lire.

Venezia Region will have a new problem in AMG - besides Trieste and the Yugoslav - in the provinces of Trento and Bolzano, which have been incorporated into the Reich economy and which will probably need systematic change-over into the Italian system, including introduction of new lire currency, an exchange rate for the Reichsmark and new administrative procedures, all points on which CCS and AFHQ will rule.

The geographical delimitations of North Italy will be officially announced shortly. At this reading they will probably consist of Italy north of the northern boundaries of Tuscany and the Provinces of Forli and Ravenna. Comprising about three-eighths of all Italy, the industrialized North will present two major headaches - one political, the other economic (of which more later). The first consists of Fascists in their last lair, and of Patriots who are called Volunteers of Liberty under the Committee of National Liberation of Alta Italia. The Patriots, well organized and functioning with Allied support and even officers from our military units, are hoping to defend key installations against German attempts at scorched earth tactics. Speaking of destruction, Fine Arts officers of AC have made a detailed map of North Italy art deposits and monuments for the Air Forces, copies of which map are being distributed down to squadron level. Rations, hospitalization and clothing for Patriots will be a military responsibility, according to the latest AFHQ ruling, pending CCS confirmation. The military units will also try to get the Pat-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Rames.

From the North, where AMG will also encounter for the first time national frontiers with France, Switzerland, Austria and Yugoslavia, reports have arrived that Italians have ridden considerable machinery and that Germans have orders to destroy as much equipment as possible on withdrawal. Grain has been systematically shipped to Germany, though there is not much germany left to ship to now. Germans are said to have bought up Italian goods right and left, using 800 billion Italian-printed lire to do so. Milan is reported crowded with refugees, 6,000 Italian workers having recently been returned from Germany. Wheat is short but adequate stocks of rice and corn are said to be available. Fats, cattle and fertilizer are scarce. Despite the low price levels of the North, sugar in Turin is said to be selling for 800 lire a kilo on the black market and butter for 700 lire.

Venezia Region will have a new problem in AMG - besides Trieste and the Yugoslav - in the Provinces of Trento and Bolzano, which have been incorporated into the Reich economy and which will probably need systematic change-over into the Italian system, including introduction of new lire currency, an exchange rate for the Reichsmark and new administrative procedures, all points on which SCS and AFHQ will rule.

The geographical delimitations of North Italy will be officially announced shortly. At this reading they will probably consist of Italy north of the northern boundaries of Tuscany and the Provinces of Forli and Ravenna. Comprising about three-eighths of all Italy, the industrialized North will present two major headaches - one political, the other economic (of which more later). The first consists of Fascists in their last lair, and of Patriots who are called Volunteers of Liberty under the Committee of National Liberation of Alta Italia. The Patriots, well organized and functioning with Allied support and even officers from our military units, are hoping to defend key installations against German attempts at scorched earth tactics. Speaking of destruction, Fine Arts officers of AC have made a detailed map of North Italy art deposits and monuments for the Air Forces, copies of which map are being distributed down to squadron level. Rations, hospitalization and clothing for Patriots will be a military responsibility, according to the latest AFHQ ruling, pending SCS confirmation. The military units will also try to get the Patriots to disarm as quickly as possible, after which it will be an AMG responsibility until the Carabinieri move in. For the new tasks of frontier patrol, some discussion is under way to use Guardia Finanze in preference to the CC.RR. A spearhead of 3,500 Carabinieri (eventually 7,500) is already set to move into the North and AFHQ has authorized the transfer of 48 armored cars, 35 trucks and four light utility cars to the CC.RR.

The C.L.N.A.I. is expected to have set up "shadow" governments in many places which will be found operating when AMG move in. They are supposed to resign at once and recognize the authority of AMG, which in turn, is prepared to try to use as much C.L.N. personnel in the civil administration as possible. Prefects, for example, should be appointed from local non-career persons acceptable to the C.L.N., while the vice prefects may come from career administrators being

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

readied in the pool by the Local Government Sub-Commission. The C.L.N.A.I. has been recognized by the Italian Government as its representative in the North and the Northerners have recognized the Italian Government in Rome as the sole repository of legal authority. The Allies have NOT given the C.L.N. any political recognition as a constituted authority but have made military agreements with the military army of the C.L.N. for the Volunteers of Liberty to work under Allied military orders. The wishes of the Italian Government to contact C.L.N. representatives as quickly as possible will be favoured by AC in the interests of obtaining a nationally representative government. As far as epuration is concerned, it is expected that the Patriots will do a bit of unofficial epurating on their own, since all official positions there are held by Fascist Republicans. In any event, AMG epuration is expected to be as swift and thorough as it can be made.

Tied up with this question is that of re-creating the great pre-Fascist newspapers of the North like the Corriere della Sera of Milan and La Stampa of Turin. The PWB Press plan, agreed to by AC, envisages close cooperation between AMG and PWB, with PWB willing to check with AMG about all news and radio materials used. All newspapers will be suspended immediately and Fascist papers suppressed for good. Those publications the authorities decide to authorize will be in charge of commissariats appointed by AMG. Clandestine papers which operated despite the Germans will be allowed to continue but must apply for a license within seven days. Military censors will operate in the larger towns. In others AMG will act as the censoring power. Newsprint is now being stockpiled for the North. A stockpile of 3,600 tons, belonging to Milan and Turin papers, has been found in Switzerland, incidentally, and will be shipped into Italy as soon as the Swiss border is negotiable.

What is worrying the Economic Section is the Northern economy of wages and prices, the availability of industrial production (Italian technical experts are to enter the area as soon as possible for this purpose) and the first priority problem - food and transport. The Allied Motor Transport Group, under its energetic organizer, Col. J. J. Cannes (A), and with new trucks arriving from the States, is set for its big job. 15th Army Group have requested transport help. AC will lend 600 trucks in the first phase. An advance section of the Transportation Sub-Commission will go forward as fast as possible to help coordinate movements. Col. Legg, director of the Food Sub-Commission, has been devoting his time almost exclusively to the North. A food directive for all regional officers has been issued. Approximately 40,000 tons are already stockpiled, major dumps being at Leghorn and Ancona. Salt, a Northern deficiency, is well in hand. Further stocks of Food 10,000 to 15,000 tons - are ready further down the peninsula and so should provide all together a reserve of one to two months at least. The initial ration of bread will be 100 grams plus what can be supplemented from local grain resources, with the aim to get at the 300-gram ration as soon as transport and supplies permit. Bread rations in North Italy under the Germans vary from 100 to 150 grams, though one report has it that the Milan ration was been cut to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

7409

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The main economic problem, of course, lies in the fact that the North Italy wage-price structure is on a much lower level than in Liberated Italy where the inflation spiral has been in evidence. Bread in North Italy, for example, is five lire. Here it ranges from 16 to 18 lire. It will be of the utmost importance to get in as much local wheat as possible as quickly as possible. A nation-wide ammassing policy for next harvest cannot be established until Northern conditions are examined. Present thinking is to introduce the U.S. AAA system of pre-determined crops, of which the Government will ask for a certain share at a set price and allow the farmer to keep or sell the rest in

5409

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

a free market. Prices may be allowed to vary regionally. In any event, the counsel of the AC Advisory Anti-Inflation Board to the Chief Commissioner has been to treat North Italy initially as a separate economy, to "freeze" the wage-price structure and to establish strong controls on the line between South and North Italy in order to prevent smuggling. The labor committee of the Allied Forces Local Resources Board has decided to go into North Italy with only its basic wage rates and without the cost-of-living bonuses which have accrued in Liberated Italy in the course of the last year. The Board also voted for geographical differentials on the matter of wage increases. The wage rate for unskilled Labor in the North is reported to be 60 lire. Here it is 60 without the cost-of-living bonuses. The Anti-Inflation Board recommended the appointment of Regional and Provincial Joint Advisory boards to review requests for increases in wages and prices as a measure of inflation control until such time as the matter can be tackled on a national scale.

What the Regional Commissioners think about the hot spot they soon will be sitting on can be best be told over a drink: they know they have their work cut out for them. Piemonte Region, for one, has issued a fine brochure giving detailed instructions on what to do and how to do it. Lombardy Region - six millions persons in 1,400 communes with the hottest spot of all industrial, terrain-lilan, held a three-day staff meeting a short time ago and went over its program point by point. The region would like to have more specific directions about displaced persons, for one thing. Lombardy Region also proposes to have the C.L.N. submit names of candidates for offices only after unanimous agreement. It is also concerned with what may happen if the Germans flood the canals in Milan and Mantua. The region's 210 officers are to be spread over 13 provincial administrations, counting Milan City as one province. Methane gas is used in many automobiles in the North and the region will try to continue such use. No coal is looked for until at least 30 days are over. Lastly, the Lombardy meeting cracked on a particularly new and tough bone: What to do about the so-called socialization of some industrial plants now reportedly being carried out in the North by the Fascist Republicans.

5. Odds and Ends

Mr. Harold MacMillan, the Acting President, and Mr. G. Stewart Brown, Director of Public Relations, are taking a trip to the front... 60,000 parcels from the U.S. have been received in Rome, Naples and Palermo since Jan. 1...while six million letters a week are now being processed in Italy, 25 per cent. of pre-war volume, the Communications Sub-Commission reports...AFHQ has granted authority, while awaiting confirmation by the Combined Chiefs of Staff, for rations and clothing to be issued to Italian Patriots; also authorized has been the creation of five Patriot reconnaissance companies...The Public Safety Sub-Commission is worried about the 30 to 50 per cent. over-crowding of Liberated Italy's 65 judicial prisons while 17 penal prisons could accomodate another 9,000 prisoners; all as a result of the lagging court dockets which show 16,500 cases behind in Sardinia, 7,150 in Southern Italy and 2,000 in Tuscany...The Records Bureau of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission now has more than approximately 75,000 names

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

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5. Bits and Ends

Mr. Harold Macmillan, the acting President, and Mr. C. Stewart Brown, Director of Public Relations, are taking a trip to the front... 60,000 parcels from the U.S. have been received in Rome, Naples and Palermo since Jan. 1...while six million letters a week are now being processed in Italy, 25 per cent. of pre-war volume, the Communications Sub-Commission reports...AFHQ has granted authority, while awaiting confirmation by the Combined Chiefs of Staff, for rations and clothing to be issued to Italian Patriots; also authorized has been the creation of five Patriot reconnaissance companies...The Public Safety Sub-Commission is worried about the 40 to 60 per cent. over-crowding of Liberated Italy's 85 judicial prisons while 17 penal prisons could accomodate another 8,000 prisoners; all as a result of the looming court dockets which show 18,000 cases pending in Sardinia, 7,136 in Southern Italy and 2,000 in Tuscany...The Records Bureau of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission now has more than approximately 75,000 names of 70 nationalities on its roster, of whom the location of 60,000 persons is known while records exist to show that the other 15,000 have been in Italy in the last year...Emilia Region officers and men are proud of their latest honor: the Commanding Generals of the 5th and 8th Armies have accorded Emilia personnel the privilege of wearing the respective army patches of the Army AMG's to which they have been attached these last several months...Five more U.S. promotions have arrived: To Colonel - Howard L. Baldrige; to Lieutenant-Colonel - Frank M. Williams; to Captain - Almond M. Allyn, Edward L. Bimberg and John H. Fields, Jr...Barcellona in Sicily has informed Admiral Stone that the chief square of the town will be named after President Roosevelt....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

The Legal Sub-Commission has got out an index of all important Italian Government decrees to March 1, 1946 for practical field use...Orders have been issued recalling U.S. personnel earmarked for Austria from their AC attachments...Colonel Richard H. Wilmer, former director of the Legal Sub-Commission and now back in the States, has been awarded the Legion of Merit for his service in Italy...Congratulations to Pfc. Henry M. DeLeo for the Bronze Star presented to him by Col. C.M. Parkin, CO, 2675th Regt., for "meritorious service" in the course of his duties at a repatriation camp where he helped unearth a Fascist plot and aided in conviction of the plotters...Good wishes, too, to Thomas A. Miazzo and Mario A. Perillo, who have been honorably discharged from the army as enlisted men and immediately appointed by Col. Parkin as Junior warrant officers...Felicitations are also in order for 5th Army AAC, which, as Company G, 2675 Regiment, has been awarded the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque by Lieut. General Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., commanding general, Fifth Army, for "superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks"...More Kudos: Col. G. D. Murphey (A) of the Economic Section received the Legion of Merit in a Hq. ceremony 23 April....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Director
Vice
Chief Telecoms
Chief Postal
H Q Coms O.
Ass: Chief Postal
Censorship
Chief Clerk

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

SECRET

12

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN
Vol. II, No. 2
15 April 1945

1. Political

For Italy as for the world the tragically significant event of the week was the death of President Roosevelt. It would be inaccurate to say that concern for possible political consequences was absent; this concern was evident in such things as Sforza's reassurance to his countrymen that American policy was a matter of principles rather than individuals and Salvatorelli's commentary tracing the connection between the American declaration of independence and Wilson's and Roosevelt's application of its statements to the world at large. But the tragedy far transcends politics and Italy and Italians are not at this moment thinking politically but feeling deeply and humanly. The Capital has gone into three days mourning, schools and theatres are closed and all flags at half mast. Formal visits have been paid by leading personalities on Ambassador Kirk and Admiral Stone, messages sent to Mrs Roosevelt by the Luogotenente and De Gasperi. The meeting of the Council was adjourned after a tribute by Bonomi to the President. Such manifestations have been merely the official indications of the very real sense of shock and loss that is widespread and profound and is perceptible in every street corner conversation among Italians of all classes. Intellectuals and workers, conservatives and liberals, politicians and simple folk who know nothing of politics - all are as one in feeling quite sincerely and deeply that Italy and Italians have lost a friend.

Our copy was torn from our hands last week by the inexorable deadline while we were in the middle of the Duca D'Aosta affair. We were speaking in our last paragraph of the protest of the President of the High Court against the words attributed to the Duke by the Manchester Guardian Correspondent. The response was not long in coming Bonomi, on the recommendation of DeCourten and after consultation with leading members of the government procured the Luogotenente's order for removal of the indiscreet Duke from his post of admiral. This action was of course most welcome to the Left and anti-monarchist circles and even the royalist ITALIA NUOVA could find no fault with the procedure.

4407

The Consulta seems to be taking shape. On the 10th a meeting was held of the Special Interministerial Committee in charge of plans for the new body and representatives of the Action and Socialist parties were invited to attend. ITALIA LIBERA had a very good analysis of the difference between the government and the opposition point of view;

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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The Consulta seems to be taking shape. On the 10th a meeting was held of the special interministerial committee in charge of plans for the new body and representatives of the Action and Socialist parties were invited to attend. ITALIA LIBERA had a very good analysis of the difference between the government and the opposition point of view; the main issue being that the latter wants a Consulta that is "political" (and having the right of self-convocation) and the government, at least judging by its original statement, visualizes it rather as a group of technical bodies. Nenni, in AVANTI, sticks to his opinion that it is now too late for the Consulta to have any meaning; he informs the government that their first duty must be to resign as soon as the North is liberated, and make way for the Costituente. Meanwhile the government, through the Ufficio Stampa, emphasized that a Consulta, not being elective, could hardly be regarded as a parliament nor as a real political expression of the people. Adding up the discussions on the subject it looks as if a) the Consulta may soon come into being with some concessions to the opposition in its framework and b) it may not mean much when it does, especially if the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

liberation of the North comes as soon as is hoped.

The Communist Party held its second National Council meeting this week. Togliatti, outlining the party program, said that the first essential at this time was a war government with a war policy. He feared that unless the democratic forces in liberated Italy manage to achieve unity, and clarify their program, there may be a dangerous rift between an "anti-fascist and progressive North" and a "stagnant and anti-democratic Centre and South". The working classes and the popular masses, he said, were in the vanguard of the nation; the communists intend to give unity and leadership to the forces of the people, and conservatives and reactionaries were warned, as was the Church, not to oppose the popular will. Togliatti also suggested that if the Costituente is not formed immediately upon the liberation of the North, it might be advisable to replace the Luogotenente by a "civilian regency". The resolution approved at the end of the party's deliberations asked for expeditiousness in calling the national C.L.N. congress and in holding the administrative elections.

At the other end of the political scales the Democratic party sounded its firm conservative note. The party council came out with a nine point program, stressing the need of preserving law and order, private initiative, and the rights of individuals against any form of state dictatorship. The party expressed its preference for the "monarchical solution" of the institutional problem, though urging a plebiscite on the question as soon as the country has been entirely liberated and all prisoners of war repatriated. Another plank in the platform vigorously defends the "territorial integrity" of the country, including Italy's right to all colonies held at the end of the last war. The two final points are in contrast to communist silence on these matters.

It cannot be said that relations with Yugoslavia have improved during the week. On the night of the 7th a bomb exploded in the vicinity of Tito's Partisan Mission in Rome and the reaction of the Yugoslav press was immediate and violent, charging the Italian government, described as "Fascist" with responsibility if not complicity. The Ufficio Stampa announced that investigation had shown that the bomb was not, in fact, aimed at the Mission, and indeed the chief of the Mission himself was quoted as holding the government guiltless in the matter. None the less the tension understandably increased Italian concern for the destiny of Trieste. The Liberal party during the week took occasion to affirm its solidarity with the Trieste section and by now all scales of political factions have found some way of expressing their conviction that Trieste is Italian- the only exception being the communists. Togliatti has played down the whole business as "not going on the international plane."

AMG with the Armies

The spring and - we hope - final campaign in Italy opened April 9 and AMG at once began assuming new responsibilities. Not [illegible] came from the front but on the 8th Army side, according

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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AMG with the Armies

The spring and - we hope - final campaign in Italy opened April 9 and AMG at once began assuming new responsibilities. Not much news came from the front but on the 8th Army side, according to the first action sitrep at hand, the situation is well in hand. Civilian wounded and refugees were not yet problems, only some 100 of each having been found as of April 12. Food seemed plentiful. Alfonsine was badly damaged. Fusignano had no inhabitants. Cotignola was totally destroyed, but contained 2,000 inhabitants who had to be evacuated. All the wounded were taken care of but many dead are said to be under the rubble caused by the tremendous air bombardment. Lugo, which normally has a population of 16,000, was found to contain 30,000 since the Germans used the town as a center for evacuating the surrounding countryside. The hospital held 160 wounded. Capt. T. Ellison, our Public Relations Officer with the 8th Army AMG, got into Lugo ahead of the GAO, with about 31 war correspondents on his heels.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

He reported that the town's government has been re-organized two hours after the town was taken; that 50 volunteer police had been appointed pending the arrival of the CC.RR who showed up shortly after; that volunteer workers are keeping the shell-torn road in condition for tanks, and that the new Allied news sheet, the PWB Comm. iere Alleato, is being distributed. Lugo, incidentally, was the town in which Garibaldi organized the expedition for his Sicilian campaign. Lastly, word comes that Brigadier J.K. Dunlop, AC of Venezia, is sniffing the smoke of battle and has established his advanced headquarters as near 8th Army Main as possible, in the hopes of quickly following the troops into Venice. In his spare time, the brigadier is studying Russian.

3. The Economic Front

The mechanics of re-opening private expert trade with Italy were being fashioned by the Economic Section as the week ended. A letter of suggestions was going to the Italian Government, which, in effect, proposed to promote direct private trade as soon as possible and to use the government as an intermediary agency only until direct contacts could be worked out. The AC proposals also would place certain Italian products necessary to the war economy of the United Nations on a Category A priority list at which the Allies would have first crack at set prices. All else would be in Category B, for which products the Italian merchants could try any market at the best prices they could find. Pending the time of direct contacts, the U.S. Commercial Co. would act as the American agent. Deals with neutrals are on the fire also, specific propositions coming up for 1,000 tons of anchovies from Spain, 3,000 tons of frozen meat from Argentina and unspecified amounts of food, medicines and machinery from Switzerland.

In the meantime, controlled foreign expert continues and March was the record month to date, exports amounting to more than 280 million lire and 9,638 tons and included goods to Metropolitan France for the first time. The citrus fruit season came to an end, 911,434 boxes of lemons and 80,380 boxes of bitter oranges having been shipped to the U.K. To the U.S. will go soon essential oils, mercury, processed human hair (120 kilos), straw goods, marine salt juniper berries, snuff and certain building stones.

The other highlight of the economic week - to leave aside the matter of planning for the North which will be discussed in detail next week - was the news that Brigadier D.L. Anderson, C.B.E., is arriving from AFHQ to take a post alongside Brig. Gen. McKinley as Deputy Vice President. Brigadier Anderson will supervise production activities while General McKinley will look after the supply side of the Section. Mr. Antolini is Acting Vice President. A worry which may become worse before it becomes better also cropped up during the week in the shape of the Sardinian coal situation where a slowdown has cut production to 800 tons a day or to 20,000 tons a month instead of the previous 40,000 tons. Representations are being made in high quarters to meet the problem, since adequate Italian coal production is a major contribution to the war effort.

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In the meantime, controlled foreign expert continues and March was the record month to date, exports amounting to more than 280 million lire and 6,638 tons and included goods to Metropolitan France for the first time. The citrus fruit season came to an end, 911,434 boxes of lemons and 80,380 boxes of bitter oranges having been shipped to the U.K. To the U.S. will go soon essential oils, mercury, processed human hair (120 kilos), straw goods, marine salt juniper berries, snuff and certain building stones.

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A host of items may be added as indicating heightened economic activity. The Commerce Sub-Commission issued a fancy brochure on te correct drill for handling controlled non-subsistence materials, which should be valuable to all officers in the field...30,000 tons of steel for construction is expected to be made from 430,000 Italian shell forgings made available for scrap by the Navy Sub-Commission...Coastwise shipping moved 75,000 tons in March, 30,000 more than February, the Transportation Sub-Commission reports...Commander J.J.Lawlen, is leaving the Allied Commission, to the regret of all of us; Col.R.B. Menapace has replaced him as joint director of the Finance Sub-Commission. The Granai del Popolo, as of April 11, was 11,292,334 qtl... The olive oil collection was 480,741 qtl...A program to raise 15,000 tons of potatoes in the Avezzano Valley for the Army has been drawn up...Tire repair materials have arrived; the job is now to set up AC controlled repair plants...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

Ammonia is now being produced at the Montecatini plant at Crotone.... Col. Ernest J. Pistedt (A) is Acting Director of the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission in the absence of Col. Jenny in Switzerland... Many new train schedules state that passengers will ride in box cars, there being few coaches for civilian use....

4. Odds and Ends

Hq. observed a five-minute period of silence and prayer at 1600 hours 14 April in memory of the departed President of the United States....Mr. Stone and Mr. Eric Biddle of the U.S. Bureau of the Budget is looking over operations of AC....Lieut. Col. Dawson (B) had his hands full with his first big liaison job this past week when the munitions ship blew up at Bari....Italian news agencies have asked the Public Relations Branch for help in stationing Italian correspondents at Florence, now that PWB no longer services news in Italian Government territory....Brigadier M. Carr has been appointed RC of Liguria ....U.S. officers in AC may, a War Department circular states, volunteer for civil affairs in the Far East....Lieut. Col. Arthur E. Sutherland, jr., chief of staff of the 5th Army AMG, has been awarded the Croix de Guerre for "exceptional services to French troops in the Italian campaign": congratulations....Through the persistence of the Education Sub-Commission, Italian refugees have been evacuated out of 61 Roman schools since January....The Bronze Star has been awarded to Major Ray Ashworth (A) for services in AMG when he was in Italy; good wishes....The AC also ought to be proud of Major Francis J. Hoelscher (A) who has been awarded the Soldier's Medal for entering a mined wheatfield and evacuating a wounded Italian civilian last summer.... The ruling for AC is that there will be no stoppage of work or official celebration of V-E Day, should it suddenly burst upon us....AMG public safety officers in Naples have cracked a counterfeiting gang with ten arrests, confiscating three printing presses which are said to have printed 40 million lire of forged notes....Four more American promotions are in: To major - Henry E. Hudson; to captain - William A. Lessa and Daniel J. Petruzzi, and to first Lieutenant - William H. Grago, Jr....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Director
D/Director
Chief Records
Chief Posts
Ass. Chief Coins & Posts
Assi Chief Posts
Censorship/G26/WSI/PRB
Chief Clerk

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

SECRET

AC WEEKLY BULLETIN
Vol. II, No. 1
8 April 1945

1. Political

The past week has been relatively quiet on the political front. The Council, meeting on the 4th, approved some matters which had been pending for a long time. The Fascist racial laws were rescinded in toto, and the constitution of a Consulta for Sardinia, projected some time ago, was approved. Pensions of wounded veterans are to be increased by 100% and farmers granted bonuses by Fascism are to pay back sums to the state expected to reach one and a half billion lire. Action on these rather heterogeneous matters had been expected and there was no press comment worthy of quotation. The new issue of government bonds went on sale on the fifth and Soleri made a statement for the press urging subscription and affirming that Italy's financial situation while grave was not beyond salvation. The papers have all urged support of the bond issue, even the usually irreconcilable VOCE REPUBBLICANA.

In the field of foreign affairs it was announced on the third that Saragat had been formally accepted by the French and would shortly leave to take up his post in Paris. Marchetti, proposed ambassador to Turkey is also soon to leave. There has been a good deal of comment on the San Francisco conference, with emphasis on the unhappy exclusion of Italy. Croce spoke with some vigor to Reuter's correspondent on the subject - and later in the week the London Times printed a letter from him to the same effect- arguing that to deny Italy representation would be an offense to the nation in view of its long devotion to democracy and the recent heroic struggle of the partisans. It would also be a mistake for the United Nations, he feels, to attempt to lay the foundations of a durable peace without Italy's voice being heard. A similar line was taken by Don Sturzo (quoted in IL POPOLO.) On the subject of colonies Bonomi said that Italy was anxious to establish friendly relations with an independent Abyssinia. What Italy had accomplished in East Africa, Eritrea and Somaliland, he added, should not be forgotten; these colonies, in his opinion "had been administered with great wisdom, especially in the pre-Fascist period." TEMPO, commenting on this statement, brought into the open the widespread Italian feeling on the colonial question which has been hinted at in various articles over the past months; if there is to be a general reorganization of the colonial system with international administration, Italy will have no objection but she would resent being deprived of her pre-Fascist colonies

4405

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The opposition papers have been much concerned with possible developments consequent on the liberation of the North. ITALIA LIBERA believes that it will mean the cross-roads for Bonomi; either he will have to recognize the "new forces" in the country or reveal himself and his government as definitely reactionary. The meeting of the six parties of the C.L.N. which took place on the sixth may be seen as significant in this light. The order of the day voted at the

4405

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

end of the meeting recommended a convention of the provincial Committees of Liberation as soon as the North should be liberated and stated that the six secretaries would soon reconvene to discuss details of the new Consulta. These are both points that the Socialist and Action parties have been urging and the meeting (the first of all six parties since the December crisis) probably indicates the governments desire to tackle the problems of the North with its rearguard safe from sniping - or desertion.

The government's announcement that General Cadorna is now in command of patriot resistance in the North has aroused suspicion - or more accurately further suspicion - in the ardent republican breast of VOCE REPUBBLICANA. Pacciardi, editor of that vigorous organ, is willing to give Cadorna credit for doing his duty but sees in this late turn of the spotlight an effort on the part of the monarchy to claim credit for the partisan struggle, inspired, Pacciardi believes, by very different motives. And, as theweek ends, the leftist papers are aflame with indignation because of an alleged statement of the Duca D'Aosta (kinsman of the King and at present an admiral in the Italian Navy). According to Sylvia Sprigge, Manchester Guardian correspondent, the Duke said he "would have shot" the judges of the High Court who sentenced Roatta. The statement was published in AVANTI of the 4th and confirmed in a letter written by Mrs Sprigge to the editor of the same paper. Maroni, president of the High Court, protested immediately and asked Bonomi, De Gasperi and De Courten for "measures the government may deem opportune for the preservation of the dignity and prestige of the High Court." The barrage from the left synchronized with this step. ITALIA LIBERA commented that the incident was a significant revelation of the mentality of certain circles. UNITA and AVANTI more pointedly asserted that such sentiments were hardly appropriate from an Admiral in his country's service, AVANTI adding that Azzi had been dismissed for a less serious indiscretion. No one has yet asked for the Duke's head but his epaulets may be in some danger.

2. The Economic Front

The AC Advisory Anti-Inflation Board, having established its terms of reference, is now going into high gear. It has written a memorandum of recommendations to the Chief Commissioner to pass on to The Italian Government concerning Liberated Italy and will next tackle the even more complicated question of the North and its key problem of lower price levels. Its first memo, in brief, asked for stronger controls to be exercised by the Italians, as was suggested in the Macmillan Aide Memoire to Prime Minister Bonomi, where adequate economic controls were set down as a Chief Allied requirement. The controls requested covered prices, commodities and wages. Progress to consumer control - of buying, transporting and distributing were emphasized, that is, control which, if not down to the physical control, would be tantamount to the same. The bulk of food is now sold at fixed prices, the budget of a typical family of five aiming at a daily diet of 2,200 calories costing 12,648 lire in March against 8,164 lire last September. Seventy per cent. of the items

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

breast of VOCE REPUBBLICANA. Pacciardi, editor of that vigorous organ, is willing to give Cadorna credit for doing his duty but sees in this late turn of the spotlight an effort on the part of the monarchy to claim credit for the partisan struggle, inspired, Pacciardi believes, by very different motives. And, as theweek ends, the Leftist papers are aflame with indignation because of an alleged statement of the Duca D'Aosta (kinsman of the King and at present an admiral in the Italian Navy). According to Sylvia Sprigge, Manchester Guardian correspondent, the Duke said he "would have shot" the Judges of the High Court who sentenced Roatta. The statement was published in AVANTI of the 4th and confirmed in a letter written by Mrs Sprigge to the editor of the same paper. Maroni, president of the High Court, protested immediately and asked Bonomi, De Gasperi and De Courten for "measures the government may deem opportune for the preservation of the dignity and prestige of the High Court." The barrage from the left synchronized with this step. ITALIA LIBERA commented that the incident was a significant revelation of the mentality of certain circles. UNITA and AVANTI more pointedly asserted that such sentiments were hardly appropriate from an admiral in his country's service, AVANTI adding that Azzi had been dismissed for a less serious indiscretion. No one has yet asked for the Duke's head but his epaulets may be in some danger.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Private wage agreements between employers and workers are adjusting some cases, employers paying more to retain or placate their workers, the instance being given of sheet metal workers being paid 600 lire a day. The Board recommended the establishment of a National Wage Regulation Committee to watch negotiations between industry and labor and to protect the interest of the government and the consumer. Similar boards, to act in an advisory capacity only, would be appointed in Allied Military Government territory, to keep policy uniform as possible.

The importance of taking full advantage of shipping offered by AFHQ was highlighted at the weekly staff meeting of the Economic Section where it was disclosed that, at the moment, only 1,000 tons of a proferred 20,000 tons of shipping had been programmed. Mr. A.G. Antolini, Acting Vice President of the Section, said the shipping would be used despite incidental difficulties of bookkeeping, though at the same time he said the obstacles in the shape of transporting the goods to the ports were considerable. There was stuff to be moved, all agreed phosphates from North Africa and needed, 20,000 tons of wheat at Ancona is waiting, and Northern food stockpiles must be tipped into and brought South in view of the currently slow rate of imports. Ravenna has been cleared as a port. Last month 72,000 tons were moved by sea. A good example of adequate planning for shipping is the project to bring in 600,000 sacks from Sardinia for Food Sub-Commission use. Notice of the movement has been given in advance to the Transportation Sub-Commission, which will try to get the ships required at the proper time some weeks hence.

Six sugar beet processing plans will be re-activated, starting in July, to make an expected 13,000 tons of sugar for the civilians and 4,000 tons of molasses from which to obtain yeast for the armies, the beets to be had from plantings of an estimated 17,500 acreas, the Industry Sub-Commission reports....The 1944 Granai del Popolo now stands at 11,422,637 qtl. or better than 98 per cent. of the 11,600,000 qtl. goal....The pressed olive collection, as of April 4, had a total of 423,194 qtl. or better than 40 per cent. of the target, with former Lazio-Umbria Region having the best results - 66 per cent. - to date....Another 160 trucks have arrived, bringing the shipments this year to 1,154; the trucks are being put together in Rome on regular assembly lines and are being assigned to the Allied Motor Transport Group for service....The Finance Sub-Commission is lending what assistance it can to the Italian Government's first major try at floating a bond issue; the issue is for 25 billion lire of 5 per cent., five-year maturity bonds, sold at 97½, which would give them an effective yield of 6.14 per cent., a good bait for the loose money the issue is aimed at....Col. Freneo, PC of Umbria-Marche Region, reports that in the four Italian Government provinces of the Abruzzi (which he gave over April 1), there were 814 projects engineering projects worth 312 million lire prepared, of which 331 worth 116.2 million lire have been completed, 260 worth 153 million lire are in progress and 216 worth 212 million lire are awaiting o.k. by the Italian authorities....A mass of foot and mouth disease in Sardinia has forced cancellation of mainland livestock shipments.... Speaking of livestock, AC officers believe too much ground is given over to raising livestock which could be used for crops....In the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NSD No. 785015

2,000 tons of Allied coal a month for its industries and railroads,... in Naples, as Souther Region gave over, 1,267 telephones were added and nine long distance lines....March grain ship arrivals are 10,800 tons below schedule and April looks worse, with a 35,000 shortage indicated....A sulphur program has been started which will mean a distribution of about 450 tons of ground sulphur a week for northern farmers....Col.L.A. Jenny, Director, Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission, is in Switzerland, looking over possibilities of transporting electric power into Northern Italy; Swiss manufacturers, incidentally, are bearish on their chances for making power equipment to repair the devastated Italian electric plant, asserting they lack raw materials....Salt is reported at 1,100 lire a kilo in Milan; Food Sub-Commission salt stockpiling is going on a pace for such future contingencies....

3. Advertisement

All U.S. officers in AC, although those under 31 may find it more difficult, are to be offered a chance to apply for a limited number of civilian jobs with the Foreign Economic Administration and the Auxiliary Foreign Service of the State Department. Acceptance would mean taking off the uniform over here and working for AC as a civilian, the change-over taking effect immediately. There are some 80 FEA jobs open. Commanding officers of applicants will be asked to give their opinions on the applicants under their present command. After the Italian assignment is completed, FEA personnel will be considered for other foreign assignments or work in Washington. Those who go with the State Department will serve in the AC as long as needed and then be subject to appointment at a diplomatic or consular post. All officers relieved from active duty will get honorable discharge and will be eligible for all pay and allowances accorded after honorable seperation from the service, except for accumulated leave. Anyone interested has only to tell the Establishment Section through channels. In turn, the applicant will be informed if any position exists for which he may be considered and full particulars forwarded. After an interview, recommendations will be made through AFHQ to Washington for action.

4. Odds and Ends

In its final monthly report, Sardinia Region reports that 16,000 cases are still hanging fire in Italian courts....AFHQ has asked for an interim report on how the New Deal for Italy is working out.... A typhoid outbreak is noted at an AMG camp in Florence, 34 cases and suspects and one death being reported....New York University is offering fellowships to graduate Italian art students, the Education Sub-Commission says....Increased postal facilities in Terni Province, Marche-Umbria Region indicates, may make Terni the only province in Italy with daily mail service....AMG Fine Arts officers have approved expenditure of 5½ million lire for fine arts reconstruction in Ancona ....The Patriots Branch and the Local Government Sub-Commission have amalgamated; Col. P.E. Guinee (R) is the new director of [illegible]

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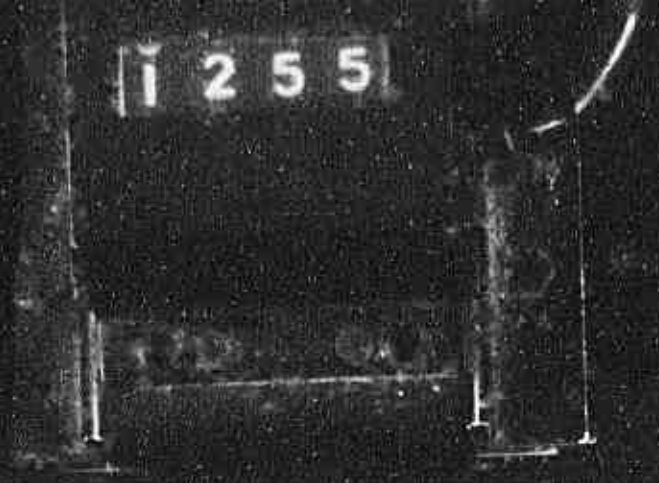
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Italians who still retain prisoner of war status in Italy and work under supervision of military authorities (but with considerable freedom) seem loath to lose their prisoner status because they would at the same time lose good pay and maintenance conditions, it is reported, thus bringing a new factor to the keeping of the Allied promise in the New Deal for Italy memorandum as to freeing Italian POW's held in Italy itself....City lights went on in Naples for the first time in five years last week; Rome is also having street lights for the first time since liberation....The Education Sub-Commission, in cooperation with the Italian Ministry of Education, is planning an interchange of lectures in Rome and Florence between Italian professors and scholarly Allied officers; officers who wish to volunteer should send in their names....What is believed to be the first free technical school in Italy has been started at Rimini under auspices of the 8th Army AMG and the town's civic leaders to train unskilled laborers in various crafts....Honorary appointment as a Commander of the British Empire has been conferred on Admiral Stone by the King of England on the recommendation of the First Lord of the Admiralty; congratulations....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735015


1255