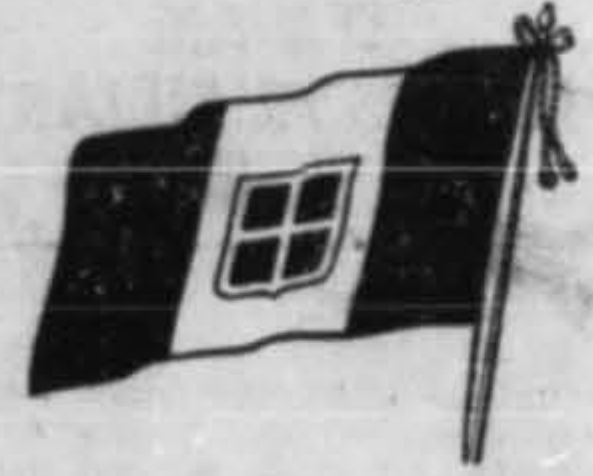


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VOL. XXXIX

NEW ORLEANS, LA., SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1955

No. 20



H. E. MANLIO BROSION

Italian Ambassador To The U. S. Feted at Banquet

A banquet in honor of His Excellency Manlio Brosio, Italian Ambassador to the United States on the occasion of his visit to the city held at the Jung Hotel May 7 by the Italo-American Societies of New Orleans.

The Toastmaster of the evening introduced the most Reverend Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans who delivered the invocation.

Ambassador Welcomed

Following the introduction of guests, City Councilman Victor H. Schiro, substituting for the Mayor, delivered an address of welcome to the Ambassador in behalf of the City of New Orleans.

The highlight of the evening was a message from the Italo-American community of New Orleans delivered to the Ambassador by Dean Antonio E. Papale, dean of the Loyola University school of Law.

Dean Papale's message in full: Mr. Chairman; Your Excellency, Joseph Francis Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans; Reverend Fathers; Your Excellency Manlio Brosio, Italian Ambassador to the United States; Commissioner Schiro; Mr. Trinchieri, the Consul

General of Italy; Honored Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen:

I cherish the role I have been given to play in this splendid affair. For it enables me to extend in my own name and in the names of thousands of my fellow citizens our heartfelt greetings to a distinguished diplomat, an able statesman and a polished gentleman. But there is an additional and more pertinent reason why we are made glad to have His Excellency with us. For you are, Mr. Ambassador, the chief representative in the United States of a country which is the ancestral home of those whom in life or in death we love most dearly — our parents and grandparents. These, our forebearers, migrated to America a generation or more ago. They came as humble, God-fearing men and women seeking for moderate comfort and reasonable security for themselves and their children.

Life for these immigrants was not easy. Even in this land of freedom, they were often visited with racial and religious discrimination that would have left a less buoyant people utterly frustrated and acridly bitter, but with

the courage born of deep spiritual conviction and of unquenchable hope, they bravely overcame these difficulties without lessening their dignity and innate gentility, they were not too vain to become ditch diggers, banana peddlers, and hod carriers in order to insure, if not for themselves, at least for us, their children, the opportunity to participate in the fullness of American religious, political, economic and social freedoms.

As you survey this banquet hall tonight, Mr. Ambassador, you see hundreds of the descendants of those hearty pioneers, to your country, the country which gave them birth, we owe an everlasting debt of gratitude. Only because of what Italy had done for them were they able to withstand the sufferings and injustices heaped upon them. Only because of their willingness to sacrifice themselves for us were we, their sons and daughters, able to enter the mainstream of American life and to stand without apology as an integral part of this thing we call Americanism.

For many years Italo-Americans have been telling and re-telling the fascinating story of their great contribution to the building of America. Time will not permit that I review this outstanding record. But to those of our fellow citizens who may yet be skeptical, I recommend an article in the January, 1955, issue of *Reader's Digest*, entitled "The Italians Among Us". The author enumerates what Italian immigrants and their sons have accomplished in music, in art, in science, in labor, in business, in athletics, in politics, in the academic field and in a host of other activities. Of these accomplishments we Italo-Americans are justly proud, for in making them we have acted in the finest traditions of America.

It is true that we, like other groups in polygot America, have had and still have our black-sheep. But as the article in question observes "unfortunately for others of Italian descent, the sordid activities of a small segment — the underworld racketeers — have too often shifted public attention away from the real achievements of the great body of Italian-Americans. Studies have shown that our citizens of Italian origin do not have a peculiar propensity for racketeering, mayhem and murder. Arrests and convictions of Italians are no more frequent, per hundred thousand in the same age and sex brackets, than for an immigrant group, and they are slightly less than for our citizens of native stock."

Despite this magnificent record, there are many in the United

States who will insist, that the peoples of southern Europe make less desirable citizens than those from Anglo-Saxon nations. Those who entertain this attitude, unchristian and undemocratic as it is, would relegate the peoples of Italy and southern Europe to a second-class and inferior category of human beings, and reduce to a bare minimum the flow of immigrants into the United States from those areas. The principal instruments for implementing this totally unjust and racially-biased outlook are the provisions of the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act whereby gross discrimination against Italy and other non Anglo-Saxon countries are made part of our national law. We deprecate such unAmerican activity. And in the spirit of genuine Americanism, we pledge untiring efforts to strike out from our statute books such dangerous distortions of real Democracy. We who have firm faith in America are not frightened by the scare technique of those who predict that our food supply cannot keep pace with the continuing immigration of Europeans, Africans, Asians and Latin Americans to our shores. America is a Christian nation and its future, like the future of every other nation depends upon God and the manner in which we serve Him. To assert then, that America cannot produce goods and services in sufficient quantity and quality to support an ever-expanding population is to give the lie to the profession we inscribe on our coins: "In God We Trust!" The fatherhood of God and the resultant brotherhood of man are not circumscribed by the sovereignty. But in so doing we are not so lacking in vision as not to recognize that our membership in the great human family imposes upon us obligations which transcend nationality, race and national frontiers. Christian charity do not stop at the borders of any nation. We must love our neighbor, for the love of God, as we love ourselves, whether our neighbor be next door or thousands of miles removed.

You well know, Mr. Ambassador, that America is a generous nation, through the Marshall Plan, the Truman Doctrine, the Point IV program and other means we have demonstrated to the world

our willingness to share with less fortunate nations the great bounty with which God has blessed us. And we do not forget that there may come a time when Italy and other nations might have to come to our aid as you have done so often in the past.

We believe, Mr. Ambassador, that Italy shares with the spirit of human kindness. And we pray that this spirit may be quickened and intensified throughout the world so that the fearful specter of national and racial hatred, which threatens all we have known and loved, may be banished from the hearts of men and nations.

And in conclusion let me say that your presence in our midst is an apt reminder of the debt we owe individually and collectively to the great nation whose spokesman you are.

Your being with us will serve, I can assure you, to strengthen the bonds of friendship and affection with the people of your country. We are proud of our loyalty and devotion to America, but we cannot and will not forget that the Italian blood that courses in our veins imposes upon us the gentle burden of gratitude and love for Italy and for what Italy

Continued on Page 3

IMPORTANT NOTICE

For the benefit of our subscribers and advertisers and in general for all Italo-Americans, the offices of the Italo-American News, Italo-American Publishing Co., and the Chiarello Business Service, are now located at the rear section of the Italian Hall. New Address and telephone number is: 1025 Barracks St., New Orleans 16, La., Phone CANal 4750.

AVVISO IMPORTANTE

Per beneficio dei nostri abbonati, avvisatori e per tutti gli Italo-Americani in generale, gli uffici dell'Italo-American News, Italo-American Publishing Co., e Chiarello Business Service, sono adesso locati nella sezione dietro dell'Italian Hall. Il nuovo indirizzo e numero di telefono sono: 1025 Barracks St., New Orleans 16, La., Telefono CANal 4750.

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ITALO-AMERICAN NEWS

543 SO. GALVEZ STREET

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

AVVISO

ITA-AM LADIES AUXILIARY

By LILY CHUTZ
GA 2602

THE MEETING

of the Ladies Auxiliary Italo-American Club took place Tuesday, May 10, with a very large attendance. Plans for the Pizza Pie Party, to be held Saturday, June 18, went into full swing. Everyone is looking forward to a wonderful time.

Pepsi-Cola tops poured in by the thousands. The members are still pushing forward to get their quota and be rewarded with a grand luncheon sponsored by the Pepsi Cola Co. Mrs. Rose Mary Mieding and Mrs. Nancy Saragusa were appointed chairmen of the Pepsi Cola luncheon, by acting president, Miss Marie Pecoraro.

A supper dance is being given by the men's organization of the Italo-American Club, Saturday, May 21, and a large number of Auxiliary ladies will be attending.

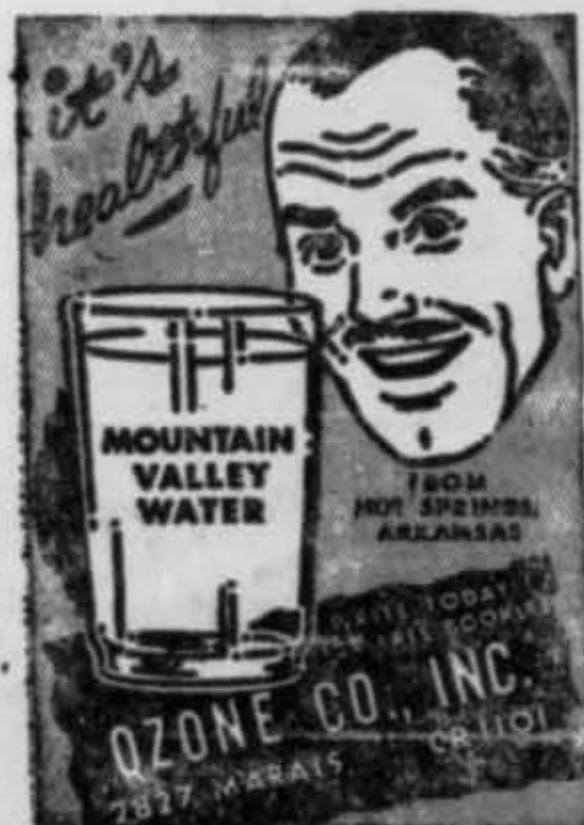
Entrance prizes were won by Mmes. Josephine Catalanotto, June Mann, V. Paciera, Josie Cardarella, E. St. Germain, Josie Marino, Sarah Hawkins, C. Clesi, Myrl Boyle, A. Locasio and Mrs. Josie Pomes.

Mrs. Mary Diosini was presented with a pretty little vase for guessing the name of Mrs. Josephine Campo in the GUESS WHO contest. Mrs. Joseph Chutz was awarded two tickets for 2 luncheons at the ever-popular Nick Gentilich's restaurant on N. Rampart and Dumaine St. for naming the face of Mrs. Nick Gentilich in the Name the Face contest.

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A warm welcome was extended 9 new members, Mmes Josie Alford, 3124 St. Ann St., Rose Boudreaux, 119 Sherwood Forest Dr., Philip Chuter, 172 Central Ave., Anthony Cuccia, 144 Atherton Dr., Anthony Capagnano, 978 Porteous St., A. Danna, 2900 Esplanade Ave., Reba Guidry, 7204 Patricia St., Lucille Kuchler, 978 Porteous St., and Lena Virgadamo, 785 Harrison St.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting, and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all attending.

A LARGE GROUP OF ITALO-AMERICANS

also civic officials and friends were at the Moisant Airport Friday morning to welcome his Excellency, Manlio Brosio, Italian Ambassador to the United States, and his wife, Mrs. Clotilde Brosio and Miss Emma Brosio, sister of Mr. Brosio. They were accompanied by the Italian Consul General, Mr. Alfredo Trinchieri. Among the ladies to greet the new arrivals were Mrs. John Panzeca, president of the Elenian Club, Mrs. Anthony Bivona, vice president of the Italo-American Club, Ladies Auxiliary, Miss Carol Trinchieri, daughter of the Italian Consul, Mrs. Joseph Chutz, Mrs. Joseph Tipery, Mrs. Salvador DiGrato, Mrs. Peter Ciaccio and Miss Raphaela Magiorre.

Mrs. Panzeca presented each Mrs. Manlio Brosio and Miss Emma Brosio with a bouquet of American Beauty roses.

The Ambassador and his party were escorted to their hotel by 2 motorcycle police. A group of officials and friends followed in their cars.

LADIES OF THE AUXILIARY

to be honored this Sunday May 15, with beautiful Italian songs are Mrs. Richard Dalio, Mrs. Santa Di Benedetto, Mrs. Nancy Diecidue, Miss Anita Di Betta and Miss Marie Di Betta. The musical selections will be coming over the Italian Hour over Radio Station WJBW from 1 til 2 p.m. All the members of the Ladies Auxiliary, Italo-American Club wish to express their deepest gratitude to Radio Station WJBW, the sponsors and Mr. Antonio Francalancia for the many beautiful selections played on the air for their birthdays and anniversaries. Requests over the phone and by letter have always been honored. The members are all grateful and look forward every single Sunday for the very delightful Italian Hour program, and enjoy every minute of it.

IT'S A GIRL

A beautiful little girl was born to Mrs. Anna Taormina Friday, May 6, at Hotel Dieu. The proud and happy grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Salvador Centanni.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to Mrs. Joseph M. Pecoraro, on May 15, from the officers and members of the Ladies Auxiliary. A little family get-together is planned in honor of Mrs. Pecoraro's birthday and a beautiful Italian song will be dedicated to Mrs. Pecoraro on the Italian Hour on Sunday, May 15.

A BIG SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY

was given for Vincent Guttuso, last Sunday, by Lily Rose Chutz at home home on Canal St. Vincent, coming over for a Sunday

night date with Lily Rose, found the house in complete darkness. A large group of Holy Cross students and their dates were all in the reception room, quiet as mice. Vincent rang the door bell. Lily Rose opened the door as all the lights went on, and a big chorus of "SURPRISE" broke the stillness of the room, which nearly scared Vince out of his clothes. A flash light camera went on at that moment and caught Vincent with his mouth wide open. He was really and truly surprised. Then the fun began. The youngsters danced and made merdy till nearly midnight.

The color decorations were brought out in the Holy Cross High School colors of blue and gold. In the center of the table was a large cake very attractively decorated with a baseball diamond complete with all the players. The baseball diamond was fepced in with 18 tiny blue and gold candles.

Vincent received many wonderful gifts and an exciting time was enjoyed by all attending. A musical number will be dedicated to this fine young man on the Italian Hour Sunday, May 15, in honor of his birthday.

MR. & MRS. SALVADOR DIECIDUE, SR.

are sporting a brand new V-8 Ford. Thousands of miles of happy motoring to Mr. and Mrs. Diecidue.

ANDIE

is the name given to this big bouncing baby boy. The proud and happy parents are Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Martin. Andie was born at Baptist Hospital March 27, weighing in at 8 and one half pounds. The christening took place at the Church of St. Catherine of Sienna. A large reception followed the christening.

MRS. JESSIE MARCIANTE

with her two daughters and her grandchildren enjoyed a very happy week end in honor of Mother's Day, at the country home of her brother, Felix Tranchina, in Slidell, La.

MR. SALVADOR DIECIDUE JR. will be passing out cigars in the very near future.

PAULETTE AND SUSAN BEDER

lovely little daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Beder and grandchildren Mr. and Mrs. Richard Famiglio, will take part in a very attractive dance revue, May 20 to be given by Joan Bovan School of Dancing at the Jerusalem Temple.

Paulette will do a ballet solo dressed as a bride doll. She will also be in a tap group representing various fruits. In a third act Paulette will come out as a Bumble Bee with ha ballet group. Susan will be a little pink Poodle Dog in a ballet group number.

MR. AND MRS. PASQUALE D'AGOSTA

will celebrate their wedding anniversary May 17 with a little family reunion. Best wishes are going their way from their 4 daughters, Nancy, Elena, Josephine and Mary, also from the grandchildren. An Italian selection will be heard on the Italian Hour Sunday, May 15, in honor of

Mr. and Mrs. D'Agosta's anniversary.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to Augio Bondio, May 14, and Mrs. Giovanni Bertucci, May 15 from their family and friends.

MR. AND MRS.

BERNARD MARCHESE

have moved into their beautiful new home on Camp St.

A GRAND VACATION

to different parts of California has been planned by Mr. and Mrs. Salvador Diecidue and their daughter, Theresa and Mrs. Richard Famiglio. They will leave on May 21, motoring first to Las Vegas to visit relatives. They will be gone three weeks. The family are planning a farewell party for the vacationers and see them off in style.

A pleasant vacation to the Diecidues and Mrs. Famiglio.

MR. RICHARD FAMIGLIO

was entertained with a grand family gathering and card party in honor of his birthday May 4. A grand time was enjoyed by all the guests. Mr. Famiglio received many nice gifts. A song will be heard on the Italian Hour Sunday May 15, in honor of Mr. Famiglio's birthday.

MR. AND MRS. ANTHONY SARAGUSA

will hear a beautiful Italian song May 15, in honor of their 23rd wedding anniversary which they celebrated May 11. Congratulations and best wishes from their children, Vincent, Roy and Marian. The rest of the family and their friends also join in sending greetings to this happy couple.

AGNES

was the name chosen for this precious baby girl born to Mr. and Mrs. John Wilkinson, March 18. The christening took place at St. James Major Church. A grand reception followed the christening. Agnes received many lovely gifts.

MR. AND MRS. ANTHONY LA BARBARA, JR.

have arrived in New Orleans from East Orange, New Jersey, where they have lived for quite sometime. They are guests of Mr.

and Mrs. La Barbara Sr. until their new home is completed. They will make their permanent home in New Orleans.

THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

of the Ladies Auxiliary and Italo-American Club
Continued on Page 3

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L'ORA ITALIANA

Con sempre crescente successo proseguono le trasmissioni del programma radio italiano.

Ogni Domenica, alle ore 1 p.m., la Radio Station WJBW sulla lunghezza d'onda di kc 1230, trasmette il vostro programma. Ascoltatelo e fatelo ascoltare e non mancate di mandare la vostra opinione.

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New Orleans, La., Saturday, May 14, 1955

AMBASSADOR

Continued from Page 1
has done for us personally and for America. God bless you, God keep you, God be with you always.

Dr. Alfredo Trinchieri, Consul General of Italy to New Orleans, cited the background of Ambassador Brosio and introduced him to the audience.

H. E. Manlio Brosio

H. E. Manlio Brosio was born in Turin in 1897. When still very young he enlisted in the Alpine Corps and fought as an Officer in their ranks through the end of World War I. He was for a brief period a prisoner of war; for his behavior in combat he was awarded the Silver Medal and the Cross of Valor.

He graduated at the University of Turin and in this city of Northern Italy he started his professional career as a Lawyer. A young political leader, member of the Liberal Party and Central Secretary of the "Liberal Revolution" movement from 1922 to 1925, he wrote several articles for the periodical "Rivoluzione Liberale" which, in those years — when Fascism was already in power — kept high the ideals of freedom and liberty.

He retired from politics a few years later when fascism got control of the Country, and continued his work as a lawyer in Turin,

keeping contacts with the anti-fascist groups and their leaders, such as Benedetto Croce — The Italian Philosopher and Economist Luigi Einaudi, who was to become the president of the Italian Republic.

During the German Occupation, Mr. Brosio was a member of the underground Italian National Liberation Committee. He was Secretary General of the Liberal Party and became Minister without portfolio in 1944, was subsequently Vice President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Defense when De Gasperi became Premier.

In January 1947 he was appointed Ambassador to Moscow, where he remained until December 1951 when he was appointed to the Court of St. James. Mr. Brosio remained in London until the end of 1954 and in January came to represent Italy in Washington.

Italy in full Development

Brosio, appointed Ambassador to the United States last January stated Italy is no longer a "Defeated Country", but an ally. Addressing the Italo-American Societies of New Orleans, the Ambassador continued: "I can assure you that our country is in full development at the present time and our wounds of the war are now healed."

The Italian standard of living is at an all-time high, Ambassador Brosio said, adding, "but we are more and more aware of our comparative poverty and will strive to alter this situation."

The Statesman praised the early Italian immigrants to the U. S. citing their courage and fortitude in facing the difficulties of a strange new land, in many respects different from the Country of Italy.

Praise America

America, which Brosio termed "a marvelous nation," stated that just the occurrence of a foreign Ambassador addressing a group of former countrymen alone made this country an amazing place. Brosio said that such an occurrence would be literally "impossible" in the Soviet Union.

He expressed Italy's gratitude to Italo-Americans for the loyalty

Mother of Udienza Feast In Independence May 21 and 22

Under the auspices of the Fraternanza Santissima Maria dell'Udienza, the feast of Our Blessed Mother of Udienza will be observed in Independence, La., on Saturday and Sunday, May 21 and 22. This is an annual occurrence and this month will mark the 35th celebration in the history of the parish. Through this medium the St. Mary Society invites the public and all the Catholic Societies of Hammond, Ponchatoula, Tickfaw, Independence and Amite La., to attend the celebration.

On Sunday, May 14, there will be two Masses held, one at 7 a. m. a low Mass of general Communion for the Society and the other at 9:30, a Solemn High Mass in honor of our Blessed Mother, requested by the Society. At this Mass the sermon will be preached by the Rev. D. M. Della Penta, O. P. of Independence, La.

At 1 p. m. there will be a festival on the grounds, featured by music, games and refreshments. Procession will begin at 5:30 p. m. and end with Benediction upon return to the Church.

At 9 p. m. a display of fireworks will be conducted by the Lamarca Brothers of Red Hill. After the fireworks there will be a Dance at Cucchiara Catholic Center.

Officers of the Society are: John Catalano, President; Sam Vaccaro, Corr. Secty and Carlo Vaccaro, Financial Secretary.

The committee for the feast is composed of John Catalano, chairman; Roy Sampere, Carl Vaccaro, Sam Vaccaro, Frank Relan, Sam Lucido and Tony Laclura.

ITA-AM LADIES AUXILIARY

(Continued from Page 1)
lo-American Club extend their sincere sympathy to Mrs. Joseph Schiro in her recent bereavement.

Mr. Anthony Foto, brother of Mrs. Schiro, died Friday, April 29, after a brief illness. The funeral took place Sunday, May 1.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Mr. and Mrs. Julius James on their 6th wedding anniversary which they celebrate May 14. Mrs. James is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gaspard Cusumano. Mr. and Mrs. James will be honored with a musical number Sunday May 15 on the Italian Hour over Radio Station WJBW.

to the U. S., saying that this loyalty, in turn, was an honor to Italy. He also paid tribute to the "sentimental love" of Italy by Americans of Italian descent.

Mrs. Salvador Centanni, president of the Ladies Auxiliary, Italo-American Club, was chairman of the reception committee. Other ladies on the reception committee were Mesdames Anthony Bivona, Rosario Carimi, Joseph Chutz, Paul Scarcelli, Charles Ciaccio, Salvador Grado, James Hostler, Philip Musso, Guy Spicuzza, Joseph Tipery, Aubrey Weil, Antonio Papale and Lawrence Aiavolasiti. Numerous Italo-Americans were on the arrangement committee of which Mr. Lawrence Aiavolasiti was chairman.

NOTIZIE DA BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Italo-American News Representatives
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Telephone 3-1813
1100 12th Ave. North Birmingham, Ala.

VINCENT MONTALBANO

Will be confirmed May 19, at St. Alphonsus Church. Congratulations and lots of love from his Godmother, Mrs. Charles Mieding. A song will be heard on the Italian Hour Sunday, May 15 for Vincent in honor of this great event.

EMILY POST'S ANSWERS

Q. I have been married a long time and have never taken off my wedding ring, which now is much worn. My husband would like to give me a new wedding ring for our anniversary. I've been told that this would both be improper and bad luck. What do you think?

A. It would be quite proper and to think that it would be bad luck is superstitious nonsense.

Ad una scuola di fisica elementare il maestro si sforza di spiegare a Sisto Piccioni la velocità media:

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— . . . L'auto-ambulanza! —
Interrompe trionfalmente Sisto.

Auguri di Guarigione Per La Sig.ra Tancredi

La Signora G. A. Firpo venuta recentemente a conoscenza della malattia per la quale la Signora Orsolina Tancredi è stata ricoverata nell'ospedale di Birmingham, esprime il suo dispiacere nell'apprendere questa notizia un po' in ritardo. Prego la Signora Tancredi di scusarla per non averle scritto prima.

La Signora Firpo, che ha perduto recentemente suo marito, si trova ora preoccupatissima avendo anch'essa una sorella ammalata, con tutto ciò non può dimenticare le gentilezze e premure prestate dalla Signora Tancredi durante la malattia e morte del suo caro defunto, e con il cuore colmo di riconoscenza Le augura sinceramente una pronta guarigione e che Iddio preservi la sua salute e la benedica nel futuro.

Infiniti auguri di pronta guarigione giungano alla Signora Tancredi anche da parte dei redattori editore dell'Italo-American Publishing Co., uniti agli amici e conoscenti.

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Appendice

Il Cadavere Accusatore

Romanzo di Carolina Invernizio

Puntata No. 57

Una di esse aveva una busta comunissima, e l'indirizzo era quasi indecifrabile.

Nita credette che si trattasse di qualche domanda di soccorso, e l'apri subito, con un sorriso buono sulle labbra.

Ma fino dalle prime parole gli occhi le si intorbidarono e le labbra le divennero livide.

Nervosa, si rivolse alla cameriera dicendo:

— Lasciami; ho deciso: non esco più; finirò di abbigliarmi più tardi. Avverti madamigella Rose di condurre Lola al Sacro Cuore di Maria.

La cameriera uscì subito. Allora Nita si mise a leggere attentamente quell'infame missiva.

Diceva: "Signora, "Non vi siete dunque ancora accorta come da due anni vostro marito dissipi il suo patrimonio con una sguadrina che si fa chiamare Fedra e per la quale egli ha acquistata la palazzina del banchiere Foresti?"

"Ma il peggio è che questa Fedra, altra non è che Amalia Ulma la striatrice che fu l'amante di Giovanni di Barga e ne fece assassinare la moglie.

"Guardate alla vostra pelle, che non è sicura, signora."

A questo punto della lettera, en-

trò Lola, gridando:

— E' vero, mamma, che tu non vieni al Sacro Cuore di Maria?

Nita squalcì in fretta la lettera, che si pose nella tasca della vestaglia, rispondendo:

— No, cara, perchè dimenticavo un altro impegno. Vai tu con madamigella: ci rivedremo a colazione.

La baciò teneramente, cercando di celarle la sua commozione, e quando la fanciulla se ne fu andata, trasse di nuovo la lettera.

Non aveva firma, ma un prescritto che diceva:

"Se vuoi sapere di più, si affacci al balcone e dia ordine al portinaio di introdurre una ragazza bionda che si presenterà; così almeno sarai sicura che non la inganno e non le tendo un agguato."

Nita lesse tre o quattro volte quelle lettere, non potendo persuadersi, e pur fremendo di rabbia e di disgusto.

Possibile che il suo Alfonso, il padre di sua figlia, la lusingasse così? Ella voleva sapere ad ogni costo.

Non avrebbe più potuto vivere con quell'angoscia e quella curiosità.

Nita riuscì a celare alla cameriera i suoi pensieri.

Si fece abbigliare, poi le disse:

— Per ora, non esco: avverti Anselmo che se si presentasse in portineria una ragazza bionda a chiedere di me, la faccia salire, perchè ho da parlarle, essendomi caldamente raccomandata di un'amica: va'!

La cameriera uscì, e Nita, aperto il balcone della sua camera, stette appoggiata per alcuni secondi al marmo della balaustrata. Poi rientrò.

Non erano trascorsi cinque minuti, che la cameriera l'avvertiva come una giovine fosse in anticamera e chiedesse di parlarle.

— Introducila nel mio salottino da lavoro, — disse Nita, cercando di mantenersi calma, quantunque il cuore le battesse con violenza.

— Se venisse qualcuno, non disturbatemi.

— Se tornasse la signorina?

— Non tornerà così presto, ma qualora le dirai che la mamma è occupata con una povera ragazza, nè vuole che alcuno entri nel salottino.

— Va enissimo, signora.

Nita attese ancora qualche minuto,enchè fosse divorata dall'impazienza; poi, si recò nella stanza dove la visitatrice aspettava.

Era la Bionda, l'amante del Moro.

Ella non aveva creduto punto all'assenza dell'amante per affari, nè si era lusingata delle sue promesse.

Le era astato poco tempo di convivenza con lui, per capire con che si era fatta accontentare per restare fedele a quel soggettaccio.

Inoltre, costei era una ragazza di criterio, e nonostante gli istinti viziosi, detestava davvero la vita del marciapiede e soprattutto di essere guidata a acchetta, tenuta sotto il dominio di un volgare gargan.

Per giunta,enchè non fosse di forme irreprensibili, aveva abbastanza attrattive da innamorare qualche ubono ed ingenuo ragazzo da poter comandare a sua volta ed indurlo anche a sposarala, a dare un legittimo stato.

La volpona aveva posti gli occhi sull'unico figlio di una lattaia, dalla quale si recava ogni giorno per bere un bicchiere di latte, ma in realtà per trovarsi col figlio di lei, un bietolone che arrossiva nel guardarla e la mangiava coglio occhi quando essa fingeva di non badare a lui, finchè un giorno, trovandosi solo con lei, le aveva fatto la sua brava dichiarazione.

La Bionda si era mostrata confusa, imbarazzata.

Ella era persuassissima che quel ragazzo ignorasse qual mestiere era il suo, perchè abitava in paraggi assai lontani da quel negozio dove era creduta una lavorante, una commessa.

Per cui rispose modestamente:

— Voi volete prendermi in giro; ma io non sono ragazza da ingannare.

— Nè io — rispose con calore il giovinotto — hi mai cercati d'ingannare alcuno in vita mia! Figuratevi se ingannerei voi, la prima, la sola donna che io abbia amata... che ami...

— Voglio credervi; ma che direbbe vostra madre?

Egli arrossì; tuttavia rispose con franchezza ingenua:

— Ecco, veramente mia madre desidererebbe una ragazza che mi portasse un pò di dote, perchè è specialmente sensibile al denaro: invece, in me non parla che il cuore.

— Sentite: — esclamò sfacciatamente la Bionda — per ora non ho che quel poco che mi guadagno col mio lavoro; ma attendo in breve un'eredità, che una mia madrina, vecchissima e malata, mi ha promesso, avendo fatto un testamento tutto a mio favore.

Gli occhi del bietolone luccicarono.

— Quand'è così, se permettete parlerò a mia madre.

— Parlatene, e se è contenta di aspettare, io sarò felice di diventare vostra moglie.

La lattaia, informata dal figlio, aveva trattato da profonda politica il capitolo degli affari.

La ragazza non le dispiaceva: era forte, robusta, sarebbe stata al banco, lasciando a lei un pò di riposo; ma finchè l'eredità non fosse giunta, il matrimonio non si farebbe.

La Bionda affermò che la sua madrina, l'unica persona che avesse al mondo, perchè orfana di genitori, non poteva durare a lungo. Ella ritrovava a Collegno, nel riparto delle ebete, e, per la grave età, sarebbe da un giorno all'altro mancata.

Continua

-: ITALY TODAY :-

Part 2

The Italian Alps, including the highest and most famous year-round snow-covered, glacier-studded peaks, descend sharply westward toward the Italian plains but slope gradually in the center and to the east to form a chain of smaller mountains known as the Pe-Alps.

The main peaks of the Italian Alps are, Monviso, 3,841 meters, source of the River Po, Mont Blanc, 4,810 meters, the highest mountain in Europe, the Gran Paradiso Group, 4,081 meters, Mont Rose, 4,638 meters, Cervino, 4,482 meters, and the Bernina group, 4,052 meters.

The Dolomites are famous the world over for their peaks which rise like isolated white towers above the green fields and forests.

The Eastern Alps, lower than the others and with more gradual slopes, include the "Vetta d'Italia", the northernmost point of Italian territory, and dominate the desolate Carso zone which became notorious after the last war for its "foibe", or deep crevices in the ground, into which the Yugoslavs threw thousands of Italians in a vain attempt to denationalize Istria.

In spite of their great height, the Alps have an abundance of passes through which run excellent road and rail communications.

The Apennine chain joins the Alps at Col di Cadibona in Liguria. It forms the backbone of the peninsula and includes the mountains of Sicily. The system has a mid-section and two flanks, known as the Tyrrhenian Pre-Apennines and the Adriatic Pre-Apennines, and is in the form of an arc.

The Apennine chain may be subdivided into four cross sections: the Northern, Central, Southern and Sicilian Apennines. The mountains of the central system are the highest of the whole chain, culminating in Abruzzi with Mount Corno (2,914 meters) on the massive Gran Sasso.

The Sicilian Apennines include on the east, the largest volcano in Europe, Mt. Etna (3,279 meters), which dominates the Catania plain from the North.

The Adriatic Pre-Apennines start in Apulia from the Gargano and stretch as far as Serre del Salento. The Tyrrhenian Apennines form the outer ridges of Tuscany, Latium and Campania and

include Mt. Vesuvius.

In the north, the Apennines are in the form of parallel chains but in the south they change to a succession of high plateaus and massive peaks. Most famous of these is the Sila in Calabria. The Apennines, too, are crossed by numerous roads and railway lines.

Sardinia and Corsica share a mountain range of their own known as the Sardo-Corso system. This is an irregular chain of peaks which reaches a maximum height of 1,834 meters in Sardinia's Genargentu group while in Corsica, they become sharp and barren, culminating in Mt. Cinto (2,710 meters).

The internal slopes of the Alps, the flanks of the Apennines and the Sardo-Corso system comprise a large part of Italian territory, leaving but little room for plains. Seventy-five per cent of Italy's area is made up of "highlands," that is, land over 600 feet above sea level.

The lowlands include the famous Po-Venetian plain, the greatest in Southern Europe. It is crossed by the River Po and by the lower reaches of the Venetian rivers and fans out to the Adriatic Sea. Rich in water, and crossed by numerous rivers, it is the most fertile zone in Italy.

Other plains, of minor importance and size, almost all on the coast, are the Tavoliere delle Puglie, the Salento (between the Ionian and Adriatic Seas), those of Sibari and Marchesato on the Ionian coast, of Campania, the Roman "Agro," the Tuscan Maremma, and the lower Valdarno. The islands possess the plain of Catania the Conca d'Oro (or the "Golden Shell") in Sicily and the Campidano in Sardinia.

Italy, notoriously poor in lowlands, also lacks large rivers. The largest Italian river is the Po, which has its source on Monviso and has a length of approximately 385 miles, and empties into the Adriatic Sea. The silt carried by the Po and its tributaries from the mountains, has raised the bed of the river in its lower reaches to such an extent that in many places it is higher than the surrounding plain. Although the banks of the river have been built up and reinforced, the waters often break through to flood the countryside.

(Continued)

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