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COLUMBUS Balbo Review

Di Laura, Editor

Birmingham, Ala., October, 1933

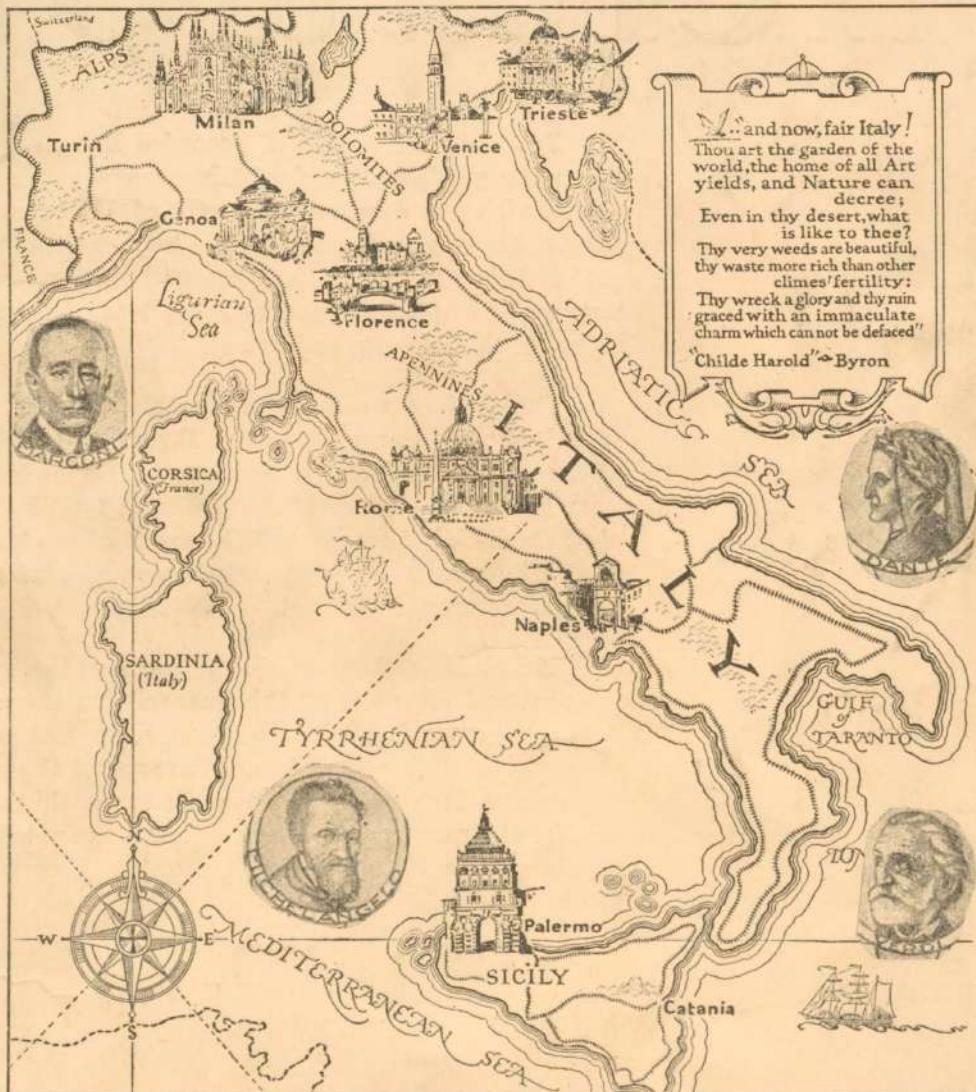
Vol. 1 No. 1.

1492



Christopher Columbus

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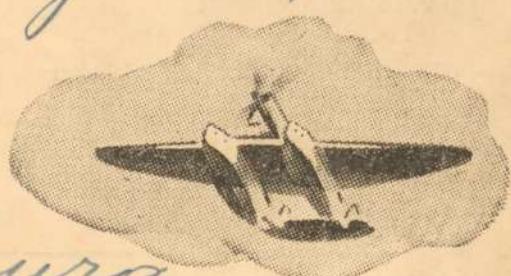


GEN. ITALO BALBO

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the publisher

1933

Elvio Di Laura



**To the Columbus-Balbo Review
and Italian-American Citizens
of Birmingham District**

Felicitations!

Signed

EUGENE H. HAWKINS,
Judge of Probate
JUDGE ROGER SNYDER
JAMES A. SIMPSON, Attorney
J. E. ADDICKS,
U. S. Depart. Foreign Commerce
LOUISE O. CHARLTON,
U. S. Federal Commissioner
J. V. COWART, President of A. C. Legg
Packing Co.—Old Plantation Sausage
Seasoning
J. FRANK RUSHTON, JR.
J. M. JONES, JR.,
President City Commission
WALTER BROWER, Attorney
JOHN H. TAYLOR,
Associate City Commissioner
G. B. PULTS,
Birmingham Water Works
PURE MILK COMPANY
DONOVAN COFFEE COMPANY
BROWN SERVICE FUNERAL CO.
W. COOPER GREEN,
Acting Postmaster
GRAHAM PERDUE, Attorney
W. A. STEADHAM, District Manager
Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph
Company
DAVID ROBERTS, JR.,
President Mac-Wates Fuel Co.
GEORGE LEWIS BAILES, Solicitor

From the beginning of recorded history, down the ages when the glories of Ancient Rome were yours; when the inspired vision and indomitable will of the illustrious Christopher Columbus made possible the heritage that Americans enjoy in this country of freedom and amalgamation of races, your people have recorded undying leadership in progress, in valor, in the sciences and art.

The modern world of today salutes your Marconi, your Italo Balbo and every generation throughout the world has had to recognize such leaders as your immortal Michael Angelo; your great Dante; Cellini; Savonarola; Da Vinci; Verdi; Mazzini; Garibaldi; Cavour, and the trend of modern government in this troubous economic period was undeniably pioneered by your statesman, Mussolini.

The stable and responsible element of the industrial, agricultural and civic life of this favored Commonwealth of Alabama is permeated with the leadership and co-operation of progressive Italian-American citizens, and the signers of this page deem it a privilege to render you this salutation and proffer their congratulations to you on the notable accomplishments of the Italians in this country, Birmingham in particular.



TOM BOWRON,
Vice-Pres. First National Bank
SAMUEL L. EARLE
HOLLIS O. BLACK, Attorney

F. D. McARTHUR, Attorney
RODERICK BEDDOW,
President International Lions Club
WATTS-NEWSOME COMPANY

THE HISTORY OF COLUMBUS DAY IN ALABAMA

The first law for the observance of Columbus Day in Alabama was passed on March 4, 1911, by the Alabama Legislature, but on September 30, 1919, by reason of prejudice, the Columbus Day was abolished.

In March, 1931, by initiative of Mr. Elviro Di Laura, then editor of "Il Gladiatore," and with the co-operation of Messrs. Frank and Carlo Mazzara; Mrs. Louise O. Charlton, Commissioner of United States Court; Miss Mollie Dowd, and Mr. M. J. McBride, a resolution was presented on July 25, 1931, by Mr. Lewey Robinson, Representative in the State Legislature from Jefferson County, which was passed by both the House and Senate and signed by Governor B. M. Miller, and officially designates October 12 as a holiday to be known as "Columbus Day and Fraternal Day."

But, by some mixup on the matter, the passing of the resolution did not supersede the statute, so until the Legislature was in session during 1933 those who had the resolution in charge made every effort to correct the mistake. On April 19, 1933, through Mr. John C. Morrow, Representative in the Alabama Legislature from Jefferson County, the resolution of Mr. Robinson was reintroduced and approved, and designated October 12 as a legal holiday to be known as "Columbus Day and Fraternal Day."

* * * * *

THE STATE OF ALABAMA BANKING DEPARTMENT

Montgomery, Ala., October 7, 1931.

MR. ELVIRO DI LAURA, Editor,
P. O. Box 989, Birmingham, Alabama.

DEAR SIR:

Your telegram of October 6th received in reference to House Joint Resolution No. 255, which was approved July 25, 1931, referring to the designation of a holiday to be known as Columbus Day and Fraternal Day.

In reply, wish to advise that I have consulted the Attorney General and his opinion orally is that the passing of this resolution does not supersede the statute, being Section 9215, which states that second Tuesday in October is designated as legal holiday in Alabama.

There seems to be some mixup on the matter and I would suggest that you keep this in mind and when the Legislature is in session again that this be corrected.

Mrs. Marie B. Owen of the Department of History has referred your letter to us also relative to this matter.

Yours very truly,

H. H. MONTGOMERY, Supt. of Banks.

* * * * *

THE STATE OF ALABAMA SENATE CHAMBER

Montgomery, Ala., September 6, 1932.

MR. ELVIRO DI LAURA, Editor,
931 South 13th Street, Birmingham, Alabama.

DEAR SIR:

I am in receipt of your letter of September 3, in regard to Columbus Day and Fraternal Day.

When this bill reaches the Senate, I will be glad to vote for the same; so will my colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

LEE EDMUNDSON.

* * * * *

THE STATE OF ALABAMA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Montgomery, Ala., September 9, 1932.

MR. ELVIRO DI LAURA, Editor,
931 S. 13th St., Birmingham, Ala.

DEAR MR. DI LAURA:

At the earliest possible time I will be glad to lend my support to a measure which will make October 12 a legal holiday in Alabama, known as "Columbus Day and Fraternal Day."

I suggest that you see Representative John C. Morrow, and I will refer the bill to him. He is a lawyer and can draft a better measure than I could draw.

I will lend my hearty support to the measure and I feel sure that we will not have any trouble getting it through the Legislature.

It was with regret that I learned that the attorney general ruled that the House Joint Resolution, which I introduced seeking to make October 12 a legal holiday known as "Columbus Day and Fraternal Day" in the 1931 session, was unconstitutional.

It will be a pleasure to assist in any way and your people should appreciate the efforts you are making in this matter.

Any time that I can be of service to you, please call on me.

Your friend,

LEWEY ROBINSON,
Jefferson Co. Rep. at State Legislature.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Montgomery, Ala., September 15, 1932.

MY DEAR MR. DI LAURA:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 12 in which you remind me of my promise to jog the memory of the Secretary of State about "Columbus Day." I note in your postscript that you have already written to Mr. Schneider reminding him of the change in the Act of Legislature and I will myself call in their office during the day and beg him to put this matter down on his notebook for action.

It is always a pleasure to see you when you are in Montgomery and I hope you will not fail to come into this office when you are here again.

Most sincerely,

MARIE B. OWEN, Director.

* * * * *

FROM THE ROYAL ITALIAN AMBASSADOR

Washington, D. C., 27 April, 1933/XI

SIGNOR ELVIRO DI LAURA,
Birmingham, Alabama.

Ho riceuto la Sua lettera del 17 corrente e La ringrazio per la Sua cortese comunicazione riguardante il riconoscimento in questo Stato del "Columbus Day" come festa ufficiale.

Nel compiacermi per la parte attiva ed apprezzata presa dal Suo giornale nella quistione, La prego di gradire gli atti delle mia distinta considerazione.

IL R. AMBASCIATORE,
Augusto Rosso.

* * * * *

LETTER OF THANKS FROM MUSSOLINI THROUGH THE ROYAL ITALIAN AMBASSADOR

Washington, D. C., 16 June, 1933/XI

SIGNOR ELVIRO DI LAURA,
Birmingham, Alabama.

S. E. Mussolini, cui e' pervenuta la Sua lettera del 24 Aprile circa il riconoscimento del 12 Ottobre come festa legale nell'Alabama, mi ha incaricato di esprimere i suoi ringraziamenti per l'attività da Lei esplicata in proposito.

Con distinta considerazione,

IL R. AMBASCIATORE, Augusto Rosso.

* * * * *

LETTER FROM THE ROYAL ITALIAN CONSUL OF NEW ORLEANS, LA.

New Orleans, La., 3 Maggio, 1933/XI

EGREGIO SIGNOR ELVIRO DI LAURA,
Birmingham, Alabama.

Mi prego accusare riceuta dell'interessante rapporto sul ristabilimento del "Columbus Day" nell'Alabama, e Le rinnovo l'espressione del mio compiacimento per il contributo dato alla riuscita di cosi' nobile iniziativa.

In pari data ho scritto al Governatore Miller, esprimendogli il mio vivo compiacimento. Le accludo, per conoscenza, copia della lettera stessa.

Voglia gradire, egregio Signor Di Laura, l'espressione della mia distinta considerazione.

IL R. CONSOLE, Vitale G. Gallina.

* * * * *

LETTER FROM ROYAL ITALIAN VICE-CONSUL OF BIRMINGHAM

12 Maggio, 1933

SIGNOR ELVIRO DI LAURA,
Birmingham, Alabama.

La ringrazio per l'invio del Suo pregiato comunicato del 3 corrente, riguardo il ristabilimento del "Columbus Day" in questo Stato.

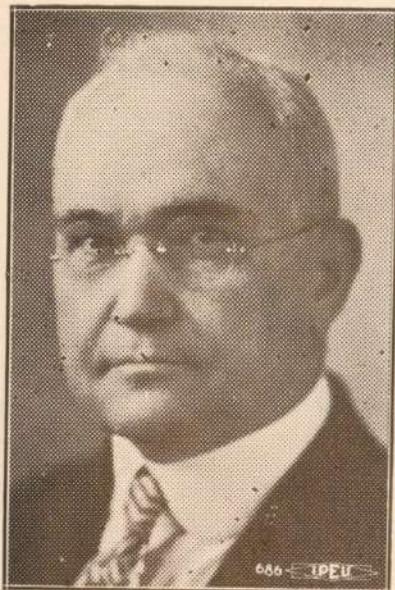
Il nuovo riconoscimento del 12 Ottobre, come festa legale nell'Alabama, e' causa di legittima soddisfazione per tutti gli Italiani, che della gloria di Colombo sono fieri e gelosi custodi.

E' stato così esaudito il voto ardente di questa Comunità ed io mi congratulo vivamente con Lei e quanti hanno lavorato al coronamento di così bella aspirazione.

Senza dubbio le nostre Associazioni, faranno anche meglio per l'avvenire, ora che il riconoscimento legale della fausta ricorrenza e' un fatto compiuto, e tutti gli Italiani saranno con esse.

Con distinta considerazione,

IL REGGENTE,
G. A. Firpo.



HON. B. M. MILLER
Governor of Alabama

**LETTER TO GOVERNOR MILLER FROM THE
ROYAL ITALIAN CONSUL**

HIS EXCELLENCY B. M. MILLER,
Governor of the State of Alabama,
State Capitol, Montgomery, Alabama.

EXCELLENCY:

I have been informed that recently the Alabama Legislature enacted a law declaring as holiday the date of "October 12" and designating it as "Columbus Day and Fraternal Day," thus honoring the great feat of the discovery of America.

As representative of Italy, the country of Columbus, in this section of the United States, I wish to congratulate Your Excellency and the Legislature of the State of Alabama for the tribute paid to the Great Discoverer, in the name of whom our two ever young and progressive countries, United States and Italy, are linked together.

With kindest regards, I beg to remain,

Respectfully yours,

DR. VITALE G. GALLINA,
Royal Consul of Italy.

New Orleans, La.,
May 3rd, 1933.

THE GREAT ITALIAN NAVIGATORS—CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS AND AMERIGO VESPUCCI

There has been a tendency on the part of historians to belittle the voyages of Amerigo Vespucci and their results, and more especially to regret that the North and South American continents were named after him rather than after Columbus. We would certainly find no fault if these two continents had been named after Columbus. Yet it must be said that Vespucci's exploits were meritorious, that he touched the mainland perhaps even before Columbus, and that he furnished the details of accurate information by which maps were made that brought definite knowledge of the American continent to all European scholars. Moreover, it must be noted that Vespucci was a simple and modest man who did nothing towards the naming of the Americas.

The son of Anastagio Vespucci, and the nephew of Fra Giorgio Antonio Vespucci, to whom he owed his education and who was a friend of Savonarola, Amerigo Vespucci was born in Florence on March 9, 1451. As a student in his youth he showed a preference for natural philosophy, astronomy and geography. At the time of the discovery of America by Columbus, Vespucci was a resident of Spain, probably an agent of the famous Medici family of Florence.

Discovery of South America

It was in May of 1497 that Vespucci sailed with an expedition from Cadiz. After more than thirty days of sailing westward the ships anchored along the coast of what was later known as Dutch

Guiana. Proceeding then towards the northeast, landings and stops were made here and there among the natives who showed themselves curious and astonished but always hospitable. Pearls and gold were to be found here to which the natives attached no value. More to the northwest he found the delta of the Orinoco River. In one place, he later wrote, "we found a little town built on water just like Venice, there being about twenty large houses constructed on huge posts. . . ." This explains the name of Venezuela, "little Venice."

After his return to Europe and towards the end of 1499 he started on a second trip with two vessels. This time in less than one month the two little ships reached land somewhat to the south of the Equator. Vespucci judged it to be continuous to the land he had touched earlier on the first voyage. Continuing along to the southward he struck and explored for a short distance the great Amazon River. The description of this portion of the South American coast as given by Vespucci is very interesting. Then turning to the north he soon came once more to Guiana, again made landings, and then returned to Spain.

It was at this time that he entered the service of the King of Portugal. From Portugal he first touched the Cape Verde Islands and thence turned to the southwest. The crossing took 67 days, of which forty-four were in equatorial waters and during which the ships were almost overwhelmed by storms and fogs. At last the northeast coast of Brazil was sighted. Proceeding again to the south, Vespucci struck the beautiful harbor of Rio de Janeiro. Perhaps no European had ever sighted these shores before. The polar star was no longer visible and only those in the constellation of the Little Bear could be seen. Very interesting are Vespucci's notes of part of this voyage. At one point, he and his sailors wandered far from the coast and they were so far to the south as to experience all the characteristics of hard winter. It is possible that he may have reached the region of the Strait of Magellan. Happy indeed were the mariners to reach the European coast on the way back from this voyage.

The Naming of America After Vespucci

Of his voyages and the events connected with them, Vespucci wrote many letters. They were full of descriptions of the new places discovered and they provoked tremendous interest among the rulers and the scholars of Europe. Some of the letters were soon reproduced and translated into many languages. In reading and discussing about the natural wonders of these new lands the name of Vespucci became associated at once with the new continent. It was Martin Waldseemuller, professor of cosmography in St. Die University, who in one of his works first made the suggestion that the newly discovered fourth part of the world should be called "America, because Americus discovered it." This suggestion was soon adopted and before long, perhaps even unknown to Vespucci himself, the name of another great Italian resounded everywhere until this day it is known to and pronounced by every man and woman in the civilized parts of our world.—Columbus.

COLUMBUS DAY CELEBRATION

Columbus Day this year will be celebrated by United Italian Societies at Cascade Plunge Pavillion, from 12 o'clock noon until 11 p.m., October 12.

The chairman of the celebration is Mr. Frank Mazzara. He is being assisted by Mr. Joe Schillicci, vice-chairman; Mrs. Maria Falletta, treasurer; Mr. Robert Barranco, secretary; Mrs. Lillie Trippi, and Mrs. Sam Brocato.

Tony Daidone has been selected as toastmaster.

The program will include a picnic, speeches, musical concert, and dance.

"THE REVIEW" SHOULD LIVE

Credit should be given when well earned, and the editor of The Columbus-Balbo Review, a well-balanced monthly carrying to its readers an analysis of the most important news as well as other items of interest, in my estimation, deserves its, along with our congratulations and best wishes for a long life of usefulness amongst the Italian colony of Birmingham and the entire South. The originality of this magazine deserves praise, and everyone in the colony should willingly co-operate with Mr. and Mrs. Di Laura in the exchange of ideas as well as full-hearted patronage for its successful publication.

GENE H. BONNI.

ALL AMERICANS NOW

An Appreciation of the Italian-American Citizens of Birmingham

Two intrepid Italians Christopher Columbus and Amerigo Vespucci gave America to the world.

Since these courageous navigators and explorers crossed the unknown ocean and opened up the western hemisphere to civilization, men of Italian birth have played no inconsiderable part in the colonization and development for posterity.

The United States of America, therefore, owes an everlasting debt of gratitude to the Italian race because Italians laid the foundation upon which is built this great American Republic.

Their courage, initiative, energy and persistence gave America its beginning.

Historians record that Christopher Columbus, an Italian, a native of Genoa, whose memory is revered by all Americans, and whose name is the first to appear in our histories, discovered America. The story of his great adventure is too well-known to be repeated. Suffice to say that his achievement easily transcends all of the other exploration efforts in the history of mankind.

While Christopher Columbus was the first to contact the western hemisphere, America takes its name from Amerigo Vespucci, the Florentine navigator, likewise a native of Italy.

In an European monastery there is still in existence a letter translated into French from the original Italian, in which it was suggested that since Amerigo Vespucci discovered the "Fourth of the world" the writer saw no reason why it should not be called "Amerigo," and thus it finally became "AMERICA."

Italian interest in America, however, did not cease with the discovery and naming of America, Italy has been lavish in its gifts to the new world.

It has given to America generously of its man power, its science, its arts, its music and its literature. And these gifts have in no sense been lacking in the patriotic ardor of the Italian people.

Indeed, many millions of Italians who came to America seeking new homes in this land of opportunity brought with them their traditional patriotic fervor and this they too lavished upon the land of their adoption.

The rank of American armies in all wars in which this country has engaged, have contained thousands of native born Italians who fought shoulder to shoulder—and with equal courage—with native Americans.

In countless instances, they too made the supreme sacrifice for their adopted land.

In peace, as in war, Italian-Americans have been and are good loyal American subjects, giving generously of their time, their talent, and their money in the preservation of American institutions and safe-guarding of the principles upon which this government is founded.

The sacrificial spirit of the Italian-American girl who recently transmitted to President Roosevelt five dollars in gold, together with her only piece of jewelry, that she might contribute her bit toward solving the financial problem of the United States is typical of Italian patriotism for their adopted country.

This service is a striking illustration of what the Italians—whether native born—are all Americans Now.

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and
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GARIBALDI HYMN

Written in 1859 by Mercantini

The graves burst asunder, the dead rise to aid us;
 The martyrs and heroes whose sacrifice made us,
 With swords firmly grasped and with brows wreath's with laurel,
 They rise now, Italia's freedom to greet!
 Then hasten, then hasten! Onward press, brave battalions!
 Fling wide to the breeze freedom's banner, Italians,
 With sword and with musket press on in your ardor,
 With hearts that alone for Italia beat,
 Ye aliens, abandon our homeland, Italian,
 The hour is at hand, shake its dust from your feet!
 Our fair land with flowers and sweet songs abounding,
 With clashing of steel once again is resounding,
 And manacles vainly our hands seek to fetter,
 The blades of Lagnano defiant, them greet!
 No Austrian cudgels Italians endanger,
 No scion of Rome shall be slave to a stranger;
 The tyrants, Italians no longer will suffer,
 Whose pride of dominion now sink in defeat,
 Ye aliens, abandon our homeland, Italian,
 The hour is at hand, shake its dust from your feet!
 For us were our dwellings Italian erected,
 Return to your own by the Danube protected;
 You've stolen our bread, our field, you have ravag'd,
 Our sons now shall fight 'neath their own country's flag;
 Our border, the Alps and the two seas, regaining.
 With fire and with sword them we'll e'er be maintaining,
 The olden frontiers shall be swept from remembrance,
 And one flag our country united shall greet,
 Ye aliens, abandon our homeland, Italian,
 The hour is at hand, shake its dust from your feet!
 A truce then to speeches, let arms speak the louder,
 And face to the foe, let us argue with powder;
 The Austrian will flinch; he will turn from us fleeing,
 The thought of our country aglow in our hearts!
 We dream not of spoils nor of barbarous plunder,
 Dissension and jealousy ne'er shall us sunder;



Mussolini in a dramatic speaking pose in "Mussolini Speaks"
 —A Columbia Picture

FASCIST HYMN
 ("Youth")

By M. Manni. Translated by Francis Medhurst.

I

Up, my comrades, in your thousands!
 March to meet the future bright,
 Rank on rank, serene and fearless,
 Swift to battle for the right!
 Triumphs now the great ideal
 Bought with blood from sea to sea;
 Brothers all throughout our country
 In Italian aims are we.

Refrain:

Youth! Ah, youth! Thou lovely thing!
 Time of beauty's blossoming!
 Fascism doth surely bring
 Of our people's liberty.

II

Lo! No longer is our nation
 Spurned and humbled in this hour.
 To a new life she has awakened
 Rich in glory, great in power.
 Lift on high the torch resplendent
 That shall light us on our way!
 Industry and peace shall win us
 Perfect freedom in our day.

III

Through long vigils in the trenches
 Streamed the bullets' leaden spray
 All about the flag we follow
 In the thickest of the fray.
 Victory shall crown that banner
 If like men we play the game.
 'Tis our Italy that will it;
 Let us conquer in her name!

IV

Rouse ye, too, O sons of labor!
 Your redemption is at hand.
 Heed not those who would destroy you
 Keep the Red flame from our land.
 Tear the masks from all the traitors
 Who would forge a chain for toil.
 To the stocks with them for planning
 Asian plots on Latin soil!

Italians shall all form one nation together,
 Her towns fam'd and many in union shall meet,
 Ye aliens, abandon our homeland, Italian,
 The hour is at hand, shake its dust from your feet!

The Glory and the Responsibility of Citizenship

"It is no small thing to be a citizen of the world's greatest Republic."

It is a great responsibility to be a voter here. You want to know your privileges and your power as an American voter, and you want to know your duties and responsibility, as well as your rights under the Constitution. Think them out for yourself, as you read and study the clear provisions of our great fundamental law.

"Let each one of us have a copy of our title-deed to our right as American citizens. Let us read, think about, and discuss with our friends the Constitution, which is the charter of our national life.

Study its principles. Know it. Then we shall love it. Do not fancy that you can play well the great game of American life without knowing the rules of the game.

Every citizen should study the Constitution. See how the law and the courts protect you. Especially should every working man and woman become familiar with the Constitution. It is the careful and just administration of our government, guarded and insured by our courts that keeps our national life secure.

* * * * *

ARTICLE I.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

ARTICLE II.

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

ARTICLE III.

No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE IV.

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall be issued, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

ARTICLE V.

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in times of war or public danger; or shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; or shall be compelled in any Criminal Case, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

(To be continued.)

ITALIANS IN THE UNITED STATES

The Italian arriving in America by way of New York, its main gateway, is greeted at Battery Park by Verrazzano in bronze, at Washington Square by Garibaldi, at Columbus Circle by Columbus, at Broadway and Sixty-third Street by Dante, and at Seventy-third Street by Verdi. Thus is he reminded that he comes not without spiritual credentials to the land discovered by a fellow-countryman over four hundred years ago. At the same time he may assuage his homesickness with the knowledge that he is in a city among whose millions are nearly one million who, like himself, were born in Italy; and that he has come to a country that already holds more than four million of his compatriots. If he visits other American cities, there are scores in which he may hear his native language spoken. In Philadelphia, in Chicago, in Boston, and in San Francisco. For, although the stream of immigration did not begin to flow from Italy to America as early as it did from many other countries, the Italians in the United States today are second in number only to the Germans.

Italian immigration is the most recent of all the racial waves that have struck the shores of the United States, the records show; and the greater part of this immigration has been from Italy's southern districts.



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Birmingham, Alabama



President Franklin D. Roosevelt

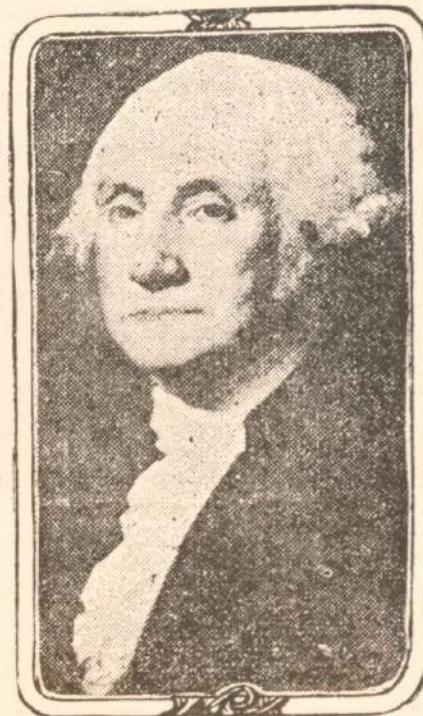
THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
OF THE UNITED STATES

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

That to secure these rights Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just power from the consent of the governed, that whenever any form of Government become destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience has shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evil are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariable the Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security—such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. (To be continued.)



WASHINGTON

"The Founder of this Country; the Defender of Liberty; the Friend of Man"

AMERICA MY COUNTRY, 'TIS OF THEE

My country, 'tis of thee
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee—
Land of the noble free—
Thy name I love;
I love the rocks and rills;
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break—
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of of liberty,
To Thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King.



A VIEW OF

ITALY INSPIRES ALL

The welcome accorded by Americans to Gen. Balbo and his squadron of ocean fliers is a spontaneous gesture of homage to skill and courage. From the President of the United States to the man in the street, the people of this country eagerly greet Italy's gallant airmen. It is obvious that the finest airplanes in the world would be valueless unless piloted by expert men; and when a body of experts unite in accomplishing the wonderful feat of crossing the ocean in formation, on schedule time, without a flaw in the teamwork, the admiration of Americans is unbounded.

Gen. Balbo will soon lead his company on the home flight via the Azores. In some respects this flight is as difficult as the jump from Iceland to Labrador. Yet no one doubts that the Italian airmen will reach home in safety.

The air experts of every country will study the details of the Italian flight with deep interest, and aviation everywhere will benefit by lessons learned. The chief benefit of the flight, however, is in the inspiration which it gives to the young men of all countries, in showing them what can be accomplished when ingenuity, skill, and daring are judiciously combined with rigorous but voluntary discipline.—Washington Post.

SICILY—LAND OF POETRY, MYTHOLOGY, BEAUTY

If you are not acquainted with it, dear reader, you do not know one of the lands where the sun's smile shines the most brilliantly, and where the eternal youthfulness of the world sings the most majestic of hymns. More than merely a land, from its mountain peaks and its winding shores it appears to us like "the resplendent island of fantasy in the midst of the seas," like the island "far from the hard ways of mortal toil," like the "island of beauties, island of heroes, island of poets."

Sicily, happy land! Is she not the beloved daughter of the sun, the dewy gem of the sea, the undisputed kingdom of the Spring, the far-away cradle of dreams, the sweet and secret refuge of love?

All poets have sung her praises, all souls thirsting for beauty have dreamt of her, all roving souls have made her the goal of their pilgrimages, all peoples have fought for her dominion, all merchants have traded with her, all civilizations have met within her, all arts have flourished there. The people who, more than any other in the world, love beauty, have surrounded her with poetry and fascination. The most pleasing and fanciful myths, flowered by this people's ardent imagination, had their birth in Sicily.

From these green shores the irresistible song of the Sirens enticed the restless soul of the wandering Ulysses, and the amorous sighs of Glaucon went out to the wild beauty of Scylla. From these mossy caverns Aeolus unleashed throughout the world the fury of the winds, and from within the smoky interior of Aetna there resounded the clang of Vulcan. . . .—Copyright 1933 by Atlantica, the Italian Monthly Review of New York. Reprinted by special permission.

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ITALY'S LONG LINEAGE OF LEARNING

The first state university in Italy, that of Bologna, was founded in A.O. 1200. Three new universities were opened during 1924: Bari (October 1); Milan (December 8), and Trieste (December 15). Here follows the complete record of Italy's universities as afforded by "The Statesman's Year Book":

State Universities:	Date of Foundation.	Students.
Bologna	1200	2,953
Cagliari	1626	410
Catania	1434	1,046
Genoa	1243	1,810
Macerata	1290	124
Messina	1549	881
Modena	1678	870
Naples	1224	6,921
Palermo	1805	2,519
Parma	1502	589
Pavia	1300	1,953
Pisa	1338	1,742
Rome	1303	5,390
Sassari	1677	261
Siena	1300	415
Turin	1404	2,606
Free Universities:		
Camerino	1727	278
Ferrara	1391	355
Perugia	1276	365
Urbino	1564	195
University Courses:		
(Licei of Aquila, Bari, Catanzaro)	—	264
Total		34,580

SPONTANEITY

I do not attempt to give you love,
I do not even care to try,
I love you quite a bit—
I love you I can't deny!

I love you with all my heart,
I love you with all my soul,
I've loved you from the very start—
Although till now it's been untold.

Love is an everlasting flame—
A flame that will ne'er grow dim.
I've loved you always the same—
Truly! Completely it's been!

If I did not speak of my love
You'd never know that it's true.
I vow my love to God above,
So believe me, oh—please do!
—LUCIA MUSSO.

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BETSY ROSS BREAD

ITALIAN STUDENTS MAKE HIGH RECORDS IN THE SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

By Prof. E. L. Robinson, of Florida University

In my twenty-five years service with the public schools I have had ample opportunity to observe Italian students and I have found them among our best, most earnest and most efficient pupils. In this quarter of a century I have observed among the Italians of this country a steadily increasing interest in educational matter, this applying to older members of the families as well as to the boys and girls in the schools.

We find the Italian-American students in our schools are especially interested in learning about our American system of government, of civic affairs, of the history of our country. They demonstrate keen interest in all their studies and a troublesome student of Italian extraction is the exception. Generally they rank high in their studies and high in school spirit.

In these twenty-five years of my connection with schools I have had ample opportunity to make these observations. Personally I have taught a large number of Italian boys and girls and it has been a source of great satisfaction to me to find many of them now occupying places of importance and trust in the community. Among my "old" students I might list Dr. Frank Costa, now head of Centro-Austuriano Sanitarium, one of the large medical centers.

Ralph Marsicano, prominent attorney and now assistant city attorney; Dr. Amerigo Grimaldi, and many others—dozens and scores—who have brought credit to their people.

One of the most gratifying characteristics of our Italian students is their desire and their always earnest effort to become proficient in our language and to make themselves thoroughly American. This is particularly true in this community and it is due largely I believe to one fact that among the older Italian residents the leaders are determined to enter definitely into the life of their adopted land inculcate this determination to their children.

It is an excellent spirit, excellent for the community and for the individual, and proof of the fact is demonstrated in the success of so many Italian-Americans in our business, professional, political and Judiciary life of our country.

Our experience in the schools with Italian students convinces us that they are purposeful, intelligent and determined. They come to school to learn, to make the most of the opportunities, and they accomplish much.

Taken as a whole, they are excellent students, willingly cooperating with school authorities, entering actively into school affairs, and bringing credit to themselves and to their parents. We are proud indeed of these boys and girls.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

(By Katharine Lee Bates)

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain.
 America! America!
 God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness.
 America! America!
 God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for glorious tale
In liberating strife,
When valiantly for man's avail,
Men lavished precious life.
 America! America!
 May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness,
And ever again divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears.
 America! America!
 God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

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ITALIANS IN THE AMERICAN ARMY

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From time to time we have had requests from our readers regarding the number of Italians, both Italian-born and American-born, who served in the American Army during the World War. The only material available on the subject hitherto has been the reference to it made by Mr. George Creel in Everybody's Magazine for March, 1919, which we are reproducing below. Mr. Creel it will be remembered, was the man in charge of American propaganda during the War. At that time he said:

"Italians are but four percent of the population of the United States, but the list of the dead of the War shows that ten percent bear Italian names. More than 300,000 Italians are recorded in the lists of the Army and in the War zone they showed their devotion to their adopted country. There was no dock, no factory of ammunitions, or of airplanes, where the Italians had not an important part. They have shown the greatest loyalty to the United States."

Since the above information did not seem to be adequate, we wrote to the Adjutant General's Office in Washington. The following reply was received from Major General C. H. Bridges:

"A compilation has not been made by the War Department showing the nationalities of the men who served in the Army during the World War. However, it may be stated that of a total of 3,138,261 applicants for adjusted compensation for service in the Army during the World War, 350,712 are shown to have been born in foreign countries. Of the latter number, 89,662 are shown to have been born in Italy."

This letter requires a little amplification. According to the Census of 1920, there were in the United States 105,710,000 people, of whom 13,712,000 were born abroad. Of the latter, 1,615,000 were born in Italy. On the strength of the figures furnished by the Adjutant General's Office, less than three per cent of the total population of the United States served in the World War. Of the Italians in the United States, on the other hand, more than 5½ per cent served in the United States army. That, of course, does not take into account the large number of Italians who returned from America to serve under the Italian flag, upon Italy's declaration of war. In other words, where as the Italians represented 1½ per cent of the total population of the country at the time, they contributed almost 3 per cent of the total number in the army, or about twice as much as their population expectation.

It should not be forgotten that the above figures do not take into consideration the large number of Americans of Italian descent who also joined the American forces.

DA VINCI'S FIRST ANTARCTIC MAP

More than four hundred years ago Leonard Da Vinci, bending over his maps, took the first step toward the realization of Commander Byrd's antarctic expedition.

In 1513, with the Dark Ages just over his shoulder, when to conjecture concerning an unknown and unimaginable world—let alone to visualize it in lines and curves—was the blackest of black magic, Leonard drew the first map of the Antarctic regions. It was based on imaginative and scientific deductions, but, strange to say, it was not grossly inaccurate in shape.

Commander Byrd and his men used this map as a guide when they risked their lives in reaching and exploring this southern land, still unknown after four centuries. Their physical venture requires no less courage than Leonardo's daring to let his imagination wander over an unknown continent, to speculate as to its mountains and its icy sea and snowy desert wastes.

Leonardo, who anticipated the discoveries which made Galileo, Kepler, Copernicus and others illustrious, sat down and drew himself a world as his own imaginative thought and scientific knowledge told him it might be. It is the first and only map, as yet known, which contains an indication of the early fancied existence of a great southern continent.

Leonardo's map, outlining for the first time southern polar regions, is also the earliest map made known to the world on which the word AMERICA is inscribed. It is the earliest known map on which the severance of western coasts of America from their previously supposed continuity with Asia is recognized.

The date of the map is given as 1513 or 1514, and R. H. Major, the authority in question, reconstructed the scene of its origin.

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THE ITALIAN-JEWISH IN ITALY

The Jews in Italy are not very numerous. According to the last census the most optimistic estimates put them at 100,000 out of a population of 40,000,000.

The one who said that the Jews are the salt of the earth and that he never would have wanted to live in a land inhabited completely by Jews, for it would have seemed to him to be indulging in a food course composed entirely of salt, would agree that the proportion of Jews in Italy truly corresponds to that of salt in foods.

Their importance, however, in Italian social life is much greater than their number. Generally industrious, intelligent, scholarly and wealthy, they hold important posts in finance, in commerce, in science, and in the university.

They were granted full equality in 1848 in Piedmont and in 1860 in the other provinces (Venetia in 1866, Rome 1870). However, it is of still greater significance that public opinion did not make any distinctions and accepted without protest the occupation of ministerial posts by Luzzati, Sonnino, Barzilai, Nathen, and many other Jews who hold important bureaucratic and military offices.

This was due to the traditional of Italy Risorgimento. The Liberals who brought about the unification of Italy, regardless of factions or tendencies, took the fate of the Jews to heart.

Now we have a new phenomenon in Italian literature, namely, an examination of the Jew as a Jew, the analysis of the state of mind of the Israelite reacting to the moral laws and traditions of a society foreign to him. The new fatherland of the Jew portrayed in these new works is no longer Italy, but Palestine, the ideal towards which all Jews aspire; and Italy is a second fatherland, dear only as a haven of refuge which has received and protected the exile.

Italy has been the only country free from the certain anti-Semitic current. The Jews participated to a great extent, both financially and personally, to the Risorgimento movement; their banks aided Cavour and many youths volunteered in the army. The percentage of their dead is proportionately greater than that of the Catholic.

One of the most striking figures of a Jew in the Italian public life was Luigi Luzzatti, who started his public career as Under-Secretary of State for Agriculture in the Minghetti ministry of 1869, at the age of 28, reaching in his old age to presidency of the cabinet and the senatorship. He was Minister of the Treasury in the first Di Rudini cabinet of 1891 as well as in other ministries. He is best known, however, for the conversion of the Italian 5% debt and for the introduction into Italy of the co-operative movement and of the popular banking system. In 1896 he helped to save the Bank of Naples from bankruptcy. Luzzatti was highly esteemed by his contemporaries, both in Italy and in foreign countries. In 1916 he invited the Allied Powers and the United States to constitute a sort of international clearing house on the lines of the Postal Union, for the purpose of stabilizing the foreign exchanges. His plan was approved but not carried into practice, as the French feared that it might upset their financial and monetary system. To Luzzatti, therefore, may be traced the idea of the Bank for International Settlements which was established at Basle in 1930.

Luigi Luzzatti was born in Venice on March 1, 1841, of Jewish parents. At the age of 23 he married a Jewish girl at a Jewish temple, although he professed no creed whatever. Of his Jewish descent he was always proud, as he openly declared on more than one occasion. Yet, when his children were born, he had them baptized in the Catholic faith because he felt that otherwise they would have remained tolerated exceptions in a country in which the majority was Catholic and not free from racial prejudices.—Copyright 1933 by Atlantica, the Italian Monthly Review of New York. Reprinted by special permission.

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ITALIAN OR ITALO-AMERICAN?

Complaint has been frequently voiced that Italian societies in this country, in the vast majority of cases, reflect exclusively the interests and viewpoints of the older Italians, those born in Italy. They do not realize sufficiently that their day is passing, and that their place will have to be taken, if at all, by their sons, the younger generation of educated Italo-Americans who will, otherwise, move into other channels.

Very significant, therefore, was an editorial by I. C. Falbo, editor of "Il Progresso" of New York, in the December 6th issue of that Italian daily. After reviewing briefly the solid, foundational work done by these clubs, associations and mutual benefit societies of a purely Italian stamp, he adds:

"Let us render this tribute of recognition to the old associations and to the old members. But let us add, immediately after, that it is time to occupy ourselves a little more attentively with the younger ones, our younger ones, who constitute the younger generations of the Italians in America.

"Let them learn, in the schools, the Italian language, in addition to the national tongue, let them frequent Italian gatherings; let them rise as tutors of Italo-American friendship and good will; let them show themselves, as a group, to be worthy citizens of the United States and worthy descendants of the glorious race to which world civilization owes so much; and they will then be the most vigorous defenders of both themselves and of our immigrant community. . . ."

After taking note of the many existing clubs and associations of an Italo-American, as differentiated from an Italian character, the writer points to a new movement begun in the Order Sons of Italy for the creation of junior lodges to supplement the lodges of the older members. This initiative, sponsored by Attorney Stefano Miele in the Grand Lodge of the Order Figli d'Italia in New York, is something he says that should be followed by other orders and in other states, and by other associations as well.

The problem, without a doubt, is one which faces every Italian association formed during the heyday of Italian immigration. If no step of this kind is taken, they are bound to lose gradually their influence and strength. But by modifying their organizations, by devoting more attention to the generation that is to follow them, both individually and as a group, their entities as societies will continue, though, of course, with new blood running through the same veins.

COLUMBIA, THE GEM OF THE OCEAN

(By Thomas A. Beckett) ??

Oh, Columbia, the gem of the ocean,
The home of the brave and the free,
The shrine of each patriot's devotion,
The world offers homage to thee.
Thy mandates make heroes assemble,
When Liberty's form stands in view;
Thy banners make tyrants tremble,
When borne by the red, white and blue.

When war winged its wide desolation,
And threatened the land to deform,
The ark then of Freedom's foundation,
Columbia, rode safe thro' the storm.
With the garlands of vict'ry around her,
When so proudly she bore her brave crew,
With her flag proudly floating before her,
The boast of the red, white and blue.

The star-spangled banner bring hither,
O'er Columbia's true sons let it wave;
May the wreaths they have won never wither,
Nor its stars cease to shine on the brave.
May the service united ne'er sever,
But hold to their color true;
The army and navy forever—
Three cheers for red, white and blue!

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STORY OF BOB BAKER BACK IN EARLY DAYS

Bob Baker was born in Carrollton, Georgia, on Saturday, August 20, 1870, and came to Birmingham on October 1, 1881. He is a veteran of street railway service in Birmingham, having secured employment when the street railway was composed of mule cars and steam dummy lines. He drove the little Texas mules to the dinkey street cars back in the early days, and played the role of conductor on the modern steam dummies, and in later years was a conductor on electric cars. Bob says he remembers the names of more than 3,000 old-time street railway men who used to drive the mule cars; also men who used to work on the old steam dummies and the electric cars in Birmingham. Bob also recalls with pleasure the good people who used to ride with him in good old days gone by, and he remembers all of them and their families by their names, who were regular passengers on long lines.

He was called on to do shopping, for his dear good friends, who would ask him to stop in some of the stores on his down-town trip and purchase some article for them. He would buy everything from a spool of thread to a sack of flour with the greatest



BOB BAKER

pleasure at all times. He also had to present alibis for those who could not go to their work on certain days on "account of sickness." They would send someone out to stop Bob's dummy car to tell him please to telephone their boss that they would not be at work that day. He frequently allowed the dummy car to go on down to the turn-around place at 19th Street and 1st Avenue, and would get off at 21st Street and 1st Avenue to deliver the message or telephone to the boss, or do some shopping. In those days there were not many telephones on the Southside. After he had delivered the message or done the shopping in various stores, he would catch the dummy car as it came back up to 21st Street and 1st Avenue. Bob says that at different times the ladies would come out on the front porch and wave their hands at him and say, "Wait a minute until I can get my pocketbook," or rings, or hat, as the case might be. He always waited for them.

Bob also remembers when he worked on the dummy at night.

CONGRATULATIONS

MR. ELVIRO DI LAURA,
Birmingham, Alabama.

With best wishes for the success of the coming "Columbus-Balco Review," I am

Cordially yours,

D. LAMONICA,
Managing Editor.
Atlantica Monthly Italian Review
of New York.

He used to run the last dummy out of the city at 11:15 p.m. Sometimes the O'Brien Opera Shows would not be turned out until 11:30 p.m., and he would wait for people who were attending the show. They would ride the last dummy on that night. The young men who lived back up in the city would take some young lady to a show or to a dance, and young ladies who lived along the long route and the short route to Lakeview Park, on that night, when the dummy arrived at her station she and her sweetheart would get off the dummy and Bob would hold the dummy until he took her to the door and said good night. Back in those days there were no kissing bugs, so it did not take him long to say good night. Then he would come and get back on the dummy again.

Bob has just celebrated his forty-third year with the street railway company.

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THE GREAT AMERICAN WRITERS

The first decade of the nineteenth century was a fortunate one for the nation, for in that period were born many of the men who gave United States an independent and distinctive place in literature.

Emerson, as we have seen, was born in 1803; Hawthorne, in 1804; Poe, in 1809; Holmes, in 1809; and now we come to another group of poets—Longfellow and Whittier, who first saw the light in 1807; Walt Whitman, in 1819, and Lowell in 1817.

The first of these men, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, was a native of Portland, Maine, where his father was a lawyer. He had a happy, sheltered childhood, and at the age of fifteen went to Bowdoin, where he entered the sophomore class and was Hawthorne's classmate. Just at the time that he graduated, it was decided to add a professor of modern languages to the faculty at Bowdoin.

The professorship was offered to Longfellow. In 1826 he went to Europe to prepare himself by three years of study, which he spent chiefly in Italy, Spain and France. Longfellow was called "The Children's Poet." He died in March, 1882, as gently as he had lived, leaving a blank in American letters which was hard to fill. He wrote of the homely every-day things of life, and turned them into poetry—"The Village Blacksmith," "The Psalm of Life," but "The Courtship of Miles Standish" is the best.

Dr. Holmes outlived every one of the poet friends of whom we have been speaking, and even the youngest of the band, James Russell Lowell, who was not born until 1817 and who died in 1891.

Lowell was in some ways a greater poet than any who had come before him, and in every way a better writer than all the rest. Like Holmes, he was both satirical and humorous. His satire was more biting than Holmes', and his poetry was more robust than either Whittier's or Longfellow's.

The poets of whom we have been reading all called to their assistance a knowledge of the past and a wide acquaintance with the literature of other countries. Now we come to a man whose ways were utterly different, who cared nothing for the history and little for the present-day life of countries not his own.

This man, Walt Whitman, was born near the village of Huntington, on Long Island. His father, a small farmer and carpenter, moved to Brooklyn when Walter was six years old. Here Walter went to the public school until the age of eleven, when he left to become an office boy. It would take too long to give the details of his life.

THE SEPTEMBER "ATLANTICA"
FEATURES F. H. LA GUARDIA

Italian-Americans throughout the country are keeping a close watch on the present Mayoralty campaign in New York City, where Major Fiorello H. La Guardia, the fusion choice, is bucking the entrenched forces of Tammany. Particularly timely, therefore, is an article on his character and achievements by Hon. Edward Corsi, U. S. Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization at Ellis Island, in the September issue of "Atlantica," the Italian Monthly Review.

"What must be done by the Italian immigrants to bring about their better and more comfortable adjustment in the American scene?" asks Anthony M. Turano, a frequent contributor to the American Mercury, in an article entitled "Americanization: Two Styles" in the same issue.

Our own American NRA is compared with the Co-operative State in Italy by John A. Donato, and many similarities are noted, while on another page Premier Mussolini is quoted as declaring that "The Era of Conferences Is Dead!"

In "Ship Ahoy!" Mary Iacovella describes the visit recently made to New York City by the two Italian naval training ships. Another article in "Atlantica," the only Italian magazine published in English in this country, is "The New Education in Italy" by Ernesto Codignola, describing the results of the Gentile reform on secondary education in Italy.

There is also a sketch of Italian-American family life, "Felix

Comes to See Me" by Giuseppe Cautela, who also has contributed to the American Mercury and has published at least one novel, while Mario Soavi Decellys depicts the status of the Jews in his article "What of the Jews in Italy?"

A short story by Grazia Deledda, Nobel prize winner in Literature, features this issue. It is contained both in the original Italian and in an English translation by Mrs. E. Lenore Shaw, and is called "Padre Topes." It is followed by an article by Muriel Osti, "Thirteenth Century Landmarks: Influence of Invasions in Italian Architecture."

Four new features are contained in the September issue, which contains 48 pages and is richly illustrated. They are Music, Arts and Decorations, The Lure of Travel, and Our Feminine Gallery. This is in addition to the regular departments: "The Educational Horizon," which covers Italian activities in the schools and colleges; "The Theatre and Cinema"; "Things Italian in American Periodicals," a bibliography; "The Italians in North America," listing the activities of Italians in all walks of life; and "Atlantica in Italiano."

"Atlantica" is published monthly by Dr. F. Cassola at 33 West 10th Street, New York City.

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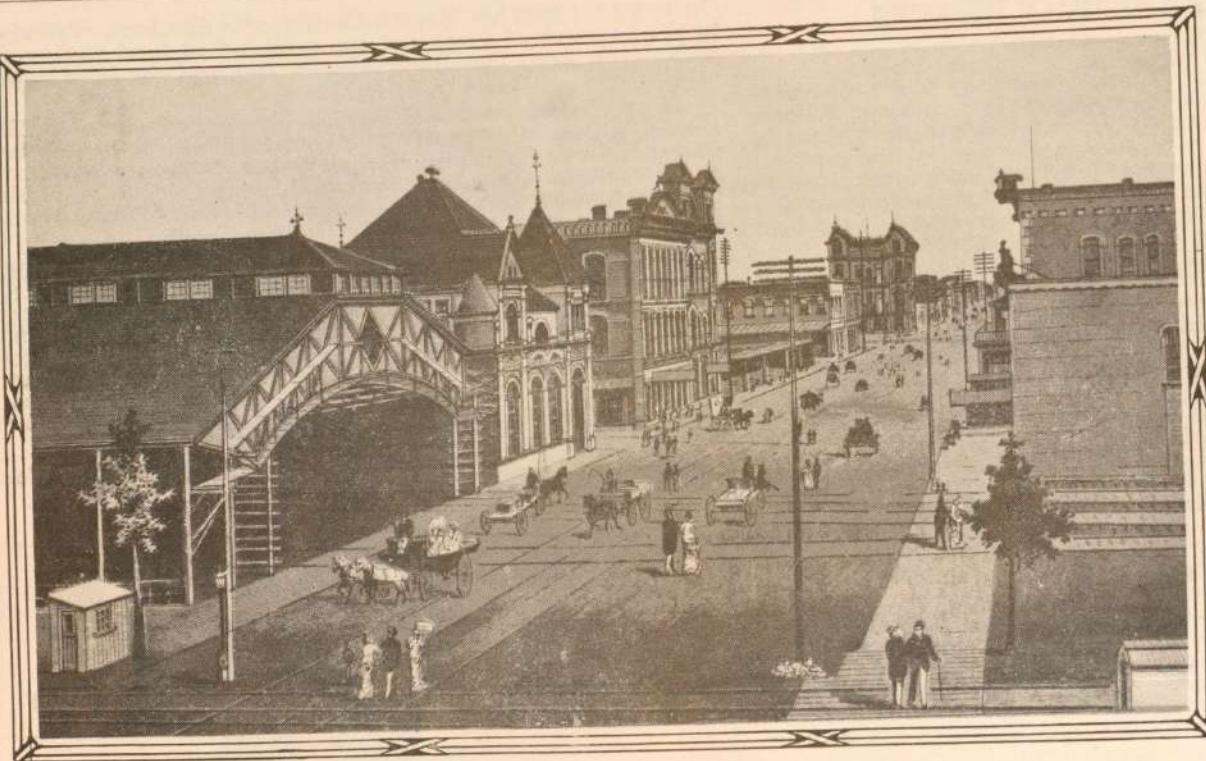
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—Cut courtesy of Birmingham Trust & Savings Bank.



This is a scene on First Avenue, North, looking West from Twenty-first to Eighteenth Street, in the year of 1882—during the Early Days of Magic City.

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First electric car inaugurated at Highland Avenue and Lake View on February 1, 1900. Bob Baker is the conductor, L. M. Broom the motorman, and Mrs. Mattie Boyd the passenger.

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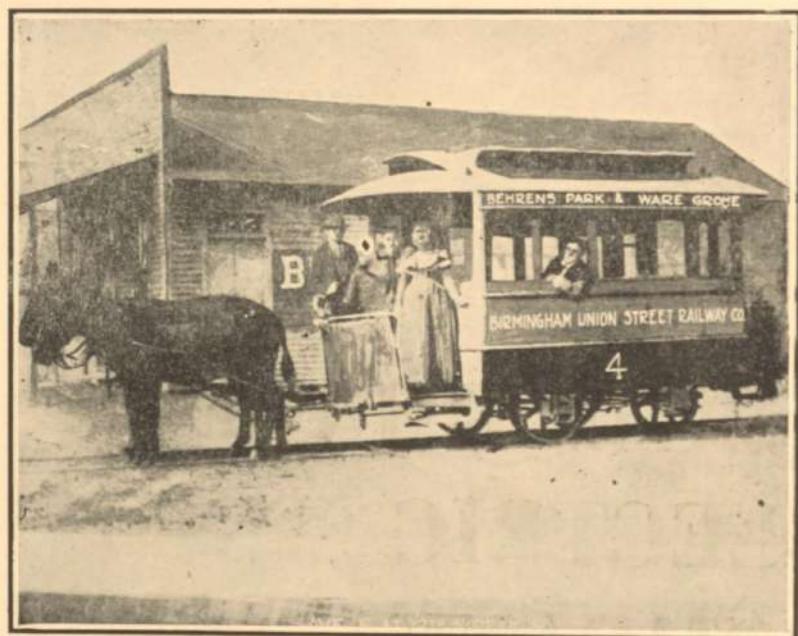
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A VIEW OF 12th ST. AND AVENUE F WITH A MULE CAR IN THE EARLY DAYS OF 1889
Mr. John King is driver of the car, while Mrs. Lizzie Preptal, Mrs. Bettie Alston and Mr. Thomas Purvis are the passengers.

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