

Columbus-Ballo Review

Elviro Di Laura, Editor

Birmingham, Ala., February, 1935

Vol. 2, No. 3

*Birmingham Welcomes the Royal Italian
Ambassador and Gov. Bibb Graves*



H. E. AUGUSTO ROSSO



GOV. BIBB GRAVES

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EDITOR'S PAGE

ANTI-SEDITION BILL AFFECTS FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS

The passage of the Anti-Sedition Bill by the House of Representatives of the Alabama Legislature has been one of the worst pieces of work that any legislature anywhere has done, and these self-appointed legislators for the "protection of our institutions" should have known that America was founded on freedom of press and speech, and that the Declaration of Independence is the most profound document in the history of mankind.

America, where freedom reigns supreme, where liberty beacon guides civilization on to greater and nobler achievements, does not need such czarist laws, and those who vote for such laws make a great mistake in their political careers, and they will regret it.

At the outset of their careers, when their despotic regimes of rapine and lust were yet in embryo, hence withheld from the gaze of men, the self-appointed autocrats who, under the guise of harbingers of the public welfare and saviors of humanity, have come to plague nations in recent years, and in default of an entire nation, some political sub-division thereof, together with the hosts of stuffed shirts, tin-horns, charlatans and bootlickers who follow in their train, have invariably sought and usually obtained from the Press, the publicity without which they would have remained nonentities, as becomes their scarce merits.

Yet, this same gentry, here and abroad, once firmly entrenched have much to say anent the prevaricating character of the Press and its, to them, nefarious intent, because forsooth, said Press, ever mindful of its legal and moral responsibilities as principal orientator of public opinion, has steadfastly refused to hush important facts and consistently refrained from obeying the dictates of some imaginary lord of the earth, whose head, befuddled by the temporary exercise of power, conceives of no comments on his acts except subservient eulogies thereof tending to exalt his fraudulent grandeur.

It is an irrefutable fact, that whenever barriers are erected to prevent or embarrass the expression of truth or the free discussion of political affairs, whether such barriers be enforced suppression, as has frequently occurred, or merely threats and implications contained in a propaganda of defamation designed to discredit all opposition to the regime in power bad faith and fear immediately take hold, pervert and disfigure events, and the thousands trumpets of popular imagination and gossip proclaim distorted versions of that which the satrap of the moment most desire to hush, forgetting all the while that it is not the publicity given his erroneous or delictuous act that is harmful, but that it is the commission of the act itself which is prejudicial to the social order.

Indeed, it is only when the Press, in the free exercise of its high mission, is permitted to relate facts as they are, that it is possible to counteract the evils arising from the mutterings of mobs, goaded to exasperation by oppression, fear and discontent.

Yet the insensates and cravens who, like angry apes, beat their breasts, and by loud outbursts seek to discredit, browbeat and hamper it, had they but the good sense to work for the common good instead of their own selfish interests, would find that the

Press, as an instrumentality of law and order far surpasses the most perfect of spy systems, the most disciplined of troops and police and all the other methods of reprisal and punishment which their folly has ever been able to devise. It is the surest instrumentality by which the people may be led from the labyrinth of suspicion and terror into which they have been cast by the suppression or tergiversation of facts or by the fallacious eulogies heaped upon the master of the hour by unprincipled courtiers and lackeys. The Press is therefore the greatest instrumentality for the stabilization of public opinion and the surest bulwark of a decent and reputable government.

And when a government is not decent and reputable, regardless of its official organs, regardless of its spies, regardless of its police, regardless of the size and number of its prisons and the multitude of its gibbets, it is never powerful enough to permanently stifle the just clamor of outraged public opinion.

Long live freedom of speech and press!

GOVERNOR BIBB GRAVES, WE SALUTE YOU

The other day a visitor in the office of Governor Graves in Montgomery said: "Governor, God bless you. The sun was shining the time you was governor before, and the sun is shining now."

The governor smiled in response to this remark; then pointing out in the direction of a window, he said: "You see, my friend, the sun really shines, and will always shine as long I am governor."

The significance of the visitor's remark was that at the time Bibb Graves was chief executive of the State of Alabama the economic condition of the people was much better than during the past five years, and today, under his leadership again, the people of Alabama may well hope that the signs of better times will show again. And why not? The stable and responsible element of the industrial, agricultural and civic life of this favored commonwealth of Alabama is permeated with his leadership. The co-operation of progressive Italo-American citizens will play considerable part in the development for prosperity in this great state.

Italo-American citizens bring enthusiasm, for one thing, into their efforts. They bring determination and they demonstrate at all times a keen desire to serve. This has been shown in our many movements for public advancement, and the leaders of Birmingham have never hesitated to call on Italian groups or individuals when there was a task to be performed, knowing that these men would give their time, their energy and substance, willingly and enthusiastically.

They are willing always to lay aside their affairs and to promote public advancement.

It is a spirit we always well emulate, for it means a great deal to the community, to any organization, to any state and nation.

We Italians are proud of our nationality, and we love America where freedom reigns supreme, where liberty beacon civilization in the greater and nobler achievement.

It was the courage, initiative, energy and persistence of our forefathers which gave America its beginning. 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 have lavished upon the land of their adoption.

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

In peace, as in war, Italo-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.

In countless instances they, too, have made the supreme sacrifice for their adopted land. And for these reasons they are entitled in proportion to their numerical, moral strength, and achievements for a place in public offices.

This is no time for dissension. We all should work in harmony together. Strife and jealousy between each other will not get us anywhere.

We have many great problems to be solved, and under your leadership and co-operation of every good citizen we will bring Alabama out from the wilderness of this depression.

We salute you, Governor Graves, and from you we expect our partnership to co-operate with your administration for the good of our state, nation and world.

"United we stand—divided we fall." We all are Americans now!

EDITOR.

OFFICIAL HISTORY OF DOCTOR AUGUSTO ROSSO, ROYAL AMBASSADOR OF ITALY, IN WASHINGTON

Born in Tronzano (Piedmont, Italy), December 23, 1885, where the family owns the largest rice plantations of Italy.

Awarded degree of Doctor in Jurisprudence at University of Turin (Italy), July 10, 1908.

After taking examinations for diplomatic service in 1909, he was appointed attache in the diplomatic service in 1910, being designated as the Third Secretary at the Italian Embassy in Washington, D. C. In 1912, he was transferred as Third Secretary at the Royal Italian Embassy in Berlin, Germany.

Dr. Rosso was promoted to position of Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Office, Rome, 1913., and promoted to Second Secretary in 1915.

He was Underlieutenant, Lieutenant and Captain in the Italian army during 1915-18, and was decorated for bravery.

Following the World War, Dr. Rosso was promoted to First Secretary of the Italian Embassy, Athens, Greece, in 1918.

Promoted to Counsellor of Embassy and sent to Washington, 1922, being transferred to London in 1925.

Promoter to position of Minister Plenipotentiary of Second Class in 1927, and appointed head of one of the Main Divisions at the Foreign Office, 1928.

He was one of Italy's delegates to the League of Nations in 1929 and 1930.

Received promotion to Minister Plenipotentiary of First Class in 1931, promoted to rank of Ambassador in 1932 and appointed as Royal Italian Ambassador to the United States the same year.

Doctor Rosso is unmarried. He works on international matters for his government.

He holds the following positions in Italian societies: "Gran Croce" of the Order of the Crown of Italy, and "Grand' Ufficiale" of the Order of "Santi Maurizio e Lazzaro."

MATRIMONIO

Giovedi mattina 21 Febrail ebbe luogo il solenne matrimonio della gentile e graziosa Signorina Lillie Falletta col simpatico giovane James John Musso di Bessemer, Alabama.

La cerimonia ebbe luogo nella chiesa di St. Paul.

PROGRAM FOR THE VISIT OF H. E. AUGUSTO ROSSO TO BIRMINGHAM, ALA., MARCH 2-3-4

March 2—Arrives at 7:00 a.m. at the Terminal Station. The City Commissioners and the United Italian Societies will meet him at the station.

March 2—H. E. Rosso will speak at the Phillips High School Auditorium before the State Teachers Assembly. Eleven hundred teachers will be present, also the members of the Board of Education and prominent officials from the local Italian societies. His address will be broadcast over Station WAPI.

March 2—At 12:00, noon, the Ambassador will be entertained by the School Masters' Lunch Club at the Bankhead Hotel. Station WBRC will broadcast this event.

March 2—At 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon, H. E. Rosso will return the visit to the Birmingham City Commission. Mr. Jones, president of the commission, will present the Ambassador with a flag of the City of Birmingham.

March 2—At 8:00 p.m., Messrs. Victor H. Hanson and Erskine Ramsay will entertain at dinner at the Mountain Brook Country Club, honoring the Ambassador. Most prominent leaders of the district have been invited. Gov. Bibb Graves of Alabama will attend, as will also Dr. Vitale G. Gallina, Royal Italian Consulat, New Orleans, Louisiana.

March 3—At 12:00, noon, lunch at the Tutwiler Hotel with the Italian Societies' Committee.

March 3—A tour of the city will be made from 2:00 to 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

March 3—From 4:00 to 6:00, reception by H. E. of the Italians of the district at the Tutwiler Hotel and delegations from the Italian societies.

March 3—7:00 p.m., Grand Banquet at the Tutwiler Hotel. H. E., the Governor and Mrs. Bibb Graves, will be present, also many representative authorities of city, county and state and most prominent leaders in the financial, educational and industrial field of the district.

March 4—Visit to the University of Alabama. Ambassador will arrive at 10:30 sharp. Ambassadorial salute of nineteen guns while he is approaching Tuscaloosa. Greetings on steps of Union Building by the authorities of the city and President Denny. Military escort and academic procession to Morgan Hall. At 12:00, noon, military review. At 1:00 p.m., joint club luncheon down-town by civic clubs. At 4:00 p.m., reception by President and Mrs. Denny.

The Royal Italian Consul, Dr. Cav. Vitale G. Gallina, of New Orleans, will also be in Birmingham during the three day period.

H. E. will leave Birmingham on Monday night, March 4, at 9:25 for Jackson, Miss., and Dallas, Texas.

ABSTRACT WORDS FROM ENCYCLICAL OF POPE

"From greed arises mutual distrust that casts a blight on all human dealings; from greed arises hateful envy which makes a man consider the advantages of another as losses to himself; from greed arises narrow individualism which orders and subordinates everything to its own advantage without taking account of others, on the contrary cruelly trampling under foot all rights of others. Hence the disorder and inequality from which arises the accumulation of the wealth of the nations in the hands of a small group of individuals who manipulate the immense harm of the masses, as we showed last year in our encyclical letter."—Pope Pius.

"Give no bounties; make equal laws; secure life and property and you need not give alms."—Emerson.

"We must pay equal attention to the distribution of prosperity. The only prosperity worth having is that which affects the mass of people."—Theodore Roosevelt.

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BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

THE CONTRIBUTION OF ITALY AND THE EARLY ITALIAN PIONEERS IN BUILDING OF AMERICA

By ELVIRO DI LAURA

Through the courtesy of the Department of State, at Washington, D. C., and Mr. Herbert C. Hengstler, Chief of the Division of Foreign Service Administration, The Columbus-Balbo Review has secured the first installment of the communications between the first American Consul to Italy and President Thomas Jefferson, which will start in this issue.

This is the first time in history that such communications have been published, and we deem it necessary at this time for a proper appreciation of the great historical importance of these records.

The first Consul of the United States at Leghorn, Italy, was recognized and officially known as the American Consul of Tuscany, Italy. Mr. Thomas Appleton was the consul; he was born in the city of Boston, Mass., on April 2, 1763, and died at Leghorn on April 28, 1840; he served as America's first consul in Italy from 1798 to 1840.

Mr. Appleton exercised, particularly until the end of the Napoleonic wars, a kind of supervisory jurisdiction over the other American consular officers in Italy and over those on the northern coast of Africa. He exercised during many years quasi diplomatic functions. From the time Mr. Appleton took charge of this post until about 1825, Leghorn was, according to his claims, the chief emporium of the Mediterranean, which carried on large commerce activities with all the Mediterranean ports.

From this communication of Consul Appleton to President Thomas Jefferson is revealed the facts that Italy and the Italians have contributed much to help build America.

The first letter of Mr. Appleton, dated from Leghorn, December 26, 1798, was addressed to Timo Pickering, Esq., Secretary of State, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In this letter he related the commerce of Leghorn, political observations in different states of Italy, the friendship of Italy toward America, on the wars of Napoleon, the seizure of American vessels by the French and the pirates in the Barbary states. Mr. Appleton's records show that he was a close observer of the events of his time. At that time the Port of Leghorn was a naval base for American vessels and warships which were used in the war of America against Tripoli.

In a letter dated June 1, 1802, addressed to James Madison, Esq., Secretary of State, Appleton reported "the seizure of American vessels in the Port of Leghorn by the French."

A letter addressed to the same person, dated September 8, 1802, states: "The unhappy situation to which the ships of the United States are exposed in these seas has put a stop to almost all our commerce with this place for the last month. * * * The enclosed copy of a letter I have likewise received from Mr. Eaton at Tunis will sufficiently explain the new dangers to which our commerce is exposed."

In subsequent letters during this year he recites to the Secretary of State and to Minister Livingston many acts of violence done to American vessels by the French. He also refers to the departure on the third of November: "Commodore Morris left these Roads in the Constitution with Mr. Cathcart on board for Malta and Tripoli."

A copy of the first of a series of letters to President Jefferson follows:

"Leghorn, Italy, January 20th, 1804.

"SIR: The two letters which you did me the honor to write under date of the 5th and 13th of July, last, have lately reached my hands. In the course of a month an opportunity will present for Baltimore by which conveyance I shall reply particularly to both; and likewise ship the wine which you are desirous to obtain, as that quality can only be procured at Florence. By the same vessel you will receive, Sir, a small case containing a few bottles as samples of the best wines which are the growth of Tuscany.

"I am in hourly expectation of an answer from a friend at Rome whom I have charged in the manner you have directed me,

with the business relative to Madame Ceracchi. I have requested my brother-in-law, Sam Emory of Philadelphia, to receive from on board the ship 'Hannah,' Captain Yeadsley, bound to that port, and forward to you, two small cases and an earthen vase of strawberry plants I have shipped by the desire of Mazei."

In a letter dated March 20, 1804, to President Jefferson, regarding the bust of General Washington, Consul Appleton said: "The bust of General Washington has been purchased from her (speaking of Madame Ceracchi) by an eminent sculptor of Rome for the price of 20 sterling." In the same letter mention is made of shipment to the President some Montepulciano wine, also 225 cuttings of nine different qualities taken from the Botanical Garden of Florence. Of these he said: "They were chosen and presented to me by my particular friend, the Proposto Lastri, director of the same. * * * All these plants produce dry wines."

He mentioned the transmission of a treatise on agriculture by Proposto Lastri. The consul continued: "I have given him your notes on Virginia, as he reads perfectly well our language." Mr. Appleton also transmitted a catalogue of the plants of Italy. The plants shipped, as advised by this letter, are named as follows: "Twenty-five each of Trebiano, Lachrima Christi, S. Giovetto, Abrostini Bianco, Abrostini Rosso, Tokai, Aleatico, Morgiano, and Manerola."

In a letter dated July 3, 1805, he notified President Jefferson and the Secretary of State on the political situation of Italy, and the arrest of two Americans charged with being spies and with having had designs on the life of Emperor Napoleon during the coronation ceremonies at Milan, Italy. He also noted the transmission to the President of "peach and plum stones plants."

A letter dated November 18, 1805, notified President Jefferson of the departure from Leghorn of two sculptors, procured at Rome, for the work on buildings at the city of Washington. These artists were secured by Mazei. He also mentioned the shipment to President Jefferson, as per order received from Jefferson, of cheese, macaroni and raisins.

Under date of November 25, 1808, a letter to President Jefferson says, in part: "I have procured from the Royal Gallery at Florence exact copies, in gesso, of the original busts of Christoforo Colombo and Amerigo Vespucci; and I have directed my sculptor to copy them into statuary marble on such a reduced scale as will make them fit ornaments or other appropriate apartments." He mentioned the shipment of shrubs, plants and seeds, and of a rifle, manufactured in Italy, as a sample.

Under dates of December 20, 1817, and November 10, 1818, he wrote President Jefferson of stone cutters and architects sent to him for the construction of the college at Charlottesville, Virginia; and at the desire of Jefferson "they met with the highest satisfaction."

Under date of January 15, 1820, he notified President Jefferson of the shipment of hemp seed from Bologna, and mentioned the marble statuary shipped for the college at Charlottesville, Virginia.

In a letter dated August 1, 1820, he mentioned the transmission to President Monroe a copy of a poem by Petrarch.

The record made by Consul Appleton appears that he sent to the United States over 1,000 varieties of seeds, plants, shrubs and roots from Italy.

Under date of February 13, 1826, a most interesting letter to Thomas Jefferson deals with agriculture and agricultural implements in Italy, manner of living of the Italian peasants, and the political state. He also gave a detailed account of the commerce of Italy and the share thereof enjoyed by the Americans.

The summary of correspondence between Thomas Jefferson and the American Consul at Leghorn, Italy, was prepared by Cav. Frank Deedmeyer, formerly American Consul at Leghorn during the year 1911.

(To Be Continued in the Next Issue)

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RITORNO

La luce dorato del sereno tramonto illuminava con i suoi raggi il panorama che andava via via assumendo forme vaghe e pitorresche. Il cielo e il mare erano di un' azzurro meraviglioso, e in lontananza alcune piccole nuvolette parevano tinte di una sfumatura di rose.

La nave scivolava lentamente come cullata dalle onde. La mistica e poetica pace che era all'intorno pareva pero' non riflettersi negli occhi della bruna signora, della quale gli sguardi erano fissi verso quella terra che diventava sempre piu' piccola in lontananza.

Il pensiero di lei ora si fermava nella persona dell'amato sposo sul quale erasi dovuta distaccare poche ore prima. Il suo ultimo bacio le era impresso come un sacro suggello, il nome caro le era scritto sul cuore.

Doveva essere felice perche' quella nave la riportava alla patria diletta, ed ella in quei anni di dimora nelle lontane Americhe, Ho. quanta nostalgia non aveva sentita per i suoi monti. Eppure non lo era, poiche' alla gioia del ritorno era unito il dolore del distacco dalla persona piu' cara al suo cuore. Ricordava i suoi anni di matrimonio passati nell' intima unione di una vita serena; rivedeva lo sguardo affettuoso di suo marito e le lacrime copiose scendevano a bagnare le sue gote. Immersa nei suoi tristi pensieri non si era nemmeno accorta che il sole era scorsaro. La luna

pallida era salita nel cielo a portarle la sua prima carezza nell' oceano sconfinato.

Da alcuni giorni la nave filava; il mare si era mantenuto tranquillo, adesso pero' le onde sbattevano fragorosamente, ed il suo colore era plumbeo.

I passeggeri si guardavano tristamente; i loro volti apparivano pallidi e stanchi; quel movimento aveva stravolto tutti gli organismi, specialmente i piu' deboli. Le donne sembravano cenci abbandonati sulla piattaforma; il mal di mare li aveva tutti prostrati. I pasti rimanevano non consumati; ed i comandanti della nave se ne preoccupavano.

Cercavano di mantenere l'umore allegro con suoni, canti di vecchie nenie e balli. Tali feste erano accolte con gioia da principio, specialmente dalle ragazze, ma quanto il mare si mostro' piu' burbero anche gli uomini si abbatterono. Maria rimaneva stanca e pallida in disparte.

Uno spiacevole incidente accrebbe ancor di piu'; lo sconforto e la paura in tutti; una donna che fin dal primo giorno soffriva terribilmente il mal di mare, e in tutti quei giorni non aveva preso cibo, pareva di battersi contro le occulte forze della morte. Era ridotta debolissima ed in uno stato di nervosismo esasperato. E in quel giorno mentre i cavalloni si sbattevano rumorosamente contro la nave e la tempesta si mostrava minacciosa, quella poveretta in un momento di disperazione era salita sopra coperta, e fu vista spargersi dal parapeto e lanciarsi nel vuoto, con grande spavento di tutti. Si rallento' la corsa della nave, alcuni marinai si slanciarono per salvarla. Intanto il mare rendeva quasi vani gli sforzi di quei bravi marinai, anzi minacciava di sopraffarli. Si dibatterono per circa mezz'ora lottando con la morte, ma invano, la povera infelice non fu piu' trovata . . . era gia' morta. Lo sgomento s'impossesso' di tutti; la tristezza accrebbe resa sempre piu' penosa della tempesta.

La povera maria fortemente impressionata, essa non aveva vicino nessuna persona cara dalla quale attingere forza e conforto. Le ombre della sera scesero minacciose sulla nave che lottava con la forza degli elementi, e la notte passo' terribile e penosa. All'alba pero' il cielo ed il mare tornarono sereni e calmi, ed il sole tornò a sorridere.

Poche ore ancora, e si sarebbe discesi a Genova. La citta' appariva come un oasi nel deserto dopo tanti giorni di essere stati immersi nell' azzurro uniforme, e di avere contemplato cielo e mare. Erano passati i giorni sereni e quelli burrascosi. A Maria il viaggio era sembrato eterno. Spesso un'incubo angoscioso le aveva serrato l'anima dandole l'impressione che non avrebbe piu' toccata la terra.

Ora intanto la terra Italiana era vicina, le case bianche attorno al golfo erano gia' in vista con le aguzze guglie dei campanili. I giardini verdi dei dintorni formavano un vasto sfondo verde al bel guardo che si contemplava dall'alto della nave. Finalmente si era gia' arrivati. Amici e parenti erano venuti ad attendere al porto i loro cari che da tanti anni non vedevano. La nostra giovane signora era discesa anch'essa ed il fratello che era ad attendere la s'era gettato al collo tempestandola di baci. Il cuore di lei che durante il viaggio aveva sofferto l'incubo del pericolo, ora sentiva rinascersi alla vita, nel trovare il caldo affetto fraterno, la tiepida luce del sole d'Italia, il cielo terso e ridente. Ella ringrazio' Iddio di avera ricondotta ancora una volta nella sua cara patria ove tutto era bello e ridente per quanto ora piu' che mai avrebbe sentito un'alto vuoto.

Nella sua casa aveva lesiato i genitori; E adesso . . . non c'erano piu'.

Amarissimo era stato per lei l'annuncio di quelli morti, ma ora avrebbe provato tutta l'intesa del dolore. Difatti, com'era desolante la casa, dove sempre era stata accolta dal sorriso della buona mamma; Non vi era piu' quel viso adorato che leggeva nel suo cuore come in un libro aperto. Non era nemmeno il babbo al solito posto. . . . Oh come sentiva il bisogno della festevole accoglienza dei genitori; nel rivedere tutti quegli oggetti che erano strettamente legati al ricordo di essi. Erano morti col dolore nel

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cuore di non aver visto almeno l'ultima volta la loro "bambina."

La prima dolorosa impressione fu attenuata dall'incontro dei cari parenti e degli amici buoni. Un volto dagli occhi scintillanti ricordo' di un lontano passato che era con loro. . . . Ed i ricordi affiorirono alla sua mente; ricordi assopiti, ma no spenti.

Si risveglio' nel cuor un sentimento che pareva morto da un pezzo, e che invece era nello stato latente, e . . . non appena il caso lancio', la scintilla ritorno' a rivivere.

Erano passati dei lunghi anni; si erano seguiti tante vicende ed ora uno strano caso riavvicinava quei due cuori amanti. Si strinsero la mano, si scambiarono un lungo e languide sguardo . . . e si dissero la loro sincera e tranquilla amicizia. Quell'amicizia che sorge fra persone che si comprendono resa in loro piu' solda dai ricordi . . . ricordi che possono paragonarsi alle pallide viole conservate fra le pagine di un libro.

MARIA CIPRIANO SCHILLACI.

Gadsden, Alabama.

NEW HOME FOR PITTSBURGH PLATE GLASS CO.

The Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., one of the most outstanding business concerns in this district, will soon occupy the new modern business building at the corner of Ninth Avenue and North Twentieth Street, just behind the City Auditorium, within a stone's throw from Capitol Park and Jefferson County Court House.

This concern, under the management of Mr. Phillips, has established one of the best reputations in the line of modern store fronts, as well as attractive, durable and artistic decorations for the most modern stores.

FACTS ARE FACTS

From the government's own figures, according to the Labor Bulletin of January 12, 1935, it is estimated one-half of all our people are unemployed.

There are 10,659,000 industrial workers unemployed. Figuring farm unemployed on the basis that 40 per cent of the farm population is unemployed, in a population of over 32,000,000 farmers, the unemployed list of both industrial and agricultural workers will total more than 21,253,000.

These figures do not even include the professional persons as unemployed. The lawyers, doctors, accountants, architects, dentists, grocers, bakers and candlestick makers who cannot make a living because the people have nothing to spend with them are not even listed as unemployed. However, this group would increase the unemployed list by another 2,000,000.

In the same bulletin it was showed that the average wage has increased 6.7 per cent in the industries, while the price of food has jumped 11.8 per cent, and prices of clothing and house furnishings advanced 15.3 per cent.

According to these accredited figures, those so fortunate as to be employed are living 43 per cent below a reasonable standard of living, at the end of the year 1934.

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BUREAU OF INFORMATION

ANNA CARADORI—Singer, born in Perth, Scotland, in 1822, of Italian parents. She appeared in London as "Norma," September, 1855, and on December 27, 1857, sang at the Academy of Music, New York City, in Handel's "Messiah." Her operatic debut in New York, December 30, 1857, was in the role as Leonora in "Fidelio," and later she appeared in Philadelphia as "Norma" on January 28, 1858.

GIUSEPPE DE BEGNIS—Opera singer, born in Lugo, Italy, in 1795, and died in New York City, August, 1845. He began his musical studies at the age of seven and sang soprano until he was nearly fifteen, when his voice broke. Then he studied for comedian and later resumed vocalist lessons as baritone. De Bagnis came to the United States about 1840 and appeared frequently in New York City in concerts and operas. He was noted as one of the purest and most natural of Italian buffo singers.

ACHILLE ERRANI—Musician, born in Faenza, Italy, August 20, 1823. He came to the United States in 1860 and settled in New York City, singing at the Winter Garden with Fabbri, Grazia and Frassolini. In 1861, when Adelina Patti sang "Violetta" in "Traviata" for the first time, he took the part of "Alfredo." After the Civil War, Errani made a tour through the Southern States as first tenor of an opera company. He became famous as a teacher of Italian style of singing, some of his famous pupils being Minnie Hauch, Miss Thrusky, Mms. Durand and Stella Borcher.

H. ENRICO CRAPO—Born in Dartmouth, Mass., May 24, 1804, of Italian parents. In his early youth the family removed to New Bedford, Indiana, where they resided until 1857. They then moved to Michigan, and Mr. Crapo later became governor of the state. He died in Flint, Mich., on July 23, 1869.

ABRAM MARKOE (MARCO)—Patriot, born in Danish West Indies in 1729 of Huguenot (Italian) descendants. He early emigrated to Philadelphia, Pa., in the interest of the sugar trade of his family and made that city his permanent home. In 1774 he was instrumental in organizing the Light Horse Troop (known as "The City Troop"), and was its captain. In the summer of 1775, he presented the trooper with a flag, which was the first flag in America bearing thirteen red and white stripes. This flag was raised over the American headquarters at Cambridge, Mass., on January 1, 1776.

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REAL ESTATE, INC.

Birmingham, Ala.

ITALIANS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

One of the problems that confront a young scholar when entering the higher grades is: Which other language shall he learn?

The Italo-Americans should find their answer is the Italian language, because it is the most refined living language on earth. It is the most musical because it fits best the natural formations of man's vocal organs. It requires no spelling because it is read as written. Since Romans and Italians have contributed the largest portion to modern civilization, one finds that most of the classics in history are directly or indirectly found in that language.

It is of utmost importance that Italian be learned in preference to any other when a second language is sought by Americans.

Why then is not the Italian the predominant second tongue taught in Alabama schools? Are we wrong? No, we are merely outnumbered. The wise are fewer than the simple. The better Americans esteem the Italian, while the mechanic-like lot of people is large and we are thus outnumbered.

They tell us that one language is the international language because it was used in writing international agreements. What a pale reference that makes! When we examine the few political diplomats who use that language and the weakness of that example we are easily satisfied of its insignificance. Political cartels and agreements, domestic and international, come and go, much too often, for serious consideration by the everlasting public.

That for the French tongue outside of French borders.

They tell us that German is the language of science. Far from it. When we examine scientific documents we find only a small proportion as compared with Latin and Italian used in this great field. Since it is only of late that Germans have become familiar with the subject. Even the Greek supercedes the German, while Italian and Latin predominate. What could one accomplish in science without knowing Latin? (which is now so thoroughly embodied in the Italian language.)

What of the Spanish? This sentimental language is being forced upon us by the large number of simpler-minded—professors whose anemic convictions align them with the hypocrites who claim to be teachers when in fact they are followers of the mobs. They teach Spanish in America as a compromise to the commercial mass. This is a machinery subserviance except in race cases.

Insist on the Italian language when your sons and daughters ask for advice in making up their study program at school.

To you, boys and girls who go to school, I ask: What progress can one make in any of the major studies without knowing the classic Italian language?

The Italian language is gaining in popularity every year in the American schools, and it is our duty to propagate its use for the benefit of all students of languages.

"Learn the Italian and be broadminded!" should be our slogan.

KNOWLEDGE

You say I have lots to learn,
And oh, my dear, it's true!
There is so much to know
Of little things, big things—you!

It takes time to acquire,
And patience tall I'm sure,
But sweet wisdom I desire,
So, teach me, oh—dear, do!

I'll study all books you say,
And when credit is due
I'll just be tickled pink
Adoring, my love, just you!
—Lucia Musso.

ROYAL ITALIAN VICE-CONSUL
G. A. FIRPO, Reggente

710 Farley Building Birmingham, Alabama
Office Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; Saturdays until 4:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY, THE MONTH OF GREAT
EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICA

The month of February is the month of the birthdays of two great Presidents of the United States—Washington and Lincoln.

George Washington, "the father of our country," was born at Bridges Creek, Westmoreland County, Virginia, February 22, 1732, upon a plantation known later as "Wakefield." He was the eldest son of Mary Ball and Augustine Washington. The boy inherited the blood and stamina of those early Colonial pioneers who were almost constantly armed and alert against the invasion of warlike enemies. Washington was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." Washington was truly "first in war," not from any militant disposition of his character, but because of his environment and the times in which he lived. Upon assuming command of the American army at Cambridge, July 3, 1775, he solemnly avowed that he would fight until America gained its liberty. This was the beginning of seven years of warfare that was destined to change the history of the world, and bring happiness and prosperity to millions of people. On October 10, 1781, Washington, for all time to come, became a world figure in military history. That was the day Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown; that was the day America forever won her religious, political and industrial freedom from the oppressing land beyond the sea. It was the true beginning of the United States of America.

Abraham Lincoln first saw the light of day on February 12, 1809, in a little log cabin in Kentucky. The Lincoln family, in some parts of the country, was prominent; but this branch of it had "come down in the world." The cabin was a ramshackle affair; the clearing in which it was built was rank with weeds; the few acres of corn that stretched away to the wood were choked with high grasses and creeping vines. Abraham's father was a carpenter, and to his mother was left almost the entire care of the little Lincolns; and to his mother owed the incentive of his life. "God bless my mother," he said in later years. "All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to her." In 1860, Lincoln was nominated for President by the Republican party, and was elected in November of the same year; he was re-elected in 1864, in the midst of rejoining on the accomplishments of his purpose: The Union had been saved to posterity. His immortal speech at Gettysburg will endure forever; it was there he said: "God grant that we shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth." While the country was wild with joy at Lincoln's accomplishments, there came the great shock of his assassination on April 14, 1865, by John Wilkes Booth, an actor, while the President was attending a theatrical performance in a Washington theatre.

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THE UNEMPLOYED

I am the shifting sand beneath the walls
Ye build and call the State. I am the Fear
That haunts you in your boasting and your dreams
Your dead youth's lost occasions! Yea, I am
The curse beneath the fabric of your Dream!

I am the shifting sand beneath the State.
Your laws, your customs, creeds, I undermine.
I laugh at your conventions, meant to bind.
Your Creeds! To me they purvey only lies.
So as ye build, I bury that ye build;
The walls ye rear upon me do decay.

I am the dream of Evil ye have dreamed;
The uncouth Hun, the Vandal, and the Goth;
The savage come again to leer, and laugh
Into forgetfulness the domes ye build.
Your learning, culture, visions—these shall fade,
And I shall pour your wisdom into pools
To sink, and fail, and so be lost to man.
I am the youngest anarch of the world:
I neither love nor hate, I only leer.
A gibbering ghost of manhood, o'er your dreams.

I am your Brother, driven forth to die!
These are your cities, empires, and demesnes—
And these your doles—to toil!—and still to toil!
To render unto Caesar, not the tithe,
But all, that Caesar of his will bestow
That in his wisdom "recompense" is writ—
The helot I, your brother equal born!

These are your cities; I will make them dust!
These are your empires; they shall disappear!
These your demesnes—Forgetfulness shall be
Of all ye said, or did, or hoped, or sung!

Ye did inherit much, but did take all;
So I shall ravish in its bloom your hope,
Shall make your boast of culture all a lie,
Shall make you know the emptiness of dreams!

Hear once again the word of him ye scorn!
I am that Ishmael ye have doomed to die;
I am the fair Occasions ye have flung
Aside as void of value and of life.
I am the Fear that haunts you in your halls,
And senates, and the temples of your God.
And as your systems crumble and decay
Heed well that I did tell you and now tell—
I am the shifting sand beneath the state!

—Hugh J. Hughes.

LA VENUTA IN BIRMINGHAM DI S.E.
L'AMBASCIATORE AUGUSTO ROSSO

Dopo quasi un terzo di secolo la comunità Italiana the Birmingham sara' certamente molta lieta di ricevere una gradita visita dalla piu' alta rappresentanza del Governo Italiano Sua Eccellenza Augusto Rosso, Regio Ambasciatore d'Italia presso questo Governo Americano.

L'Ambasciatore arrivera' in Birmingham il giorno 2 Marzo alle ore 7, A.M., col treno Frisco Line pervenente da Atlanta.

Alla stazione saranno arriceverlo il comitato delle varie società Italiane con alla testa il Regio Vice-Console G. A. Firpo di questa

JOE'S THE DRIVER



March the 2nd is the day Birmingham will welcome His Excellency the Royal Italian Ambassador Augusto Rosso, and Joe Butera, of Drennen Motor Car Co., will be his driver, using one of the New Cadillac cars. Drennen feels it to be a genuine pleasure to be of assistance to the Ambassador during his stay in Birmingham.

citta', compreso le autorita' cittadine ed altre personalita' e sara' scortato fino all'Hotel Tutwiler.

Alle ore 11 A.M. (dopo l'arrivo) parlera' nella Covenzione Statale dei maestri di Scuole nel Phillips High School, il suo discorso sara' broadcast dal Radio. Alle ore 12, meridiane sara' trattenuto col Dr. Glenn capo delle scuole pubbliche di Jefferson County.

Alle ore tre ricambiera' visita alle autorita' cittadine nel municipio e ricevuto dal presidente della commissione cittadina Mr. J. M. Jones, Jr., dove gli sara' presenata la bandiera della citta'.

Alla sera verra' trattenuto come ospite dal Mr. Victor Hanson, proprietario dei giornali News ed Age-Herald.

Domenica 3 Marzo S. E. Rosso, sara' apranzo col comitato Italiano, dalle ore 2 all 4 p.m. un giro di specione nel distretto di Birmingham. Alle ore 5 l'Ambasciatore ricevera' visita dei cittadini Italo-American. Alle ore 7 p.m. un gran banchetto nel Tutwiler Hotel in onore di S. E.

Il Lunedì 4 Marzo S. E. partira' per Tuscaloosa dove parlera' davanti ai studenti della Alabama Universita'. Alla sera ritornera a Birmingham dove prendera' il treno per la via di Dallas, Texas.

I capi del comitato e composto dai Signori Sam Ranieri, chairman; Arturo Passavanti, secretario; e Luigi Maenza, tesoriere. In piu' vari comitati delle varie società e individuali.

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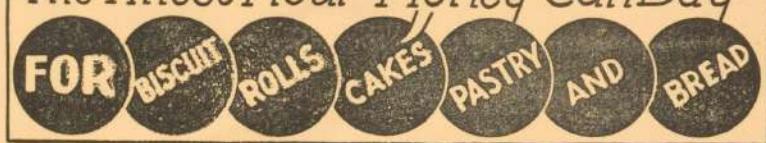
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Pittsburgh Plate and Glass Company

Will soon move into its new home

Corner of 9th Avenue and 20th Street, North

Just behind the Municipal Auditorium

You must not fail to pay a visit to this modern business place—the best in the city.

Watch the newspapers for announcement of opening date of this new building.

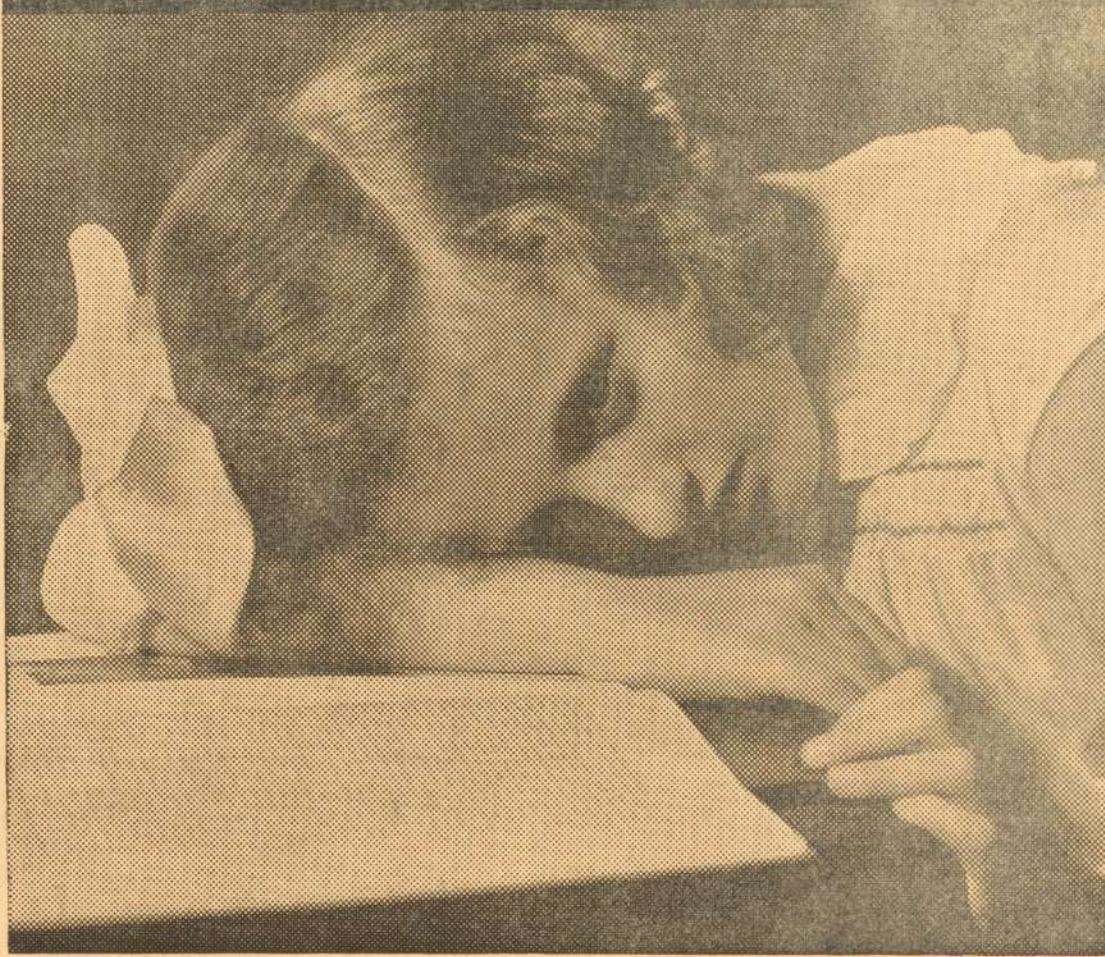
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Poor Light Makes Studying Twice as Hardand May Do Young Eyes Real Harm

Reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic are hard enough for a normal youngster—without his being handicapped by insufficient or improper light to study by.

Your child probably doesn't know anything about the importance of lighting. He'll go ahead straining his young eyes until eventually he becomes nearsighted or develops some other eye trouble. Then you'll pay a big price for your neglect.

Meanwhile, your child's progress in school will have been retarded, for poor lighting makes studying harder, longer, more tedious, more irritating to the nerves.

RIGHT NOW, make sure your child is studying under ENOUGH light, and the RIGHT KIND of light. Investigate the new "I. E. S." Reading and Study Lamp—especially designed for reading, writing, studying, knitting, sewing and other close seeing tasks. It costs very little to buy or operate. Both Floor and Table models are available. See your favorite merchant or dealer.

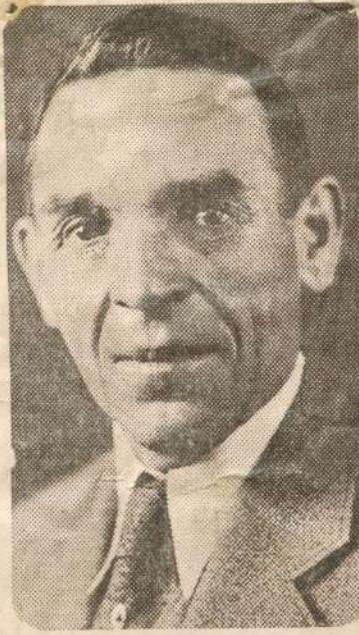


The
LIGHTING BUREAU
OF GREATER BIRMINGHAM



Better Light--Better Sight

GREETINGS FROM THE EDITOR TO ALL



ELVIRO DI LAURA
Editor and Publisher of Columbus-Balbo Review

Was born in the City of
ALFEDENA, Italy in the 3rd
day of January, 1881.
Came to U.S. of America on 3rd
day of July, 1898, landing in
New York
His parents Nicola Di Laura and
Anna Di Laura-Lombardozzi.

Elviro Di Laura

2, No. 4

Compliments from the publisher
Elviro Di Laura

HATE

