

# Columbus-Balbo Review

11. 1937  
REVIEW

Elviro Di Laura, Editor

Birmingham, Alabama, October, 1937

Vol. 5 No. 1



## BIRMINGHAM.

This bit of sunny land, where love,  
I fully understand,  
Swings freely open wide her gates,  
And hold a friendly hand.

\* \* \*

A Magic City Birmingham,  
In wisdom great and peace,  
A wealth of beauty poignant rare,  
Whose pride can never cease.

\* \* \*

I love her fields so rich of green,  
Their loveliness untold,  
Her hills and vales whose mines reveal,  
Deep mysteries and gold.

I know the pioneering souls,  
Are satisfied today,  
Their bones, no doubt, arise in joy,  
Their dream did not decay.

\* \* \*

Somehow I feel at home down here,  
Within this fragrant air,  
The spirit of eternal youth,  
Gives life that all may share.

\* \* \*

Amazed I look at mountain Red,  
That fearless, watchful stands;  
There Vulcan seems to say: Beware  
Ye foe, ye welcome friends.

—Cav. Primo Bartolini.

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## COLUMBUS-BALBO REVIEW

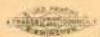
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## EDITOR'S PAGE

## CONGRESS FAILS THE IMMIGRANTS

We predicted sometime ago that Congress would do nothing to liberalize the deportation laws and reunite immigrant families on American soil. We were not mistaken. In the rush of adjournment last Aug., the Senate ignored several pending measures, including the Dies bill, which the Department of Labor itself was supporting, and so shattered all hopes of a change, for the time being at least.

For several years Congress has been sidestepping this important issue in spite of the fact that there is not a member of either house who will not admit privately, if not publicly, that the wrongs of our deportation laws, their inflexible rigidity and barbarous disregard of elementary human decencies, are the very negation of all American standards of fair play. It has been sidestepping this imperious need of reform for obvious reasons. It fears the anti-alien vote. It will pay lip service to the contribution the immigrant has made to America, denounce the barbarous separation of wives from their husbands and children from their parents; but when it comes to actual legislation on the subject, it prefers to do nothing. Meanwhile the trans-atlantic liners continue to carry across the seas the cargo of human victims whose cry for justice no one will hear.

We cannot share Congressman Dickstein's optimism that a reform bill, better than the hypocritical Dies bill we hope, will succeed in the next sesion. The Congressman is to well aware of the state of mind among his colleagues to have any such illusions.

The deportation laws will be liberalized and humanized only when President Roosevelt himself asks Congress to do so. He alone can whip the Democratic majority into line and get results.

In 1932 the President pledged himself to liberalization. His seven years silence on the subject is unreasonable and indefensible.

It is all the more unreasonable and indefensible when we consider that his failure to speak out helps to perpetuate a condition which he as a humanitarian must know is barbarous, inhuman and unAmerican.

## LIBERTY

Liberty is the most precious, the most expensive, and the most productive power in the world. It cost a thousand years of bloody struggle and unnumbered millions of lives to attain it for a short century and a half in the western world—a mere moment in the history of man. But the hands and hearts of those who inherited it have been too feeble and faithless to hold it and too poor in spirit to pay its inescapable upkeep. For these, that priceless heritage has so depreciated that the Gods of the Market-Place have persuaded millions of them to pawn it for a mess of pottage, an empty promise, and idle dream of effortless security; and the pawnbrokers, know full well that they will nevermore redeem it in their time. Amid the hardships and dangers that lie ahead for that unremembered remnant whose love and labor it still commands, let them in their steadfast faith erect a standard to which the wise and good may now repair, leaving the event in the hands of God.

## AN AUTHORITY ON THE COURTS

Our courts are the balance-wheel of our whole constitutional system; and ours is the only constitutional system so balanced and controlled. Other constitutional systems lack complete poise and certainty of operation because they lack the support and interpretation of authoritative, undisputable courts of law.

It is clear beyond all need of exposition that for the definite alike for the preservation of the liberty of the individual and for the preservation of the integrity of the powers of government, that there should be some non-political forum in which those understandings can be impartially debated and determined. That forum our courts supply. There the individual may assert his rights; there the government must abide; there the government can check the too aggressive self-assertion of the individual and establish its power upon the lines which all can comprehend and heed.

The constitutional powers of the courts constitute the ultimate safeguard alike of individual privilege and of government prerogative. It is in this sense that our judiciary is the balance-wheel of our entire system it is meant to maintain that nice adjustment between individual rights and governmental powers which constitute political liberty.—President Woodrow Wilson in 'Constitutional Government in the United States.'

## HISTORY MUST NOT REPEAT HERE

The theme song of the average politician, whether he be a minor city or state official, or a congressman at Washington, usually runs to the tune of "soaking the rich and big business." How long this popular but fallacious tune will continue to produce votes is a matter for conjecture.

It is safe to say that when the policy has been continued long enough to reveal its vicious characteristics it will go "out the window" as have all other radical schemes tending to restrict individual freedom.

A policy of persecution of groups will inevitably spread until it hits every individual. Exorbitant "class" taxes on business will be of necessity passed on to the consumer in the form of higher prices.

Confiscatory gift and inheritance taxes will deprive the public of fortunes left by their owners for education, medical research, museums, public parks and innumerable other services essential to a cultured society.

Wealth persecution kills the incentive of the individual to forge ahead on his own initiative with the hope of personal gain. History shows that every country that curtailed or restricted the free play of ambition and enterprise of the individual soon reached a point of national stagnation.

History is repeating itself with many of our European neighbors but it must not be allowed to do so in this country.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR POETESS

The Columbus Balbo Review heartily congratulates our contributor poetess Miss Lucia Musso, who recently married Prof. Sam Gagliano and wish both happiness.

## COMMUNICATION FROM NASHVILLE, TENN.

Egregio Editor del Columbus Balbo Review:

Giorni fa' parlai ad una conferenza di insegnanti, e una maestra, la quale ha letto il tuo articolo nella tua rivista ne fece molto elogi davanti a tutti gli insengnanti. L'articolo che tu riferivi alla "Old Glory".

Saprai ancora che La American Legion ha messo davanti alla mia casa una bellissima asta di ferro alto 35 piedi con una bellissima aquila di ottone in cima per spiegarvi una bandiera in onore del Capitano William Driver. L'inaugurazione havuto luogo non molto tempo fa, e vi era la musica, rappresentanze dei Clubs della citta di Nashville, delle scuole e dello stato. Hanno inaugurato questa flagpole in Onore di Captain W. Driver, l'uomo che chiamo la bandiera stellata "Old Glory" in vero e' stato un bellissimo avvenimento, hanno avuto parole di elogio per me e per la Columbus Balbo Review, prima rivista che si e' occupata scrivendo molto bene sulle sue pagine. Fece vedere ad un oratore dell'occasione il tuo articolo e così ne parlo al pubblico. Tre furono gli oratori che ne parlano e tutti ebbero parole di lode. Per te e per me.

Mi fu presentata una bellissima bandiera. Così, quandunque poveri, facciamo molto per elevare il buon nome Italiano.

—Saluti Cav. Primo Bartolini.

## NEGLECT OF HISTORY

Editor Columbus Balbo Review:

During our Teachers' Conference of recent date, I was quite favorably impressed by Mr. Bartolini's talk on "Old Glory," the name given to the American Flag.

Could any American born citizen have furnished this information? No,—it was out of the noble, heroic efforts of Mr. Bartolini, a man to whom all should bestow much credit. A man born under the beautiful sunshine and glorious sky of Italy to present to the dormant people of our land this bit of historic interest.

Much praise is accorded The Columbus Balbo Editor, Mr. Elviro Di Laura in the writing and publicity of the wonderful article in rescuing the record of Old Glory through Mr. Bartolini, whose love for America far surpasses words to express. And Mrs. A. Foster was indeed right when she said in regard to Mr. Bartolini, "America is always glad to welcome people to our shores of the type of Mr. Bartolini" and I add that we are always happy to have men and publications of your ideal Mr. Di Laura.

P. Bartolini rescued the birthplace of Old Glory and saved it for posterity.

This sacred spot should have been honored many years past; whereby it would have been recorded on our history's page—

But it slept,  
Untouched by hand,  
Unseen by eye.

Mr. Bartolini made a striking comparison of the two countries. In that Italy possesses an inborn naturalness in the perpetuation and dedication of its sacred shrines; whereby there are many in our own America unknown and unhonored.

We all admit that Mr. Bartolini was right in his remark when he said we forget our glories and absorb ourselves wholly in business, however essential that business may be, they leave in oblivion the name and deeds of those who made America great.

When a simple monument, an inscription, a tablet, a marker would do a great deal to mold the character of our youth and to prevent crime.

Yes, America is lacking in this. Again I say that we are more than indebted to you Mr. Di Laura and to Mr. Bartolini in bringing us into a more intelligent appreciation of past history.

Lately many interesting articles have been written about Old Glory, the place where she was born and Captain William

Driver and about the memorial that Mr. Bartolini erected to Old Glory and Mr. Driver, but your publication The Columbus Balbo Review was the first to give birth to such a historical enthusiasm writing about Old Glory and Captain Driver, so let me say Columbus Balbo Review is always first.

—Miss EULA GARRISON, High School Teacher,  
Nashville, Tenn.

(Editor note). In our December issue of Columbus Balbo Review we published an article referred to the origin of "Old Glory," we published the picture of the man who gave that name and the spot where Captain William Driver lived and died, which was the birthplace of Old Glory rescued by an Italian Prof. Primo Bartolini, of Nashville, Tenn., and the Columbus Balbo Review was the first magazine to give the historical news.

We thank Miss Eula Garrison for her kind expression toward our publication and the Editor, and we are glad that the American Legion Post of Nashville, Tenn., recognized the importance of our article and decided to honor the birthplace of Old Glory with the erection of a 35-foot flag pole in memory. The inauguration took place not long ago.

## COMUNICAZIONE CONSOLARE DI NEW ORLEANS

31 Agosto, 1937-XV

Egregio Signor Di Laura,

Ho riceuto la Sua lettera del 29 corrente e i ritagli di giornali allegati e desidero ringraziarLa per la Sua cortese premura che ho molto apprezzata.

Sono lieto che anche in Birmingham e Ensley le onoranze tributate alla memoria di Guglielmo Marconi, sieno riusite degne del Grande Scomparaso.

Desidero insieme congratularmi con Lei per la bella lettera scritta all'Age-Herald.

Gradisca, egregio Signor Di Laura, i miei distinti saluti.

Il Regio Consolo

Gian Girolamo Chiavari

New Orleans, La.

Egregio Sig. Di Laura

7 Settembre, 1937-XV

La ringrazio della Sua segnalazione del 1 corrente a Le assicuro ancora una volta che questo Consolato aprezzza molto l'attenzione con la quale segue la stampa locale.

Con distinti, cordiali Saluti

Il Regio Consolo

Gian Girolamo Chiavari

## ITALO-AMERICAN POET IN CONTEST

We have been informed that our friend Cav. Primo Bartolini, of Nashville, Tenn., teacher of modern languages in the local school, of that city, that two of his poems, "To God" and "Autumn", have been accepted for publication in the Forthcoming Anthology, "Christmas Lyrics of 1937", to be published by Beacon Publications before the holidays. The inclusion of Mr. Bartolini's poems makes him eligible for the \$500 contest. The prize winners to be announced shortly after publication of the volumes. Many of Mr. Bartolini's poems were published in the Columbus Balbo Review, and he is a member of the Poetry Society of America.



P. BARTOLINI  
Sun.

Mr. Bartolini has had poems published in Nashville papers and won a first prize in a poetry contest conducted by the New York Sun.

We express our congratulations to our friend Bartolini and wish him to be the prize winner of the contest. Go it Primo.

## IN DIFESA DELL'ITALIA E GLI ITALIANI

Questa Rivista "Columbus Balbo Review" e' stata richiesta da persone autorevole, di riprodurre vari articoli apparsi nel giornale Age-Herald ed altri giornali nel l'autunno del 1935, quanto l'Italia si trovava in guerra con l'Etiopia, e che la stampa gialla asservita all'oro Inglesi, perversavano nelle loro colonne contro l'Italia. E nessuno in quell'epoca in Birmingham, di coloro che si vantano esponenti di Italianita', ebbero il coraggio di elevare una sillaba contro la bufera che imperava contro l'Italia e gli Italiani, fuor che l'Editore di questa Rivista Sig. Elviro Di Laura, e qui sotto sono le validatorie prove.—By request we reprint the following communication, which was published in The Age-Herald in 1935.

## CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ITALIAN

To Editor, The Age-Herald:

In commenting on the series of articles written by Pierre J. Huss, which set forth the views of a German military expert regarding the impending conflict between Italy and Abyssinia, I am appealing to your sense of fairness.

This German military expert seems to make a lot of predictions about the "physical handicaps and the effect of heat and insects on the perhaps courageous soldiers from Italy."

According to his prediction, "the military commanders of Italy in the torrid heat and unfriendly regions of steppes, would surely face a 'devil's cauldron'."

This same amusing campaign of slander was waged in bad faith against the heroic explorers of the Arctic by part of the world press, when Gen. Umberto Nobile, with his dirigible "Italia" and 20 comrades flew over the Arctic regions, covered 6,000 miles of space not seen by human eyes before, and reached the pole.

The communications of those days were written by the notorious "Lucas," from Chiasso, Switzerland, who was a specialist in anti-Italian rehashing of the most contemptible lies against General Nobile and his comrades. He said that they were physically unfit for such an expedition, and he attempted to describe the tragedy of the "Italia" as failure.

But those heroic Italian explorers, General Nobile, Mariana, Zappi, Ciccone and others, showed to the world their physical fitness, their heroism and courage in the suffering imposed upon them for months by the fierce hostility of elements and of the press.

Their expedition stands as one of the most glorious enterprises in the whole history of Arctic exploration. And many of the most famous Arctic expeditions lost their ships and came back decimated, and yet they were none the less victorious, because of their fate.

This military expert has shown himself a true specialist in the art of mud throwing.

The Italians are capable to adapt themselves to any climate, and are also physically fit to surmount every obstacle and barrier to their welfare and the good of humanity.

Italy is not of Italians, and the Italians are not of Italy. She and they are of the world; we are all her children and they are all our brothers, and some of the most sublime lessons life has to teach us have been learned of her wisdom and accumulation of experience. And there are facts and realities which cannot be erased from the pages of history. So a sneering, superficial condemnation and distortion of facts passed in either one of them betrays a total lack of historical sense.

—ELVIRO DI LAURA, Birmingham, Aug. 13, 1935.

## ENGLAND, FRANCE AND ITALY

To Editor, The Age-Herald:

The great poet Dante said: "Give light and the people will find their own way." On the present Italo-Ethiopian conflict, the public needs much impartial light without any prejudicial sentiment.

Italy protests against a dual standard of political ethics;

she does not wish to be made more moral and self-abnegating than her censors.

The British imperialists, whatever else their attitude toward future guarantees of peace, insist upon immediate and overwhelming British naval supremacy; the French upon military power, and almost all the nations are striving for special positions and strategic strongholds.

Why should Italy be virtuous beyond the virtue of other nations? If England and France are now reluctant to give to Italy the rightful territory, after having wrongfully promised it, why may they not substitute territory of their own: Tunis, Malta, or something else equally acceptable?

If England and France demand of Italy to withdraw her imperialistic conquest, she has a right to demand that England, France and other nations recede from their extreme positions.

If all the European imperialists and nationalists continue to uphold their idea of agrandizement, they will prepare the ground for new and more bitter struggles. Italy has the right to demand such a revision of all the claims of England and France, and a policy of reconstruction to enable her to make the sacrifice without danger to herself.

ELVIRO DI LAURA, Birmingham, Aug. 26, 1935.

## CLOSING OF THE SUEZ CANAL

To Editor, The Age-Herald:

In the amusing campaign of the press to blackmail Italy in the Ethiopian affair, we too often read statements which broach the ridiculous even when expressed by authoritative sources.

How can England close the Suez Canal when a treaty signed by nine powers guarantees to keep it open in time of peace and war?

Even if England wants to be the policeman of the world, she alone cannot violate the treaty of Constantinople without the consent of the other seven powers, exclusive of Italy, for the simple reason that these seven powers may not agree to the English policy.

This proposal shows that England has not the support of world opinion because it would be strong enough to avert war without threatening to close the Suez Canal, which, after all, is supervised by Egypt and not England.

Egypt is appointed by the nine powers as guardian of the Suez Canal. Article 152 of the Treaty of Versailles confirms the pact of 1888. If England violates it, she will place on the table the revision of all the treaties for peace. Why choose the closing of Suez Canal if there is no commitment on punishments in a treaty which is only a moral obligation?

What did England do when Japan made war on China? What is she doing now about the Japanese Empire? Nothing!

Why did not England exert all her strength and treaties on the league in the disarmament dispute, its greatest endeavor since its formation?

How was it that England violated a solemn pledge made a few weeks before at Stresa and at Geneva, condemning Germany and afterwards made a naval accord which really deprived the league itself of authority?

What did England do for the league when Germany decided to increase her armies, Nothing! She worked in complete harmony with the transgressor. Of two sorrows, it is better to choose the minor one.

Why must the blame go to Italy for ruining the league and for not averting war? England's claim is that she is defending the prestige of the league and that she is not animated by any direct interest; but that is not the case; she is prompted by other motives. She wants to be the only exploiter of Ethiopia, and the Abyssinian government played upon the rivalry of the European countries and found that England alone championed her support.

Why so much objection to Italy's invading Ethiopia? Did

not Rome invade Gaul and create the civilized French nation? Normans invaded England, subdued the Saxons, and created the civilized British nation. Puritans and others invaded the United States, drove out the Red Indians and created this country which we call civilized. Why not civilize Ethiopia? It all depends on who should be the civilizer. —ELVIRO DI LAURA, Birmingham, September 16, 1935.

#### MUSOLINI DEFENDED

To the Editor of The Banner:

During the last few months we have witnessed one of the most perfect international and political organizations operating, through the press, through financial and political machines, through mercenary soldiers of adventure, against a great nation and great people.

The campaign started timidly through newspaper correspondence coming from London and through unscrupulous manipulation against Italian securities listed in American stock exchanges. The hand could not be easily discerned at first by the casual reader; but it is a fact that everything done and printed to the detriment of Italy originated from London and from agencies very well experienced in this game, working on behalf of British imperialists and of international special interest.

The public did not know that the selling order for Italian securities listed in the stock exchanges of the United States was sent from London.

These were the first weapons used to stop Mussolini from going on in his Ethiopian plan. Later the curtain was lifted. Italy was presented as a bankrupt nation and Mussolini as an irresponsible tyrant, striving for his own selfish purpose and for his lust for power, to resurrect a Roman Empire.

This is the old British game to get other nations pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for England.

—ELVIRO DI LAURA, 1614 9th Ave., S., B'ham, Ala., October 9, 1935.

#### ITALY "THE GUILTY PARTY" (?)

To Editor, The Age-Herald:

Italy, according to your editorial of Nov. 25, has been judged and condemned not only by the League of Nations, but also in the eyes of the world, as an aggressor and outlaw nation for invading Ethiopia.

Mussolini has been described by the newspapers as one of the most dangerous men in the world, as a mono-maniac and all other sorts of names.

This reminds us of the parable in the Bible, when Christ asked those who were without sin to cast the first stone.

How can Italy be guilty of invading Ethiopia when Italy has been in Ethiopia with her colonial possession since November, 1869, when Italy first purchased the Bay of Assab and the Eritrea colony which for many years has been the scene of the most bloody episodes along the frontiers by the evergrowing anarchy of the Ethiopian outlaw and banditti along her border?

Will you call invasion the episodes of Vera Cruz in 1914 when an American warship bombarded that port and killed some people to force the Huerta government to salute the American flag? Will you also call it invasion when Gen. Pershing, with 30,000 soldiers in 1916, pursued the so-called bandit Villa into the interior of Mexico?

Italy has the right to protect the border of her African colony and she did just what any other nation has done.

As to the Kellogg pact, Italy signed it after Great Britain made the following reservation: "There are in the world certain regions whose prosperity and integrity are of special and essential security. His majesty's government has taken great care in the past to let it be known that any interference would not be tolerated. The defense of these regions against all aggression constitutes for the British Empire a measure of legitimate protection. It must be plainly set forth that the said

treaty is not detrimental to its freedom of action in this matter."

Those who now call Mussolini "bandit dictator" must remember that this "bandit dictator" in the World War was in the trenches on the firing line along the Piava River fighting the same enemy that the American soldiers were fighting. He was wounded and decorated for bravery.

And they should remember that this dictator not only saved Italy but also Europe from being engulfed by Bolshevism and Communism.

Italy did not demand a place in the sun. She wants justice, and her 600,000 dead, 1,000,000 cripples and 400,000 mutilated soldiers invaded her land and her empty treasury were not sacrificed only to save French and English in the World War.

ELVIRO DI LAURA, Birmingham.

—November 29, 1935.

#### BUON RITORNO

Una faccia geniale e ben familiare che per uno spazio di cinque anni e' stata essente nella nostra comunita' e nuovamente tra noi dopo un lungo soggiorno nel suo paese native Compo-franco. Sig. Carlo Mazzara, a fatto ritorno in Birmingham, e tutti ne siamo lieti.

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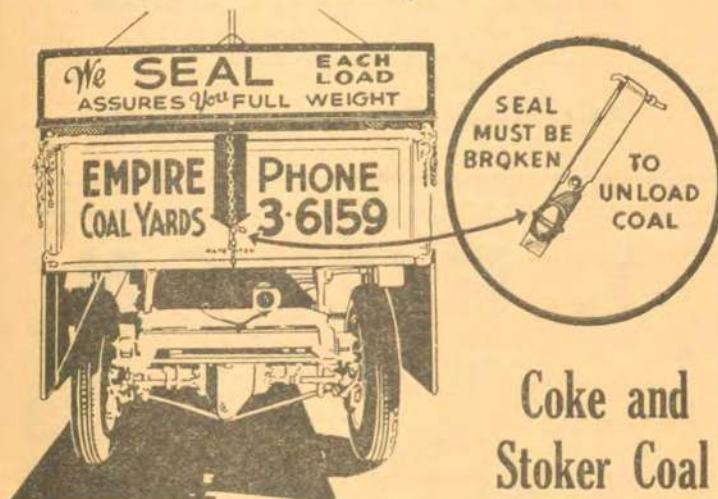
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Gli stessi trastulli recavaci il di  
Ci e Patria ed Orgoglio la terra piu bella.  
La terra dei carmi, dei fiori, del Si.

Figli d'Italia, lavoratori,  
Trionfo italico ne asilla il cor:  
Tergere lagrime, lenir dolori,  
E' nostra gloria, Pane e Lavor.

La nostra bandiera, che al Trinò Colore,  
Ghermiva la pace, la speme, l'ardir,  
Ci porge un Trinomio, dei Prenci terrore,  
Che splende la luce del Sole Avvenir.

Quel grande Trinomio ci parla Uguaglianza.  
Gia' nobil preccetto di un'umile Eta:  
C'insegna la legge che da Fratellanza,  
Ci forma coscienza, che da liberta.

Figli d'Italia, lavoratori, ecc. ecc.

Di gemme micante l'elmetto sdegniamo,  
Ne destra ci armava la falsa belta:  
Di Cesari gonzi l'altezza spregiamo:  
La legge del forte ci sembra vilta.

Vogliamo che accolga sin l'ultima villa  
"Dell'Italia Stella l'eterno fulgor:  
"Sia scuola alle genti del Diritto la squilla,  
"E al popolo torni lo scettro d'amor,

Figli d'Italia, lavoratori, ecc. ecc.

Il martire rosso di nostra battaglia  
Trionfa di morte. Sul gelido avel  
Cornelia non stende la triste gramaglia:  
Perenne rugiada vi piove dal ciel.

Di fiori lo scopre l'immensa famiglia:  
Chiomato leone vi oppone il suo pie':  
Quell'umile avello San Marso somiglia  
Ha voce piu forte, che tomba di Re.  
Figli d'Italia, lavoratori, ecc. ecc.

PROF. C. STORNELLO.

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## SICILIA—ISLAND OF SUNSHINE AND FLOWERS

The "Sicilian Spring" recalls at once sunshine in winter, as it appropriately defines that season in the finest island of the Mediterranean Sea, replete with historical associations dating back to the most remote times and the legendary events of mythology.

In this island of unrivalled natural beauty privileged by ancient gods, bright sunshine prevails from October to May with the warmth of spring, while other countries are held in the cold grip of winter with its dull skies and persistent rains.

The "Sicilian Spring" is exceptional as it starts in autumn, embraces winter and lasts until summer. It is no wonder, therefore, that the modern lyric was born and reared in Sicily where the winds play softly in olive and orange groves and birds and flowers thrive in sunlight.

Sicily assumed the most important place in the ancient world and its first inhabitants were the gods. Subsequently, its charm and unsurpassed beauty attracted numerous people, and in the course of centuries it became the home of Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Saracens, Normans and Spaniards who, owing to its unique geographical position forming a link between two mighty continents, became masters of the Mediterranean.

There is no doubt that Sicily is an ideal winter resort that excited the wonder of the world since time immemorial, owing to the perfume of its flowers and orange blossoms, the beauty of its meadows and olive groves, and the art treasures of its towns.

The capital of Sicily, Palermo, is rich in monumental buildings affording perfect examples of the Arabo-Norman art that had its origin in that town which, moreover, boasts of the most famous mosaics in the world. Its remarkable villas, the unsurpassing beauty of the Conca d'Oro, as the lovely green valley forming a background to the town is aptly called, the wonderful cathedral of Monreale, the characteristic district known as Piana dei Greci, inhabited by Albanian refugees who still speak their language and wear their magnificent fifteenth century costumes, and the nearby ancient ruins of Soluntum, are some of the attractions of this fine town.

One of the most interesting towns in Sicily is Syracuse, the oldest and mightiest in antiquity, with numerous surviving remains of its past wealth and power. It suffices to mention the Greek and Roman theatres, the Castle of Euryalus, with the most powerful fortifications in antiquity, the ancient walls and ruins of magnificent temples, the fountain of Arethusa, as well as the churches and the famous statue of Venus Anadyomene.

The open-air performances of classic plays are given in the same Greek theatre at Syracuse where the tragedies of Aeschylus were represented in his lifetime.

They afford evidence of the immortality of Greek dramatic literature, which is still more strikingly impressive owing to the fact that the theatre is coeval with the tragedies performed and the natural scenery forming their background remains unchanged.

Sicily is rich in color and poetry, with a marked and indestructible individuality which extends to its present inhabitants. As a result its folklore is one of the leading characteristics of the Sicilians who display it in the traditional religious feasts, all of which retain some of their pagan origin. But the season's attractions are most varied and include even sports, as, for instance, the international motor-race for the Florio Shield which is one of the most important sporting events. The island is worthy of being thoroughly visited as its charms are for the elect; they age not nor grow incipid, and its hillsides and sea, its mountains and thermal resorts at Termini, Sciacca and Acriale, forever maintain mystery and interest.

The "Primavera Siciliana" is, therefore, a unique season in an ideal Mediterranean island blessed by the sun and where every month is June when elsewhere autumn and winter sadden the world.

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## INIZIAZIONE DI NUOVA LOGGIA ORDINE FIGLI D'ITALIA

Sotto il cielo autunnale Domenica 25 Settembre nella simpatica e ospitale città di Gadsden, Ala. ebbe luogo la inaugurazione della nuova Loggia Fratelli Bandiera Ordine Figli d'Italia.

La cerimonia si svolse nella grande sala del Reich Hotel in mezzo al più festoso entusiasmo. Tutti i grandi Ufficiali della Grande Loggia erano al presente. Il Grande Ven. Salvatore Rainieri; Signori Frank Mazzara, Luigi Maenza, Carmelo Vireglio, Sam Piazza, Sam Cusimano, Gasparo Lanza, M. Orsolina Tancredi.

Logge che erano rappresentate; Loggia Enrico Caruso, B. Petruzzelli, V. Petruzzelli, O. Padalino, C. Difrancesco; Loggia G. Garibaldi, V. Artale, J. Lorino, L. Noto; Loggia North B'ham, B. Marino, Frank Giardina, Loggia V. Em. III. Jo Tortorivi F. Sadalino, V. Manzella, F. Mule', F. Naro, Elviro Di Laura; Loggia Maria Teresa, Signore Mattia Schillace, Nicolina Selvaggio, Francesca Padalino, Mrs. Angelina Rainieri.

Prima delle cerimonie la nuova Loggia offrì un santo banchetto dato nel Reich Hotel a tutti i presenti. Il comitato di ricevimento era composto, Carlo Virgone Chairman, Jake Cusimano, Tony Cascio, Mrs. Salvatrice Pizzitola, Vincent Pizzitola, Fortunato Bonasera, Mrs. Ethel Rapallo, Mrs. Sara Cusimano, Miss Mary Cascio. Gli ufficiali della nuova Loggia sono Charles Rapallo Ven. Jake Cusimano Ass. Ven, Frank Troncale tessiere, Angelo Pardi Seg. Archivista. Signori Carlo Virgine, Vincent Pizzitola, Tony Cascio, Curatori, Fortunato, Bonasera Oratore, Maria Lucia, Jo Accardi Cerimonieri.

Discorsi di inaugurazione furono fatti dal Chairman C. Virgine Sam Raine Gr. Ven; C. Rapallo Ven. Frank Mazzara, Elviro Di Laura, ed il Reggente Vice Console A. G. Firpo.

Molte Signore e signorine erano presenti, Signora A. G. Firpo, Mrs. Mary Virgine, Mrs. Angelina Rainieri, Miss Bianca Tancredi, Miss Mary Cascio.

Tutto riuscì bene ed il comitato ringraziò coloro che darono la loro co-operazione.

## LA CELEBRAZIONE DEL COLUMBUS DAY

Sotto gli auspici della Grande Loggia Ordine Figli d'Italia in Alabama, la celebrazione della scoperta d'America si terrà nel Columbus Hall, Ensley, dalle ore 6:30 p. m. fino a tarda ore. Il comitato composto dai Signori. Sam Raine Grande Venerabile, Girolamo Campisi Chairman, Carmelo Virgilio, Luigi Maenza, Frank Mazzara, Elviro Di Laura e Signora Carmela Anselmo, hanno preparato un elaborato programma con musica e discorsi.

Gli oratori per tale occasione saranno il U. S. Representative Luther Patrick, Judge E. M. Creel, U. S. Commissioner Mrs. Louise O. Charlton, Miss Molly Dow, il Regio Vice Console d'Italia Sig. A. G. Firpo ed altri.

Il programma sarà anche broadcast della Radio 'Station WAPI 9 P. M. Gli Italiani del distretto di Birmingham doverebbero dare un esempio esemplare di chiudere-per lomeno, quel memorabile giorno i loro negozi e dimostrare una buona volta la nostra buona volontà rispettare le feste nazionali quando poi si tratta della festa di COLOMBO. Prendete esempio agli ebrei, Siriani e Greci.

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**GLI ITALO-AMERICANI DELL'ALABAMA  
IN MEMORIA DI GUGLIELMO MARCONI**

Domenica 29 agosto nella sala del Columbus Hall sotto gli auspici dell'Ordine Figli d'Italia, fu commemorato con solenne cerimonia l'uomo impareggiabile che la Grande Madre Natura aveva munificato, l'uomo che colla sua grande invenzione seppe operare tanti miracoli che con onore e vanto alla sua memoria e che si riverberanno sulla sua carissima Italia nei secoli.

La commemorazione fu prima tenuta nella Chiesa Cattolica di S. Giossepe, ad Ensley, alle ore 10 a. m., il Reverendo Padre Lorenzo celebro solenne messa funebre con un eloquente discorso elogiando il grande inventore che fu messe preautra della inesorabile falce della morte. La chiesa era gremita di popolo.

Alle ore 4 p. m. fu commemorato nella Columbus Hall dove gli oratori, il Giudice J. Fritz Thompson; il U. S. Representative Luther Patrick, il Solicitor George Lewis Bailes, il Postmaster W. Cooper Green, il Giudice J. Russel McElroy, ed il Regio Vice Console d'Italia signor G. A. Firpo, parlarono con eloquenza e con cenni strici della vita del grande inventore, e la sua meravigliosa invenzione.

Prima della cerimonia nella Columbus Hall, nel pomeriggio di domenica alle ore 12:30 il programma di commemorazione fu trasmesso alla Radio Station W A P I, parlando l'U. S. Representative Luther Patrick, Solicitor George Lewis Bailes in inglese, e il signor Elviro D Laura, Editore del "Columbus Balbo Review" in italiano.

Il signor Salvatore Raineri, Grande Venerabile della Grande Loggia dell'Ordine Figli d'Italia, alla chiusura della commemorazione fece un elevato discorso su Marconi elogiando la sua vita come un grande inventore ed un buon cristiano. Il signor Raineri, ringrazio tutti gli intervenuti per aver partecipato alla commemorazione del grande illustre scienziato. Toastmaster della cerimonia fu il signor Luigi Maenza, Grande Tesoriere della Grande Loggia.

**ROBERTS AND SON NEW HOME**

The Roberts and Son one of the oldest printing house establishments in the city has moved into their new permanent home on 19th St. and 6th Ave. South. The Roberts and Son dealing in printing, stationery, lithographing and engraving is one of the largest and best establishments of its kind in the South. We ask our friends to visit this new home, and the Columbus Balbo Review congratulates the Roberts and Son on their continued progress and wish them more prosperity in their new home.

**NEL NOSTRO GIARDINO ZOLOGICO**

Nel baraccone smiraglio di maggio,  
Un altro giardino,  
Coperto di fiori,  
E' sortito tra noi,  
Di vane speranze,  
E per sentire l'odore.

Lungo le aiuole,  
Si sente il rumore,  
Giulietta e romeo,  
Che sotto la guercia,  
Fanno l'amore,  
Con bacio Consolente.

Rose pungente,  
Di colore piccante,  
Vane profumo,  
Che presto ricade,  
Questo e un sogno,  
Che tutto vanisce,  
Aprento gli occhi tutto finisce.

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## ITALIANS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

To the Editor The News:

Demps A. Oden, of Childersburg, Ala., says that "the people who fought for and won American independence were English, the envy-heated Nordic," and that "in the patriotic armies were no Germans, no Italians, no Jews, Mexicans or Japanese, and precious few, if any, Irish—all these waited until the battle was over, the smoke cleared away and the danger past before coming over to share the spoils of victory. And none of them had any part in establishing our government.

I should like to ask Mr. Oden if he has read American history. If not, he should read it, and he will be convinced that people of those nationalities he mentions also contribute to the building of this great and glorious country of America.

The Italian pioneers who helped to build America were many. The Taliaferro family is of Italian origin, and is prominent in American history. Soldiers, jurists, legislators, physicians, bankers and agriculturalists, they first came in the year 1650 and settled in Essex County, Virginia, and spread in various states.

Gen. Benjamin Taliaferro was captain in the Continental army under George Washington, during the hard service in the Jerseys. At the battle of Princeton with his company he captured a British captain and his command. In 1784, Gen. Taliaferro moved his family to Broad River, in Georgia, where he became the leading man in the state. He was president of the State Senate, a member of Congress, and judge of the Supreme Court.

James G. Talaferro in 1840 was made judge of his parish in Louisiana. In 1852 he was elected to the Louisiana Constitutional Convention. He was appointed to the Supreme Court of Louisiana, was president of the state convention and was reappointed justice of the Supreme Court in 1868.

James P. Taliaferro was United States senator from Florida in 1867, and state senator in the Florida Legislature.

William Taliaferro, soldier, rose to the rank of brigadier general in the Confederate service March 4, 1862, and to that of major general Jan. 1, 1865, and participated in most of the battles of the Army of Northern Virginia. After the war he served in the General Assembly of Virginia for 10 years.

Other members of his family have won distinction in military service.

Francesco Vigo, banker, furnished money to Col. George Rogers Clark for his victorious campaign against the English post of Vincennes, Ind., in the Winter of 1779.

Philip Mazzei, physician, was an ardent supporter of both religious and political freedom in Virginia, and in June, 1778, Gov. Patrick Henry sent Mazzei to Italy to borrow money for the campaign against England. He, his wife and daughter were captured by the British and imprisoned for three months on Long Island. A letter to him from Thomas Jefferson, written on April 24, 1796, became famous in American political history.

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**WHY ITALIAN SHOULD BE STUDIED IN SCHOOLS**

In the sciences, Italians are eminent not only in such basic subjects as mathematics and physics, but in electrical and hydraulic engineering, in radio, in aeronautics, in the application of chemistry to modern industry they not only excel in philosophy, but in psychology, psychiatry and criminology. They are on their way to an important position in shipbuilding and operation. Not only advanced students in many technical fields, but young preparing for careers in foreign service, would find in Italian a great professional and social asset. Last, but not least, many students, for whom no "practical" reason for such study could be advanced, would gain through the study of Italian language and literature a sympathetic appreciation—or at the very least a fair standard for judgment and interpretation—of one of the great races of the world.

Our customary American indifference, not to say obtuseness, narrowmindedness and lack of vision in educational matters would seem to be the only explanation of this distressing state of affairs were there not another factor in the situation—the rather general feeling among Americans of Italian blood

that it is a sign of true Americanism not to attempt to keep alive in the second and later generations any extensive knowledge of their ancestral language and the ancient culture of their forefathers. This attitude from one point of view is a splendid evidence of their fine qualities as citizens, and is greatly to their credit, but I think it is based upon false assumption.

—HENRY GRATTAN DOYLE.

**THE MARCH OF PROGRESS WITH KRESS**

The new imposing building of four stories at the corner of Third Avenue, North and Nineteenth Street erected by the S. H. Kress Company is one of the most modern buildings, with all the accommodations that the customer can have. The exterior of the building is constructed with light gray terracotta, facing west and south. The interior at the stairway going to the basement is decorated with the most beautiful Italian marble of natural design.

Mr. S. H. Kress is a patron of art, with excellent taste and for many years past in various cities throughout the country encouraged more cultured art. Not long ago he made a selection from a well known collection and lent it to this "Magic City". And today he demonstrates his affection for Birmingham with the erection of one of the most expensive and modern buildings the third one in the United States. We congratulate Mr. Kress for his love of art and the progress he brings to every city and town in which his stores are located.

We congratulate Mr. English, the manager, who is so proud of the new store. And wherever Kress goes, progress goes with him.

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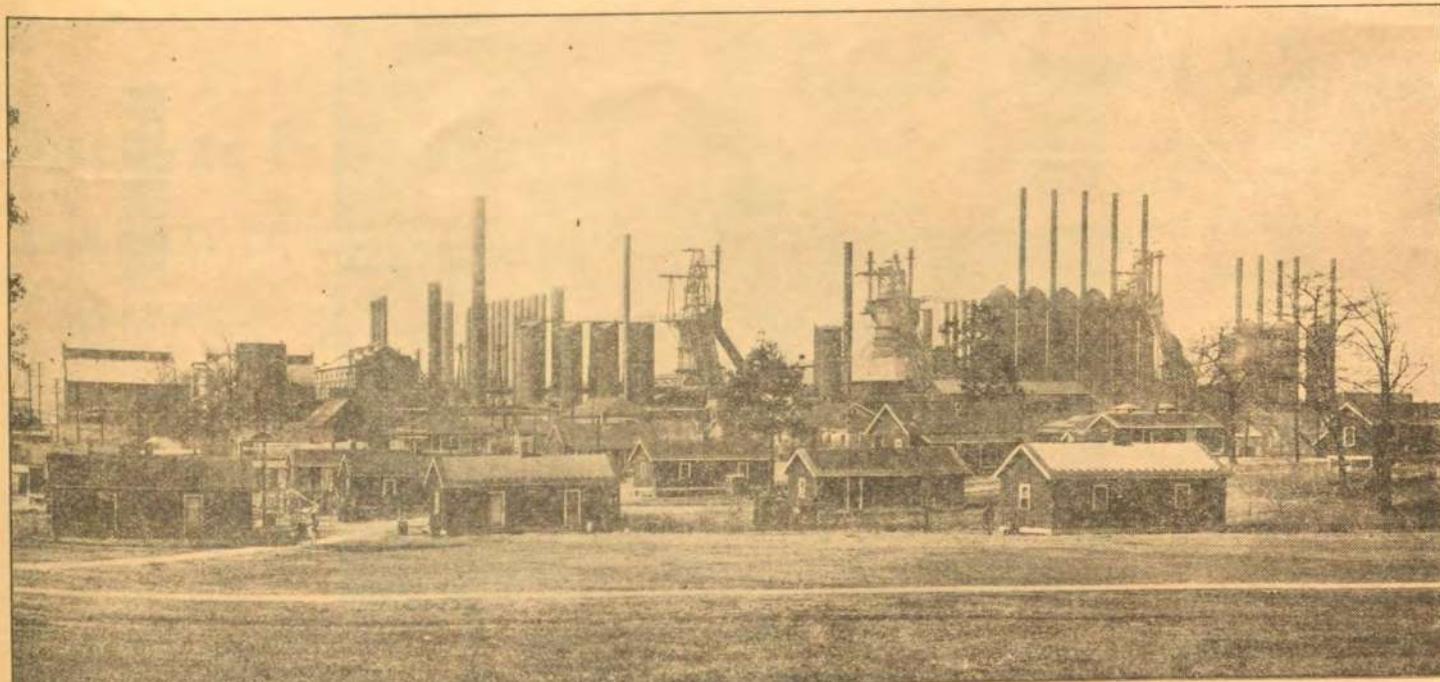
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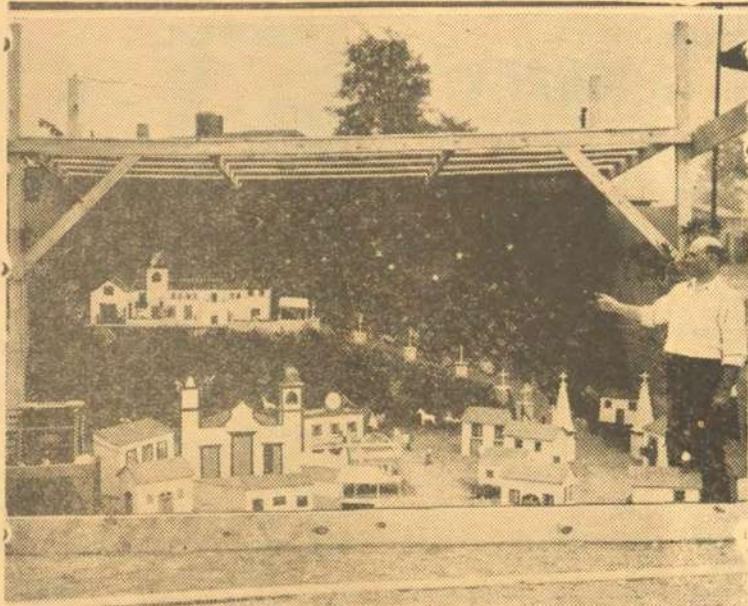
Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia will be re-elected as Mayor of the Great City of New York.



Old Street Scene, Bessemer, Alabama



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