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The Storm

It Sweeps Italy, and the Balkans Now Take It Up

No man knows where the bloody fighting in the Italian cities may end. The reports are that German troops, pouring south, have been met by Italian troops, and civilians, and that the riots sweep the whole nation. Under such chaotic conditions, intolerable in any nation, there cannot be peace.

Caroline Up

Industrial Progress Sets Stage for Social Progress

The University of North Carolina News Letter, dedicated to a careful and consistent consideration of every aspect of the State's progress, called to attention in a recent issue the present standing of North Carolina as an industrial center.

any list of the American states, has reached the point from which real progress must be made. In five years to come, industrial development will spread its benefits into every phase of the State's life, and North Carolina will no longer look down in the middle forties to discover her own standing.

Over-Production

Prostitutes and Drunks Are Still Too Numerous

It took Chief Walter Anderson's report of the results of the local beer ban to form a clear picture of the state of Charlotte's public morals. The beer ban, the chief reports, though knocking on wood, is working for good in the community, to date.

For The Boys

The President Has Plans All Ready for Them Now

Franklin Roosevelt, giving the nation one last pep-talk for victory, turned at last to the all-important task of clearing the way for the return of the men and women in the fighting service. In all of his words, the President struck no more resounding chords.

Fruit & Laughter Happiness in Sicily

By Raymond Clapper

AN ALLIED AIR FORCE COMBINED POST NORTH AFRICA. The resignation of Mussolini came less than a week after the Allied bombing of Rome. Until further information is available in Rome itself, the real inciting factor in his retirement can only be guessed at, but it seems probable that it can be set down as one of the most spectacular achievements of airpower.

After the parade of American Flying Fortresses and other bombers, including low-altitude craft, over the capital of Italy in broad daylight with only minor losses, Mussolini must have recognized the portents in the sky. For portents are certainly what it seemed like over Rome a week ago. This mighty force bombing the Eternal City with only trivial resistance could spell nothing but the ultimate defeat of Italy.

The spectacular progress of the Allied forces in Sicily, especially around Palermo, where it has been largely a parade eastward for the last few days, must also have had its effect on the regime at Rome. Equally important was the eager welcome extended by the residents of captured towns in Sicily, revealing their relief that the fighting was over.

I was in Palermo less than 48 hours ago. I spent two days there, and I saw for myself the unmistakable welcome of the population as the American came in. I arrived only a few hours after the first American troops marched into the city.

I went on from Palermo east as far as our army went. At that time, and everywhere our group was cheered and fruit was thrown to us. I was hit in the face with a bunch of grapes—thrown as a friendly gesture, not as a missile. There was not an ugly incident of any kind all the time I was there, moving about the city and through the country and the villages. Obviously the people of Sicily cared about nothing except having the war over.

They probably feel that the Americans want nothing from Sicily. On the contrary, they all

had their poles out asking for cigarettes and bread—they have had a shortage of food, and no meat for five months. Furthermore, when I saw the complete destruction of the waterfront and harbor works, with several ships blasted out of the water and lying on the beach, it was clear why the people were glad to have the war over. A third of the population had fled away from the bombing.

On top of everything else, since the Allies first successfully landed in Sicily we have brought across an enormous army, fully motorized and armored, both British and American, revealing a tremendous strength plus the ability to land on hostile shores. That must have had its effect on Rome.

Back in the States I recall it was often said there would be no military advantage in knocking Italy out of the war because the Allies could not get over the Alps. Airmen here laugh at that. They say, "Give us air fields in Italy and we'll bomb Germany to her knees." They point to the Ruhr as an example of what can be done all over Germany once they get within range.

The Allied air force has just made its longest raid from North Africa—to Bologna, which is a round trip of 1,500 miles, or 300 miles more than the Rome trip. The trouble is that the Ruhr is only one part of industrial Germany. But even so, we are deeply interested that it will be possible from England as the night grow longer—new areas of Germany will be devastated from the air.

I don't know what our high policy will be, but I hope we stick to the unconditional surrender of Italy. I hope we accept no conditions at all, so that we can go in and use Italy the same as we have used Tunisia, as a base for pushing the war still further toward Germany. That is essential. The power of the airplane has now been demonstrated. It is the most destructive weapon ever devised, far exceeding the destructiveness of artillery. It is making war so senseless that we can well expect the airplane to be the weapon that will bring peace and security to the world. I believe that this week we are seeing the beginning of that taking place.

A One-Man Dog

By Dorman Smith



Pope & President

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON. JUST before he left the United States for the war zone, Archbishop Spellman of New York, the President's closest link with the Vatican, told friends of weekly conversations he had had with Pope Pius XII in which His Holiness expressed hope for an early understanding between the Vatican and Soviet Russia.

Archbishop Spellman was secretary to the Pope when, as Cardinal Pacelli, the Pope was Vatican Secretary of State, and he remains one of Pius XII's most trusted confidants. All during the war and until the New York dispatches to the United States, the two conferred by trans-Atlantic phone at 1 P. M. on Wednesdays.

These phone calls, never before published, the one of the anomalies of the war. Though this meant a telephone hookup of two enemy countries, connections were made promptly and the Vatican and the United States were kept at least from our side. When the history of this war is written, it may show that the trans-Atlantic calls between the Pope and his closest adviser in the United States played an important part in paving the way for a rapprochement between the Vatican and the President.

Speaking from an enemy country, the Pope could not be too candid in expressing his new feelings toward the Axis, but Archbishop Spellman told friends that he manifested his contempt for Hitler and Mussolini in every way. He was extremely depressed about the state of affairs in Europe and once confessed to his former secretary: "I'm very homesick and worried. I wish you could come over and visit me because I need your advice very much."

It was shortly after this that Archbishop Spellman left in visit the Pope and to take up his new duties as "military vicar" of Catholic chaplains of foreign war fronts. In the light of the foregoing background, it is not surprising that when he returned to Lisbon and then to Madrid, a Spanish plane carried him to Milan, Italy, from where he was to return to the Vatican with an escort of Italian soldiers.

In several of his trans-Atlantic talks with Archbishop Spellman, Pius XII mentioned Russia and expressed his deep interest in the new duties as "military vicar" of Catholic chaplains of foreign war fronts. In the light of the foregoing background, it is not surprising that when he returned to Lisbon and then to Madrid, a Spanish plane carried him to Milan, Italy, from where he was to return to the Vatican with an escort of Italian soldiers.



"Pop cracks jokes every night when we sleep on the floor, Mom—last night he said your relatives changed us to war refugees!"

Everyday Counselor Of A Name

By Rev. Herbert Spaugh

NAMEs make news. All good newspaper writers know that. Recently one reported the march of three men flying together at the top of a paper plane at Foster Field, Texas: Richard A. Christian, Morton L. Church, and William Chapel.

The name Morton Church captured my attention, as I had had a boy by that name some years in my Boy Scout days. I had a sister in one of the Charlotte High School classes who had for her class two girls named Christian and Christian. Christian, Church and Chapel, logical combination! When one becomes truly a Christian (one who has accepted Christ as His Savior) he is added to the Church (the invisible body of Christ); then he should attend chapel (the services of the Church) (Heb. 10:25) and heed and work with the Chaplain (military name for a minister).

Many men in uniform are now paying far more attention to these terms than they ever did before. A letter just received from a young naval officer, somewhere in the Pacific, tells of attending a Sunday night service yes, that is right, on that Sunday morning in a large church which was crowded, including many Service Men. When the invitation was given following the sermon many of these Service Men went forward to make profession of faith.

As the war goes on more people are beginning to see that this war is about. Incidentally, hard hitting British General who had led recent successful attacks, now Gen. Bernard Law Montgomery, who drove Rommel out of Africa, reads his Bible daily, and carries a copy of Pilgrims Progress with him in the field. It is proper knowledge of these will lead us to drive the enemy out of our own lives.

No Revolutions Change Of Face

By Samuel Crafton

THE overturn in Italy is a first cousin to the recent overturn in Argentina. Both were revolutions designed to keep revolutions from happening. The first acts of both were to stop the mouths of the people, to forbid assemblies, to ban parades and manifestations. Therefore we are entitled to say that these regimes came in, not as the result of popular action, but to stop the people.

In both countries, the powers that be have merely decided that a new formula is needed to keep the people down. In other words, Mussolini has not been thrown out because he is an evil man, but because he is no longer able to do the job he was initially placed in power to do. He has not been dismissed because he is a Fascist; he has been dismissed because he is an ineffective Fascist. He has not been fired because of what he did, but because of fear that he would no longer be able to do it.

These are the abiding realities. Black Shirts may come and Black Shirts may go, but reaction in Italy endures. The mistake some of us make is to consider "Fascism" a thing-in-itself-like appearance. In itself it is nothing. It is merely one of the faces worn by reaction. The time may come when the only way to contain Fascist rule is to throw out a Fascist party. Then it is done. Come as we wish, such children that we cannot understand this.

Yet how happy some of our commentators are that the King of Italy's proclamations are no longer dated: "Done in the twenty-first year of the Fascist era." Italian Fascism has been ousted by the Christian calendar. What a great change, forethought and the Italian radio no longer plays "La Giovinezza" at the conclusion of its news broadcasts! There is a fine revolutionary overturn here.

To those who roll their crumbs of comfort over their tongues it must be said with firmness that when the Italian people do finally move to get more for themselves from getting anything out of their situation of Radio Rome or the wording of royal proclamations. I have no doubt that the most enormous sensations are impending in Italy, that Italians will stop fighting soon, that Italian soldiers will come home from the Balkans, that a way to peace will be sought and perhaps found. The installation of Badoglio is not a maneuver to prevent defeat. Italian defeat is inevitable. This is a maneuver by Italian reaction to make itself at home in the maelstrom of defeat. It is a maneuver to make the defeat meaningless.

This is not an effort to save the Italian people from defeat. It is an effort to keep them from getting anything out of their defeat. It is a maneuver to place the whole cost of defeat on the people of Italy. It is a plan to insure that the bill for defeat in this time of change and reform will not be presented to those at the top, these who are legally liable, these who are truly responsible for Italy's tragic position.

They know, these specimens, that they are in bankruptcy, as they have made over their assets to another name. We are not a bankrupt democracy of the West, that we do not understand this. Our classes are ready for whomsoever among us tries to find moral graduates in this time who will not pick up the check after twenty-one years of enjoying the party.

Quote, Unquote

THE Italian people on the mainland are waiting for you not with arms but with open arms. —Sicilian priest to American soldiers. —WLB member Wayne L. Moran. —Humanity has made the world what it is. Our present chaos is the failure not of stupidity of God but of the goodness of man. —Dr. C. G. Boushous of Gettysburg (Pa.) Lutheran Theological Seminary. —Beakid fensed to Canadians in Sicily. —The time has come for labor to realize that if we are going to stop inflation, we must stop production. —Sicilian priest to American soldiers.