



Editorial Correspondence

A Report On The Economy Of Italy

By **THOMAS L. ROBINSON**
Publisher, The News

(Editors' Note: This is the second of two articles on Italy by Mr. Robinson, who is making a survey of western European countries.)

ROME TEN YEARS dim some recollections, but countless Americans in our Charlotte area remember vividly the devastation, the hunger, the suffering and the spirit of deep discouragement which characterized Italy and her people immediately after the Second World War.

Mussolini, a diminutive "half-brother" to Hitler, had made the crucial mistake of leading his nation to war. On the fatal Sept. 8, 1943, when Italy surrendered to the Supreme Allied Command, her citizens faced a long period of hardship and sacrifice. But the years have proved that the Italians are blessed with stamina, courage and plenty of resilience.

Although three billion dollars of American taxpayers' money has been used since the Italian economy, like blood into the veins of a dying man, no historian would be fair if he said that the United States alone resuscitated war-torn Italy. The Italians have done much of the job themselves.

Unlike many of her neighboring countries, Italy is not endowed with a great many natural resources. She must normally import at least 90 per cent of her coal, almost all of her petroleum, copper and cotton. Italy must also purchase from other nations a major portion of her wool, cellulose and iron ore. Unable to grow enough food for her 48 million inhabitants, Italy imports about 10 per cent of her food requirements including wheat.

With her over-population, shortage of capital with which to buy raw materials, scarcity of good farming soil, and a lack of many natural resources, it is little wonder that there is poverty and discontent in Italy.

APPROXIMATELY two million, or 10 per cent of the Italian working population, are unemployed. An additional two million, most of them in southern Italy, are only partially employed. The situation is further complicated by the fact that about 200,000 young people enter the labor market each year.

Because of immigration restrictions imposed on Italy by many countries, only about 150,000 each year are allowed over-crowded country, 50,000 less than those entering the labor market. Fortunately, Italy's birth rate has been dropping and at the present time it is well below that in the United States and even lower than the birth rate in France.

Since 1949 the natural increase in population has averaged slightly over 400,000 per year. As net emigration has drained off about 120,000 per year, the

No Marquess Of Queensberry Rules

THE attack on a U. S. Navy Neptune patrol bomber by Soviet MiG-15 fighters Saturday added one more bitter chapter to the long and agonizing history of air "incidents" over nonbattleground areas.

Red planes have been involved in at least 34 of these aerial shooting scrapes since the end of World War I. As a result of the clashes, there have been at least 65 deaths or "disappearances."

There will probably be more if armed U. S. military planes continue to invite trouble by flying close to Communist territory.

It is not the first time a patrol bomber has been lost in the area. On Nov. 6, 1951, a Neptune with 10 men aboard disappeared near Vladivostok after being fired on by Soviet fighters.

This newest incident occurred 100 miles east of Vladivostok but only 40 miles from the Siberian coast. It followed the July attacks on Navy search planes in the South China Sea—after which U. S. flyers were ordered to "keep on the trigger" in the future.

Whether this nation likes it or not, a state of hostilities exists today between East and West. It is a kind of undeclared war. There are no Marquess of Queens-

Detectors For Detectors For Detectors

S NOW the people whose business it is to detect liars among their fellow men are banding together to clean out the fakes and frauds in their own profession.

Two Chicago lie detector experts have announced the founding of an American Academy of Polygraph Examiners. Purpose of the organization is to promote higher professional standards and to "root out the quackery which has led to recently publicized abuses."

Shades of 1864: We can see it all now: A congressional hearing room lined with lie detectors... each tightly strapped to the other... each noisily testing the veracity of its neighbor. In the center will be a rather pale, disenchanted little man—undoubtedly The Last Witness. Everything he says makes bumps on 37 graphs. Then, in one great electronic

American Legion And AMA Ready To Fight It Out

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY
WASHINGTON

WHILE still reacting to verbal condemnations fired in the latest battle over veterans' hospital care, the American Legion and the American Medical Association are re-grouping for the next lobby foray.

Top brass of each organization say they are ready, if need be, for "full scale war" following the Legion's Sept. 1 discussion of a resolution condemning AMA for its "unprovoked attack on sick and disabled veterans."

The resolution, introduced at the Legion's 80th annual convention in Washington touched off a barrage of charges. In the exchange one Legion spokesman said "we should kick (AMA) in the teeth," and AMA retorted that "leaders of certain vet organizations are planting the seeds of socialization."

The original text of the resolution expressed esteem for the American physician, but added that those who purport to speak for (him) through... the AMA have apparently "sacrificed their high

service-connected establishes eligibility for treatment in a Veterans Administration hospital by signing a statement he is unable to foot the bill and filling out a form listing his assets.

Differences Legion spokesmen say these vets should continue to receive government care, while AMA contends that, excepting the tubercular and mentally disabled, all of these men should be treated in private hospitals, with the veteran required to pay his own bills.

Legion officials have utilized speeches, literature and local contact to enlist the aid of members in combating the AMA position.

AMA is currently concentrating on a program to educate its members on the issues involved. Discussions have been held in regional medical meetings, editorials on the subject have been printed in AMA's Medical Journal and literature is being mailed to doctors.

At present, any honorably discharged war veteran suffering from an illness not recognized as

that some doctors want to speak out against AMA's policy on veterans' hospitalization, but fear that there was a heavy veto from their status on hospital staffs.

They also have charged that AMA's "unprovoked" attack entered the Legion in an effort to influence its position regarding veterans' hospital care.

Legion officials acknowledged that their representatives are meeting with local medical associations and are mailing literature to physicians.

AMA officials emphasized their job has always supported the "best of all care possible" for veterans injured in service.

People's Platform

Dixie Has Come Of Age At Last

ROCK HILL, S. C. Editors, The News: WHAT a pleasant switch it is to read Board Chairman Leon Lowenstein's recent address to the all-new New Bedford, Mass. Mr. Lowenstein's firm, M. Lowenstein & Sons, are operators of the Rock Hill Printing & Finishing Company of Rock Hill, S. C.

He told the employees and townspeople of New Bedford: "As far as the South is concerned, there the southern workers look and are prosperous. Many own their own homes. They have automobiles for their children go to school and many go to colleges. The mills there are all happy and they are doing fine."

The South has come of age. When entering mill giants like Lowenstein point with pride to their only pulling ahead but its progress and future are fit examples for the North. Lowenstein also added "We want unity. In discussion nobody gets ahead." Chairman Lowenstein has pointed the way for continuing a healthy New England cotton industry. The North can learn success and prosperity are not limited by regional bias which comes about when management and labor live by the golden rule.

—ROCK HILL CITIZEN

An Internal Menace Being Spotfed?

Charlotte Editors, The News: YOU must of thought that we were made of stuff so flat and dull that we can let our beard be shook with danger and think it pithime. "HAMELT"

Belatedly, and with your kind permission, I'd like to slug you with a few comments and questions concerning some remarks you recently made in the editorial of Aug. 14, captioned "The Wrong Way To Fight Communism," which referred to the bill now pending in Congress outlawing the Communist Party. However, this is not a discussion of that bill per se.

You said Americans have been dangerously confused on the true nature of the Communist menace, that they have been falsely led to believe that the danger of internal subversion is great, etc.

Are Americans really "dangerously confused" or are they simply vigilant? Yes, it is possible that they are simply submitting to the immutable first law of normal man—self preservation? Are happenings like the following apt to cause our people to be "dangerously confused" or just vigilant? (1) High treason (Alger Hiss) sitting at the right hand of a President of the U. S. (F. D. R.) at a momentous conference (Yalta), and persuading him to buy a bill of goods which scuttled the freedom and happiness of millions of people. (2) This same Alger Hiss directing the confounding and looting of an entire President (Haberdrasher (Harry) who was being brought before the American people to answer for his treachery. (3) A U. S. Secretary of State (Gooderham) publicly stating that he "would not turn his back" on the traitor Hiss. (4) A U. S. President (Harry again) not only fail-

—MRS. ALEX JOSEPHS

Dust & Incompetence Beneath The Big Top

Charlotte Editors, The News: THE King Brothers Circus, we understand, is the second largest circus in the country. But don't let it be said that this recent American Legion-sponsored show at Charlotte has not acquired a real first, in my estimation.

Without a doubt, it ranks first in incompetence, poor entertainment and incompetency of management. Another lady and I and our children waited for an hour and a half in line, while dirty men paraded by. There was a lot of dust in the tent.

I sincerely hope the American Legion will get more money with this project and will put it to work for a fine purpose, because the "clean" money that has certainly been made" the circus has been made" by the King Brothers.

McCarthy Showdown Is Still To Be Won

Washington Editors, The News: MAY I THANK you for your outspoken, lucid editorial comment on the effort to bring the McCarthy issue to a Senate showdown.

This effort has, I believe, been successful. There has been a wide public opinion, but it is not yet won. A fair determination will result if papers such as yours continue to keep the spotlight on the broad issues involved in McCarthyism as well as the specific maneuvers of the junior senator from Wisconsin.

—SEN. RALPH E. FLANDERS



Hands Off Outer Space Leave The Moon And Stars Alone

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK remember a year since the war that some branch of the airline business did pull a strike and that moon is just too far away. There's no way to take a boat or a train home.

Actually, I suppose that when space travel does come it'll be a dead-end affair. Our younger generation has been fed such a long and dreary diet of comicbook, TV and 3-D movie fantasies of the worlds in outer space that if they ever do start a steady trade route with the moon or Mars, it'll probably be as dull as a train ride through industrial New Jersey.

Our intellectual curiosity in this age seems to have gotten us into an amazing lot of trouble, since the airplane completely remodeled and made possible vast-scale war, and the atom and rocket rocket truly established, some bloody spy or other will sell the atom secrets to the outer space, and the sphere of anxiety will be magnificently increased.

I like the moon the way she is, up there in the sky, with a kindly, old-man face. I like her smiling across the waters in a lovely path at night, and streaming in the window. I like her as a symbol for love and of madness. I like her to rhyme with June and spoon.

Dogs howl on moonlight nights, and the tides work according to her cycle. A girl who would knock a divot out of your cheek if you make a remark to her at noon, sighs and dives into your arms when the moon's full and the air is full of flowers.

I wish they would leave the moon alone. I don't want her reduced to scientific familiarity, like Hooben. I am quite sure that the people outside us, who see the earth as a ball, would be dreadfully disappointed if they knew accurately all the facts about conferences at Geneva and read the advertisements for fannies and thought of us in terms of subterfuge, crime waves and Sen. McCarthy.

Hands off the moon, I say, and leave well enough alone. She is downy and sure whether he is still in a dream, for looking out of the window of the most modern hotel he can almost reach his hand out and touch the acropolis. Most of them have their trousers on the chair suddenly turned into a toga, you wouldn't be a bit surprised.

Hopeful Israel And now to Israel: The people in Israel are a seething group of hard-working, ambitious-to-succeed humans. Most of them have gone through hell and have no wish to get anywhere near there again. Because of that, they will fight last breath.

Here, too, in a country no bigger than Connecticut, with musket-fire heard dimly from nearby borders, there does not seem to be any thought of war in the offing—at least as far as the people are concerned.

The confidence of the young boys and girls in the army is akin to the great sense of humor of the people. I said to a boy no more than 20—a soldier: "Do believe this to be a very tiny threat, if any. The Frenchman who owns his little farm and garden holds it too close to his heart, and his pocket, to have it be the property of the state, with him being merely a janitor. There are only, I believe, about 20 per cent of the people who are white-collar folk, and who are the better than most in the world for the years, and therefore are fertile soil for any kind of a change for the better. One can certainly not communism as it is in Russia."

Jessel In Italy

By GEORGE JESSEL

(Editors' Note—The last substitute column for Drew Pearson is contributed by George Jessel, famed film and stage actor, sometimes called "the toastmaster general." Mr. Pearson's regular column will be published tomorrow.)

NEW YORK DURING the past few weeks, I have traveled many leagues from Cannes to Casablanca and made the following observations: First that the more places you go to, the more anxious you are to come home and wave the American flag.

Now, Mr. and Mrs. America let's go to France. Despite the fact that it has been occupied by enemies three times in 80 years, has not changed. The Champs Elysees is still the most beautiful thoroughfare in the world. The Mona Lisa's eyes still follow you all over the Louvre. The Arc de Triomphe still stands as dignified and always seems as anxious to welcome Napoleon. The theater is practically the same, although the girls in the Follies Bergere are not nearly as pretty as they were in former years— with the exception of Yvonne Menard.

Even so, some things are different. I was surprised to find that the French are not nearly as friendly as they once were. I was surprised to find that the French are not nearly as friendly as they once were. I was surprised to find that the French are not nearly as friendly as they once were.

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Happy Athens

Now, to Greece—where almost everything that we know began: Christianity, philosophy, culture, and all the arts combined. Euripides, and in our time, Charley, George, and Snyros Skouras.

The city of Athens is the happiest metropolis that I visited in the old world. When one awakens in the morning, he is sure whether he is still in a dream, for looking out of the window of the most modern hotel he can almost reach his hand out and touch the acropolis. Most of them have their trousers on the chair suddenly turned into a toga, you wouldn't be a bit surprised.

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