

Our English Section

Italian-Canadian Unity

A Change

An Editorial

Beginning with this issue, this weekly will be the spokesman of the Italian-Canadian Unity Committee for Victory of the United Nations. Rev. A. Bersani, to whom goes credit for having founded the paper, will continue to give us his valuable cooperation.

We take up where he left off, with the consent and support of all antifascists, while the struggle on the other side of Europe reaches its climax. This weekly will go into the Italian-Canadian communities as an appeal in favor of the war effort and of the antifascist struggle.

We will hold firmly and high the banner of unity in the fight against provocateurs. We propose to continue the unitarian activity launched by Rev. Bersani so that our weekly will truly become the paper of the Italians residing in Canada. We therefore appeal to all our friends to help us strengthen the ties of the paper with the Italian-Canadian masses.

We propose to agitate in favor of the war effort of the United Nations and to incite Italian-Canadians to cooperate with all their energy towards increasing war production. At a time when the destiny of mankind is at stake, every organization, every individual must not only seriously buckle down, and help the war effort of the Canadian people and of all the other peoples fighting the oppression of the Axis, but must also feel the compelling duty of subjecting his or its work to the test of the most severe autocriticism.

We feel that our activity in this sense has up to now been unsatisfactory because it has not been sufficiently tied up with an extensive network of Committees aiming at the realization of unity of Italian-Canadians for victory of the United Nations.

We propose to reply to all the passwords which fascist propaganda is spreading among Italian-Canadians. To answer them signifies not only exposing the lies of the fascist war propaganda and destroying its sophisms; it also means giving to all antifascists the weapons for their daily word-of-mouth counter-propaganda without which it is impossible to conduct an efficacious struggle against the Axis agents charged with sabotaging the Canadian war effort.

We are not alone. A considerable number of Italian-Canadians see eye-to-eye with us; they know, as we know, that suffering fascism has brought to the world. Behind us are thousands of men and women who hate fascism. They are in need of being informed of the immediate and distant consequences of the criminal policies of Mussolini's government. They are in need of being guided so as to be better able to express their aversion to fascism.

We must, therefore, speak to the Italian-Canadians and tell them that the war Mussolini wanted and prepared for is leading the Italian people to shame and catastrophe. Italian-Canadians will see ever more clearly that the road leading to the liberation of the Italian people is that of liberty and democracy, of victory of the United Nations.

In Canada, too, we are taking our place alongside the popular Italian movements which have sprung up in other countries of the American continent, so that we may contribute with all our efforts in the defeat of the Rome-Berlin axis and in forcing the Mussolini government to withdraw from

the war and sign a separate peace with the United Nations. This would save the Italian people from dishonour and help secure for them the right to decide freely their own destiny.

We will raise our voice against the underhand activity of the fifth-column. Those who believe that the fifth-column among Italian-Canadians has been eliminated by the interment of a few fascist are gravely mistaken. We have reason to appeal to all antifascists to keep an incessant watch for these disrupters.

It would be a fatal error to think that after the initial measures taken by the federal authorities the danger of sabotage and terrorism in Canada has disappeared. We know that under the cloak of "loyal citizens" Mussolini's agents are leisurely carrying on their work. We will show that the "loyal" attitude of some Italian-Canadians, unfortunately still in positions of responsibility and favored with the confidence of high personages, is only formal. In fact, under the mask of "loyalty" these men are carrying on a vigorous campaign in support of the Axis, and by their words and actions are helping to keep important sections of Italians directly or indirectly under the influence of illegal fascist organizations.

Italian-Canadians must keep in mind and assimilate the lessons of provocation in Europe, in the U.S. and, recently, in Brazil. We will understand all the more, then, that it is our duty to defend Canadian institutions and the war effort against the possibility of action by fascist saboteurs.

We should not be surprised if one who fights against Great Britain, the United States and Soviet U-

nion, but not against fascism ends up by falling under the influence of fascist ideology and becomes a provocateur.

It is necessary that Unity Committees of Victory of the United Nations be formed in all Italian-Canadian communities. These Committees should be formed of elements of all tendencies, with no exclusions, and should establish agreements with Canadian organizations with a view to common action in support of the war effort.

This is the work we Italian-Canadians antifascists must do. We will carry on till we have attained unity of all Italian-Canadians, regardless of political or religious creed or social status. We extend our hand to all those who are ready to do their share in helping eradicate fascism from the earth.

We are of the opinion that contacts of a permanent nature between Canadian organizations and the above-mentioned Italian-language Unity Committees for the purpose of collaborating in the war effort would serve to strengthen educational work among the Italian-Canadians. They would also give rise to relations which would honour the Italian communities.

This is the medium which will enable us to enlist the support of the Italian-Canadians for the cause of the United Nations and for the freedom of the Italian people from fascist slavery.

Our responsibility is great. It demands of us the accomplishment of arduous tasks. The world watches us, the Italian antifascists. There are people who think that Italian-Canadians are unable to divorce themselves from a situation created by twenty years of fascist propaganda. Let us prove to them that we are capable, through unity, of returning to the glorious Garibaldi traditions of our forefathers and of taking our place alongside peoples struggling for their right to life, to democracy, to freedom and to national independence.

The Significance of the Fascist opposition in Italy

Wireless to Inter-Continent News

The opposition to the Axis war policy in Italy is distinctive in that it embraces all sections of the people: the working masses, the intelligentsia and the upper classes.

The reasons for its broad character may be found in the fact that during the 26 months that the Italian people have found themselves under the high command of Hitlerite Germany, the war has taken on so much the aspect of assuring the hegemony of Germany in Europe that few people in Italy today nurture the same illusions which they had in the beginning. At the time the Axis pact was signed in 1939, it did not arouse enthusiastic support, except in certain fascist circles and the entry of Italy into war on June 10th, 1940, left the people absolutely cold. The most enlightened elements among the people at that time did not spare their criticism of Mussolini.

On several occasions, it will be recalled, even the fascist press confessed that there was a lack of popular enthusiasm for the war and revealed the decided opposition among left circles and the hostility towards the Axis displayed in Catholic and monarchist circles.

Thus matters stood at the beginning. Subsequently the rift between the war aims of the fascists and the aspirations of the people and the widening gulf between the Mussolinists who sold out to Germans and the legal bourgeois opposition — the higher Catholic hierarchies, a part of the monarchists and the industrialists — grew larger in proportion to the military reverses in Greece and Africa. The hegemony of the Germans was exposed before everyone.

OPPOSITION GROWS WITHIN FASCIST PARTY

Furthermore the fascist opposition has greatly increased in these last few months in view of the bankrupt balance sheet of the Mussolini government and this opposition is not to be disregarded in the struggle against the war. On the contrary, the fascist opposition is an extremely important factor which must not be neglected for the very fact that it is legal and its forces are in the heart of the party in control and the organizations of the fascist masses.

This opposition is still inarticulate. We know that in large measure it is even opposed to the democratic tendencies of the antifascist opposition. But it demands a change in policy both in foreign affairs and in social and economic plans and in this sense it helps considerably to weaken Mussolini's position. Not to be aware of this is to close one's eye to the disillusionment experienced by the masses of the fascists since the beginning of the war. The false dreams of fascist empire have to a large extent vanished since the loss of Italian East Africa and the appeal to the German troops to defend Libya.

MUSSOLINI PAYS COST OF VICHY POLICY

The adventurist program of Mussolini in regard to France has disappeared from the political horizon, for it is clear what Hitler is doing in regard to Vichy policy, while Italian imperialism pays the cost. This is also true in regard to the marvelous castles in Spain which were to have been Italy's on the sham pretense that they were vital for Italian "living space".

In subjecting the economy of the occupied countries to their



Le illusioni di Hitler; La conquista del mondo

Case History of a Fascist

Italian Fascist Party Head A German Agent

By: P. ALLARD

Nazi Germany's control of the political and economic life of Italy is so complete that the secretary of fascist party, Vidussoni, a comparative unknown in fascist circles, owes his post to his Berlin masters. Vidussoni, a German agent, replaced Serena as secretary of the fascist party during the shake-ups which took place at the time of the Greek campaign, and although, he was unknown in Italy and in the fascist movement at that time, Mussolini was forced to give him this important post at the demand of Gestapo chief Himmler.

Facts on the pro-German activities of Vidussoni in recent years have been revealed in a recent article by Pierre Allard which was wirelessly to Intercontinent news here. Allard traces the story of Vidussoni's rise to riches and power in the service of the Nazi Gestapo.

The story dates back to Hitler's rise to power in Germany in 1933. One of the Nazi regime's first acts was to spread a network of German spies in Italy. The German espionage centre in Italy was Trieste, which was chosen because of its strategic position for conducting intrigues in Austria, Yugoslavia and the Italian side of the Adriatic.

"DOCTOR SPY"

Himmler sent a certain doctor to Trieste who soon became German Consul there. This agent was known simply as "Doctor Spy". A campaign developed in the fascist press of Trieste against the operations of "Dr. Spy" as soon as the Austrian crisis developed. The accusations against "Doctor Spy" revealed that he had succeeded in corrupting some Italian fascist and that among them was Vidussoni who had turned over important military plans to the German espionage service.

Mussolini's capitulation to

own, the German imperialists do not worry about the interests of the Italians. They pretend instead to oblige Italy by assigning her a most essential agricultural role in the Europe they want to erect.

If we lose sight of all this we cannot easily understand the profound stirrings which are ravishing the fascist party today. But if the Italian progressive forces understand that the fascist opposition represents an ally of inestimable value, which can orientate itself toward a consistent struggle against the war, then Mussolini will find it difficult to regroup his forces around his policies. The struggle against the war and against German hegemony over Italy is the fundamental basis for leading the fascist opposition to take a great step forward.

Hitler on the Austrian question led to the suppression of the fascist press revelations, while "Doctor Spy" became an acceptable person and his Italian agents escaped the punishment awaiting them in the military courts.

It was at this time that Vidussoni's career as a full-fledged German agent began. One of the first tasks assigned him by the German Espionage Bureau was the elimination of Trieste fascist circles hostile to Hitler. In spite of the bitter hostility nurtured by Trieste fascist against Hitler, the large funds paid out by the Nazis began to take effect among the fascist chiefs and things looked bright for Vidussoni.

SOURCE OF VIDUSSONI'S RICHES

Soon anti-German fascist were transferred to other posts, removed or simply arrested. In less than a year, nazism consolidated its position in Trieste circles with the active help of Vidussoni. The fascist organization of Trieste became reliable tools of Hitler.

Then came the Spanish war. The Germans had Vidussoni depart for Spain as a volunteer although taking good care that he should not expose himself too much. For this reason he was given a police job behind the lines thanks to which he was able to visit and search private houses, and institutions at all hours, helping himself to any costly object that caught his fancy. When he had piled up a great quantity of valuable goods he asked to return to Italy. He returned to Trieste by plane loaded down with booty stolen from Spanish citizens. Converted into cash, these valuables netted Vidussoni a not men fortune of ten million lire.

Although he was now a rich man, Vidussoni's Berlin masters were not satisfied. He still needed power to be of greater service to them. Himmler then took matters in his own hands and secured the removal of Serena, who was an old-timer in the fascist movement, the recipient of many fascist medals. Vidussoni, German espionage agent since 1933, replaced Serena and Hitler's control over the fascist party leadership is now complete.

Ufficio: RANDOLPH 5125-6
Residenza: ELGIN 7922
M. S. MILLSTONE & CO.
AVVOCATI
Suites 213-14, 455 Spadina
College & Spadina, Toronto

Per un Convegno Nazionale Italiano

(Continuaz. da pagina 1.)

Un cambiamento, in Italia, può avvenire prima, e avverrà prima — con ogni probabilità. Avverrà prima, perché il popolo italiano si leverà, prima ancora che la tragedia sia giunta all'ultima scena e (molto più presto di quanti alcuni suppongono) metterà fine con le sue proprie forze alla guerra, lottando per la pace, per il pane e per la libertà e mobilitando in questa lotta tutte le forze del paese, dai monarchici ai repubblicani, dai cattolici ai comunisti.

Noi crediamo nella possibilità di questo movimento, noi crediamo nella inevitabilità di una rivolta popolare di questo tipo in Italia, una quale già si preparano tutte le forze sane della Nazione.

Noi vediamo la situazione svilupparsi su questa linea, perché sappiamo che il malcontento è prorompente in tutti gli strati sociali: nei circoli cattolici, monarchici, nei circoli militari, industriali, commerciali del paese, senza parlare delle larghe masse operaie e contadine, che sono destinate a muoversi su di una base vasta e profonda, in un'ondata di fondo: in tutti, comunque, è la volontà di porre fine ad ogni costo alla guerra e di ottenere la pace.

Questo vasto movimento popolare italiano contro la guerra creerà nel paese le condizioni per la instaurazione di un Governo Nazionale Provvisorio, il cui scopo principale immediato sarà di concludere la pace.

Quali saranno gli uomini che comporranno questo governo?

Evidentemente quelli che si dimostreranno più capaci di comprendere e di soddisfare l'aspirazione profonda della Nazione ad essere salvata dalla catastrofe e a concludere la pace.

Di conseguenza, che scopi noi ci proponiamo quando noi parliamo di un Comitato Nazionale Italiano all'estero? Che funzioni che compiti noi pensiamo debbano essere affidati a questo Comitato Nazionale Italiano

Tim Buck e altri dirigenti comunisti liberati

TORONTO. — Tim Buck e altri 16 dirigenti del Partito Comunista sui quali pesava da circa tre anni un'ordine di internamento si consegnarono volontariamente il 25 del mese scorso alla polizia di Toronto.

Il loro gesto, tendente a voler offrire una maggiore collaborazione allo sforzo di guerra del Canada e delle Nazioni Unite, riscosse l'approvazione delle più importanti associazioni patriottiche del Canada.

Mentre andiamo in macchina apprendiamo che in seguito ad un ordine del Ministro della Giustizia, Tim Buck e gli altri dirigenti comunisti sono stati messi in libertà.

I soldati tedeschi si rivoltano

Particolarmente significative sono le notizie giunte all'inizio della settimana dalla Norvegia, via Stoccolma.

Alcune migliaia di soldati tedeschi — dicono i dispacchi — di stanza nel nord della Norvegia si sono ammutinati; 47 soldati e 17 ufficiali sono stati condannati a morte.

Questo ammutinamento dimostra che nessun artificio, nessuna menzogna, può più nascondere anche ai soldati tedeschi che quelli che hanno aggredito i popoli sono i nazisti.

Le privazioni, la miseria sono aumentate e l'oppressione nazista è diventata anche per il soldato sempre più insopportabile. Questi ribelli sono il simbolo della vera Germania. Essi lavorano con una fede che nessuna forza spezzerà, alla liberazione della loro patria dalla schiavitù nazista.

E' aiutando gli sforzi di coloro che sfidando la Gestapo si ribellano, che noi coopereremo ad accelerare la disfatta del nazismo. E, rassicuriamoci. Questi ribelli al nazismo infine vinceranno, perché sempre ed ovunque la ragione ha finito per avere ragione. Hitler può scaltipare, tendere il pugno, come il suo compare, minacciare il mondo! Le sue vane rodomontate non arresteranno un istante l'inflessibile corso della storia e la rinascita di quello spirito di rivolta che inghiottirà il nazi-fascismo.

Noi pensiamo che un Comitato Nazionale Italiano, appunto perché in Italia va maturando una situazione quale quella descritta sopra, potrà svolgere un'attività straordinariamente importante, non soltanto di raggruppamento degli italiani residenti all'estero, ma di aiuto agli italiani che lottano in Italia per salvare il paese dall'abisso.

Questo Comitato Nazionale dovrà essere, dunque, organizzato su basi unitarie — e sulle basi più larghe — estendendo dalle sue fila soltanto la gente venuta al fascismo, gli agenti di Mussolini.

Vi sono nelle Americhe, e in tutti i paesi di emigrazione, migliaia e migliaia di organizzazioni italiane: organizzazioni politiche, mutualistiche, paesane, fraternelle, cooperative.

Quale magnifica idea quella di legare insieme tutte queste organizzazioni, in tutti i paesi delle Americhe, e di permeare di un spirito di lotta per la liberazione dell'Italia dalla tirannia fascista, mobilitandole, sulla base del loro sentimento nazionale, nella guerra contro Hitler e contro Mussolini!

Quale grande idea quella di riuscire, attraverso il lavoro di queste numerose organizzazioni, di riuscire a trasformare tutti gli italiani che sono all'estero, dal primo sino all'ultimo, in soldati della causa della libertà!

Verso questi compiti deve indirizzarsi, a nostro avviso, il Comitato Nazionale Italiano all'estero.

Noi dobbiamo riflettere su come contretare questa iniziativa e come spingerla avanti. Per tutti gli italiani delle Americhe, questo deve divenire uno dei problemi centrali della loro politica e del loro lavoro.

Ma un punto deve essere chiaro: il Comitato Nazionale Italiano all'estero non può essere, in nessun caso, l'organizzazione di un solo uomo né di un gruppo ristretto di uomini, né di una sola corrente politica.

Tutte le forze nazionali italiane all'estero devono aderire ad esso, l'intera nazione italiana, attraverso i suoi figli oltre frontiera, deve parlare attraverso di esso.

Le masse dell'emigrazione italiana tutta intera — dagli operai di sinistra sino agli elementi conservatori — devono sentire la solenne gravità di questo momento, devono sentire che l'azione di tutti gli italiani all'estero è oggi necessaria per rinnovare la vita nazionale del paese.

Su queste linee l'organizzazione e il funzionamento del Comitato Nazionale Italiano rappresenterà un avvenimento politico di primissimo ordine per tutti gli italiani; sarà un contributo reale, serio, concreto alla causa per cui lottano gli italiani in Italia e alla causa per cui lottano, oggi, in tutti i paesi del mondo i combattenti della libertà.

L'appello lanciato dall'alleanza Giuseppe Garibaldi, per la creazione all'estero di un Comitato Nazionale Italiano ci trova pienamente consenzienti. Noi ci impegniamo in linea con la Giuseppe Garibaldi di intensificare il lavoro di unità tra gli Italo-Canadesi.

Sentiamo profondamente che dobbiamo fare di più per mantenere dei legami con le organizzazioni italiane del Continente americano, particolarmente con l'alleanza Giuseppe Garibaldi che è alla direzione del movimento unitario italiano.

Tutto per la vittoria delle Nazioni Unite, niente che indebolisca il fronte della lotta contro il fascismo.

Con questi sentimenti noi diamo in linea di principio l'adesione al movimento unitario iniziato dall'alleanza Giuseppe Garibaldi, e ci prepariamo a convocare anche nel Canada una Conferenza nazionale unitaria.

(N. D.)

ATTENZIONE

Per la vita di questo settimanale contano soltanto i fatti concreti: gli abbonamenti. E poiché, gli italo-canadesi sentono ormai l'insopprimibile bisogno di avere questa bandiera, che ognuno faccia il suo dovere inviando subito l'importo dell'abbonamento annuo, che per agevolare i nostri lettori abbiamo ridotto a due dollari.

Spedite al seguente indirizzo: "La Vittoria" 274 Col-lege St. W. — Room 9, Toronto, Ont.