

Non-Utilitarianism of Roman Empire (Adm)

Italian mentality. Not external beauty: blue sky, sea, mountains, vine-

Three points:

1. The National Tradition.
2. Characteristic Humanism.
3. The Revolutionary Idea.

*the shift to find a concrete problem  
in the 19th century  
Venezian... the tradition.*

Can't form an idea from a casual acquaintance with emigrants:

- a) Al Capone. b) Labourers. (built r'lw's) c) sharing fruit.

1. The National Tradition.

One of the ~~xxxxxxx~~ oldest, most exquisite cultures of Europe.

- a) Imperial Rome: not domination but law; not uniformity (Gleichhaltung but tolerance); not an endless strain of petty wars but peace. Culture, Elder Etruscan origins, traditions of city state, Gk influence; Livy Tacitus Sallust; Virgil Horace Lucretius; Cicero Caesar; Cat Tiber
- b) Byzantine Rome: centre moved to Const; Rome focus for constructing Europe; colour poor display of greatness that was Romanità: laws principles; adaptiveness elasticity
- c) Medieval Univ. Pisa Bologna (med); Dante Boccaccio Petrarch; as southern France midway between phil & romance of Arabs and crude ferocity simple Atlanticity of north; so also Italy but greater flowering, rest barb
- d) Galileo, Volta, Marconi; Einstein's maths, Richard Gauss, also Civitta Rex Conte Cresser that went to Australia; electrified rlwys, expresses
- e) painters, sculptors, architects

2. The National Characteristic.

Difficult: Milan Naples Sicily; Aberdeen Liverpool Southampton

- a) Politeness, respect for humanity; more culture in the Florentine with which a neophyte of Naples -- friendliness.
- \*x Axisocracy: greatest exactitude, House of Savoy & Roman aristocrats
- \*x Bourgeois: can't learn Italian, won't correct you
- b) Tempo: time is money, never heard of it & Germans  
Fascists like doing things in a rush: botched OK for sheep  
Contracts: no time clause - Rome wasn't built in a day - blue-prints//  
Dismounting train, pian piano  
Siesta: streets deserted, shops closed from 12 to 2 or 3  
Evening walk: public gardens, motor out to Frascati  
Family life: children adored, dressed  
grievance agst Fascism: taking children away; run and take off that masquerade and then I'll give you a kiss

\*x

3. The Revolutionary Idea.

- a) Musso (socialist blacksmith) kicked out of school; exile (Lenin's most brilliant pupil); war wounded Italianism; Georges Sorel and theory of violence (like em radicalism, castor oil); March on Rome; Kerensky period; Parliament not dissolved till 1934 5. (Att Ch V 8th etc)
- b) Philosophy of AZIONE: meet events as they come. General scepticism: to historicism; Hegelian influence in universities, Croce, Gentile; England got the jump on the world in introd of machine age, creditor nation (rentier), empire; that age is over; New Age not self-interest but communal int rest; Leader and Party; official key, modernity, vigour, public services; credere ubbidire combattere; Italiani al estero; sources of raw materials (property vs process); empire.
- c) First movement: reconciliation, joy to masses, crucifix in schools, Letter to Milano, Stresa.
- d) Abyssinian Campaign, sanctions, Spain, Sept 39 (Greek) March 40 (asse commerciale) April (50 generals) May (Pope's telegramme; Ossewa black-listed, civiltà /Take Osser secretly

4. Why does not Pope speak?

- a) How? As divine vice-roy deposing Muss? Medieval theory, held by some then  
How? As teacher. In general principles? In concrete instances?
- b) For the good of the taught. Start worldwide persecution; Catholics can't be relied on; depend on foreign power. Elizabethan tradition. For good of Italians? How speak? Wireless (interference). Pastoral (condemned) Pilgrim group (concentration camp). (Can be done Mbr Sor) Would they listen? 60 years of no religion in school, with whole-hearted approval of Protestant world; 10 years with dribble of rlg education overlaid with intense Fascist propaganda.

Italian Mentality.

1. The National Tradition.
2. Italian Humanism.
3. The Revolutionary Idea.

It is an easy blunder, one to which we are particularly liable, to form an idea of Italy from the emigrant's among us. One ~~watches~~ reads the exploits of Al Capone or the sensational Mayor LaGuardia, one looks at piling rows of shining fruit in a shop window

It would be much easier to speak to you to-night about German mentality and the Nationalsozialist movement than about Italian mentality and the Fascismo. Not only is the German movement far simpler and easier to comprehend but also ~~unwobavavinaCanada~~ ~~abunxvntqyavafiboluctovhmvuQzmaxxkhrx~~ it can more readily be illustrated by local parallels; for instance, Hitler's <sup>initial</sup> campaign against the Jews in Ontario could be paralleled with the ~~the~~ campaign calling itself Protestant Action and devoting its efforts to reviling Roman Catholics; just as religion in Ontario so the Jewish question in Central and Eastern Europe provided an abundance of inflammable material, a facile opportunity for the unintelligent to excite mass-passions, and on that excitement to ride to notoriety and power. Further, just as you here ridicule the ineptitude of such a campaign and pooch-pooch the idea of it ever amounting to anything - the good sense of the people of Ontario is proof against such nonsense - so also in Germany was Hitler for ten years regarded as a vulgar nuisance of no importance. I sincerely trust you are right in your estimate of the fomenters of an indigenous Hitlerism, that you have good grounds for being certain that the individuals in question never heard of Georges Sorel, that they ~~have~~ have no knowledge of revolutionary technique, no ambitions of creating a solid national spirit based on ~~xxxxxxxallat/sat~~ <sup>ignorance and</sup> hatred, and no hope of success in their effort to stimulate latent prejudice and passion into a massive intolerance. But one thing is certain: not only the people of the province of Quebec but even its Premier, Mr Godbout, who is no anglophobe, ~~xxxxxxxixaxsxxraaxix~~ <sup>cannot arrive as rapidly as you do</sup> at your comfortable and reassuring judgement; and even though the Quebec Premier has been reassured on the point, it remains that such a campaign does infinite harm because it saps the very foundations of Canadian unity and makes ever so much more difficult the task of increasing the technical unity and centralization of the country to meet its economic problems.

It is in terms of such deeper problems that one has to approach a study of Fascism, and if this adds to the difficulty of our inquiry, it also adds to its interest. First, then, let me state what that deeper problem is. Mr. Christopher Dawson, perhaps the profoundest English thinker of the present time, predicted a number of years ago that every modern state would assume an ever greater and greater control over the lives, the actions, the speech and the thought of all its citizens. The basis of such a prediction is, of course, the modern economic structure: modern economy is not a patch-work of relatively

