

## Summary

Daniela Luigia Caglioti

*Clubs, societies and academies in post-unification Naples*

This article reconstructs the associative life of the Neapolitan élite in the second half of the nineteenth century. Examining the police information and the statutes, the author analyzes the chronology, the forms of aggregation, the participation and the characteristics of the voluntary associations. The essay shows the change occurred in Naples between the Bourbon period and the post-unification period and underlines the existence of two different patterns – aristocratic and bourgeois – that coexisted and developed during the century.

Alfio Signorelli

*Sociality and circulation of ideas: the cultural association in Catania in the nineteenth century*

Cultural associations founded in Catania in the nineteenth century are analyzed as a specific aspect of the élite sociality. In the period before unification culture was at the centre of associate experiences. In particular reading rooms had an important role in the formation of a ruling class of bourgeois extraction and liberal sentiment. From the seventies associations began to specialize: alongside political, professional and recreational clubs, the first cultural clubs with specific interests, particularly in various fields of artistic output, were born.

Maurizio Ridolfi

*The «Apprentissage» to the Citizenship.  
Women and Popular Sociability in liberal Italy*

On the core of the article there are some historiographic questions about forms of sociability and gender history. The research concerns female identity around the popular contest in liberal Italy, from 1848 to the «Great War». The study of associations (fraternities, religious congregations, mutual aid, cercles) and of the public rites (meetings, congresses, assemblies, holidays) points out some interesting and controversial ways of gender relationship in the «apprentissage» to politics.

Carlo Trigilia

*The Imes research on Southern Italy cultural associationism*

In this article, Carlo Trigilia illustrates aims, methods and results of the Imes-Formez research on the southern Italian cultural associationism he led. The richness of the southern associations web – assessed by the Imes research – is an important developing factor; mainly because the role of the cultural associations should be valued as one of the greatest forces driving the southern society away from familistic particularism.

Francesco Ramella

*Public Mobilization and Southern Civil Society*

The article analyzes the presence in southern Italy of voluntary associations involved in activities of «public commitment». Based on research regarding cultural associations in the south, the author underlines the existence of a particular class of groups that he defines as «public mobilization associations». Groups committed, in different ways, in local contexts: through demonstrations, petitions, marches, public awareness campaigns etc. According to the author, whether specific issues or collective interests are concerned, these forms of public participation assume a relevant importance for the growing of a lively and mature civil society in the south of Italy. In the second part of the article, the social and political reasons of the development of these new forms of collective action are dealt with.

Antonio Florida-Francesco Ramella

*Making culture in town: the associations of Florence and Palermo.*

The essay compares the cultural associations of Florence and Palermo. According to the authors, three main differences emerge. First of all, a diversity in the historical background of these experiences. Associationism appears to be deep-rooted in Florence; while it is more recent and less consolidated in Palermo. The second point concerns the social composition of the groups: principally middle and upper class in the Sicilian city, more popular and interclass in the Tuscan one. Moreover, the Palermitan cultural associations present a considerable segregation of participation, which is based on the members' age and class. Finally, Florentine associationism shows a minor distance and a stronger integration between new groups and the older ones. On the contrary, in Palermo a greater discontinuity is observed between the groups founded during the last fifteen years and the old ones. This fact underlines the recent dynamism that has characterised the southern civil society, but also the greater fragility of these experiences in the south of Italy.

Ilvo Diamanti

*Leaders of southern cultural associations: social characters, participation patterns and value orientations*

Current research on cultural associations have focused both their social integration function and their capacity of giving voice to new claims. Southern Italian

society is an interesting case in this perspective: studying the leaders of the widespread cultural associations tissue, the study is directed to analyze their social features (gender, age, status, cultural level, values). We have so an image of a significant part of the southern population, sensible to changes and ready to react to the important cultural and political turns of these last years.

Paolo Frascani

*The economy of Naples in the first half of the century*

The Author analyzes the Naples economy between the two world wars in connection to the general economic trend. In those years both the artisans export sector and the traditional merchant and financial groups that operated on the maritime long-distance routes had to face serious crises. The revenues were then diverted mainly into the building sector and into the internal commerce, so creating a long lasting socio-economic model.

Guido Crainz

*Grief and anger: that far Italy of 1945*

Acts of violence against fascist in 1945-46 are analyzed here. The Author compares the Emilia Romagna context to those of other Italian regions. Collective forms of violence are in particular under scrutiny. An entire world of primitive values is discovered and enlightened.

Maurizio Franzini

*Effectiveness, equity, and reform of the Welfare State*

The Welfare State is under attack in all the western countries and a great variety of proposals for reforming (or, in some cases, dismantling) this time-honoured institution is flourishing. After reviewing the differences between the models of Welfare State adopted in various countries, this short essay proposes a very simplified framework for assessing the possibility of reforming the Welfare State in such a way as to improve efficiency without impairing equity.

The main results are that the «liberal» reform (more market, less state) cannot ensure «more efficiency with no less equity» and that in order to get out of the «Welfare State crisis» with a better mix of efficiency and equity a very simple condition must be fulfilled: sharp progress in the internal organisation of the public sector.