

## Summary

Silvio Lanaro  
*The northern élites and italian history*

In this article we try to demonstrate that the italian history after the political unification is signed by a continuous paradox: while the economically stronger regions, northern ones, withdraw into themselves and use the national state as an instrument to strengthen their european collocation, the weaker regions, southern ones, take upon themselves engagements of political representation and administration that concern the whole country.

In recent years the appearance of autonomist «Leghe» upset an outline only partially changed by Fascism and Republic, without going farther than an improbable overthrowing of parts and a very hard inversion of rules.

Mario Isnenghi  
*From the Alps to Lilibeo. «We», italians' difficult pronoun*

The author traces out a map of the material and ideal «trips» — from the north to the south — which created the Southern Italy's knowledge and image during the *Risorgimento* risings and wars.

To the mythical «trip» of Garibaldi's thousand in 1860, which is appointed to produce a larger memory, the wholly ideal «trip» made by the critic-patriot Francesco De Sanctis, with his *Storia della letteratura italiana* is a *pendant*. One of the most important contributions of the wide-literary, philosophical, juridical-southern culture to think to Italy and to provide the Italians with common conceits.

After dealing with the brigandage's meaning for the Nation's sense of itself, the author makes out the functions of disenchantment and the sense of the history's end developed by the great Sicilian litteratura between the Ninetenth and the Twentieth-century. The last part of the essay draws the various chances of the Italian identity through the wars, the Fascism, the Resistance.

The general sense of the article is a strong exhortation not to delete the history, nay the various histories which make the weakness, but also the richness, of the unitarian Italy's collective course.

Roberto Cartocci  
*Family, Parish, Secularism: the catholic area*

The essay deals with the problem of secularism in North-Eastern Italy, where the catholic sub-culture is located. First a conceptual analysis has been developed in order to distinguish secularism in a broad sense from secularism strictly meant, i.e. as a result of reducing influence of the catholic church and sloping sown of religious observance. In the latter sense the concept has been drawn by means of two indicators: the number of civil marriages and the circulation of the catholic press.

According to the expectations, higher levels of catholic observance result in the historically rooted «white» sub-culture; higher levels of secularization result, on the contrary, in the biggest cities, in the «red» provinces, and in the coastal ones. The Southern regions show a pattern of religious attitudes significantly different from the Northern ones.

The secularization process is then detected for the period 1981-91. The analysis of different secularism-vectors shows that the catholic sub-culture has been affected by a strong reduction of observance. The final section of the essay is devoted to present day discussion of the catholics' role in Italian politics.

Mario Caciagli  
*Between internationalist and provincialist trends: the left area*

By means of a short as well as effective analysis, the author suggests an answer to the reasons of «Lega's» increasing electoral penetration within leftist regions (Emilia Romagna, Toscana, Umbria). Although they were only brushed by the inquiry of Milan power of attorney, and can still rely on a political and administrative structure deeply rooted in society, these regions are now experiencing Italian communism crisis, especially for what concerns those new elements on which this area leftist «sub-culture», previous to fascism, was founded again in the second post-war period (the «substitution» of Pci for Psi, metayage support, Urss international leading role).

The federalistic trend followed to the irreversible crisis of Pci seems to appeal to the provincialist and municipalist character of that «sub-culture» more than «an alignment with North-central climate and pressures».

Ilvo Diamanti  
*The «Lega», the political contractor of the crisis origins. Development and success of autonomy supporting «Legas» in Italy*

This essay concerns whith the «Lega» as a «political agent» the crisis (conflict) among main parties, cultural traditions and civil society in Italy, particularly in the Northern regions.

The author focuses four different stages in the ten-years old history of the «Lega»: 1) its birth (1983-87) coincides with the rise and decline of *Liga Veneta*, which is preaching the autonomy of the Region as a specific center of historic and cultural identity; 2) its take-off (1987-90) which is marked by the emergence of Lega Lombarda and

the leadership of Umberto Bossi, who is supporting the idea that the Region is a «community of interests»;

3) its spreading out (1990-92) which is characterized by the expansion of the «Lega» all over the Northern regions; from an archipelago of regionalist organizations it goes toward a unitary federation, in the sign of Lega Nord, and its proposal concentrates on anti-parties and anti-institutional slogans;

4) its consolidation (after the political elections of 1992) marked by «Lega's» aims to appear as a «Northern force» which is able to lead the transformation and innovation of the political system and the institution of the Country.

Fabio Levi

*Torino, my dear... Where Fiat town is going*

The paper focuses on the history of Turin over the last thirty years from different points of view. At first it analyzes some aspects of the assimilation process that immigrant workers from Southern Italy underwent the years of the *Miracolo economico*. Then it considers the evolution of Fiat's policy and its attitude toward social context of the chief town of Piedmont. At last it examines left wing policy, particularly as to Communist Party, the consequences of the recent crisis of the Italian political and institutional system in Turin. In the end the author traces a short profile of the changes occurred in the relationships between Fiat's town and the rest of the country in the period considered.

Giuseppe Berta

*Industrial conflicts and enterprise system Fiat's experience*

During the Seventies large industrial plants of Northern Italy were swept by successive and strong waves of strikes, causing an enduring condition of labour unrest which shook the roles and prerogatives of managerial hierarchy. After that decade management reestablished its power and grip on the labour force, especially by means of new capital-intensive technology. Only in the Eighties the Italian companies have seemed to discover the importance of good relations with their employees, trying to develop the cooperative approach which is currently associated with the Japanese industrial experience.

In this article the author, examining the cycles of strikes in Fiat automobile plants in Turin, analyzes why the intense shop-floor bargaining between union representatives and management was not able to produce, at last, a settled pattern of industrial relations. Moreover, he sketches the reason why the crisis in labour relations left a widespread sense of disaffection in the inner factory life.

Paolo Perulli

*The North, Regions and industrial conflicts*

The paper analyses the changing pattern of industrial and urban development taking place in Europe after the fordist era, largely based on local and regional networks. In this context the North of Italy is more a constellation of different dynamics than a macro-region homogeneously defined. It is the sum of an oligopolistic

concentration and of network systems of innovation. The role of the state as an industrial policy agent is then considered, particularly as a factor of backwardness in the field of high technology and new strategic infrastructures. Given the trend towards a reduced scope of the state intervention, the crucial role of regional and local models is finally proposed and a typology of regional models (e.g. regional decline or post-industrial «service» economy) is sketched.

*The South of Italy, market and conflict*  
A conversation with Augusto Graziani

With this interview with Augusto Graziani, «Meridiana» series «Percorsi di ricerca» faces for the first time the world of economic sciences and economists. This conversation, as the preceding ones, allows us to draw the scholar's biography and his intellectual development «from within», following at the same time his generation formative process, and its relationship to the previous generation. Actually it gives us an opportunity to investigate a cultural environment to which we are usually admitted throughout written works.

Graziani's account focuses particularly on certain environments well known to «Meridiana» readers, as they were the most important and prolific centres of meridionalist discussion during the second post-war period. Actually the economical growth of the South was a constant subject of Graziani's research, to which he devoted himself since the beginning of his career.

However, the unchanging element of his intellectual experience is a close link between scientific analysis and political participation. A link which gives an historical consistence to Graziani's economic research, and balances theory against the understanding of the actual economic systems and their mechanism, never forsaking its exactness and following in the steps of the rich and varied tradition of the history of economic thought.

Within such a perspective, seems to be relevant the transition from the important choices and expectations of Italian economic and social policy during the 1950's 1960's to the following phase, marked by a decaying policy and a withering discussion on the major lines of economic development. This interview with Graziani, in fact, give us a chance to reconsider the different aspects of Italian economic cultural development during the last decades and its place as regards the changes the country and its political life have underwent.