




**ARE WE
ARYANS**

?

By GINO BARDI



FIVE CENTS

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ARE WE ARYANS?

By GINO BARDI

I

IN THE heart of the Mediterranean Sea, cradle of civilization, was born Modern Italy. It is the creation of a poet, Dante, who gave it a language; of Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci, who gave it an art; of Galileo and Giordano Bruno, who gave it a science; of Mazzini and Garibaldi, who gave it liberty. They expressed the Italian people's love for beauty, their hunger for knowledge, their struggle for freedom.

This child of poets and artists, scientists and revolutionary heroes, grown to manhood, lies in bondage. Oppression and suffering have distorted its features. The poets and heroes of today who would save it from death are exiled or imprisoned or murdered. The blackest of Black Plagues has brought it down to the lowest depths of barbarism and spiritual and cultural depravity.

Where once the gentle Leonardo da Vinci wrote that he hated war as a "bestilissima pazzia"—that most bestial madness—and that "it is an infinitely atrocious thing to take away the life of a man"—today are heard the ranting accents of a Marinetti declaring that "war is beautiful and the sole hygiene of the world." Mussolini proclaims that "Fascism neither believes in the possibility nor the utility of perpetual peace. . . . War alone brings up to its highest tension all human energy and puts the stamp of nobility upon the peoples who have the

courage to meet it." Fascist Commandment No. 1 for every Italian child is that "a fascist must never believe in perpetual peace." Thus was educated the Duce's son, Vittorio, who described as "a beautiful sport" his bombing of innocent Ethiopian women and children from the safe heights of an airplane.

Where once Mazzini said, "I love my fatherland because I love all fatherlands," today are taught and sung hymns of hatred for other peoples. Where once Garibaldi offered his sword to fight for the freedom of the common people from tyranny, wherever they might be, today starved legions are forced to invade and enslave free peoples.

Fascism proclaims that the democracy of Mazzini and Garibaldi is a "putrefied corpse." Fascism has made it a corpse. Well might the poet of the Risorgimento, Leopardi, cry today:

*O fatherland,
I see the walls and arches,
The columns and statues,
And armed towers of our fathers;
But glory see I not,
Nor laurel, nor the sword
Of our forefathers.
Now disarmed,
Bare is your breast and bare your brow.
Alas! What wounds, what blood!
How pale I see thee, lovely lady!
I cry to heaven and earth:
Tell me, tell me,
Who brought her to so low a pass?*

The once proud child of the Renaissance and the Risorgimento, having outlived the doses of fascist castor oil and brutal clubbings, is now being injected with the most deadly poison of race hatred and anti-Semitism. In its tie-up with Hitler in the Rome-Berlin axis, Italian fascism is following

slavishly in the footsteps of all the savage policies of Hitlerism. If ever there were any illusions about a so-called "good" fascism and a "bad" fascism, those illusions may now be dispelled.

In 1915, Mussolini wrote in his newspaper, *Il Popolo d'Italia*:

"Toward the Germans, the thieves, the incendiaries, the maimers of children, the assaulters of women, who with pleasure can witness the sinking of steamships transporting innocent passengers, and who use asphyxiating gas: every act of mercy will be a crime of high treason against the fatherland and humanity. . . . All that which means ignominy, treachery and deceit is genuinely German."

In his book, *Mein Kampf*, Hitler refers to the Italian people as that "bastardized, Negroid cauldron of impurity, the Latin race."

Today this same Mussolini and this same Hitler together carry the white lily of racial purity as racial comrades!

For centuries Italy considered German militarism as its traditional enemy. The slogan of the Risorgimento was: *Bastone tedesco Italia non doma!*—The German club will never tame Italy! Today, not only has the Italian fascist regime allowed the "northern barbarian" to reach the Brenner Pass with the brutal annexation of Austria, thereby endangering the territorial integrity and national independence of Italy, but, in submission, it apes Hitlerism's goose-step and its racial policy. Thanks to Mussolini and his regime, Italy has now become a satellite of Hitler's Greater Germany.

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On February 16, 1938, the organ of the Italian Foreign Ministry, *Informazione Diplomatica*, with perfect duplicity announced:

