

CRISI DELLA GIUSTIZIA - 1969

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ITALIAN JUSTICE IS GOING THROUGH A CRISIS

Rome.--

This is how Justice is functioning in Italy. Those persons that we see here in hand-cuffs are just imuted. But in reality it is those g entlemen that circulate free that are the ones to be accused. They are police functionaries and make part of the class that have a 3"particular treatment".

Official opening ceremony

As every year the juridicial year has been inaugurated with the same pompous ceremonies, formal and empty at the same time, with the valets in antique costumes and the magistrates in hermelin gowns. As always, there were present the head of the State, Giuseppe Saragat, and other official authorities. From years now the same cerimony, from years the same denunciation and profound crisis of justice which no solemn manifestation could ever cancel.

The counter-inauguration at the Piazza Cavour/:

However, this year there has been something new, happening. In front of the big justice-palace in Rome, in the spacious Piazza Cavour, magistrates, lawyers and students-in-law, have organized a counter-inauguration. Without togas and hermellins, but with a firm consciousness, much more alive and much more open then the withered structures of the Italian juridicial admnistratiON, of its heavy bureaucratical apparatus, of its machine-like articulations , and most of all, of its out-moded and reactionary charakter. A justice that is based, until the present time - twenty years after the Resistance- on a penal civil-code of the fascists.

A justice, which, just to name some examples considers the free political struggle as a crime, a justice in which the imputed is defenseless in the introductory process, in which still exists the "delict of honour".

A justice in which the police has still a predominate importance.

A justice of classes, as written on a poster carried by those, manifestating against the inauguration.

Padrut and some events / Here we see the young Padrut, a young Sicilian communist leader. He was imprisoned for a year and a half for having manifestated against the war in Vietnam. Here we see a poor woman with a baby. Also them can easily go in prison and wait for one or two years before they appear before a judge, who perhaps frees them, perhaps not. Here we see a young boy of nine years, who has been sentenced because he stole a book and a small bread. There is another clamorous case: Aldo Braibanti, noted Italian poet and philosopher; has been sentenced for "plagiarism", a medieval delict. His mother seems desperate, reading his letters from jail.

For those poor persons justice proceeds slowly, relentlessly.

However, the situation is very different for the rich ones. The industrialist Riva, who has declared himself fraudly bankrupt, is waiting for his process in his luxurious villa. And, at last, here we see before the justice palace, at the Piazza Cavours, the police which is making its own justice; while the magistrates are closed in the safety of the palace.

The Prisons of Regina Coeli Aside to all this, there are the material aspects of the how the justice in Italy is being administrated. The law is

aiming at the ~~x~~ recuperation of the guilty to the society, or to exclude him definitely, making out of a young and casual little thief a bandit. This is the prison of Regina Coeli in Rome, which gives a clear picture of the situation. In Italy Justice does not redeem, the condemnation is almost always a life-sentence.-

Rome 15-1-69