

The Miracle of Modern Italy!

An Empire That Was Built in Barely 80 Years

(Continued from page one.)

through marriage back in the eleventh century, when Odonne of Savoy had espoused Adelaide, eldest daughter and heiress of Odelrico Manfredi, marquis of Susa. Another member of the Savoy line, Victor Amadeus II, in 1720 had been proclaimed king of Sardinia. Victor Emmanuel II had been king of Sardinia since the abdication of his father, Charles Albert, in 1849, a year after complete political union of Sardinia and Piedmont had been established.

Count Cavour did not want France to play too prominent a part in the defeat of the Austrians, so he engineered a series of uprisings in various parts of Italy outside Piedmont to make it appear that the objection to the rule of Vienna was general. Men from other parts of the peninsula poured into Piedmont to enlist in its army, and Gen. Giuseppe Garibaldi, the great patriot, and others were secretly encouraged to raise volunteer corps.

On Jan. 10, 1859, the king of Sardinia in a speech from the throne said that he "could no longer remain deaf to the cry of pain that reached him from all parts of Italy." In the meantime he had signed a military convention with Louis Napoleon pledging Savoy and Nice to France for its help against Austria.

The French emperor now saw that he was committed to war, and at the last minute he had no relish for it. He suggested a settlement of the Italian question by a congress of nations. Austria, however, would have nothing to do with a proposal such as this, and on April 23 it sent an ultimatum to Piedmont demanding disarmament of that state within three days. This was just what Cavour desired. It put Austria in the position of aggressor in a war that he had been planning all the while. Six days after the issuance of the ultimatum Francis Joseph of Austria declared war. Napoleon the following day, and against his will, put France into the war.

Cavour, who had resigned at the time of the Villafranca negotiations, was called back into power early in 1860 when the question arose of the cession of Savoy and Nice as the price of Napoleon's consent to the formation of a union of central Italian states. Before the end of March the grand duchy of Tuscany, the duchies of Parma and Modena, and the papal province of Romagna were annexed by Piedmont, the four states having by this time definitely expelled their rulers and voted for annexation.

The new Italian parliament, including members from central Italy, assembled in Turin on April 2. Savoy and Nice went to Napoleon, who, to make it appear that their annexation to France was in the line of self-determination, called for plebiscites in each. The vote in Savoy was suspiciously one-sided in favor of annexation to France.

The expansion of Italy might have stopped at this point had it not been for Garibaldi. On May 5 he embarked at Quarto, near Genoa, with a force of about 1,000 men (Legion of the Thousand) for the purpose of seizing the island of Sicily. This and the southern portion of the Italian peninsula constituted the kingdom of the Two Sicilies, under the rule of the Bourbon king Francis II. The people of the Two Sicilies were ripe for the overthrow of their monarch.

Landing at Marsala on May 11, Garibaldi in a few swift



CAMILLO CAVOUR

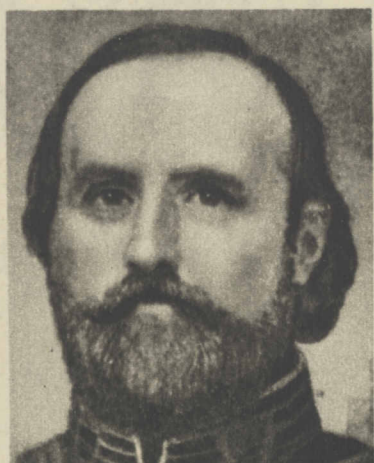
strokes captured virtually all of Sicily except the citadel of Messina and proclaimed himself, in the name of Victor Emmanuel, dictator of the island.

On Aug. 8 Garibaldi's army, by this time grown to 20,000, began crossing to the mainland. King Francis fled before it, and on Sept. 9 Garibaldi entered the capital of Naples alone, in advance of his army.

Louis Napoleon of France and the government of Turin now began to view Garibaldi's exploits with misgivings, Cavour, in fact, never having been in sympathy with them. The prime minister saw that Piedmont would be compelled to take a hand in the affairs of southern Italy. As his first move he ordered his troops to move into the papal provinces of Umbria and the Marches. The Piedmont army of invasion defeated the forces of the pope on Sept. 11 and continued on into Neapolitan territory on Oct. 15. Garibaldi's army was having difficulties with Neapolitans on the Volturno, but on Oct. 2 it triumphed. Victor Emmanuel and Garibaldi entered Naples together on Nov. 7, the general surrendering his powers to the king. By March 21 of the next year all of the strongholds of the Bourbons in southern Italy and Sicily, including the citadel of Messina, had fallen.

The Italian parliament met in Turin, Feb. 18, 1861, and proclaimed Victor Emmanuel king of Italy. Piedmont and Sardinia had added to their territory Lombardy, Modena, Parma, Tuscany, the Two Sicilies (island and mainland), and all of the papal lands except a relatively narrow strip along the western coast of the peninsula, in which was located the city of Rome. It was not quite four months after Victor Emmanuel accepted the throne of a united Italy that death took Count Cavour.

The fire of patriotism still burned in the breast of Garibaldi. He desired Rome for the Italian kingdom, so on June 18, 1862, he returned to Sicily, and in August he crossed over to Ca-



GENERAL GARIBALDI



VICTOR EMMANUEL II

labria with an army of a thousand. At the battle of Aspromonte he was wounded and taken prisoner and his campaign collapsed. Victor Emmanuel all the while had been disturbed by the presence of French troops in Rome, the alleged purpose of which was to protect the pope. In a convention of Sept. 15, 1864, between Italy and France the latter country agreed to withdraw its soldiers from the Eternal city, Italy in the same convention promising to transfer its capital from Turin to some other city within six months. Florence was selected as the new capital and the transfer was made in the following year (1865).

The Venetian question still was bothering the kingdom of Italy. But Italy was too weak to attack Austria alone, and it did not want France for an ally, for fear that Napoleon would demand a price, as he did in 1858. Prussia was settled upon as the country that could assist Italy most satisfactorily in winning Venetia, and Louis Napoleon was chosen as the man to engineer the Italo-Prussian alliance.

The Italian army and navy did not do any too well in the war, but on July 3, 1865, the Prussians soundly whipped the Austrians at Königgrätz. On the 5th of the following month Austria ceded Venetia to Napoleon. In October a plebiscite was held in Venetia, the vote going overwhelmingly in favor of annexation to Italy. The formal transfer to Italy was made in 1866. All of Italy except that small portion still held by the church now was under the rule of Victor Emmanuel.

French regular troops were withdrawn from Rome in December, 1866, although pontifical forces recruited in France still remained. Garibaldi, who meanwhile had been released from prison on amnesty, considered this a violation of the treaty of 1864. He prepared to raid Rome, but on Sept. 23, 1867, was arrested and returned to prison. He escaped, however, and landed in Tuscany, from the territory of which he led a march on Rome. On Nov. 3 a battle took place at Mentana between 5,000 Garibaldian Red Shirts and a superior force of French and pontifical troops. The Garibaldians were beaten and their leader again arrested.

The twenty-first ecumenical council, which began its sittings in Rome in December, 1869, on the following July 18 proclaimed the infallibility of the pope, just two days before Louis Napoleon had declared war on Prussia. With the fall of the French empire early in September, 1870, Victor Emmanuel addressed a letter to the pontiff, Pius IX., asking him in the name of religion and peace to accept the protection of the kingdom of Italy and renounce his temporal powers. The pope in his reply said that he would yield only to force. The Italian army attacked Rome on Sept. 20. The pope's forces made a pretense of resistance and the city quickly was taken. At a plebiscite which followed shortly after the capture the citizens voted to be included in the Italian kingdom. Thus the union of all Italy finally was accomplished.

The pope's temporal powers were taken from him, but he was granted an annuity and the enjoyment of the Vatican and Lateran palaces and the villa of Castel Gandolfo. He preferred to become a voluntary prisoner in the Vatican. The capital of Italy was transferred to Rome in 1871.

Victor Emmanuel died Jan. 9,

1878, and Pope Pius IX. on Feb. 7 of the same year. Pope Leo XIII. succeeded Pius.

It was under the new king, Humbert I., that the triple alliance of Germany, Austria, and Italy was set up in 1882, the year that saw the death of Garibaldi. One of the factors instrumental in throwing Italy into the arms of Austria and Prussia, an unnatural alliance, was the taking by France of Tunisia in 1881.

The alliance, which was to dominate Europe until 1914, was renewed in 1887, the same year that the Italians suffered disaster at the battle of Dogali in Ethiopia.

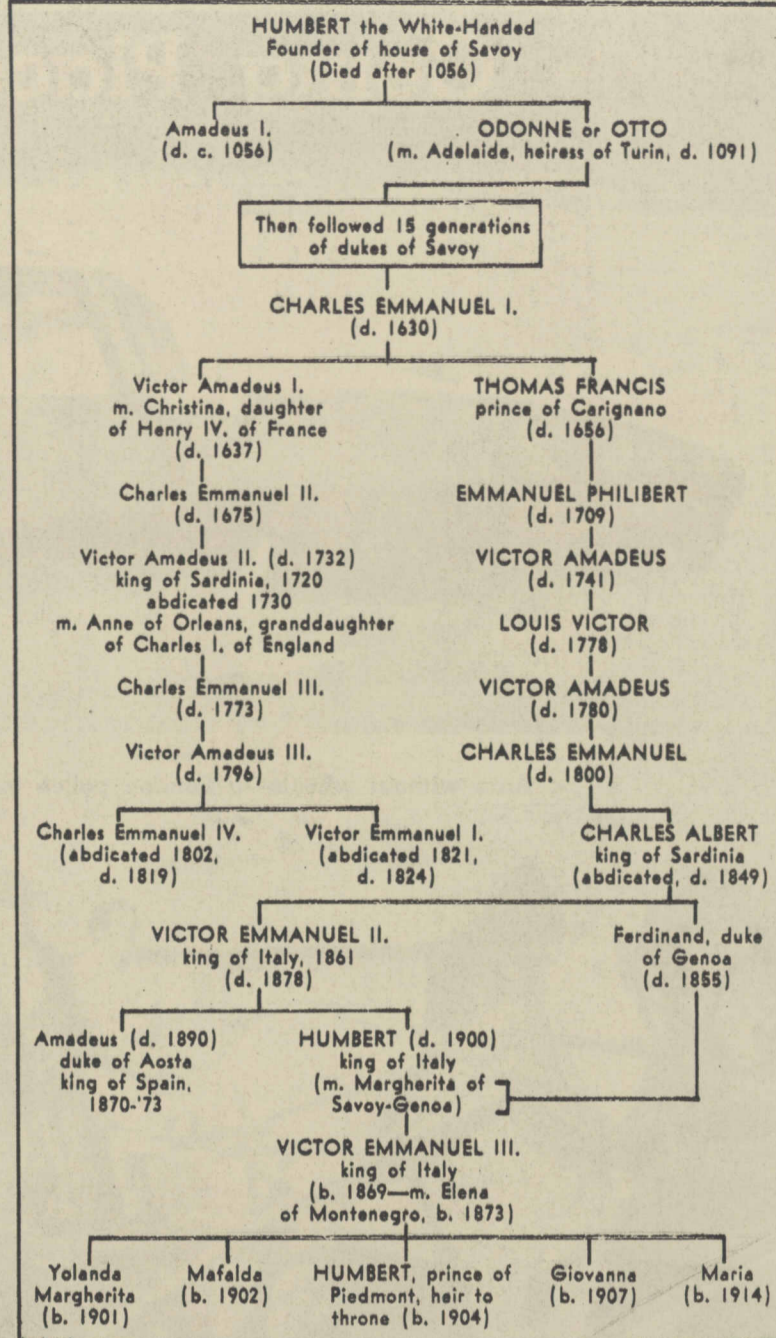
In the meantime Italy had been pushing its plan of empire in East Africa, first establishing itself in Eritrea as early as 1882. The defeat at Dogali was only a temporary setback to imperial plans. In 1889 the Italians were in possession of the coast of what now is Italian Somaliland, and in January, 1890, by royal decree, the colony of Eritrea was established. Italy's worst defeat in Africa was that of Adowa, where General Baratieri's army of 25,000 on March 1, 1896, was badly cut up by 100,000 Ethiopians under King Menelik. Italy had to wait forty years to conquer Ethiopia.

On July 29, 1900, King Humbert was slain by an anarchist at Monzo, and there came to the throne Victor Emmanuel III., the present king. The triple alliance again was renewed in June, 1902, for a period of twelve years, despite the fact that there still flourished a pronounced ill feeling between Italy and Austria. The annexation by Austria of Bosnia in 1908 brought on a crisis between Vienna and Rome, and, although Italy was promised compensation, no compensation was forthcoming.

Italy after the turn of the century had been looking toward Tripoli as the only region in North Africa left open to European expansion. Demands upon Turkey for concessions that in effect would give Italy a protectorate over Tripoli were rejected. On Sept. 29, 1911, war was declared on Turkey—a short, swift war that brought to Italy Tripolitania and Cyrenaica (the two constituting Libya) and the occupation of Rhodes and the Dodecanese Islands.

In 1914 began the World war. As a member of the triple alliance it was expected that Italy would side with Austria and Germany. But Italy from the start was hostile to the idea of helping Austria. She preferred to remain neutral, and gave as her reasons (1) Austria's failure to cooperate with Italy before taking action, (2) the fact that Italy had not been given time sufficient to act in the interest of peace, and (3) the fact that Italy was not bound by the terms of the alliance to take part in an aggressive policy.

The invasion of Serbia by Austria caused Italy to become alarmed and to demand compensation under terms of the alliance. Italy asked for all of the Trentino, the Isonzo valley, some of the Dalmatian Islands, a free hand in Albania, and the forma-



Simplified family tree of Italy's royal house. Names in capital letters indicate the direct descent to the present heir.

tion of Trieste and northwestern Istria into an independent state. For this Italy was ready to agree to remain neutral to the end of the war.

Austria was evasive in her replies, and Italy began negotiations with the powers of the entente. On April 26, 1915, the secret treaty of London was con-

cluded. The nations adhering to its terms were Italy, France, Great Britain, and Russia. Italy agreed to intervene in the war on the side of the Allies and was promised the Trentino, southern Tyrol, Gorizia, Trieste, Istria (not including Fiume), Dalmatia, various islands off the Il-

(Continued on page nine.)

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