

Italians in Pietermaritzburg

According to the available records, the first Italian to live in Pietermaritzburg was Signor Faccioli, the diminutive bandmaster of the 45th Regiment, two companies of which reached the newly-established town in 1843 and 'pitched their tents on an eminence known as Fort Napier'.¹ After taking his discharge in Natal, like many other members of the regiment, Faccioli supported himself by giving music lessons.

The Italian community remained insignificant for the next nine decades. The 1903 Directory lists only two names that are recognizably Italian — Bendzulla and Gallo.² Albert Bendzulla lived at 140 Church Street and was presumably the proprietor of the firm R. Bendzulla & Sons, tailors and outfitters, whose premises were at 169 Longmarket Street. The name is of Roman origin, though this particular family had migrated to England and Germany during the nineteenth century and was no longer Italian-speaking when some of its members came to South Africa. E. Gallo lived at Leathern Court in Commercial Road between 1903 and 1905 and may have been Italian-speaking, though his first name was Emmanuels, not Emmanuele. The 1939 Directory contains two more Italian names — Corinaldi and Monzali.³ The origin of the Corinaldi family is believed to be Milan; but H. Corinaldi, who was living at 71 Boshoff Street in 1939, came from Australia where his forbears had been settled for at least two generations. Like the Bendzullas, he was no longer Italian-speaking.

Guido Raphael Monzali, on the other hand, was Italian by birth. Born in 1877 in a mountain village, La Zocca di Modena, about 16 km from Bologna, he possessed exceptional self-confidence and tenacity of purpose. At the age of fourteen, when most teenagers are still dependent on their parents for support and guidance, he travelled alone to the United States and found work in a colliery in the Mid-West. Intent on starting his own construction and engineering business, he left America two years later, his travels taking him as far as Vladivostok. In the Sudan he became proficient in dam construction. In Switzerland he gained his first experience of railway construction.

His career was interrupted by a short period of military service. He took part in Italy's East African campaign of 1898 and was awarded a medal. As soon as he was discharged, he resumed railway construction, tendering for contracts in Australia and Madagascar. Leaving the latter island for health reasons, he arrived in Durban at the start of the South African War. His first business venture in this country was modest — a contract to supply firewood to war refugees. But he was soon back in the engineering field — building bridges, embankments, viaducts, deviations and tunnels for the SAR. His name is associated with railway development in Natal, where he was responsible for the construction of two of the longest tunnels in South Africa at that time.

Railway construction was not the only type of work that he undertook. Before the First World War, he mined gypsum for the Pretoria Portland Cement Co. and was also awarded the contract to build a motor road to the summit of the Little Berg — one of the most challenging road-building projects ever attempted in this country. The road was completed in May 1949 but, at the start of construction, Monzali over-turned his truck on a steep slope and broke his back, an injury that hampered him for the rest of his life, though it did not force him to retire or blunt his formidable energy. His growing fortune was invested in numerous subsidiary interests, such as mines, quarries, plantations and farms.

He lived in Durban from 1922 to 1936, then moved to Hilton where he built a large and impressive house, which became popularly known as 'Monzali's Castle'. Before construction began, he sent to Italy for skilled workmen and an architect. During the Second World War, part of the house staff consisted of Italian prisoners of war, and other POWs were employed in the adjacent plantations. Despite his many responsibilities, he did not become over-serious or aloof. His daughter, Mrs Marcella Ekerold, recalls his keen sense of humour. Nor did he lose his youthful interest in geology. His idea of a holiday was to go out into the veld and collect rock specimens. He continued to manage his affairs until a few weeks before his death in 1952.

The Lamberti family was also established in South Africa before the Second World War. Enrico Lamberti came from Salerno, near Naples. Accompanied by his wife, a native of Florence, he arrived in Johannesburg in 1909 with no assets except his skill as a tailor and the same will to succeed that animated Monzali. According to their eldest son, Mingo, the decision to emigrate to a strange country, where they had no friends or relatives and would be unable to make themselves understood except by sign language, was no less courageous than the Voortrekkers' decision to embark on the Great Trek. The habit of working up to 16 hours a day was taken for granted, not only by the parents but also by their sons, who were trained as artisans and encouraged to start their own business ventures as soon as they were on their financial feet.

The name, Mingo, is a contraction of Ermengardo. The young man practised his father's trade until he was 29 years old, then enrolled at the University of the Witwatersrand and took a degree in engineering. After a year on the gold mines, he was appointed manager of the SA Crushers' Westville quarries. In deciding to leave the Rand, he was influenced by Professor Jeppe, who encouraged his students to seek employment in outlying mines and plants. After Mingo had suggested ways of improving the lay-out and production methods at Westville, the quarry owners virtually gave him a free hand and he soon became an owner himself. Assisted by friends and relatives, he purchased a 75 % interest in the Hilton quarries and built a house next to the plant, which was modernized and served by an extension of the railway siding.

One of his first major decisions was to buy a Von Roll crusher from the Italian firm that had built the Kariba Dam — the largest crusher ever to be installed in South Africa. The contract stipulated that it had to be dismantled at Kariba and re-erected at Hilton. The side frames were so large that they were transported only in daytime, so as to ensure that no damage was done to the girders of railway bridges should the cargo shift in any way as a result of the movement of the bogeys.

Hilton Quarries (Pty) Ltd became the holding company of more than a dozen other quarry companies. One of the properties acquired in this way was

the Monzali sand plant. Mingo bought it for its sand deposits, but the acquisition made him the owner of 'Monzali's Castle', though he never lived in the house. In 1970 he sold his quarry holdings to a subsidiary of the Hippo group; but, recently, after the expiry of a ten-year embargo, he started the Maritzburg Quarries at Ashburton, and is once again active in the business of excavating stone, sand and gravel, despite being 78 years old.

His brother, Victor, after farming for several years in the Transvaal, served in the UDF during the Second World War, attaining the rank of captain. From Italian prisoners employed on his farm he learnt the process of making Parmesan cheese, which he produced after the war in the Transvaal and at Curry's Post. For a time, both he and his younger brother, Antonio, assisted Mingo at the quarries. Victor then moved to Newcastle where he acquired an interest in a supermarket. His large family of seven sons and five daughters is dispersed over the country or abroad. One of them, Reg Lamberti, is the owner of a machine tool repair service in Pietermaritzburg.

After being limited to a few families for so many decades, the Italian community in Pietermaritzburg increased enormously and unwillingly during the Second World War, when thousands of POWs and a smaller number of civilian internees were incarcerated in a camp in the Mkondeni area, close to the old Durban road. The first batch, captured in East Africa, arrived during 1941. They lived in tents, and were guarded by members of the Cape Coloured Corps. According to the authors of the *Annals of the Scottsville Area*, they were docile and well-behaved, unlike the German prisoners, who dug tunnels and tried to escape, until sent elsewhere. By 1943 the Italian inmates numbered about 5 000.⁴

A booklet compiled by the camp chaplain, Padre Giacomo Conte, stresses the boredom and homesickness from which they suffered. One of the prisoners, the opera singer, Gregorio Fiasconaro, is eloquent on the subject of boredom. A week in the camp — he asserts — was equivalent to a month outside. Unlike Allied POWs in Germany and Italy, the Pietermaritzburg inmates received no study material, though the Red Cross, the Vatican and the South African Italian community supplied books, music and play scripts at a later stage.

Fiasconaro also complains of the heat in summer and the cold in winter — he particularly remembers the heavy rains of 1944 — but his most severe strictures are reserved for the camp food, or lack of it. He claims that he became thin on the POW diet and was too weak to sing in a large hall, though he praises the prisoner-cooks for the appetizing meals that they sometimes concocted out of their limited supplies. He also commends the Camp Commandant, Major W.G. Lowe, for carrying out his duties in a considerate as well as dutiful manner.

A variety of activities was organized to keep boredom at bay. The prisoners could take part in various sports — soccer, tennis, athletics, boxing and *palla a volo* (a type of handball played with a net). Another option was handicrafts. Groups of prisoners kept themselves busy doing carpentry and tailoring, and the Italian love of music was well provided for. After instruments had been donated by Pietermaritzburg citizens and the inmates had built a hut-cum-hall with a tarpaulin roof, Fiasconaro, as Director of Entertainment, produced plays and concerts. The nucleus of his orchestra was a regimental band that had been captured *en bloc*. Shows were put on in the City Hall in aid of Red Cross funds. Fiasconaro sang solos and was sent to perform in Durban where he

became acquainted with the conductor of the Durban Orchestra, Edward Dunn.

In the later stages of the war, Italy was no longer an enemy country but a co-belligerent and there was an improvement in the relationship between the prisoners and the guards. Discipline became lax. Fiasconaro describes how inmates used to get through the barbed wire at night in order to barter for food in neighbouring 'Indian villages'. He himself was involved in several escapades, often with the connivance of the guards. Invaluable from the long-term point of view were the educational classes that the chaplain organized. Some of the prisoners had received only a minimal education, so a start was made with literacy classes that ran for two hours each weekday evening, except when the timetable was disrupted by the requirements of camp administration or the need to accommodate new arrivals. Later on, advanced classes were added with courses in language, literature, maths and science, the motive of the students being simply the 'joy of study'.

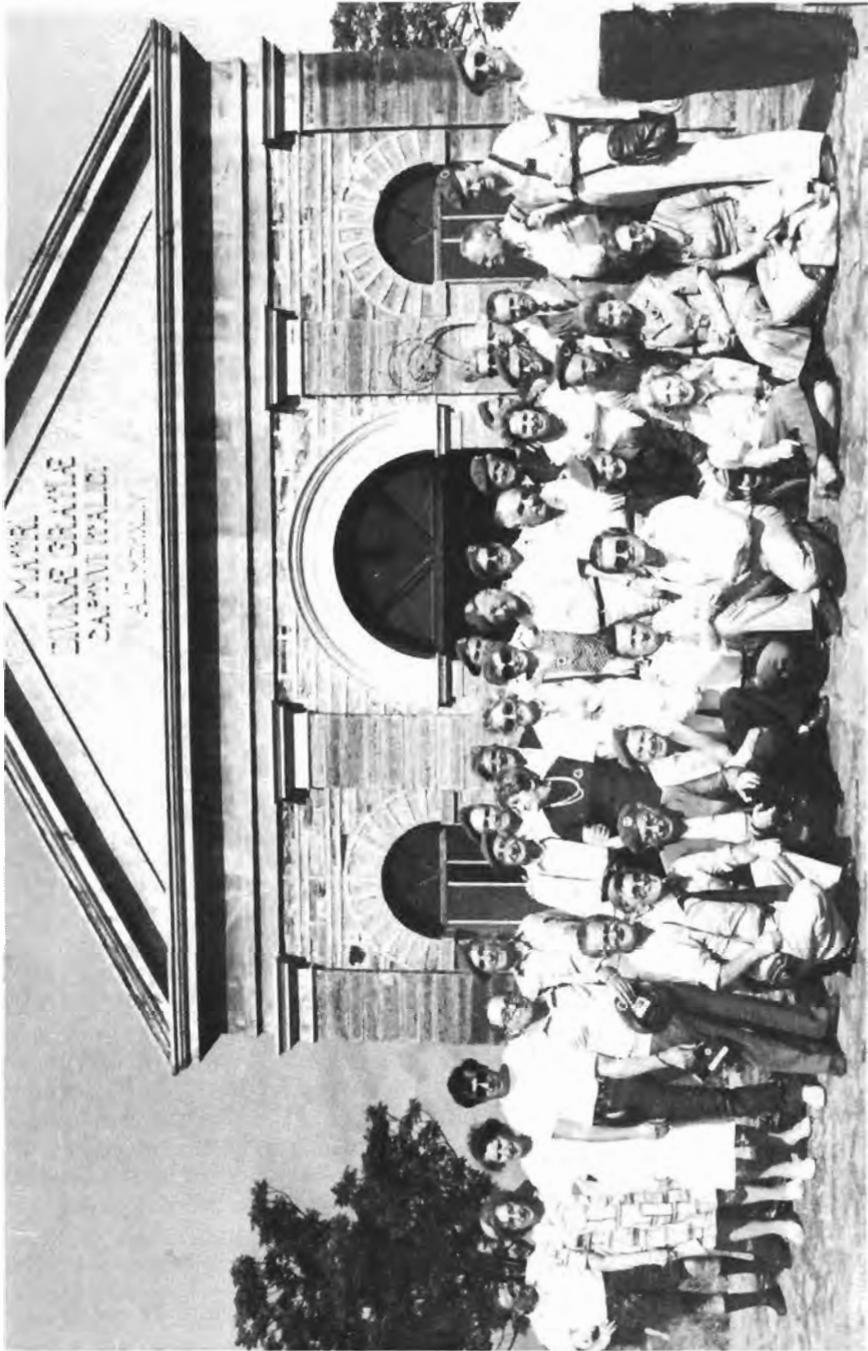
But, however beneficial such activities might be in alleviating boredom and preparing the prisoners for their post-war civilian life, they were of a transient character. The most impressive and lasting of the prisoners' achievements during their four years of captivity was the building of a church. The chaplain suggested the idea and construction started in 1943, after a ritual benediction of the first stone on 2 February. The shale blocks were quarried two kilometres away and hauled by human muscle power in makeshift carts to the building site. According to the report in the booklet *In Attesa*, the civilian population living in the area had no idea that this type of shale was suitable for building.

The project might have been stillborn had it not been for the provision of basic tools and other assistance authorized by a member of the camp staff, Major B.C. Knight. Even so, the difficulties were formidable. Cement was in short supply owing to the war, so the mortar was made of mud and the scanty supply of cement, financed in part by the sale of the prisoners' cigarette rations, was used only to 'point' the face of each wall. To quote the chaplain, the walls grew a few centimetres each day, 'cemented more by the sweat of the labourers than by the virtue of the mortar'.

The care with which the stone blocks were shaped and fitted together must be seen to be appreciated. After 13 months of dedicated toil, the church was completed. Built in a style all its own — *più vicino al dorico che al composito romano* — it is 17,3 metres in length, 7,5 metres wide and has a tower 9,5 metres high. The cornice bears the inscription MATRI DIVINAE GRATIAE CAPTIVI ITALICI A.D. MCMXLIV. Two lions rampant, sculptured by the prisoners, were placed outside. The ceremony of inauguration and consecration was performed on Sunday, 19 March 1944 by the Apostolic Delegate, the Rt Revd Archbishop van Gijlswijk, and was followed by a Pontifical Mass. For the remaining months of the war, services were held regularly. There were no pews but music was provided by a small harmonium played by Fiasconaro.

'I never hear the quiet tolling of the bell at sunset and early in the morning,' wrote the Camp Commandant, Major Lowe, 'without thinking how grateful (the prisoners) must be for this link with their homes, many thousands of miles away.'⁵

After the war, the camp was disbanded and the church stood alone by the roadside, forgotten and neglected. Vagrants, migrating between the Rand and



A 1981 reunion of 35 former Italian prisoners of war in front of the church they helped to build.

(Photograph: Natal Witness)

the coast, used it as an over-night shelter. Fires were lit in the nave and rubbish accumulated. Vandals ripped off the doors and shattered the stained glass windows. One of the lions was smashed beyond repair. Father Anton Dovigo, holidaying in South Africa in 1962, was shocked by the church's condition and started collecting funds for its restoration. Ex-prisoners in Italy and South Africa contributed. A new bell was cast and sent free of charge to Durban. An ex-prisoner, Mr Salvatore Fardella, undertook the task of placing the new bell in the tower. At an impressive ceremony held in 1963, the bell was blessed by the Most Reverend Archbishop Denis Hurley and rung for the first time by the Mayoress, Mrs Eva Bulman.

After its restoration, the church was looked after by an Italian immigrant, Mr Raffaele Dalmonte, now deceased. He kept the church clean, carried out routine repairs and provided flowers for the monthly Mass, continuing to do so until the building was declared a National Monument and the NM Commission took over responsibility for its upkeep. Apart from the absence of one of the lions, it has been fully restored, though today it stands in a street and is surrounded by suburban houses — an incongruous setting that accentuates its uniqueness. The building is enriched by the very poverty of its component parts, and the visitor can sense in its austere simplicity the depth of feeling that inspired the homesick prisoners to leave behind on South African soil such a beautiful monument to their faith.

Not all the prisoners returned home. There is a row of graves in the Mountain Rise cemetery where those who died in captivity were buried. Some of the prisoners chose to remain in South Africa, one of the best-known being Gregorio Fiasconaro. Born in Sicily, he spent his youth in Genoa where he sang in productions at the Opera House at the age of six. A baritone when grown-up, he made his debut as an opera principal in the role of Germont in *La Traviata*. His singing career was interrupted by the war. Refusing to apply for the exemption that was usually granted to well-known singers, he volunteered for the air force, was trained as a pilot and joined a squadron in East Africa. Taken prisoner after being shot down and badly wounded, he was transported first to Egypt and then to Pietermaritzburg.

When taking part in a concert in the City Hall towards the end of the war, he met and fell in love with a South African girl, Mabel Brabant, whom he married in 1947 (he was prevented by illness from being repatriated with the other prisoners). While employed by a local firm, Ross & Co, he was invited to go on tour for the SABC and moved to Cape Town. Here he embarked on a new career as a South African singer and producer, and he has been described as the 'father of opera' in this country.⁶

Mr Salvatore Fardella was another prisoner who remained in South Africa after the war. Born in a village in the province of Messina, he was an infantryman in the Italian army that fought in North Africa. Like Fiasconaro, he was taken prisoner after being wounded in action. After being treated in a military hospital in Cairo, he was sent to the POW camp at Pietermaritzburg. A builder by trade, he was part of the team that built the church. At a later stage he was one of many prisoners who were sent to work on local farms. This was a popular option as farm food was better than camp food and the worker was more likely to be treated as an employee than as a captive. Another advantage was the opportunity to learn English. His place of employment was a guest farm and he continued to work there for some months after the war

ended. Eventually he started his own construction business in Howick. His wife, whom he married in South Africa, comes from Tuscany.

The confinement of prisoners-of-war in this country was of course paralleled in Italy, where about 10 000 South Africans were held captive at the time of the Armistice in 1943. A considerable proportion of them were released, or escaped, to live behind the German lines and share the dangers and discomforts to which the civilian population was subjected. A few of them married Italian wives, as did some members of the South African units that were attached to the Fifth and Eighth Armies.

Pietermaritzburg's Italian community was augmented to a small extent in this way. Mr Johnny Odendaal, a journalist by profession, met his future wife in Rome while serving with the Corps of Signals. In the post-war period he worked for the *Natal Witness* and was later the Bureau Chief of the *Natal Daily News*. Mr Arthur George Dawson, a member of the Pretoria Regiment, became acquainted with his future wife at Lake Maggiore and returned to Italy after the war in order to marry her. He was employed in the City as a post office technician. Mrs Odendaal and Mrs Dawson are only two of many thousands of Italians who emigrated to South Africa after the war.

Given the Italian aptitude for engineering, especially civil engineering and building construction, it is not surprising that a considerable proportion of the newcomers belonged to these professions. Mr Alberto Alfano's father was a builder in Eritrea, where the family had lived for two generations. His son, Alberto, worked for him for a brief period, then emigrated at the age of 22 to South Africa, where he obtained a diploma in civil engineering. He was employed by construction firms at other centres before starting his own business and moving to Pietermaritzburg, imbued with the usual determination to become financially independent; and we shall see the same influence at work in other immigrants, a large number of whom have been able to start their own concerns in the city.

The Sirilli family is associated with shoe manufacturing, the Farina brothers with painting contracting, Desiderio Di Carlofelice with the catering trade, Umberto Rampa with hairstyling, Mrs Marilena Aliquo runs a music shop, while Messrs Aldo Santoro and Renato Bernasconi are two more members of the community who have established engineering firms. The examples given are far from inclusive. The names mentioned have been taken at random, as it were, from the list of citizens of Italian origin who have joined the ranks of the City's entrepreneurs.

Renato Bernasconi grew up in Legnano, north-west of Milan. For ten years he worked as a building contractor in the Sudan, mainly on dam construction. He knew little English when he arrived in South Africa in 1965. Despite that handicap, he succeeded in starting his own firm, the Aliber Construction Co.

Mrs Marilena Aliquo was born in Cremona. Like Gregorio Fiasconaro, she had a love of music from an early age, and longed to have piano lessons but her father could not afford them. In compensation, a childless great-aunt gave her a piano accordion and paid for lessons. It was the start of a remarkable career. After recitals in Italian cities, she joined an all-girl piano accordion trio that travelled as far afield as Iran, where she spent a month at the Shah's court. At the age of twenty, she made a solo tour of African countries, including the Sudan, where she met her future husband, who was of Greek as well as Italian descent. After marrying, the couple came to South Africa and settled in Pietermaritzburg. Able to speak French, Greek, Arabic and Italian,

as well as make herself understood in German and Turkish, Mrs Aliquo obviously has a gift for languages and did not take long to master English. As soon as she could communicate, she became active in the local world of music, giving concerts and accordion lessons. She missed Italy and persuaded Umberto to take her back to Cremona, but the sound of an SAA air hostess's voice making an announcement in Afrikaans convinced her that South Africa was where she really belonged. After living for a while in Empangeni, where she managed a shop and did her best to promote a love of music among the white, black and Indian communities, she returned to Pietermaritzburg and started her own retail music business.

Pescara was the birth place of Umberto Rampa, who left Italy in 1953 for Venezuela, where he was a full-time hairstylist and a part-time sports commentator on the radio. After six years in South America, he was persuaded by his brother-in-law to come to this country. He started his own salon in Pietermaritzburg and devoted most of his leisure time to his favourite sport of soccer. He is a well-known referee and was Chairman of the local section of the Natal Referees' Association for seven years. He is another Italian with a love of opera and has appeared in tenor parts in amateur productions. The community is well represented in the hairdressing trade. Several salons in the City are owned or managed by immigrants from Italy.

Every region of the home country has contributed a quota of immigrants to the community — Piedmont, Lombardy, central Italy, the *mezzogiorno* and the islands. Giuseppi Gallus was born in Cagliari, the capital of one of Sardinia's four provinces. After completing his military service, he came to South Africa in 1955, without being trained for a profession. After finding a job in the motor trade in Johannesburg, he studied English at night classes. He was employed by Olivetti when he came to Pietermaritzburg in 1975 and eventually started his own business. His partner is Gianni Bonaso, who was brought from Piedmont to South Africa in childhood. Mrs Patricia Gallus is of South African birth and has a business of her own, mushroom gathering.

Although the proportion of entrepreneurs is high in the Italian community, a considerable number of its members belong to the salaried class, being employed in the City and its environs as artisans, clerks and shop assistants. Mrs D'Amico manages a restaurant in a department store. Born near Naples, she came to South Africa with her husband, an ex-POW, 21 years ago. Filippo Aliquo, brother-in-law of Marilena, is a diesel mechanic. Like his brother, Umberto, he was working in the Sudan before he moved to South Africa in 1975.

One would not expect to find the professions strongly represented in the Italian community, for obvious reasons. A lawyer trained in Italy would be unacquainted with our law. A doctor would find it difficult to establish the necessary rapport with patients belonging to a different community. Few teachers and lecturers would be considered sufficiently proficient in the official languages. Nevertheless, some members of the community have managed to overcome these problems. Mrs P.N.W. Osborne, a native of Modena married to a British citizen, majored in English Language and Literature at Bologna University and now lectures in French on the local campus of the University of Natal.

Dr P. Ronchietto is a livestock improvement officer and research worker employed by the Animal and Dairy Science Research Institute. He is based at Cedara where his work is primarily beef cattle performance and progeny

testing. Born at Pont Canavese, north of Turin, he came to South Africa 14 years ago. He obtained his degree at the University of Turin. He used to be an active member of the local Italian Club.

The Club no longer exists. The date on which it was founded, and by whom, is now difficult to determine. The first meeting was held either towards the end of the 1960s or at the beginning of the 1970s, and the first venue was a hall which formed part of the property owned by the Catholic Church in Loop Street. Activities consisted of social get-togethers, Sunday lunches, dancing, the showing of films and the playing of tombola. One of the original aims was to provide lessons in Italian for children of the community and thereby preserve their sense of *italianità*. The Club had the usual committee and office bearers and was still meeting at premises in Princess Street in 1987 before it died out owing to lack of support.

Although it consists of about 55 families (estimates vary between 30 and 65) the Italian community in Pietermaritzburg is not regarded by its members as being particularly cohesive, nor should we expect it to be if we take into account the diversity of its origin and the factors that encourage assimilation. For the newly-arrived immigrant South Africa is a foreign country and strong links are retained with friends and relatives in Italy. The children speak Italian in the home but they learn English at school and find it difficult, as they grow older, to use the home language in situations that are not familial. The third generation uses English both at home and in the outside world. The old language may be learnt for sentimental reasons or in order to converse with grandparents, but the sense of Italian identity is no longer strong.

A corresponding pattern is found in attitudes towards work. The newly-arrived immigrant feels insecure and takes whatever employment he can find, living frugally and saving money in order to become financially independent. Mr Desiderio Di Carlofelice, for example, came to South Africa from a small village in Abruzzi in 1961, knowing no English and without relatives in this country. He was employed by catering firms in Pretoria and Pietermaritzburg before he was in a position to open his own restaurant.

The second generation may also show a preference for self-employment, but their children — the third generation — are more likely to be students at technikons and universities, aiming at salaried jobs and a life-style no different from that of their locally-born contemporaries. The work ethic is less conspicuous. They are becoming indistinguishable from other South African whites in comfortable circumstances, and a high proportion are married to non-Italians.

There have been several references in this article to immigration and its corollary, emigration, about which there are two diametrically opposite opinions. Some people, including many South African whites, disapprove when neighbours decide to emigrate. Whatever the reason for the choice — safety, better job prospects, greater political freedom — it is condemned as disloyal and even cowardly. But is such a point of view tenable in people who are themselves the descendants of emigrants?

General George Patton, in 1943, circulated the following message to the American troops who were about to invade Sicily:

Many of you have in your veins German and Italian blood, but remember that these ancestors of yours so loved freedom that they gave up home and country to cross the ocean in search of liberty. (Those who

stayed behind) lacked the courage to make such a sacrifice and continued as slaves.⁷

The hyperbole may be overdone, yet it is a reasonable assumption that real courage is required before the average person will relinquish the security of a familiar environment in order to start a new life in a strange land.

The Italian immigrants who chose to settle in Pietermaritzburg certainly possessed that kind of courage. They have proved to be a hard-working community with an unusual degree of initiative. Their enterprise has increased the City's material wealth and enriched its cultural life.

NOTES

- ¹ Hattersley, Alan F. *Portrait of a City*. Pietermaritzburg, Shuter & Shooter, 1951, p. 18.
- ² *Natal Almanac & Diary 1903*, Pietermaritzburg section. Published by P. Davis & Sons, Pietermaritzburg.
- ³ *Braby's Natal Directory, 1939*, Pietermaritzburg Section. Published in Durban.
- ⁴ *Annals of the Scottsville Area*, collated and written by Edna Bartlett (except for 2 chapters), privately produced by the Ridge Women's Institute, 1984.
- ⁵ Conte, G. *In Attesa*, Numero Unico Pietermaritzburg, 1944.
- ⁶ Fiasconaro, G. *I'd Do It Again*. Cape Town, Books of Africa, 1982.
- ⁷ Quoted in *The Americans* by Geoffrey Gorer. London, Cresset press, 1948, p. 13.

The information in the article is otherwise based on:

Personal interviews with:

- Mr A. Alberto, Pietermaritzburg, 30 Apr. 1988.
- Mr F. Aliquo, Pietermaritzburg, 18 May 1988.
- Mrs M. Aliquo, Pietermaritzburg, 10 March 1988.
- Mrs D'Amico, Pietermaritzburg, 25 Apr. 1988.
- Mr G. Bonaso, Pietermaritzburg, 27 Apr. 1988.
- Father Paul Decock, Cedara, 4 May 1988.
- Mr D. Di Carlofelice, Pietermaritzburg, 22 June 1988.
- Mr S. Fardella, Merrivale, 4 May 1988.
- Mr G. Gallus, Pietermaritzburg, 27 Apr. 1988.
- Mr R. Lamberti, Pietermaritzburg, 13 March 1988.
- Mr E. Lamberti, Hilton, 21 Apr. 1988.
- Mr J. Odendaal, Pietermaritzburg, 19 March 1988.
- Mrs P. Osborne, Pietermaritzburg, 25 Apr. 1988.
- Mr U. Rampa, Pietermaritzburg, 10 March 1988.

Telephone interviews with:

- Mr R. Bernasconi, Pietermaritzburg, 12 Apr. 1988.
- Mrs E. Crossley, Pietermaritzburg, 28 May 1988.
- Mr G. Dawson, Pietermaritzburg, 1 May 1988.

Notes supplied by:

- Mrs M. Ekerold, Gillitts, 26 June 1988.
- Dr P. Ronchietto, Cedara, 16 July 1988.

GEORGE CANDY

