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## EDITORIAL.

### THE ROMAN SALUTE.

In the evolution of the Italian nation, now taking place under the leadership of S.E. Benito Mussolini, the revival of the Salute, used in the days of the greatness of the Roman Empire nearly two thousand years ago, is a touch of genius which has taken hold of the popular imagination.

Nothing impressed us more, during our recent visit to Italy, than the universality, the dignity, the appropriateness of this Roman Salute. Prince and peasant, Dignitaries of the Church, Ministers of the Crown, and the humblest workers, hospital patients, and little children, all used the Salute—a gesture about which there is no touch of patronage or servility, but a courteous recognition by one human being of another, of his right as a worker with brain or hands — for Italy of to-day has no place for drones — to a self-respecting position in the body politic.

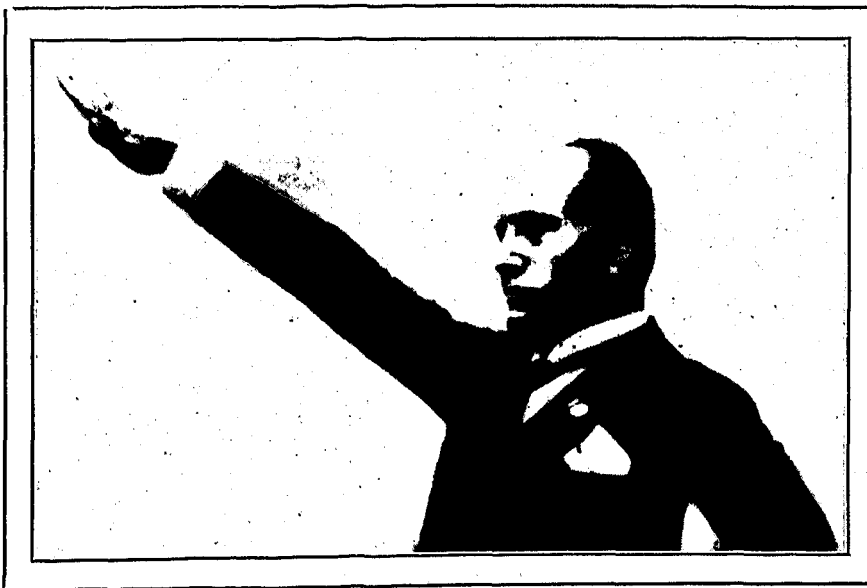
British Nurses who recently visited Rome, have been privileged indeed to see and hear the dominating genius, single-minded statesman, untiring worker, and idealist, known to the world as Mussolini, who has proved himself a leader of men, of constructive ability, insight, and imagination. His sole object is the welfare of his country, and its attainment through the unification of all the forces of the nation—firm in the belief that when perfect order exists in the institutions of the State the individuals of which the nation is composed are prosperous, respected, and contented. For this reason party politics, with their tendency to give party protection and advantage to the social class in power, have no attraction for him, and he made clear his social and political ideal after the general election in 1924, when he said to the assembled Mayors of the

Italian towns: "Let all political parties disappear, even our own party, if necessary, in order that our country may be great."

It is one of the tenets of the new electoral law that "the economical and political unity of the nation is incompatible with the continuance of party politics; these tend to disintegrate the national unity by causing friction between social classes." Also, that "quality can in no way cede its dominion to quantity without running the grave risk of retarding the progress of the nation."

In accordance with these principles there is in Italy now one party only, the Regime — one electoral constituency, the Nation — one qualification for the right to vote, Work.

He reveals himself to us in a contemporary in the trait to which he adheres as his life's dedication: "That once a man sets up to be the expounder of an ideal or new school of thought, he must consistently, day by day, live and fight battles for those doctrines which he teaches—at any cost until victory is won—to the end." Such idealists are the salt of the earth.



S.E. BENITO MUSSOLINI, GIVING THE ROMAN SALUTE.

With one of his aspirations in his early days we are in special sympathy: "I needed a daily paper. I hungered for one. I gathered together a few of my political friends who had followed me in the last hard struggle, and we held a council of war. . . ." Thus was founded *Popolo d'Italia*, of which Signor Mussolini writes:—"It was the instrument which made me."

Full well do we know the supreme importance of an independent voice in the press if a cause is to be consummated, and the personal and financial sacrifices it entails.

Ave! Benito Mussolini. We salute you—warrior, idealist, statesman, saviour of your country.

We thank God for your example.

ETHEL G. FENWICK.

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