The Kingdom of Italy: Unity or Disparity, 1861-1945

Part IVa: The Giolitti Era
1900-1914
MADAMA BUTTERFLY
TRAGEDIA GIAPPONESE
MUSICA DI GIACOMO PUCCINI
G. RICORDI & C. EDITORI
War is the highest form of modern art.

Filippo Tommaso Marinetti

Spaghetti is no food for fighters.

Filippo Tommaso Marinetti
Government Economic Policies

• Ending tariff war with France
• Creation of a central bank
• 1899-1910 longest continuous stretch of balanced budgets
• Stimulus to industry
• Land reclamation and irrigation projects
• Continued protective tariff on wheat and creation of tariff on sugar beets
Some numbers

• 1899-1910 industrial production almost doubled

• Investment as percentage of national income rose
  • 1896-1900 3.5%
  • 1901-1905 6.7%
  • 1906-1910 10.2 %

• Foreign trade grew
  • 1890 2 billion lire
  • 1900 3 billion lire
  • 1910 6 billion lire
Energy mix for electric power production, 1883-2014.
Between 1901 and 1914, industrial workers’ wages rose 26%, compared to a national overall wage increase of 17%.
“Special laws”

• Enacted for Sardinia in 1897 and extended to rest of the South in 1906

• Provided help for reforestation and irrigation; land reclamation; combat malaria
• Despite the “Special Laws” and other reforms, in 1900 the Southern illiteracy rate was about 60 percent. In Sicily, that number approached 80 percent.

• 90% of Sicilian conscripts were medically unfit to serve.
Émigrés per year

• 1876 approximately 100,000

• 1901 approximately 500,000

• 1913 872,000

1914 5-6 million Italians abroad; 35 million in Italy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prime Minister</th>
<th>Dates in Office</th>
<th>Party/Parliament</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Giuseppe Saracco Piedmont</td>
<td>24 June 1900 15 February 1901</td>
<td>Left-Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giuseppe Zanardelli Lombardy</td>
<td>15 February 1901 3 November 1903</td>
<td>Left-Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giovanni Giolitti Piedmont</td>
<td>3 November 1903 12 March 1905</td>
<td>Left-Right (with PSI's external support)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommaso Tittoni Lazio (Rome)</td>
<td>12 March 1905 28 March 1905</td>
<td>Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giovanni Giolitti</td>
<td>27 March 1905 24 December 1905</td>
<td>Left-Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alessandro Fortis Romagna</td>
<td>24 December 1905 8 February 1906</td>
<td>Left (with Right’s external support)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidney Sonnino Tuscany</td>
<td>8 February 1906 29 May 1906</td>
<td>Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidney Sonnino Tuscany</td>
<td>29 May 1906</td>
<td>Left-Right-Radicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonnino</td>
<td>29 May 1906 11 December 1909</td>
<td>Left-Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luigi Luzzati Veneto</td>
<td>11 December 1909 31 March 1910</td>
<td>Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luigi Luzzati Veneto</td>
<td>31 March 1910 30 March 1911</td>
<td>Right-Right-Radicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giolitti</td>
<td>31 March 1910 30 March 1911</td>
<td>Right-Right-Radicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giolitti</td>
<td>30 March 1911 21 March 1914</td>
<td>Liberal Union UL-PR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IL MINISTRO
DELLA MALA VITA

QUADERNI DELLA VOCE, 30 LUGLIO 1919, N. 34
"LA VOCE", SOC. AN. ED. — ROMA, TRINITÀ DEI MONTI, 18
giolittismo

• caratterizzato da una politica liberale e di riforme sociali
• con intonazione polemica, i sistemi su cui si reggeva la politica di Giolitti, ritenuti opportunistic e poco scrupolosi.

Trecanni
L’ultimo ritratto dell’onorevole Giolitti.

Come si vede, è fatto per tutti i gusti.
L'on. Giolitti fra il Bacchetta socialista e il Pollo clericale

Questo o quello per me pari sono !!!!
— Malgrado io, mio simpatia per la democrazia, lo rimarrò sempre un buon conservatore...

— Sono un democratico sincero, radicale, repubblicano, socialista, anarchico, malgrado il mio vivo attaccamento per i conservatori...
Skills and mechanisms for remaining in power

• Political savvy

• Opportunism

• Corruption
Savvy

• Anticipated the weakening of majorities

• Anticipated the issues that would generate significant criticism

• Recognized developing desires and growing demands within the population

In all these cases he took the action most likely to keep him in power or to return him to power quickly.
LEFT

Anarchists

Syndicalists

Revolutionary Socialists

Reformists

Socialists

Liberals

Moderate

Nationalists

... Storico

Conservative Catholics

RIGHT

Nationalists

Conservative Catholics

Sinistro

Storico

Sino

Destro

Storico

Socialists

Republicans
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEFT</th>
<th>CENTER</th>
<th>RIGHT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anarchists</td>
<td>Liberals</td>
<td>Moderate Catholics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syndicalists</td>
<td>Reformist</td>
<td>Nationalists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolutionary Socialists</td>
<td>Sinistro Storico</td>
<td>Conservative Catholics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socialists</td>
<td>Radicals</td>
<td>Storico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
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Socialist factions

Reformists uphold democracy and support the government to enact reforms for the working classes.

Revolutionaries obstruct and work against the bourgeois government to bring about its collapse and create a socialist state.

Syndicalists believe in escalating violence and strikes culminating in a “mystical” general strike that destroys all traditional systems.
Reforms influenced by Reformist Socialists

• Level the playing field in labor disputes
• Supported realistic labor demands for wages, hours, working conditions
• Legalized union organizations and strikes
• Enacted legislation providing for old-age, sickness and accident insurance
• Enacted legislation protecting women and children in the workplace
• Enacted legislation protecting workers in hazardous occupations
• Gave aid to malaria and pellagra stricken areas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Giovanni Giolitti</th>
<th>Filippo Turati</th>
<th>Tommaso Tittoni</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Party</td>
<td>Historical Left</td>
<td>Socialist Party</td>
<td>Historical Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seats won</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seat change</td>
<td>43 ↑</td>
<td>4 ↓</td>
<td>40 ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular vote</td>
<td>777,345</td>
<td>326,016</td>
<td>212,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>50.9%</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Unione Elettorale Cattolica Italiana (UECI)
Extension of suffrage 1911-12

- All literate male Italians over the age of 21
- Illiterate males who have reached the age of 30
- All males who had served in the army or navy even if not yet 21

Increased number of those eligible to vote from less than 3,000,000 to 860,000
Credero education reform

• More funding from national government

• Better enforcement of “compulsory” education

• Administration of schools moved from the comuni to the province (prefects and councils)
L'ultima vittoria, la guarnigione turca di Rodi, sconfitta con rilevanti perdite, si arrende e consegna le armi al gen. Ameglio.

Disegno di A. Molinari.
Socialist factions

Reformists uphold democracy and support the government to enact reforms for the working classes.

Revolutionaries obstruct and work against the bourgeois government to bring about its collapse and create a socialist state. They became more violent under demagogic leadership after 1912.

Syndicalists believed in escalating violence and strikes, culminating in a "mystical" general strike that destroys all traditional systems.

Leonida Bissolati
Benito Mussolini
Arturo Labriola
Gentiloni Pact

Catholics would be urged by the RCC to vote for Liberals facing opposition in their constituencies if those liberals had signed a pledge to support the Cath position on issues relating to Catholic education (its parochial schools), on religious instruction in state schools, and on divorce.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Giovanni Giolitti</th>
<th>Costantino Lazzari</th>
<th>Ettore Sacchi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Party</td>
<td>Liberal Union</td>
<td>Socialist Party</td>
<td>Radical Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seats won</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seat change</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular vote</td>
<td>2,387,947</td>
<td>883,409</td>
<td>522,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swing</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>