

three making up the CGIL-CISL-UIL federation, has already compiled for Visentini long lists of names and addresses of "tax evaders" identified by his "hounds," as the press calls them. It is thanks to the trade-union propaganda that many normal citizens in Italy really believe that Visentini will finally "force the rich to pay taxes," and delude themselves that their own incomes will thus be spared further cuts.

Tax-collection to enrich Olivetti?

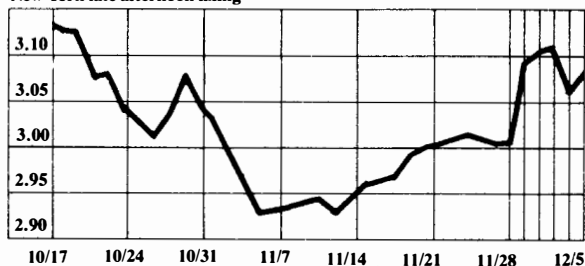
When they praise his "just" fiscal plan, the newspapers and the Communist leaders inevitably fail to report that Visentini is not at all "above all parties," and that he, still heavily involved in Olivetti's business, is guilty of serving "private interests in public office." Visentini's plan in fact forces all shops and self-employed workers to buy expensive cash-registers which would allow the revenue services to check their income and tax almost 40% of it. The idea of the cash registers was discussed by Visentini and De Benedetti when the former was still president of Olivetti and the latter managing director. Then Visentini just happened to accept the post of finance minister in the Craxi government, even though it was not the "technocratic government" he wanted, and immediately presented his tax package, which will enrich Olivetti if only by the forced buying of at least one-million cash registers by the shops. But where will the three-billion liras collected by Visentini by taxing 40% of all self-employed incomes go? Certainly not to pay back the wage-cuts of the workers, who were duped to believe that all their troubles were due to the privileges of the shopkeepers and the middle class. Officially they will go to pay back Italy's debt, which was transformed into treasury bonds, more than half of which are property of big companies such as Olivetti, FIAT, Pirelli, and so on. Once again Olivetti will earn plenty, thanks to this "honest gentleman above all parties."

Bruno Visentini hates Italian blue collar workers as much as he hates the self-employed. For him, the war between different categories of workers launched by the trade unions is only a means to destroy both. His "philosophy" is his dream of a technetronic post-industrial society, in which goods-producing factories are shut down, in which the large networks of small shops emanating an aura of prosperity in the streets of Italy are closed and only the "sunrise industries," computers and telecommunications, of his friend De Benedetti grow. Not by chance, the Cini Foundation just organized a conference on the "conversion" of the Italian economy from heavy industry to computers and telecommunications. Visentini hopes to soon see all Italy looking like oligarchical Venice in the 16th century: rich thanks to usurious banking and slave-trading, and full of spies who, like the "bravos" who targeted their victims by writing the name on a piece of paper and throwing it into the mouth of a stone lion in St. Mark's Square, will denounce their neighbors or even their relatives to the public treasury in the hope of being spared themselves.

Currency Rates

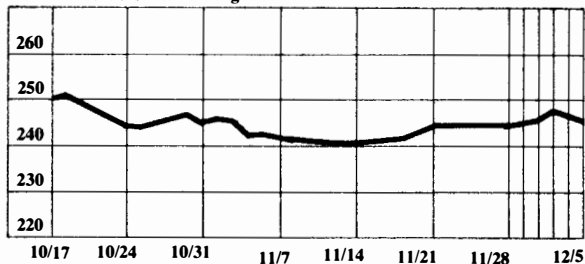
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



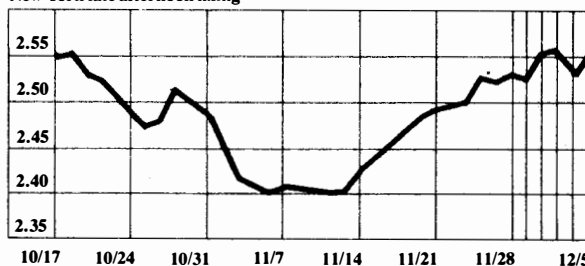
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing

