

I started out bright & early -
saw some wonderful book store -
Sunday The Spanish Steps were ablaze with
Azaleas & people. Walked up & to
the left along Viale del Museo Toros & walk
& walked to just the Borghese gardens &
stopped - too tired - a nice garden with
coffee shop - under trees - flowers. Then
retraced my steps & found Via Vittorio
Veneto, most important, Am. Embassy, U.S.
& all the shops & cafe with tables on
side walks where every body goes to see
& be seen. I walked up one side
& down the other. (This I did yesterday)
Today I walked to St Peter's. A high
mass was being sung in one of the side
chapels, beautiful music. Then the Pope
at 12 noon, appeared at his window &
said a few words & gave a blessing.
All this I just chanced upon. Then
walked up the winding road at
the risk of being killed at every turn
by these wild drivers, to the Gianicolo.
It is a wonderful time of the year to
be here, everything is so green, locust
trees in bloom. Priests every where in
black, in Red, in black & white sashes

* Dominicans in Black & white. Many many Germans & Groups of boys accompanied by priest or girls in uniforms with nuns. I felt very strange in Naples but not in Rome.

Waiting for dinner which is at 8 o'clock. Storm brewing, dark clouds. Glad I had planned to stay into night & rest after my walking tour. I can't understand how these girls can walk with their spiked heels. There! thunder & lightning! Have had to eat dinner ^{and} for 2 days, don't know how much it will be, but as I have only spent about 1.00 a day for breakfast & lunch I think it will equalize its self. To-day had coffee & small beer for breakfast, orange in room. Tea & cake in Gianicolo gardens & tea at the English tea room Babington Babington at the foot of Spanish Stairs. Returned foot-worn & weary.

Tuesday - Bright & early I searched the institute. No the professors were not in yet - Not till 10:30 or 11:30. 20 books went to Am. Express, letter

from Grandini. Cashed money order.
Then Back to Istituto. Met the Prof.
Muzzioli, charming, small man
with glasses. He had his secretary
hand me to a young man who in
turn introduced me to Signora
Manganelli, who explained the
work done at the Istituto & showed
me specimens of pages partially burnt
& how now they use plastic to laminate
it so that you can hardly see the
difference. She then called an
other woman Signora Menna who
took me all around & introduced
me to all the workers. I must have
a letter from U.S. to the Minister
of Foreign Affairs so will call Mr
Brow up to - morrow. Then started
out looking for cheaper lodging
Not an easy task. Went to American
Friends - they gave me list. Miss
Wood is director. If M.C.A. seems best price
then to Red Lion Bookshop, owner
Miss Mackenzie is owner, friend of Mrs
Benton of S.R. & she recommend a person
run by a Hungarian woman. Bought
Eng-Italian dictionary & will have

it with me so that if I don't understand
was is explained will look it up.

Wednesday

It was pouring when I got up but
took train to station to get luggage.
As I have decided to stay at the
Pensione della Legazione at Via Barberis 11.
It clean if cold & I have my own
bath room where I can do my washing
and have water to make coffee etc. This
is costing 2000 lire a day - 3.20 But
unless I find a place with a private
family where I can have Kitchen & Bath
privileges its by far the best I've seen.

There is no heat of course. That
extra. After April 1st its shut off.
because this is spring! But every
one is freezing and wearing winter
overcoats & complaining about the
cold. Its also raining a great deal more
than usual. It has rained some
part of five days out of the seven that
I have been here.

Thursday I went bright & early
to the Institute as I had been told
that the worked from 8 to 2 o'clock.

No one was around. The Caretaker

said yes they opened at 8 but at ten
no one comes. So I wandered about
the garden for a bit, then down the
street for a cappuccino & also a yogurt
which I found, was I glad, the first
I have had since leaving N.Y.

It's a little more liquid than what
we have in U.S. Then I wandered
back it was about 9:30 by then. So
every one wanders in. I was given
an old manuscript to work on &
after that was washed & drying an
old book to rip apart. The second
day I took my time & didn't get there
until 9:45 & every one was there so
from now on I'll be a little
bit earlier. Have found that Mr.

Brown has sent me a copy of a
letter the Minister of Foreign Affairs
sent him granting me the privilege
of studying here. There are two
young women, Greek & Turkish & a Prof.
from Portugal. A month has been
mentioned as the length I may stay.
Well wait & see.

I have found a grocery store that
has a few tables & serves hot meals

and for 250 L. - .40 I can get a plate of hot soup, a vegetable & a ~~1/2~~ liter of wine. Not bad. I make my own coffee in morning & have an orange then some cheese & a slice - bread which I buy an easy way home from trattoria. And hot meal at night. Will vary this if it gets too boring but this way I can save on the rent.

Saturday - I'm sitting on some stone steps over looking the the old Roman Forum in front of these steps upon which I am sitting, trying to warm up in the sun, is the end of an old roman road paved with large flat stones. There aren't too many strangers yet altho I'm told the tourist season has started. To-morrow early I will get down to the forum & wander thru that. Will treat my self to a good dinner too. It will be May 1st. If Hirsch took me to lunch Thursday & a spin in his car, English make a Morgan. Something like Penno's M.G. But rides better & is wilder. He drives like an Italian - which is

The institute was blessed by the priest to-day! He hadn't had time to do it since Easter.

wild! If I am not run down before I leave I'll be surprised. I'll have every afternoon to do sight seeing altho museum do not open until 3:30 but there is so much to see with out going into buildings. It's Raining again.

Sunday - May 1st

was out by 7:15 so that I could get to the Forum before all the busses & their guides & loads of passengers. It was a beautiful, cold morning a few clouds & hardly any people as I walked to Piazza Venezia to start my one person tour. Found everything is closed to-day May 1st - no street cars - no auto busses only the out of country tours are about & of course private cars etc. So I walked around it & to the Colosseum & the remains of the Baths of Trajan which is a park then to San Giovanni in Laterano thru the Porta S. Giovanni. It was raining by now, not very hard, as I was coming out of San Giovanni church I saw many red banners & hats & people with little paper badges indication

Many in uniform in groups of 15 + 20. The ones that wear light blue trousers & dark blue jacket & carry pistols.

party, with hammers & sickle. It was a well behaved crowd. Some one was speaking, then chree & then a song on loud speaker - Then they all disbursed. Tried to find my way to the river but was too far away, finally landed at Santa Maria Maggiore. This is also the beginning of a month long celebration in honor of Mary. So all the churches are decorated with white flowers. I went into 5 churches to-day before getting back to the hotel at 1:15 dead tired. Churches are the only thing opened to-day.

To go to the Istituto I go down Via Barberini past the fountain in Piazza of the same name, which is Neptune drinking out of a conch shell. He is sitting on the rings of an open shell. It is By Bernini. Then up the hill of Via Quattro Fontane to the Via del ~~Trionfo~~ Trionfale. To Traforo then down the steps on each side of the tunnel, and am now on Via Milano cross Via Nazionale & there at the end of Milano is 76 at Via Panisperna.

I called Miss Keene, friend of Mrs

Benton & stopped in to see Signora
Tamassi but she was ill, will
call me, also a friend of Mrs Benton
will have dinner at Pensione, being
Sunday, must celebrate. Am
studying my Italian while I rest
my feet, a lump above the arch
& below the ankle, is very noticeable
on right foot. The same place
I had phlebitis a few years ago.
Hope I won't have trouble! Found
a little buttercup to day & a sprig of
honeysuckle. I didn't eat at the
hotel after all the kitchen was not
working or something so went across
the street & had minestrone & pizza
& beer at a stand up counter 230 l.
not so fancy but cheaper than the
restaurant at pensione.

May 3 Monday

To Istituto until 10 o'clock then back to
room, ate lunch biscotti Salame &
recotta- coffee. About 150 l, this will
be the procedure from now on. In the
morning 2 cups coffee, orange & 2 Vitamin C.
Dinner will be in some restaurant
It was nice to day but very cold

I was frozen there then by 10 o'clock.
Looked for & found the Trevi fountain
very spectacular but full of people.
An elderly couple sitting on one side
of me, on the top rim, Americans on the
other side an older German couple. The
Am. were Jewish & from N.Y. He started
talking to me & to ~~an~~ an official vendor
who was also Jewish. Had been in
concentration camps. Showed us his
numb, tattooed arm, his star of
David medal that had belonged to his
mother. His whole family had been
destroyed. He was the only one of 5000
who is saved. Was an engineer but
could only sell cords. Nice looking
blond chap. Must look him up &
ask more questions. Where he come
from. The N.Y. gentleman told be about
the wonderful Synagogue they have in
Rome. Will try to go. See it on Friday
night. To morrow will try once more
to find cheaper lodgings as I got
my bill to night 16,600 L for 1 week &
room, 2 dinners, 2 breakfast & 2 phone calls
too much. Everyone very agitated
about Chessman Headlines