of the organization, it foreshadows the fact that the Famee Furlane would later on survive the war-time disintegration which destroyed many other Italian community organizations, and was later able to grow with the arrival of a large number of Friulian immigrants in the 1950s.

What makes this volume especially appealing is its effective synthesis of information taken from a wide range of sources, from relevant newspaper articles to original interviews with community protagonists and their relatives and friends, hence providing a sense of how the same events were perceived by different onlookers. More detached and "official" accounts characterizing articles published in Canadian mainstream newspapers are counterpoised with personal anecdotes recounted by members of the community. At the beginning of the book we are introduced to the associational life in the Italian colony according to a socio-historical approach, and later we become familiar with the lives of the association's leaders and organizers, as well as of past members who gave a significant contribution to several social and recreational initiatives undertaken by the Famee. The combination of the informal accounts with the more formal ones into one single narration testifies how, "era quell'aspetto di vita sana, semplice e faticosa che accumulava i friulani ai siciliani, e gli uni e gli altri ai calabresi, ai toscani, agli abruzzesi, ai campani, ai piemontesi, ecc. Era questa dimensione di vita provinciale o, meglio, pre-industriale, che accumulava gli emigranti delle diverse regioni d'Italia, come rami dello stesso tronco. Negli anni trenta, la Famee Furlane [...] col suo sviluppo organizzativo e le sue attività socio-culturali in senso strettamente regionale riuscì meglio di quelle organizzazioni che ostentavano l'italianità a conservare viva la cultura dell'Italia reale: contadina e operaia, laboriosa e onesta" (45-46).

The origins of the Famee Furlane are represented by the strong-willed, determined people who started it, individuals who laid the foundations of communal life for the Friulians and set the mould for future endeavours by following generations of Canadians of Friulian origin.

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Patricia Bianchi, Nicola De Blasi and Rita Librandi. *Storia della lingua a Napoli e in Campania. I' te vurria parlà*. Napoli: Tullio Pironti, 1995. Pp. 402.

I' te vurria parlà, which is dedicated to Francesco Bruni, constitutes an invaluable contribution to the history of Italian and to the linguistic history of Campania. The book consists of two main components: the first half (15-210), comprising seven chapters, examines the rise of Italian and attitudes towards it in Naples and in Campania from the Middle Ages to the present;¹ the second half of the book (211-343) is a substantial textual anthology, presented in chronological order, containing twenty-nine texts or excerpts of texts discussed in the preceding historical analysis. As stated on p. 6, each of the authors is responsible for different parts of the book: P. Bianchi wrote chapters 6 and 7, and edited texts 22-29 of the anthology; N. De Blasi wrote the

"Premessa," chapters 1-4 and edited texts 1-14; R. Librandi wrote chapter 5 and edited texts 15-21.

What renders the historical analysis a remarkable study is the pluralistic approach that informs it and the variety of texts, on which the investigation is based. Many of these have not received prior scholarly attention. The vicissitudes of Tuscan in the region are examined in light of historical, political and social factors, and in relation to the history of the local vernacular. As the authors state in the "Presentazione" (7), certain themes recur in the historical presentation: "la storia della scuola e dell'istruzione, la riflessione dei grammatici e dei lessicografi, i linguaggi settoriali, l'italiano dei semicolti, la lingua dei letterati." Another recurrent topic in the historical analysis is the discussion of lexical borrowings in each era of Campania's history.

In the "Premessa" De Blasi provides a brief linguistic introduction to Campania, and discusses the predominant features of the varieties of speech in the region, particularly Neapolitan.

Chapter 1 presents a succinct overview of medieval Campania, tracing the ethno-linguistic history of the region – Greek, Roman-Byzantine, Lombard, Norman, Swabian – from the 6th to the 11th centuries. The chapter concludes with an examination of the socio-historical significance of the Salernitan Medical School and of the foundation of Naples' Studio Universitario by Frederick II in 1224.

Chapter 2 examines language in Campania during the Angevin era, providing evidence of the prestige of French and Provençal, the influence of Latin, the influence of Tuscan and the negative attitudes towards the local vernacular. A tendency towards Tuscanisation can be perceived in poetic works in vernacular; there is less Tuscan influence in medico-scientific texts and in the language of the chancellery. In the latter case, it is suggested that this is attributable to ties with Sicilian chancelleries, where the vernacular was regularly used (44). De Blasi considers several vernacular texts from this period within this context: Boccaccio's *Epistola napoletana*, translations in vernacular of the *De Balneis puteolanis*, the *Regimen sanitatis*, and the *Historia destructionis Troiae*.

Chapter 3 traces the numerous factors throughout the Aragonese period which led to the rise of Tuscan as a linguistic model: the presence of Florentine bankers in the area; the increased economic activity which promoted linguistic contact; the making of Naples a noteworthy cultural centre thanks to the efforts of Alfonso I (the Magnanimous); the diffusion of printed editions. In the literary production of the last quarter of the 15th century a definite trend towards Tuscanisation is perceptible; and by the third decade of the 16th century, Tuscan has clearly been adopted as a literary model. Ample space is dedicated to a discussion of non-literary texts: in Court documents the languages used are Latin, Catalan and the local vernacular, the latter being used primarily in texts with a broad public circulation. Neapolitan is also found in historical prose works such as Loise de Rosa's *Ricordi* and Ferraio's *Cronaca*.

Chapter 4 considers the further diffusion of Tuscan in the region in the era of the Spanish Viceroyalty; the spread of Tuscan is examined in relation to the emergence of, and the perceived emergence of, two distinct Neapolitan registers – a more refined, prestigious variety associated with the upper classes and a rustic variety associated with the lower classes; the bilingualism – Tuscan/Neapolitan – of the learned members of society, particularly of members of the literary society; the role played by the printing industry in Campania; the involvement of the church (after the Council of

Trent and through the foundation of seminaries) in pedagogy and literacy; the competition between Latin and Neapolitan in non-literary sectors of society.

Certain observations that emerge from chapter 4 merit particular attention. De Blasi emphasises that the golden era of Neapolitan literature, the 17th century (with writers such as Basile and Cortese), appears to have risen polemically against the use of Tuscan for literary purposes. Paradoxically, this literature was produced by writers who were clearly bilingual and well-versed in Tuscan, for a readership that did not necessarily speak Neapolitan. In addition, De Blasi attributes the definitive spread of Tuscan in the latter half of the 17th century to the influence of the views of Leonardo Di Capua and his followers (which are discussed in detail in the subsequent chapter) and to the printing industry in Campania. A study of Neapolitan editions from the 17th century shows the prevalence of Tuscan editions over Latin editions.

Chapter 5 examines the various cultural movements which together contributed to a "tendenza al rinnovamento" (117) of the Italian used in the region in the 18th century, despite the adherence, in the earlier part of the century, to the seemingly contradictory archaising and puristic views of Di Capua and his followers. Librandi presents considerable evidence, including internal evidence from Di Capua's works, to show that, overall, the century is characterized by a linguistic movement towards "la sprovincializzazione e la costituzione di una lingua e di una cultura sovraregionali" (117). To this end the chapter focusses on three areas of investigation: 1) the linguistic observations and linguistic position of Di Capua, Vico and Nicolò Amenta; 2) the changing teaching methodologies and 18th-century grammars, both grammatical treatises and their relation to the principles espoused by Port Royal grammarians in the previous century, and the emergence of didactic grammars, whose purpose, for the first time, was the teaching and learning of Italian (since, by the last quarter of the century, Italian was an official subject taught in schools); 3) the language of the principal representatives of the Neapolitan Enlightenment in the area of economic theory, Genovesi and Galiani. Librandi also includes observations on women and the educational system, and examines the role played by religious orders in the teaching of Italian through catechism. Finally, the author considers periodicals from the century, and the efforts of publishers to reach a broader readership and to deal with dialect speakers.

One of the main topics in Chapter 6, which deals with the Italian in Campania in the 19th century, is the influence of the novel as a genre, particularly Manzoni's *Promessi sposi*, whose language Francesco D'Ovidio proposed as a model to emulate. In the area of Italian within the educational system, Bianchi emphasizes the influence of Basilio Puoti and the *scuola puotiana*, and the growing trend towards translation from the dialect to Italian, to which the emergence and popularity of nomenclature dictionaries attest. Several pages within the chapter (172-86) are dedicated to an analysis of the thematic and linguistic content of newspapers and periodicals from the era. The chapter concludes with an examination of the formal, thematic and linguistic aspects of the Italian works of Neapolitan writers of the century, in particular of Matilde Serao's brand of *verismo*.

The seventh chapter of the historical analysis examines aspects of the Italian spoken in Campania today and considers the types of regional varieties that exist, presenting several phonological, morphological and lexical characteristics. An analysis of these phenomena is carried out by examining the "errors" found in the written dis-

course of middle-school children, contained in two unpublished booklets. The final chapter closes with a brief discussion of current attitudes towards Italian and the dialect in Campania.

The anthology which follows the historical discussion is extremely well done. Each text is prefaced by a succinct historical and bibliographic introduction, and is followed by a detailed linguistic commentary. The anthology reflects the main texts considered for the analysis presented earlier, and contains both texts or excerpts of texts that are well known to those familiar with the history of Italian and with the history of Neapolitan, and those that are lesser known or unknown. The anthology is followed by an extensive bibliography (345-82), a select but useful "Indice lessicale" (383-90) with references to both components of the work, and a "Glossario dei termini linguistici" (391-97) aimed at facilitating the reading of the book by non-specialists. What further facilitates the reading of this book by non-specialists is the translation in Italian (in both parts of the book) of passages containing Latin or Neapolitan.

The work is a valuable contribution to the history of language in Naples and in Campania, a field of study which has not received sufficient scholarly attention, despite the region's rich literary and linguistic history. *I' te vurria parlà* is useful both to specialists and non-specialists: for the specialist it provides an analysis of familiar and unfamiliar texts within a broad socio-cultural and socio-historical context; for the non-specialist it provides a clear, insightful and organic presentation of the history of Italian within Campania, and of the complex network of factors – sociological, political, literary, religious – which contribute to the linguistic formation of a given geographical area and which must be unravelled in order to comprehend that area's linguistic history.

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NOTE

- 1 A minor portion (about twenty paragraphs) of this section of the book is based on pp. 629-84 of the volume *L'italiano nelle regioni*, Ed. F. Bruni, Torino: Utet, 1992 (6).

Mario & Mario. Annuario di critica letteraria italiana e comparata. 1995. Diretto da Armando Gnisci e Rocco Paternostro. Roma: Bulzoni, 1996. Pp. 154.

Nell'iniziativa *Mario & Mario* si commemorano l'editore Mario Bulzoni e l'insigne critico-metodologo e membro dell'Accademia dei Lincei Mario Costanzo, premiando con la pubblicazione i primi lavori di giovani studiosi italiani e stranieri i cui saggi vertono obbligatoriamente – secondo il regolamento del relativo concorso – sulla letteratura italiana o sulla letteratura italiana comparata. I «due Marii», come amavano chiamarsi, editore e docente "sempre amorosamente attenti e attivi verso i giovani", sono scomparsi nel 1993 a pochi mesi di distanza l'uno dall'altro. Ora, in questa prima edizione dell'annuario, appaiono i migliori saggi rimessi al vaglio di una Giuria