"A prosperous and godly house."

into pounds at the pre-war rate (roughly, 100 lire=£1 sterling).

The ten Arruaga farms total something like 4,500 acres, of which the Masseria San Cataldo accounts for 940. It is given over to olive production and carries 12,000 trees. The olive is cropped every two years, and a good tree will yield 8 cwt. to 10 cwt. of fruit worth, in normal times, 100 lire (say, £1 sterling) per hundredweight. I calculated that, if an average tree produced 4 cwt. per harvest, this would give an annual production of 24,000 cwt. of olives for the whole farm, which represents a gross income of £24,000. What of production costs? First, labour. The nine workmen with their 600 lire per month (actually, they will have received less before the war) represents a charge of 65,000 lire, or £650 per year. Then there are the olive-pickers. In a normal year about 150 girls are employed for 100 days at 10 lire per day. Total : £1,500. With the salaries of *fattore* and *amminis-tratore*, even reckoning these as a charge

upon this single farm, and not distributed over the several farms with which they are concerned, the annual wages bill would not be more than £3,500 to £4,000 in all. I found it harder to get information on cost of fertilizers and wear-and-tear on equipment and farm installations, but I reckoned they would not come to more than a couple of thousand pounds a year. I should say the Marquis would be unlucky if he did not clear £15,000 a year from this one farm. I should put the correct figure at nearer £20,000

The Masseria produces other things than olives. It grows enough grain to feed the labourers and the farm animals. There are about twenty cows which are kept mainly for manure, but which also produce a certain quantity of milk for the Taranto market. There is a large kitchen garden and an orchard.

The peasants who work the farm are all miserably poor and all, except Giovanni, illiterate. I don't know if before we came they were discontented with their share in the stuff they pro-

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