

A Tribute to Tulipani

Monday, May 26, 1980 will be more than Memorial Day in Ridgefield. It will be Julius Tulipani Day by proclamation of the Board of Selectmen.

And Mr. Tulipani, himself a former selectman, will not only take part in the Memorial Day parade in the morning but he will also be the guest of honor at the Italian Travel Club dinner in the evening at Italian-American Hall on Prospect Street.

In his proclamation on behalf of the selectmen, First Selectman Louis J. Fossi declared that "the strength of a country and each of its hamlets lies in the hearts and minds of its people" and he praised the loyalty, devotion, talent and courage of Mr. Tulipani, an immigrant who "led others as a true pioneer particularly within the Italian community, to become a leader in the economic, social, patriotic and political life of this town."

Mr. Fossi noted that Mr. Tulipani was president of the Italian-American Mutual Aid Society for 25 years, a

director of the Boys' Club, and commander for many years of the American Legion, in addition to his selectmanship and many more positions of responsibility."

Judge Romeo G. Petroni is head and creator of the Italian Travel Club which, in addition to Monday's dinner, is sponsoring the much talked-of trip to Italy buy up to 100 Ridgefielders from Sept. 24 to Oct. 8. The dinner, in fact, will be something of a pep rally for the expedition abroad, an occasion to discuss the details and to perfect the plans. There will be some speeches and some presentations, too. Mr. Tulipani will be 90 years old on July 5.

Assisting Mr. Petroni in planning Monday's dinner are Bruno Francheschini, Gene Lavatori, Albert Gaeta, and Luciano Bedini, and a host of volunteer workers. The dinner will be served at 5:30 and at 7:30 with a traditional Italian menu. Aldo Tulipani, nephew of Julius, will provide accordion music during the

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** Aldo is the accordion player on the group trip*



TULIPANI BROTHERS about 1925. Julius, standing, the late Vincent, seated. Photo by Hartmann in his studio in the Bedient Block.

Mr. Tulipani

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evening.

For the trip abroad the travel club has chartered a special Pan-American Boeing 747 with a seating capacity of 387 of which 100 have been reserved for Ridgefielders. At last count 86 people have signed up to take this trip. Capt. Robert Lewis of Peaceable Ridge and Captain Gordon E. Plummer Jr., of Lantern Drive have both request assignment as pilots for the flight. The plane will leave Kennedy on Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. and eight hours later will arrive in Rome at 9 p.m. (That's 3 a.m. Eastern Time.)

For the next 14 days, there will be bus trips throughout Italy, including overnight stops in Rome, Florence, and Venice. The nine-day tour of northern Italy will end in Senegallia and there and in Monterado the travelers will visit relatives and a giant reunion on Oct 3 is being planned. Many Ridgefield Italian families came from that part of Italy.

More than half of the travelers will return home on Oct. 8, leaving Rome at 10:25 a.m. and arriving at Kennedy at 2:30 p.m.



JULIUS TULIPANI

More than 30 of the travelers will remain in Italy for more trips and sightseeing and relative-visiting after the bulk of the group returns to Ridgefield.

Good gold doesn't talk to bad gold.—M.W.