

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SOCIETY FOR 1950-51

The main activities of the Malta Historical Society during the years 1951 and 1952 were directed along the lines of policy established by the Committee. These are here dealt with under separate headings:

CARD-INDEX. At its first meeting the Committee decided on the compilation of a card-index of *Melitensia*. This index is to include both published and manuscript sources and its coverage will extend to material existing in foreign archives and libraries. Special attention is being given to the main periodicals containing articles of historical interest, and so far *La Diocesi di Malta*, *Archivum Melitense*, *L'Archivio Storico di Malta* and *The Law Journal* are being indexed. In time the indexing of these periodicals will make it possible for the Society to publish a separate "Subject-Index to Maltese Periodicals", thus providing a badly needed reference tool for research workers.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF ARCHIVES. The Society directed its attention to the existence of parish and private archives and to manuscripts and other documents in private possession. A list of owners of such private documents has been drawn up and a questionnaire has been formulated with a view to carrying out a preliminary survey of existing archive material other than that preserved in Government repositories.

READING OF PAPERS. Five meetings were held at which the following papers were read:

On the 21st February, 1951: Mgr. Professor A. Bonnici, D.D., B.L.Can., read a paper on "What is History?", and Chev. Vincenzo Bonello read another paper on "Il Primo Architetto dell'Ordine a Malta".

On the 26th April, 1951: Lecture by Mr. Lionel H. Butler, M.A., on "The *Università* of Malta in the 15th Century".

On the 6th June, 1951: Paper by Fr. Bonaventura Fiorini, O.M.C., on "Le Relazioni tra l'Ordine Gerosolimitano e i Minori Conventuali di Malta".

On the 26th September, 1951: Lecture by Miss Hilda I. Lee, M.A., on "The Development of the Malta Constitution 1813 - 1849".

On the 4th December, 1951: Lecture by Professor W. Ganado, M.D., M.R.C.P., on "Political Parties in Malta following on the Rising against the French".

PUBLICATIONS. The Society decided to publish a journal, to be called *Melita Historica*, which will appear twice a year if enough material is available. The main trend of the journal will be bibliographical in order to provide guidance to history students. Unpublished source material will figure in the journal, starting with the Report of the Commissioners of 1812 and Mgr. Duzina's Report on his Apostolic Visit in 1575. Occasional monographs on special subjects will also be published if considered necessary.

OTHER ACTIVITIES. During the years under review the Committee agreed (a) to draw up an iconographical index of persons and events of importance in Maltese History, (b) to compile a list of persons and events deserving to be commemorated by a monument, and (c) obtain from the Museum Authorities and from the Registrar of H. M. Superior Courts permission to allow members of the Society free access to local antiquities and to the Court Archives.

CORRESPONDENCE: During the same period correspondence was exchanged with the Director of the British School at Rome with a view to carrying out further excavations on the sites of the Roman Villa at Rabat and at Ghajn Tuffieha. This matter will be discussed with the Director on his next visit to Malta. Government was likewise approached (a) to erect a monument to Grand Master La Valette outside Kingsway (b) to transfer the registers at present kept in the Vittoria Church, Valletta, to the Royal Malta Library, (c) to publish the minutes and proceedings of the Malta National Assembly of 1945 - 46, and (d) to assemble at one place the records of the District Committees set up during the war and to make them freely accessible to students.

FINANCE. The statements of accounts for the two years in question showed a credit balance of £30 - 3 - 0 on the 17th January, 1952.

LIST OF MEMBERS

- Aquilina, Prof. J., B.A., LL.D., Ph.D. (Lond.), 103, St. Francis Street, Floriana.
 Baldacchino, J. G., M.D., F.G.S., 194, Main Street, St. Julian's.
 Bonavia, Carmel, 20, Sacred Heart Street, Zabbar.
 Bonavia, Emanuel, 119T, Main Street, Zabbar.
 Bonnici, Mgr. Prof. Arturo, D.D., B.A., B.L.Can., H.E.L.,
 6, Prince Albert Street, Sliema.
 Bonello, Cav. Vincenzo, 129, Old Bakery Street, Valletta.
 Borg, Rev. Anthony, 18/2, South Street, Valletta.
 Borg, Joseph M., 122, Braret Street, Birkirkara.
 Briffa, Capt. Alfred, 37, Cathedral Street, Sliema.
 Briffa, Rosario, M.D., Block 15, Flat 16, Vincenti Buildings, Valletta.
 Cachia Zammit, A., M.D., 59, St. Catherine Street, Zejtun.
 Callus, Rev. Philip, Lic.D., 77, St. Ursola Street, Valletta.
 Cassar, P., M.D., B.Sc., D.P.M., c/o Hospital for Mental Diseases, Attard.
 Cassar Pullicino, Joseph, A.L.A., 103, St. Francis Street, Floriana.
 Catania, Notary Francesco, 25, Gusman Navarra Street, Rabat.
 Coleiro, Prof. Canon E., D.D., J.C.B., B.A., Ph.D. (Lond.),
 155, Britannia Street, Valletta.
 Cousin, R. J. D., A. & C.E., "Parva Domus", Lapsi Street, St. Julian's.
 Cretien, V., M.D., Villa d'Argens, Cuschieri Street, Gzira.
 Cremona, Anthony, 53, By St. Ubaldesca Street, Pawla.
 Cuthman, Brother, St. Michael's Training College, St. George's Bay.
 Curmi, Giovanni, LL.D., 196, Tower Road, Sliema.
 Degiorgio, Roger G., B. E. & A., A. & C.E., 18, South Street, Valletta.
 Denaro, Victor, 88, Old Mint Street, Valletta.
 Depiro Gourgion, A., LL.D., 2, St. Paul's Square, Notabile.
 Francia, J. B., 44, Ordnance Street, Valletta.
 Galea, G., M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., 29, St. Barbara Bastion, Valletta.
 Galea, Joseph, F.S.A., 305, St. Paul Street, Valletta.
 Galea Testaferrata, The Noble Mario, Mangion Palace, Imdina.
 Ganado, Albert, LL.D., B.A., 8/3, Gunlayer Square, Floriana.
 Ganado, J., B.A., LL.D., Ph.D. (Lond.), Villa Debono, Lija.
 Ganado, Herbert, LL.D., B.A., 5, Philip Sciberras Square, Floriana.
 Ganado, Prof. W., B.Sc., M.D., M.R.C.P. (Lond.),
 103, St. Francis Street, Floriana.
 Gulia, O. J., LL.D., B.A., 291, Main Street, Zebbug.
 Leopardi, E. R., 108, Old College Street, Sliema.
 Mallia, P., LL.D., B.A., 26, Merchants Street, Valletta.
 Manchè, Prof. J., M.D., B.Sc., 24, Dingli Street Sliema.
 Mifsud Montanaro, G., B.A., 10, Balluta Bldgs., St. Julian's.
 Montalto, Jos. A., 11A, Britannia Street, Valletta.

- Muscat Azzopardi, Mro. Anton, 58, Maitland Street, Hamrun.
 Muscat Azzopardi, Ivo, L.P., 64, Grenfell Street, St. Julian's.
 Mizzi, Rev. G., D.D., 3, St. Dominic Square, Rabat.
 Pace, Jos. L., 342, Lower Victoria Terrace, Sliema.
 Pantalleresco, Mgr. Dean Alb. V., D.D., B.L.Can., 44, Spinola Road, St. Julian's.
 Pellegrini, Notary V. M., LL.D., 15, Carmel Street, Valletta.
 Porsella Flores, J., 51, Sacred Heart Street, Pawla.
 Ragonesi, J., LL.D., "Yalu", Dingli Street, Sliema.
 Sammut, E., LL.D., 72, Windsor Terrace, Sliema.
 Sant, Rev. K., B.A., Lic.D., Lic.S.Script., 8, St. Mary's Street, Tarxien.
 Sapiano, Prof. G., Ph.D., S.Th.L., H.E.L., 80, Msida Road, Birkirkara.
 Saydon, Rev. Prof. Mgr. P. P., B.Lit., B.L.Can., D.D., Lic.S.Script.,
 Churchill Square, Zurrieq.
 Serracino Inglott, Erin, 21, Cospicua Street, Cospicua.
 Vella, Rev. A., O.P., St. Dominic's Priory, Valletta.
 Vassallo, E., LL.D., 24, Alexandra Street, Sliema.
 Verzin, Jean M., 11/20, Strait Street, Valletta.
 Vigo, G., 28, Kingsway, Valletta.
 Wettinger, Godfrey, 1, Old Mill Street, Mellicha.
 Wilkinson, Col. R. J. L., c/o Union Club, Valletta.
 Zammit, G., B.A. (Lond.), LL.D., 32, St. Barbara Bastion, Valletta.
 Zarb, Rev. Prof. S., O.P., O.B.E., S.Th.M., S.S.D.,
 c/o St. Dominic's Priory, Valletta.
 Zarb Adami, Godfrey, 18, Christopher Street, Valletta.