

ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY

ENROLMENT OF NEW MEMBERS

- 11th October 1965:** Mr. Frank Attard, V. Rev. Can. V. Borg, D.D., B.A., H.E.D., Dipl. Arch. Christ.
- 24th January 1966:** Rev. Lawrence Gatt, Rev. Fr. Alexander Bonnici, O.F.M. Conv., S.Th.Lic., H.E.L., Ph.B.
- 7th November 1966:** Dr. R.O. Parnis, M.D., F.R.C.S., M.B.E.; Prof Charles L. Tipton, M.A., Ph.D.; Rev. Joseph Busuttill, B.A., Lic.D., Ph.D., (Lond.); Dr. Va'entin Braun; Mr. Joseph C. Sammut, Information Officer.

GENERAL MEETINGS AND READING OF PAPERS

- 21st May 1965:** Sixty-fourth * General Meeting held at the Catholic Institute, Floriana. Mr. L. Schiavone, M.A., Dipl. Ed., delivered a lecture on the subject "Di Alcuni scritti intorno al Grande Assedio del 1565".
- (* In the previous issue of *Malta Historica* it has been erroneously published that the last G.M. was the Seventy-third, which must be corrected.
- 9th November 1965:** Sixty-fifth General Meeting held at the Catholic Institute Floriana. A lecture was delivered by Prof. Chev. J. Galea, M.D., O.B.E. on "The Lazzaretto and the Quarantine Services in Malta".
- 24th January 1936:** Sixty-sixth General Meeting of the Society held at St. Francis Convent, Valletta. The President read the following report:-

"Gentlemen,

We inaugurate, this evening, the 16th year of the Malta Historical Society. As it has been customary and as I have always done in the past, I give a report of the activities of the Society during the past year.

The Committee met 6 times to discuss and decide upon relevant matters and activities to be performed during the year. Five General Meetings were held during the same period. In the first meeting, a year ago, the Committee members for 1965 were elected. In the following four meetings lectures were delivered as follows:

On March 3, Dr. E. Cesarea spoke of "Valletta in the last period of the Order of St. John; on May 12, Prof. Mgr. E. Coleiro made a talk on "The Maltese Coins of the Roman Period"; on June 21, Mr. L. Schiavone M.A. delivered a lecture about "Alcuni scritti intorno al Grande Assedio del 1565"; on November 9, Prof. Chev. J. Galea spoke about "The Lazzaretto and the Quarantine Services in Malta".

During the year, eight new members were enrolled, namely, Dr. Joseph Reynaud, Dr. Paul Xuereb, Mr. Jos. Fiorini, Commr. Denis Calnan, Mr. Justice M. Caruana Curran, M. Andre' Dezerrois, Can. Vincenzo Borg and Mr. F. Attard.

Among the Members' activities and efforts during the year I mention their activities as members of the Committee for the Celebrations of the IV Centenary of the Great Siege. I may say that almost all the members of that Committee

were members of the Historical Society. Besides, I am also proud to state that all the members of the Committee recently set up by the Hon. Member of Education for the writing of a History of Malta, are all members of our Society. Its Chairman is the Hon. Mr. Justice Anthony J. Montanaro Gauci. Members of our Society, moreover, form part of the General Committee of the Movement for the preservation of Historical Monuments, known as "Din l-Art Helwa". Its Chairman the Hon. Mr. Justice Caruana Curran too is a member of our Society.

As you will read in the report given in the *Melita Historica* year 1965, several members of the Society wrote books of historical importance, which have been reviewed in the same publication, which through no fault of the Editor, has not yet been issued. It will, however, appear in the near future.

I would be failing in my duty, if I passed in silence the articles contributed by members to the Great Siege Centenary Special Number of *Melita Historica*. The works are: the already mentioned lecture by Mr. Schiavone, "P. Roberto da Eboli" by Fr. Francesco of Sliema O.Cap., "The Siege of Malta from a Turkish Viewpoint" by Prof. Chev. J. Galea, "German Knights" by Chev. E. Leopardi and two poetic compositions by Mr. Jos. Fiorini.

As in duty bound, I thank the Committee for the valid help they gave me during the year, the Editor of M. H. for his attentive and patient work, the writers of the mentioned contributions in the Journal, the speakers that held talks, the Very Rev. Father Provincial of the Conventual Friars Minor, as well as the Rt. Rev. Director of the Catholic Institute for their courtesy in lending us their premises for the execution of our activities and all you members of the Society for your encouragement and never-failing co-operation.

I avail myself of this opportunity to congratulate on behalf of the Society all the members — and they are many — who have received honours or medals during the year as a recognition for their work in one field or in another.

After the address Rev. Fiorini, in the name of the Hon. Treasurer, unavoidably absent, read the report on the financial state of the Society. Receipts during 1965 amounted to £81. 5s. 11d., while the expenditure during the same time was £102, 13s. 3d. Balance in hand amounts to £70. 1s. 10d.

Then Mgr. Prof. A. Bonnici was elected President of the Society by acclamation. The following gentlemen were elected members to the Committee for 1966: Rev. Chev. B. Fiorini; Chev. V. Denaro; Mr. F.X. Mallia; Chev. E.R. Leopardi; Prof. A. Vella, O.P.; Dr. A. Ganado, LL.D.; Chev. V. Bonello and Dr. P. Cassar, M.D.

22nd November 1966: Sixty Seventh General Meeting of the Society held at the Catholic Institute Floriana. A lecture was delivered by Rev. Alexander Bonnici, O.F.M. Conv.