

# Malta's National Day

8th. SEPTEMBER 1565—1943

Malta's National Day, commemorating the great victory of Malta over the Musulman hordes on September 8, 1565, is this year being celebrated with some relaxation of the restrictions imposed by war conditions. A Solemn High Mass de Requie was celebrated at St. John's co-Cathedral on Thursday morning at which His Grace Mgr. Michael Gonzi, Archbishop of Malta, was Presbyter Assistant from the Throne. Mass was celebrated by The Very Rev. Mgr. Can. Muscat, Chancellor of the Cathedral, and His Grace the Archbishop afterwards imparted the Absolution in the crypt of the Cathedral, where lies the tomb of Grandmaster La Valette and his Secretary Sir Oliver Starkey.

Today, Friday, the 6th., 7th. and 9th. Batteries of the 2nd. Heavy A.A. Regiment of the Royal Malta Artillery will attend Church Parade at the Church of Our Lady of Victories, Valetta, at 10.30 a.m.

## UNVEILING CEREMONY

At 6 p.m., the ceremony of the unveiling of the two bronze tablets fixed on the facade of The Palace, Valetta, commemorating His Majesty the King's Message bestowing the George Cross on the Island of Malta and President Roosevelt's Citation, commemorating his visit to the Island, will be performed by His Excellency Vice Admiral Sir Louis Hamilton, K.C.B., Officer Administering the Government.

A Guard of Honour drawn from 255 Infantry Brigade of the 1st. King's Own Malta Regiment will be inspected at 6 p.m. by the Officer Administering the Government, who will afterwards deliver an address. The tablets will be unveiled at 6.18 p.m.

## 1565 — SENGLEA

At Senglea today, Malta celebrates the great victory of the raising of the Siege of 1565. His Grace Mgr. Michael Gonzi, Archbishop of Malta, will assist from the Throne at High Mass to be celebrated by the Very Rev. Archpriest Emm. Brincat, M.B.E., who as Archpriest of this the most blitzed city in Malta, did such splendid work amongst his parishioners during the Second Siege of Malta. His Lordship the Bishop of Tralles, Mgr. E. Galea, will deliver the

## NOTICE TO VINTNERS

Bona fide Vintners in Malta are requested to send a return to the Department of Agriculture, Malta, showing the quantity of grapes they intend pressing this year, the number of Maltese barrels of wine from previous pressings still in their possession and the address where they are stored. This information must reach the Department of Agriculture, Malta, not later than Monday the 11th. September, 1944. As from Tuesday the 12th. September, those Vintners who have sent in such return may apply for a permit for sugar to the Department of Agriculture, Malta. Vintners in Gozo, must send their return to the Office of Agriculture, Victoria Gozo, from where their sugar permit may be obtained as from Tuesday the 12th. September.



## GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS AND LEASES

Tenders for the following will be received up to 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 13th September, 1944:—  
 Advt. No. 118. Perpetual lease of two building sites at Mqabba.  
 Advt. No. 124. Purchase of two second-hand trucks.  
 Advt. No. 138. Reconstruction of two rooms of Tenement No. 74, Old Bakery Street, Valetta.  
 Advt. No. 134. Deepening of Galleries at Wied il-Ghazel.  
 Advt. No. 136. Construction of reinforced concrete channel slabs for roofing Luqa Reservoir.  
 Advt. No. 137. Supply of fish to Medical Institutions, Malta.  
 Tenders for the following will be received up to 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 20th September, 1944:—  
 Advt. No. 119. Lease of Qawra Tower.  
 Advt. No. 138. Rebuilding of electricity substation, at St. Julian's.  
 Advt. No. 139. Supply of meat, fowls, etc. to Medical Institutions, Malta, during the month of October 1944.  
 Tenders for the following will be received up to 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 11th October, 1944:—  
 Advt. No. 125. Transport of coal.  
 EDG. CUSCHIERI,  
 Treasurer and Director of Contracts.

# Faith, Hope and Charity

The verses we reproduce below were written in an aeroplane by a former Greek Ambassador in Belgrade who was accompanying the Greek Prime Minister and one or two others in a plane, after an officer had described to them the story of the aerial defence of Malta by four Gladiator planes, one of which was shot down, and the three others survived fighting the Italians without aerial reinforcement from the middle of June to the middle of August 1940.

The pilots who flew the planes that formed Malta's first squadron to fight in the sky were S/Ldr. A. C. Martin, F/Lt. P. G. H. Keeble, F/Lt. P. W. Hartley, F/Lt. G. Burgess, F/Lt. W. J. Woods and Flying Officer J. L. Waters.

It is with Faith, Hope, Charity, three planes of doubtful value,  
 That Malta won the battle  
 Imposed on her, for two long years by  
 Germans and Italians.  
 Both in their criminal attempt to  
 become masters of the World  
 And smash by bombs and fire the  
 strong British Empire  
 Launched, every day, at least four  
 raids, against the isle of Malta.

The strongest fortress in the World,  
 that broke the Axis power.  
 With Faith all their inhabitants stood  
 terrible ordeals  
 Because their hearts did ever Hope  
 to see the end of tears  
 And the Divine Charity, which God  
 metes out to Christians  
 Saved Malta and her chivalrous,  
 heroic, gallant people.

## FEAST OF OUR LADY OF VICTORIES

The following is the programme which will be celebrated at Naxxar, on the occasion of the festivities of Our Lady of Victories.

Today, Friday, September 8, at 4 a.m., Low Mass with General Holy Communion said by the Very Rev. Father E. Micallef, Parish Priest. At 6 a.m., Solemn Matins. At 9 a.m., High Mass, Panegyric by the Rev. Father Joseph Xuereb, J.C.D., O.P., and Te Deum in Thanksgiving to commemorate the liberation of the Island from the Turks (1565). At 5.30 p.m., Vespers, Compline, Procession and Sacramental Benediction.

The music will be under the direction of Mrs. J. Camilleri.

**External Festivities**  
 Today, Friday, September 8, at 4.30 p.m., the King's Own Band of Valetta, the Nicolo Isouard Band of Mesta and St. Philip Band of Zebbug, will parade the streets playing marches followed by a programme of music.

## GOVERNMENT NOTICES

**POST OFFICE NOTICE**  
 The Postmaster General notifies that today, Friday, September 8, being a public holiday, the General Post Office and Branch Post Offices in Malta and Gozo will be kept closed for the day; consequently no deliveries of mail and no clearances from street letter-boxes will be effected.

**MEAT RATION**  
 The ration of imported meat for tomorrow, Saturday, September 9, will be in the form of Pork. The price will be 1s. 8d. per ratal.

**VACANCY FOR MEDICAL OFFICER**  
 Applications for the post of District Medical Officer in the Medical and Health Department will be received by the Acting Chief Government Medical Officer, up to noon of Saturday, September 16, 1944.  
 The salary attached to the post, which is on the pensionable establishment, is £140 per annum rising by annual increments of £10 to £230. The appointment will be on a whole time basis, but the holder will be allowed the private practice of his profession on condition that it does not interfere with the proper performance of his official duties.

Further particulars are published in the Malta Government Gazette of September 5, 1944.

# THE SONG OF BERNADETTE

by T. C. P.

Over 25,000 people have already seen this film in Malta. What is the secret of this popularity? Certainly not solely because it depicts one of the most important supernatural manifestations in the history of the Church, for non-catholics who have seen the film have also been deeply moved, indeed one of the sincerest tributes I have heard was offered by a Jew.

Here is a religious film without religiosity, and with a complete absence of sentimentality. Everything is as matter-of-fact as the outlook of the French peasants so faithfully depicted, as matter-of-fact as Lourdes itself where every cure must be docketed and certified by specialists, and where all hysteria and emotionalism is ruled out.

How easy it would have been to display Bernadette's spiritual advisor as a sympathetic believer in the visions or alternatively as an unbelieving cynic. Easy, yes, but untrue. The Dean's attitude is that of the Church, "it is not right to run after every new thing, if these things be of God then by their fruits ye shall know them." How effective too is the introduction of the Sister of Charity (superbly played by Gladys Cooper) who cannot believe in the reality of the visions and at last realizes that the reason is within her. Good woman though she is she must realize the truth. "One thing thou lackest".

The picture of the village family in dire poverty, the grumbling, unfortunate father, the undemonstrative mother, Bernadette's own lack of aptitude, the strong minded old aunt, the scheming municipality, all these are true and as real as bread.

Perhaps the most moving parts of the film are Bernadette's ecstatic moments of vision which Jennifer Jones, with truly admirable reticence, contrives to suggest with her eyes alone. Hers is a lovely performance, perfect in its simplicity and matter-of-factness.

To see this picture is a real and profound spiritual experience. It is an essay in faith. From the first appearance of Our Lady to Bernadette to the spectacle of modern Lourdes filled with pilgrims from every land, we trace every foot of the journey in honour of the Mother of Him 'Who hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and hath filled the hungry with good things'. His Grace Mgr. Michael Gonzi, Archbishop of Malta, and His Lordship Mgr. Emmanuel Galea, Bishop of Tralles, have seen the film, and a special show for the clergy was given on Tuesday morning — every seat being sold out.

## OXFORD SOCIETY

There will be an informal gathering of all Oxonians at Sliema on Sunday 10th. September, 1944 from 5 p.m. Particulars may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. V. R. Galea, 1, Old College Street, St. Julian's. Telephone Sliema 498.

## LOST

LOST on September 7th., 1944, White and Tan Foxhound, answers to name of "Mac", last seen in Howard Street, Sliema. Reward if returned to 75, Isouardi Street, Sliema.

## SITUATION WANTED

FRENCH. Private Schools wishing to secure part-time services of professional Teacher of French perfect pronunciation, should write for interviews to Box 3446 c/o Times of Malta.

## WANTED

WANTED Urgently Maccano outfit No. 3 or 4 in good condition, complete with all nuts and screws. Write stating price to Box 3444 c/o Times of Malta.

WANTED. Two second-hand motor car rubber tubes in good condition. Size 400 x 18. Write to Box 3445 c/o Times of Malta.

WANTED CAR in very good condition 10 to 14 h.p. Also modern tram, preferably new. Apply: 241, Tower Road, Sliema. Phone Sliema 671.

WANTED by English Gentleman, furnished house or flat in Valetta. Write to Box 3449 c/o Times of Malta.

## FROM MY PARROT

At a dinner party given in Washington to the Chinese Ambassador Dr. Wellington Koo, the Ambassador was seated next to a business gentleman at dinner. The American was silent but finally he leaned over to Dr. Koo and said gravely: "Likee soupee?" Dr. Koo smiled and nodded. The business man well satisfied retired back into silence.

But when dinner was over he was astonished when the toastmaster called for His Excellency the Chinese Ambassador, and his neighbour rose up and delivered a speech in faultless English.

When the Ambassador sat down, he turned to the business man and said: "Likee speechee?"

## SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Dr. Edward Sydney Woods, Anglican Bishop of Lichfield, is at present in Malta, and is staying with Major General Oxley. His Lordship is carrying out a very full programme.

The Reverend Fr. Joseph Orr will say his first Solemn Mass at the Church of St. Aloysius College, Birkirkara, on Sunday, September 10, at 9 a.m. All friends are cordially invited.

Major S. Sammut Tagliaferro, Auditor, has resumed his duties.

## PERSONAL

The Rev. Bernard Navia, S.C.F. (R.C.) wishes to say "Goodbye" and "Thank You" to his many friends in Malta for their great kindnesses to him during his stay in the Island.

## BIRTHS

DOLMAN. To Esther, nee Lewis, wife of S/Sgt. T.F. Dolman, on the 29th. August, 1944 at Imtarfa, a daughter — SUSAN MARY FRANCES.

## REQUIEM MASSES

On the initiative of the Anglo-Maltese League, a High Mass for the repose of the soul of ALBERT ROSSI will be sung at St. Dominic's Church, Valetta on Monday 11th September, 1944 at 8 a.m. The attendance of relatives, friends and members of the Anglo-Maltese League, will be appreciated.

A Mass for the repose of the soul of PAUL DARMENIA, late Supervisor of Painters, H.M. Dockyard, will be said to-morrow Saturday, at the Carmelite Church St. Julian's at 7.30 a.m. The attendance of relatives and friends will be appreciated.

## IN MEMORIAM

ATTARD GOUDER. In constant and loving memory of LOUISA ATTARD GOUDER who departed this life on the 8th. September, 1933. Gone but not forgotten. Her husband and daughters.

## DOCKYARD AND IMPERIAL WORKERS' UNION

At an Extraordinary Urgent General Meeting which was held at the "London War Time Club", Floriana, on Sunday, August 27, 1944, it was unanimously decided to adopt the Executive Committee's recommendation to dissolve the Union. Consequently, all Union representation ceases as from the above mentioned date.

## TENDERS

TENDERS will be received up to the 15th. September, 1944, by the Hon. Treasurer of the Overseas League, St. George's Club, 45/b. Old Theatre Street, Valetta for the sale of a wooden partition complete with glass which may be seen at the club. The right is reserved to reject any tender even the most advantageous.

TENDERS. The undersigned will receive tenders up to the 15th. September, 1944, for the sale of a modern small house in Sliema. The buyer has the opportunity of occupying same immediately. For particulars apply to the undersigned on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. Count Notary G. C. CHAPPELLE, 58, Old Bakery Street, Valetta (Phone Central 4794).

## MISCELLANEOUS

WEMBLEY RESTAURANT KINGSWAY, VALETTA (facing the Royal Opera House). SPECIAL LUNCHEONS 3/3 each.

THE Management, REGENT HOUSE, Sliema, considers letting the premises for Weddings, Dinners and other parties.

CAPTAIN'S DRY CLEANING and REPAIR SERVICE, 1 Tigne Street, Sliema. Phone: Sliema 160.

PHILATELIST desires to purchase Malta Stamps. Fair price paid. Willing to exchange British Colonials with any collector, also introduce enthusiasts to famous Exchange Club if desirous. Philatelist, P.O. Box 51, Valetta.