

TIMES OF MALTA

THURSDAY, DEC. 4, 1952.

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WEATHER FORECAST

General Statement: A depression centred N. Corsica is moving E. and deepening. Associated troughs of low pressure are moving S.E. from N.W. Med.
Forecast from dawn to midnight for Malta and Gozo areas.
Weather: Cloudy with occasional rain or showers, chance of thunderstorms later. Vis.: Good.
Wind: Wly freshening, later veering N.W. Sea: Moderate, Wly swell gradually increasing later. Outlook: Cool and unsettled.

Yesterday's Observations

Lucca at 7 p.m.
Max. shade temp. during day ... 69° F.
Min. temp. previous night ... 57° F.
Hours of sunshine ... 6 hours.
Mean sea level pressure ... 1008.4 mbs.
Wind ... S. by E. 6 knots.
Shade temp. ... 63° F.
Relative Humidity ... 85%
Cloud ... 3/8 altocum altostratus.
Visibility ... 9 miles.
Rainfall past 24 hours ... Trace.
Rainfall since Sept. 1 ... 4.99 ins.



Sunset 4.48 p.m. today
Sunrise 6.57 a.m. tomorrow.
Moonset 9.36 a.m. today.
Moonrise 7.23 p.m. today.
Phase of Moon ... Between Full Moon and Last Quarter.

EAST GERMAN ARMY

The Foreign Office statement about military strength in East Germany is further proof of the intense programme of rearmament which the Soviets have launched and are imposing on the German people.

According to the statement, the number of East Germans now under arms is 100,000, an increase of 35,000 to 40,000 men over the past six months. They are equipped with Russian tanks, self-propelled guns and anti-aircraft artillery. An East German air force is also being established and an embryo navy has four flotillas of minesweepers and coastal patrol craft at its disposal.

The fact that the Foreign Office has felt it desirable to publish these hitherto secret facts is an indication of the urgency felt in official quarters about the need of German participation in Western defence plans. The ratification of the West German Treaties is expected this week and the Foreign Office figures should strengthen Dr. Adenauer's hand.

Western Germany's inclusion in the defence and strategy of the free world is essential for the survival of Western Europe in the face of the onslaught of militant Communism. Two officials of the East German Ministry of Supply who recently fled to West Berlin have said that the aim of the Communists is to bring the strength of their German forces to 300,000 by next June.

IN PARLIAMENT

Following a period of more or less unavoidable inactivity, due to the protracted negotiations and discussions between the United Kingdom and Malta Governments on the form of economic aid to the Maltese Islands, the Coalition Government presented Parliament with a rush of legislative business. An important Bill taking over the service of the Malta and Mediterranean Gas Company has become law. It came into effect as from last Monday. Other Bills have been passed by Parliament, mainly enlarging on the scope or tightening up provisions of Acts already in operation, such as that which provides for Football Pool Forecasts.

All this parliamentary business, however, is of secondary importance when viewed against the fact that the 1952-53 Budget has still to be presented to the Malta

understood that the Draft Estimates for the current financial year, ending on March 31, 1953, will be presented shortly after the New Year. The Budget would have to be passed before the end of January, 1953, up to which date the provisions of the Treasury and Audit Act were extended.

When the Budget is introduced in Parliament, the House should be fully representative of the country as it voted in the General Election of 1951. The Malta Coalition Government should not face the test of the Budget debate with two unoccupied seats as is now the case, but should do their utmost to ensure that the financial and fiscal policy of the Coalition administration is discussed by a fully representative Legislative Assembly. Any decision by the House favourable or adverse to Dr. Borg Olivier's Ministry — this is a possibility which cannot be ruled out of court — would then be rightly regarded as a legitimate vote of confidence or otherwise. Under actually obtaining circumstances the House, while theoretically up to strength, is short of two Members.

Dr. Boffa, as co-leader of the Coalition and leader of the Malta Workers' Party, might very well consider the position in the light of the absence from the House of Dr. Ganado and the departure from the Island of Dr. Schembri Adami. While many followers of parliamentary proceedings in the past will concur that both Dr. Ganado and Dr. Schembri Adami often contributed effectively to the general discussions on important matters, little dissent will be forthcoming to the view that the effectiveness of Parliament depends to a certain extent on the continued presence of Hon. Members.

Public interest requires that both sides of the House should be as faithfully representative of the General Election verdict as possible, and in this light, the Malta Workers' Party Executive Committee should ascertain what are the prospects of Dr. Ganado's immediate return to work and whether Dr. Schembri Adami will or will not be available for the Budget debate period. In the event of a negative result in either or both of these channels of inquiry then the announcement of bye-elections consequent on the Members' resignation of their seats would be entirely compatible with the needs of the moment as regards the practical interpretation of Parliament's status and responsibilities.

CORRESPONDENCE
ACTING DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE

TO THE EDITOR TIMES OF MALTA
Sir, — In the Times of Malta of November 26, 1952, the paper's Parliamentary Correspondents reported the Hon. the Prime Minister as having stated, on a question raised by Dr. G.M. Camilleri (Nat.), that "he had heard the views of the Malta Civil Service Association and of the Malta Government Professional Officers Association before he reached a final decision", that is, to appoint an officer from the clerical branch of the Service to the post of Acting Director of Agriculture.

My Committee feels that this report may convey the impression that this Association was in agreement with the Government's inclinations in the matter. In point of fact the delegation from this Association which was kindly received by the Hon. the Prime Minister in the presence of the Director of Establishments made it clear that the senior professional Officer of the Department should have been appointed, *inter alia*, on the following

Voice of the Commonwealth
IMPORTANT ISSUES TO BE GAUGED

(London Press Service)

Today's meeting of the United Kingdom Cabinet at 10, Downing Street, will be attended by the heads of all the delegations to the Commonwealth Economic Conference and will discuss foreign affairs.

Broadcasting on Tuesday night Prime Minister S.G. Holland of New Zealand said:

"I was here last January for the conference of Finance Ministers. At that time, I have to admit, things looked a bit blue, but they are very much better now. We are round the corner and we can face the future with considerable confidence. That is not to say, of course, that we can be careless, indifferent or complacent."

"It's something like keeping out of the draught when you are convalescing from the flu. Two ingredients are essential to further progress in order that we may consolidate gains made during 1952. One is confidence and the other is faith. Our future is largely in our own hands."

"Trade is never helped by restrictions and restraints."

The Department of Agriculture is a technical Department as Agriculture is a science;

the senior professional Officer in the Department had the necessary technical qualifications;

he was also the senior Officer, whether professional or clerical, in the Department;

the normal practice of the Government is to appoint the Acting Head of a Department from inside the Department.

Consequently the particular Officer in question would normally have been considered an automatic choice, and the Government's decision to the contrary meant that he was actually being penalized merely because he was a professional man.

The Association at no time expressed any acceptance of the Government's views and is, of course, still in disagreement with the decision taken.

Yours truly,

A. DARMENIA,

Hon. Secretary,

Malta Government Professional Officers Association.

Valletta.

Quite frankly, it is not very easy to explain in simple terms precisely what we are trying to do. Technical terms such as equilibrium, convertibility, non-discrimination and bilateralism and that sort of thing may not be easily understood but they are of great importance to us all, nevertheless. In simple language they mean increased demand for our goods in other countries. It means good worthwhile employment in all countries. It means better earnings for workers.

"But the thing to watch — at least, in my view it is — is that we keep a firm grip on our cost-of-production structure."

"There are no short cuts to prosperity but I believe the darkest clouds are behind us and I am sure we are going forward to a brighter period and to better days", concluded Mr. Holland.

THE FORTINI GROUND

TO THE EDITOR TIMES OF MALTA
Sir, — With reference to the Prime Minister's statement in Parliament about playing fields in Malta in general, please allow me to draw your attention to an inaccuracy in part of the statement *viz.* that which refers to the parade ground at Vittoriosa (Il-Fortini). This ground was stated to be held by St. Edward's College. This statement is absolutely unfounded.

The only school which ever had any encroachment on this ground in pre-war years was the Approved School. Since the Approved School has been dependable on the Education Department when it was removed to Hamrun, the ground has come under Government control.

Moreover, St. Edward's College have their own grounds and have no need of this pitch. Again, if the statement were true, Government would not have spent money on re-surfacing the ground as it has lately done, but would have let St. Edward's College do it.

Yours truly,

L.B. FENECH.

Vittoriosa.

CAPITOL THEATRE Val. Cen. 4209

(Westrez Sound System)
Today
20th Century Fox presents
Tyronne Power & Ann Blyth in
"HOUSE IN THE SQUARE"
(In Technicolor)
(Persons Under 16 Not Admitted)
at 10 a.m., 1.30, 6 & 8.45 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"QUICKSAND"

REX THEATRE Hamrun Val. 3376

(Philips Sound System)
Today
20th Century Fox presents
Louis Jourdan & Jean Peters in
"ANNE OF THE INDIES"
(In Technicolor)
(Persons Under 16 Not Admitted)
at 2.6 & 8 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.

GAIETY THEATRE Tel. Sliema 886

Today
20th Century Fox presents
Tyronne Power & Ann Blyth in
"HOUSE IN THE SQUARE"
(In Technicolor)
(Persons Under 16 Not Admitted)
at 1.15, 3.15, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.

COLISEUM THEATRE Val. Cen. 4478

(Westrez Sound System)
Today
Scarlet Horseman — Episode 7
"Blunderbuss Broadside"
United Artists Corp'n. Ltd. presents
Mickey Rooney & Jeanne Cagney in
"QUICKSAND"
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 10 a.m., 1.30, 5.7 & 9 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"HOUSE IN THE SQUARE"

RADIO CITY Hamrun Cen. 4506

Today
"50 YEARS OF
BRITISH BOXING"
(Children Are Admitted)

ODEON THEATRE Hamrun 4958

(Westrez Sound System)
Today
British Lion Film Corp'n. Ltd. presents
John Ridgefield & Ann Todd in
"THE SOUND BARRIER"
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 2.6.15 & 9.15 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"

MAJESTIC THEATRE Tel. Sliema 68

Today
Scarlet Horseman — Episode 6
"Stop That Stage"
R.K.O. Radio Pictures Ltd. presents
Charles McGraw & Adele Jergens in
"ARMOURD CAR ROBBERY"
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 3.5.7 & 9 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.

TRIAXION THEATRE Hamrun 5016

(Westrez Sound System)
Today
Eros Film presents
Nelson Eddy & Claude Rains in
"PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"
(In Technicolor)
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 2.6 & 8 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.

ORPHEUM THEATRE Tel. Sliema 108

(Westrez Sound System)
Today
20th Century Fox presents
Rod Cameron & Marie Windsor in
"DAKOTA I.I.I."
(In Cinecolor)
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 2.30, 4.30, 6.30 & 8.30 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"THE STOOGES"

ROYAL THEATRE Birkirkara

(Philips Sound System)
Today
General Film Distributors Ltd. presents
Donald O'Connor & Helena Carter in
"DOUBLE CROSSBONES"
(In Technicolor)
(Children Are Admitted)
at 6 & 8 p.m.

QUESTION BOX

OLD AGE PENSIONERS AND NATIONAL LOTTERY

ANXIOUS, of Paola, asks:
Can an Old Age Pensioner (i.e. over 60) sell National Lottery tickets?

REPLY: Old Age Pensioners are not debarred from selling National Lottery tickets, provided they report their earnings to the Department of Social Welfare before receiving payment of Old Age Pension. Such earnings are taken into account as "means" in terms of the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act 1948.

The earnings may, or may not, affect the rate of Old Age Pension in payment, because this depends on the amount of earnings and on any other means of the claimant to O.A.P. or of the Old Age Pensioner, as the case may be.

SAVOY THEATRE Valletta

(Westrez Sound & Projection)
Today
Columbia Pictures presents
Mel Ferrer & Miroslava in
"THE BRAVE BULLS"
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 10 a.m., 12.45, 2.45, 4.45, 6.45 & 8.45 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH"

WARNER THEATRE Qormi Val. 3388

(Philips Sound System)
Today
Scarlet Horseman — Episode 5
"Death Shifts Passengers"
Pathé Pictures presents
John Bentley & Carol Marsh in
"SALUTE THE TOFF"
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 5.30 & 7.30 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"ANNE OF THE INDIES"

CARLTON THEATRE Tel. Sliema 531

Today
20th Century Fox presents
Rod Cameron & Marie Windsor in
"DAKOTA I.I.I."
(In Cinecolor)
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 3.5.7 & 9 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"THE STOOGES"

ALHAMBRA THEATRE Sliema 1068

(Westrez Sound System)
Today
General Film Distributors Ltd. presents
Ricardo Montalban & Cyd Charisse in
"MARK OF THE RENEGADE"
(In Technicolor)
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 2.30, 4.45, 6.45 & 8.45 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"ARMOURD CAR ROBBERY"

MANOEL THEATRE Val. Cen. 4090

Today
Paramount Pictures presents
Cornel Wilde & Betty Hutton in
"THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH"
(In Technicolor)
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 10 a.m., 1.30, 6 & 8.45 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"THE BRAVE BULLS"

TIVOLI THEATRE Pawla

Today
20th Century Fox presents
George Montgomery & Paula Corday in
"SWORD OF MONTE CRISTO"
(In Technicolor)
(Persons Under 16 Not Admitted)
at 6.30 & 8.30 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"FLAMING FEATHER"

EMPIRE THEATRE Pawla Sq. Pawla

(Westrez Sound System)
Today
R.K.O. Radio Pictures Ltd. presents
Jane Wyman & Charles Laughton in
"THE BLUE VEIL"
(Persons Under 16 Not Admitted)
at 6.30 & 8.30 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"SWORD OF MONTE CRISTO"

PALLADIUM THEATRE Mosta

(Westrez Sound System)
Today
20th Century Fox presents
Randolph Scott & Karin Booth in
"THE CARIBOO TRAIL"
(In Cinecolor)
(Persons Under 16 Not Admitted)
at 5.45 & 9 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"CAPTAIN HORATIO HORNBLLOWER R.N."

COMET THEATRE Floriana 4960

Today
Scarlet Horseman — Episode 6
"Stop That Stage"
R.K.O. Radio Pictures Ltd. presents
Charles McGraw & Adele Jergens in
"ARMOURD CAR ROBBERY"
(Persons Under 21 Not Admitted)
at 2.30, 4.30, 6.30 & 8.30 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow:
"MARK OF THE RENEGADE"

LYRIC THEATRE Maida Sl. 1631

(Westrez Sound & Projection)
Today
Paramount Pictures presents
Dean Martin & Jerry Lewis in
"THE STOOGES"
(Persons Under 16 Not Admitted)
at 2.30, 4.45, 6.45 & 8.45 p.m.
Released by M.U.F. Corp'n. Ltd.
From Tomorrow: