

# The Maltese Journal



Vool. VI, No. 12

NEW YORK, DECEMBER, 1940

Price 10 cents

## MALTA ROUTS RAID

Valletta, Malta, Nov. 12. — A hostile airplane squadron was declared today by British sources to have been scattered by violent anti-aircraft fire over this naval base. One of the raiding planes was shot down.

## CASUALTIES IN MALTA

Valletta, Malta, Nov. 21. — It was officially announced here tonight that 192 civilian houses had been severely damaged to date by enemy air attacks but that the number of houses partially damaged from the blasts of near-by explosions was much greater.

Civilian casualties total 284, of whom 96 are dead. Included among them are eighteen women and twenty-four children. Twenty-three children have been injured very seriously.

The announcement makes no mention to military objectives.

## BOMBS DROPPED ON MALTA

Valletta, Malta, Nov. 23. — Italian planes raided this British Island fortress in the Mediterranean twice today, once in the morning and again this afternoon. Bombs were dropped on both occasions. Two of the afternoon attackers were winged and possibly failed to reach their base, it was announced. One child was injured.

## WAR COMMUNIQUE FROM MALTA

MALTA, Nov. 29. — A communique issued today said:

Enemy aircraft approached Malta on Wednesday night from the southeast. Bombs were dropped in the sea but the raid did not materialize.

On Thursday there were five air raid warnings. Enemy aircraft approached the island and were heavily engaged by anti-aircraft fire.

In the afternoon a raid was pressed home vigorously and bombs were dropped.

The enemy was engaged by our fighters and ground defenses. One enemy bomber and one fighter were shot down into the sea. There were no casualties.

## ROYAL AIR FORCE COMMUNIQUES

Cairo, Egypt, Nov. 13. — The enemy attempted to raid Malta Nov. 11, but the formation was broken up by anti-aircraft fire. Our fighters engaged the enemy and one Italian monoplane was shot down.

Cairo, Egypt, Nov. 23. — Two formations of Italian fighters flew over Malta Nov. 22. Anti-aircraft guns heavily and accurately engaged the enemy and shot one machine down into the sea. R.A.F. fighters went up to intercept, but the enemy flew off before they were able to do so.

Cairo, Egypt, Nov. 24. — Two enemy air raids were carried out on Malta yesterday. A formation of bombers, escorted by a considerable number of fighters, flew over the island, but no damage or casualties resulted from this raid. One enemy fighter was shot down. A similar enemy attacking formation raided the island a few hours later. Only slight damage was done. It is believed that two enemy aircraft were damaged and brought down.

A number of reconnaissance flights were carried out over enemy territory on all fronts.

From all operations our aircraft returned safely.

Cairo, Egypt, Nov. 26. — Two enemy raids were made on Malta, one Nov. 24 and the other yesterday. In the first raid one CR-42 (Italian Fiat biplane) was damaged by anti-aircraft fire. The second, the enemy made off before being intercepted. From all operations our aircraft returned safely.

Cairo, Egypt, Nov. 27. — A formation of enemy fighters flew over Malta yesterday at a great height. Our fighters went up to intercept them but only three of the enemy could be engaged. One CR-42 and one of our fighters were brought down into the sea. The Italian pilot was killed.

## SMILES

*The spirit of the Christmas season is felt everywhere in the land. Happiness seems to be contagious. We have a smile for every one, and every one seems to have a smile for us. How wonderful it would be if this spirit manifested itself all the year.*

## AIR LOSSES OVER MALTA 25-1

London, Nov. 12. — Air Ministry officials said here today that Italian airplane losses over Malta, compared with those of the Royal Air Force, were definitely fourteen to one, but that the ratio was probably twenty-five to one.

The higher ratio was based on a guess that Italian "Probables" — planes known to be very badly damaged — never reached home.

## BRITISH AIR MARSHAL CAPTURED BY ITALIANS

London, Nov. 21. — The Air Ministry announced today that Air Marshal Owen Tudor Boyd has been taken prisoner by the Italians.

The announcement said that the Marshal had "been reported missing while crossing the Mediterranean by air," and added, "it is now learned that he is a prisoner in Italian hands."

Marshal Boyd, who was promoted to the post of Air Marshal Nov. 8, was appointed deputy to the chief air officer in the Middle East command in sweeping changes in the Royal Air Force announced last Sunday.

The plane was believed headed for Malta from Gibraltar.

## ITALIANS CUT BRITISH CABLE

Rome, Nov. 11. — The newspaper "Giornale d'Italia" said today that Italians had cut the submarine cable between the British bases of Malta and Gibraltar. The cable was cut a few nights ago, it was said, and part of it was wound up on a windlass aboard ship and carried to an Italian base.

## PEACE

*Would that the angels appeared in the sky again to sing on Christmas Eve. Never was their message, "Peace on earth, goodwill to men," more sorely needed in a world torn by strife and dissension; never would a weary people hail it more ardently.*

## MALTA

*(The many and varied accounts of Malta appearing in the Italian newspapers of New York, are very misleading to the reading public. Therefore, we are publishing the following brief general history of facts prepared from authoritative sources. Ed.)*

Between Sicily and the North African coast, the Mediterranean narrows down into a channel which divides it into two. At the eastern end of this channel lies the romantic little island of Malta. It is a tiny place, a trifle larger than Staten Island, but its geographical position has given it a long, varied and colorful history.

The Phoenicians owned it for nearly a thousand years, until its capture by the Carthaginians in 550 B. C. Later, it came under the sway of Rome, of the Arabs and of the Normans. Eventually control of the island passed to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, who ruled the destinies of its inhabitants from 1530 A. D. until the time of the French revolution, when Napoleon (in 1798) added it to his conquests.

French interference with Maltese laws and customs soon aroused active opposition. In 1800, the Maltese, with the help of Nelson, drove the French out of the island. In 1814, at the voluntary request of the citizens, it was annexed to the British Crown by the Treaty of Paris.

Although the island lies so close to Sicily, it has had but few direct ties with the Italians. It is true that Italy has attempted to appeal to the Maltese on various grounds — religious, racial and linguistic; but, save for the fact that almost all the natives of Malta are devout Catholics, all the pretended arguments of the Italians are fallacious. Racially, the Maltese have no affinities in Europe. Their language is akin only to Syriac and Arabic. That it is not a Latin tongue, although written in Western characters, may be judged by the fact that the Lord's Prayer in Maltese begins:

*"Missierna li inti fis smewwiet, Jitkaddes ismek, Tigi saltnatek, Ikkun li trid Int, kif fis-sema ekda fl-art".*

(Continued on Page Two)



## The Maltese Journal

"A newspaper's first duty is to be of friendly service to its community."

JOSEPH EDWARD DOUBLET  
Editor and Publisher

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Vol. VI December, 1940 No. 12

### "PEACE ON EARTH"

More than 1,900 years ago the first Christmas Eve came to the world as the angels appeared in the heavens singing "Peace on earth, good-will to men."

It will richly repay us to stop for a few moments in our holiday celebration and try to visualize what this world might be today if we had but followed the teachings of the song of that heavenly choir.

Christmas is the birthday of the Prince of Peace. But we shall celebrate it this year, as we have in most years since that time, in a world torn by strife, where men kill and maim and destroy, where there is little of peace, and not much more of good-will.

The civilized world professes to be a Christian world. But, alas, our acts and our beliefs are so much at variance. So many nations, so many people have forsaken the Prince of Peace to follow after false gods—the gods of war, of power, of persecution, of material gain.

There isn't much hope for a world which has strayed so far from the teachings of Christ unless we do a complete about-face, turning away from the false gods that lure us, and getting back to what might be called the foundation principle of Christianity, "Peace on earth, good-will to men."

### THE OTHER END OF THE AXIS

On ONE point the war analysts have been good, the forecasting accurate. It has been said from the start that Italian support would probably turn to be an embarrassment to whichever side got it.

A French general was quoted as saying, before the European war began: "We are indifferent as to what Italy does. We know that if she remains neutral, we shall send two divisions to watch the frontier; if she enters the war, we shall send five divisions to fight her, and if she becomes our ally, we shall have to send ten divisions to her rescue."

Hitler may be recalling this rea-

### AN APOSTLE OF PEACE

NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, former prime minister of England, was an apostle of peace. He worked for the peace of Europe, but died midst bursting bombs of war. He tried for peace "In our time" at Munich, but found in the end he held in his fingers only a "scrap of paper." He tried for peace in the British parliament, but learned that force could be met only with force.

Even in defeat, Mr. Chamberlain was consistent. If he could not win peace, he could fight the enemies of peace. Again he tried, but broken in health he was inadequate to this task. Too late he placed himself in the hands of his physician. He gave his life for his ideal, and his sacrifice will give him honorable place in the annals of the British Empire.

His life will always be coupled with the cause of world peace—an ideal certain of eventual attainment, though, perhaps, only after the present destructive war leaves no alternative.

### TOPICS OF THE TIMES

THERE IS MALTA  
(From the New York Times,  
Nov. 18, 1940)

Why hasn't Hitler, with ten times as many airplanes at his disposal as the British had in the Mediterranean, bombed the British fleet out of existence long ago? One answer would presumably be that the Italian ships at Taranto were at anchor and made a perfect target, while the British fleet keeps moving about. But then we have to explain away a stationary target like Malta.

Malta is a British stronghold not much more than fifty miles from the coast of Sicily and only two or three hundred miles by air from this very naval base at Taranto. By all the rules of logic—or in any case armchair military logic—Malta should have been blasted out of existence by Mussolini's airplanes long ago. But when Malta appears in the news it is a story of more British troops landing on the island instead of fleeing from the island in panic.

And so the quiz masters now have a great naval victory won by planes against ships to place by the side of the famous case of a fleet captured by a troop of cavalry.

soning today, as he reflects on Italy's part thus far in the war. Mussolini got in just as France collapsed, in time to share the loot. One huge Italian army, trying to reach Suez, is now bogged down in the desert. Another, attacking a lightweight neighbor, Greece, has been stopped in its tracks. MALTA still holds out after weeks of pounding. Threats?—plenty! Results—nil.

## MALTA

(Continued from Page One)

During the rule of the Knights of St. John the use of Italian was imposed in the courts of law, as only 6% of the Maltese speak even a dialect of Italian, this use was purely artificial and most legal evidence had to be translated. Not until 1933 did the British interfere with this cumbersome arrangement and then only because of the development of Fascist propaganda. Now the Maltese employ their own language in the courts of law.

While the age-old native language is current in the island—jealousy maintained by a citizenry rightly proud of their traditions, most of the intellectuals and merchants speak English as well as Maltese.

There are various reasons why the blandishments of Italy have been coolly received by the Maltese. One is that under British rule they enjoy a large measure of self-administration; the Maltese civil service, for example, includes only three British officials. Besides this, there is the well recognized fact that the population subsists chiefly on the trade brought to the island by the British fleet. Fifteen million dollars a year flows directly from Britain to Malta; the citizens know that if Italy, who has a superfluity of Mediterranean naval bases, took possession of their land, they would receive only a fraction of her favors.

For a sparsely-populated and largely self-supporting community, this might not have been of very serious importance, but for Malta trade is all-important. The estimated population in 1939 was 270,000, giving a density of 2,517 to the square mile. What this implies may be appreciated by remembering that there is a density of only 468 in Britain and of 264 in the State of New York. The annual population increase is about 3,000 and since emigration to the United States and the British Dominions fell off considerably after the depression, the island is faced with a serious problem of over-population.

Although Malta is highly cultivated and careful use is made of the land by terracing, its agricultural products would support the present population for only about three months in the year. Corn, wheat and barley are grown; fodder is provided by green barley and a tall purple-blossomed clover called "sulla." Most of this is cultivated for home consumption; but early potatoes, onions, cumin seed, oranges, figs, apricots, nectarines and peaches, all of which grow to perfection, are exported.

The remainder of the foodstuffs and necessities is largely paid for by work done for the Imperial  
(Continued on Page Four)

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

What we liked best in the National election was the precedent breaking third term re-election of Franklin D. Roosevelt as President of the United States, Charles Edison, the son of that great inventor, Thomas Alva Edison, as Governor of New Jersey and the re-election of the Hon. Foster Stearns, the New Hampshire Congressman. Mr. Stearns, who is a Knight of Malta, is an ardent subscriber of the Maltese Journal and a patron of the Malta War Relief Fund.

Joan Crawford was the chic girl presenting the award of the main international event at the opening night of the 55th Horse Show at Madison Square Garden. Ces Vassallo, who knows his horses, and the editor, were the guests of Arthur Vassallo on that spectacular night and the social brilliance did not bother the trio as much as the nonchalance of the young girl No. 3, who won the open jumping contest without one single warm up. Her clever horse won the blue ribbon and the blue-blood rider won the hearts of the ten thousand spectators. Joan Crawford had nothing on her.

We expect to hear the story of the adventures of the "Yankee Clipper" from the mouth of Miss Hughes, the young Maltese hostess of the Transatlantic super flying ship. We are sure our readers will be amused to hear the tall and short stories of some of the emotions of air passengers.

Our office has been flooded with hunters' stories, but we have been deprived of the usual evidence this year. A pheasant or a rabbit now and then used to bribe our staff. It seems that we must join the Rod and Gun Club this year.

Father Michael Z. Cefai, the chairman of the Malta War Relief Society of Detroit, had to leave the Malta Red Cross Charity dance on Nov. 9 to journey to New York to attend the Silver Jubilee of Father Congedo.

While in New York, Father Cefai visited our editor, members of his family and many friends in New York and New Jersey.

The Maltese American Democratic Club, of 1492 Madison Ave., City, enjoyed a very lovely "T" Party on Nov. 16.

The Maltese Union Club of 246 Eighth Avenue, City, offered a very varied program in their "T" Party of Nov. 30. An exceptionally large crowd turned out for the social.

The Maltese Community of New  
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## AID TORONTO MAYOR'S FUND

Mr. Samuel Balson, of 346 King Street E., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, has turned over to the Mayor of Toronto the receipts of a generous collection from the Maltese Community of Toronto made on behalf of the Mayor's Fund.

We understand that Mr. Balson is a very active member of our Toronto Community.

## MALTA WAR RELIEF FUND OF TORONTO

A new committee of the Malta War Relief Fund of Toronto was formed on Nov. 15.

The following gentlemen will now administer to all the business of the Fund: Mr. Charles E. Baldacchin, pres., Mr. John Giordmaine, secretary, Mr. John Zammit, treasurer, and Messrs Emanuel Borg and George Sammut, members. The combination is to be known as the Malta Society of Toronto.

Inquiries about the Fund may be made direct to the Secretary, 97 Westminster Ave., Toronto. Phone LOMBARD 8315.

## AWARDED FOUR PRIZES IN BIRD SHOW

Mr. Baptist Attard, of 23 Widmer Street, Toronto, Ont., Canada, is like many of our countrymen, a great bird lover and although only an amateur, he has succeeded in winning four prizes in a canary exhibition held in Toronto by the "Toronto Canary and Bird Cage Society."

Mr. Attard has been awarded many other prizes with his fancy canaries in many other exhibitions. He is the proud owner of 50 prize winners at present.

## WEDDING

### MICALLEF — MICALLEF

Miss Helen Micallef of West Toronto, and Mr. Joseph Micallef of Toronto, were wed on Nov. 23 at the Community church.

The bride was the recipient of a lovely shower party given in her honor by a large number of friends.

### SON TO WALTER CACHIAS

A son, Walter Jr., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cachia, of 2328 28th Ave., Astoria, N. Y., on Nov. 16.

## THE MALTA WAR RELIEF SOCIETY OF DETROIT CHARITY BALL

By *GEORGE A. BARRY*

The Grand Charity Ball for the benefit of the Malta Red Cross, sponsored by the Malta War Relief Society of Detroit, an affiliate of the British War Relief Society, Inc., held on November 9th, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 4740 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, was a tremendous success.

Fifteen hundred people journeyed to the famous hall from every remote corner of the great auto city to participate in the greatest benefit demonstrations ever held by our community.

The Knights of Malta Post 129, Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L., under the leadership of Commander Dom Meilak, opened the ball with the trooping of the colors. The smartly attired veteran unit, the pride of the community, assisted by Harmony Post 128, drilled with rare precision and their alertness was admired by all present. The Post received a tumultuous ovation.

Madame Etienne's Dancing Academy was next on the program. The Misses Vida Bonaldi, Evelyn Martin, Lucille Mattie, Helen Gates, Chickie McKenna, Virginia Zagaib, Nitsa Lambros, Audrey Kobe, Shirley Kobe, Flo Egan, Theresa McLeon Baby Allen and the Savicki Twins gracefully performed many dance numbers. Miss Eileen Mizzi, solo vocalist, accompanied by the famous orchestra, sang a popular number.

Mr. H. Meech, the British Vice Consul, was then introduced. Mr. Meech's talk dealt chiefly with greetings and the official acknowledgment of the community's effort toward the worthy cause. The Harmony Post Drum and Bugle Corps rendered a program of lively marches. A congratulatory telegram from Mr. Joseph Calleia was read.

Ray Gorrell and his orchestra then struck up "There'll Always Be An England" and the ballroom was cleared for dancing.

Mr. Cyril H. Cane, British Consul, Mr. Berrien Eaton, Chairman, British War Relief Society, Inc. (Detroit), the Hon. George D. O'Brien, Congressman (13th Dist.), and the Hon. Edward J. Jeffries, Mayor of Detroit, were among the guest speakers of the evening. They all praised Malta in her heroic stand against continuous enemy bombing and spoke highly of the Maltese Community of Detroit. Mrs. Edward J. Jeffries, Mr. J. Turnt and Mr. G. Healy of the B.W.R.S., were among other guests present.

The Rev. Michael Z. Cefai, D.D., Chairman of the Malta War Relief Society of Detroit, was then introduced. Father Cefai, in a few well-chosen words, thanked all the committee of the Society and all those who helped make the benefit ball a great success and said he felt very happy to have been privileged to actively participate in the War Relief Campaign on behalf of Malta. Father Cefai was compelled to leave the ball to honor a New York engagement Sunday, the silver jubilee of Father Joseph M. Congedo.

Mr. John Maistre was chairman of the affair, Mr. John Gatt, master of ceremonies, and Mr. Vincent P. Giorgio, floor director.

The Malta War Relief Society of Detroit, sponsoring the Red Cross charity ball, is composed of the following organizations: Knights of Malta Post 1129, Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L., Maltese American Social Club, Ramblers Benevolent Society, Sons of Malta F. C., and the St. Paul's Maltese Church combined societies including the St. Vincent de Paul Conference.

## MALTA WAR RELIEF IN AUSTRALIA

An "Illustrated Lantern Lecture" was held on Nov. 3 at the Australian Hall by the Sydney Branch of the Maltese Community Association of Australia, for the Benefit of the Malta War Relief Fund.

Capt. H. Curmi, Commissioner for Malta, gave a very interesting lecture.

The Fourth Malta War Relief Dance held in November by the young association was a very successful affair.

The committee of the new combination is headed by Mr. John P. Albany, J. P., Mr. J. Galen, J. P., is the Hon. Treasurer and Mr. J. H. Caruana the Hon. Secretary.

## WINS N. Y. JOURNAL-AMERICAN MEDAL FOR ORATORY

Seventeen year old Lawrence Schembri, of 152 Eighth Ave., New York City, a La Salle Academy City, was awarded a bronze medal in the First Annual Extemporaneous Oratorical Contest conducted in conjunction with the New York Journal-American, held at the Academy on Nov. 7.

Lawrence gave his version, (and a good account at that) of "How Can Democracy Be Preserved."

Larry's brother, William, is an honor graduate of La Salle and is at present studying for the priesthood at St. Lawrence College, Wisconsin.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH (Continued from Page Two)

Jersey are planning a Cocktail Party to be held at the Plaza Hotel sometime in January for the benefit of the Malta War Relief Fund.

We are very interested in this coming event and pledge its committee our full support.

"The Greeks had a word for it," declared our editor in a talk before the English Speaking Union dinner at Philadelphia last week, "and I hope they will apply that word in Albania after they get through with their Marathon contest with Mussolini's modern Romans."

Again Albert the Barber warns Il Duce in a note published in the New York Daily News of Nov. 28 and under the heading, **MUSSOLINI IN PERIL?** Al says: "I advise Benito to quit this war before it is too late. He put his people into it against their will, and if you don't take them out pronto they are going to crack, Benny. I tell you, save your skin by quitting now. The third time is the charm, and there are two 'times' on you now — Taranto and Greece."

## The Maltese Journal

Wishes You and Yours

A Very Merry Christmas

and

A Prosperous New Year



ACCORDING TO ROME

Rome, Nov. 11.—An English naval formation overtaken by one of our air formations in the central Mediterranean was intensively bombed despite heavy anti-aircraft fire. At Malta our pursuit planes machine-gunned on the ground three enemy bi-motored planes. Two of our planes failed to return.

Rome, Nov. 21.—One of our air formations attacked military objectives at Malta, hitting the Ta Venezia air field, military works and the Valletta arsenal, starting a violent fire. All our planes returned.

An enemy plane of the Wellington type was forced to land in Sicily. The crew, composed of seven persons, including Air Vice-Marshal Owen Tudor Boyd, a major and three subordinate officers, was taken prisoner.

Rome, Nov. 24.—During an offensive flight over Malta our chasers met enemy pursuit planes, shooting six down in flames. Following up this flight one of our bombing squadrons attacked airports at Micabba and Halfar, hitting objectives. All our planes returned.

Rome, Nov. 25.—Our fighter planes, following and overtaking an enemy Wellington bi-motor plane, shot it down at sea north of Malta.

One of our pursuit squadrons made a low-flying raid on Micabba airport (Malta), machine-gunning numerous planes at the edge of the field. Three of them immediately burst into flames. Fires spreading rapidly, caused several violent explosions and assumed considerable proportions. The flames were visible from the coast of Sicily. All our planes returned.

Rome, Nov. 27.—During an offensive scouting flight over the Island of Malta an enemy pursuit plane was shot down at sea in a fight with our chasers. One of our planes failed to return.

ROME, Nov. 29.—Enemy naval formations sighted near Malta were overtaken and attacked by our air formations. A big warship was hit squarely by a heavy-caliber bomb.

Violent battles were fought between our bombing planes, escorted by fighters, and enemy pursuit planes. Five enemy planes were shot down and four were seriously damaged. One of our planes failed to return.

During the night our aircraft bombed Port Valletta, in Malta.

Christmas "T" Party
OF 100 AT THE
MALTESE UNION CLUB
Saturday, Dec. 21, 1940

MALTA

(Continued from Page Two)

forces, by the dockyard in Valletta, the island's largest city, and by catering to visitors and tourists.

The greatest resource of Malta consists in its being a military and naval station, with refitting yards, magazines and stores, and with a well-protected Grand Harbor capable of accommodating the largest vessels. Military air-fields are situated near the old capital in Mdina and in the northwest tip of the island.

Malta's position, commanding the narrow passage between Sicily and the North African coast, is strategically important and formidable, although the development of the bombing aeroplane has made it more liable to attack. From the coast of Sicily it is only sixty miles — perhaps 20 minutes flying time — to Valletta, while the Italian aero-naval bases in South Italy, the fortified Pantelleria and the French base of Biserta are not far distant.

Heavy caliber bombs and incendiary bombs dropped on Maltese cities in the last six months, have caused very little damage and casualties, (as a late official report, printed elsewhere in this edition, indicates) this is due to the fact that all the houses are built of stone, with extraordinarily thick walls, and, to the efficient anti-aircraft defences of the island. Only a small proportion of attacking enemy forces have been able to break through.

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ROBERT BURNS CIRCLE
For the Benefit of the
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at the
GRAND BALLROOM, HOTEL ASTOR
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1940, 8:30 P.M.

Eddie Cantor, Ed Wynn, Bert Lahr, Kate Smith, Lanny Ross, etc. Highland Pipers and Dancers Andre Monici and his N.B.C. Orch. Harry Von Zell, N.B.C. Staff, & Harry Thursten, Ole Bill. M.C.'s Entire proceeds for the purchase of Ambulances, Hospital Beds and Mobile Feeding Units. The Need is Imperative — Time is Essential. Subscription \$1.50 Reserved Seats \$2 to \$5 Boxes \$25 to \$100 Mayor F. H. La Guardia, Hon. Chairman Thomas Stinson, Chairman

THE MALTA ASSOCIATION OF ASTORIA BENEFIT DANCE

The Malta Association of Astoria Inc., of 2245 31st Street, Astoria, N. Y., held a very successful dance on November 23rd for the benefit of the Malta War Relief Fund.

The successful dance which was held on their premises, brought together the old and reliable gathering well-known for good times all over the community.

Mr. Robert Manduca, chairman of the Malta War Relief Fund, was the guest speaker.

EVELYN PORCH WED

Miss Evelyn Porch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Porch, New York City, became the bride of Mr. Edmond Felice, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ricardo Felice, also of New York. The ceremony was performed in the Church of the Capuchin Fathers, 226 East 113th Street, on November 30.

Mrs. Laury Barron, the bride's sister, was the matron of honor. Mr. John Swain of New York was best man.

A reception was given at Harlem Terrace.

After their honeymoon the newlyweds will reside at Sunnyside, L. I.

FREED IN THEFT

John Galea, of 207 East 104th Street, New York City, was freed in Felony Court on Nov. 20 after a grand jury had failed to indict him for receiving stolen property.

Police said he had a brooch which was taken at knife point in Central Park Oct. 28 from Mary Lewis, stylist and fashion consultant, by seventeen year old Joseph Allende, of 1689 Madison Avenue, now held under arrest.

WARSHIP HIT, ITALY CLAIMS

DOWNING OF FIVE BRITISH PLANES OFF MALTA ALSO REPORTED

Rome, Nov. 29.—A naval-aerial combat took place near Malta yesterday when Italian bombers and chasers attacked a British force. It is claimed that a large warship was hit squarely by a big bomb, and that in combat with British chasers which attacked the Italians five British planes were shot down and four seriously damaged, while the Italians only lost one plane.

British efforts to bomb Brindisi and Taranto failed, said the war bulletin, because of intense anti-aircraft fire.

Wednesday's naval battle off Sardinia is the subject of enormous quantities of very jubilant comment in today's press. The Giornale d'Italia, for instance, devotes two whole pages out of six to various accounts of the action, and other newspapers do the same. So far as Italian opinion is concerned, Wednesday was one of the great days of the war. Rarely have the stories of the opposing sides differed so completely.

Little new light is thrown on the battle today. Virginio Gayda claims that the Italian cruiser Fiume was not hit, as announced yesterday, and that only the destroyer Lanciere was damaged. The Tribuna's correspondent claims that the new battleship Vittorio Veneto, which had its baptism of fire on Wednesday, decided the issue in Italy's favor.

TO OUR READERS

Send us the names and addresses of some of your friends and we shall send them a copy of the Maltese Journal with your compliments.

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