

THE RETIREMENT OF PROF. F. CREMONA LL.D.

On September 30th, 1971, the Dean of the Faculty of Laws retired from service to the Royal University of Malta. He had reached the new age limit of 65 to which Council had already extended his services and had now completed the teaching of the students who were graduating in November, 1971. Our Alma Mater has many able men but it is now poorer without this dedicated and beloved teacher. Professor Cremona had occupied the Chair of Commercial Law for over 34 years, much longer, in fact, than any of his predecessors these last hundred years and was the 'master' of the present Chief Justice, Professor Dr John J. Cremona B.A., LL.D., D.Litt (Rome), B.A., Hons. (Lond), Ph.D. (Lond), F.R.Hist.S., of more than half of the members now serving on Her Majesty's Bench as well as of all the members of the present Board of Faculty of Laws.

Professor Felice Cremona graduated "cum laude" in 1928 and later attended the Universities of Rome and of London where he deepened his knowledge of Commercial Law under the guidance of Professor Vivante and Professor, later Lord, Chorley. He joined the staff of the university in 1935 as Professor of History of Legislation when for some time he also taught Civil and Canon Law. In 1937 he was appointed to the Chair of Commercial Law, and became Dean of the Law Faculty on the retirement of Professor Victor Caruana B.Litt., LL.L., O.B.E., in 1961.

As a teacher, law students had discovered in Professor Cremona two outstanding attributes: clarity of expres-

sion and deep erudition of the law. Throughout his long number of years dedicated to teaching the gentleness of his manner, the courtesy and restraint of his speech gave him peculiar power. It was all this that made him a great teacher of Commercial Law. Indeed, as Aristotle once remarked, "the one exclusive sign of a thorough knowledge is the power of teaching".

by DR J. A. MICALLEF LL.D.

At the Bar Professor Felice Cremona is one of its leading members where he has earned the love and respect of all his colleagues. He has been legal adviser to the Council of the Chamber of Commerce and to almost all the leading commercial banks. He has been one of the legal members of the War Damage Commission since 1945 and is also the Chairman of the Investment Bank of Malta Limited. In 1944 Professor Cremona was a member of the Commercial Code Commission and has served for a long number of years as umpire in National Insurance claims.

Like his father, the late Judge Giuseppe Cremona, who is the author of "Giurisprudenza sul Codice di Malta" in different volumes, Professor Cremona has also made a contribution to the small amount of legal literature published in Malta. His book on the principles of Maltese Company Law has already had three editions by the University Press. Before retirement he prepared a revised edition of his Com-

mercial Law Notes and has written a number of articles on Law.

Finally, Professor Cremona's outstanding contribution in his long and remarkable career will remain his contribution to the Draft Model of the Commercial Partnerships Ordinance which is eclectically in essence; adopting the English system for limited liability companies while retaining the continental system with regard to partnerships. The Draft bill was prepared by a Commission set by Dr. Giovanni Feli-

ce, then Minister of Justice, of which Professor Cremona was Chairman. Soon after his retirement from the university, Professor Cremona was appointed by the present Minister of Finance as Vice Chairman of a Commission to revise the Succession and Donation Duties Ordinance. While, therefore, the law Society wishes Professor Cremona a happy retirement may he still make further contributions towards the Maltese system of Law.