BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

1969-70

ANNUAL REPORT
AND ACCOUNTS



MALTA

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

Covering the Year ended
31st March 1970



MALTA

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Broadcasting Authority, 12, Old Treasury Street, Valletta.

31st July, 1970

Your Excellency,

In accordance with Section 13 (4) and (5) of the Broadcasting Ordinance, 1961, I have pleasure in enclosing the Broadcasting Authority's Annual Report and Accounts for the financial year ended on 31st March, 1970.

I have the honour to be,

Yours faithfully,

(sd) A.J. Montanaro-Gauci, Chairman

H.E. Sir Maurice Dorman, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., Hon. LL.D. Governor-General of Malta, The Palace, Valletta.

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY on 31st March, 1970



Chairman:

Judge A. J. Montanaro-Gauci, C.B.E., K.M., Gr.Off, Mer., O.St.J., LL.D.



Members:

Mr L. Spiteri, Dip. Soc. Stud (Oxon)



Dr J. M. Agius, M.D.



Mr F. Masini, B.A., L.P.



Dr F. Depasquale, B.A., LL.D.

Note: The term of appointment of Mr F. Masini began on 29th September, 1969 and that of Dr F. Depasquale on 29th March, 1970

THE Broadcasting Authority is responsible for the control and supervision of Broadcasting in Malta. It was set up in 1961 through the Broadcasting Ordinance and was assigned three broadcasting agreements which were concluded by the Colonial administration with the present contractors who are subsidiaries of Rediffusion International of London. The Authority, therefore, has to operate within a situation created before it was set up.

A very important section which was included in the Broadcasting Ordinance, 1961 before its amendment five years later, provided for the setting up of an Authority "to be called the Malta Broadcasting Authority, whose function shall be to provide, in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance, sound and television broadcasting Services in Malta and such function shall be vested *solely* in such Authority".

When this Section was repealed in 1966 the Authority, conscious of the perils involved in any form of actual or implied Government control over such an important means of communication, objected strongly to this whittling down of its powers. It was argued that once Government had decided to entrust broadcasting to an independent body charged with the responsibility of supervising the output of two existing programme companies, it was highly desirable that the powers of supervision and control should continue to be vested in a single body of representative Maltese personalities.

The Authority feels that developments which occurred during the year under review — especially the signing of an Agreement between Government and a German broadcasting organisation in virtue of which the Government is to acquire a one-million pound Radio Station — make this the appropriate time to repeat the Authority's original representations about its overall supervisory powers. It is not yet clear what the Government's intentions are with regard to the actual running of this new Station when it becomes operational.

The Authority wishes to re-affirm its strong belief in the principle of an independent broadcasting system which is a prized and very valued asset for any country to possess. The observance of this fundamental principle is essential to the proper purposes of any service of broadcasting. There are various ways through which independence in broadcasting can be threatened. Finance is one of them. Governments are always responsible for prescribing the methods by which broadcasters shall finance themselves and the best interests of the public would be served if Government control over finance is designed to protect the broadcasters, and through them the people, from the excessive influence of business interests and of the government itself. These are two powerful influences to one or other of which broadcasting everywhere is vulnerable.

Another important element in maintaining liberty in broadcasting is the exclusive power vested in the broadcasting authorities to appoint their own staff. The Broadcasting Ordinance lays down that "the Authority may appoint a Secretary and such other officers and take into its employment such other persons as it may determine". However, this clause does not apply to the filling of the post of the Authority's Chief Executive who is appointed by the Prime Minister. This is an inherent weakness of the Broadcasting Ordinance with far reaching implications. The Authority is very seriously concerned about the non-appointment of a Chief Executive and the method by which future appointments to this post may be made. In spite of frequent representations made by the Authority to the Government, this post has remained vacant since the former Chief Executive relinquished his appointment in November 1968.

The Authority

During the year under review, the Authority lost the services through retirement on completion of term of office of Dr. Victor Mercieca in September, 1969 and of the Rev. Dr. Peter Serracino Inglott through resignation on taking up an overseas appointment in December, 1969. These Members had shared in the Authority's work since 1964, and the present Members wish to pay tribute to the wisdom and industry which they brought to the Authority's problems.

Mr. Franco Masini and Dr. Franco Depasquale were appointed Members of the Authority on the 29th September, 1969 and 29th March, 1970 respectively.

Members of the Authority may be appointed for a statutory limit of five years and are eligible for re-appointment after the expiration of this period. It must be put on record, however, that since 1967 the Government seems to have adopted the policy of fixing the Authority's term of office on a six-monthly basis. This period is obviously too short for any appointment, let alone one which requires the appointee to be responsible for the careful planning and execution of important long-term policies. It is hoped that this practice will be remedied in future appointments.

Safeguarding the Public Interest

The Broadcasting Ordinance places certain duties and responsibilities on the Authority in regard to sound and television programmes it transmits. The Ordinance lays down that:

"The Authority shall ensure that the Broadcasting services provided under this Ordinance shall be of good quality, both as to the transmission and as to the matter transmitted, and shall be calculated to promote the public interest".

(Section 7 (i))

It also declares however, that these broadcasting services "may be provided for and on behalf of the Authority by broadcasting contractors who, under contract with the Authority, have in consideration of payment to the Authority and subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, the right and duty to provide such services for and on behalf of the Authority, which right and duty in respect of any of such services may be conferred by the Authority under a contract as an exclusive right and duty for the duration of the contract without prejudice to the right of the Authority to provide such services".

(Section 3 (2))

Economic forces tend to emphasize the need for control and regulation and since the present broadcasting system in Malta is a mixture of public service and commercial enterprise, the Authority's regulatory powers are, at times, found necessary. The Authority tries to balance any excessive tendency towards programmes of immediate popular appeal by using its powers of prescription, that is, it finances programmes of a serious and informative nature.

The Broadcasting Agreements inherited by the Authority specify that the choice of programmes on both sound and television is primarily a matter for the Contractors. The Authority, however, has the right to intervene to ensure that proper balance is kept and that everything broadcast is of good quality. Whilst bearing this in mind, it might help to clarify the relative roles of the Authority (with its rather negative powers) and the Contractors in the process of programme selection and production.

The Authority is represented on three standing Committees — the Television Programme Advisory Committee; the Sound Programme Planning Committee and the Current Affairs Programme Committee. These committees meet regularly to discuss new plans and to review past programme performance. They are also used as one of the channels for making known to the Contractors the Authority's views on broad aspects of programme policy.

Since errors of judgement are inevitable from time to time, the Authority conducts for its own purposes a monitoring system which can bring to notice matters to which exception might be taken. The Contractors are notified of any retrospective judgements reached by the Authority about the content and presentation of programmes and action is taken to prevent a recurrence. This system of continuous supervision and surveillance of programmes works well and ensures that, as far as possible, mistakes do not go undetected and uncorrected. As a

result of this process of examination and enquiry there have been occasions when the Authority has had to intervene but it has never been felt desirable to describe publicly the nature and extent to which the Authority contributes to programme decisions.

Consultation is invariably held in two directions, sometimes set in motion by the Authority and sometimes by the Contractors. It is a matter of routine to require the Contractors to supply information about their programmes and to call for further clarification when it seems necessary to do so in order to ensure that the provisions of the Ordinance and the Broadcasting Agreements are observed. In the case of imported films it is usual to rely, in the first instance, on the Contractor's judgement as to overall suitability and time scheduling. When a particular programme infringes the Authority's known views on decency or violence either judicious editing or withdrawal of the programme is resorted to. The Authority's staff may be consulted in such cases and, on occasion, programmes are made available for previewing before a decision is taken to include them in the schedules.

The final step in the process of programme planning is the submission of schedules for approval by the Authority. These must be made available by at least four weeks before they come into operation.

The Wireless Sound Broadcasting Service

One of the three Broadcasting Agreements between the Authority and the Rediffusion Group of Companies concerns the operation of a wireless sound service, or "Radio Malta" as it has become commonly known. This Agreement gives the Malta Television Service Ltd., exclusive rights (in so far as the Authority is concerned) for a period of ten years from September 1961, to provide wireless sound programmes in Malta. After September 1971, exclusivity would lapse but the contract will remain binding for a further 15 years. The service should have become operational by not later than 1966 but in deference to the wishes of the Government and in view of negotiations which had begun between the Government and the Authority on the future of this service the Company decided to ask for an extension of its commencement date. After consultation with the Government a series of extensions were granted by the Authority — the latest (granted on 28th March 1970) to expire on the 28th Sepember, 1970*.

Meanwhile, consultations which had been going on for several

^{*}NOTE: In September 1970 the Authority granted a further extension of six months expiring on the 28th March 1971.

years have been suspended and despite pressure from the Authority the Government has not yet given a definite indication about the future prospects of this service. This problem seems to be clouded with other issues which have now become more evident with the acquisition by Government of a Radio Station to be set up by a German broadcasting organisation.

The European Broadcasting Union

The Broadcasting Authority and The Malta Television Service Ltd. became joint Active Members of the European Broadcasting Union on 1st January, 1970. As Associate Members they had already for some years been taking part in the work of the Union. This change in the status of the Maltese broadcasting organisations became obligatory after a revision of the Union's statutes which made it clear that E.B.U. member countries situated in Europe could only be retained in or admitted to the Union as active members.

The European Broadcasting Union has no commercial aim. Its subjects include the promotion and coordination of Study Groups on all questions relating to broadcasting, the exchange of information on all matters of general interest to broadcasting services and assistance in the development of broadcasting in all its forms. The E.B.U. also offers member countries the assistance of its specialised staff in negotiations of any kind or, at the country's request, it can also negotiate on its behalf.

Malta has benefitted in various ways through its affiliation with the European Broadcasting Union and it is hoped that broadcasting in Malta will continue to derive further benefit in future.

It will be recalled that Dr. G. Strashnov, the Director of the E.B.U.'s Legal Affairs Department, had visited Malta some years ago at the Authority's invitation and had helped in the drafting of new Copyright legislation. The new Copyright Act which contains a number of innovations to broadcasting in Malta was approved by the House of Representatives in 1967 and was brought into force during the year under review.

A number of Eurovision programmes which were transmitted under the auspices of the European Broadcasting Union were relayed by M.T.V. These included sport, religious functions and other international events. By far the most significant from the historical and other aspects was the coverage given to the Apollo 11 and Apollo 12 missions which were relayed with commentaries in Maltese by Charles Xerri. It is estimated that over 140,000 televiewers in Malta saw the landing of the first man on the moon on the 21st July, 1969.

During the year the Authority and M.T.V. acted as hosts to the

E.B.U.'s Group on Assistance to Broadcasting Organisations which held their annual meeting in Malta from October 24th to the 27th. This Group which met under the Chairmanship of Mr. W. Hess, the Director-General of one of the German Broadcasting Organisations and



Representatives from France, Norway, Britain, Italy and Malta and EBU officials at the meeting of the EBU's Group on Assistance to Broadcasting Organisations held in Malta.

Vice-President of the E.B.U., included delegates representing the British, French, Italian, Norwegian and Tunisian broadcasting organisations as well as two of the Directors of the E.B.U. Permanent Services. The meeting discussed questions of assistance to developing nations which were subsequently brought to the attention of the E.B.U. Administrative Council.

Finance

It is generally accepted that financial independence is the essence of freedom and previous Annual Reports published by the Authority have all emphasised the fact that its independence from outside control and the quality of its programmes must to a great extent be related to the state of its finances.

For a proper understanding of this recurring problem it may be

necessary to explain that the Authority is not asking for an increase in the Wireless Licence Fee. The annual fee for a combined Radio and Television licence stands at £4 and this should be adequate for several years to come. But it is regretted that a reasonable proportion of it is not ploughed back into broadca ing. The following table will clearly prove this.

Financial Year	Government receipts from Wireless Licences	Authority's Receipts	Percentage withheld from broadcasting
	£	£	%
1966/67	145,382	45,000	69.0
1967/68	146,727	50,000	66.0
1968/69	167,703	55,000	67.0
1969/70	175,000 (est.)	60,000	66.0

The Authority has been pressing for a long time for an amendment to the financial clauses in the Broadcasting Ordinance which, as presently worded, are equivocal. It is anomalous, to say the least, that an authority whose existence is established by the Constitution which also guarantees that in the exercise of its most important functions it "shall not be subject to the direction or control of any other person or authority", should have its independence threatened through such a vulnerable source as finance.

The Authority acknowledges that over the last few years improvement was made in the amount of funds placed at its disposal — £80,000 have been made available for the financial year 1970/71. But it is obviously desirable that to preserve the independence and the proper functioning of the Authority, its income be adequate and guaranteed.

Programme Developments

Pride of place amongst the programme developments which took place during the year must be given to the new system of Party Political Broadcasts which was introduced last October. For the first time in Malta television viewers and Radio listeners were offered a more attractive system of political broadcasting. Despite initial difficulties, the new scheme, which devotes a substantial amount of airtime to political Press Conferences and debates, has radically altered the traditional pattern of political broadcasting and seems to have been generally ac-

cepted by the public and politicians alike. Further details about the new arrangements are provided in other sections of this Report.

Another important development took place in the sphere of schools broadcasting which for the first time in its 20-year history in Malta has extended its listenership to private schools. It has been universally recognised that the broadcasting media are influential instruments and that maximum use should be made of these instruments in the realm of formal education. The value of the present Schools broadcasting service provided by the Authority has been stressed on various occasions by parents and educationalists. However, until last October this service was available mainly to children attending Government schools who tuned in to these broadcasts in the afternoons. The Authority, with the cooperation of Rediffusion (Malta) Ltd., and the Private Schools Association, extended the broadcasts to morning school hours and, as a result, some 5,000 children attending non-state schools are now able to benefit from this educational service which caters for various age groups and covers a wide range of subjects.

The first full Sunday news bulletin to be transmitted by the Contractors was put on the air on the 15th March. Regular daily (except Sundays) bulletins had been broadcast since the Authority was set up in 1961 but these did not include an up-to-date service on Sundays when only a local and foreign news roundup of the previous week's events was transmitted. The Authority had been asking the Contractors to remedy this unsatisfactory position and after further negotiation the Contractors extended this essential service to Sundays in accordance with the policy laid down by the Authority. The News Service is fully financed from the Programme Companies' own resources.

Another improvement requested by the Authority and which, regretfully, has not yet been implemented concerns the introduction of a broadcast daily summary from the editorials and a weekly review on television of parliamentary activities. The Authority considers that both these programmes should find a place in the Programme Companies' schedules.

Since last September the Authority has shown a number of operas on television. These were transmitted on a monthly basis and from various reports appearing in the Press and letters received by the Authority it seems that these programmes are appreciated and widely followed.

Financial and other difficulties were encountered in connection with the acquisition, scheduling and transmission of lyric operas but the Authority hopes that similar programmes will continue to feature prominently in its quarterly schedules.

Overseas Contacts

In the sphere of broadcasting, it is always useful and quite often necessary to keep in close touch with developments overseas. Personal contact with the executive heads of other broadcasting organisations can therefore be of great benefit. Mr. Antoine Ellul, the Authority's Secretary who is also carrying out the day-to-day business pertaining to the office of Chief Executive, visited London for talks with officials of the B.B.C. and attended several viewing sessions which were organised by the marketing agencies of those companies engaged in the sale of their television programmes overseas. While in the U.K. Mr. Ellul also visited the Thomson Foundation Television College in Glasgow where most of the Authority's Programme Editors have received excellent training in television production technique. Arrangements were made to continue with this training programme until all the Authority's production staff are competently provided with the necessary practical knowledge to enable them to carry out their duties efficiently.

At the invitation of the Federal German Government, Mr. Ellul also visited Germany for a highly instructive and useful tour of several Radio and Television organisations. New contacts were made and a number of sources of possible programme supply were discovered.

During this year, MTV's Head of Programmes went to Dublin for the fourth Golden Harp Festival and the Head of Sales attended the Television Advertising Congress which was held in London last October.

Overseas visitors to Malta included representatives of broadcasting organisations from Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Norway who together with senior officials of the European Broadcasting Union held their annual Study Group meeting in the Island. The Sales Manager of the Radio and Television Service of Western Nigeria came to Malta on a short attachment with MTV.

International Contests

It is encouraging to record in reports of this nature the successes achieved besides the failures or shortcomings. MTV's film entry for the "Golden Harp" Festival held in Dublin last year was awarded a "Special Mention" and tied for third place with the entry of the Soviet Union. This programme entitled An Eye to Reckon With was written by Francis Ebejer based on research by John Bezzina. It deals with traditional practices and protective measures used in these Islands against the evil eye. The programme, filmed entirely on location.



This is to certify that the international festival jury awarded a Special Mention to the programme "An Eye to Reckon With" submitted by Malta Television Service in recognition of its high technical and artistic merit and its treatment of a theme fully appropriate to the objectives of the festival

Therefore we have been serviced for the European Broadcastmouthon the serviced for the European Broadcastmouthon

The certificate of special mention awarded to "An Eye to Reckon With" at the Golden Harp Festival 1969.

included Inez Farrugia, Gemma Portelli, Vitorin Galea, Josephine Zammit Cordina, George Portelli, Josephine Mahoney and Patrick Mahoney. The programme was directed by Alan Meadows. Twenty-seven entries from twenty-five countries competed in this fourth folk-lore television festival.

The Authority also took part for the third successive year in the "Japan Prize International Educational Programme Contest". This year's entry, called *Living Together*, demonstrated the inter-dependence of living things for the various necessities of life. Although the programme did not win any prizes it was highly rated by the international panel of judges.

The Japan Prize was established by NHK (Nippon Hoso Kyokai) in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of broadcasting and the Second World Conference of Broadcasting Organisations on Sound and Television School Broadcasting held in Tokyo to contribute towards improvement of educational programmes. The fifth session of "The Japan Prize" held in November 1969 was organized on a large scale with 86 broadcasting organisations from 56 countries taking part.

IN selecting and prescribing programmes, the Authority is not concerned with the number of listeners or viewers which these might attract but its main aim is to cater for the different shades of public taste irrespective of whether this happens to be the majority or the minority. This cannot and does not mean that the Programme Companies do not provide a balanced programme fare, but with the negative powers which are vested in the Authority it has been amply demonstrated over the past nine years that this system helps considerably to make up for any lack of positive regulation which unfortunately still prevails.

Despite some divergent views tenaciously held about this aspect of the Authority's functions, there seems to be general commendation for the nature and quality of the Authority's programmes. Press comments consistently show that the high standards achieved by the Authority's programmes have been effectively instrumental in raising the level of popular tastes in literature, music and other cultural fields. There was virtually no complaint that the Authority's programming was too highbrow; indeed there was some demand for a greater proportion of the more serious and informative type of programmes.

During the year under review, the Authority's programmes accounted for 12.7% of the total weekly average output on television. A statistical breakdown is provided in Appendix "A". Locally originated programmes which are costly and require much time and effort to produce must necessarily take pride of place in this Report. The Authority's staff was responsible for the production of the following programmes:

● Ghanja tal-Kitba: This series of seven 30-minute programmes was launched with some apprehension in September 1969. It was local television's first attempt to test public reaction with a series of programmes wholly dedicated to Maltese literature. Each programme had its own presenter and scriptwriter and works of a good cross-section of Maltese authors, both the well established and the up-and-coming, were featured.

The theme of each programme was linked as much as possible

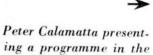




A scene from Rossini's opera "Il Barbiere di Siviglia".

M.B.A. PROGRAMMES

↑ Oliver Friggieri in a programme of the Maltese prose and poetry series "L-Ghanja tal-Kitba".



"Dawra Gnien".

mal-

series



with the month of broadcast. These were "Qniepen ir-Rebha" (September — Malta's Independence Anniversary month); "Qlubija w Idejal" (October); "Xahar It-Tifkiriet" (November); "Milied Malti" (December); "Paċi Jew Gwerra?" (January); "Lirika u Mhabba" (February); "It-Tielet Siegha . . . u d-Dinja Nfdiet" (March — a Holy Week edition).

- Daqqa t'Ghajn: This Current Affairs type of programme was another first-time venture for the Authority's production staff. Topical items featured in this series included the problems of sub-standard houses; the local farming situation; pedestrian subways in traffic congested areas; cigarette smoking as a hazard to health; the prevention of accidents through malfunctioning of gas water heaters; an enquiry into the effect of legislation on shop-closing hours on Sundays and accidents arising out of fireworks manufacture. This series was very well received and although it was temporarily rested at the end of the period under review plans have been made to re-commence transmission in the Autumn of 1970/71.
- Iż-Żghażagh Illum: A series of three programmes broadcast during the summer months dealing with the problems facing today's younger generation. Film material was specifically acquired from Germany, Italy, the U.K. and the U.S.A. and together with interviews filmed locally, the programme sought to evaluate through expert opinion what can really be done to offer help.
- Kuncerti Orkestrali: A series of three programmes featuring the Manoel Theatre Resident Orchestra conducted by Mro. Joseph Sammut.
- Dawra mal-Gnien: A series of fortnightly programmes with useful hints for the amateur gardener. Viewers were encouraged to write to the presenter of the programme about any queries which they might have. The response was overwhelming and ranged from requests for simple information to others requesting the detection of plant disease in samples of plants sent in for inspection.
- Festi... Jew Hbit mill-Ajru?: This documentary which also received a second transmission traced the origin of fireworks production in Malta and stressed the need for adequate measures to be taken to lessen the number of accidents arising out of this popular but dangerous occupation. The spirit of the typical Maltese village festa was well captured by this programme.
- Mill-Bahar Ghall-Bniedem: This 30-minute programme dealt with Malta's proposal at the 22nd Session of the United Nations Gene-

ral Assembly for the peaceful exploitation of the sea-bed. With contributions from a representative of the Ministry of Commonwealth and Foreign Affairs and other interested organisations, the programme discussed various aspects of sea exploration.

- I.L.O.: This documentary was produced to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the International Labour Organisation. It folfollowed the progress made by this organisation since its foundation in 1919 and its activities in the field of international labour problems.
- ⚠ It-Traffiku f Malta: A documentary on the traffic situation in Malta which sought to provide some answer with the help of experts on how to deal with the problem of ever increasing traffic accidents.

In giving this emphasis to local content in the Authority's overall programme output, one must not lose sight of the drastic limitations of staff and equipment with which the Authority has to contend. However, it is felt that the effort and expense are justified as it is this kind of programming which helps to create a Maltese consciousness and a sense of national identity.

During the year the Authority continued to screen a good selection of foreign programmes which included the following:

MUSIC

After a great deal of negotiation the Authority was successful in obtaining a number of well-known lyric operas for local transmission on television. These were: Aida, Il Barbiere de Siviglia, Rigoletto, Carmen, L'Elisir d'Amore and Il Trovatore. Further efforts are being made to screen more operas, if possible on a monthly basis, in future. These operas were inroduced in the Authority's programme schedule for the Autumn 1969 and were immediately successful with the viewers. Each programme was preceded by a short synopsis in Maltese which, judging from the number of unsolicited letters received, seems to have been very much appreciated.

Other music programmes included The Rise and Fall of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart; Double Concerto; Canzone Mia (a short history, presented with a Maltese commentary, of Neapolitan songs) and 20 hourlong programmes entitled Festival of Performing Arts which featured such personalities as Andre Segovia, Pablo Casals, Jehudi Menuhin, Miriam Makeba, Isaac Stern and Cesare Siepi.

INFORMATIVE/CURRENT AFFAIRS

Who Runs Europe (four programmes about the men who hold the power); International Zone (a series of programmes produced by United

Nations Television); Russia in the Mediterranean; From Here to the Seventies; Death by Misadventure (three major disasters involving the loss of airship R101, the sinking of the submarine Thetis and the torpedoing of the liner Lusitania); Irish Troubles; Berlin, the Haunted House; The Reporters (six programmes); The Days the World Went Mad and The Descendants (a series of programmes featuring the descendants of Napoleon Bonaparte, the Kaiser, the Bernadottes, the Tolstoys, the Bourbons, the Hapsburgs and the Romonoffs).

ARTS AND DRAMA

Further episodes from the Festival of Performing Arts which included Robert Morley, Paul Scofield, Margaret Leighton, the Shakespearean Players, Joyce Grenfell and Zero Mostel; Portrait of a Lady (based on the novel by Henry James about a girl who lets nothing interfere with what she considers to be her duty); Smugglers' Bay (six episodes) and The Art of Art Forgery.

LANGUAGE COURSES

The Authority has always been keen on the use of the broadcasting media as a vehicle for the teaching of languages. During previous years several programmes of this nature were attempted with courses in Maltese, English, Italian and German. The year under review saw the introduction of another language course: French. This consisted in a series of 30 lessons designed to give absolute beginners the ability to speak simple French with confidence and a good accent. The course was supported by textbooks and gramophone records which were available for sale at the Authority's offices.

Another language course started during the year as a joint MBA/MTV presentation and concerned the English language. The 26 quarter-of-an-hour programmes combined teaching for near beginners with a science-fiction adventure serial.

DOCUMENTARIES

Whicker's World (a series of highly informative and entertaining programmes by Alan Whicker who is probably the most travelled man in all British television. The series included such programmes as "The Solitary Billionaire," "A Few Castles in Spain", "The Rock of Gibraltar", "How to Spend £600,000 a day", "Japanese Women", "These Humble Shores — Monaco" and "The Model Millionaires"); Papa Doc—The Black Sheep (also produced by Alan Whicker); Mata Hari; Never a Backward Step (featuring Lord Thomson of Fleet); Roberto Rossellini's Sicily; The Big Sell (International Trade Fairs); The Merchant Bankers; Twilight of an Empire; Heaven Down Under; The Stanley Matthews Story; The Ceremonial Man; The First Americans;



Rolf Harris entertains in "Hey Presto - It's Rolf". (BBC)

Lord Louis Mountbatten with General R. A. Wheeler in "The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten. (Pathe)



Margaret Leighton, one of the international artistes featured in "Festival of Performing Arts". (Screen Gems)



Mr. Dickens of London; Fellini — A Director's Notebook; The Royal Family; The Enchanted Isles; The Courage to Love (screened on the occasion of World Leprosy Day) and No Mean City (Famous cities seen through the eyes of prominent foreign residents).

NATURAL HISTORY AND TRAVEL

Audubon Wildlife Theatre (39 half-hour programmes shot around the world); Two in the Bush (Naturalist Gerald Durrell visits New Zealand, Australia and Malaya); African Odyssey (six programmes which retrace the journey of Dr. Livingstone and reveal some exciting sequences of primitive Africa); Israel — The Holy Land and Cesar's World (a series of 26 programmes which take viewers to various strange and interesting places throughout the world; these programmes were presented with a Maltese commentary).

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES

The Swiss Family Robinson; Disneyland (13 programmes); Bill and Coo (performing birds) and The Little Drummer Boy (a Christmas programme).

RELIGIOUS

Hill No. 1; Who Then Can be Saved?; A Hard Bed to Lie On; The, First Easter and Christ and Disorer.

VARIETY SHOWS

Herb Alpert Tijuana Brass and Herb Alpert — Beat of the Brass (two special shows screened on New Year's Day and during Carnival).

DURING the past year, the Authority's Contractors — Rediffusion (Malta) Limited and The Malta Television Service Limited — announced their intention to form a Maltese public company. The Authority's consent would be required before any alteration to the present arrangements could be effected and the Authority would have to be convinced that such alteration as may be proposed will reflect the public interest. Draft documents relating to this highly complex matter were made available after the end of the year under review and would be considered by the Broadcasting Authority and other appropriate authorities. The Maltese public has the right to expect a high standard of service from those to whom the broadcasting franchise is granted. The Authority has the right and should also have the means to ensure that the service is well rendered.

Television

A total of 1,881 hours of television programmes were broadcast during the year. Of these 34.45% were locally produced. The Authority has the duty under the Broadcasting Ordinance to satisfy itself that so far as possible proper proportion of the recorded and other matter included in the programmes are of Maltese origin and Maltese performance and that a reasonable part of such programmes is in the Maltese language. This is further spelt out in the Television Broadcasting Agreement which interprets "proper proportions" as "at least 20% of the minimum hours of broadcasting" laid down in the Agreement, though the minimum requirement is being substantially exceeded and it is recognized that MTV has already contributed to Malta's cultural growth, much more remains to be done in this field if a sense of Maltese values and national identity is to be created and encouraged. With Malta's limited resources of creative talent and money it would be unreasonable to expect that local productions should all attain the same degrees of satisfactory performance as this would automatically rule out the introduction of budding or amateur artistes to a national audience. However, if MTV take this task to heart and do it with adroitness and perseverance there will likely emerge from time to time really good talent, that might never have developed had it not been provided with the opportunity to grow.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES

Children's programmes account for about 14% of the total programme hours. Two new monthly programmes were introduced during the year. Ittra Ittra, a thirty-minute programme aimed at the 10 to 16 year-olds and featuring various items of interest grouped under a letter of the alphabet, started at the end of September and was well received by young and old alike. The other series called Int u Jien started in January 1970. Programmes in this series seek to foster a greater awareness of the role of youth in society. One of the highlights was the coverage of the visit of members of the St. Aloysius Scout Group to Sicily and the presentation of toys and money to homeless children from the earthquake stricken village of Montevago.

The programme Mid-Dinja tat-Tfal which ran regularly for nearly three years came to an end in December 1969. The very successful fortnightly series Studio ghat-Tfal, rested during the summer, was resumed in October with a new setting and a change in format. "Guests" on this programme included well-known singers, performers and personalities in various fields.

Plans were made during the year for the setting up of a children's TV club with the aim of getting together as many child viewers as possible and at the same time providing them with an opportunity to learn more about their own programmes and to put forward suggestions on their likes and dislikes. The club would also help to bring together talented youngsters who would in turn be given a chance to take part on television.

The weekly series of programmes for the very young Ghat-Tfal iż-Żghar was replaced in August by a weekly series of stories on film with a commentary in Maltese. The programmes Kinky Dinky, Dawra Durella, Wiċċ imb Wiċċ and Kaleidescope came to an end in December. The series Wiċċ imb Wiċċ created considerable interest as it provided an opportunity for youths from different walks of life to meet and question prominent Maltese personalities.

In January 1970 two new fortnightly series came into being: Euro Quiz — a series of seven quiz programmes about different countries in Europe, in which teams of students from Government and Private schools took part; Popli u Pajjiżi — a series of documentaries about different peoples and their customs. Both series ended in March 1970.

Principessa Gugu and Gabaż u l-Principessa were two plays for children adapted for Television. The first was an effort by the Qormi Boys and Girls Primary Schools while the second was awarded first prize in the 1969 National Children Drama Festival.

The question of violence in children's programmes which used to crop up in previous years was kept in check by programme planners. The Authority generally shared the widely-held feeling that violence in programmes is very much a question of taste and common sense together with a feeling of respect for this special audience. The Authority's policy has always been to exclude any violence which the children could easily be tempted to follow. Unnecessary dwelling on violent and sordid situations are also considered as unforgivable lapses in taste and respect, dangerous because they might invite imitation by the child in real life. It should be noted with satisfaction that most of the characters appearing in children's programmes shown during the year were seen working out their problems by peaceful means.

DRAMA

Locally originated plays continued to attract a large audience. Sur-



Marianne Scerri and Joe Zammit Cordina in the teleplay "Ir-Ragel li kienet thobb".

veys carried out by MTV during the year showed that the Maltese teleplay was followed by an audience of over 100,000. Nine plays were transmitted during the period under review. Six of these plays were written by Maltese playwrights and three translated and adapted from foreign works. Improvement was registered in studio settings and designs which helped to create the atmosphere required by the plot in each case. Worthy of special mention were the two tier wooden hut set required by Il-Barrani; the 'cave' setting in Ir-Raġel li kienet Thobb and the elaborate 'flat' interior for Lahaq. The standard of acting is also improving and although scriptwriters are still new to the medium it appears that an effort has been made to select the best material available. Plots ranged from semi-documentary type (Pilatus) to comedy (Nhar it-Tieġ) but humour in teleplays is still rather hard to come by. Forty-five actors and actresses have taken part in teleplays transmitted up to March 1970.

A TV Drama Advisory Panel (made up of Fr. H. Born, Francis Ebejer, Dr. Paul Xuereb, Lawrence Mizzi and Charles Abela Mizzi) has been set up to advise on the selection of plays submitted for transmission and to advise on different aspects of playwriting for Television. MTV intends to hold TV Seminars in future during which members of the panel will discuss scriptwriting techniques. The panel met five times since its setting up on 17th December 1969; forty-four plays have been dealt with.

In January 1970, MTV instituted an annual award for the author of the best original teleplay transmitted during the year. Points will be awarded by members of the panel.

VARIETY AND LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

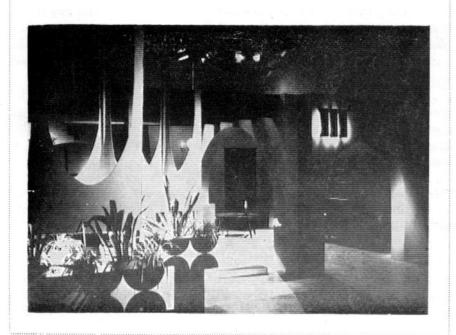
MTV's light entertainment programmes had been the subject of criticism in the Authority's previous Annual Report on the grounds that these were unimaginative and tended to level off their standards at the lowest common denominator. 1969-70 saw the beginnings of what could have been a transformation but the end result was generally still far below expectations.

Early during the year MTV introduced a 60-minute quiz programme Kaxxa Infernali which although elaborately planned with some variety items included in the programme did not succeed either in entertaining or educating. Teams from fourteen towns and villages in Malta and Gozo took part together with singers, comedians and special guests. The series ended in December.

Foldback, a series of fortnightly half-hour musical programmes, ended in April; this was replaced by another fortnightly series called Nintroduċu which presented the talents of 38 performers, the majority of whom were new to television. The series met with favourable comments



Sets for MTV's variety series "Vuċijiet u Melodiji".



and plans are in hand to organize a similar series during the Summer 1970. Nintroduċu ended in September and was replaced by Tempo during the last quarter of 1969. Tempo featured popular songs and dances of different musical eras from the 1920's to modern times.

In January *Tempo* was followed by *Solo*, another fortnightly musical half-hour programme designed to show the versatility of local or visiting performers.

Vucifiet u Melodiji, which replaced the inter-village quiz in January 1970, was a notable exception to an otherwise uninspiring light entertainment output. Elaborate settings, special musical arrangements and other obvious painstaking production work were the ingredients which made this 50-minute monthly musical series a success.

In addition there were also a number of 'ad hoc' light entertainment programmes which included Les Angeliques; Kant Kontinentali; Highlights from the Malta Song Festival; The West Indian Steel-Combo; two programmes with The Good News Singers; Xmas Tricks by Vanni Pulè and The St. Joseph College Band.

In addition, there were also the Eurovision Song Contest 1970 and The Vienna New Year Concert which were relayed through Eurovision with a commentary in Maltese.

CLASSICAL MUSIC AND BALLET

The presentation of programmes in the "Recital" series continued on a monthly basis. Performers included Zmira Lutsky (violin) and Heidi Thalman (piano); Simonide Chappelle (violin) and Marian Coppini (piano); Antoinette Miggiani (soprano) (two programmes); and Dennis Kestel (tenor). Two Leimer piano recitals and two 18th Century music recitals were acquired through the E.B.U. from Poland and Ireland.

A special 60-minute anniversary programme L-Isbah Xewqat, dedicated to Maltese compositions and ballet, brought together the talents of some of the best local performers in the classical music field. The choreography and costume design for the ballet sequences depicted a 'festa' scene and a 'Wine festival'.

Il-Fidwa, a 60-minute religious music programme broadcast during Holy Week, featured a number of musical works specially composed for the occasion. One of the highlights of this programme was a 14-minute 'ballet' based on "Christ's Last Words on the Cross".

MAGAZINE PROGRAMMES

Il-Mara tal-Lum, the weekly women's magazine programme, entered its third year. Dealing with all aspects of women's life the programme continued to cater for a large audience. Efforts were made to give the programme a lift from time to time and to inject new subjects in answer

to viewers' suggestions. Cookery, sewing and beauty treatment were the most popular subjects.

Telecine, the weekly programme highlighting the main programmes during the week, continued on the same basis as in 1968-1969.

L-Arti Madwarna, a magazine on cultural activities in the Island and Calypso, a documentary type programme for Gozo, came to an end in December. On the Authority's insistence plans were made to reschedule a magazine programme about Gozitan affairs and activities in the April-June quarter.

Both programmes made a good impact on viewers. The new format given to the Calypso programme in April 1969 provided an opportunity for the airing of a number of social problems in Gozo which succeeded in engendering considerable interest.



The popular programme "Wirt Artna" in preparation.

Wirt Artna, a series of fortnightly half-hour magazine type programmes, started in January. The aim of this series was to present a selection of topics, personalities, works and opinions which in one way or another reflect the heritage of our land and its people. Thirty different subjects had been covered up to the end of March 1970. The programme has proved to be a great success.

SPORTS PROGRAMMES

The weekly Sports Panorama programme continued without a break during the period under review. Besides highlighting all the major local events in every field of sport and games the programme brought to viewers famous local and visiting internationally renowned sporting personalities — foremost among these were Sir Stanley Matthews and the Arsenal team captain and manager.

Sports Results were carried every Sunday and introduced also on Saturdays from October 1969.

A number of football matches were also relayed through Eurovision with a commentary in Maltese.

AD-HOC PROGRAMMES

Several programmes, mainly decumentaries, were produced for special occasions. These included the documentaries Vjagg ghall-Qamar; Iż-Zingari tal-Kalabrija; Sette Giugno; Id-Difiża Čivili; Dun Mikiel Xerri; De Soldanis; Rigmenti Maltin; Il-Mithna tar-Rih; Lejliet il-Milied and MTV's entry to the Golden Harp Festival 1969, An Eye to Reckon With, which was accorded a Special Mention award by an International Jury in Dublin.

Special coverage was given through Eurovision to the Apollo 11 and 12 missions. From the 18th to the 24th July a total of 11 hours 17 minutes were devoted to the Apollo 11 mission — 3 hours 55 minutes were locally originated and 7 hours 22 minutes were made up of Eurovision relays with a commentary in Maltese. From the 14th to the 24th November a total of 4 hours 42 minutes were devoted to the Apollo 12 mission — 3 hours 22 minutes were relays with a commentary in Maltese and 1 hour 20 minutes consisted of locally originated material.

In collaboration with the Traffic Section of Police Headquarters, MTV transmitted a series of explanatory items about traffic signs, a number of which had become effective recently. Each item was illustrated and the information was repeated in Maltese and English.

FOREIGN PROGRAMMES

Recorded programmes imported from foreign countries occupied 65.55 per cent of the total transmissions time. Adventure stories about crime and detection continued to fill a good part of the time devoted to entertainment. This is likely to be so in commercial television and although the Authority does not want to detract from the medium any of its entertainment element it is concerned that this type of programme should not monopolize an excessive proportion of the total programme time in the peak viewing hours. Such series as The Saint; Mission Im-

possible; The F.B.I.; It Takes a Thief and The Rogues were very popular. The Saint topped the popularity poll with 131,000 viewers a week.

Among the foreign programmes purchased by MTV were some outstanding series which included The Power Game; The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten; The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich; Armchair Theatre; The Rolf Harris Show; Bewitched; The Lucy Show; Mothersin-Law and the western High Chaparral.

FEATURE FILMS

The scheduling of feature films in the week's programmes has been a regular practice on MTV for many years. Until last year, these were the target for criticism both from the Authority and the Press although they attracted a large audience. The major criticism was that they were invariably ancient productions dating to pre-war days and of very mediocre quality.

The situation was remedied last year when MTV introduced a Monday Cinema slot with films of a more recent vintage. Films of the calibre of An Inspector Calls; I Confess; Rebel Without a Cause and Phantom of the Rue Morgue were widely seen and enjoyed during the year.

ENGINEERING

Breakdowns during the year due to technical failure amounted to 47 minutes. Loss of transmission due to breakdowns in the electricity supply amounted to 6 hours and 5 minutes.

TRAINING

MTV, in co-operation with the University authorities, arranged a crash course in the English Language for Continuity Announcers at the Modern Language Laboratories of the Royal University.

A Seminar on religious broadcasting, organized by the National Commission for the Media of Social Communication and by MTV, was held at Television House.

MTV's Head of Technical Services attended a Video and Mincom Products Symposium held in Beirut in January; he also paid a visit to RAI in Rome.

One of MTV's Producer-Directors spent two weeks with RAI in Rome and Naples on a working attachment and another Producer-Director attended the Monte Carlo Festival in February.

Rediffusion Sound Service

Rediffusion (Malta) Limited, the Authority's Contractor for the Sound broadcasting service underwent a change in management during the year. Mr J. N. Tabone who had been appointed Manager of the local station in 1966 was succeeded by Mr J. Avellino in September 1969. Rediffusion's internal difficulties did not go unnoticed in the Press which reported freely on the aspects of the matter. The Authority was concerned that Rediffusion programmes which were interrupted briefly following protest action by members of the staff upon the announcement of the change in Management should resume as soon as possible and the necessary measures were taken towards this end.

During the year under review the number of sets connected to Rediffusion's wired network continued to increase and at the end of March 1970 the number of sets on service reached a total of 56,743 — an increase of 4,259 over the same period last year. This steady growth continues to indicate that, at least under present conditions, sound broadcasting in Malta is not yet seriously menaced by competition either through television or other sources. As television programmes are pushed farther back into day-time (something which, even in Malta, is not altogether impracticable) or if a competitive Radio station becomes firmly established, Rediffusion will no longer have the almost exclusive day-time monopoly which it now enjoys.

PROGRAMMES AND LISTENERSHIPS

During 1969-70, Rediffusion's two channel network broadcast 6162 hours on the 'National' channel and 6188 hours on the 'International'. Programme content remained largely the same as in 1968-69 on the National channel with the exception of political broadcasts which increased by about seven hours over the corresponding period last year. This was due to the introduction by the Authority of its new system of party political broadcasts about which further details are given in the following chapter. A decrease in programme output was registered in talks and discussions (3.98 hours weekly to 3.50 hours); variety programmes (2.29 hours weekly to 1.08 hours) and serious music (7.76 hours weekly to 7.02 hours). Schools and adult education programmes increased by 0.69 and 1.13 hours weekly respectively. Foreign content on the national Channel continued to fall from 1.7 per cent in 1968-69 to 1.3 per cent this year.

Programme series worthy of special mention broadcast on the National channel were Contemporary Music; Studio Stadium; The Artist wants to Know; Ornithology in Malta; The Bible Today; Education for Youngsters; The Helsinki Festival of Serious Music which was received through the Authority from the European Broadcasting Union; Famous Painters; Man and His World; Gran Gala Maltija and a series of talks about the International Labour Organization.

The National Network has also been the subject of various changes in programme timings. These changes have been made either to accommodate large number of Rediffusion listeners or to make the programme timings fit in better with seasonal changes.

Although the International Network was made up principally of programmes from the BBC World Service, a number of programme series requested from other broadcasting stations and relayed by Rediffution over the International Network have been broadcast in the past year. This resulted in a decrease of about 7 per cent on last year's total of BBC World Service relays which now occupy 80.27 per cent of the total programme output on the International Network. The Authority would like this proportion further reduced in favour of greater diversification.

Countries that contributed programmes to the International Network included the United States of America, South Africa, the United



Gran Gala Maltija, a variety series on Rediffusion's National Network.

Kingdom, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Scandinavia, the United Nations and others. Some of these programmes were ordered from the transcription services of various radio organisations and foreign governmental programme agencies. Others were purchased by the Company from programme distributors and merchandising contractors.

Programmes produced locally have also been increased. Of these the following are worthy of mention: — Music and Politics; Pages from History; A date with English Literature; Anniversaries of Great Personalities and Events; Concert Hour, a programme of classical music; Duello; Living Shakespeare and French Without Tears; a series of lessons in the French language.

Towards the end of the year under review Rediffusion commissioned a listenership survey to follow that organized in 1967. These surveys are partly used to base alterations to programme schedules and the latest survey which an independent market research agency conducted on behalf of Rediffusion, provided listenership figures which are the highest achieved to date. For *The Breakfast Show*, for example, the 1967 survey provided a figure of 44,000 as the highest listenership mark. The 1970 market research brings cut a figure of 80,000 on Wednesdays and 80,000 on Fridays for the same programme. Classical music has also increased listenership.

According to the same survey, locally produced musical programmes continue to receive massive public support. The leading programme in this category was *Gran Gala Maltija* with a listenership of 80,000 on Tuesdays at 7.00 p.m. and 78,000 people listening to the repeat programme on Sunday mornings. While Women's programmes maintained a steady average listenership, humorous programmes were given substantial public affirmation. *Kieku* which was a humorous programme with a resident panel achieved a listenership figure of 78,000. Drama and Sport have also made steady gains in listenership.

In last year's Annual Report the Authority expressed some misgivings about audience research of this nature which only measures the size of the audience that is *physically* present and not at all the intensity of listening on the part of that audience. These surveys may be more useful to the advertiser than to the broadcaster because the advertiser is not usually as interested in audience reaction as in audience size. They are strictly a quantitative measure not a qualitative one. Some people may turn on their sets when they get up in the morning and leave them on until they go to bed at night. At best, such audience surveys reveal which programmes people choose from among those available.

SERIOUS AND POPULAR MUSIC

Popular music accounted for 42.73 per cent of the total programme time on the National Network and 24.86 per cent of the International. This is by far the largest category. While standard programmes like *The Breakfast Show* on the National Network and *Turn On, Tune In* on the International, continued to maintain high listenership among those who

followed light and popular music, a steady move towards music of a serious nature had also been felt. In the light and popular view, there had been a large number of programmes broadcast by the National Network which had been followed by Rediffusion listeners. These included The Breakfast Show; The Top Twenty Show; a large number of request programmes; Hit or Miss, on which a panel of speakers give their views on new record releases; Parade of the Pops and Favourite Melodies, a programme of nostalgic light music which is aimed at the not so young.

The programmes of serious music which have been most favourably received by Rediffusion listeners were the Monday Night Concert which Rediffusion relayed from Radio Televisione Italiana, the Thursday Instrumental Recital and The Friday Night Concert, a full hour of serious music.

Also closely followed by lovers of serious music have been the four series of 13 programmes each produced by the National Network. These dealt with different aspects of the works by various well known toreign composers.

The present programme policy in relation to programmes which include serious music is to encourage further production and to increase the quantity of these programmes on the National Network. In an effort to please further the followers of Rediffusion's serious music programmes, a large number of classical records were purchased during the year. These were included in various programmes.

Opera is also widely followed in Malta and Rediffusion listeners look forward to the various concerts of Operatic Music on the National Network. The most popular of these was the Sunday Opera Request programme which had an extensive following in Malta and Gozo.

During the year, Rediffusion broadcast twelve full operas. With the increased publicity that these operas received, it is felt that listenership increased. This year, Rediffusion also initiated the replenishment of the Opera section of the Record Library with the purchase of several new operas to replace the ones in stock.

Maltese music is becoming increasingly popular and many Maltese listeners prefer programmes of local music to those which include foreign records. The Rediffusion programme dedicated to Maltese requests continued to receive a large number of letters asking for works of Maltese composers to be played on the air. Gran Gala Maltija also helped to increase public appreciation of local compositions and the last series of eight programmes which was held between January and March 1970 was perhaps the most popular series of local music to date.

During the first part of this year, firm plans were negotiated for the setting up of a series of 40 musical programmes featuring international and Maltese music. This series which has been titled Festa includes Malta's leading performers. The programme is organized on a competitive basis. At the end of the series, Maltese singers will cut their first record for the International market and will be invited to appear on television outside Malta.

As in previous years, Rediffusion organized a special anniversary edition of *The Breakfast Show* on January 14th, 1970. For the first time, *The Breakfast Show* went over the air as Disc Jockey Norman Hamilton broadcast his programme over a mobile transmitter from a Rediffusion van. Prizes were also distributed along the route.

DRAMA

The output of Rediffusion on plays and serials has remained unaltered, accounting for 104 self contained plays and 104 episodes.

After negotiations with the Union for Drama, Rediffusion raised the fees to actors, producers and scriptwriters. By March 1970, fees had been raised by 60%. Increased expenditure also had to be met by way of technical improvements mostly suggested by producers themselves.

The system of presenting awards at the end of the Drama Year (September) was maintained and ten awards consisting of gold, silver and bronze stars as well as cash prizes were made.

During 1970, Rediffusion met the request of several drama enthusiasts to hold monthly workshops at which those connected with Rediffusion's drama output could meet and discuss points of interest. The monthly workshops began in January 1970. All workshops have been well attended and there seems to be a keen interest in the proceedings. It is hoped that these efforts will raise the level of drama programmes, which at times is unacceptably low.

MALTESE NOVELS

The reading of Maltese novels on Rediffusion is quite popular with the average listener. Since the new Rediffusion policy in favour of original works for broadcasting came into operation, a number of translated works or original books that had already been published were not being read on the National network since the new policy had stimulated the writing of more original works.

To be able to slot translated works as well, Rediffusion created a new weekly half hour for translated works that had been published. This was well received by listeners.

SPORT

Sports coverage has been possible through the regular programmes including the 5 minute sports news, the weekly 10 minute sports review,

the Sunday programme Sports Special and the Monday lunchtime sports programme Sportsdesk. In the year under review the fullest possible reportage was made of local football matches, both those connected with Maltese leagues and International matches in which Maltese teams have taken part. When these matches were played outside Malta, direct contact was made by telephone with the representatives of the Malta Football Association. These telephone conversations were recorded and later broadcast over the National Network of Rediffusion.

During the year, Rediffusion increased their financial contribution to the Malta Football Association.

WOMEN'S PROGRAMMES

Representatives of the Authority and of Kediffusion met during the year to discuss improvements to some of the magazine programmes especially Women's and children's programmes. Rediffusion's audience survey indicated that an average of 60,000 housewives listen to Il-Hajja tal-Mara, the daily programme for women on the National Network, which day in day out addresses itself to the needs of housewives all over Malta and Gozo. Efforts were made to topicalise the programme and to bring into it as many experts as possible. These contributed talks on many subjects of interest to women.

During the year another women's programme Women's Weekly was terminated. In its place, Rediffusion included a new series of programmes directed at those housewives who are more familiar with the newspapers and magazines which are imported into Malta from abroad and with the current trends to various matters connected with feminine interests. The programme provided a background to subjects with which women may already be familiar through following the press specialised in providing female feature page. Bejnietna in-Nisa, as the programme is titled, also included from time to time discussions about various topics.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES

Plans were worked out in the course of the year for the introduction of children's programmes on a daily basis and Rediffusion took steps to set up a panel of organizers to put this into effect.

The first panel of children's programmes was made up of Mr F. Said (Chairman), Mr L. Mizzi, Mr C. Thake and Mr T. Cutajar.

The brief given by Rediffusion to the organizing Committee of Children's programmes was to initiate daily programmes for child: en from May 1970.

QUIZZES, PANEL GAMES AND HUMOUR

Several quiz and panel games were broadcast during the year and

most of these received their share of appreciation by the press and the Rediffusion listeners.

Humour is also a great favourite with the Rediffusion audience and in spite of a dearth of Maltese humour writers, Rediffusion tried to bring to the microphone as much humorous programmes as possible. One programme in this group was Kieku, a series of half hour programmes with a resident panel. The presenter faced members of the panel with hypothetical situations to which they were asked to react. This programme started off with a mixed public reaction but steadily gained ground and Rediffusion's latest survey indicated that it has an audience of about 78,000 listeners. Some of the early programmes were of rather doubtful taste with a brand of humour which only appealed to the undiscriminating audience. The Authority drew the Company's attention to the need for improvement.

During the year plans for a new programme to be called *Radio* Roulette were discussed and outlined. The programme was expected to start in May.

SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

The historic event of the landing of the first man on the moon on July 21st, 1969 was fully covered by Rediffusion. The International Network remained on service after midnight as BBC received direct reports from correspondents in Houston and various other parts of the United States. These were relayed to listeners in Malta. Direct broadcasts were also made from the Voice of America where U.S. correspondents gave every possible detail from the Space centre before the astronauts took the first historic steps on the moon.

At this moment, Rediffusion joined Maltese correspondents in San Francisco, Sydney and London. From each one, listeners received reactions to the moon landing as this was taking place. These reactions were broadcast a few hours later in *The Breakfast Show*.

On December 24th 1969, Rediffusion organized for the third year in succession a special programme in aid of the Wireless for the Blind Fund Committee. In this programme which is based on pledges by request, money is collected for the Society of the Blind, the organization which looks after the blind in Malta. Rediffusion broadcast a total of 28 hours in aid of the blind in Malta and a total of £3,300 were collected from listeners.

The Annual Wireless for the Blind programme is becoming established as a regular charitable feature on Rediffusion every Christmas. The Authority gave its permission for this programme to be broadcast.

ENGINEERING

A total of 35,330 yards of cable was used by Rediffusion in extending the service to outlying districts in Malta and Gozo and in replacing long stretches of the Rediffusion Network. New outside broadcast equipment to the value of £1,000 was added to provide more flexibility and to enable the outside broadcast unit to cope better with more complicated programme requirements.

Seven fully professional recording machines were installed in the central recording rooms in Gwardamanga at a cost of £6,000. The main recording studio equipment has been fully replaced by more modern units which cater for 24 microphone/gramophone channels and echo facilities.

The programme distribution system in Gozo has been considerably improved by the extension of the High Level Links system to all villages on the Island. This means that the programme to all outlying areas is now under control of the central station in Gozo, and the sub-stations at Xaghra and Nadur have been eliminated. In consequence an appreciable improvement in quality has resulted and programme failures resulting from interruptions in the local power supplies have been eliminated. This central distribution system necessitated the use of another 1½ kw amplifier which was installed in January 1970.

The technical quality of Rediffusion's Sound service in Gozo was the subject of criticism by the Authority due to the poor quality of the communication link between the two Islands. Plans were made to replace the existing VHF link by a more modern system which would uprate the power of transmission from the present 20 watts to 50 watts. The Contractor estimated the cost of this link at £3,000. At the end of the year under review, this project had not yet been approved by the Government's Wireless Telegraphy Office on the grounds that a programme from the more powerful link might conceivably be received in Southern Sicily. The Government suggested a less powerful link and if this eventually proved insufficient it was also suggested that the Company might install a repeater station. The additional cost of a repeater would be in the region of £4,000.

The Authority, whose function in the matter is limited to the exercise of control over the technical quality of programme reception in Gozo protested strongly to the Government as under the circumstances it was seen that the proposal for a repeater was both wasteful and unjustified. Besides, without wanting to prejudice in any way the rights of neighbouring countries, the Authority took the view that the interest of Maltese listeners deserved prior consideration. It is hoped that a satisfactory settlement would be reached which, while safeguarding the rights of other countries, would also enable our Gozitan audience

to enjoy the high standard of technical performance to which it is entitled.*

TRAINING

Three engineers were trained in the U.K. during the period under review. All three were attached to the BBC and the Rediffusion Training Centre.

News and Current Affairs

The Sound and Television news services of the Programme Companies are in the charge of the Manager, News Division, who answers directly to the General Manager. This autonomous Division was created during 1968-69 to enhance the status of the department responsible for News and Current Affairs and give it more flexibility in the day-to-day management of its affairs.

During the past year, the News Division broadcast 316 hours of news and comment on sound (Rediffusion) and 216 hours on television. The Authority gives the utmost importance to its Contractors' news services and runs a comprehensive monitoring system to ensure, as far as possible, that local news services are adequate, the criteria for selection of items right and presentation such as to avoid distortion. Any problems or difficulties which arise are brought to the attention of the News Division and followed up with insistence and perseverance.

SUNDAY NEWS

One major improvement introduced during the year was a direct result of the vigorous attitude adopted by the Authority. This concerned the provision of up-to-date news bulletins on Sundays which, prior to the 15th March, 1970 consisted of a round-up of the previous six days' events. This expansion of the service was very well received and is proceeding smoothly.

FOREIGN NEWS

Last year's Report made reference to the unsatisfactory arrangements for the collection and presentation of foreign news. It is regretted that the position has not been remedied. In the Authority's view it is

FOOTNOTE: Clearance was given in July 1970 from the Office of the Prime Minister to establish the V.H.F. Programme link to Gozo and it is hoped that the new service should be in operation after some three months' time.

important that foreign news bulletins broadcast from the local Sound and television stations should not continue to be limited solely to relays and translations of the BBC's news services and to one news agency source which supplies visual items for news bulletins on television. It is the Authority's policy that our broadcasting media should ultimately have their own international news service compatible with the normally accepted standards. This does not imply any criticism of the BBC's foreign news broadcasts which are no doubt expertly compiled. But it is natural for broadcasters in Loudon to look at the world through English eyes and make their selection accordingly. Malta's outlook in foreign affairs is different from that of Britain's and the position must be remedied so that there will be foreign news bulletins which emphasize the events in those countries with which Malta is closely connected by ties of culture, trade, friendship and other relations. The Authority considers that the News Division should be equipped to receive news agency material from various reliable sources from which it could compile its own bulletins of foreign news. It is expected that further progress in this direction will not be unduly delayed.

CURRENT AFFAIRS PROGRAMME

During the course of the year, *Malta Magazine*, which was broadcast on Rediffusion in two editions, was discontinued and replaced by three new news magazine programmes, all of 15 minutes duration.

At lunchtime, the News Division is now broadcasting *Profili*, a programme entirely devoted to local and overseas personalities in the news.

In the evenings, a news programme Minn Ras il-Ghajn is being broadcast. This consists of in-depth interviews on current affairs, actualities and comments on the news. This programme can now embrace items beyond the local scene, although in general terms most of the items have a Malta connection.

Panorama is broadcast every Saturday and consists, as before, of week-end round-up of the pick of the two daily news magazine programmes.

As a result of this re-organization, the output of the News Division increased considerably. Whereas, the total number of items broadcast in *Malta Magazine* in April, May and June of 1969 totalled 289, the corresponding number of interviews broadcast in the first three months of 1970 reached 452.

The News Division broadcast a total of 1,303 interviews and related items in Malta Magazine and the programmes that succeeded it throughout the year under review. The subsidy which the Authority had been paying for a number of years for Malta Magazine was discontinued.

The number of current affairs programmes (other than those men-

tioned above) broadcast during 1969-70 by the News Division totalled 252:138 on Rediffusion and 114 on MTV.

The following is a breakdown of the programmes broadcast:

REDIFFUSION		TELEVISION	
Programme	Number	Programme	Number
Minn Kullimkien	43	Kummentarju	51
Fid-Dinja Llum	23	Rendezvous	18
Lejn L-Iżvilupp	25	Nithaddtuha	13
Nithaddtuha	22	Żminijietna	17
Today — Illum	16	Close-up	7
Malta Ġdida	5	Bejnietna	5
Radio Press Conference	1	Editorjali	1
Ad Hoc Programmes	3	Ad Hoc Programmes	2
Total	138		114
			-

The Authority also had discussions with the Contractors about the introduction of two new programmes: a daily round-up of editorial opinion from the local press — this was intended as a four-minute informative item to be broadcast on Sound during the lunchtime or other suitable period — and a weekly television programme about Parliamentary Affairs. It is felt that both programmes would render valuable service to the community and would undoubtedly contribute to an increasing intelligent public interest in parliamentary and general affairs. The Authority can find no justification, particularly with regard to MTV coverage of parliamentary affairs, for this continuing gap.

OUTSTANDING COVERAGE

During the year, the News Division succeeded in telerecording the television news from Libya as received in Malta, to obtain the first film coverage out of Libya following the September revolution. This film was syndicated throughout the world through Vis-news and throughout Europe by means of Eurovision. The enterprise of the News Division on this occasion was commended by the Broadcasting Authority.

Other noteworthy local news coverage included the fire on the m.v. "Christine Pace", the shipwreck of the m.v. "Angel Gabriel" and the explosion of a fireworks factory at Ghaxaq.

On all three occasions dramatic action shots taken by MTV cameramen at some personal risk were screened within a short time of each accident.

Religious Programmes

The pattern of religious broadcasts established over the previous year continued in 1969-70. The broad aim of religious programmes is to present the worship, thought and action of the community while exploring the contemporary relevance of the Christian faith in the modern world. Programmes on both Sound and television have tended to fall into the following groups:

- Interviews with local or visiting Church leaders during which they are encouraged to answer questions which ordinary people would like to ask:
- ii) Lay people interviewed in the same way, in order to show the role of the practising Catholic in the life of the community;
- iii) General discussion of topics of interest or matters which may be attracting attention at the time;
- iv) Programmes attempting to illuminate contemporary situations such as morality and tourism, attendance at Sunday Mass, marriage breakdowns, gambling etc. from the religious viewpoint; and
- v) Programmes dealing with aspects of worship and devotion.

The Authority and the Programme Companies continued to look to the Religious Broadcasting Adviser for advice in the field of religious broadcasting.

Religious programmes on television have undoubtedly made an impact on the audience. This was very apparent in the programme Djalogu which during the year became a weekly programme broadcast at peak viewing time. Since January 1970 Djalogu editions were given a slightly different format. One week the edition takes the form of a magazine and the following week it examines a problem in depth. It has dealt with such topics as the housing problem, changes in the liturgy of the Mass and Mass and youth. Djalogu was rested during the summer months and replaced by a series of seven programmes called Uliedna. This series dealt with the moral aspects of bringing up children and with the "generation gap".

Niltaqghu ma' Kristu and Ghada l-Hadd came to an end in October and December respectively.

Reference has already been made to the children's programmes on television. Two of these, Studio Ghat-Tfal and Ittra Ittra, combine the principles of religious living with a wide range of topics of interest to children.

In addition, special programmes were produced during Holy Week, including one in English.

Religious programmes on the Rediffusion Sound service included a weekly magazine programme. Dawl il-Gnus which replaced Hajja Kattolika investigated current beliefs and actions by using discussions and vox pops.

Through the broadcast of a weekly item of religious news and commentaries the programme reflected fresh religious insights which took place all over the world.

Serious religious discussion is held monthly on both the National and International Networks. The discussions dealt with current religious affairs and the broadcasts proved to be of considerable interest to listeners. The discussion programme on the National Network is called Nitkellmu Fuq ir-Religion whilst Malta Meeting Point is the title of a similar programme in English on the International Network. The latter consists of a monthly ecumenical discussion which includes among the participants representatives of the Anglican Church, the Methodists and the Church of Scotland besides Roman Catholics. Serious theological problems were tackled and these included "Celibacy", "Why Changes in the Church?", "Teaching of the Faith" and others.

A direct relay of the Mass was broadcast each Sunday throughout the year and on major liturgical feasts. These included pontifical Masses broadcast from the Cathedral or St. John's Co-Cathedral. Others were broadcast from Parishes, convents or religious institutions. Rediffusion increased substantially the fees paid to outstanding contributors who broadcast Mass commentaries as well as to others who take part in religious programmes.

The weekly explanation of the Sunday liturgy, the recitation of the Rosary as well as the monthly Sacred Heart programme continued as in former years.

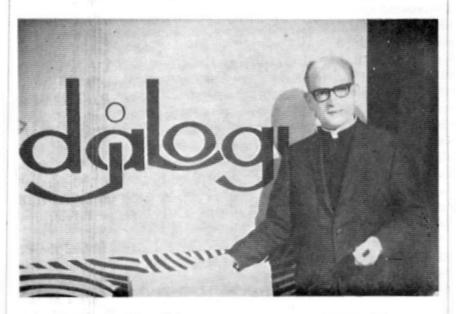
Advertising

Out of a total of 1,881 hours of television programming in 1969-70, 108 hours were devoted to advertising. "Spot" advertising accounted for 90 hours and the remainder was taken up by advertising magazines.

Friday was the heaviest "Spot" advertising day with a maximum of 34 minutes and a minmum of nine minutes. On the other side of the scale, Saturday was the least favoured day as far as "spot" advertising was concerned with a maximum of 16 minutes and a minimum of one minute. The following figures show how television advertising fluctuates according to the seasonal demands which are made upon it and provide a direct comparison between a week in the latter half of November, 1969



"Dawl il-Gnus", a weekly religious programme on Rediffusion.



"Djalogu", a weekly religious programme on Malta Television.

— a heavy advertising period — and a week in the post Christmas period of the same year when advertising on television was at its lowest. Figures for an average advertising week are also given:

	Heavy Advertising Week	Low Advertising Week	Average Advertising Week
Total Programme time "Spot"	39hrs. 56mins.	37hrs. 36mins.	35hrs. 46mins.
Advertising Advertising	3hrs. 9mins.	50mins.	1hr. 42mins.
Magazines Average "spot" advertising time	22mins.	12mins,	19mins.
per clock hour	5.40mins.	1.50mins.	3.2mins.

It will be seen that the amount of 'spot' advertising ran easily within the maximum of eight minutes per hour averaged over each week prescribed by the Television Broadcasting Agreement.

Advertising under our system is permitted provided advertisements are inserted either at the beginning or at the end of a programme or in natural breaks within the programme. The Broadcasting Ordinance (as amended in 1966) also requires the Authority to observe such "rules as may be made by the Governor-General acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister given after consultation with the Authority". These rules refer to regulatory provisions about "classes of broadcasts (which shall in particular include the broadcast of any religious service) in which advertisements may not be inserted, and the interval which must elapse between any such broadcast and any previous or subsequent period given over to advertisements". This particular provision of the law is covered by a set of principles drawn up by the Authority and brought into operation in 1962. The full text of these "Principles to Be Followed in the Broadcast of Advertisements on Sound and Television" are reproduced in Appendix "E".

Other rules which are intended to control the amount and the distribution of advertisements in programmes were first submitted to Government in 1964 and as yet have not come into operation. The Authority had recommended that these rules should come into effect as early as possible so that the position as laid down in the Ordinance might be regularised.

Television advertising in Malta is often unduly repetitive and this gives rise to the frequent complaints that advertising is an irksome strain

to most viewers. Another aspect of advertising as permitted under our system is that it tends to lead to bad programme balance in the peak viewing hours although not necessarily to bad programmes. This aspect was commented upon in the following terms in last year's Report: "The demands of advertisers for time, especially for the more popular or desirable hours of the broadcasting day, can result in a monotonous similarity of programmes of immediate popular appeal . . ." This point is still valid.

"Spot" advertisements broadcast on the Rediffusion Sound Service throughout the year totalled 13,926. These accounted for 100 hours 22 minutes and 15 seconds or 0.81 per cent cent of the total programme time. The time devoted to actual advertising within advertising magazines was 7 hours 41 minutes 45 seconds. These figures are well within the Contractor's advertising entitlement as laid down in the Broadcasting Agreements.

Party Political Broadcasts

IN the Authority's Report for 1968-69, reference was made to the unsatisfactory state in which the formal series of talks held in periods between General Elections had degenerated. These are the party political broadcasts series for which the Authority prescribes a proportion of the airtime to be used in the interests of the political parties and for which the parties represented in Parliament are invited to agree on its allocation between them.

Several meetings of the Authority held during the course of the year were devoted to a detailed examination of the system, and proposals were worked out which whilst allowing an increase in the output of political broadcasting on Sound and television would also provide a varied and interesting programme fare. The Authority's new scheme was exhaustively discussed with representatives of the political parties and officially launched on the 2nd October, 1969.

The new arrangements, introduced for an experimental period of 26 weeks, consisted of Press Conferences, Political Debates and straight talks. In programme terms the changes the Authority had brought about amounted to an upheaval in the sphere of broadcast politics and provided new outlets through which the process of healthy debate on controversial matters could find expression. The essence of democracy is the people's right to be told the facts and what the Authority had done in this field was intended to provide the necessary channels for the proper exercise of this right by the community's representatives.

The broadcasting time on both media was apportioned as follows:

Nationalist Party 4 Press Conferences of 50 minutes each

7 talks of 10 minutes each

Malta Labour Party 3 Press Conferences of 50 minutes each

6 talks of 10 minutes each

In addition, both parties were to take part in six political debates of 30 minutes each.

In terms of airtime, the new arrangements provided for 11 hours of political broadcasting as against two hours for a comparable period under the old scheme. The procedure governing the new system of party political broadcasts is reproduced at Appendix "C".

Some critics said the Authority had been too lavish with its airtime and the public did not want to see and hear too much politics anyway. Press opinion on the new scheme was divided. Some newspapers did not send representatives to the Press Conferences for some obscure reason, others boycotted the Conferences because the questions were required by the politicians in advance. Difficulties arose in the early stages when the Nationalist Party insisted that it would only participate in dabates if these were pre-recorded. The Labour Party did not agree with this view. Eventually, a formula was found which reconciled both parties' point of view and the broadcasts continued.

In contending with all the difficulties that arose the Authority acknowledged that the scheme was by no means perfect and could be improved in several ways but, at least, it had departed from total dependence on the drudgery of past political monologues.



Journalists at a Fress Conference in the Party Political Broadcasts series.

Seminar for Politicians on Broadcasting Techniques

Arrangements were finalised during the year for the holding of a Second Seminar for politicians on broadcasting techniques. The first seminar was held in February, 1969 but unfortunately only a few politicians attended. Those seminars are meant to assist members of political parties to prepare for and appear in political broadcasts. MTV and Rediffusion personnel give talks about the preparation of a script for broadcasting either on Sound or television and other useful hints about the correct method of presentation and delivery. These talks are followed by demonstrations and practical exercises in which the politicians are invited to take part.

Parliamentary Reports

The Authority and the Programme Companies recognise the importance of Parliament as a source of news and debates are reported in the news bulletins. However, due to the very nature of these bulletins the reports which they include must be very brief. Reference has already been made in the section dealing with Current Affairs programmes (vide page 45) about the Authority's plans for a separate weekly television programme which will be totally devoted to coverage of Parliamentary affairs. A similar type of Programme is broadcast, twice weekly, on the Rediffusion Sound service and adequately covers the whole range of Parliamentary activities. 37 editions (each with a repeat) of this programme, This Week in Parliament, were broadcast in 1969-70.

THE nature of the broadcasting media with its great versatility and resources make it an obvious choice as a potential instrument of education and the contribution of radio and television to education can be enormous. In this chapter of the Report, educational broadcasting is reviewed not from its broad aspects but from the more specialized angle as an aid to formal instruction in schools.

Television

In 1969-70 the Authority's School Broadcasting Unit which is responsible for the running of the Educational Television Service produced and transmitted an improved version of Science One, a course in general science for Form One of the secondary schools. The usefulness of these programmes could be gauged from the fact that the Educational Authorities adopted the Course material as the Official syllabus in all its schools and so did all but one of the private schools.

The series consisted of 25 programmes, divided into an introductory programme and five units: The Earth (3 programmes), Air (5 programmes), Water (6 programmes), Energy (3 programmes) and Life (7 programmes). Advice on the programme content was given by a panel of experienced teachers drawn from all types of schools. The programmes were introduced by a science teacher on part-time loan to the Authority from the Education Department.

Besides the programmes, the Authority also made available to schools notes for the teacher and a pupil's book. Notes for the teacher were published termly, and offered help and guidance on using the series. The pupil's book, running to 158 pages, contained a large number of experiments and material complementary to the programmes. This book was sold to students at 3s. a copy. Reaction to both the Teacher's Notes and the pupil's book were most encouraging.

The estimated audience for these programmes was about 4,500 students in 30 schools and reports suggest that the programmes were successful, and popular with both teachers and pupils. The success of the series may also be judged by the fact that schools are constantly asking for a similar course for Form Two.

This year, the Schools Broadcasting Unit produced its first English Language Teaching series, English is Fun. The programmes which had been started the previous year as a pilot project emerged into a successful series in the first term of this school year. The teachers of English in the first forms of secondary schools reported favourably on these programmes and more are planned for next year. An English literature series entitled There is a Dream, intended for fifth form 'O' level students, was also produced and presented during the year.

In its efforts to promote a greater effective use of educational television in Malta, the Authority is indebted to the British Council for its generous assistance throughout this and previous annual periods. Three Television Officers have so far been seconded to the Authority by the British Council to assist in this work. The present Television Officer, Mr Neil Bray, replaced Mr Robin Moss during the year. The Television Officer has, as his major concern, the production of programmes on the teaching of English by television. Besides, the Television Officer also helps the Schools Broadcasting Unit in other programme activities and by general advisory work connected with schools broadcasting.

As the Authority's Educational Television Service grows in experience, its work becomes less the product of individuals and more the product of a team. The British Council's Television Officer has a useful role to play in this team as, through the Council, he can call on a wide range of expertise and experience in Educational Television and in English Language Teaching, both areas pertinent to Malta's present educational situation.

To ensure the efficient support of educational television in Malta's educational requirements, the Authority and MTV had submitted plans to the Government for a new television studio. These plans remained unrealized. As a result of this, the present use made of the broadcasting media is inadequate in a situation where the Authority can and is willing to contribute to the enrichment of general education both in primary and secondary schools and in providing systematic instruction in subjects where there may be a shortage of qualified teachers. It is worth noting that television is a mass medium and that educational return on the funds expended can only be satisfactory if a large number of students are being taught through television.

Sound Broadcasting

A very important milestone was reached last October when for the first time in 20 years of sound broadcasting to schools the service was



A schools broadcast sound recording in progress.

> Marilise Tabone presenting an MET science lesson.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES



extended to include pupils attending the private schools. Reference to the development in educational broadcasting has already been made on page 17 of this Report.

During the year under review, the Broadcasting Authority relayed 377 sound school broadcasts (including 169 repeats) totalling 114 hours.

The subject areas covered were the following:

	Stgs. I-II	Stgs. II & Cl. I	Cl. I	Cl. II-III	Cl. IV-V	VI-VII	Total
Religion	-	-	-	8	8	8	24
Maltese		-	_	8	4	4	16
Maltese/Music	_	6	_		_		6
English/Music	8	_	_	-	-	-	8
History	-	-		7	6	6	19
English		_	8	10	12	8	28
Georgraphy	_	_	_	-	6	-	6
Science			-	8	6	4	18
Music		_	-	-	4	-	4
Citizenship		8	-		-	11	19
Current Affairs	-		_	_	_	8	8
Health Talks	_	_	_	_	3	_	3

In addition there were 39 Gospel Programmes devised mainly for the 9-13 year olds.

RELIGION

The eight programmes for Classes VI-VII were made up of two units. The first unit dealt with the social history of the Church. It set out to explain briefly and in simple language the Church's achievements since its foundation in the fields of education and social services. Brief reference was made to what the Church has done in Malta.

The four broadcasts in the second unit were of special interest to boys and girls in the 13-14 age group viz: leisure; courtship and marriage; rights and responsibilities.

The programmes were generally well received by teachers though at times it was felt that some broadcasts contained too much material.

MALTESE

It has been accepted that sometimes Maltese children lack the ability to express themselves freely when asked to do so in public. This could be mainly due to the relatively few occasions in which children may engage in activities like debates, forums and discussions in schools. To try to give a lead in this respect, four formal debates between four boys' Schools and four girls' Schools were organized and relayed. The topics were chosen to arouse interest and stimulate participation. These were: Hobbies are a waste of time; Homework should be abolished; School uniforms should be banned; Boys should help in housework.

The main criticisms levelled at the child participants were: first, that it was evident that the children had been overcoached by their teachers and, second, that the children were lacking in ideas.

Considering that most of the participants were speaking for the first time in public and in front of a microphone, one can say that the experiment was quite a success and one which should be worth repeating.

The four broadcasts for Classes VI-VII dealt with newspapers, mostly about how to write to the press and the educational value of press reviews. Sixth year pupils were encouraged to write to the press. Indeed one of the broadcasts consisted solely of excerpts from letters written by pupils who had been invited to write to an imaginary newspaper on a topic of their choice.

Two other broadcasts were devised with a view to making the young listeners aware of the role newspaper critics play today. Pupils in Classes VI-VII were then asked to write a review of a short play which had been broadcast.

ENGLISH

Acting on expert advice, English broadcasts were devised to help children improve their spoken (as distinct from written) English. It was decided that only native speakers of English would be used to take part in English broadcasts. With the cooperation of the U.K. Services Schools in Malta a number of children were selected following a series of auditions.

First reactions from teachers on hearing the broadcasts were not favourable to the 'experiment'. They complained that the pupils could not understand the native speakers even though most, if not all, had clear diction and spoke with what is considered by many as a standard English accent. However, as time went on, the children got more used to the idea and the teachers' reactions became progressively less critical and in a few cases even complimentary.

To give the listeners an opportunity to hear English being spoken in its natural context, a number of authentic and hence unscripted discussion programmes were relayed. The topics were selected for their appeal to listeners such as pets, hobbies, life in London and life in Australia.

It is felt that with careful planning English broadcasts could make a valid contribution towards improving the standard of spoken English in our schools.

HISTORY

Programmes for Classes II-III were about peoples with whom Malta has had a close association such as the Phoenicians, the Romans, the Arabs, the Normans, the Knights and the French. Although every effort was made to present the broadcasts as attractively and as simply as possible it is felt that the series did not come up to expectations due, no doubt, to the fact that the broadcast attempted to cover too much ground for fifteen minutes.

Twentieth Century Milestones in Maltese History was the title of broadcasts for Classes VI-VII. The 'milestones' were the International Eucharistic Congress (1913); the 7th June (1919) Riots; The Declaration of War by Italy (1940); the Award of the George Cross (1942); the Pauline Centenary Celebrations (1960) and the Grant of Independence (1964).

The highlights of the programme were interviews with eyewitnesses and personalities.

This series has gone down extremely well with pupils and teachers alike.

CITIZENSHIP

The broadcasts in this series were planned to make youth aware of the widening horizons that lie outside the school walls.

Topics covered included a wide range of interests such as "In the Service of Youth" (Youth Service Organization, the Malta Youth Consultative Council, the Youth Service Commission); "Programme Planners" (Rediffusion and T.V. programme planning); "Din l-Art Helwa" (How the Youth Section works); "Parliament and its Functions"; "Planning New Towns and Industries" and "The Role of Trade Unions".

The series had a mixed to good reception depending to a great extent on the personality being interviewed. The most popular was perhaps the one dealing with parliament and its functions. This was very welcome but surprising, considering that not many are familiar with the procedure in the House of Representatives.

Another series of five broadcasts called Ghall-Futur Taghkom, which was more in the nature of vocational guidance, had a satisfactory response.

School Visits and Consultations

A very important part of the duties of a School Broadcasting Officer consists of visiting schools (with the permission of the Education Department) to listen to or view broadcasts in the classroom. It is through these visits and the resulting consultations with teachers and head teachers that a proper assessment of the impact of broadcasts can be made. Through

this contact with the audience, programme planners and producers form an impression of the teaching situation of which the broadcast formed part, including whether or not the teacher found the teachers' notes and the other supporting publications issued to pupils and students by the Authority of value for this purpose. Note is also taken of how the students reacted to the different elements in the programme and what forms the immediate classroom activities took after the programme ended.

Although 80 schools were visited during the year, this task is becoming increasingly difficult to cope with due to limited staff presently available for this purpose.

It should also be noted that in more than half of the schools visited it was found that no preparation had been done for the broadcasts mainly, it was claimed, due to time-tabling difficulties. It is hoped that the education authorities will impress upon teaching staff the importance of adequate preparation and follow-up, otherwise a great deal of the broadcasts' impact will be lost.

Meetings with Form One teachers of English and Science in Government and private schools were also held at the beginning of the term. During these consultations teachers were informed about the aims which programmes were intended to reach and the possible methods to be used in order to achieve these aims. More frequent use of similar meetings and the encouragement of teachers to write scripts for broadcasting will be a useful and illuminating exercise for all.

The School Broadcasting Advisory Committee

Section 10 of the Broadcasting Ordinance gives the Authority power to appoint advisory committees. One of these committees — on schools broadcasting — has been functioning since 1962 and it has given useful advice on the educational content of the Authority's broadcasts to schools. However, in recent years it has been increasingly felt that the education authorities ought to become more involved in the schools broadcasting service. Furthermore, since educational television was becoming an essential element in the general educational policy, it was only natural that responsibility for this service should be shared between the Authority and a body representing specialized educational interests.

It was therefore proposed, and the Ministry of Education agreed, that the Authority should reconstitute the Schools Broadcasting Advisory Committee in order to expand its terms of reference to include television as well as sound schools broadcasting. This body whose membership includes the Director of Education as Chairman, the Assistant Director of Education, the Chief Inspectors, the Principals of Colleges of Education.

tion, a Primary Headteacher, a Secondary school headmistress, a representative of the Private Schools and the Chairmen of professional advisory panels will start functioning at the beginning of 1970/71. The Committee will advise the Authority on general educational policy. Four professional advisory panels, mostly made up of teachers, were also set up and these would be called upon to help the Authority's staff in programme planning and to provide feedback on the programmes as these are transmitted.

It is hoped that this re-organization will enable the Authority to provide an improved educational broadcasting service which answers the professional needs of schools as seen by the Ministry of Education. On the other hand, the Ministry should now be in a better position to recognize the potentiality of the media and make use of these resources, willingly offered by the Authority, where the need is greatest.

THE Authority's staff structure is made up of three main sections:

Administrative, Programme Services, Secretarial and other minor staff.

The Programme Services Section of the Authority's staff includes a specialized unit which is responsible for educative programmes. This is the Schools Broadcasting Unit which, during the year, was re-organized and strengthened to meet the increasing demands made upon the Authority. Three new posts were created and permanently filled by directly recruited staff. The Unit is under the direct charge of a Schools Broadcasting Organizer. A Television Officer and a Sound Officer were also appointed to enable a more rational distribution of duties and to cope with programming demands an expansion of the educational broadcasting system entails. The Schools Broadcasting Officer, Television Officer and Sound Officer all relinquished their appointment under the Government to join the Broadcasting Authority.

The year's programme of professional training for the Authority's staff continued with an intensive four-month course at the Thompson Foundation Television College in Glasgow for Mr. Anthony Mallia, one of the Programme Editors in the Programme Services Section. This course provides students with practical experience in production, direction and programme planning techniques. An attachment to the Advertising Control Department of the Independent Television Authority in London is also planned prior to Mr. Mallia's return to Malta.

Arrangements had also been finalized during the year to allow Mr. Alex Cassar, a School Broadcasting Officer, to attend a 12-week course at the Centre for Educational Development Overseas in London. A British Council bursary has been granted for this purpose and the Authority is grateful for this additional assistance by the Council. The coming year will see a continuance of the Authority's policy of ensuring that its staff are fully trained in the most modern techniques.

The implementation by the Government of the recommendations contained in the report by the Independent Salaries (Anomalies) Commission could not but affect the Authority's salaries structure which is based on and restricted within the prevailing salary rates paid in the Government sector. The Authority asked and obtained approval for an extension of the new salary rates to the Authority's staff.

Even in this field the Authority's powers remain limited to merely reflecting Governmental practice. Autonomous public corporations which came into being after the Authority was set up have been granted the right to determine the remuncration which should be paid to their employees. The same principle should be extended to the Authority which, with its other rights and obligations enshrined in the Constitution, should be quite capable to determine the wages and salaries to be paid to its own personnel.

Appendices

VIII.

ANALYSIS OF TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1970)

Table 1. Breakdown of all Television Programmes

		Weekly Average Hours		Percentage	
		1969/70	1968/69	1969/70	1968/69
1.	News & News Magazines	4.82	4.46	13.28	12.4
2.	Magazine Programmes	1.33	1.58	3.68	4.4
3.	Talks/Discussions	.57	.54	1.57	1.5
4.	Documentaries	2.42	2.50	6.67	6.9
5.	Feature Films	2.07	1.46	5.71	3.9
6.	Religion	.79	.77	2.20	2.1
7.	Schools	.74	.50	2.05	1.4
8.	Adult Education	.52	.40	1.43	1.1
9.	Children's	1 1			
	(a) Informative	.72	1.85	1.98	5.1
	(b) Entertainment	4.33	4.12	11.91	11.4
10.	Serials Classic	.30	1.17	.82	3.3
	Adventure	4.96	6.54	13.66	18.1
	Family Comedy	3.76	3.33	10.35	9.2
	Others	_	.88		2.5
11.	Drama	1.22	.15	3.35	.4
12.	Panel Games & Quizzes	.14	.04	.39	.1
13.	Variety & Shows	1.59	1.13	4.37	3.2
14.	Serious Music & Ballet	76	.23	2.10	.6
15.	Sport	1.34	1.23	3.67	3.4
16.	Political Broadcasts/				
	Ministerials	.20	.06	.55	.2
17.	Natural History	.30	_	.82	_
18.	Arts & Literature	.26	_	.71	_
19.	Miscellaneous	3.16	3.15	8.73	8.8
	TOTAL	36.30	36.04	100.00	100.0

Table 2. Breakdown of locally produced programmes

			Average urs
		1969/70	1968/69
1.	News & News Magazines	4.68	4.29
2.	Magazine Programmes	.99	1.10
3.	Talks & Discussions	.57	.50
4.	Documentaries — Local	.15	.10
	*Documentaries — Maltese Commentary	(.56)	(.25)
5.	Religion	.59	.54
6.	Schools	.62	.45
7.	Adult Education	.01	.16
8.	Children		
	(a) Informative	.67	.79
	(b) Entertainment	.19	.74
9.	Drama	.12	.16
10.	Panel Games & Quizzes	.14	.03
11.	Variety & Shows	.36	.46
12.	Serious Music & Ballet	.12	.16
13.	Sport	.70	.66
14.	Political Broadcasts/		
	Ministerials	.20	.06
15.	Arts & Literature	.10	_
16.	Miscellaneous	2.29	2.22
	TOTAL	12.50	12.42

Percentage of weekly Average Output: 34.45%

Table 3. Breakdown of Programmes prescribed by

The Broadcasting Authority

		Weekly Average Hours		
		1969/70	1968/69	
1.	Magazine Programmes	.09	.04	
2.	Talks and Discussions	.01	.02	
3.	Documentaries	1.37	2.09	
4.	*Schools	.74	.50	
5.	Adult Education	.51	.39	
6.	Religion	.06	.09	
7.	Children	.25	.04	
8.	Drama	.06	_	
9.	Serials	.13	.98	
10.	Serious Music & Ballet	.62	.13	
11.	Political Broadcasts/ Ministerials	.20	.05	
12.	Natural History	.29	_	
13.	Arts and Literature	.19	_	
14.	News & News Magazines	.06	_	
15.	Variety and Shows	.03	_	
	TOTAL	4.61	4.33	

Percentage of weekly average output: 12.70

^{*}A Joint MBA/MTV Production.

ANALYSIS OF REDIFFUSION PROGRAMMES

(YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1970)

Table 1. Breakdown of 'National' Network Programmes

		Weekly Average Hours		Percen	Percentage	
		1968/69	1969/70	1968/69	1969/70	
1.	News & News Magazines	17.73	17.90	14.9	15.11	
2.	Political Broadcasts	0.06	0.19	0.1	0.16	
3.	Talks and Discussions	3.98	3.50	3.4	2.95	
4.	Religion	6.14	6.21	5.2	5.24	
5.	Schools	1.23	1.92	1.1	1.62	
6.	Adult Education	2.72	3.85	2.3	3.25	
7.	Children's Programmes (a) Informative (b) Entertainment	1.08 0.98	1.17 0.77	0.9 0.8	0.99 0.65	
8.	Plays and Serials	9.89	10.42	8.2	8.80	
9.	Variety Programmes	2.29	1.08	1.9	0.91	
10.	Quizzes and Panel Games	1.50	1.54	1.3	1.30	
11.	Sport	1.64	1.60	1.4	1.35	
12.	Serious Music	7.76	7.02	6.4	5.92	
13.	Light/Popular Music	51.95	51.13	43.7	42.73	
14.	Women's Programmes	4.70	4.85	3.9	4.09	
15.	Others	5.35	5.85	4.5	4.93	
	TOTAL	119.00	119.00	100.0	100.00	

Table 2. 'National' Network — Breakdown of Locally Originated Programmes

		Weekly Average Hours		Percentage	
		1968/69	1969/70	1968/69	1969/70
1.	News & News Magazines	17.16	17.34	14.4	14.63
2.	Political Broadcasts	0.06	0.19	0.1	0.16
3.	Talks and Discussions	3.98	3.50	3.4	2.95
4.	Religion	6.10	6.21	5.2	5.24
5.	Schools	1.23	1.92	1.0	1.62
6.	Adult Education	2.70	3.85	2.3	3.25
7.	Children's Programmes			1	
	(a) Informative	1.06	1.17	9.9	0.99
	(b) Entertainment	0.98	0.77	0.8	0.65
8.	Plays and Serials	9.77	10.42	8.2	8.80
9.	Variety Programmes	2.10	1.08	1.8	0.91
10.	Quizzes and Panel Games	1.50	1.54	1.3	1.30
11.	Sport	1.64	1.60	1.4	1.35
12.	Serious Music	6.79	6.00	5.7	5.07
13.	Light/Popular Music	51.54	51.13	43.4	42.73
14.	Women's Programmes	4.73	4.85	3.9	4.09
15.	Others	5.35	5.85	4.51	4.93
	TOTAL	116.69	117.42	98.3	98.67

Table 3. Breakdown of 'International' Network

Programmes

	Weekly Average Hours		Perce	ntage
	1968/69	1969/70	1968/69	1969/70
1. News and News Magazines	41.93	43.43	35.3	36.51
2. Political Broadcasts	_	-	_	-
3. Talks and Discussions	13.65	10.87	11.5	9.13
4. Religion	2.37	2.54	1.9	2.13
5. Schools	_	_	-	-
6. Adult Education	0.81	1.08	0.1	0.91
7. Children's Programmes				
(a) Informative	_	_	_	-
(b) Entertainment	_	_	_	_
8. Plays and Serials	8.67	9.77	7.4	8.21
9. Variety Programmes	3.27	3.70	2.8	3.10
10. Quizzes and Panel Games	1.58	1.90	1.5	1.60
11. Sport	9.38	9.85	7.9	8.27
12. Serious Music	5.27	5.00	4.5	4.20
13. Light/Popular Music	29.38	29.58	24.7	24.86
14. Women's Programmes	1.61	_	1.5	_
15. Others	1.08	1.28	0.9	1.08
TOTAL	119.00	119.00	100.0	100.00

Table 4. 'International' Network — Breakdown of Locally Originated Programmes

		Weekly Average Hours		Percer	ntage
		1968/69	1969/70	1968/69	1969/70
1.	News & News Magazines	3.44	3.83	2.9	3.22
2.	Political Broadcasts	- 1	-	-	_
3.	Talks and Discussions	1.85	1.39	1.6	1.16
4.	Religion	0.17	0.25	0.1	0.21
5.	Schools	_	-	_	_
6.	Adult Education	0.04	0.37	0.1	0.31
7.	Children's Programmes				
	(a) Informative	_	_	-	_
	(b) Entertainment	_		-	-
8.	Plays and Serials	0.31	2.15	0.3	1.81
9.	Variety Programmes	0.23	0.67	0.2	0.57
10.	Quizzes and Panel Games	0.12	0.13	0.1	0.11
11.	Sport	_	0.13	-	0.11
12.	Serious Music	0.88	1.48	0.6	1.24
13.	Light/Popular Music	5.37	11.85	4.5	9.96
14.	Women's Programmes	1.61	-	1.4	_
15.	Others	1.08	1.23	0.9	1.03
	TOTAL	15.10	23.48	12.7	19.73

PROCEDURE GOVERNING PARTY POLITICAL BROADCASTS

GENERAL

- 1. Party Political Broadcasts are divided into three sections:
 - (a) Press Conferences;
 - (b) Debates;
 - (c) Straight Talks.
- All Party Political Broadcasts are transmitted on both Television and the Rediffusion Sound Service — National network.
- All broadcasts will be transmitted on television and relayed on Rediffusion every Thursday at 9.20 p.m.
- 4. No Party Political Broadcasts will be held on declared public holidays or feasts of obligation.
- Party Political Broadcasts for the period October 1969 to April 1970 consisted of 26 transmissions (7 Press Conferences; 6 Debates and 13 straight talks).
- If a broadcast is not used by the respective Party on its scheduled transmission date, that broadcast will be forfeited and an appropriate announcement made.
- 7. Political party representatives and all those taking part in this series must abide by the provisions of the Broadcasting Ordinance and any rules issued by the Authority from time to time which may provide for such matters as: the submission of scripts, timing, rehearsal and recording, ballotting, etc. The Authority's decision on any points which may arise in connection with these broadcasts will be final.
- 8. Neither the Broadcasting Authority nor The Malta Television Service Ltd. or Rediffusion (Malta) Ltd. can accept any responsibility for any interference with or breakdown of the wired distribution system or the television service and cannot bind themselves to repeat any broadcasts that suffer as a result of such interference or breakdown.
- 9. This series of Party Political Broadcasts will automatically come to an end as from the date Parliament is dissolved.

PRESS CONFERENCES

- Press Conferences are transmitted 'live' from MTV Studios. Each Press Conference will be of not more than 50 minutes duration
- 11. The Press Conference will be under the charge of a Chairman, nominated by the Broadcasting Authority after consultation with

- the Political Parties, who will see that the Conference is conducted on proper lines.
- 12. After a brief introduction by the Chairman, the first 2 minutes may be used by the Party representative to make a statement on the subject chosen for the Press Conference.
- 13. The next 40 minutes are reserved for questions by members of the press and replies by the politician concerned.
- 14. Press questions must be brief and to the point and should not take more than one minute. After the politician's reply, which will not exceed two minutes, the journalist can state whether or not his question has been answered satisfactorily and can resort to one supplementary question of not more than one minute. If necessary, the politician will have one minute at his disposal to reply to the supplementary question.
- 15. When all press questions are dealt with and provided that time is still available, the politician may make a concluding statement of not more than 3 minutes, on the subject of the Press Conference.
- 16. The Party representative who will be addressing the Conference may be accompanied by another person of his choice who will not have the right to speak but who can assist the official Party spokesman when consulted.
- 17. The Party concerned will give written notice to the Authority by not later than Friday preceding the Press Conference, indicating the name of the politician and the subject chosen for the Conference. The Press will be informed immediately after.
- 18. Press representatives will be invited to attend each Conference. These will be drawn from the daily, weekly and periodical Press and the Broadcasting Services. (Vide Annexure I).
- 19. A representative of the newspaper chosen by each of the two parties as the most closely identified with their political interests ("il-Poplu"* and "Iż-Żmien") will automatically have the right to attend each Press Conference. The Authority will also invite one representative from each of the dailies with an additional place being allocated, on a roster basis, to the Weekly and Periodical Press in accordance with the following arrangements:
 - i) 1st to 4th Press One representative drawn Conference from the weeklies
 - ii) 5th Press One representative drawn Conference from the list of periodicals

This pattern will be repeated throughout the series.

* The Authority has included "Il-Poplu" in this context in the absence of a daily paper issued by the Nationalist Party. The position will be reviewed if these circumstances change.

- 20. The Broadcasting Authority will draw lots to establish the order in which Press representatives will be invited to attend the Conference.
- 21. All those taking part in Press Conferences must strictly follow the Chairman's instructions whose decision in the proper conduct of the conference will be final.
- 22. Subject to availability of accommodation, the Authority may issue invitations to other interested persons to attend Press Conferences. These invitations will not, in any way confer the right to these persons to take part in the discussions.

DEBATES

- 23. Debates are transmitted from MTV Studios after pre-recording. Each debate will be of not more than 40 minutes duration and will normally be recorded at 3.30 p.m. on the day of broadcast. The participants will be asked to withdraw during the checking of the play-back. The debate will be re-recorded only if a serious technical fault is discovered.
- 24. Every debate will include two representatives chosen by each of the two Parties taking part in the scheme and the discussion will be under the control of a Chairman nominated by the Broadcasting Authority after consultation with the Parties.
- 25. The subjects of these debates are chosen on an alternate basis by the Parties after consulting the Broadcasting Authority having regard to questions of significant news value or matters of national importance.
- 26. Both Parties are requested to inform the Authority about the subject chosen for discussion and the names of their representatives by not later than Friday before the broadcast is due to be held; by mutual agreement between the Authority and the Parties, the period of notice may be shortened.
- Provided adequate notice is given, the Authority will issue a Press Hand-Out and advance publicity on the broadcasting media will also be arranged.

STRAIGHT TALKS

- 28. Political Talks will be of not more than 10 minutes duration.
- 29. All political talks must be scripted and scripts are to reach the Authority's Offices at 12, Old Treasury Street, Valletta, typewritten and in triplicate not later than 11.00 a.m. on the day before broadcast.
- 30. The script should not exceed five foolscap pages, typewritten with double space and a 1½ inch margin.
- 31. The speaker is requested to be at MTV Studios at 11.00 a.m. on the day of broadcast for the talk to be rehearsed and recorded. Legal vetting should be completed by the time the speaker arrives at the Studio.

- 32. The time allotted to each political party must not be exceeded and there must be no material deviation from the script.
- 33. Both sides will be free to use one of its quota for the purpose of replying to a previous broadcast.
- 34. Provided the Parties inform the Authority about the name of the speaker at least two days before the political talk is due to be broadcast, the Authority will issue a Press Hand-Out and MTV and Rediffusion will be asked to make advance announcements giving the name of the speaker and Party taking part.
- 35. Copies of the script of each talk in the Party Political Broadcasts series will after the broadcast be sent to the Secretaries of both Parties and will also be available to the Press.

List of Newspapers, Periodicals and Broadcasting Services entitled to send representatives at Press Conferences

Dailies

- 1. The Bulletin
- 2. Il-Hajja
- 3. Maita News
- 4. MTV/Rediffusion
- 5. L-Orizzont
- 6. Times of Malta.

Weeklies

- 1. The Economist
- 2. Lehen is-Sewwa
- 3. Il-Qawmien
- 4. Sunday Times of Malta
- 5. Telstar/Berga
- 6. It-Torca

Periodicals

- 1. Forward/Il-Quddiem
- 2. L-Ideal
- 3. Problemi tal-Lum
- 4. Il-Quécata
- 5. It-Tarka
- 6. Voice of Malta

Details of Press Conferences and Political Debates Broadcast During the Period October 1969 to March 1970

A. PRESS CONFERENCES

	Date and Speaker	$Part_{Y}$	Indication of Subject
1.	2nd October, 1969	Nationalist	Housing
	The Hon. Dr. Carmelo Caruana, M.P.	Party	Problem
2.	30th October, 1969	Malta Labour	Housing
	The Hon, Mr. Dom. Mintoff M.P.	Party	Problem
3.	27th November, 1969 The Hon. Dr. Vincent Tabone M.P.	Nationalist Party	Social and Labour Legislation
4.	15th January, 1970	Malta Labour	Malta's
	The Hon, Mr. Dom. Mintoff M.P.	Party	Economy
5.	19th February, 1970	Nationalist	Industrial
	The Hon. Dr. J. Spiteri M.P.	Party	Development
6.	12th March, 1970 The Hon, Mr. Dom. Mintoff M.P.	Malta Labour Party	Eight Years of Administration under a Nationalist Government

B. POLITICAL DEBATES

	Date and Participants		Indication of Subject
1.	11th December, 1969 The Hon. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici The Hon. Dr. Philip Saliba The Hon. Dr. Anton Buttigieg The Hon. Dr. Albert Hyzler	N.P. M.L.P.	Malta's Economic Independence
2.	29th January, 1970 The Hon. Mr L. Sant Mr D. Cremona The Hon. Dr. J. Cassar Galea The Hon. Dr. E. Fenech Adami	M.L.P. N.P.	The Drydocks
3.	26th February, 1970. The Hon. Dr. A. Borg Olivier de Puget The Hon. Dr. E. Bonnici The Hon. Dr. A. Buttigieg The Hon. Mr P. Xuereb	N.P. M.L.P.	Malta's Foreign Relations

MINISTERIAL BROADCASTS

An agreement between the Government and the Authority drawn up in 1963 provides for a class of broadcasts known as Ministerial Broadcasts for which the initiative comes from Ministers who might wish to explain legislative or administrative policies approved by Parliament. There were no Ministerial Broadcasts during the year under review. The rules affecting such broadcasts are the following:

- 1. In view of their responsibilities for the case of the Nation the Government should be able to broadcast from time to time, Ministerial Broadcasts, which for example are purely factual, or explanatory of approved legislative or administrative policies or in the nature of appeals to the nation to co-operate in national policies which require the active participation of the public.
- Such broadcasts must comply with the provisions of the Broadcasting Ordinance 1961.
- It will be incumbent on Ministers making such broadcasts to be as impartial as possible and in the ordinary way there will be no question of a reply.
- 4. If however a case for a reply is established to the satisfaction of the Authority the total broadcasting time devoted to such reply or replies will not exceed the duration of the original Ministerial Broadcast. Requests for a reply should be submitted in writing to the Authority within forty-eight hours of a Ministerial Broadcast being made.
- 5. Except by agreement with the Broadcasting Authority the amount of airtime which may be utilized in any one year (April 1st of one year to March 31st of the next) will not exceed 210 minutes and any one broadcast will not exceed 30 minutes in length. Ministerial Broadcasts may be on Sound only or on both Sound and Television.
- 6. All requests for Ministerial Broadcasts are to be made direct to the Authority and reasonable notice given.
- 7. In the absence of a recording a script of a Ministerial Broadcast should be sent to the Authority.
- Except by agreement with the Broadcasting Authority, Ministerial Broadcasts will not take place during periods when General Election or Referendum Broadcasts are being held.

- 9. Ministerial Broadcasts do not and are not intended to exhaust the possibilities of Ministers appearing on sound or television. Ministers also broadcast by invitation in news interviews, balanced discussions, Radio and Television Press Conferences, outside broadcasts, etc. Ministerial Broadcasts come into a separate category because they constitute special time placed at the disposal of Ministers which is availed at the choice and on the initiative of the Ministers and not either of the Contractors or of the Broadcasting Authority.
- 10. When any dispute arises over Ministerial Broadcasts the final responsibility remains with the Authority.

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PRINCIPLES TO BE FOLLOWED IN BROADCASTING ADVERTISEMENTS ON SOUND AND TELEVISION

PREAMBLE

- 1. The general principle governing all advertising broadcast in Malta is that it should be legal, clean, honest and truthful.
- The Broadcasting Authority and/or its contractors reserve the right to reject any material which does not conform with the spirit of these principles, even though it may not offend any of the specific grounds set out hereunder.

DEFINITION

 The word "advertisement" implies any item of publicity inserted in the programmes broadcast in conformity with the Malta Broadcasting Ordinance, 1961, in consideration of payment to the Authority's contractors.

GENERAL

- 4. Advertisements shall be subject to the provision of the Malta Broadcasting Ordinance (Ordinance No. XX of 1961).
- All advertisements shall be clearly distinguishable as such and be separate from the rest of the programme.
- Advertisements shall not be inserted otherwise than at the beginning and end of a programme or in natural breaks which occur in a programme.
- 7. No advertisements shall be included which contain any reference to industrial, political or religious controversy.
- 8. The Authority and/or its Contractors may reject any advertisement which it considers unsuitable for broadcasting.
- 9. No advertisements shall be included in or associated with programmes of a religious nature and there shall be an interval of at least two minutes before and two minutes after such programmes during which no advertisements shall be carried.
- 10. Nothing shall be included in any programmes broadcast by the Authority and/or its Contractors, whether in an advertisement or otherwise, which states, suggests or implies, or could reasonably be taken to state, suggest or imply, that any part of any programme broadcast by the Authority and/or its Contractors, which is not an advertisement has been supplied or suggested by any advertiser. Provided that nothing in this subsection shall be construed as pro-

hibiting the inclusion in the programmes broadcast by the Authority and/or its Contractors, of programmes which have been accepted and approved by the Authority and with which an advertiser, in consideration of payment, may be allowed to associate himself without exercising control over the contents of such programmes, such association taking the form of announcement, immediately before the commencement or immediately after the end of any such programmes or in natural breaks therein, of the name or goods and services of the sponsor.

FALSE OR MISLEADING ADVERTISEMENTS

- 11. No advertisement, taken as a whole or in part, shall contain any spoken or visual presentation of the product or service advertised, or statement of its price, which directly or by implication misleads, In Particular
 - a) SPECIAL CLAIMS No advertisement shall contain any reference which is likely to lead the public to assume that the product advertised, or an ingredient, has some special quality or property which is in fact unknown, unrecognised or incapable of being established.
 - b) SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMS Statistics, scientific terms, quotations from technical literature and the like must be used with a proper sense of responsibility to the ordinary listener. The irrelevant use of data and jargon must never be resorted to in order to make claims appear more scientific than they really are. Statistics of limited validity should not be presented in such a way as to make it appear that they are universally true.
 - c) IMITATION Any imitation likely to mislead listeners or viewers even though it is not of such a kind as to give rise to a legal action for infringement of copyright or for "passing off" must be avoided.

DISPARAGING REFERENCES

 No advertisement shall contain any statement intended to promote sales by unfair comparison with or reference to competitive products or services.

TESTIMONIALS

 Documentary evidence of testimonials may be required as a condition of the acceptance of advertisements. The irresponsible use of testimonials must be avoided.

GUARANTEE

14. The word "guarantee" should be used with caution and sparingly and only in relation to some specific description or quality and the detailed terms of any such guarantee must be available for inspection. Where the guarantee is associated with an offer to return the purchase price, it must be made quite clear to what it applies and in what way it protects the purchaser.

ADVERTISING IN CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES

15. No product or service may be advertised and no method of advertising may be used in association with a programme intended for children or which large numbers of children are likely to hear or see which might result in harm to them physically, mentally or morally, and no method of advertising may be employed which takes advantage of the natural credulity and sense of loyalty to children.

In Particular

- a) No advertisement which encourages children to enter strange places or to converse with strangers in an effort to collect coupons, wrappers, labels, etc., is allowed.
- b) No advertisement for a commercial product or service is allowed if it contains an appeal to children which suggests in any way that unless the children themselves buy or encourage other people to buy the product or service they will be failing in some duty or lacking in loyalty towards some person or organization whether that person or organization is the one making the appeal or not.
- c) No advertisement is allowed which leads children to believe that if they do not own the product advertised, they will be inferior in some way to other children or that they are liable to be held in contempt or ridicale for not owning it.
- d) No advertisements for tobacco or alcoholic liquors may appear in the advertising intervals immediately before, during or immediately after programmes designed for children.

Rules about Specific Classes of Advertisements and Methods of Advertising

1. UNACCEPTABLE PRODUCTS OR SERVICES

Advertisements for products or services coming within the recognised character of, or specifically concerned with, the following, will not be accepted:

- a) money-lenders,
- b) fortune tellers and the like,
- c) matrimonial agencies and correspondence clubs.
- d) undertakers or others associated with death or burial,
- e) organisations/companies/persons seeking to advertise for the purpose of giving betting tips,
- f) employment services, registers or bureaux.
- g) products or treatments for bust development or, except as permitted by the British Code of Standards, for slimming, weight reduction or limitation of figure control,
- h) contraceptives,
- i) smoking cures,
- j) products for treatment of alcoholism,
- k) contact or corneal lenses,
- 1) clinics for the treatment of the hair and scalp,
- m) haemorrhoids.
- n) products associated with intimate personal hygiene or medication.

2. ADVERTISEMENTS OF MEDICINES AND TREATMENTS

- a) THE BRITISH CODE OF STANDARDS The advertising of medicines and treatment may be accepted provided it complies with the basic standard of "The British Code of Standards in relation to the Advertising of Medicines and Treatments."
- b) In advertisements for medicines, treatments and products which are claimed to promote health or to be beneficial in illness, the following are not allowable:
 - (i) presentations which give the impression of professional advice or recommendation, and
 - (ii) statements giving the impression of professional advice or recommendation made by persons who appear in the advertisements and who are presented either directly or by implication as being qualified to give such advice or recommendation.

3. FINANCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertising is limited to recognised Banks and Insurance Companies, Building Societies, Government Departments, and persons, bodies, companies and corporations carrying on a trade or an undertaking provided they have been granted a permit or licence when one is required by law.

4. GENERAL

The Advertisement referring to the holding of any assembly, meeting or activity whatsoever shall not be allowed if a permit or licence therefore is required according to law, unless the permit or licence has been granted prior to the broadcast of the advertisement.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

During the year the Authority received advice in the field of schools broadcasting from a committee which was appointed in terms of Section 10 of the Broadcasting Ordinance.

The membership of the Schools Broadcasting Advisory Committee was as follows:

Chairman: S. Gatt Esq.

Members: Bro. Charles

Mother McCallum

Rt. Rev. Mgr. M. Azzopardi

Rev. Fr. P. Cachia, O.P.

F. X. Mangion, Esq.

Miss M. Attard Gouder

Miss L. Bugeja

P. Vella, Esq.

P. Bugeja, Esq.

J. Cilia, Esq.

F. Vella Jones, Esq.

L. Mizzi, Esq.

Secretary . A. J. Ellul, Esq.

THE STAFF OF THE AUTHORITY

as on 31st March, 1970

Broadcasting Director	Vacant
Administrative Services	
Secretary to the Authority	Mr A. J. Ellul Mr M. Camilleri
Programme Services	_
Production Assistant	Mr V. Formosa
Programme Editors	Mr H. Zammit Cordina Mr A. Mallia Mr E. Cassar Mr J. Sammut
Schools Broadcasting Unit	
Schools Broadcasting Organizer	Mr L. Mizzi
Television Officer	Mr C. Xerri
Sound Officer	Mr J. Scerri
Schools Broadcasting Officers	Mr J. Zammit Cordina Miss L. Ciarlo Mr A. Cassar
Religious Broadcasting Adviser	Fr. C. G. Vella Ph.B., S.Th.L.

^{*} The post of Chief Executive became vacant on the 17th November 1968. Since then the Authority made administrative arrangements which enabled Mr Antoine Ellul to carry out the day-to-day duties of Chief Executive.

DISTRIBUTION OF TV SETS BY PERCENTAGE

Valletta 5.82 Floriana 2.82 Hamrun 10.73	Siġġiewi Zebbuġ } 2.79
Qormi 4.00 Cospicua Senglea 7.49	Sliema St. Julians Gżira St. Andrews (part)
Vittoriosa (Kalkara)	Msida 5.20
Paola Luqa Tarxien Fgura Sta, Lucia	Birkirkara Lija Attard Balzan
Zabbar Wied il-Ghajn Xghajra Zurrieq Mqabba	Rabat Dingli Mdina Bahrija Mtahleb Kuncizzjoni
Kirkop 2.78 Safi Gudja	Mosta St. Paul's Bay Mellieħa Mġarr Manikata Zebbiegħ New Port 0.07
Benghajsa	Gozo 3.16
Naxxar Gharghur Bahar iċ-Ċaghaq St. Andrews (part)	topenessate sarring evaluations and the transmission in State Salts

RADIO AND TELEVISION LICENCE STATISTICS 1969

Country	Sound Licences	Separate TV L'cences II	Combined Sound & TV Licences III	Population	Sound Licences (I+III) per hundred inhabitants	TV Licences (II+III) per hundred inhabitants
Algeria	850,000	101,000		12,500,000	6.80	0.81
Cyprus	159,265	41,552	1	630,000	25.28	09.9
France	5,792,937	1	10,153,180	49,778,540	32.03	20.40
Germany (F.R.)	3,459,114	1	15,909,146	61,232,300	31.63	25.98
Gibraltar	3,000	6,016	1	25,000	12.00	24.06
Greece	984,713	120,000	1	8,388,553	11.74	1.43
Israel	464,000	189,500	1	2,910,000	15.95	6.51
Italy	3,399,182	8	9,042,959	53,939,940	23.07	16.76
	*(119,971)	1				
Malta	10,440		43,444	322,243	31.80	13.48
	**(48,577)	1				
Morocco	902,279	144,547	1	14,000,000	6.44	1.03
Spain	7,250,000	3,845,000	1	32,900,000	22.04	11.69
Tunisia	374,000	50,267		49,600,000	7.54	1.01
Turkey	3,030,162	3,054	ı	35,232,000	8.60	0.000
United Kingdom	2,375,224	I	15,632.978	55,283,000	32.93	28.63
	*(183,534)		3			

Note: * Licence for wired sound broadcasting **Subscribers

IX.

Accounts

BALANCE SHEET at 31st March, 1970

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT For the Year Ended 31st March, 1970

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (Constituted under Ordinance XX of 1961) BALANCE SHEET AT 31st MARCH, 1970

31st Man	rch	-	Depreciati	
1969		Cost	Provided	
£	DIVER ASSEMA	£	£	£
	FIXED ASSETS			
655	Freehold Land	655	-	655
1 200	Office Equipment, Furniture	- 200	2.050	1 450
1,322 744	and Fittings	5,328	3,858	1,470
98	Technical Equipment	4,865	3,813	1,052
90	Studio Equipment Editing Shed	238	164	74
 594	Motor Vehicle	212 743	212	
	Motor venicle			446
3,413		12,041	8,344	3,697
0	CURRENT ASSETS			
1.055	Sundry Debtors and Prepayme	ents	1,456	
401	Stocks of Records and Booklet		134	
	Cash at Bank		101	
2,550	On Savings Account	8,111		
2,225	Less: Current Account	2,030	6,081	
12	Cash in Hand		24	
6,243			7,695	
	Deduct:—			
	CURRENT LIABILITIES			
4,620	Sundry Creditors and Accru	ed Charges	5,960	
1.623	NET CURRENT ASSETS			1,735
£5,036	TOTAL NET A	SSETS		£5,432
		•		
	Represented	1 F 70 1 F	on Ose	
	GOVERNMENT CONTRI WIRELESS LICEN		FROM	
			1 .	
10.520	Amount applied for Capital P	urposes to	date	10.041
10,539 862	(see above)	. 12:1	41.	12,041
	Provision for Loss or Damage	to Films of	n Hire	1,012
11,401				13,053
	Less:—			
6,365	Debit Balance on Income and	Expenditur	e Account	7,621
£5,036				£5,432

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

We have examined the annexed Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the books and records kept by the Authority and have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. Proper books of account have been kept so far as appears from our examination thereof.

In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us, the said Balance Sheet presents a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Authority at the 31st March, 1970 and of the deficit for the year ended on that date.

TURQUAND, YOUNGS & CO.

Chartered Accountants
Certified Public Accountants

135, Archbishop Street, Valletta, Malta.

14th July, 1970

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1970

Year End	ded			
31st Mar	ch			
1969				
$\mathcal L$		£	£	£
	INCOME			
	Government Contributions			
55,000	from Licence Fees			60,000
752	Licence Fees from Contractors			752
51	Ground Rents			51
347	Bank Interest			224
56,150				61,027
				01,027
	Deduct:—			
	Prescription of Sound			
	Broadcasts in accordance			
	with Clause 12 of an			
	Agreement dated 28.9.61			
	with Rediffusion (Malta)			
9,097	Limited (Note 2)	11,143		
	Contributions towards			
	improvements carried out by			
1,621	Rediffusion (Malta) Limited	1,148		
10,718			12,291	
	_		12,271	
	Prescription of Television			
	Broadcasts in accordance			
	with Clause 12 of an			
	Agreement dated 28.9.61			
	with The Malta Television			
32,432	Service Limited (Note 3)	31,631		
	Contributions towards			
	improvements carried out by			
	The Malta Television Service			
215	Limited	414		
32,647		(it works were a set	32,045	
43,365				44,336
12,785	carried forward			16,691
				,

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1970

Year Ended

31st Mar 1969					
£			£	£	£
12,785	brought forwa	rd			16,691
	Deduct:-				
	ADMINISTRATIVE (CHARGES			
15,438	(see Appendix)			20,182	
	Less: Charged to the				
	programmes pr				
(999)	by the Authori Sound (Note 2)	5.7%	1,150		
(882) $(2,205)$	Television (Note 3)	14.3%	2,886	4,036	
	Television (Little b)	1110 /0			17.147
12,351					16,146
434					545
	Deduct:-				
	OTHER CHARGES				
	Contribution towards				
	publication of Sch				299
255	(Less charged to e	contractor	£150)		
179					246
	Deduct:—				1,502
1,055	Applied for Capital	Purposes			
876	Deficit for the year				1,256
	19712-19				
	Add:—	1.6			6,365
5.489	Balance brought for				
£6,365	Balance — Deficit —	- Carried	forward (P	age 93)	£7,621

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1970 NOTES

(1) The net cash deficit of the Authority at 31st March, 1970 calculated in accordance with Clause 12(3) and (4) of the Ordinance is made up as follows:—

	up as fo	llows:—		
				£
	Del	bit Balance on Income and Expenditure Acco Add:—	unt	7,621
	Sur	ndry Debtors and Prepaid Charges		1,456
		cks of Records and Booklets		134
				0.011
		Torre		9.211
	D	Less:—		0 244
	Dej	preciation to date		8,344
		Net Cash Deficit		£ 867
(2)	The foll	owing expenditure was incurred on soun	d pro	grammes
(-)		ed by the Authority:—	u pro	'erammes
	1968/69	and the statements.		
	£		£	£
	4,899	Salaries and Wages		6,040
	730	Scriptwriters' and Actors' Fees		632
	1,530	Airtime and Studio Charges		1,890
	72	Records, Tapes and Publications		68
	127	School Broadcasting Magazine		149
	91	E.B.U. Competition		65
	463	School Broadcasting Expenses		681
		Maintenance and Repairs of Technical		
		Equipment	132	
		Less: Allocated to Television		
		Broadcasts (Note 3)	66	
	33			66
	00	Depreciation on Technical Equipment	802	
		Less: Allocated to Television		
		Broadcasts (Note 3)	401	
	270			401
	8,215			9,992
	882	Proportion of Overhead Expenses (5.7%)		1.150
	-	and the second s		
	£9,097			£11.142

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1970 NOTES

(continued)

(3) The following expenditure was incurred on television programmes prescribed by the Authority:—

1968/69			
£		£	£
8,240	Hire of Television Films		5,545
18,971	Airtime and Studio Charges		20,026
222	Educational Television		886
252	Training of Staff		52
1,035	Production of T.V. Documentaries		797
685	Script Contributors' Fees		835
95	Sundry Expenses		113
	Share of Expenses of T.V. Coverage		
399	of Royal Visit		-
	Maintenance and Repairs of Technical		
33	Equipment (Note 2)		66
	Depreciation		
271	Technical Equipment (Note 2)	401	
24	Studio Furniture	24	425
	1		
30,227			28,745
2,205	Proportion of Overhead Expenses (14.3%)		2,886
	1 (, , , ,		
£32,432			£31,631

(4) The charges for wages and salaries in the Income and Expenditure Account for the year include arrears relating to previous years amounting to £2,329 arising from the Salaries and Anomalies Commission Report dated 19/9/69.

Appendix

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1970

Year Ended 31st March 1969

1000				
£			£	£
325	Audit Fees			325
	Depreciation			
277	Furniture and Fittings	10%	321	
177	Office Equipment	20%	131	
10	Soft Furniture	$33\frac{1}{3}\%$	10	
149	Motor Vehicle	20%	149	611
126	Duty visits abroad		-	163
106	Entertainment and Hospitality			339
100	European Broadcasting Union a	m.l		339
108	Commonwealth Broadcasting		F.o.	182
1,399	Honoraria to Board Members	Conference —	rees	1,385
301	Legal Fees and Expenses			300
70	Maintenance and Repairs			136
51	Messenger's and Driver's Unifo	rme		33
53	National Insurance Contributio			58
587	Postages, Telegrams and Tele			459
450	Rent of Offices	priones		450
47	Rentals Wired Sound and Tele	wision Sats		51
331	Stationery	vision Bets		536
646	Staff Superannuation Scheme			744
92	Subscriptions to Newspapers et	C		76
347	Sundry Expenses			264
198	Transport			259
9,535	Wages and Salaries (Note 4)			13,710
52	Water and Electricity			101
	water and Electricity			101
£15,437				£20,182

MBA

1969-70

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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