National Cana Forum at University Theatre

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A large number of couples who attended the Cana Conferences during the past year, have assembled at the University Theatre (kindly put at the Cana Movement's disposal for the occasion) to hear a discussion on the problems facing engaged couples today.

Rev. Prof. R. Cirillo, National Chaplain of the Young Christian Workers' Movement; Dr. Fenech Adami, Vice-President of the Catholic Social Guild; Mr. Walter Zahra, Secretary of the Confederation of Malta Trade Unions and Mrs. Debono Montebello, a delegate of the Cana Movement, took part in the forum under the Chairmanship of Dr. P. Mallia.

Day-to-Day Problems

Fr. Charles G. Vella, Director of the Cana Movement, introduced the qualified speakers who later went on to tackle the questions arising out of day-to-day problems facing Maltese couples.

Other subjects discussed included the relations between the married man and woman and their parents; whether Family Allowances shall be introduced in the future; economic problems facing engaged couples; the cause of separation cases, the position of an employed woman while she is engaged or married and the housing problem.

Prof. Cirillo said an employed girl's position may become precarious in future once she thinks and feels that she is independent of her family when she starts working. This position is bound to land the girl in trouble after marriage.

Mrs. Debono Montebello warned the employed girl of such a position and emphasized that this state of affairs may be easily tackled by the parents. The parents should at once enforce strict discipline on their daughters' wages. An employed girl should by no means keep all the salary she receives — moderate pocket-money would do, and Mrs. Debono Montebello.

Housing

On the housing problem, Dr. Mallia said that many factors contributed to the present-day lack of houses. One of the principal factors was the war which destroyed some 27,000 houses; others were the increase in births — 6,000 babies a year; the standard of living which soared sky-high after the war and the very small number of houses which were built after war.

Dr. Fenech Adami said the acute problem of housing contributes to one of the economic problems which engaged couples have to face today. The speaker said this problem is not being tackled seriously: it has been tackled successfully in many countries without any great effort. He said Government aid for those who are ready to undertake building projects is needed.

The speaker mentioned Belgium as an example where great strides have been taken by Government to ensure smooth housing facilities. During question-time, Mr. Walter Zahra, answering a question on family allowances said that Government had informed the Confederation of Malta Trade Unions that no money to undertake such a scheme was available. He added that Government also has not yet committed itself to take into consideration the forming up of a special committee to study ways and means and see from where money could be raised so that these allowances may be introduced.

Resolution

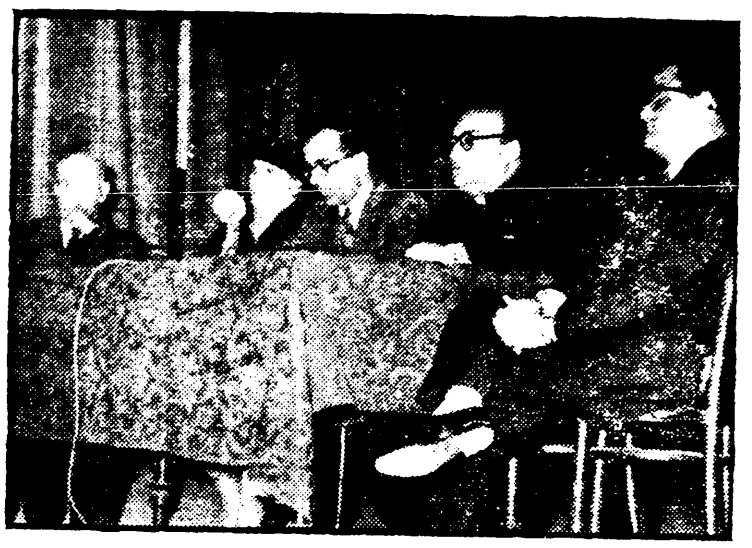
Fr. Charles Vella closed the forum by thanking the Chairman and the speakers who took part. Two Resolutions were passed by a show of hands at the end.

A section of the couples who attended the Forum organized by the Cana Movement at the University Theatre.

These were: 1. That the Cana Movement resolves to maintain its contacts with Government regarding engaged and married couples for more houses and appeals to the public who has enough capital at hand to unite and form a Building Society; that self-help will be forthcoming from engaged and married couples themselves.

2. The Cana Movement supports all those who are requesting the introduction of Family Allowances in these Islands.

The National Cana Conferences are part of the celebrations commemorating the Feast of the Holy Family.



The speakers at the Forum organized by the Cana Movement for engaged couples at the University Theatre. From left to right; Mr. Walter Zahra, Mrs. Debono Montebello, Dr. P. Mallia (chairman), Rev. Prof. R. Cirillo and Dr. Fenech Adami.

DEPARTURE OF MISSIONARIES FOR SANTAL

A departure ceremony in honour of the new Jesuit Missionary, Father Anthony Savona, who is about to set off for India as Superior of the Santal Missions, will be held next Tuesday at 6.30 p.m. at the Jesuits' Church, Valetta.

His Grace the Metropolitan Archbishop, who has kindly accepted to preside over this ceremony, will bless and present the Crucifix to the new missionary. After a short speech by Father Savona, His Grace will impart Sacramental Benediction, after which the members of the Jesuit Community, and others present will kiss the feet of the new missionary. The public is invited to attend.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT (CONSTITUTION) ORDINANCE (CAP. 148)

ADVISORY AND EXECUTIVE BOARD (ELECTIONS) REGULATIONS, 1959

Election Dates and List of Candidates

In pursuance of the provisions of regulation 6 of the Advisory and Executive Board (Elections) Regulations, 1959, it is hereby notified that the election of one medical practitioner and one apothecary to the Advisory and Executive Board shall be held at the Offices of the Advisory and Executive Board (Elections) Commission: — (a) in MALTA at No. 15, Merchants Street, Valletta, on Tuesday the 10th day of January and Wednesday the 11th day of January, 1961, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. (b) in GOZO at Victoria Hospital, Victoria, on Tuesday the 10th day of January 1961, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and on Wednesday the 11th day of January, 1961, from 9.30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

It is also notified that the candidates nominated for election to the Advisory and Executive Board of one medical practitioner in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) and of one apothecary in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (c) of sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Medical and Health Department (Constitution) Ordinance (Chapter 148) are the following: —

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

DR. CHARLES DEGAETANO, M.D.
DR. ALBERT FENECH, M.D.

APOTHECARIES

MR. ANTHONY DARMENIA, Ph.C.
MR. GAETANO FARRUGIA, Ph.C.

ALFRED GRECH
WILLIE GRIMA
JOSEPH SCERRI

Election Commissioners
Advisory and Executive Board (Elections) Commission.

PRINCESS MARGARET'S IRISH VISIT
Reporters Recalled Following Complaint by Queen Mother

(Reuter's Service) DUBLIN, Irish Republic, Jan. 6.

Several British newspapermen who had been reporting the visit of Princess Margaret to the Irish Republic were recalled by their offices today following a complaint by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother about their activities.

The British Queen Mother complained to British and Irish newspaper owners that her daughter had been "besieged by the Press" and appealed for the withdrawal of the journalists and the photographers.

Today's disclosure of the Queen Mother's protest — through her Press Secretary to Britain's Newspaper Proprietors Association and to the Dublin Newspaper Managers Committee — came six days after the arrival of the Royal Party in the Republic to stay with the family of Mr. Anthony Armstrong - Jones Princess Margaret's husband.

Irish Police had been given special instructions to protect the Princess from possible demonstrations by extreme Nationalists or members of the outlawed Irish Republican Army.

Instead, a tired Special Branch police officer who has been with the Royal Party since last Saturday said today: "Whatever may have been the main purpose of our round-the-clock security vigil at the outset, it has now developed into ensuring that we protect the Princess from her own countrymen."

According to reports here by the local correspondents, British journalists and photographers formed patrols and mounted sentries at Birr Castle, where the Royal Party is staying. One British journalist went so far as to scale the wall on Wednesday.

MISSILE TEST FLIGHT FAILURE

(Reuter's Service)

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, Jan. 6.

A solid-fuel Pershing missile exploded just after launching last night showering flaming pieces into the Atlantic Ocean in front of beach observers.

It was only the second failure in 10 test flights of the 34-foot Army rocket which is expected to be ready for combat duty in Western Europe in about 12 months.

The big rocket blew up 25 seconds after take-off on what was to have been a 160-mile test flight. Its full range is 700 miles.

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