

HOLIDAY TOURS

"Winter Sunshine" is the title of the Swan Tours' comprehensive and fully illustrated brochure for 1962-63.

With a colourful picture of a sandy beach as its cover, the brochure contains detailed information for the intending traveller. There are detailed lists of sea and air passages, fares, hotels, cruises, excursions, and suggestions about the many countries and holiday resorts which draw countless tourists every year, situated as far apart as the Costa del Sol, and the Kenya Riviera and Nairobi, to Australia. Page 30 of the brochure is devoted to Malta G.C., "The Sunshine Island which is fast developing into a popular holiday resort". Three pictures — Mellieha Church, the west door of the Palace of the Grand Masters, and a typical narrow street in Valetta — enhance the descriptions.

"MANON LESCAUT" AT THE OPERA

When, almost six decades before the Revolution, the Abbé Prévost wrote his classic 'Histoire de Chevalier des Grieux et de Manon Lescaut', using for them the self-indulgent ways of that French Society he had known so well before renouncing the world, he can hardly have hoped for the huge success his work would have in view of its high moral scope. Still less will he have envisaged for it a stage career that would keep it perennially fresh two and a half centuries after his passing.

Today the pathetic story of Manon's great love — "..... Ma l'amor mio..... non muore....." — survives in two renowned operas, Massenet's (1884) and Puccini's (1893), but it had tempted other composers before, Halévy in 1830 and Auber in 1856, far

By "CROTCHET"

from unsuccessfully too. Malta came to know and succumb to the last Puccinian version of the romance the very next year after its première at Turin, oddly enough given here three years before Massenet's antecedent one, and both have remained regular visitors. Indeed the Cantoni Impresa has produced Puccini's 'Manon Lescaut' twice already in its postwar seasons, reintroducing it just ten years ago, almost to the day, with a very old friend in the title rôle, Augusta Oitrabella, who

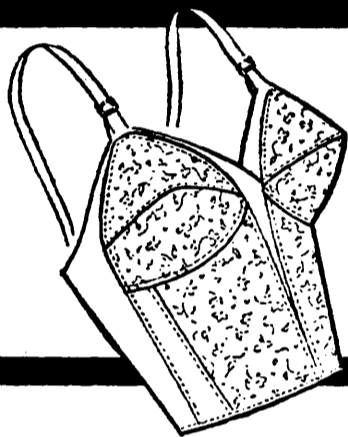
had sung it at the Theatre Royal during the 1919-20 season and at Covent Garden.

Magda Oliviero, who impersonates the wayward Manon, this year needs no introduction as a well-known celebrity; singing opposite her as Des Grieux will be Tenor A. Bartoli, who has appeared with her in the same opera at Barcelona; Lescaut will be played by Baritone Attilio d'Orazi. The orchestra, made up with elements from the Commune of Bologna, will be under the baton of Mro. Loris Gavarrini. A repeat performance will be given next Sunday.

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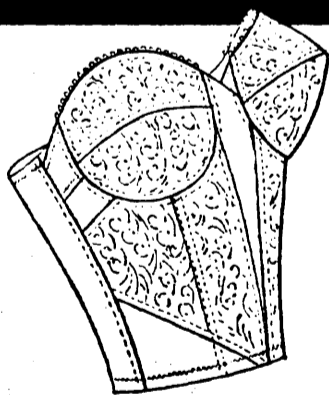
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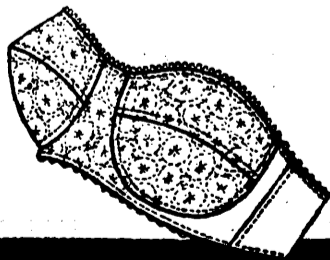
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Royal Society of Health MALTA BRANCH HOLDS MEETING

The Royal Society of Health, Malta Branch, held the first annual general meeting at De La Salle Place, Kingsway, Valetta, recently. A large number of members were present at the meeting.

Opening the meeting, Professor J. Galea, the Chairman, said it gave him great pleasure that the Branch was a year old. The aim of the Branch was the advancement of hygiene in the Island. The Government is doing its utmost to meet the present entire situation particularly in the development of the Tourist Industry and Public Works, but no provision has been planned regarding public hygiene, which is also very essential both for the island in general and tourism in particular. In all civilized countries public hygiene was of a high standard and this should be the Branch's aim where Malta was concerned.

In conclusion, Professor Galea expressed the hope that every member of the Society in Malta would display keen interest in the activities of the Branch, as there is a lot of work for the welfare of both members and of the Island to be done in the future. Mr. J. Buontempo, Secretary and Founder of the Branch, gave a full statement of the year's activities.

October 18, 1961, was a memorable date for the Malta Branch, as on that day the Branch, was officially inaugurated by Sir Arthur Massey, Chairman of the Council, at the Governor's Palace, Valetta.

When Mr. D. Goldfinch, F.R.S.H., a consultant architect and an Executive Vice-President of the Royal Society of Health, was here a few days after the official inauguration, he gave a lecture on "Hospital Architecture" at the Royal University of Malta which was attended by many prominent citizens.

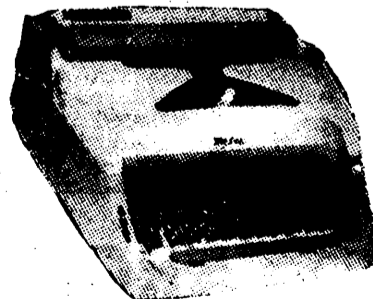
The Secretary said that the local Council considered certain proposals, such as official recognition of the diplomas and certificates of the Society by Malta Government, the possible exemption from income tax of certain professional expenses incurred by members of the Branch, and fund raising.

Finally, the Secretary thanked all those who donated funds to the Branch. He also thanked Professor C. Coleiro, C.G.M.O., for his support of the Branch, of which he is the Hon. Chairman.

The following were elected to form the local Council for the year 1962-63:

Hon. Chairman, Prof. C. Coleiro; Chairman, Prof. J. Galea; Vice-Chairman, Mr. A. Darmania, Ph.C.; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Buontempo L. Ch. (Lond.); Hon. Treasurer, Mr. H. Messina Ferrante, B. Ch. D.; Members, Dr. E.A. Stillon; Mr. J. Borg, Ph.C.; Mr. M. Fava, B. Pharm.; Mr. A. Calus and Mr. H. Cesareo.

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