

## C.M.T.U.

### Week-End School

#### ROLE OF TRADE UNIONS IN CHANGING ECONOMY

By A Staff Reporter

The role of trade unions in the Island's changing economy was the topical subject of the Week-End School held by the Confederation of Malta Trade Unions at the Residential Holiday Centre at Marsaxlokk, lent for the occasion by the Department of Education.

Three distinguished lecturers addressed the gathering on topics dealing with the main theme — Dr. C.M. Focken spoke on technical education and the demands of industry; he stressed how necessary this education was for the future of the Island. There was an imperative need to do away with prejudice against sending boys to technical school and the new Polytechnic would be a boon to the Island and its developing industries.

Mr. C. Fee, technical assistant of the International Labour Organisation, spoke on the effect of industrial relations on a changing economy and he dwelt on the importance of good relations between employees and employers. The correct conciliatory machinery to settle any disputes was an absolute necessity in order that problems could be thrashed out amicably and thereby avoid industrial action.

#### Points of Similarity

The opening lecturer on Saturday was Mr. P. Fisher of the Trades Union Council and in dealing with the role of the trade unions in a changing economy, he found several points of similarity between the situation in Malta and that in Britain, especially as regards problems that trade unionists in the U.K. had already met with. He drew on his experiences to offer valuable advice and suggestions.

The attendance at the School had to be curtailed to 70 and those who were unable to be included have now been told they will be able to attend a further such occasion organised by the C.M.T.U.

#### Functions of Education

The School was inaugurated on Saturday afternoon with a short talk by the Confederation's Education Officer, Mr. Peter Grech, who spoke on the functions of education within the trade union movement. He said education in these circumstances stimulated and created a fundamental understanding of the society in which one lived; it studied the techniques of industrial democracy generally and the trade union movement in particular; it stressed the philosophic and social, the economic and political objectives of organised labour, and, moreover, it was designed to train members to enable them to discharge their Union responsibilities more effectively thereby helping them to play a more important role in the workers' movement.

Various discussion groups were organised under Mr. A.M. Darmania, the Vice-President of the C.M.T.U., Mr.



Dr. C.M. Focken addressing participants at the C.M.T.U. Week-End School held at Marsaxlokk yesterday. Seated is Mr. A.M. Darmania, Vice President of the Confederation.

W. Zahra, the General Secretary, Mr. G. Callus, the Assistant Secretary and Mr. M. Vella Haber, a member of the Council.

These groups discussed whether wage restraint was essential, whether there was a need for an economic and development council, if a trade union should help mitigate the efforts of automation, and if a trade union should refrain from taking industrial action.

These were later again treated by a panel of experts in a symposium held at the afternoon session yesterday when questions and views were asked of Mr. S. Mizzi, Director of the Department of Trade and Industry; Fr. S. Galea, S.J. of the Archbishop's Curia, Mr. N.S. Thompson, Joint Manager of Malta Drydocks, Mr. Patrick P. Fisher and Mr. C. Fee.

The Minister of Labour Dr. A. Cachia Zammit took a personal interest in the Week-end School and addressed the gathering after luncheon yesterday to open the symposium.

The School was concluded by the Chairman of the C.M.T.U., Mr. A.M. Callus, who summed up the interesting week-end.

In the morning Ref. Prof. R. Cirillo celebrated Mass for the School and in his sermon took as his theme that the spirit of trade unionism should be linked with a spirit of charity.

### Boiling of Water In Gozo

The Gozo Branch of the Medical and Health Department wishes to inform the public in Gozo that it is no longer necessary to boil water drawn from public stand pipes and taps before drinking it.

### 30-FOOT FALL

C. Grima of Mosta fell from a height of about 30 feet while working on the roof of a building at St. Paul's Bay. He was taken to hospital suffering from injuries of a grievous nature.

## Start of B.E.A. Pilot Training Scheme

By a Staff Reporter

The £300,000 British European Airways scheme to train pilots and engineers in Malta during the winter, started in earnest yesterday afternoon. In just over an hour after its arrival from England, a "Vanguard" took off from Luqa on the first training flight for check pilots which, together with a number of engineers, arrived from England earlier in the afternoon.

The "Vanguard" G-APEK — carried nine engineers and seven pilots together with one steward. The team was headed by Captain Gilman, the Senior Training Captain.

#### Training Techniques

It was explained at Luqa that the seven pilots will train the second officers who start arriving in Malta about the middle of this month. But first they will undergo study of training techniques.

The aircraft was met at Luqa on arrival by Mr. D.M.H. Russel, Manager B.E.A. Malta and North Africa; Mr. V.

Berry, Area Traffic Officer; Mr. Bill Dobson, Training Administration Superintendent; Mr. E. Paris, Station Manager, Malta Aviation Services; and Mr. H. Wirth, Senior Traffic Officer, M.A.S. together with other B.E.A. officials.

The "Vanguard" carried a spare engine as well as spares. Thanks to the cooperation of the Customs, the engine remained aboard the aircraft on arrival. This was done to ensure that no time was wasted on the start of the training.

It is expected that a number of pilots will leave for the United Kingdom tomorrow. As for the engineers, a total of 15 permanent staff will be built up as time goes on. The aircraft itself will be relieved from time to time by another which will arrive in Malta on a scheduled flight. G-APEK will re-enter operational flying by making the return trip.

This is the first time ever that British European Airways have undertaken the training of pilots and engineers overseas.

### QUARRY MISHAP

Whilst Nicholas Zammit, 48 years of Imqatba, was sharpening a quarry hacksaw, the sharpening wheel broke, hitting Zammit in his abdomen.

Zammit was conveyed to St. Luke's Hospital, where it was reported late last night that he was in imminent danger of loss of life.

A Magisterial Inquiry was held on the spot yesterday.

### COLLISIONS AT FLORIANA

A collision occurred at Floriana, between a Sliema bus and a car. No one was hurt. The car was slightly damaged.

Another collision occurred at Kingsgate between two Sliema buses. No one was hurt. One of the buses was damaged.

### SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Mr. John Abela, Managing Director of the Abela Trading Company, left Malta for London on Saturday to attend the Institute of Directors' annual Conference at the Albert Hall.



The group of B.E.A. check pilots and engineers, with B.E.A. and other officials, photographed by the aircraft which brought them from England yesterday.

#### SUDDEN DEATH

Early on Saturday Leonard Busuttil, 67 years of Zurrieq was taken suddenly ill while at Zurrieq Parish Church and died soon after. He died from natural causes.

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