

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CABINET
BY THE HON. PRIME MINISTER

Change in the Format of Ballot Papers

The Opposition Parties have been asking, for some time past, that ballot papers should be drawn up horizontally and not vertically, with a different colour for each party.

.... 2. The ballot paper as proposed will be in the form of the attached specimen. The Electoral Commission have signified their agreement to the new proposed ballot paper provided that the Crown Advocate General does not feel that this form runs counter to section 57 of the Constitution.

3. The views of the Crown Advocate General on this point are as follows:-

"The change of form of the ballot papers in the manner envisaged is not in my opinion in any way contrary to section 57 (1) or to any other provision of the Constitution, precisely because it is simply a change of form and electors will be still required to vote on a personal basis, namely, for individual candidates and not for parties.

However, since a ballot paper with the names of candidates arranged under party lists, is in itself suggestive of elections held on a party basis, I feel that the electorate will have, before the elections, to be properly instructed in the sense that the change in the form of Ballot Papers, does not imply any departure from the system of elections hitherto in force in Malta.

I also think that it is advisable that all the parties standing for the forthcoming elections should be consulted."

4. In considering the practical aspects of this suggestion it is pertinent to state that voters normally give their preference to the candidates adhering to the party of their choice and only after exhausting the party list some continue their preferences on candidates of other parties. During the last election when a large number of voters voted for more than one party, it was observed that the vote was first cast for the candidates of one party followed by the candidates of a second party and so on. The proposed new format will therefore enable the voter to cast his vote quicker as he finds the candidates for whom he wishes to vote conveniently grouped together. This will have the advantage of a quicker turnover of voters in polling places.

5. The proposed new format is easier to handle both by the voter and by the counting assistants. As such, counting will be facilitated.

6. There is a risk in the proposed new format that voters wishing to vote first for the candidates of one party followed by candidates of a second party may insert the figure 1 twice as the names appear in separate lists. This risk will be minimized by careful party propaganda and by the normal T.V. and sound broadcasts by the Electoral Commissioners.

7. The use of colours to identify the parties is not recommended by the Electoral Commissioners. With seven parties contesting the elections, all the colours of the rainbow will be exhausted. The period between nominations and the poll is very short and may not be sufficient to produce a multicoloured ballot paper. There is a grave risk that the machine fails to print a particular colour on some of the ballot papers and if these go undetected in the ballot box - an eventuality which occurred in the last referendum - the ballot paper will be invalid. In addition, ballot papers are themselves coloured to identify one electoral division from another. Overprinting by colour on coloured paper will give variations in the colour. If, for example, a party is allotted the colour blue, this will appear blue on a white ballot paper, green on a yellow background and variations of blue and green on different backgrounds.

.... 8. If the new format is approved, the Polling Regulations, 1959, will be amended as per draft attached, providing -

- (a) that candidates belonging to each political party will be grouped in separate lists printed side by side on the ballot paper with the political party and the badge or device of that party printed at the top;
- (b) that all independent candidates will be grouped in one list on the ballot paper, with the word "INDEPENDENT" at the top;
- (c) that the order of the lists in the ballot paper (which will be the same for each Electoral Division) and the order of the names in each list, will be decided by the Electoral Commission by lot;
- (d) that the political parties supply to the Electoral Commission the name of their political parties, either in the Maltese or the English language or both languages;
- (e) that each political party will submit to the Electoral Commission a list of candidates adhering to their party; and

/(f)

(f) that political parties will supply the necessary number of party badges to the Electoral Commission.

9. The draft of the proposed Polling Regulations amended as in the preceding paragraph have been vetted by the Crown Advocate General but in connection with (c) (section 2. 1.(3) of the draft) he thinks that the position of candidates within the Party list should be on the basis of the alphabetical order of the first letter of their respective surnames.

10. Ministers are requested to consider whether the proposed change in the format of ballot papers in connection with the forthcoming general election should be changed as proposed and, if so, whether the Crown Advocate General's views with regard to the section quoted in paragraph 9 above, should be accepted.

27th December, 1965.

L-ARKIVJI NAZZJONALI TA' MALTA

ELECTORAL (POLLING) ORDINANCE
POLLING (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS
ORDER, 1965

Date of commencement:

IN exercise of the powers conferred by section 8 of the Electoral (Polling) Ordinance, the Governor-General has made the following regulations:

Citation.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Polling (Amendment) Regulations, 1965, and shall be read and construed as one with the Polling Regulations, 1959, hereinafter referred to as "the principal regulations".

Substitutes regulation 1 of the principal regulations.

2. For regulation 1 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:-

1. (1) Every ballot paper shall be in the form set out in Schedule (A) hereto and shall contain the names and descriptions of the candidates as shown in their nomination paper, arranged in separate lists according to the political party to which they adhere except that the names of any candidates who do not adhere to any political party shall be arranged in a single separate list.

(2) The lists referred to in the last preceding paragraph shall be printed side by side with the name of the political party and the badge or device of that party, as approved by the Electoral Commissioners, at the top and, in the case of candidates who do not adhere to any political party, with the word "INDEPENDENT" at the top.

(3) The order of the lists in the ballot paper (which shall be the same for every Electoral Division) and the order of the names in each list in the ballot paper shall, after the expiration of the time fixed in regulation 1a of these regulations, be decided by the Electoral Commissioners by lot with open doors in the Commissioners' Office at such date and time as shall have been previously notified by the Commissioners in the Government Gazette.

Inserts new regulation 1a in the principal regulations.

Duties of political party.

3. Immediately after regulation 1 there shall be inserted the following new regulation:

1A. (1) Each political party shall as soon as may be and in any case not later than six working days after the expiration of the time fixed for the receipt of nominations under the provisions of section 10 of the Electoral (Polling) Ordinance cause to be delivered to an Electoral Commissioner at the Office of the Electoral Commission during normal office hours -

(a) the name of the political party, either in the Maltese or the English language or in both languages as they desire it to be shown on the ballot paper;

(b) lists of candidates adhering to that political party, signed by either the president or the secretary of the party and by every such candidate, or, if any such candidate is prevented from signing owing to illness or absence from these Islands, by his agent or lawful representative; and

/(c)

(c) such number of blocks of the badge or device of the political party to be printed on the ballot paper and of such size as may be prescribed by the Electoral Commissioners.

(2) Any candidate whose name is not shown in any of the lists referred to in sub-paragraph (b) of the last preceding paragraph shall be deemed to be a candidate who does not adhere to any political party."

Amends regulation 27 of the principal regulations.

4. Regulation 27 of the principal regulations is amended -

- (a) by the deletion of the words "Principal Electoral Officer" in paragraph (4) thereof and the substitution of the words "Electoral Commissioners";
- (b) by the insertion in paragraph (5) thereof after the words "on the ballot paper" of the words "starting with the first name on the list appearing on the left hand side of the ballot paper"; and
- (c) by the deletion of paragraph (6) thereof and the substitution therefor of the following paragraph:

"(6) If any such voter, however, shall request the Assistant Commissioner to read out the names only of those candidates who adhere to any political party or only of those candidates who do not adhere to any political party, the Assistant Commissioner shall do so by reading the names of such candidates in the order in which they appear in the ballot paper."

Substitutes Schedule (A) to the principal regulations.

5. For the Schedule (A) to the principal regulation there shall be substituted the following:-

"A"

FORM OF BALLOT PAPER

(See annexed form)

L-ARKIVI NAZZIONALI TA' MALTA



Immarka
Mi-wieqi ta' ismi
skond il-prie-
rienza ta' ismi
 Mark order
 of Preference
 in space below

Partit tal-Maddiema Nsara

BENCINI (Ganni Bencini — Is-Sur Ganni —
 101, Rodolphe Street, Sliema).

CIANCIO (Maria Carmela Ciancio —
 Business woman — Madame Marie —
 3, De La Salle Avenue, Gzira).

FARRUGIA (Robert Farrugia Printer
 Robbie
 9, Lower Victoria Terrace, Sliema).

LAURI (Anthony Lauri — Merchant —
 — 75, Manoel Street, Gzira).

PRIVITERA (Salvino Emanuel Privitera
 Architect & Civil Engineer —
 — 32, Cathedral Street, Sliema).

ZAMMIT (Charles Lawrence Zammit —
 Building Contractor —
 — 10, Birkirkara Road, St. Julian's).

ZARB (George Joseph Philip Zarb Tabib
 "St. Rita", New Street, Naxxar Road, St.
 Julian's).



Immarka
Mi-wieqi ta' ismi
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rienza ta' ismi
 Mark order
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Democratic Christian Party

CACHIA (Mary Cachia — Housewife —
 Mary Camilleri tar-Rediffusion
 9, St. Nicholas Street, Sliema).

CAMILLERI (Charles Camilleri — Managing
 Director —
 6, Harper Lane, Floriana).

MANCHE' (Charles Manchè — Merchant
 2, Potter House, Paceville Avenue, Paceville,
 St. Julian's).

RANSLEY (George John Ransley
 ex-Director of Prisons
 51, Windsor Terrace, Sliema).

POLZA — BALLOT PAPER

L-ARKIVI NAZZJONALI TA' MALTA

Numru ta' Membri li għandhom jingħazlu } 5
 Number of Members to be elected



Immarka
Id-voti ta' tabib
skond il-prefer-
enzi li ngħid

Immarka
Id-voti ta' tabib
skond il-prefer-
enzi li ngħid

Partit Demokratiku Nazjonalista

Malta Labour Party

BUSUTTIL (Antonio Busuttil — Tabib —
 10, Birkirkara Hill, St. Julian's).

AGIUS (Carmelo Agius — Avukat
 32, Melita Street, Sliema).

CARUANA MONTALDO (Joseph Caruana
 Montaldo, L.P., A.C.I.I., F.I.A.R.B.,
 Legal Procurator —
 275, St. Paul's Street, Valletta).

BALDACCHINO (Joseph M. Baldacchino
 Impjegat mal-Militar
 228, Conception Street, Msida).

DEGIORGIO (Roger Degiorgio — Architect
 & Civil Engineer — Perit —
 Cà de Yoris, Maddalena Road, Għargħur).

DANZA (John Danza — Photographer —
 — 13, Flat 1,
 Bishop Labini Street, Birkirkara).

FARRUGIA (Riccardo Farrugia Avukat
 208, Marina Street, Pietà).

DECESARE (Maurice Decesare —
 Tabib — Tabib tat-tfal —
 125/1, Tower Road, Sliema).

GANADO (Herbert Ganado — Avukat —
 8, Filippo Sceberras Square, Floriana).

HOLLAND (Patrick Holland — Avukat
 — 49, Christopher Street, Valletta).

MANCHE' (Albert R. Manchè L.P., LL.D.
 Avukat 48, Dingli Street, Sliema).

SAMMUT (Joseph Sammut Electrical Fitter
 Secretary, G.W.U.
 12, Bugeja Buildings, Sliema).

VASSALLO (John Vassallo In business
 Villa Lilian,
 Princess Elizabeth Street, Ta Xbiex).



Partit Nazzjonalista

*Immarka
il-rot ta' kull
skond il-prefer-
renza li tagħti
Mark order
of Preference
in spaces below*

BORG OLIVIER (Gaetano Borg Olivier,
LL.D., Avukat — is-Sur Gejt —
61, Main Street, St. Julian's).

EMINYAN (Victor Eminyán — Negozjant —
— 92, Isouard Street, Sliema).

FELICE (Giovanni Felice — Avukat —
98/1, Isouard Street, Sliema).

MICELI (Victor Miceli — Accountant —
— 17, St. Francis Street, Sliema).

REFALO (Michael Angelo Refalo, L.P.,
B.A., (Hons)., LL.D., Avukat
242, Tower Road, Sliema).

RIZZO (Oscar Rizzo, A.&C.E. Arkitett Perit
4, Hughes Hallet Street, Sliema).

TABONE (Vincent Tabone — Medical
Practitioner — it-tabib ta' l-għajnejn —
— 33, Carmel Street, St. Julian's).



Partit Kostituzzjonali Progressiv

*Immarka
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renza li tagħti
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of Preference
in spaces below*

ATTARD (John Attard, M.B.E., M.A.S.E.E.,
L-Engineer tal-Lucelettrika
126, Howard Street, Sliema).

FERRO (Colonel Henry Ferro Retd. Army
Officer
San Pawl tat-Tarġa, Naxxar).

MAMO (Wilfred Mamo — Merchant —
— 4, Milner Flats, Milner Street, Sliema).

PUGLISEVICH (Joseph Mary
Puglisevich B.E.M. Is-Sur Guzé tal-Imtida
"Thanet House", Testaferrata Street, Msida)

SPITERI (Joseph Francis Spiteri — Company
Director — tal- Kee Klamps
121, Villa Frere, Marina Street, Pietà).

STRICKLAND (Hon. Mabel Strickland,
O.B.E. Journalist — Villa Parisio, Lija).

VASSALLO (Joseph George Vassallo —
Dip. Pol. Econ. (Oxon), F.R. Econ. S.
— Journalist — 219, Marina Street, Pietà).