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Sitting No. 19/68.

Cabinet meeting held at the Ambasciata d'Argon, Valletta, on Thursday, 14th March, 1968, at 11 a.m.

Present: The Hon. Prime Minister

The Hon. Minister of Finance, Customs & Ports.

The Hon. Minister of Public Building & Works.

The Hon. Minister of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

The Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry & Agriculture.

The Hon. Minister of Health.

The Hon. Minister of Education, Culture & Tourism.

The Hon. Minister of Labour, Employment & Welfare.

OPM. 513/68
III.

Malta Boy Scouts

The Cabinet reviewed the position of the Malta Boy Scouts. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Press to refute the allegations made in various papers that the Government was on the point of concluding some form of agreement with Baileys.

OPM. 514/68.

Local Development Loan.

A letter from the Hon. Minister

of Finance, Customs & Ports to the Hon. Prime Minister, dated 9th March, 1968, regarding the floating of a local loan for £850,000 to cover the development programme during the current financial year, was read out. It was confirmed that the scope for which the loan could be used was regulated by law which mentioned specific projects for which such loan could be used.

It was agreed that the rate of interest should be 6% and that the Hon. Minister of Finance, Customs & Ports should have informal talks with the banks to see what their views were in regard to the proposed terms of issue, i.e., 5-year maturity date and without the obligation to re-purchase by the Government. If the banks agreed with the proposals, Ministers agreed that the Hon. Minister of Finance, Customs & Ports could proceed with the issue.

CPM. 533/64. Managements of St. Philip's School

The Cabinet approved the recommendation made to the Administrative Secretary on the 26th January, 1968, and copied to the Secretary, M.F.C.P., to revise the salary of the Principal and his Assistant to £640 and £590 respectively.

CPM. 454/51
(1) Bus Fines in Malta.

The Administrative Secretary read out a letter from the General Chamberlain

Union dated 14th March, 1968, which confirmed that as soon as the proposed $\frac{1}{2}$ d. increase in fares on Sunday & Public Holidays became operative, other claims for the revision of existing bus fares would be considered as withdrawn by the Union.

It was agreed that the Administrative Secretary would obtain further information from the Commissioner of Police regarding the bus routes with a "tail-end" e.g. Dingli/Rabat, in which passengers had to change buses when proceeding from one terminus to the other; Ministers insisted that in such cases passengers should not be made to pay a double increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

2 PM. 547/64

Malta Radio Transmitting Station.

~~The Cabinet considered~~

~~the matter of the proposed transmitting station at Għajnejn, near Għajnejn, and the proposed transmitting station at Għajnejn, near Għajnejn.~~

G.B.O.

The Cabinet considered Memorandum No. 824/A and the points raised by the Broadcasting Authority with regard to the question of Wireless Sound Broadcasting in Malta.

After hearing the views of the Administrative Secretary, the Cabinet agreed to stand by the decisions taken on the 23rd September 1967, to the effect that:

a) The Agreement will be between the Government and its contractors and the responsibilities of the Broadcasting Authority would be those required of it by the

Constitution and the Broadcasting Ordinance;

b) Government shall have the right to prescribe programmes and shall have free air-time available to it notwithstanding the fact that such programmes would be subject to the control of the Broadcasting Authority as provided for by the Constitution and by the local Broadcasting Ordinance;

c) Malta Television Service Ltd. and Radiofon (Malta) Ltd. are to accept in principle the amendment of the current Television and Wired Sound Broadcasting Agreements; the amendments which the Government had in mind should not go beyond, in general terms, those proposed for Wireless Sound Broadcasting;

d) the Broadcasting Authority will consult Government before appointing broadcasting contractors; equally Government would consult the Authority before appointing contractors of its own.

26-3-68

Edward Dalli
Prime Minister

W. J. Dalli
Secretary to Cabinet
26.3.68