

KWADRU NPU 9

TAL-HOBZ, L-GHAJN TA' L-ILMA

DARI IL-HAJJA KIENET TKUN AKTAR FIT-TOROQ. FOST OHRAJN KIEN JGHADDI TAL-HOBZ BILL-KARRETTUN LI KIEN IKUN ISFAR, BL-IXKAFEF GHALL-HOBZ, BILL-MIZIEN U L-KEXXUN TAL-FLUS. KIEN IKOLLU GANG BIEX JIGBED HOBZIET MILL-FOND TAL-KAXXA. IL-HOBZ KIEN JINTIZEN U TINGHATA IL-GONTA. ILMA GHAX-XORB KIENU JIMLEWH MILL-GHAJN TAT-TRIQ, (JEW 'POMP') QABEL MA BEDA JIDHOL FID-DJAR. QABEL DIN L-GHAJN KIENU JUZAW TAL-BIR. IL-MUFTIH KIEN JINZAMM GHAND XI HADD QRIB L-GHAJN. TALLABA KIEN HAWN KULLIMKIEN, QABEL MA ZVILUPPAT L-GHAJNUNA SOCJALI U L-PENSJONIJIET, GHALHEKK KIENU JKUNU F'KULL KANTUNIERA, JITOLBU 'KARITA', JEW IHABBTU L-BIBIEN.

PAINTING No. 9

BREADSELLER, PUBLIC WATER TAP

THE BREADSELLER'S CART USED TO BE ONE OF THE LANDMARKS IN THE STREETS, TOGETHER WITH A HOST OF OTHER HORSEDRAWN VEHICLES. THE CART HAD APPROPRIATE COMPARTMENTS FOR BREAD STORAGE, INCLUDING ITS ROOF, AND WAS PROVIDED WITH A DRAWER FOR MONEY, SURMOUNTED BY A HANGING BALANCE. BREAD WAS WEIGHED ON THE SPOT, AND ADDITIONAL PIECES ADDED AS REQUIRED. POTABLE WATER WAS AVAILABLE AT THE PUBLIC WATER TAP OR PUMP. WELLS WERE COMMON, BUT MOSTLY INFECTIVE, AND DOMESTIC WATER IN HOMES CAME LATER. BEGGARS WERE A COMMON SIGHT IN THE STREETS, BEFORE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, AND COULD BE SEEN AT STREET CORNERS, OR WENT ROUND CALLING ON HOUSEWIVES FOR ALMS.