BY THE HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE

Request for additional land by the Gozo Milk & Agricultural Producers Co-Operative Society Limited

In 1959, the Gozo Milk and Agricultural Producers Co-Operative Society Limited was granted on perpetual emphyteusis a plot of land at Xewkija, Gozo "for industrial purposes". They erected thereon the "Gozo Farmers Centre" and installed a canning line.

Subsequently they requested the grant of further land adjoining the site granted to them in order to:

- a) expand their activities: set up a Winery, an Egg Packing Plant, Stores and sheds;
- b) rectify certain faults in the present structures: remove the soil around the building to prevent dampness and open windows on the eastern facade of one of the buildings; and
- c) install and run a Petrol Station.

For these purposes the additional land requested is essential; and the Contracts Committee see no objection to the land being granted in perpetuity to the Society.

The grant made to the Society in 1959 was a perpetual emphyteusis and the grant of the additional site for a term other than a perpetual one would create some difficulties. Some of the proposed structures, for example, would straddle the two sites. In granting the land in perpetuity Government retained the right, inter alia, to dissolve the grant should the Society cease to exist. That procedure could be adopted in the present instance.

Ir the case of the Farmers (Wine) Co-Operative Society, however, the Cabinet decided not to grant in perpetuity the land required by that Society.

Hon. Ministers are invited to consider whether the additional land requested by the Gozo Milk and Agricultural Producers Co-Coerative Society Limited should be granted to it or emphyteusis and in the affirmative whether the emphyteusis should be a perpetual or a temporary one.

7th October, 1963.