

the Powers for some years—till its organisation and development were sufficiently stable to enable it to stand alone.

It would be possible and advisable to give the separate communities a considerable degree of internal autonomy, including the power of ecclesiastical bodies (including under this head Moslems and Jews) to adjudicate all questions where their special laws are concerned, and in any special settlements, such as Jewish colonies, to administer justice in all but severe criminal offences among their own people, subject to appeal to a central court.

What the country needs is first a settled and just government, which should be formed with a view to eventual independence; secondly, an enlightened and international sanitary service which shall seek to eradicate the terrible plagues of malaria, black water fever, which infest some parts of the land, and the specific infectious diseases; and thirdly, capital in no stinted quantity to restore to the land something of its former fertility, beauty and greatness. Such a restoration has been brought within the range of "practical politics" by the occupation of Jerusalem by the forces under General Allenby, and will be secured by the issues of a victorious conclusion of the war by the Allies and America. In its wonderful history and its sacred associations Palestine is a unique land on earth, and one can imagine no more holy ideal issue out of the frightful tragedy of these years than to see once again that land the abode of unity and peace and the glory of the whole earth.