

How do Zionists propose to preserve the legal rights and secure the social health of the *fellahin*, or to prevent the continuation of that process of buying and crushing them out of their communal property, by which so many have already been reduced to the position of serfs? It is no duty of the present writer to answer these questions; but while Jewish hopes are high and legitimately high, it is right to point out what difficulties lie in the way of their equitable fulfilment, and what very serious economic details have still to be thought out.

In illustration, an experience may be quoted. On visiting a recently established Jewish colony in the north-east of the land, round which a high wall had been built by the munificent patron, I found the colonists sitting in its shade gambling away the morning, while groups of *fellahin* at a poor wage did the cultivation for them. I said that this was surely not the intention of their patron in helping them to settle on land of their own. A Jew replied to me in German: "Is it not written: *The sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and vinedressers?*"

I know that such delinquencies have become the exceptions in the Jewish colonisation of Palestine, but they are symptomatic of dangers which will have to be guarded against. When we hear that Jews desire to live under their own laws in Palestine, and rightly sympathise with that desire, we must at the same time take sureties that these laws shall not include those of the Old Testament which might encourage baser Jews to the "sweating" of the natives as hewers of wood and drawers of water.

The Limits of the Jewish Area

Again there is the question of the limits of the Jewish area with all the difficulties it raises, both ethnic and strategic. Zionists claim for the Jews "the whole country" of Palestine; and one writer adds: "there