



# Jewish Colonisation in Palestine : I

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*The following article continues the series begun in the previous number of the Review with a study of the openings for immigrants in the Argentine Republic.<sup>1</sup> The results achieved in Palestine in recent years offer an example of what can be accomplished by international collaboration between the three main factors of production—labour, land, and capital—on the lines advocated by Mr. de Michelis.*

**A**LTHOUGH Jewish history from the earliest times has witnessed repeated migrations and to-day their race is scattered throughout the world, the Jews are not essentially a migratory people. Usually they follow the movement of the nations to which they belong ; the mass emigration movements, almost amounting to an exodus, which arise among them from time to time are due to special circumstances—persecution, massacres, pogroms—which drive them from the country they regarded as their home to seek the hospitality of another. In modern times the United States and the Latin-American countries have been the main fields of Jewish immigration. Like other immigrants, the Jews enter these countries with the intention of finding work or setting themselves up in trade and blending with the nation they have adopted. Jewish immigration into Palestine, however, has always been of a different type ; the Jews consider this country as their ancestral home and try to stamp it with the imprint of their national character.

The initial ventures in Jewish settlement in Palestine were fostered during the second half of the nineteenth century by private philanthropy. They were due to the enterprise of

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. *International Labour Review*, Vol. XXX, No. 4, Oct. 1934, pp. 457-491 : "Openings for Settlers in Argentina", by Dr. Enrique SIEWERS.

Baron de Montefiore in 1855 ; of the Universal Israelite Alliance, which founded a school of agriculture about 1870 ; of Baron de Rothschild, who carried out a more ambitious scheme in 1882 ; and of the Jewish Colonisation Association<sup>1</sup>, which about 1900 founded a number of large settlements now administered, like the Rothschild colonies, by the Palestine Jewish Colonisation Association (P.I.C.A.). The creation at about the same time of Zionism as a political movement aiming at the establishment of the Jewish people on the soil of Palestine also helped to encourage Jewish immigration.

It was not, however, until the Balfour Declaration of 2 November 1917, pledging the British Government to encourage "the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people . . . it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine," that the movement really attained any considerable proportions. After the war the Supreme Council awarded the Mandate for Palestine to Great Britain. The constitution of the country is governed by the Mandate adopted by the Council of the League of Nations on 24 July 1922 ; this provides, in accordance with the above Declaration, that the Mandatory "shall be responsible for placing the country under such political, administrative, and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish National Home and the development of self-governing institutions, and also for safeguarding the civil and religious rights of all the inhabitants of Palestine irrespective of race and religion" (Article 2). Under Articles 4 and 6 of the Mandate a Jewish Agency is officially recognised and empowered to advise and co-operate with the Government of Palestine in the development of the country. While ensuring that the rights and position of other sections of the population are not prejudiced, the Administration is required to facilitate Jewish immigration under suitable conditions and encourage, in co-operation with the Jewish Agency, "close settlement by Jews on the land, including State lands and waste lands not required for public purposes". The body recognised by the Mandate as the Jewish Agency was the Zionist Organisation. In 1929 the Agency was expanded, and its organs now comprise

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<sup>1</sup> A joint-stock company founded in 1891 by Baron de Hirsch with a capital endowment of 200,000,000 francs. Its main activities were originally in Latin America (Argentina and Brazil) and Canada, but large sums have since been invested in the Jewish colonies in the U.S.S.R.

representatives of the Zionist Organisation and representatives of non-Zionist Jewish organisations in equal numbers.

The Mandate applies to the whole of Palestine, i.e. to the land lying to the west of the Jordan and to Trans-Jordan. Under Article 25, however, the Mandatory is given power to "postpone or withhold application of such provisions of the Mandate as he may consider inapplicable to the existing local conditions". In virtue of this Article, in September 1922 the Council of the League of Nations authorised the British Government, at its request, to exclude Trans-Jordan from the zone destined for the establishment of the Jewish National Home. As a result Trans-Jordan now forms an autonomous territory. The name Palestine is usually taken as applying to Western Palestine alone, and must be understood in this sense throughout the present article.

In spite of the grave depression through which the rest of the world is passing, this little Near-Eastern country is showing signs of vigorous economic expansion. According to authorised Jewish representatives, it is even suffering from a shortage of labour, and the country could absorb a considerable number of new workers at the present time. Palestine provides a market not only for labour but for a wide variety of goods. Imports are considerably higher than exports, with no adverse effects on the national economy or the public finances. These features, so rare at the present time, deserve closer study. Information on economic conditions in Palestine is both plentiful and varied, but for the purposes of the present article only the essential facts will be taken into account.

It is proposed in the following pages to study the Jewish migratory movement, its effects on the demographic position in Palestine, and the various aspects of the economic life of the country (agricultural settlements, industrial and commercial activity), and to summarise the principal achievements of the Jewish colonisation movement.

### MIGRATION MOVEMENTS

Under Article 6 of the Mandate the Administration of Palestine is required to facilitate Jewish immigration under suitable conditions and, in co-operation with the Jewish Agency, to encourage close settlement by Jews on the land without prejudice to the rights and position of other sections of the population. In order to reconcile as nearly as possible the separate interests of the

Jewish and Arab populations, the Mandatory Power has guided its policy by the criterion of the absorptive capacity of the country. Immigration is authorised within the limits which, in the Administration's view, this capacity allows.

Whereas the growth of the Arab population is mainly due to natural increase, immigration is the principal factor in the expansion of the Jewish population, which, estimated at 60,000 at the end of the war, had risen by 1922 to 83,794, and by 1931 to 174,610, these figures representing respectively 11.1 and 16.8 per cent. of the total population.

The regulations now in force are based on the Immigration Ordinance of 1933<sup>1</sup>, which divides immigrants into the following categories: (a) persons of independent means; (b) persons whose maintenance is assured (orphans, ministers of religion, students); (c) persons who have a definite prospect of employment in Palestine; (d) dependants of permanent residents or immigrants belonging to categories (a), (b), and (c).

As regards the admission of immigrants having a definite prospect of employment in Palestine, the quota permissible is fixed beforehand by the Government, after considering any proposals made by the Jewish Agency, in accordance with the absorptive capacity of the country. Immigrants may not normally be over 35 years of age, although in exceptional cases the Administration may authorise the admission of persons up to 45 years.

The procedure is as follows. Twice a year the Jewish Agency applies to the Government Immigration Department for the approval of a "Labour Schedule" comprising whatever number of certificates of admission for wage earners the Agency considers to be justified by the state of the labour market in Palestine at the time. This application is based on a detailed estimate of the demand for labour which can be foreseen in the ensuing six-monthly period. It is discussed with the Jewish Agency by the Immigration Department, which then makes its own recommendations to the High Commissioner, on the basis of which the Labour Schedule for the following six-monthly period is determined. After retaining a proportion of the immigration certificates for tourists or other persons who may apply for permission to settle in Palestine during the scheduled period, the Immigration Department notifies the Jewish Agency that the balance of certificates is available for distribution; the actual

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. *The Palestine Gazette*, 31 July and 31 Aug. 1933.

selection of individual immigrants, and the allocation of the certificates as between the various countries, are then carried out by the Agency through its Palestine Offices in the various centres of Jewish emigration.

In Palestine itself the Jewish Agency has offices at Tel-Aviv and Haifa to assist immigrants on their arrival in the country. It also facilitates their journey by obtaining reductions on their sea passages on various shipping lines.

Between October 1922 and the end of 1933 the Government of Palestine registered 1,062,890 arrivals and 935,224 departures.

The following table gives the figures for Jewish and non-Jewish migration from 1920 to 1932.

STATISTICS OF MIGRATION IN PALESTINE, 1920-1932<sup>1</sup>

Year	Immigration		Emigration		Net Jewish immigration
	Jews	Non-Jews	Jews	Non-Jews	
1920	10,000	202 <sup>2</sup>	3,000	— <sup>3</sup>	7,000
1921	9,149	190	2,600	— <sup>3</sup>	6,549
1922	7,844	284	1,503	1,348	6,341
1923	7,421	570	3,466	1,481	3,955
1924	12,856	697	2,037	604 <sup>4</sup>	10,819
1925	33,801	840	2,151	1,949	31,650
1926	13,081	829	7,365	2,064	5,716
1927	2,713	882	5,071	1,907	—2,358 <sup>5</sup>
1928	2,178	908	2,168	954	10
1929	5,249	1,317	1,746	1,089	3,503
1930	4,944	1,489	1,679	1,324	3,265
1931	4,075	1,458	666	680	3,409
1932	9,553	1,736	400	— <sup>3</sup>	9,153
Total	122,864	11,402	33,852	— <sup>3</sup>	89,012

<sup>1</sup> Sources :

*Reports by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of Palestine and Trans-Jordan, 1929-1932.*

*Census of Palestine, 1931. Vol. I : Palestine. Part I : Report by E. MILLS. Alexandria, 1933.*

*Statistical Abstract of Palestine, 1929. Jerusalem, 1930.*

The immigration returns must be taken as minimum figures : a large number of persons admitted to the country as tourists stay on after the expiry of their visa, while a certain number of persons coming from Trans-Jordan or neighbouring countries are not recorded. It should also be noted that the annual figures in the two series do not always represent the number of immigrants actually entering the country, as they often include persons already resident in the country whose position was regularised during the year.

<sup>2</sup> September-October. <sup>3</sup> Figures not available. <sup>4</sup> July-December. <sup>5</sup> Net emigration.

These figures show that the increase in the Jewish population due to migratory movements (net immigration) in the years 1920-1932 amounted to 89,000 persons. The total non-Jewish immigration during this period represented only 9 per cent. of the total

Jewish immigration.<sup>1</sup> It will however be noted that the proportion has increased during the last few years. Presumably, too, non-Jewish immigration is not in reality as low as it appears to be, since there is no record of Arabs entering the country from Trans-Jordan.

As early as 1920-1921, Jewish immigration began to flow into Palestine in a steady stream. During 1924-1926 it reached exceptional figures, making a total of some 60,000 immigrants in three years. After the depression of 1921-1922 Palestine experienced a spell of great prosperity in 1924, which led both the Jewish Agency and the Mandatory Power to take an optimistic view of the situation. The admission of nearly 13,000 Jews in 1924 had no adverse economic effects and encouraged a fresh influx. The entry of a large number of persons of independent means gave prospects of ample opportunities of employment, and the number of immigration certificates issued under the Labour Schedule, which was 3,425 for the period October 1924 to March 1925, rose to 9,200 for the six-monthly period beginning April 1925 and 7,500 for that beginning October 1925. The peak of the immigration movement was reached in June 1925, with 3,694 arrivals during the month. In October of the same year, however, unemployment made its appearance, the official returns at that date recording 1,630 unemployed workers. This figure subsequently rose to 3,200 in December 1925, 6,056 in December 1926, and 8,180 in May 1927, making with the unemployed workers' families a total of 15,000 to 20,000 persons without means of livelihood.

As a result of this, a decline in immigration began at the end of 1925, continuing throughout 1926 and becoming more pronounced in 1927-1928. The lowest point was reached in July 1928 with 35 immigrants. Simultaneously with this decline there was a rapid rise in emigration; in 1926 and 1927 Jewish emigration reached a figure of over 12,000, and in 1927 emigration exceeded immigration by 2,358 persons.

The decline in immigration affected all categories, workers and persons of independent means alike. The emigrants, on the other hand, were mostly small capitalists and unskilled workers; most of those who left Palestine in 1926 had lived there for less than two years, and 75 per cent. were manual workers.

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<sup>1</sup> In 1933, 30,327 Jewish and 1,650 non-Jewish immigrants were recorded. According to recent statistics of the Jewish Agency, the total number of Jewish immigrants from 1919 to 1933 was 155,000.

The discussions which arose at the time as to the causes of the depression are not without their bearing on the future of immigration policy in Palestine. Had the country's absorptive capacity been overtaxed by excessive immigration, or were the causes of unemployment to be sought elsewhere? In Jewish circles<sup>1</sup> the depression was ascribed to financial difficulties caused by the economic depression then prevailing in Poland and by the low rate of the Polish exchange, which were said to have caused a decline in the numbers of immigrants in the independent means category, and to have placed the undertakings financed by Polish capital in a critical position. A further cause was alleged to reside in the fact that nearly all industrial activity was concentrated in the building trade, with the consequence that over-production developed in this industry, a fact which would explain the high percentage of unemployment recorded at Tel-Aviv. On the other hand, however, it was widely asserted that the country's absorptive capacity had in fact been overstrained, and that too many small capitalists had entered the country during the preceding years. The Zionist Executive was also accused of having pursued an unwise policy of immigration at any price.

The measures taken to remedy the depression by the Jewish organisations and the Palestine Government consisted chiefly in setting on foot various public works schemes and transferring unemployed workers to agriculture. For this purpose a loan of £4,500,000 sterling, guaranteed by the British Government, was issued by the Government of Palestine.

In spite of its gravity, the depression had seriously affected only the building industry and the principal towns, i.e. Jerusalem, Haifa, and above all Tel-Aviv, leaving the general economy of the country more or less unscathed.

By September 1927 some improvement began to appear on the labour market, unemployment having fallen to 4,900, as compared with 8,000 in March. At the end of 1928 the unemployment figures had dropped to 1,400, and in the following year practically all the unemployed had been reabsorbed, so that several thousand immigrants could again be admitted.

After the tragic events of August 1929, when the Jews in

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Memorandum on the Development of the Jewish National Home, 1925-1926*. Submitted by the Zionist Organisation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations for the information of the Permanent Mandates Commission, June 1926.

certain regions were attacked by Arabs, some of the certificates issued were suspended.

At the end of 1930 the completion of various building schemes brought about a new depression in Palestine (1,950 unemployed Jews were registered in December), and only 850 labour certificates were granted for 1931. The total immigration figures for the year, however, amounted to 4,075 (including 950 persons who had previously entered the country). The growing industrialisation of the country absorbed a good many of the unemployed, and the urban areas soon showed signs of definite economic prosperity. Immigration rose once more to very considerable proportions, 9,553 immigrants being registered in 1932 (including 3,730 persons already resident in the country), and over 30,000 in 1933.

For the six-monthly periods beginning April and October 1933, the Jewish Agency applied for certificates for 12,750 and 24,490 workers; the Mandatory authority granted only 5,500 for each of these periods.<sup>1</sup>

Of the total number of Jewish immigrants who entered Palestine between 1920 and 1932, 28 per cent. belonged to the independent means category (including their dependants), 51 per cent. to the labour certificate category (including dependants), 20 per cent. to the category of immigrants dependent on relatives living in Palestine, and 1 per cent. to other categories. As regards the dependants of immigrants, these represented 55 per cent. of

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<sup>1</sup> The rise in Jewish immigration in recent years and the attempts of the Jewish Agency to secure a further increase have caused considerable dissatisfaction among the members of the Arab Executive in Jerusalem. Not only do the Arab leaders object fundamentally to the terms of the Mandate, which they regard as contrary to Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations and to the Franco-British undertakings of 1918, promising the right of self-determination to the Arab peoples, but they consider that the increase in Jewish immigration constitutes a grave danger to the economic life of the country and accuse it of having led to the eviction of large numbers of Arab peasants from their land. The unemployment returns do in fact show a high percentage of unemployment among the Arab population. By way of protest, Arab demonstrations occurred in October 1933, culminating in a general strike.

On the other hand, the Jews complain that the number of permits granted is insufficient. While disapproving of illicit immigration, the Jewish Agency has also protested against the severe measures of imprisonment and deportation taken against persons entering Palestine as tourists and staying on in the country after their visa has expired. It has asked that, on account of the economic situation, these persons should be authorised to remain in the country.

As regards the unemployment returns, the figures for Arab unemployment are contested by Jewish authorities, as they are based on mere estimates made by the headmen of the villages. The figures also include the *fellahin* (peasants) who work on farms for eight months in the year and seek other employment for the remaining four, and they make no distinction between those who own a little land and those who are entirely landless.



all the first category from 1926 to 1932 and 33.4 per cent. of the labour certificate category from 1922 to 1932.

Of the immigrants entering the country between 1922 and 1929, 45.7 per cent. came from Poland, 19.7 per cent. from the U.S.S.R., 6.5 per cent. from Rumania, 4.5 per cent. from Lithuania, and 2.6 per cent. from the United States. In 1932, the proportions were 33.1 per cent. from Poland, 1.4 per cent. from the U.S.S.R., 5.3 per cent. from Rumania, and 2.5 per cent. from Lithuania, while the proportion coming from the United States had risen to 9.1 per cent. In the same year, too, 11 per cent. of the Jewish immigrants came from Iraq.

As regards the occupational distribution of the Jewish immigrants, data are available for the period 1920-1932, based on particulars recorded at the time of admission to the country.<sup>1</sup> Of these immigrants, 10.1 per cent. gave their occupation as agriculture, 18.6 per cent. as industry, 5.9 per cent. commerce and administration, 0.3 per cent. transport, 3.9 per cent. liberal professions (including religious occupations), 1.8 per cent. students, 8.6 per cent. unskilled workers (including domestic servants), while 50.8 per cent. were classed as without occupation or of unknown occupation.<sup>2</sup>

According to an enquiry conducted in 1926 by the General Federation of Jewish Labour in Palestine<sup>3</sup>, the changes in the occupational status of the immigrants admitted under the Labour Schedule after their admission to the country were as follows : agriculture and horticulture, 7.2 per cent. before admission and 18.8 per cent. after ; building, 1.6 per cent. before and 8.9 per cent. after ; public works, 1.4 per cent. and 20.4 per cent.; textiles and clothing, 6.5 per cent. and 4.5 per cent.; education, 2.4 and 1.5 per cent.; students, 10.4 and 0.3 per cent.; domestic servants, 0.9 per cent. and 3.1 per cent. The enquiry covers 29,981 persons, of whom 47.9 per cent. declared themselves as having no occupation before entering the country, and 19.6 per cent. after. It shows that, after settling in Palestine, the Jews tend to carry on more directly productive activities than before, the increase in the

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<sup>1</sup> These data are based for the years 1920-1928 on the *Statistical Abstract of Palestine, 1929* (Jerusalem, 1930) (compiled for the Zionist Executive), and for the years 1929-1932 on the official statistics published in the annual reports of the British Government to the Council of the League of Nations.

<sup>2</sup> The majority of persons registered as without occupation or of unknown occupation are members of the immigrants' families.

<sup>3</sup> W. PREUSS : *Census of Jewish Labour in Palestine*. Tel-Aviv, 1927.

percentage being especially striking in agriculture, building, and public works. This also explains the fall of more than 50 per cent. in the number of persons without occupation (from 14,346 to 5,866), those still so described being mainly women engaged in household work.

Another enquiry, organised by the Jewish Agency<sup>1</sup>, relates to immigrants in the independent means category. It covers 553 families which entered Palestine during the years 1926-1932. Among the persons covered by the enquiry, 21.4 per cent. had remained in the same occupation; 9.6 per cent. had no definite occupation at the time of the enquiry; all the rest had adopted a new one after entering Palestine.

As regards the amount of capital imported, it is difficult to make any reliable estimate. Immigrants of independent means are not obliged to declare more than the regulation minimum. In addition, the immigration regulations specify that this capital need not be entirely in the form of cash but may include a loan from an organisation recognised by the authorities, while in some cases the immigrant borrows the necessary sum and repays it later. As against this, however, in a great many cases the minimum is considerably exceeded, so that in general it may safely be said that considerable sums have been either imported by immigrants or invested by persons living abroad. In the absence of full statistics, some interesting data are provided by the Jewish Agency's enquiry cited above. The 553 families (out of 987) for which it was possible to obtain particulars owned in all over £P2,000,000<sup>2</sup>, representing an average of £3,763 per family. Of these families, 346 had brought with them a capital varying from £1,000 to £7,000, making a total of £841,000 in all; 130 had less than £1,000 (£59,000 in all), and 59 had more than £7,000 (£1,180,000 in all). In the case of 18 families, the relevant particulars could not be obtained.

The enquiry also showed the manner in which these families had invested their capital, which was as follows: citrus cultivation, 42 per cent.; citrus cultivation combined with other economic branches, 21.1 per cent.; buildings, 17.7 per cent.; commerce, 5.6 per cent.; industry and handicrafts, 5.2 per cent.

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<sup>1</sup> JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE, DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR: "Einwanderungsstruktur und Kapitalimport Palästinas in den Jahren 1926-1932", bearbeitet von David GUREVICH und Dr. G. CYDEROWITSCH, in *Statistisches Bulletin*, No. 21, 1933.

<sup>2</sup> The Palestine pound (£P) is equal in value to the £ sterling.

Of the total capital covered by the enquiry, 17.4 per cent. had been invested in the country by the immigrants before their arrival.

### DEMOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS

In 1931 the total population of Palestine was 1,035,821 persons, as against 757,182 in 1922, and the settled population 969,268, as against 671,485.<sup>1</sup> Between these two censuses there was thus a considerable rise in the population, amounting to 278,639 persons for the total population and 297,783 for the settled population. The nomad population had fallen by 19,144 (66,653 as against 85,697).

The population of Palestine consists almost entirely of Arabs and Jews. At the date of the last census the settled population was distributed among the principal demographic groups or nationalities as follows: Arabs, 772,904; Jews, 174,809; others, 21,555.

At the same date the distribution of the population by religion was as follows: Moslems, 693,159 (505,203 in 1922); Jews, 174,610 (83,794); Christians, 91,398 (73,014); other religions, 10,101 (9,474).

Palestine has 23 towns with a total population of 387,291 and 958 villages with a total population of 580,117. The urban population represents about 40 per cent. of the total settled population; the proportion is only 27 per cent. among Moslems but 74 per cent. among Jews and 76 per cent. among Christians. These figures, however, do not reflect the real state of affairs, since a large number of the so-called towns are really only big villages and the classification is often an artificial one made purely for administrative convenience. The four large towns of Palestine, Jerusalem, Jaffa, Haifa, and Tel-Aviv account for 62 per cent. of all the urban population. Tel-Aviv, which is a new town built by the Jews themselves, in 1931 had 45,564 Jews out of a census population of 46,101. The Jewish population in these four towns numbers 120,000 in all, or more than two-thirds of the total Jewish population of the country as shown by the last census. Among the rural population the Jews are fairly numerous in the rural part of the district of Jaffa, where they number about 17,000 as against 7,209 in the town itself.

The average density of the population over the whole country,

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<sup>1</sup> *Census of Palestine, 1931.* Alexandria, 1933.

excluding the desert areas, is 72.58 persons per square kilometre. In the south the density is 133.82 per square kilometre, in the district of Jerusalem 63.01, and in the northern district 58.31.

The average number of dwellings per square kilometre throughout the country is 8.5, an extremely low figure compared with that for most European countries.

It was shown above that 73 per cent. of the settled Moslem population lives in the country while about 75 per cent. of the Jewish and Christian population lives in the towns. These figures naturally correspond to a difference in the occupational distribution of the two branches of the population.

According to the 1931 census returns the occupational distribution of the population of Palestine was as follows :

OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION OF PALESTINE  
IN 1921

Branch of activity	Total earners and their dependants		Total earners		
	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent. of earners	Per cent. of total population
Pasture and agriculture, fishing and hunting	519,937	53.7	134,591	47.9	13.9
Extraction of minerals	8,013	0.8	2,871	0.9	0.2
Industry	133,598	13.8	44,364	15.8	4.6
Transport	50,620	5.2	16,142	5.7	1.7
Trade	96,597	10.0	26,495	9.4	2.7
Public force	12,702	1.3	6,100	2.2	0.6
Public administration	11,716	1.2	3,528	1.2	0.4
Professions and liberal arts	35,481	3.7	13,234	4.7	1.4
Persons living on their income	23,797	2.4	4,659	1.7	0.5
Domestic service	17,248	1.8	10,146	3.6	1.0
Insufficiently described occupations	45,848	4.7	17,123	6.1	1.8
Unproductive	13,711	1.4	2,185	0.8	0.2
Total	969,268	100.0	280,938	100.0	29.0

The respective proportions of Moslems and Jews in the various branches were as follows : agriculturè, 90 per cent. and a little over 5 per cent.; industry and handicrafts, 46 and 37 per cent.; trade, 59 and 30 per cent.; transport, 69 and 19 per cent.; liberal professions, 29 and 49 per cent. For persons living

principally on their means, scholarship holders, pensioners, and receivers of remittances from abroad, the proportions were Moslems 32 per cent., Christians 32 per cent., and Jews 36 per cent. In general, the proportion of earners in the total settled population was only 29 per cent. Among the Jews the proportion was above the average (38 per cent.), but even this figure is very low if compared with corresponding figures for European countries.

Among the Jewish population the last census showed the following distribution of earners by branch of economic activity : agriculture, 12,283 (18.4 per cent. of all Jewish earners); industry and handicrafts, 19,235 (28.8 per cent.); trade, 8,881 (13.3 per cent.); transport, 3,278 (4.9 per cent.); army and police, 510 (0.8 per cent.); public administration, 793 (1.2 per cent.); liberal professions, 7,442 (11.2 per cent.); persons living on their income, etc., 1,996 (3.0 per cent.); domestic servants, 3,398 (5.1 per cent.).

These figures relate to men and women together. The proportion of women is especially high in the liberal professions and in domestic service.

*(To be continued.)*