

their dependents making up 76.1 per cent of the total immigrants (table 3). This new type of Jewish immigration in the 1930s placed further pressure on the Palestinian economy, particularly on its state of unemployment.

Jewish unemployment was particularly visible in the agricultural settlements. At his visit to the large settlement of Petah-Tekva, the Chief Immigration Officer commented:

The presence of men and women without work could not be concealed. The representative of the local trade union admitted about 200 unemployed but assured us that this was merely a temporary matter...The local police estimated unemployment at between 300 and 350, a figure that is probably more accurate. (25)

In the five largest private settlements Sussman estimated Jewish unemployment at 32.4 per cent (Sussman, 1974:38). In 1930, official estimates put the number of Jewish unemployed at about 1,300 people.

Jewish unemployment was also serious during the 1930s. While official statistics are absent, police reports contain ample evidence on the severity of this phenomenon. In June 8th, 1935, "Davar" the Histadrut newspaper reported:

Conditions of employment during the last weeks have grown worse..Hundreds of cheap labourers [Arabs] are employed in seasonal work..and the Jewish labourer goes idle..The help from our central organizations is required in order to avoid undesired developments, especially at the present time. (26)

While one report acknowledged that: "... many Jewish labourers are undergoing severe hardships..." (27), another said:

The situation in Haifa in regard to unemployment is serious and the majority of Jewish labourers are only working 2 or 3 days each week. (28)

Underemployment, was also widespread among Jewish workers. As one document revealed, Jewish workers were content to accept half of their