

Ordinance" and provide protection for the indigenous cultivators. (72) Consequently, both the High Commissioner, Chancelor, and the Principal Secretary of State for Colonial Office, Lord Passfield, began to work on new legislation, the "Protection of Cultivators Ordinance". In the meantime, however, both the Palestine office (the Jewish Agency) and the London main branch of the Zionist Organization viewed the government act unfavourably and claimed that such a procedure negated the spirit of the government committment to the establishment of the Jewish National Home. (73)

In 1930, the Colonial Office in London delegated a team of experts to Palestine to conduct the first survey ever. The report of the survey, known as Simpson's report, confirmed previous findings by Johnson-Crosbie and added that Palestinian peasant landlessness was primarily caused by Zionist settlement. Simpson's report received harsh criticism from the Zionist Organization who deemed it totally unacceptable. In the same year, i.e., 1930, two additional investigatory committees were sent to Palestine; one, the "Shaw Report", to report on the "Palestine disturbances of August 1929", and the other, "French's Report" on "peasants' landlessness". The findings of these two reports strongly confirmed the earlier studies, yet the pressure placed on the British government by the Zionist Organization made the former unwilling to enact any fundamental policy changes.

Lewis French who was appointed as the Director of Development in 1930, reported that "Jewish settlement in Palestine has produced a class of displaced Arab cultivators", and recommended that a law be enacted to restrict land transfer to Jewish settlers.

In a response to French's report the "administrative Committee of