

of Europe. Our challenge, in this thesis, is to see both the general and the specific at once, and in so doing have a fuller and richer vantage point from which to understand not only the economic processes that drove development during the Mandate period but also the precursor events that led to the Israeli state.

1.3.7 A Study More Closely Focused on Agriculture

In addition to the aforementioned macroeconomic-development approaches that attempt to characterize the economy and its sectors as a whole (or grouping), one study focuses more strictly on the central issue of agriculture. Although lacking an overall framework, nonetheless this study addresses key processes that we shall be interested in. Sociologist Charles Kamen specifically deals with Arab agriculture. Kamen reviews and critiques what he sees as the three models used in the analysis of Palestine during the Mandate: (a) feudal society, (b) colony, and (c) dual economy. He concludes that each of those models “highlights particular aspects of the country’s social structure,”¹¹² but none of them is applicable to Palestine. Those models were developed “in response to situations differing in essential respects from those found in Palestine.”¹¹³ However, he does not see the need for a more comprehensive model.

The central question of the study is to investigate how Arab agriculture was affected by Jewish settlement and government policies. He discusses the extensive

¹¹²Kamen, *Little Common Ground*, 132.

¹¹³Ibid.