

David: . . .In the kibbutzim there are volunteers from abroad and it is easier for them. Otherwise, Arabs would have worked even in the dining room. 144

Binjamin: . . .We have a citrus plantation near Kibbutz Hulata. When I passed there, I saw a young man from Hulata who took some grapefruits from me. He said, "I see your citrus plantation is totally based on Arab labor." I said to him, "What about your vegetable garden? Is it not totally based on Arab labor?" He said, "We have not succeeded in finishing the picking. As it stands, all agricultural work is Arab work. If they went on strike agriculture would totally collapse. And the prices! A small shikse [a young gentile woman] takes 40 IL. a day and a sheigetz [a young gentile man], 50 IL. a day, and if you tell them to hurry up, they do not come back to you." 145

Rivka: . . .I cannot stand them.

David: . . .They became so impudent, you can hardly imagine!

Rivka: . . .One of them came yesterday to drink water and later came to phone! I thought I would explode.

Binjamin does not hate Arabs as do his neighbor and his son. He just weeps secretly about tilling land -- the basis of man's life and the life of the people -- which is slowly passing from the Jews back to the Arabs." 146

This squatting by Arabs on "Jewish land" seems to frighten the Israeli authorities and the original Jewish settlers, probably reminding them of their own colonization strategy, known as "fait accompli": the establishment of accomplished facts. 147

In Maariv, July 3, 1975, an article titled, "The Israeli Settlement Authorities are Taking Action Against the Leasing of Lands to Arabs," says:

"The Ministry of Agriculture and the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency have recently launched a campaign to eradicate the "plagues" of land-leasing and orchard-leasing to Bedouins and Arab farmers in western Galilee. The Director of the Galilee Area for the Jewish Agency, Mr. A. Nahmi, said that his office sent a circular notice to all settlements in which they are warned that the leasing of national lands to be cultivated by Arab share-croppers, as well as