

members over the issue of Arab labor in Jewish agriculture and its possible effects on the State.

A stormy debate in Moshav Veer Tuvia on the issue of hired Arab labor was published in Maariv (Supplement), July 18, 1975 and sheds light on the ideological and political controversy over this issue, as perceived by the moshav members. Under the title, "Who Will be the Drawers of Water in Beer Tuvia?", Dorit Cohen-Alvaro writes:

"The atmosphere in moshav Beer Tuvia has been stormy since a few weeks ago. Some members of the moshav have violated the unwritten principle of Jewish labor in the homeland and privately bought Arab workers to work on their farms." The article reads as follows: "Two years ago, the following resolution was passed in the moshav: No Arab labor on public farms. The management will take all necessary measures to implement that resolution." A few weeks ago, the inhabitants of the moshav gathered together with the same problem on the agenda. After speeches and stormy exchange, the chairman of the meeting said: "You should know that other moshavim which have the problem of Arab labor are waiting for the resolution which will be passed in Beer Tuvia. Think about it before you vote." And the resolution passed this time is as follows: "There may be Arab labor, but only via the Management Committee, with its approval and under its control, as there is no alternative."

Among the moshavim in the southern region which have employed Arab workers in agricultural hired labor since the Six Day War, Moshav Beer Tuvia remained -- until a few weeks ago -- ideologically isolated. The phenomenon of employing Arab labor in construction, industry and agriculture, which became widespread over the whole country, did not spread into