

Beer Tuvia.

The breakthrough was not made in one day. At first, only a few Arab workers were brought in by a Jewish contractor. Later some were brought in by a few farm owners, secretly -- "only for pressing work of two or three days." But not long ago some citrus growers organized and openly brought in a large group of Arabs to work. A clamour was raised and a meeting was called. The objectors raged: "What about the ideal of Jewish work? And what about the security aspects?" The supporters answered: "A few Arab workers will not destroy the structure of the moshav. The whole country is flooded with Arab labor and it is not us who will bring redemption."

Peretz, a member of the village Management Committee, was the moshav's representative in the "moshavim movement" and now volunteers to help new moshavim. Peretz expressed his objection to admittance of Arab labor on the following basis:

"In order to understand why admittance of Arab labor to the moshav is so serious, one has to know some basic facts: our State, by giving Jewish farmers land and means to maintain a Jewish village has entrusted them with a certain responsibility for the existence of the State. We must hold on to the land if we want to exist as a nation. And those who maintain the territory are the farmers. Two nations live here and each of them claim its right over that land. The one which will implement this right will be the nation which will hold the land and with its own hands till it."

Peretz expressed strong objection to the compromise in the Management's recent resolution, because that still violates the principle of Jewish work and is a start of a chain of events: "The problem does not start and does not end with picking peaches," as the supporters of the resolution