

be absolutely secure, they should be considerably lower than what would be paid by a farmer. The capital needed for starting should be advanced by the treasury, to be repaid out of the rates in the same manner and on the same terms as were granted to Irish farmers to buy their farms. Even more favorable terms might properly be granted, since the repayment would be better secured and the object aimed at far more important."

Private co-operative colonies run for mutual profit have certainly not yet stood the test of experience. To put the products of a colony on the market would add but a small labor trust to the field of competition with the objectionable feature of using public funds for an enterprise that put goods on the market. Why cannot Mr. Wallace's plan of organizing the unemployed by the county councils be made much more practicable by striking out the provision for the purchase by the colonists of the land after the scheme aided by public funds, had become a success? When Glasgow builds a municipal tenement house, she does not sell it to the tenants the moment that the latter are able to pay for it. This would needlessly disturb the real estate market and be against public policy. We doubt from what we know of Mr. Wallace's writings if he would oppose the establishment of permanent farms for the unemployed by British cities as a matter of broad public policy which would indeed be a step toward a more scientific and humane system of doing business.

#### *AN ENGLISH VIEW OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE UNEMPLOYED.*

Dr. Alfred R. Wallace in an article in the London Daily Chronicle calls attention to Herbert V. Mills' book "Poverty and the State," issued some years ago in which the co-operative employment of the unemployed is advocated. He describes the poor farms of Frederiksborg in the Netherlands where a population of near 2000 were at that time and are now self-supporting, including the payment of rent for the land. Mr. Mills observed the almost complete absence of agricultural and manufacturing machinery which would be calculated to save labor; and on asking the reason of the director, was told that it would render it impossible to find work for all the people, and this would introduce difficulties in the setting up of fresh industries and in other ways. Mr. Mills we believed favored the organization of co-operative colonies, the trades unions taking the initiative. Mr. Wallace makes the suggestion that the experiment be made by the public authorities. He says:

"It is to be hoped that the new district councils will have power to take land for the purpose of carrying out Mr. Mills's scheme. So many farms are now unlet, and are offered at very low rents, that there could not be much difficulty in obtaining suitable land, and the councils should be empowered to take the land required at the current letting-value, with the option of continued tenancy or purchase by instalments. This would obviate all difficulty as to raising money to purchase land, and as the rents would