

**Legal Alms**

*Zakat* or legal alms were in the early days of Islam collected by the religious tax-gatherer, as they are still in some Mohammedan countries. Where Moslems are under Christian rule, however, the rate is paid out by each Mohammedan according to his own conscience. The rate varies greatly, and the different sects disagree as to what was the practise of the prophet. Moreover, it is difficult to find a precedent in the customs of pastoral Arabia for the present methods of acquiring and holding property in lands touched by civilization. The greatest details are given, for example regarding *zakat* on camels, but there is no precedent for *zakat* on city lots or on railway bonds! One fortieth of the total income is about the usual rate. The tithe of the Old Testament was a much larger portion and was supplemented by many free-will offerings.

**Hospitality**

The wonderful and cheerful hospitality of so many Moslem peoples finds here, in part, its religious ground and explanation. It is a religious duty to be hospitable. Mohammed excelled in this Semitic virtue himself, and left a noble example to his followers. Arabia is a land without hotels, but with lavish hospitality nearly everywhere. The same is true of other Moslem lands.

**The Annual Pilgrimage**

The pilgrimage to Mecca is not only one of