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PREFATORY NOTE.

The present bulletin is the third of a monthly series presenting in fairly concise and compendious form the chief statistics becoming available in Palestine from month to month, for the information of Government officials, publicists and others either within or outside this country, who are interested in the social and economic life of Palestine. Some of the information given here has already been given out in greater detail in the more specialised publications of the Office of Statistics - notably in the fields of Vital Statistics, Foreign Trade, Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices and Cost of Living, but other important data on such subjects as immigration, shipping, railway traffic, postal revenue, sales of electricity, building statistics, new companies and their capitalization and land transfers etc. Statistics of naturalizations appear for the first time.

The Government Statistician desires to thank all who have contributed to the information included in this Bulletin. He will welcome any suggestions made to him for the improvement of the Bulletin, either in matter or in method of presentation.

S. A. Cudmore,
GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

October 16, 1936.

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PART I.- DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS.

ESTIMATED POPULATION.

The population of Palestine is usually estimated, for the purpose of calculating birth and death rates, exclusively of the nomads whose births and deaths, mainly occurring in the rural areas of the Beersheba sub-district, cannot ordinarily be registered on account of their isolated position and wandering habits. It has now been deemed advisable to compile a figure which, taking account of all the available statistics of births and deaths and immigration and emigration, would give the grand total population of the country as at mid-year of each of the years since the first Palestinian census of October 1922. The following table, therefore, gives as nearly as possible the grand total population of Palestine, exclusive of members of His Majesty's Forces serving in the country, as at June 30 of each of the years from 1923 to 1936 inclusive. In the fourteen years since the first Census the total estimated population shows an increase from 752,048 to 1,336,518 or of 77.7 per cent., which is probably the highest rate of increase in any country of the world during this period. There are 16 persons present in Palestine in 1936 for every 9 who were here in 1922.

TABLE 1.- POPULATION OF PALESTINE AT THE CENSUS OF 1922,
AND AS AT JUNE 30 OF EACH OF THE YEARS 1923-36,
BY RELIGIONS.

Year	Total	Moslems	Jews	Christians	Others
1922 (Census)	752,048	589,177	83,790	71,464	7,617
1923	778,989	609,331	89,660	72,090	7,908
1924	804,962	627,660	94,945	74,094	8,263
1925	847,238	641,494	121,725	75,512	8,507
1926	898,902	663,613	150,040	76,467	8,782
1927	917,315	680,725	149,789	77,880	8,921
1928	935,951	695,280	151,656	79,812	9,203
1929	960,043	712,343	156,481	81,776	9,443
1930	992,559	733,149	164,796	84,986	9,628
1931	1,023,734	753,812	172,028	87,870	10,024
1932	1,052,872	771,174	180,793	90,624	10,281
1933	1,104,884	789,980	209,207	95,165	10,532
1934	1,171,158	807,180	253,700	99,532	10,746
1935	1,261,082	826,457	320,358	103,371	10,896
1936	1,336,518	848,342	370,483	106,474	11,219

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

For registered births and deaths and birth and death rates among the settled population in the first and second quarters of 1936, see Bulletins 1 and 2 respectively.

MIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION.

In the month of August (see table 2) the recorded departures from Palestine numbered 11,047, exceeding the arrivals by 540. Arrivals of Jews exceeded departures of Jews by 1,212, while departures of non-Jews exceeded arrivals of non-Jews by 1,752. In the same month of 1935 total arrivals had exceeded departures by 2,606, including an excess of 3,626 arrivals of Jews and an excess of 1,020 departures of non-Jews, for which latter phenomenon the holiday season may have been partly responsible.

In the first eight months of 1936, the total recorded arrivals numbered 96,195 and total recorded departures 89,813 an excess of 6,382 arrivals. Jewish arrivals exceeded Jewish departures by 11,551, while non-Jewish departures exceeded non-Jewish arrivals by 5,169. Both inward and outward figures were considerably smaller than in the same period of 1935, when total arrivals numbered 158,447 and total departures 120,136, an excess of 38,311 arrivals more than accounted for by an excess of 40,547 Jewish arrivals; non-Jewish departures exceeded non-Jewish arrivals by 2,236.

Capitalist immigrants with £P.1000 and over numbered 160 in August and in the eight months 2,422 as compared with 439 and 4,233 respectively in the corresponding periods of 1935; over 98 per cent. of these capitalist immigrants were Jews (Table 3).

Registered immigrants in August totalled 3,218, of whom 1,447 had previously resided in Poland, 732 in Germany, and 232 in Roumania. In the eight months, out of total registered immigrants numbering 22,990, 8,691 previously resided in Poland, 5,859 in Germany, 1,130 in Roumania and 667 in Yemen and Aden (Table 4).

NATURALIZATIONS.

The persons naturalized in August 1936 numbered 418, (411 Jews and 7 non-Jews) as compared with 917 (901 Jews and 16 non-Jews) in the same month of 1935. Total naturalizations in the first eight months of 1936 were 6,276 as compared with 7,866 in the same period of 1935. Those naturalized in the first eight months of 1936 included 2,305 whose former nationality was Polish and 822 whose former nationality was German. Over 98 per cent. of those naturalized were Jews.

TABLE 2.- MIGRATION INTO AND FROM PALESTINE, AUGUST 1935 AND 1936, WITH TOTALS FOR THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF BOTH YEARS.

	August 1935			August 1936		
	Total	Jews	Non-Jews	Total	Jews	Non-Jews
a) Arrivals:						
(i) Immigrants arriving	4,735	4,562	173	3,059	2,994	65
(ii) Residents returning after absence for a period exceeding one year	231	113	118	82	55	27
(iii) Residents returning after absence for a period not exceeding one year	8,469	3,336	5,133	5,440	1,588	3,852
(iv) Temporary visitors arriving	6,630	2,230	4,400	1,513	385	1,128
(v) Transit travellers arriving	2,008	156	1,852	413	20	393
Total Arrivals	22,073	10,397	11,676	10,507	5,042	5,465
b) Departures:						
(i) Residents departing for a period exceeding one year	89	47	42	181	121	60
(ii) Residents departing for a period not exceeding one year	11,113	4,454	6,659	8,586	3,062	5,524
(iii) Temporary visitors departing	6,419	2,123	4,296	1,886	638	1,248
(iv) Transit travellers departing	1,846	147	1,699	394	9	385
Total Departures	19,467	6,771	12,696	11,047	3,830	7,217
Excess of arrivals over departures or vice versa if noted (-)	2,606	3,626	(-),020	(-),540	1,212	(-),752
	First eight months 1935			First eight months 1936		
	Total	Jews	Non-Jews	Total	Jews	Non-Jews
c) Arrivals:						
(i) Immigrants arriving	38,705	37,717	988	21,197	21,270	927
(ii) Residents returning after absence for a period exceeding one year	1,425	816	609	794	379	415
(iii) Residents returning after absence for a period not exceeding one year	37,362	12,249	25,113	31,908	8,589	23,319
(iv) Temporary visitors arriving	70,178	27,914	42,264	37,196	11,667	25,529
(v) Transit travellers arriving	10,777	1,001	9,776	5,100	341	4,759
Total Arrivals	158,447	73,697	78,750	96,195	41,246	54,949
d) Departures:						
(i) Residents departing for a period exceeding one year	491	235	256	672	440	232
(ii) Residents departing for a period not exceeding one year	48,826	18,642	30,184	46,366	17,003	29,363
(iii) Temporary visitors departing	61,501	19,510	41,991	37,871	11,917	25,954
(iv) Transit travellers departing	9,318	763	8,555	4,904	335	4,569
Total Departures	120,136	39,150	80,986	89,813	29,695	60,118
Excess of arrivals over departures or vice versa if noted (-)	38,311	40,547	(-),236	6,382	11,551	(-),5169

TABLE 3.- PERSONS REGISTERED AS IMMIGRANTS, BY LEADING CATEGORIES, AUGUST, 1935 AND 1936, WITH TOTALS FOR THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF BOTH YEARS.

NOTE:- This table includes persons originally coming into the country as visitors, but registering as immigrants in the months in question.

C a t e g o r y	August 1935			August 1936		
	Total	Jews	Non-Jews	Total	Jews	Non-Jews
A(i) Persons with LP.1000 and upwards	439	437	2	160	159	1
Dependants on persons in A(i)	379	374	5	143	143	-
A(iii) Skilled artisans with not less than LP.250	14	14	-	8	8	-
Dependants on persons in A(iii)	30	30	-	11	11	-
C Persons coming to employment	1,252	1,227	25	1,216	1,199	17
Dependants on persons in C	1,096	1,093	3	586	581	5
D Dependants of residents of Palestine	1,570	1,462	108	889	855	34
Other categories	344	284	60	205	172	33
T O T A L	5,124	4,921	203	3,218	3,128	90
	Eight months 1935			Eight months 1936		
	Total	Jews	Non-Jews	Total	Jews	Non-Jews
A(i) Persons with LP.1000 and upwards	4,233	4,172	61	2,422	2,388	34
Dependants on persons in A(i)	3,640	3,617	23	2,356	2,337	19
A(iii) Skilled artisans with not less than LP.250	234	232	2	151	148	3
Dependants on persons in A(iii)	370	370	-	260	256	4
C Persons coming to employment	9,933	9,735	198	4,984	4,847	137
Dependants on persons in C	9,437	9,398	39	3,028	3,003	25
D Dependants of residents of Palestine	10,819	10,189	630	7,708	7,197	511
Other categories	3,243	2,845	398	2,081	1,562	519
T O T A L	41,909	40,558	1,351	22,990	21,738	1,252

TABLE 4.- PERSONS REGISTERED AS IMMIGRANTS, BY CHIEF COUNTRIES OF PREVIOUS RESIDENCE, AUGUST 1935 AND 1936 WITH TOTALS FOR THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF BOTH YEARS.

NOTE.- This table includes persons originally entering the country as visitors, but registering as immigrants in the months in question.

Principal countries of Previous Residence	August 1935			August 1936		
	Total	Jews	Non-Jews	Total	Jews	Non-Jews
Poland	1,992	1,992	-	1,447	1,447	-
Germany	630	626	4	732	731	1
Roumania	329	326	3	232	228	4
Czechoslovakia	228	228	-	34	34	-
Lithuania	154	153	1	129	129	-
Latvia	53	53	-	22	22	-
France	248	230	18	37	27	10
Great Britain	64	27	37	28	14	14
Switzerland	17	17	-	14	14	-
Turkey	94	94	-	20	16	4
Yemen and Aden	131	131	-	1	1	-
U. S. America	98	87	11	21	20	1
Other Countries	1,086	957	129	501	445	56
T O T A L	5,124	4,921	203	3,218	3,128	90

	Eight months 1935			Eight months 1936		
	Total	Jews	Non-Jews	Total	Jews	Non-Jews
Poland	18,383	18,380	3	8,691	8,687	4
Germany	,140	5,058	82	5,859	5,805	54
Roumania	2,693	2,684	9	1,130	1,121	9
Czechoslovakia	934	927	7	446	443	3
Lithuania	1,356	1,354	2	618	618	-
Latvia	721	721	-	395	395	-
France	961	904	57	464	421	43
Great Britain	437	186	251	531	154	377
Switzerland	97	94	3	108	103	5
Turkey	1,210	1,185	25	250	234	16
Yemen and Aden	1,007	1,007	-	667	667	-
U. S. America	1,288	1,254	34	278	265	13
Other Countries	7,682	6,804	878	3,553	2,825	728
T O T A L	41,909	40,558	1,351	22,990	21,738	1,252

TABLE 5 - PERSONS NATURALIZED, BY CHIEF COUNTRIES OF PREVIOUS NATIONALITY, AUGUST, 1935 AND 1936 WITH TOTALS FOR THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF BOTH YEARS.

Previous Nationality	August 1935			August 1936		
	Total	Jews	Non-Jews	Total	Jews	Non-Jews
Czechoslovakia	6	6	-	7	7	-
Germany	65	65	-	60	60	-
Latvia	12	12	-	4	4	-
Lithuania	38	38	-	7	7	-
Poland	338	338	-	130	130	-
Rumania	57	57	-	35	35	-
Russia	145	144	1	57	56	1
Iraq	16	16	-	14	14	-
Persia	18	14	4	19	19	-
Turkey	41	35	6	2	-	2
Yemen	9	9	-	-	-	-
Other countries	172	167	5	83	79	4
T O T A L	917	901	16	418	411	7

Previous Nationality	Eight months 1935			Eight months 1936		
	Total	Jews	Non-Jews	Total	Jews	Non-Jews
Czechoslovakia	79	79	-	73	73	-
Germany	258	258	-	822	821	1
Latvia	122	122	-	116	115	1
Lithuania	292	292	-	247	247	-
Poland	3,088	3,088	-	2,305	2,305	-
Rumania	444	444	-	409	409	-
Russia	1,298	1,291	7	580	575	5
Iraq	286	286	-	252	251	1
Persia	136	112	24	224	214	10
Turkey	136	85	51	78	54	24
Yemen	30	30	-	44	44	-
Other countries	1,697	1,626	71	1,126	1,063	63
T O T A L	7,866	7,713	153	6,276	6,171	105

PART II. - THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION AT THE END OF AUGUST.
(From the Agricultural Supplement to the Palestine Gazette)

Meteorological Notes. - Cool weather with abundant dewfall was general in August, except for a few hot days. The sky was cloudy on several days, and some non-seasonal light local showers fell. Conditions were generally favourable to late summer crops, vegetables and fruits.

Agricultural Notes. - Southern District. - Winnowing and screening of cereals was concluded and all grain and straw collected and stored. Summer ploughing of harvested fields was still in progress in some villages and settlements. The threshing of harvested summer crops was nearing its conclusion. Picking of water melons under dry cultivation had been completed, but irrigated fields continued to yield; the melon crop, however, was generally poor. Northern District. - Threshing of winter crops was finished and winnowing nearly completed in the greater part of the district, but little marketing had been effected. Summer ploughing of harvested fields was in progress in Jewish and German settlements. Summer crops of less than average weight had been harvested over the greater part of the district. Normal yields of durra and maize under irrigation were expected. The melon crop in the northern regions was good, but prices were poor and there were no exports. The tobacco crop in the Tershaha and Safad areas was generally good, and weather conditions were suitable for drying and stringing the crop. Jerusalem District. - Winnowing and screening of winter cereals was almost completed, but only small quantities were marketed. Durra, the main summer crop in the hills, was in some places being harvested and threshed, fair yields being expected in the western foothills and northern area villages.

Vegetable Growing. - Unirrigated vegetables in the Southern District ceased cropping, but irrigated fields in the hill and northern districts continued to yield abundantly. Average good quality yields of onions and garlic had been obtained. Sowing of nursery beds and transplanting of autumn vegetables were in progress, and fields were being prepared for sowing autumn potatoes under irrigation.

Grazing. - Harvested fields were still affording some grazing to livestock, which were in satisfactory condition. Tibn supplies were abundant except in Beersheba and the southern villages. Maize and lucerne grown under irrigation were yielding adequate supplies of fodder in Jewish and German settlements; fields were being prepared for the sowing of berseem under irrigation.

Markets for Agricultural Commodities. - Some vegetables and dairy produce from the Arab villages were marketed in the towns and the difference between town and village prices was less than in July. Imports of vegetables from neighbouring countries continued, large quantities of cabbages coming from Syria. While only small quantities of local cereals had been marketed, prices of imported cereals as well as of legumes had increased, and a shortage of potatoes in the local market brought about a rise in price. The quotations obtained from Jewish grain dealers and Jerusalem merchants for certain products, together with comparative figures for July 1936, and August 1935, were as follows :-

TABLE NO. 6. - PRICES OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES IN PALESTINE IN AUGUST 1936, JULY 1936 & AUGUST 1935

Commodity	August, 1935 £P. per ton	July, 1936 £P. per ton	August, 1936 £P. per ton
Wheat	7.500 - 8.500	8.500 - 12.000	9.000 - 12.000
Barley	4.500 - 5.000	5.000 - 5.700	5.500 - 5.850
Durra	4.000 - 4.300	5.000 - 5.500	6.000 - 6.250
Kersenneh	6.800 - 7.000	8.000 - 8.500	8.000 - 9.000
Tibn	1.200 - 2.000	1.500 - 2.500	2.000 - 2.500
Lentils	10.000 - 12.500	12.000 - 14.000	12.000 - 14.000
Chick Peas	8.500 - 10.000	12.000 - 15.000	12.000 - 15.000
Sesame	17.000 - 21.000	21.000 - 22.000	21.000 - 23.000
Beans	9.000 - 11.000	14.000 - 16.000	14.000 - 16.000
Potatoes (imported)	8.000 - 9.000	10.500 - 12.000	12.000 - 15.000

The Citrus Industry. - Weather conditions in August were favourable for growth and development of the citrus crop, and irrigation, weeding and cultivation of groves was well maintained. The citrus export crop, under favourable conditions, is estimated at 8½ to 9 million cases. The first consignment of lemons was shipped toward the end of the month and it was expected that further weekly consignments would follow; lemons were realizing up to 24/- a case in England, and with favourable conditions it is estimated that 50,000 to 60,000 cases will be shipped. Oranges and grapefruits were developing normally; very few forward sales were reported and prices of 3/- to 4/- a case had been mentioned. Additional railway trucks had been ordered for the transport of the citrus during the coming season.

Other Fruits. - Plums. - As the local plum crop was finished, large quantities of European and Japanese varieties imported were being sold at high prices. Peaches. - Late local peaches were on sale in small quantities at 25-30 mils per kilo. Apples. - Wholesale prices of small quantities of late varieties varied from 30 to 40 mils per kilo according to quality and ripeness. Pears. - European varieties of pears were being sold at 50 mils per kilo, while local varieties were being sold at 25 to 30 mils. Bananas. - Great difficulties were experienced in marketing the crop, and retail prices were 20 to 30 mils per kilo in town. Figs. - The crop was small and its quality poor, and limited quantities were on the market. Olives. - The crop is expected to be much below normal in all districts. Vines. - In the Hebron district the crop will be 75 per cent. of normal. Retail prices in Hebron are as low as 5 mils per kilo, but at Jerusalem 30 to 40 mils per kilo. Supply is good and quality is excellent. Wine grapes to the amount of 2,895 tons were sold to the cellars of Rishon le Tsiyon and Zikhron Ya'akov at an average price of £P.7.660 per ton. This does not represent the entire crop of wine grapes, as a large part of that crop was sold locally for table purposes.

PART III.- TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION.THE TRADE OF PALESTINE IN THE EIGHT MONTHS ENDED AUGUST,
1935 AND 1936.^x

The imports of merchandise in the first eight months of 1936 ended August, aggregated LP.8,596,587, as compared with LP.11,597,040 and LP.9,428,643 respectively in the corresponding periods of 1935 and 1934, thus showing a decrease of LP.3,000,453 or 25.9 per cent. from the 1935 period and a decrease of LP.832,056 or 8.8 per cent. from the corresponding 1934 period. Food, drink and tobacco imported in the first eight months of 1936, had a total value of LP.2,121,146 as compared with LP.2,197,143 in the same period of 1935, a decrease of LP.75,997 or 3.5 per cent. Imports of raw materials and mainly unmanufactured articles in the 1936 period totalled LP.617,835 as compared with LP.901,998 in the corresponding 1935 period, a decrease of LP.284,163 or 31.5 per cent. Imports of wholly or mainly manufactured articles in the 1936 period totalled LP.4,246,796 as compared with LP.7,272,228 in the corresponding 1935 period, a decrease of LP.3,025,432 or 41.6 per cent. Unclassified imports, however, increased from LP.1,225,671 in the 1935 period to LP.1,610,810 in the 1936 period, an increase of LP.385,139 or 31.4 per cent.

Exports of merchandise of domestic produce in the first eight months of 1936, were LP.2,592,732, as compared with LP.3,358,252 and LP.2,571,253 in the corresponding periods of 1935 and 1934 respectively, thus showing a decrease of LP.965,520 or 28.8 per cent. from the corresponding 1935 period and a decrease of LP.178,521 or 6.9 per cent from the corresponding 1934 period. Exports of food, drink and tobacco in the 1936 period totalled LP.2,077,996 as compared with LP.3,083,698 in the 1935 period, a decrease of LP.1,005,702 or 32.6 per cent. chiefly due to the decrease in the exports of citrus fruits. Exports of raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured were LP.94,400 in the 1936 period as compared with LP.56,915 in the corresponding 1935 period an increase of LP.37,505 or 65.9 per cent. Exports of wholly or mainly manufactured articles rose from LP.216,493 in the 1935 period to LP.218,817 in the 1936 period, an increase of LP.2,324 or 1.1 per cent. Unclassified exports in the 1936 period totalled LP.1,499 as compared with LP.1,146 in the 1935 period.

Re-exports of commodities previously recorded as imported totalled LP.277,379 in the 1936 period as compared with LP.171,982 in the corresponding 1935 period, an increase of LP.105,397 or 61.3 per cent. Re-exports from bond (not previously recorded as imports) totalled LP.51,601 in the 1936 period as compared with LP.39,744 in the 1935 period, an increase of LP.11,857 or 29.8 per cent.

The value of transit trade exclusive of Iraq Petroleum Company crude oil, in the 1936 period amounted to LP.196,482 as compared with LP.298,746 in the 1935 period, a decrease of LP.102,264 or 34.2 per cent. The quantity of Iraq Petroleum Company crude oil despatched in transit via Haifa in the 1936 period was 1,326,402 tons valued at LP.1,061,121 as compared with 1,237,091 tons valued at LP.989,673 in the 1935 period, an increase of 89,311 tons. The crude oil is given an arbitrary value of 16/- or 800 mills per ton.

Table (7) shows the imports, domestic exports and re-exports of Palestine in each month from January to August, 1935 and 1936, while in Table (8) will be found the aggregate trade for the first eight months of 1935 and 1936, divided by classes.

(x) More detailed information will be found in Monthly Trade Bulletin No.8/1936, available on application to the Government Statistician, Jerusalem.

TABLE 7 .- IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE, EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE OF PALESTINIAN PRODUCE AND RE-EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE IN EACH MONTH FROM JANUARY TO AUGUST, 1935 AND 1936.

Month	Imports		Exports Domestic Produce		Re-exports	
	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936
	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.
January	1,209,690	1,330,303	666,870	685,567	21,175	26,436
February	1,348,881	1,128,348	788,366	724,116	23,314	15,915
March	1,793,827	1,273,405	1,052,274	635,081	19,788	24,258
April	1,420,678	1,063,717	599,985	122,939	29,972	16,076
May	1,547,981	944,169	64,919	42,686	24,746	20,099
June	1,287,270	992,800	49,959	53,237	15,687	29,771
July	1,461,311	995,229	76,911	65,256	19,960	55,956
August	1,527,402	868,616	58,968	63,850	17,340	88,868
Total eight months	11,597,040	8,596,587	3,358,252	2,392,732	171,982	277,379

TABLE 8 .- IMPORTS, EXPORTS, RE-EXPORTS, ETC., OF PALESTINE IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1935 AND 1936.

I T E M S	From 1st January to end of August		
	1935	1936	Percentage of Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the 1936 period
<u>I M P O R T S</u>	LP.	LP.	
CLASS I - Food, Drink and Tobacco	2,197,143	2,121,146	- 3.5
CLASS II - Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured	901,998	617,835	- 31.5
CLASS III - Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	7,272,228	4,246,796	- 41.6
CLASS IV - Unclassified	1,225,671	1,610,810	+ 31.4
TOTAL MERCHANDISE	11,597,040	8,596,587	- 25.9
CLASS V - Bullion and Specie	320,796	96,541	
<u>E X P O R T S.</u>			
CLASS I - Food, Drink and Tobacco	3,083,698	2,077,996	- 32.6
CLASS II - Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured	56,915	94,420	+ 65.9
CLASS III - Articles wholly or mainly unmanufactured	216,493	218,817	+ 1.1
CLASS IV - Unclassified	1,146	1,499	
TOTAL MERCHANDISE	3,358,252	2,392,732	- 28.8
CLASS V - Bullion and Specie	359,809	143,662	
RE-EXPORTS	171,982	277,379	+ 61.3
RE-EXPORTS FROM BOND	39,744	51,601	+ 29.8
TRANSIT TRADE	298,746	196,482	- 34.2

DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE BY LEADING COUNTRIES
FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1935 AND 1936.

Tables 9 and 10 show the distribution by countries of Palestinian imports and exports in the first eight months of 1936, as compared with the corresponding period of 1935, by values and percentages. The United Kingdom stands first as a source of imports in both periods and Germany ranks second. Roumania, United States of America and Syria come next in order in the 1936 period, while in the 1935 period, United States of America came third, Syria fourth and Roumania fifth. Percentages of imports from the United Kingdom, ~~British Possessions~~, Germany, Holland, Roumania, Switzerland, Egypt and Syria increased in the 1936 period, as compared with the corresponding 1935 period, though the absolute values of imports from these countries ~~except British Possessions~~ decreased. While the total value of imports decreased by 25.9 per cent, imports from the United Kingdom decreased by only 11.1 per cent, imports from Germany by only 8.6 per cent, and imports from Roumania by 16.1 per cent. Imports from Syria declined by 25.1 per cent and imports from the United States of America by 36.8 per cent.

The United Kingdom took nearly three-fifths of our exports in both periods under review, Syria coming second, Holland third and Poland fourth in the 1936 period, while in the 1935 period, Germany came second, Syria third and Holland fourth. Denmark, Poland, Sweden and the United States of America took greater absolute values of our lower total exports in the 1936 period than in the corresponding period of 1935. While the total value of exports decreased by 28.8 per cent, exports to the United Kingdom decreased by 38.6 per cent, exports to Germany by 58.5 per cent, exports to Syria by only 5.8 per cent and exports to Holland by only 7.3 per cent.

TABLE No. 9.- COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF IMPORTS, FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1935 AND 1936.

C o u n t r i e s	First eight months 1935		First eight months 1936	
	Value LP.	Percentage	Value LP.	Percentage
T O T A L	11,597,040	100.0	8,596,587	100.0
United Kingdom	1,992,482	17.2	1,772,299	20.6
British Possessions	422,305	3.7	248,242	2.9
Austria	246,883	2.1	125,728	1.5
Belgium	443,179	3.8	259,098	3.0
Bulgaria	140,384	1.2	34,024	0.4
Czechoslovakia	418,540	3.6	281,857	3.3
Denmark	79,812	0.7	53,051	0.6
France	227,367	2.0	152,203	1.8
Germany	1,435,698	12.4	1,311,973	15.3
Holland	164,937	1.4	154,502	1.8
Hungary	140,043	1.2	89,597	1.0
Italy	302,257	2.6	16,419	0.2
Poland	469,668	4.1	270,081	3.1
Roumania	809,061	7.0	678,849	7.9
Russia	161,928	1.4	78,682	0.9
Sweden	154,789	1.3	56,327	0.7
Switzerland	123,452	1.1	108,307	1.3
Yugoslavia	143,340	1.2	85,452	1.0
Egypt	381,204	3.3	290,760	3.4
Japan	433,177	3.7	244,011	2.8
Iraq	158,003	1.4	103,745	1.2
Syria	826,668	7.1	619,379	7.2
U. S. America	1,071,238	9.2	677,170	7.9
Other countries	850,625	7.3	704,831	8.2

TABLE No.10.- DESTINATION OF EXPORTS, FIRST EIGHT MONTHS,
1935 AND 1936.

C O U N T R I E S	First eight months 1935		First eight months 1936	
	Value LP.	Percentage	Value LP.	Percentage
T O T A L	3,358,252	100.0	2,392,732	100.0
United Kingdom	2,091,415	62.3	1,297,560	54.2
British Possessions	57,173	1.7	46,419	1.9
Belgium	62,649	1.9	39,753	1.7
Denmark	33,134	1.0	38,485	1.6
France	68,051	2.0	35,098	1.5
Germany	244,719	7.3	101,672	4.2
Holland	158,445	4.7	146,908	6.1
Italy	14,493	0.4	1,087	0.05
Norway	56,895	1.7	41,640	1.7
Poland	72,270	2.2	103,369	4.3
Roumania	74,194	2.2	55,034	2.3
Sweden	37,343	1.1	61,157	2.6
Egypt	51,825	1.5	34,889	1.5
Syria	204,298	6.1	192,353	8.0
U. S. America	8,285	0.2	11,243	0.5
Other countries	123,063	3.7	186,065	7.8

S H I P P I N G .

The shipping trade of Palestine in the first seven months of 1936 was naturally affected in the earlier part of the period by the disturbed international situation and more recently by the domestic troubles which brought the trade of Jaffa to a standstill in May, June and July.

The registered tonnage of the vessels entering the port of Haifa in the first seven months of 1936 was 2,792,353 as compared with 2,997,431 in the same period of 1935 - a decline of 205,078 tons or 7 per cent., while cargo discharged at Haifa was also lower at 402,386 tons as compared with 448,200 - a drop of 45,814 tons or 10½ per cent. Again, the registered tonnage of the vessels clearing from Haifa in the first seven months of 1936 was 2,756,595 as compared with 3,024,137 in the same period of 1935 - a decline of 267,542 tons or 9 per cent; cargo loaded at Haifa in the period under review was 103,679 tons as compared with 105,512 tons in the same period of 1935 - a decline of 2 per cent.

Ships entered at the port of Jaffa (including Tel-Aviv Beach in May, June and July) in the first seven months of 1936 had an aggregate tonnage of 713,099 as compared with 1,387,990 in the same period of 1935 - a drop of 48 per cent; cargo discharged also showed a drop from 204,375 tons to 108,004 tons or 47 per cent. Ships cleared from Jaffa in the first seven months of 1936 had a tonnage of 717,088 as compared with 1,422,738 in the same period of 1935 - down by 50 per cent. Cargo loaded was 78,421 tons and 120,627 tons respectively, a decline of 42,206 tons or 35 per cent.

The total tonnage of goods unloaded at the two major ports of Palestine was 510,390 tons in the first seven months of 1936 as compared with 652,590 tons in the same period of 1935 - a decline of 22 per cent. A smaller proportionate decline was shown in loadings which were 182,100 tons in the first seven months of 1936 as compared with 226,139 tons in the same period of 1935 - or a drop of nearly 20 per cent.

TABLE 12. - NUMBER AND TONNAGE OF STEAM AND SAILING VESSELS ENTERED AT THE PORTS OF JARPA AND HAIFA DURING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1936 AND CARGO DISCHARGED THEREFROM.

Months	J A R P A				H A I F A				Total cargo discharged		
	Steam Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Sailing Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Cargo discharged Tons	Steam Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Sailing Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Cargo discharged Tons	Total cargo discharged Tons
January	120	214,168	7	343	34,571	180	405,978	5	271	60,547	95,078
February	97	157,717	5	276	24,593	148	334,594	4	234	54,235	78,828
March	98	264,766	34	1,267	27,568	162	442,016	14	682	47,624	75,192
April	56	115,431	53	2,321	14,365	146	396,122	26	1,487	60,220	74,585
May	3	3,684	3	161	1,092x	159	451,102	33	1,738	73,480	74,572
June	4	2,105	2	54	841x	134	356,566	68	1,649	51,808	52,649
July	15	10,773	2	31	5,014x	139	397,873	138	2,141	54,772	59,486
Total seven months	393	708,646	106	4,453	108,004	1,068	2,784,151	289	8,202	402,386	510,390
Seven months 1935	660	1,370,632	456	17,358	204,390	1,058	2,984,632	348	12,792	448,200	652,590

Months	J A R P A				H A I F A				Total cargo loaded		
	Steam Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Sailing Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Cargo loaded Tons	Steam Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Sailing Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Cargo loaded Tons	Total cargo loaded Tons
January	118	210,296	7	374	28,672	176	399,967	8	445	22,773	51,445
February	101	163,191	5	276	30,873	148	335,278	4	250	21,784	52,657
March	102	210,040	28	1,171	16,127	169	452,214	13	441	17,680	33,807
April	58	116,616	46	1,832	2,551	140	379,314	20	1,060	1,254	3,805
May	2	2,467	14	330	5+	156	447,470	40	2,473	1,281	1,286
June	5	3,322	1	33	53+	134	356,310	66	1,764	1,985	2,038
July	12	8,709	2	31	140+	136	377,655	132	1,954	36,922x	37,062
Total seven months	598	714,641	103	2,447	78,421	1,059	2,748,208	273	8,387	103,679	182,100
Seven months 1935	656	1,405,442	447	17,296	120,627	1,076	3,011,388	442	12,749	105,512	226,139

TABLE 12. - NUMBER AND TONNAGE OF STEAM AND SAILING VESSELS CLEARED FROM THE PORTS OF JARPA AND HAIFA DURING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1936 AND CARGO LOADED THEREON.

(X) 834 tons and 5,014 tons cargo were discharged at Tel-Aviv Beach during May, June and July respectively.
 (+) The loading of cargo during May and June was effected through Tel-Aviv Beach.
 (Z) Includes 32,900 tons of fuel oil re-exported for use by H. M. Navy.

RAILWAY OPERATIONS.

The business of the Palestine Railways in the first seven months of 1936, as will be seen in Table 13, showed a marked recession from the high level of the corresponding period of 1935, partly no doubt in consequence of the disturbed international situation and the resulting reduction in tourist trade and the lower tempo of general business in the prevailing uncertainties. Aggregate gross revenue for the seven month period was LP.480,248 as compared with LP.529,753 in the same period of 1935 - a drop of LP.49,505 or 9.3 per cent. Working expenses were 3.7 per cent. higher at LP.364,342 as compared with LP.351,383. Passengers carried, exclusive of those with season tickets, were 1.8 per cent. more in the first seven months of the present year at 1,536,448 as compared with 1,509,093, but passenger revenue was 9.5 per cent. lower at LP.191,480 as compared with LP.211,609. Goods revenue was also nearly 9.6 per cent. lower at LP.253,068 as compared with LP.279,849, while tonnage of goods carried was only 516,937 as compared with 672,588 - decline of 23.1 per cent. The tonnage of the more important commodities carried in the first seven months of 1936 is given by months in Table 14.

TABLE 13.- SUMMARY STATISTICS OF RAILWAY OPERATION, (ALL LINES), FEBRUARY TO JULY, 1935 AND 1936.

		1 9 3 5					
		February	March	April	May	June	July
Gross Revenue	LP.	74,063	107,648	75,804	62,996	59,922	70,967
Working Expenses	LP.	54,435	69,164	42,676	42,176	44,017	48,800
Passenger Revenue	LP.	28,210	37,419	40,408	26,097	25,960	27,604
Goods Revenue	LP.	42,308	52,299	31,996	33,069	30,689	40,536
No. Passengers (exc. Season tickets)	No.	164,843	247,329	268,478	199,837	217,451	217,232
Tonnage of Goods Carried	Tons	103,953	121,811	78,537	74,724	73,168	98,343
Heads of Live Stock	No.	5,610	6,747	1,979	2,599	1,906	2,935
No. of Vehicles	No.	19	13	5	29	1	4
		1 9 3 6					
Gross Revenue	LP.	62,239	81,593	63,952	66,418	66,065	74,375
Working Expenses	LP.	54,665	69,904	51,656	46,427	52,663	46,326
Passenger Revenue	LP.	23,071	32,363	35,605	28,897	24,100	25,051
Goods Revenue	LP.	34,875	34,482	25,293	35,056	39,296	44,711
No. Passengers (exc. Season tickets)	No.	191,162	239,505	262,778	231,864	205,334	225,620
Tonnage of Goods Carried	Tons	84,907	76,866	54,205	65,568	65,099	77,658
Heads of Live Stock	No.	4,513	2,446	3,542	2,825	3,697	4,317
No. of Vehicles	No.	8	4	27	36	81	73

CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE

TABLE 14.- TONNAGE OF LEADING COMMODITIES TRANSPORTED BY PALESTINE RAILWAYS AND OPERATED LINES, JULY 1936 COMPARED WITH JULY, 1935 AND FOUR MONTHS ENDED JULY 1936 COMPARED WITH FOUR MONTHS ENDED JULY 1935.

Name of Commodity	July 1936		Total Four Months April - July, 1936	
	Number of Tons	Increase + Decrease - Tons	Number of Tons	Increase + Decrease - Tons
Barley	1725	- 900	5702	+ 452
Wheat	1520	- 1718	6970	- 1686
Maize	474	+ 300	1849	+ 360
Other Cereals	487	- 1273	1581	- 1292
Tibben	1535	- 112	5463	+ 536
Oil Cakes	332	- 191	1460	- 35
Flour	3359	+ 1970	12756	+ 6042
Rice	1380	+ 1018	4205	+ 2217
Sugar	2365	+ 1387	6670	+ 1870
Other Groceries and Provisions	6698	+ 4752	24120	+16177
Sand	1919	+ 256	6234	+ 2075
Stones	7150	+ 1951	17814	+ 251
Lime	1629	+ 295	4264	- 532
Cement	9437	- 8415	36382	-43394
Asphalt	593	- 546	3406	- 871
Other Building Materials	5540	- 6660	18279	-24162
Wooden Planks for Boxes	698	- 315	1770	- 203
Manure	2660	+ 473	4813	- 8159
Oranges	-	-	194	- 2135
Grape Fruit	-	-	33	- 421
Lemons	-	-	-	-
Melons	4833	- 5929	6890	- 5705
Grapes	12	- 54	12	- 54
Kerosene & Fuel Oils	7529	+ 219	31117	+ 3715
Coal	410	-11698	6880	-18757
Petrol	1510	+ 132	5730	- 123
Fire Wood	180	- 106	797	- 349
Soap	238	+ 69	550	- 87
Salt	451	- 342	2411	- 619
Potash	1197	+ 182	3294	- 430
Bromine	86	- 15	377	+ 25
Chlorine	-	-	17	- 28
Caustic Soda	85	+ 75	267	+ 151
Nitrate of Soda	-	- 140	-	- 440
Magnesium	10	+ 10	326	+ 231
Sulphur	30	+ 30	245	+ 234
Mineral Water	181	+ 29	619	- 28
Empties	570	+ 181	1945	+ 253
Machinery	313	+ 285	1013	+ 537
Miscellaneous	10522	+ 4115	36075	+12142
T O T A L	77658	-20685	262530	-62242
Heads of live stock	4317	+ 1382	14381	+ 4962
Number of Vehicles	73	+ 69	217	+ 200

Table 14 shows the tonnage of commodities carried by the Palestine Railways in July, 1936, and in the four months period from 1st April to 31st July, 1936. Attention is drawn to columns 3 and 5 of the said table where the absolute increase (+) or decrease (-) in quantity transported in 1936, as compared with same period of 1935, is given.

The number of tons transported by the Palestine Railways and operated Lines in July, 1936, totalled 77,658 tons as compared with 98,343 tons in the corresponding month of 1935, a decrease of 20,685 or 21.0 per cent. This decrease is accounted for by the decrease in the transportation of coal, building materials and melons. Food commodities other than fruits, mentioned in the table as transported in July, 1936, totalled 19,875 tons as compared with 14,642 tons in July 1935, an increase of 5,233 tons or 35.7 per cent., accounted for by increased imports of food, particularly flour, rice and sugar. Fruit commodities, namely, melons and grapes, transported in July 1936, totalled 4,845 tons as compared with 10,828 tons in July, 1935, a decrease of 5,983 tons or 55.3 per cent. accounted for by the decline of 53.9 per cent. in the quantity of melons exported. Building materials transported in July, 1936, totalled 26,268 tons as compared with 39,387 tons in July, 1935, a decrease of 13,119 tons or 33.3 per cent. largely accounted for by the decrease in the transportation of cement. Commodities such as kerosene and fuel oils, coal, petrol and fire wood transported in July, 1936, totalled 9,629 tons as compared with 21,082 tons in July, 1935, a decrease of 11,453 tons or 54.3 per cent. accounted for by the decrease in imports of coal (11,515 tons). Dead Sea chemicals transported in July, 1936, totalled 1,293 tons as compared with 1,116 tons in July, 1935, an increase of 177 tons or 15.9 per cent., accounted for by the increase in exports of potash.

The number of tons transported by the Palestine Railways and Operated Lines in the four months period from 1st April to 31st July, 1936, totalled 262,530 tons as compared with 324,772 tons in the same period of 1935, a decrease of 62,242 tons or 19.2 per cent. In general, the transportation of food commodities other than fruits increased in the 1936 period as compared with the 1935 period partly due to the increase in importation of food in June and July, 1936, while the transportation of most of the other commodities decreased considerably chiefly due to the considerable decrease in importation of raw materials and manufactured articles.

POSTAL, TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH RECEIPTS.

A business enterprise which is carried on by Government in all countries is that of the Post Office, while in many countries the telegraphs and telephones also are under the Post Office Department, as in Palestine. The receipts of the Post Office Department are therefore an excellent barometer of general business.

In the first eight months of the calendar year 1936 the total cash revenue of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs was LP.310,076 as compared with LP.275,255 in the same period of 1935, an increase of LP.34,821 or 12.7 per cent., while sales of stamps to the general public aggregated LP.142,858 as compared with LP.129,423, an increase of LP.13,435 or 10.4 per cent. The details are shown in Table 15 from which it will be seen that revenue from telephones, while rapidly increasing, is very irregular as between months, coming in mainly in the first two months of each quarter.

TABLE 15.- CASH REVENUES OF DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS, FROM MAY TO AUGUST, WITH TOTALS FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1935 AND 1936.

NOTE.- Figures are given to the nearest pound in all cases.

	1 9 3 5				Total first eight months
	May	June	July	August	
	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.
Sale of Stamps	17,133	14,660	16,798	16,576	129,423
Telegraphs	2,006	1,896	2,752	1,877	17,485
Telephones	21,509	4,365	13,609	17,940	103,926
Broadcast Licence Fees	485	382	463	369	2,138
Other Sources	2,612	4,175	1,475	3,024	22,282
T O T A L	43,745	25,478	35,097	39,786	275,255
	1 9 3 6				
Sale of Stamps	17,358	17,503	17,709	18,687	142,858
Telegraphs	2,861	2,903	4,418	2,108	21,342
Telephones	28,476	4,688	11,101	23,832	118,452
Broadcast Licence Fees	841	900	860	647	6,622
Other Sources	935	5,697	3,703	101	20,802
T O T A L	50,471	31,691	37,161	45,375	310,076

The number of applications for telephone exchange lines received during recent months has been as follows:-
 March, 146; April, 111; May, 106; June, 87; July, 77; August, 75; September, 76. The total number of telephone exchange lines, together with unfilled applications therefor, has increased from 7,530 at January 1, 1936 to 8,166 at September 1, 1936. The Jerusalem figure rose from 2,023 to 2,132, Haifa from 1,676 to 1,873, Jaffa - Tel-Aviv from 2,624 to 2,903, and Other Districts from 1,207 to 1,258.

PART IV.- STATISTICS OF PRICES.

WHOLESALE PRICES IN AUGUST.

THE INDEX NUMBER.- The upward trend in Wholesale Prices, which set in in the previous month, persisted also throughout August. Measured by the index number, the general level of prices advanced on the average by 2.7 per cent. when July is taken as 100 per cent. On this basis the indices for the various commodity groups are as follows:-

Category I. Grain and Meat	= 102.4
Category II. Other Food and Fruit	= 104.1
Category III. Fuel and Miscellaneous	= 100.1
General Monthly Index	= 102.7

When "chained" on June as base the indices for the three months June, July and August, are 100, 101.5 and 104.2 respectively, showing an increase for August of 4.2 per cent. as compared with June. Again, prices for the month under review showed an increase of 7 per cent. as compared with prices recorded in August 1935, the indices for the various categories being:-

Category I.	Category II.	Category III.	General Index.
107.5	110.7	102.9	107.0

RANGE OF QUOTATIONS.- As in the preceding month, Wholesale Price quotations were obtained weekly, from the three larger towns in the country; Jerusalem, Haifa, Tel-Aviv (from this last town a few quotations are still lacking). In order to safeguard the uniformity, and the comparability of the average prices for the country as a whole, it was deemed advisable to calculate two separate sets of price averages, representing the whole country; one based on average prices from Jerusalem and Haifa, and one based on average prices from Jerusalem, Haifa and Tel-Aviv. In the course of the month a number of new commodities were added to the list, such as local flour (Extra) and imported butter. As already stated in the previous issue, not all of the additional articles or the various grades enter into the construction of the index number.

PRICES AND MARKETS.- The rise of 2.7 per cent. within one month in the general level of prices, as registered by the index number, clearly shows that certain commodities have greatly advanced in price. This is attributable to, at least, three factors: the rise in world prices of certain food-stuffs, particularly Wheat and Flour; the normal seasonal rise in prices of dairy products, vegetables and various fruits; and finally, the disturbed condition of trade prevailing in this country which hastened the effects of seasonal forces on the price level, by withholding supplies of vegetables and fruits from the market.

Of the commodities which have advanced in price, those of particular interest are, Australian and American flour, which increased by respectively 75 mils and 101 mils and barley by 68 mils. Notable among the seasonal commodities which advanced in prices are tomatoes, dairy products, and grapes.

On the other hand, the prices of a number of important commodities continued their downward trend, which began in June, thereby largely offsetting the general advance in prices. Of these rice registered a decline of 22 mils, granulated sugar declined by 26 mils, potatoes declined by 254 mils while onions declined by 152 mils. There was practically no change in prices in the third commodity group headed fuel and miscellaneous.

TABLE 16.

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TABLE No. I.- AVERAGE MONTHLY WHOLESALE PRICES IN PALESTINE⁽⁺⁾
FOR JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST, 1936.

Commodities	Unit	PALESTINE		
		June	July	August
		ms	ms	ms
CATEGORY I.- GRAIN & MEAT.				
Bread (native)	100 kgs	1535	1593	1590
Bread (white)	" "	1775	1850	1885
Wheat (local)	" "	917	945	900
Flour:				
Local Extra	" "	-	-	1355
Australian	" "	} 1556	1495	1570
American	" "		1677	1778
Barley	" "	495	513	571
Millet (Dourah)	" "	680	631	632
Kersenneh	" "	760	-	-
Rice (Rashidi)	" "	1290	1205	1183
Beef (cashier)	" "	6930	7030	6875
Mutton	" "	7450	7315	7260
Eggs: imported	per 100	290	219	-
local	" "	-	-	295
Tnuvah Grade 'A'	" "	520 ^(x)	600 ^(x)	600 ^(x)
CATEGORY II.- OTHER FOOD AND FRUITS.				
Milk	litre	16	18	18
Butter: Tnuvah	100 kgs	21750	22500	2350
Imported	" "	-	-	14275
Cheese	" "	5555	5735	6735
Potatoes	" "	925	922	668
Chick Peas	" "	-	-	-
Beans	" "	1265	1335	1605
Sesame Seed	" "	2005	-	-
Lentils	" "	1595	1575	1740
Tomatoes	" "	1085	1167	1553
Onions	" "	687	725	573
Dates	" "	1845	-	-
Grapes	" "	1435	1621	1855
Raisins	" "	2780	-	-
Almonds (unshelled)	" "	5850	5900	-
Water melons	" "	440	340	377
Coffee Beans (Brazilian)	" "	5475	4680	4935
Wine (red)	100 litres	3000	3000	3000
Sugar (granulated)	100 kgs	1240	1223	1197
Salt	" "	540	540	540
CATEGORY III.- FUEL AND MISCELLANEOUS				
Fuel Wood	1 ton	2500	-	-
Charcoal	100 kgs	855	890	903
Coal	ton	2425	2425	2425
Kerosene	4 gallons	140	140	140
Benzine	" "	354	354	354
Alcohol (denatured)	100 kgs	6450	6350	6300
Olive oil (native)	" "	-	-	5120
Olive oil (Shemen)	" "	-	8080	8080
Sesame oil (native)	" "	-	-	4270
Sesame oil (Shemen)	" "	-	4240	5950
Cooking oil	" "	-	4901	4901
Soap:				
Laundry	" "	2960	3276	3280
Matches	per gross boxes	235	235	235

(+) Average of Jerusalem and Haifa prices.

(x) Revised figures.

RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

The present index number of the cost of living in Palestine is mainly based upon the retail prices of food commodities and fuel, collected at the middle of each month, and does not take into account either the retail prices of clothing or of housing accommodation. The value of this index number as a guide to total cost of living is therefore limited, and until a new index number of wider scope can be substituted it is desirable to lay stress upon actual prices and expenditures, as is done in Tables 17 and 18. More detailed information will be found in the Retail Prices and Cost of Living Bulletin, available gratis on application to the Government Statistician.

Cost of Living Index.

The monthly expenditure of an average Palestinian urban family on the twenty included commodities in September, 1936, totalled 5290 mils, giving an index number of 60.5 for this latest month. In January, February, March, April, May, June, July and August the corresponding expenditures were 4735, 4661, 4678, 4624, 4745, 4934, 5168 and 5181 mils respectively, giving index numbers of 54.1 in January, 53.3 in February, 53.5 in March, 52.9 in April, 54.2 in May, 56.4 in June, 59.1 in July and 59.2 in August 1936 respectively. Thus the index number for September has risen by 6.4 points since January, 1936, and by 1.4 point and 1.3 point since July and August, 1936 respectively.

Again, when the index number of September, 1936, which is 60.5, is compared with that of September, 1935, which 53.1, an increase is shown of 7.4 points or 13.9 per cent. over the same month of last year; while there is an increase of 7.2 points or 13.6 per cent. over the same month of 1933.

The September cost of living index number has not reached such a high point during the last six years. In the course of this period, the September cost of living index did not exceed the 60.4 of September, 1930, but it rose to 60.5 in September, 1936, an advance of 0.1 point over September, 1930 (See Retail Prices and Cost of Living Bulletin No.1/1936 page 14).

Prices of Particular Commodities in September.

The average retail prices of wheat, flour, beef, butter, kerosene, olive oil and eggs in Palestine have shown advances over August. On the other hand, mutton, granulated sugar, soap Nabulsi, potatoes and onions recorded a fall in the latest month. The prices of bread, fish, milk, cheese, charcoal, rice and coffee show no change.

The prices of flour, mutton, beef, milk, rice Rashidi, eggs and soap Nabulsi in Jerusalem are higher than in Jaffa or Haifa, while bread, fish, native butter, native cheese, olive oil, granulated sugar, raw coffee and onions are dearer in Haifa than in either Jaffa or Jerusalem. The Jaffa price of rice Rashidi is higher than the Jerusalem or Haifa prices. The price of kerosene is the same in the three towns.

TABLE 17. AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF TWENTY ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES IN PALESTINE AT THE MIDDLE OF EACH OF THE FIRST NINE MONTHS, 1936.

Commodity	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
		Mils								
Wheat	Rotl	26	27	28	28	31	29	31	31	33
Bread	"	46	48	48	46	45	49	51	50	50
Flour	"	45	45	46	45	42	42	44	44	45
Mutton	Okia	22	20	20	19	20	19	19	20	18
Beef	"	17	17	19	18	18	23	27	27	32
Fish	"	24	24	24	24	24	25	25	25	25
Milk	"	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6
Butter	"	35	35	35	35	35	35	36	41	43
Cheese	"	19	15	13	15	17	20	20	20	20
Kerosene	Tin	180	177	180	180	182	180	180	180	185
Charcoal	Rotl	28	27	26	27	34	33	46	40	40
Rice	"	48	48	47	47	46	46	45	44	44
Olive oil	"	160	160	169	167	176	170	179	176	200
Sugar	"	42	42	41	42	42	45	42	43	41
Eggs	Ten	36	29	28	24	25	33	28	30	32
Soap	Rotl	135	137	137	135	131	145	155	151	148
Coffee	Okia	16	16	16	16	16	19	18	18	18
Potatoes	Rotl	25	28	29	31	33	35	34	30	29
Onions	"	17	18	21	23	27	29	28	22	20

Total Monthly Expenditure in Mils 4735 . 4661 . 4678 . 4624 . 4745 . 4934 . 5168 . 5181 . 5290
 Monthly Index Number 54.1 53.3 53.5 52.9 54.2 56.4 59.1 59.2 60.5

TABLE 13.- AVERAGE QUANTITIES CONSUMED AND MONTHLY EXPENDITURES OF AN AVERAGE PALESTINIAN URBAN FAMILY ON EACH OF TWENTY ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES, TOGETHER WITH RESULTING INDEX NUMBER OF COST OF LIVING, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1936. (Jan. 1922 = 100).

NOTE.- For prices used in calculating monthly expenditures see Table 17

Commodity	Unit	Quantity	June	July	August	September
			Mils			
Wheat	Rotl	5.25	152.25	162.75	162.75	173.25
Bread	"	10.85	531.65	533.35	542.50	542.50
Flour	"	10.15	426.30	446.60	446.60	456.75
Mutton	Okia	21.35	405.65	405.65	427.00	384.30
Beef	"	17.08	392.84	461.16	461.16	546.56
Fish	"	12.81	320.25	320.25	320.25	320.25
Milk	"	38.43	192.15	192.15	230.58	230.58
Butter, native	"	8.54	298.90	307.44	350.14	367.22
Cheese, "	"	8.54	170.80	170.80	170.80	170.80
Kerosene	Tin	4 gals.	180.00	180.00	180.00	185.00
Charcoal	Rotl	9.45	311.85	434.70	378.00	378.00
Rice, Rashidi	"	4.55	209.30	204.75	200.20	200.20
Olive oil, edible	"	1.40	238.00	250.60	246.40	280.00
Sugar, granulated	"	3.85	173.25	161.70	165.55	157.85
Eggs	Ten	33 eggs	108.90	92.40	99.00	105.60
Soap, Nabulsi	Rotl	1.05	152.25	162.75	158.55	155.40
Coffee, raw	Okia	4.27	81.13	76.86	76.86	76.86
Potatoes	Rotl	2.80	98.00	95.20	84.00	81.20
Onions	"	1.40	40.60	39.20	30.80	28.00
Tobacco	-	-	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00
Total Monthly Expenditure			4934.07	5168.31	5181.14	5290.32
Index Numbers			56.4	59.1	59.2	60.5

PART V. - FINANCIAL STATISTICS.

GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

In the first six months of the current fiscal year, the revenue of the Government has naturally suffered, firstly from the decrease in imports which has brought about a reduction in the sums received in customs duties (£P. 819,498 as compared with £P. 1,461,562 in the corresponding period of 1935-36), and secondly, from the declines in other revenues resulting from the lower general level of business owing to the disturbances, and the difficulties of collecting the Urban and Rural Property Taxes. Nevertheless, the approximate results of the first six months of the current fiscal year indicate a total revenue of £P. 1,945,564 as against a total expenditure of £P. 1,970,612 being an excess of expenditure of only £P. 25,048. The customs revenues and total revenues, as well as the total expenditures in each of the first six months of the current fiscal year, are shown in Table 19. The figures for August and September are subject to revision.

TABLE 19. - REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE GOVERNMENT IN EACH MONTH FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER, 1936.

M o n t h	R e v e n u e		Total Expenditure
	Customs Import Duties	Total	
	LP.	LP.	LP.
April	154,595	327,752	257,685
May	132,142	284,911	334,429 ⁺
June	134,215	319,681	285,145
July	135,546	419,142 [*]	330,353
August	128,000 ⁺	282,000 ⁺	417,000 ⁺
September	135,000 ⁺	312,078 ⁺	346,000 ⁺
Total for six months	819,498 ⁺	1,945,564 ⁺	1,970,612 ⁺

⁺Figures for August and September and for the six-month period including these months are subject to revision. The June total of revenue includes a grant-in-aid of £P. 30,000 and the September revenue a grant-in-aid of £P. 32,578.

[^]Includes £P. 100,000 contribution from the Palestine Currency Board.

[#]Includes contributions of £P. 41,750 toward cost of defence in May and the same amount in August, together with £P. 50,000 on account of extra expenditure incurred in sending reinforcements to Palestine.

The above table indicates that the surplus of £P. 6,267,810 reported as of April 1st, 1936, was only slightly impaired at September 30. The approximate surplus as at September 30, 1936, was £P. 6,212,762.

On the basis of the above approximate figures, revenues for the six-month period have been £P. 1,023,048 under the actual receipts for the corresponding period of the preceding year; and expenditures have been £P. 245,683 over the actual expenditures for the same period of last year. The expenditure for the six-month period does not include the deficit on the Railways.

CURRENCY IN CIRCULATION.

The aggregate amount of coins and notes in circulation in Palestine, which in recent years has shown a steady increase reflecting the general growth of business, was abnormally augmented in September and October 1935 as a result of the disturbed international situation, leading many people to withdraw their deposits from the banks. The amount of currency in circulation, therefore, reached a maximum recorded figure of LP.7,545,134 at the end of October last, subsequently declining as confidence was restored. The total currency in circulation has again shown a declining tendency in recent months, falling from LP.6,236,139 at the end of May to LP.6,041,135 at the end of September - a decline of LP.195,000.

Coins and notes in circulation at the end of each of the last twenty-one months are shown in Table 20.

TABLE 20.-CURRENCY, INCLUDING COINS AND NOTES, IN CIRCULATION IN PALESTINE, AS AT THE END OF EACH MONTH SINCE JANUARY 1935.

Month	1 9 3 5			1 9 3 6		
	Coins	Notes	Total	Coins	Notes	Total
End of-	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.
January	505,640	4,273,324	4,778,964	581,400	5,716,735	6,298,135
February	506,500	4,457,464	4,963,964	571,200	5,614,935	6,186,135
March	530,692	4,809,168	5,326,228	571,200	5,664,935	6,236,135
April	530,692	5,010,536	5,541,228	571,300	5,639,835	6,211,136
May	539,152	5,002,076	5,541,228	584,320	5,651,819	6,236,139
June	539,852	5,001,376	5,541,228	576,400	5,629,735	6,206,135
July	565,232	4,995,996	5,561,228	541,400	5,524,735	6,066,135
August	575,556	5,259,579	5,835,135	574,900	5,466,235	6,041,135
September	595,320	6,924,815	7,520,135	577,000	5,464,135	6,041,135
October	598,540	6,946,595	7,545,135			
November	601,240	6,253,895	6,855,135			
December	601,400	5,959,735	6,561,135			

The coins and notes in circulation at the end of each year since the introduction of the new Palestinian currency in November 1927 are as follows:-

	Year	Coins	Notes	Total Coins and Notes	
	December 31	1927	190,148	1,275,000	1,465,148
	"	1928	214,716	1,547,948	1,762,664
	"	1929	237,664	1,880,000	2,117,664
	"	1930	285,604	1,959,060	2,244,664
	"	1931	330,348	1,973,316	2,303,664
	"	1932	337,112	2,204,552	2,541,664
	"	1933	413,416	3,166,248	3,579,664
	"	1934	504,740	4,234,224	4,738,964
	"	1935	601,400	5,959,735	6,561,135

PART VI.- STATISTICS OF GENERAL BUSINESS.

SALES OF ELECTRIC POWER.

In the nineteenth century, the main source of power in the industrial countries of the world was derived from the combustion of coal. In the twentieth century, an alternative source of power has been found in electricity derived either from the combustion of coal or from the flow of water. Thus coal-less countries like Norway and Switzerland, have been enabled to build up important industries through using hydro-electric power to run their machines. Since Palestine also is a coal-less country in process of industrialization its water powers have been harnessed to supply hydro-electric power, and the use of such power is rapidly increasing. The amount of power sold from month to month and year to year is thus a test of the stage which has been reached in the development of the country.

In Palestine the chief producers of electricity are the Palestine Electric Corporation, Ltd., and the Jerusalem Electric and Public Service Corporation, Ltd. According to statistics from the twelfth annual report of the former organization, published in the Report on the Administration of Palestine and Trans-Jordan for 1935, its business increased between 1931 and 1934 as follows:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Units sold in Kwh.</u>	<u>Number of Consumers connected</u>	<u>Gross Revenue LP.</u>
1931	8,707,917	12,029	139,673
1932	11,590,350	15,113	145,512
1933	20,136,839	21,934	221,128
1934	34,385,515	35,397	363,900

The monthly sales of electricity by these two organizations, operating in different parts of the country, are shown by areas and chief purposes for which used, in Table 21 for each month since January 1935. The grand total sold in the first seven months of 1936 was 34 per cent. more than in the same period of 1935, the sales of electricity for irrigating purposes increasing by no less than 38 per cent. Sales of power for industrial purposes increased by 32 per cent. in the 1936 period.

TABLE 21. - ELECTRICITY SOLD TO CUSTOMERS BY THE PALESTINE ELECTRIC CORPORATION AND THE JERUSALEM ELECTRIC CORPORATION IN EACH MONTH FROM JANUARY 1935, BY AREAS AND PURPOSE FOR WHICH USED.

	Tel-Aviv	Haifa	Jordan area (incl. Tiberias)	Jerusalem area	Grand Total	Power (included in total)	Irrigation (included in total)
1 9 3 5 TOTAL	31,463,758	17,525,529	1,372,906	3,308,178	53,670,371	23,024,339	16,134,366
January	1,325,455	972,695	41,557	285,869	2,625,576	1,450,239	48,704
February	1,312,448	913,189	35,408	257,655	2,518,700	1,401,222	74,328
March	1,387,101	948,217	52,680	226,235	2,614,233	1,500,945	94,417
April	2,461,327	1,230,662	102,290	249,830	4,044,109	1,621,657	1,270,842
May	3,128,958	1,391,562	154,566	240,568	4,915,654	1,756,715	2,035,045
June	3,419,057	1,425,741	168,876	233,125	5,246,799	1,863,099	2,316,449
July	3,633,572	1,624,158	161,852	251,264	5,670,846	2,021,088	2,520,343
August	3,775,804	1,726,327	175,380	265,485	5,942,996	2,073,295	2,684,772
September	3,820,954	1,861,992	170,689	290,781	6,144,416	2,335,040	2,582,167
October	3,232,469	1,949,169	155,690	310,590	5,647,918	2,332,930	1,878,924
November	1,830,500	1,669,371	71,546	322,796	3,894,213	2,194,831	324,116
December	2,136,113	1,812,446	82,372	374,007	4,404,938	2,473,278	304,259
1 9 3 6							
January	1,790,954	1,831,403	96,274	341,914	4,060,545	2,371,836	131,552
February	1,707,547	1,417,671	84,031	317,119	3,526,368	1,999,394	116,346
March	1,696,647	1,602,945	170,843	383,043	4,053,478	2,041,964	554,476
April	3,075,340	2,114,512	189,776	340,136	5,719,764	2,385,620	1,854,849
May	3,681,638	1,919,468	193,694	315,014	6,109,814	1,972,277	2,727,226
June	4,075,786	2,112,142	225,338	326,348	6,739,614	2,265,736	3,975,847
July	4,125,820	2,007,693	278,640	337,356	6,749,509	2,285,352	3,604,422
First seven months 1936	20,353,732	13,005,834	1,238,596	2,360,930	36,959,092	15,322,181	11,554,718
First seven months 1935	16,667,918	8,506,224	717,229	1,744,546	27,635,917	11,614,965	8,360,128
Increase in 1936 in per cent.	22	53	73	35	34	32	38

C O N S T R U C T I O N .

It may be observed that in recent months there has been a ~~rise~~ in the area of new buildings authorized to be constructed in the four towns as compared with the same months of 1935. The aggregate August figure, for example, was 55,769 square metres, as compared with 121,109 square metres in the same month of 1935. The grand total for the first eight months of 1936 was 541,095 square metres as compared with 901,829 square metres for the same period of 1935, a decline of 360,734 square metres or nearly 40 per cent.

TABLE 22 . BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN JERUSALEM, JAFFA, TEL-AVIV AND HAIFA (AREA IN SQUARE METRES).

1935	Jerusalem ⁺	Jaffa ⁺	Tel-Aviv	Haifa	Total
January	7,560	8,186	33,080	22,960	71,876
February	13,600	16,503	34,787	33,900	98,790
March	14,100	11,030	45,091	40,000	110,221
April	11,100	21,884	36,310	37,500	106,794
May	20,200	9,659	43,727	45,000	118,586
June	13,350	64,805	44,028	25,057	147,240
July	22,274	17,969	45,000	41,970	127,213
August	21,585	15,684	44,970	38,870	121,109
Total eight months	123,859	165,720	326,993	285,257	901,829
September	20,678	6,015	34,811	18,214	79,718
October	8,426	6,772	33,755	26,400	75,353
November	15,659	9,450	31,900	32,800	89,809
December	13,493	5,700	21,000	27,400	67,593
T O T A L	182,115	193,657	448,459	390,071	1,214,302
1936					
January	20,200	10,700	20,590	23,000	74,490
February	13,700	11,300	21,617	25,600	72,217
March	17,800	10,000	30,552	17,000	75,352
April	19,076	20,738	24,647	28,042	92,503
May	10,758	1,242	19,015	21,038	52,053
June	9,459	456	22,705	19,411	52,031
July	5,191	69	26,827	34,593	66,680
August	3,353	-	24,645	27,771	55,769
Total eight months	99,537	54,505	190,598	196,455	541,095

(+) Figures for Jerusalem and Jaffa are converted from the cubic metres in which they were originally given, by dividing by 3.5 metres, taken as the average height of rooms.

LAND TRANSFERS.

In the following Table, the term "Natives" is to be understood as including (a) all Moslem and Christian Palestinians, (b), all Arabs of whatever religion or nationality, (c) Armenians, Greeks, Turks, etc., Under "Jews", all persons of Jewish faith are included, "Foreigners" include non-Jewish Europeans or Americans together with foreign members of religious orders such as the Templar settlers.

It will be seen from the table that the total amount of land to change hands in the first seven months of 1936 was 53,404 dunams, of the aggregate value of LP.3,444,946. In the seven months, "net" sales of land by "natives" to others totalled 19,121 dunams, for which a net sum of LP.268,347 was received.

TABLE 23.- LAND TRANSFERS, BY COMMUNITIES, AREAS AND VALUES, JUNE AND JULY 1936 AND TOTAL FOR THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS.

NOTE.- In the last section of the table plus and minus signs are used; to represent the exchange of land for money. These signs will in most cases but not invariably be opposites.

	June		July		June - July		Total seven months January - July	
	Dunams	Value LP.	Dunams	Value LP.	Dunams	Value LP.	Dunams	Value LP.
Purchased by:								
Natives	271	12,781	486	11,973	-	-	13,048	475,755
Jews	727	333,948	1,195	311,722	-	-	36,075	2,750,354
Foreigners	18	11,776	9	8,639	-	-	3,223	118,594
Municipalities	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	12,744
Government	-	-	-	-	235	20,872	1,048	87,499
T o t a l	1,016	358,505	1,690	332,334	235	20,872	53,404	3,444,946
Sold by:								
Natives	358	24,056	1,096	36,056	-	-	32,169	744,102
Jews	722	335,107	724	300,289	-	-	20,821	2,546,207
Foreigners	3	1,751	35	10,253	-	-	386	38,923
Municipalities	-	-	-	-	3	4,199	18	15,580
Government	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	134
T o t a l	1,083	360,914	1,855	346,598	3	4,199	53,404	3,444,946
Balance retained by:								
Natives	-87	+11,275	-610	+24,083	-	-	-19,121	+268,347
Jews	+5	-1,159	+471	-11,433	-	-	+15,254	-104,147
Foreigners	+15	-10,025	-26	+1,614	-	-	+2,837	-79,671
Municipalities	-	-	-	-	-3	+4,199	8	+2,836
Government	-	-	-	-	+235	-20,872	+1,038	-87,365

NUMBER AND CAPITALIZATION OF NEW COMPANIES.

Both the number and the capitalization of new companies registered in the first nine months of 1936 showed a decline from the corresponding period of 1935, with 128 new companies having an authorised share capital of LP.711,642 registered as compared with 259 having an authorised share capital of LP.2,904,029. In the 1936 period 43 previously existing companies increased their share capital by LP.720,767, while in the same period of 1935, 50 existing companies increased their share capital by LP.1,731,125. Thus, according to Table 24, the total authorised new capital of new and existing companies in the first nine months of 1936 was LP.1,432,409 as compared with LP.4,635,154 in the first nine months of 1935.

TABLE 24. - NUMBER AND CAPITALIZATION OF COMPANIES REGISTERED AND OF EXISTING COMPANIES WHICH INCREASED THEIR SHARE CAPITAL, BY MONTHS.

	New companies registered		Existing companies which increased their share capital			Total new capital LP.	
	No.	Authorized share capital LP.	No.	From LP.	To LP.		Net increase LP.
<u>1934.</u>							
January	11	140,000	3	241,000	334,000	93,000	233,000
February	16	88,620	1	10,000	25,100	15,100	103,720
March	14	109,900	1	1,000	6,000	5,000	114,900
April	13	206,850	1	15,000	50,000	35,000	241,850
May	21	105,400	3	27,000	140,040	113,040	218,440
June	33	297,399	4	97,000	265,000	168,000	465,399
July	25	203,100	5	93,000	235,000	142,000	345,100
August	16	162,504	3	22,000	37,500	15,500	178,004
September	17	130,972	-	-	-	-	130,972
October	21	230,700	5	150,000	294,000	144,000	374,700
November	18	243,260	2	7,500	20,000	12,500	255,760
December	23	269,125	10	1,125,000	2,807,000	1,682,000	1,951,125
T O T A L	228	2,187,830	38	1,788,500	4,213,640	2,425,140	4,612,970
<u>1935.</u>							
January	18	144,900	3	13,512	24,012	10,500	155,400
February	28	565,751	3	6,250	15,000	8,750	574,501
March	25	336,300	4	24,000	39,000	15,000	351,300
April	21	547,955	3	112,060	188,085	76,025	623,980
May	56	246,505	6	52,000	147,000	95,000	341,505
June	36	481,750	10	359,300	749,850	390,550	872,300
July	43	357,700	8	162,000	278,300	116,300	474,000
August	28	212,668	7	140,500	258,500	118,000	330,668
September	4	10,500	6	371,000	1,272,000	901,000	911,500
October	19	89,083	3	3,100	14,000	10,900	99,983
November	12	28,710	1	75,000	145,000	70,000	98,710
December	16	95,600	5	112,400	215,200	102,800	198,400
T O T A L	306	3,117,422	59	1,431,122	3,345,947	1,914,825	5,032,247
<u>1936.</u>							
January	26	139,450	5	122,000	175,000	53,000	192,450
February	11	68,500	3	36,000	132,000	96,000	164,500
March	22	95,920	8	272,500	501,000	228,500	324,420
April	12	27,400	1	15,000	30,000	15,000	42,400
May	14	78,300	1	10,000	25,000	15,000	93,300
June	19	162,847	6	113,000	189,260	76,260	239,107
July	10	40,300	8	197,506	327,613	130,107	170,407
August	10	83,400	5	121,100	192,000	70,900	154,300
September	4	15,525	6	88,505	124,505	36,000	51,525
First nine Months 1936	128	711,642	43	475,611	1,696,378	320,767	1,432,409
First nine Months 1935	259	2,904,029	50	1,240,622	2,971,747	1,731,125	4,635,154

