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PREFATORY NOTE.

The present bulletin is the first 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, etc., appear here 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.

July 31, 1936.

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PART I.- STATISTICS OF POPULATION.

ESTIMATED POPULATION.

The estimated de facto population of Palestine, at 31st March 1936, including travellers in the country but not including the members of His Majesty's Forces or the nomadic population, was 1,263,136. The population shows an increase of 21,575 over the population at 31st December 1935, and an increase of 84,695 over the population at 31st March 1935, according to Table 1. The nomadic population at the date of the census of 1931 numbered 66,553, and about three-quarters of the nomads were enumerated in the Beersheba sub-district. As there are no vital statistics for the rural areas of the Beersheba sub-district, and as returns of births and deaths occurring among other nomads are defective, it is thought best to exclude the nomads from the population on which birth and death rates are calculated.

The estimated population of 1,263,136, exclusive of nomads, is made up of 778,615 Moslems, 366,136 Jews, 107,242 Christians and 11,143 others (Table 1). The increase of 84,695 in the past four quarters was made up of 24,169 Moslems, 57,295 Jews, 2,935 Christians and 293 others. Excess of births over deaths accounted for 33,010 of the increase and excess of arrivals over departures for the remaining 51,685.

TABLE 1.- ESTIMATED POPULATION OF PALESTINE (EXCLUSIVE OF NOMADS WHO NUMBERED 66,553 AT THE CENSUS OF 1931, AND OF MEMBERS OF HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES).

DATE	TOTAL	MOSLEMS	JEWS	CHRISTIANS	OTHERS
31st Dec. 1934	1,144,001	747,824	282,970	102,414	10,793
31st Mar. 1935	1,178,441	754,446	308,838	104,307	10,850
30th June, 1935	1,194,529	759,904	320,358	103,371	10,896
30th Sept. 1935	1,215,963	763,353	337,445	104,205	10,960
31st Dec. 1935	1,241,561	770,135	355,152	105,243	11,031
31st Mar. 1936	1,263,136	778,615	366,136	107,242	11,143

BIRTHS AND DEATHS RECORDED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1936.

BIRTHS.

Total recorded births in Palestine for the three months ended 31st March 1936 numbered 16,327, an increase of 1,358 on the preceding quarter, and of 1,219 on the first quarter of 1935. Of these births, approximately 75 per cent. were among Moslems, nearly 18 per cent. among Jews, and about 6 per cent. among Christians.

The past year shows a marked seasonal variation of births as between quarters. Births among all communities in the second and third quarters of 1935, numbering 12,314 and 11,550 respectively, were notably fewer than births in the first and fourth quarters, numbering 15,108 and 14,969 respectively (Table 2).

The birth rate for the first quarter of 1936, calculated on the mean population for the quarter, was equivalent to an annual rate of 52.1 per thousand of population, compared with 48.7 in the previous quarter, and 52.0 in the first quarter of 1935. The birth rate was highest among Moslems, at 63.2, and lowest among Jews, at 31.9. In recent years Palestine has shown a birth rate consistently higher than any other country publishing vital statistics except Egypt, and on the average the Palestinian birth rate is higher than the Egyptian. Palestine may therefore claim that its birth rate is one of the highest, if not actually the highest, in the world (Table 3).

Of the 16,327 births for the quarter, 6,269 took place in the eighteen towns which are the Department of Health administration centres, and 10,058 in the remaining areas which are predominantly rural. 3,265 births of Moslems, or 26.4 per cent. of all Moslem births, took place in these towns, as compared with 2,228 births of Jews, or about 77 per cent. of all Jewish births. The place of occurrence, however, is not always the usual place of residence of the mother, particularly among the Jewish community.

TABLE 2.- BIRTHS, BY COMMUNITIES, IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1936, AND IN EACH OF THE FOUR PRECEDING QUARTERS.

	TOTAL	MOSLEMS	JEWS	CHRISTIANS	OTHERS
1935					
1st Quarter	15,108	11,577	2,384	1,025	122
2nd "	12,314	9,133	2,195	883	103
3rd "	11,550	8,066	2,557	815	112
4th "	14,969	11,143	2,731	965	130
1936					
1st Quarter	16,327	12,240	2,878	1,051	158

TABLE 3.- ANNUAL RATE OF BIRTHS. (Per Thousand of Population)

	TOTAL	MOSLEMS	JEWS	CHRISTIANS	OTHERS
1935					
1st Quarter	52.0	61.7	32.2	39.7	45.1
2nd "	41.5	48.2	27.9	34.0	37.9
3rd "	38.3	42.4	31.1	31.4	41.0
4th "	48.7	58.1	31.5	36.9	47.3
1936					
1st Quarter	52.1	63.2	31.9	39.6	57.0

DEATHS.

Total deaths recorded in the first quarter of 1936, as shown in Table 4, numbered 5,247, being 778 fewer than in the preceding quarter, and 98 fewer than in the first quarter of 1935 (Table 4). Of these deaths 710, or about 13½ per cent., were deaths of Jews, which were 130 more than in the first quarter of 1935, while all other communities showed reduction in this comparison. This decline in the number of deaths was experienced in most divisions. Even in Haifa, where the population has increased considerably, deaths were only 469 as compared with 505 in the first quarter of 1935. The only divisions to show significant increases in this comparison were Tel-Aviv, with an increase from 144 to 225, and Majdal, with an increase from 307 to 373.

The annual death rate for all communities in the first quarter of 1936, calculated on the mean population of the quarter, was 16.8 per thousand of population compared with 19.6 in the previous quarter, and 18.4 in the first quarter of 1935. The death rate among Moslems was 21.5, among Jews 7.9 and among Christians 13.8 (Table 5).

TABLE 4.- DEATHS, BY COMMUNITIES, IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1936, AND IN EACH OF THE FOUR PRECEDING QUARTERS.

	TOTAL	MOSLEMS	JEWS	CHRISTIANS	OTHERS
1935					
1st Quarter	5,345	4,361	580	339	65
2nd "	5,520	4,412	664	387	57
3rd "	5,358	4,204	750	356	48
4th "	6,025	4,845	754	367	59
1936					
1st Quarter	5,247	4,153	710	338	46

TABLE 5.- ANNUAL RATE OF DEATHS.
(Per Thousand of Population).

	TOTAL	MOSLEMS	JEWS	CHRISTIANS	OTHERS
1935					
1st Quarter	18.4	23.2	7.8	13.1	24.0
2nd "	18.6	23.3	8.4	14.9	21.0
3rd "	17.8	22.1	9.1	13.7	17.6
4th "	19.6	25.3	8.7	14.0	21.6
1936					
1st Quarter	16.8	21.5	7.9	13.8	25.6

M I G R A T I O N .

Immigration in the elapsed period of 1936 has been very much less than in the corresponding period of 1935. In the first six months of 1936 the aggregate number of immigrants arriving in Palestine was 15,952, as compared with 29,153 in the corresponding period of 1935, a reduction of 13,201 or more than 45 per cent. (Table 6)

The tourist trade was also much reduced in the latest period. The aggregate number of "temporary visitors arriving" in Palestine in the first six months of the current year was only 34,037 as compared with 56,270 in the same period of 1935, a reduction of 22,233 or nearly 40 per cent. Earnings of hotels, guides and shops catering to the tourist trade were naturally affected by the decline of tourist activity.

The excess of arrivals over departures, indicating the increase in the de facto population of Palestine through migration, was 8,887 in the first six months of 1936 as compared with 33,971 in the same period of 1935, or but little more than one quarter of that of last year. It is noteworthy that in May 1936 and June 1936 departures exceeded arrivals by 2,934 and 2,456 as compared with excesses of 1,009 and 3,470 arrivals over departures respectively in May and June, 1935.

Capitalist immigrants (those with LP.1000 and upwards) numbered 2,124 in the first half of 1936 as compared with 3,137 in the same period of 1935, a decline of nearly one third from last year (Table 7). Poland and Germany supplied the largest numbers of immigrants (Table 8.).

TABLE 6.- MIGRATION INTO AND FROM PALESTINE,
JANUARY - JUNE, 1935 AND 1936.

	1 9 3 5					
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
a) Arrivals:						
(i) Total immigrants arriving	3,996	5,296	6,881	4,364	4,152	4,464
(ii) Jewish immigrants arriving	(3,919)	(5,220)	(6,800)	(4,226)	(4,008)	(4,343)
(iii) Residents returning after absence of a period exceeding one year	95	133	165	184	156	151
(iv) Residents returning after absence of a period not exceeding one year	3,160	2,579	4,511	4,855	3,657	4,685
(v) Temporary visitors arriving	4,495	7,020	16,902	12,328	9,181	6,344
(vi) Transit travellers arriving	730	804	940	1,093	1,047	1,451
Total Arrivals	12,476	15,832	29,399	22,824	18,193	17,095
b) Departures:						
(i) Residents departing for a period exceeding one year	44	24	58	35	67	79
(ii) Residents departing for a period not exceeding one year	3,230	3,970	4,202	4,750	5,128	6,214
(iii) Temporary visitors departing	3,694	5,522	10,219	12,362	11,117	6,083
(iv) Transit travellers departing	622	597	848	862	872	1,249
Total Departures	7,590	10,113	15,327	18,009	17,184	13,625
Excess of Arrivals over Departures	4,886	5,719	14,072	4,815	1,009	3,470
" " " " Jewish	(4,336)	(6,702)	(13,026)	(3,194)	(3,147)	(3,648)
a) Arrivals:						
(i) Total immigrants arriving	2,316	2,440	3,892	3,353	2,363	1,588
(ii) Jewish immigrants arriving	(2,170)	(2,353)	(3,772)	(3,193)	(2,261)	(1,438)
(iii) Residents returning after absence of a period exceeding one year	93	74	104	114	109	83
(iv) Residents returning after absence of a period not exceeding one year	3,378	2,947	6,148	4,699	2,325	3,173
(v) Temporary visitors arriving	4,125	4,451	8,531	12,082	3,422	1,426
(vi) Transit travellers arriving	464	554	1,162	1,508	411	159
Total Arrivals	10,376	10,466	19,837	21,756	8,630	6,429
b) Departures:						
(i) Residents departing for a period exceeding one year	73	44	70	45	85	34
(ii) Residents departing for a period not exceeding one year	3,845	3,896	6,177	5,083	4,629	5,955
(iii) Temporary visitors departing	3,755	3,666	6,627	10,752	6,431	2,730
(iv) Transit travellers departing	460	545	1,026	1,472	419	166
Total Departures	8,133	8,151	13,900	17,352	11,564	8,885
Excess of Arrivals over Departures	2,243	2,315	5,937	4,404	(+) -2,934	-2,456
" " " " Jewish	(1,865)	(2,834)	(4,117)	(4,217)	(-495)	(-1,141)

(+) Excess of Departures over Arrivals is indicated by a minus sign (-).

TABLE 7.- PERSONS REGISTERED AS IMMIGRANTS, BY LEADING CATEGORIES, BY MONTHS, JANUARY TO JUNE, 1935 AND 1936.

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

Category	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
<u>1935.</u>						
A(i) Persons with LP.1000 and upwards	397	511	689	453	581	506
Dependants on persons in A(i)	345	447	707	384	449	431
A(iii) Skilled artisans with not less than LP.250	37	31	62	30	23	18
Dependants on persons in A(iii)	54	55	85	50	39	29
C Persons coming to employment	1,284	1,660	1,740	1,236	779	778
Dependants on persons in C	1,236	1,675	1,461	1,115	946	908
D Dependants of residents of Palestine	794	988	1,777	1,171	1,421	1,657
Other categories	205	287	675	297	364	503
T O T A L visitors, but	4,352	5,654	7,196	4,736	4,602	4,830
<u>1936.</u>						
A(i) Persons with LP.1000 and upwards	391	392	469	470	243	159
Dependants on persons in A(i)	407	419	470	410	248	132
A(iii) Skilled artisans with not less than LP.250	19	16	44	33	17	6
Dependants on persons in A(iii)	40	21	75	59	31	13
C Persons coming to employment	329	390	749	790	361	400
Dependants on persons in C	195	283	493	480	288	240
D Dependants of residents of Palestine	959	1,004	1,489	1,015	1,040	643
Other categories	314	231	406	267	311	193
T O T A L	2,654	2,756	4,195	3,524	2,539	1,786

TABLE 8.- PERSONS REGISTERED AS IMMIGRANTS, BY CHIEF COUNTRIES OF PREVIOUS RESIDENCE, BY MONTHS, JANUARY TO JUNE 1935 AND 1936.

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

Principal countries of Previous Residence	January	February	March	April	May	June
<u>1 9 3 5.</u>						
Poland	1,962	2,035	3,588	1,611	1,950	2,632
Germany	556	947	832	665	470	394
Roumania	174	351	275	328	504	492
Czechoslovakia	144	179	99	71	70	76
Lithuania	124	240	128	287	132	132
Latvia	27	178	102	97	75	65
France	89	62	62	129	85	130
Great Britain	66	49	49	44	67	42
Switzerland	11	7	12	23	19	-
Turkey	110	332	194	219	59	78
Yemen and Aden	237	1	424	181	14	16
U. S. America	42	197	349	62	183	138
Other Countries	810	1,076	1,082	1,019	974	635
T O T A L	4,352	5,654	7,196	4,736	4,602	4,830
<u>1 9 3 6.</u>						
Poland	822	868	1,739	1,261	876	759
Germany	856	698	1,100	1,109	625	326
Roumania	109	69	197	180	135	77
Czechoslovakia	41	39	54	54	87	43
Lithuania	35	94	124	79	65	55
Latvia	73	47	39	73	26	44
France	62	65	112	94	41	17
Great Britain	112	66	73	55	51	103
Switzerland	8	17	22	12	25	3
Turkey	34	41	41	39	35	24
Yemen and Aden	1	259	4	-	175	1
U. S. America	31	38	32	46	36	40
Other Countries	470	455	658	522	362	294
T O T A L	2,654	2,756	4,195	3,524	2,539	1,786

PART II.- THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION AS AT JUNE 30.

Review of the Citrus Season 1935-1936.- The citrus crops of 1935-1936 totalled 5,897,310 boxes, a figure which, owing to the hot drying winds of May 1935, was considerably less than had been expected. The crop included 4,997,302 boxes of oranges, 850,120 of grapefruit, 46,915 of lemons and 2,973 of other citrus, mainly tangerines.

Of the citrus fruits exported, the United Kingdom took 4,009,503 boxes or more than 80 per cent. of the total. The balance was sent in increased quantities as compared with the preceding season to the following countries, mainly in Northern Europe, the 1934-1935 figures being given in parentheses: Poland 273,205 boxes (163,086); Sweden 162,229 boxes (108,375); Denmark 96,029 boxes (64,863); Latvia 25,739 boxes (903); Czechoslovakia 77,872 boxes (62,069); Bulgaria 20,216 boxes (6,641). On the other hand reduced quantities were sent to Germany, at 222,644 boxes (509,494); France 114,170 boxes (170,586); Belgium 84,392 boxes (124,002); Roumania 137,662 boxes (170,027); Holland 344,679 boxes (367,895); Yugoslavia 19,121 boxes (27,134). There was also a considerable falling off of exports to Canada, owing to favourable terms being granted to competing citrus fruit from the United States.

Approximate average prices for Palestinian oranges and grapefruit in the markets of the United Kingdom in 1935-1936 were from about 9s. 9d. to 12s. 3d. for oranges and 10s. 6d. for grapefruit. In 1934-1935 the corresponding figures were 9s. 6d. and 11s. 6d. respectively for oranges and grapefruit, and in 1933-1934 11s. 0d. and 14s. 6d. respectively.

Additional facilities for the storage and shipment of citrus fruit were provided both at Jaffa and Haifa. Palestinian citrus fruit were advertised abroad out of the proceeds of a tax of 2 mils per box exported up to October 1 and thereafter of 3 mils per box exported.

The weather has been favourable for the development of oranges in young groves, crop prospects being better in young groves for oranges on sour orange stock than for oranges on sweet limes; older groves show normal crops. Grapefruit prospects are only fair in old and young groves. The High Commissioner has approved the recommendations of the General Fruit Council and the Citrus Fruit Committee that a minimum number of 120 oranges per box shall be introduced next season.

Meteorological Conditions.- The cool weather that prevailed in May continued during the first half of June; in the latter half of the month higher temperatures were recorded with drier atmospheric conditions. No rain fell during the month and dew-falls were light and scarce.

Agricultural Conditions as at June 30.- Southern District.- Harvesting of all winter crops has been concluded and threshing is nearly over. Winnowing and sieving of cereals and leguminous crops is general. No marked improvement in

the condition of summer crops owing to poor dew-fall and inadequate moisture. Cucurbitaceous crops in the Gaza-Majdal area are about average. Poor crops of sesame and durra are expected from most localities.

Northern District.- Harvesting of cereals has been completed and threshing of all winter crops is in progress, yields varying considerably. The crops of the Eastern or Ghor areas were a total 40 per cent of normal. Leguminous crops were generally below normal, owing to heat waves. Summer crops were mainly poor. The tobacco crop was generally poor.

Jerusalem District.- Harvesting of winter crops is nearly completed, and threshing is in progress. Yields in the western hills are somewhat higher than last year, but those of the eastern slopes are most disappointing. Summer crops are generally poor.

Vegetable Growing.- Abundant yields have been obtained, but the abnormal situation has prevented marketing, values being therefore very low in the villages, but high in the cities. Large quantities have been left unpicked, so that serious losses have been incurred among vegetable growers and merchants. The bulk of the melon crop remained in the fields at the date under review.

Grazing.- Grazing is not available in the plains and coastal area, and hill side grazing has become very scanty. Animals are being grazed on the stubble of harvested fields and on poor durra fields in the south. Yet the condition of live stock was generally satisfactory.

Markets.- Prices of agricultural commodities have changed but little in the country as a whole, but urban prices of dairy produce, poultry, eggs, etc., are higher and village prices lower. Considerable difficulty was experienced in marketing the apricot crop, which was the best for many years. Japanese plums are a good crop, while apples are fair. Prices of Jericho bananas are very low - 20 mils a rotl compared with 70 mils last season.

PART III.- TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION.

THE TRADE OF PALESTINE IN THE FIVE MONTHS ENDED MAY,
1935 AND 1936.

The imports of merchandise in the first five months of 1936 ended May, aggregated LP.5,739,942, as compared with LP.7,321,057 and LP.5,858,030 respectively in the corresponding periods of 1935 and 1934, thus showing a decrease of LP.1,581,115 or 21.6 per cent. from the 1935 period and a decrease of LP.118,088 or 2.0 per cent. from the corresponding 1934 period. Food, drink and tobacco imported in the first five months of 1936 had a total value of LP.1,316,465 as compared with LP.1,433,726 in the same period of 1935, a decrease of LP.117,261 or 8.2 per cent. Imports of raw materials and mainly unmanufactured articles in the 1936 period totalled LP.446,528 as compared with LP.536,614 in the corresponding 1935 period, a decrease of LP.90,086 or 16.8 per cent. Imports of wholly or mainly manufactured articles in the 1936 period totalled LP.3,053,445 as compared with LP.4,576,838 in the corresponding 1935 period, a decrease of LP.1,523,393 or 33.3 per cent. Unclassified imports, however, increased from LP.773,879 in the 1935 period to LP.923,504 in the 1936 period, an increase of LP.149,625 or 19.3 per cent.

Exports of merchandise of domestic produce in the first five months of 1936, ended May, were LP.2,210,389 as compared with LP.3,172,414 and LP.2,421,400 in the corresponding periods of 1935 and 1934 respectively, thus showing a decrease of LP.962,025 or 30.3 per cent. from the corresponding 1935 period and a decrease of LP.211,011 or 8.7 per cent. from the corresponding 1934 period. Exports of food, drink and tobacco in the 1936 period totalled LP.2,019,949 as compared with LP.3,012,309 in the 1935 period, a decrease of LP.992,360 or 32.9 per cent. chiefly due to the decrease in the exports of citrus fruits. Exports of raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured were LP.55,764 in the 1936 period as compared with LP.34,549 in the 1935 period, an increase of LP.21,215 or 61.4 per cent. Exports of wholly or mainly manufactured articles rose from LP.124,874 in the 1935 period to LP.133,797 in the 1936 period, an increase of LP.8,923 or 7.1 per cent. Unclassified exports of the 1936 period totalled LP.879 as compared with LP.682 in the 1935 period, an increase of LP.197.

Re-exports of commodities previously recorded as imported totalled LP.102,784 in the 1936 period as compared with LP.118,995 in the corresponding 1935 period, a decrease of LP.16,211 or 13.6 per cent.

Re-exports from bond (not previously recorded as imports) totalled LP.30,338 in the 1936 period as compared with LP.20,922 in the 1935 period, an increase of LP.9,416 or 45.0 per cent. The value of transit trade in the 1936 period amounted to LP.134,049 as compared with LP.163,943 in the 1935 period, a decrease of LP.29,894 or 18.2 per cent.

Table 9 shows the imports, domestic exports and re-exports of Palestine in each month from January to May 1935 and 1936, while in Table 10 will be found the aggregate trade for the two five-month periods, divided by classes.

TABLE 9.- IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE, EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE OF PALESTINIAN PRODUCE AND RE EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE IN EACH MONTH FROM JANUARY TO MAY, 1935 AND 1936.

	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
Total five Months	7,321,057	5,739,942	3,172,414	2,210,389	118,995	102,784

TABLE 10.- IMPORTS, EXPORTS, RE-EXPORTS, ETC., OF PALESTINE IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1935 AND 1936.

I T E M S	From 1st January to end of May	
	1935	1936
	LP.	LP.
IMPORTS.		
CLASS I - Food, Drink and Tobacco	1,433,726	1,316,465
CLASS II - Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured	536,614	446,528
CLASS III - Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	4,576,838	3,053,445
CLASS IV - Unclassified	773,879	923,504
TOTAL MERCHANDISE	7,321,057	5,739,942
CLASS V - Bullion and Specie	150,137	48,231

EXPORTS.		
CLASS I - Food, Drink and Tobacco	3,012,309	2,019,949
CLASS II - Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured	34,549	55,764
CLASS III - Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	124,874	133,797
CLASS IV - Unclassified	682	879
TOTAL MERCHANDISE	3,172,414	2,210,389
CLASS V - Bullion and Specie	505,177	109,127
RE-EXPORTS	118,995	102,784
RE-EXPORTS FROM BOND	20,922	30,338
TRANSIT TRADE	163,943	134,049

DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE BY LEADING COUNTRIES.

Tables 11 and 12 show the distribution by countries of the imports and exports of Palestine in the first five 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, Germany ranks second, while Roumania, the United States of America and Syria come next. Percentages of imports from Germany, Syria, Holland, Roumania and Switzerland increased in the 1936 period, as compared with the corresponding 1935 period, though the absolute values of imports from these countries decreased. The reduction of both imports from and exports to Italy in the 1936 period, is noteworthy. Imports from all countries except Switzerland showed absolute decreases.

The United Kingdom took nearly three-fifths of our exports, Holland coming second, Syria third and Germany fourth in the 1936 period, while in the 1935 period, Germany came second, Holland third and Syria fourth. Denmark, Poland, Sweden, Syria and the United States of America took greater absolute values of our lower total exports in the first five months of 1936 than in the corresponding period of 1935.

TABLE 11.- ORIGIN OF IMPORTS, FIRST FIVE MONTHS
1935 AND 1936.

COUNTRIES	First Five Months 1935		First Five Months 1936	
	Value LP.	Percentage	Value LP.	Percentage
TOTAL	7,321,057		5,739,942	
United Kingdom	1,283,262	17.5	1,120,914	19.5
British Possessions	283,716	3.9	258,569	4.5
Austria	165,148	2.3	94,251	1.6
Belgium	247,802	3.4	192,929	3.4
Bulgaria	113,878	1.6	21,484	0.4
Czechoslovakia	280,877	3.8	199,420	3.5
Denmark	42,919	0.6	34,470	0.6
France	141,316	1.9	115,400	2.0
Germany	914,541	12.5	883,164	15.4
Holland	107,588	1.5	102,807	1.8
Hungary	82,135	1.1	62,342	1.1
Italy	195,074	2.7	14,025	0.2
Poland	274,728	3.8	191,232	3.3
Roumania	516,182	7.0	419,336	7.3
Russia	103,344	1.4	61,224	1.1
Sweden	99,356	1.4	40,955	0.7
Switzerland	80,647	1.1	83,665	1.5
Yugoslavia	96,576	1.3	57,501	1.0
Egypt	257,344	3.5	186,095	3.2
Japan	290,193	4.0	163,829	2.9
Iraq	105,897	1.4	78,620	1.4
Syria	452,315	6.2	426,861	7.4
U.S.A.	684,962	9.4	376,660	6.6
Other countries	501,257	6.8	554,089	9.7

TABLE 12.- DESTINATION OF EXPORTS, FIRST FIVE MONTHS,
1935 AND 1936.

COUNTRIES	First Five Months 1935		First Five Months 1936	
	Value LP.	Percentage	Value LP.	Percentage
T O T A L	3,172,414	100.0	2,210,389	100.0
United Kingdom	2,080,099	65.6	1,279,125	57.9
British Possessions	39,842	1.3	28,903	1.3
Belgium	62,230	2.0	35,807	1.6
Denmark	31,938	1.0	38,130	1.7
France	65,443	2.1	32,466	1.5
Germany	242,741	7.7	99,713	4.5
Holland	157,611	5.0	141,554	6.4
Italy	5,532	0.2	964	0.04
Norway	56,766	1.8	41,506	1.9
Poland	65,355	2.1	98,906	4.5
Roumania	72,359	2.3	52,943	2.4
Sweden	36,818	1.2	60,169	2.7
Egypt	32,454	1.0	26,820	1.2
Syria	109,541	3.5	110,003	5.0
U. S. America	4,784	0.1	6,957	0.3
Other Countries	108,901	3.4	156,423	7.1

S H I P P I N G.

The shipping trade of Palestine ports in the first four months of 1936 was naturally affected by the international situation (Table 13). The registered tonnage of the vessels entered at Haifa in the first four months of 1936 was 1,581,284 tons as compared with 1,903,579 tons in the same period of 1935, a decline of about 17 per cent; the tonnage of cargo discharged was 222,626 as compared with 256,654 in 1935, or a decline of over 13 per cent. Similarly, the registered tonnage of the vessels cleared at Haifa in the first four months of 1936 was 1,568,769 as against 1,936,963 in the same period of 1935, a decline of 368,194 tons or 19 per cent; the cargo loaded totalled 63,491 tons in the first four months of 1936 as compared with 111,199 tons in the same period of 1935, a decline of about 43 per cent.

Ships entered at Jaffa in the first four months of 1936 had a total tonnage of 696,291 tons as compared with 756,679 tons in the same period of 1935, a decrease of 60,388 tons or about 8 per cent, while the cargo discharged aggregated 101,057 tons as compared with 80,929, an increase of 20,128 tons or nearly 25 per cent. Vessels cleared at Jaffa in the first four months of 1936 had a registered tonnage of 703,796 tons comparable with a tonnage of 763,508 in the same period of 1935, a decrease of 59,712 tons or nearly 8 per cent; cargo loaded was 78,223 tons as compared with 118,719 tons in the same period of 1935, a reduction of 40,496 tons or 34 per cent.

Generally speaking, decline in cargo discharged appears to be related to the decline in immigration, while decline in cargo loaded is not unconnected with the shortage in the citrus crop. In April, Jaffa shipping was greatly affected by the strike.

TABLE 13.- SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED, AND CARGO LOADED AND UNLOADED, AT HAIFA AND JAFFA, FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1935 AND 1936.

	1 9 3 5			
	January	February	March	April
Haifa Port:				
a) No. of vessels entered	192	158	196	174
Tonnage of vessels entered	374,222	492,088	646,547	390,722
Tons of cargo discharged	83,596	61,033	60,619	51,406
No. of vessels cleared	184	167	205	175
Tonnage of vessels cleared	380,233	496,537	663,713	396,480
Tons of cargo loaded	32,217	36,789	31,878	5,822
Jaffa Port:				
b) No. of vessels entered	106	89	130	150
Tonnage of vessels entered	173,511	157,511	224,739	201,057
Tons of cargo discharged	21,491	13,804	20,400	25,234
No. of vessels cleared	112	75	137	142
Tonnage of vessels cleared	178,909	139,803	239,725	205,070
Tons of cargo loaded	36,213	27,076	42,088	13,342
Haira Port:				
a) No. of vessels entered	186	152	176	172
Tonnage of vessels entered	406,149	334,828	442,698	397,609
Tons of cargo discharged	60,547	54,235	47,624	60,220
No. of vessels cleared	184	152	182	160
Tonnage of vessels cleared	400,412	335,528	452,655	380,374
Tons of cargo loaded	22,773	21,784	17,680	1,254
Jaffa Port:				
b) No. of vessels entered	127	102	132	109
Tonnage of vessels entered	214,511	157,993	206,035	117,752
Tons of cargo discharged	34,531	24,593	27,563	14,365
No. of vessels cleared	125	106	130	104
Tonnage of vessels cleared	210,670	163,467	211,211	118,448
Tons of cargo loaded	28,672	30,873	16,127	2,551

RAILWAY OPERATIONS.

The business of the Palestine Railways in the first five months of 1936, as will be seen in Table 14, 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 five month period was LP.339,808 as compared with LP.398,864 in the same period of 1935 - a drop of LP.59,056 or 14.8 per cent. Working expenses were 2.6 per cent higher at LP.265,353 as compared with LP.258,566. Passengers carried, exclusive of those with season tickets, were nearly 3 per cent. more in the first five months of the present year at 1,105,494 as compared with 1,074,410, but passenger revenue was nearly 10 per cent. lower at LP.142,329 as compared with LP.158,045. Goods revenue was also nearly 19 per cent. lower at LP.169,061 as compared with LP.208,624, while tonnage of goods carried was only 374,180 as compared with 501,077 - a decline of 25.3 per cent. The tonnage of the more important commodities carried in the first five months of 1936 is given by months in Table 15.

TABLE 14.- SUMMARY STATISTICS OF RAILWAY OPERATION, (ALL LINES), FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 1935 AND 1936.

		1 9 3 5				
		January	February	March	April	May
Total Gross Revenue	LP.	78,353	74,063	107,648	75,804	62,996
Working Expenses	LP.	50,115	54,435	69,164	42,676	42,176
Passenger Revenue	LP.	25,911	28,210	37,419	40,408	26,097
Goods Revenue	LP.	48,962	42,308	52,299	31,996	33,059
No. Passengers (exc. Season tickets)	No.	193,923	164,843	247,329	268,478	199,837
Tonnage of Goods Carried	Tons	122,052	103,953	121,811	78,537	74,724
Heads of live Stock	No.	15,209	5,610	6,747	1,979	2,599
No. of Vehicles	No.	11	19	13	5	29
		1 9 3 6				
Total Gross Revenue	LP.	65,606	62,239	81,593	63,952	66,418
Working Expenses	LP.	42,701	54,665	69,904	51,656	46,427
Passenger Revenue	LP.	22,393	23,071	32,363	35,605	28,897
Goods Revenue	LP.	39,355	34,875	34,482	25,293	35,056
No. Passengers (exc. Season tickets)	No.	180,185	191,162	239,505	262,778	231,864
Tonnage of Goods Carried	Tons	92,634	84,907	76,866	54,205	65,568
Heads of Live Stock	No.	4,617	4,513	2,446	3,542	2,825
No. of Vehicles	No.	10	8	4	27	36

TABLE 15.- TONNAGE OF LEADING COMMODITIES TRANSPORTED BY
PALESTINE RAILWAYS AND OPERATED LINES IN
EACH MONTH FROM JANUARY TO MAY, 1936.

Name of Commodity	1 9 3 6				
	January	February	March	April	May
Barley	1,567	2,253	885	320	1,612
Wheat	1,788	2,010	1,566	557	2,562
Maize	313	1,421	245	337	510
Other Cereals	762	608	195	185	569
Tibben	888	610	603	618	1,392
Oil Cakes	711	393	464	428	360
Flour	1,178	1,086	1,362	1,417	4,358
Rice	499	507	997	218	1,152
Sugar	734	946	998	1,127	1,625
Other Groceries and Provisions	2,676	3,466	3,598	4,492	7,710
Sand	1,274	1,627	1,035	1,363	1,305
Stone	4,697	1,964	3,281	2,493	3,541
Lime	1,918	853	327	843	1,208
Cement	16,181	14,661	15,773	9,948	8,706
Asphalt	627	294	440	511	1,764
Other Building Materials	9,395	5,463	7,341	5,176	3,691
Wooden planks for Boxes	3,178	546	559	64	-
Manure	977	1,426	1,189	905	626
Oranges	20,986	17,898	14,619	162	32
Grapefruit	2,131	1,742	348	33	-
Lemons	77	-	-	-	-
Melons	-	-	-	-	7
Grapes	-	-	-	-	-
Kerosene and Fuel Oils	9,051	8,542	7,484	8,663	7,405
Coal	891	6,546	3,117	4,248	1,712
Petrol	1,216	1,052	1,026	1,378	1,578
Fire Wood	234	238	311	230	109
Soap	47	76	188	130	40
Salt	632	862	1,684	597	609
Potash	1,833	1,348	1,391	783	369
Bromine	58	111	102	36	105
Chlorine	15	35	9	-	-
Caustic Soda	262	-	46	16	93
Nitrate of Soda	10	44	-	-	-
Magnesium	17	-	28	129	152
Sulphur	29	60	68	21	93
Mineral Water	78	80	132	173	134
Empties	465	400	421	421	490
Machinery	150	217	334	172	347
Miscellaneous	5,089	2,522	4,700	6,011	9,602
TOTAL TONNAGE 1936	92,634	84,907	76,866	54,205	65,568
Total tonnage for corresponding months in 1935	122,052	103,953	121,811	78,537	74,724
Heads of live stock, 1936	4,617	4,513	2,446	3,542	2,825
Heads of live stock, 1935	15,209	5,610	6,747	1,979	2,599
Number of vehicles, 1936	10	8	4	27	36
Number of vehicles, 1935	11	19	13	5	7

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, and it is therefore encouraging to note that the aggregate cash revenue of the Department was LP 418,896 in the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1936, as compared with LP 355,817 in its predecessor - an increase of LP 63,079 or 17.7 per cent. While the increase was due in part to the increase of telephones and of broadcast licences, the relatively stable and continuous item of cash revenue arising from the daily sale of stamps to the general public was LP 205,576 as compared with LP 170,992, or over 20 per cent. of an increase.

In the first five months of the calendar year 1936 the total cash revenue of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs was LP 195,849 as compared with LP 174,893 in the same period of 1935, an increase of practically 12 per cent., while sales of stamps to the general public aggregated LP 88,959 as compared with LP 81,389 an increase of LP 7,570 or 9.3 per cent. The details are shown in Table 16, 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 16. - CASH REVENUES OF DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS, FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 1935 AND 1936.

	1 9 3 5				
	January	February	March	April	May
	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.
Sale of Stamps	15,832	15,118	17,167	16,139	17,133
Telegraphs	2,282	2,303	2,666	1,703	2,006
Telephones	11,904	17,595	5,668	11,336	21,509
Broadcast Licence Fees	-	-	-	439	485
Other Sources	2,334	891	6,877	894	2,612
T O T A L	32,352	35,907	32,378	30,511	43,745
	1 9 3 6				
	January	February	March	April	May
Sale of Stamps	17,895	16,471	19,802	17,433	17,358
Telegraphs	2,255	1,302	2,911	2,583	2,861
Telephones	16,297	20,903	3,087	10,068	28,476
Broadcast Licence Fees	919	763	801	891	841
Other Sources	1,819	1,697	3,437	4,043	935
T O T A L	39,186	41,136	30,038	35,018	50,471

PART IV.- STATISTICS OF PRICES.

WHOLESALE PRICES IN PALESTINE.

The present index number of wholesale prices in Palestine is described and the latest figures of wholesale prices given in monthly bulletins issued on Wholesale Prices, available gratis on application to the Government Statistician.

Weekly quotations of wholesale prices are normally collected each Thursday in the markets of each of the four towns of Jerusalem, Haifa, Jaffa and Gaza for each of the commodities included in the index number. The monthly averages of these weekly quotations are shown for the first six months of 1936 in Table 18, but Jaffa and Gaza quotations could not be obtained in May and June. Price quotations for Jerusalem are obtained by this Office with the cooperation of the Municipality from a number of reliable merchants who regularly submit weekly quotations to the Officer in charge, and for Haifa through the courtesy of the Department of Customs, Excise and Trade.

A study of the most recent figures indicates a moderate rise in wholesale prices in June, 1936, when the index number was 2.2 per cent. higher than in the same month of 1935. This rise is due to higher prices for the commodities included in Category I, "Grain and Meat".

TABLE 17.

AVERAGE OF ACTUAL WHOLESALE PRICES IN PALESTINE
FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS 1936.

Commodities	Unit	1 9 3 6					
		January	February	March	April	May+	June+
		LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.	LP.
CATEGORY I.- GRAIN & MEAT							
Bread (local)	100 kgs	1.380	1.360	1.360	1.310	1.440	1.535
Bread (white)	" "	1.780	1.790	1.790	1.790	1.740	1.775
Wheat	" "	0.800	0.880	0.890	0.920	0.960	0.917
Flour (white)	" "	1.450	1.494	1.530	1.510	1.550	1.595
Barley	" "	0.450	0.550	0.520	0.520	0.600	0.495
Millet	" "	0.470	0.580	0.630	0.690	0.810	0.680
Kersenneh	" "	0.620	0.620	0.650	0.630	0.650	0.760
Tibben	" "	0.210	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.190	-
Rice (Rashidi)	" "	1.330	1.300	1.280	1.300	1.440	1.290
Beef	" "	6.240	6.340	6.270	6.490	7.200	7.620
Mutton	" "	7.610	7.570	7.570	7.040	7.560	7.450
Eggs	Per 100	0.330	0.290	0.250	0.220	0.250	0.290
CATEGORY II.- OTHER FOOD & FRUITS.							
Milk	litre	0.018	0.018	0.019	0.016	0.016	0.016 ^x
Butter (local)	100 kgs	12.500	13.340	12.670	12.450	13.340	21.750 ^x
Cheese	" "	6.760	5.530	5.420	5.460	5.890	5.555 ^x
Potatoes	" "	0.810	0.820	0.840	0.860	1.010	0.925
Beans	" "	0.980	1.010	0.990	0.980	1.115	1.265
Sesame seed	" "	1.890	1.950	1.860	1.870	2.000	2.005
Lentils	" "	1.310	1.370	1.410	1.460	1.620	1.595
Tomatoes	" "	1.140	0.850	0.680	0.370	1.155	1.085
Onions	" "	0.490	0.500	0.600	0.645	0.790	0.687
Dates	" "	1.130	1.195	1.160	1.112	1.440	1.845
Olives	" "	2.140	2.100	2.180	2.260	2.210	3.120
Grapes	" "	-	-	-	-	-	1.435
Raisins	" "	1.890	1.890	1.890	1.940	2.870	2.780
Almonds	" "	5.610	5.730	5.450	5.280	6.090	5.850
Coffee beans	" "	4.990	4.870	4.920	4.910	5.720	5.475
Wine (red)	100 litres	3.410	3.720	3.710	3.710	3.900	3.000
Sugar (granulated)	100 kgs	1.270	1.280	1.270	1.390	1.410	1.240
Salt	" "	0.540	0.535	0.535	0.535	0.590	0.540
Oranges	Per 100	0.110	0.130	0.150	0.170	-	-
Water melons	100 kgs	-	-	-	-	-	0.440
CATEGORY III.- FUEL & MISCELLANEOUS.							
Fuel Wood	ton	2.030	2.145	2.145	2.120	2.100	2.500
Charcoal	100 kgs	0.760	0.700	0.670	0.680	0.735	0.855
Coal	metric ton	2.430	2.430	2.430	2.430	2.350	2.425
Kerosene in bulk	" "	9.120	8.985	8.900	8.860	9.010	9.520
Benzine "	" "	24.280	24.160	23.780	21.330	24.010	26.752
Denatured alcohol	100 kgs	6.280	6.320	6.290	6.290	6.710	6.450
Sesame oil	" "	4.830	4.710	4.830	4.760	4.660	-
Olive oil	" "	4.940	4.965	4.815	4.790	5.220	-
Soap (lauhdry)	" "	2.390	2.410	2.445	2.370	2.570	2.960
Matches	per gross boxes	0.240	0.241	0.241	2.241	0.241	0.235

(+) Prices for May and June represent the average for Jerusalem and Haifa only.

(x) Prices for Tnuvah products are quoted for Jerusalem.

Jaffa and Gaza prices not being received, owing to disturbed conditions in these communities.

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 18 and 19. 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 July, 1936, totalled 5168 mils, giving an index number of 59.1 for this latest month (Table 19). In January, February, March, April, May and June the corresponding expenditures were 4735, 4661, 4678, 4624, 4745 and 4934 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 and 56.4 in June, 1936, respectively. Thus the index number for July has risen by 5.0 points since January, 1936, and by 4.9 points and 2.7 points since May and June, 1936, respectively.

RETAIL PRICES OF PARTICULAR COMMODITIES.

The average retail prices of wheat, bread, flour, beef, native butter, charcoal, olive oil and soap Nabulsi in Palestine have shown advances over June. On the other hand, rice Rashidi, granulated sugar, eggs, raw coffee, potatoes, and onions recorded a fall in the latest month. The prices of mutton, fish, milk, cheese and kerosene show no change (Table 19).

TABLE 18.

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, JULY 1936
(Jan. 1922 = 100).

Commodity	Unit	Quantity (1)	Arithmetical Average Price (2)	Monthly Expenditure (1) x (2) Mils
Wheat	Rotl	5.25	31	162.75
Bread	"	10.85	51	553.35
Flour	"	10.15	44	446.60
Mutton	Okia	21.35	19	405.65
Beef	"	17.08	27	461.16
Fish	"	12.81	25	320.25
Milk	"	38.43	5	192.15
Butter, native	"	8.54	36	307.44
Cheese, "	"	8.54	20	170.80
Kerosene	Tin	4 gallons	180	180.00
Charcoal	Rotl	9.45	46	434.70
Rice, Rashidi	"	4.55	45	204.75
Olive oil, edible	"	1.40	179	250.60
Sugar, granulated	"	3.85	42	161.70
Eggs	Ten	33 eggs	28	92.40
Soap, Nabulsi	Rotl	1.05	155	162.75
Coffee, raw	Okia	4.27	18	76.86
Potatoes	Rotl	2.80	34	95.20
Onions	"	1.40	28	39.20
Tobacco	-	-	450	450.00
T O T A L				5168.31

Index Number of Cost of Living, July 1936.- The expenditure of an average Palestinian urban family consisting of 5.22 persons with a consumption equivalent to that of 4.24 adult males on the twenty essential commodities is shown above to have been 5168 mils, as compared with the equivalent of 8749 mils in the base month of January 1922, giving an index number of 59.1 for July 1936 when January 1922 is taken as 100.

TABLE 19.

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MONTHLY EXPENDITURES OF AN AVERAGE PALESTINIAN
 URBAN FAMILY ON EACH OF TWENTY ESSENTIAL
 COMMODITIES, TOGETHER WITH RESULTING
 INDEX NUMBERS OF COST OF LIVING IN
 EACH OF THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS, 1936
 (Jan. 1922 = 100).

Commodity	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
	Mils						
Wheat	136.50	141.75	147.00	147.00	162.75	152.25	162.75
Bread	499.10	520.80	520.80	499.10	488.25	531.65	553.35
Flour	456.75	456.75	466.90	456.75	426.30	426.30	446.60
Mutton	469.70	427.00	427.00	405.65	427.00	405.65	405.65
Beef	290.36	290.36	324.52	307.44	307.44	392.84	461.16
Fish	307.44	307.44	307.44	307.44	307.44	320.25	320.25
Milk	192.15	192.15	192.15	192.15	192.15	192.15	192.15
Butter	298.90	298.90	281.82	281.82	298.90	298.90	307.44
Cheese	162.26	128.10	111.02	128.10	145.18	170.80	170.80
Kerosene	180.00	177.80	180.00	180.00	182.00	180.00	180.00
Charcoal	264.60	255.15	145.70	255.15	321.30	311.85	434.70
Rice	218.40	218.40	213.85	213.85	209.30	209.30	204.75
Olive oil	224.00	224.00	236.60	233.80	246.40	238.00	250.60
Sugar	161.70	161.70	157.85	157.85	161.70	173.25	161.70
Eggs	118.80	95.70	92.40	79.20	82.50	108.90	92.40
Soap	141.75	143.85	143.85	141.75	137.55	152.25	162.75
Coffee	68.32	68.32	68.32	68.32	68.32	81.13	76.86
Potatoes	70.00	78.40	81.20	86.80	92.40	98.00	95.20
Onions	23.80	25.20	29.40	32.20	37.80	40.60	39.20
Tobacco	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00
Total Monthly Expenditure	4734.53	4660.97	4677.82	4624.37	4744.68	4934.07	5168.31
Index Numbers	54.1	53.3	53.5	52.9	54.2	56.4	59.1

PART V. - FINANCIAL STATISTICS.

GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

The revenue of Palestine in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1936, though showing a declining tendency towards the end of the year, was still the largest on record, reaching a total of LP 5,770,457, of which LP 2,751,246 came from import and export duties, and LP 358,078 from customs excise duties.

The aggregate of the ordinary expenditure during the year was LP 3,316,220 and of the extraordinary expenditure LP 795,822. Since the excess of railway expenditure over railway revenue, amounting to LP 124,159, is included as expenditure, the total expenditure reached the figure of LP 4,236,202. Total revenue, therefore, exceeded total expenditure by LP 1,534,255. (See Table 20).

TABLE 20. - REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PALESTINE, FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1936.

<u>REVENUE</u>	
1. Customs	
(a) Import and Export Duties	2,751,245.925
(b) Customs Excise Duties	358,078.225
(c) Liquor and Tobacco Licence Fees	14,673,000
(d) Port and Marine Services	<u>107,596.667</u>
	3,231,593.817
2. Other Sources	<u>2,538,862.909</u>
	LP 5,770,456.726
	=====
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
1. Ordinary Expenditure	3,316,220.080
2. Extraordinary Expenditure	795,822.123
3. Railway (excess of expenditure over revenue)	<u>124,159.372</u>
	LP 4,236,201.575
	=====

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 last as a result of the disturbed international situation, leading many people to withdraw their deposits from the banks. The aggregate amount of currency in circulation, therefore, reached a maximum recorded figure of L.P. 7,545,134 at the end of October last, subsequently declining as confidence was restored. The total currency in circulation has shown comparatively little variation in recent months, and the latest total of L.P. 6,206,135 at June 30th, which is about 12 per cent. higher than at the same date of 1935, shows an increase which is probably not out of harmony with the growth of population and business in the last twelve months. It may be compared with the increase of 9.3 per cent. reported in the sales of stamps to the public in the first five months of 1936 as compared with the same period of 1935.

Coin and notes in circulation at the end of each of the last eighteen months are shown in Table 21.

TABLE 21.- 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-						
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	5,524,734	6,066,134
August	575,556	5,259,579	5,835,135			
September	595,320	6,924,815	7,520,135			
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			

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:-

Year	Units sold in kWh.	Number of Consumers connected	Gross Revenue LP
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 22, for each month since January 1935. The grand total sold in the first four months of 1936 was 47 per cent. more than in the same period of 1935, the sales of electricity for irrigating purposes increasing by no less than 79 per cent.

TABLE 22. - ELECTRICITY SOLD TO CUSTOMERS BY THE PALESTINE ELECTRIC CORP. AND THE JERUSALEM ELECTRIC CORPORATION IN EACH MONTH FROM JANUARY 1935 BY AREAS AND PURPOSE FOR WHICH USED.

	Tel-Aviv area	Haifa area	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	2,528,700	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	1,707,647	1,417,671	84,031	317,119	3,526,368	1,999,394	116,346
March	1,896,547	1,602,945	170,843	383,043	4,053,478	2,041,964	554,476
April	3,075,340	2,144,512	189,776	340,136	5,719,764	2,385,620	1,854,849
First four months 1936	8,470,488	6,966,531	540,924	1,382,212	17,360,155	8,798,814	2,657,223
First four months 1935	6,486,331	4,064,763	231,935	1,019,589	11,812,618	5,974,063	1,488,291
Increase in 1936 in per cent.	31	71	133	36	47	47	79

CONSTRUCTION.

Construction is an industry that in each community is almost completely dependent upon the local demand, which often varies very greatly in neighbouring communities for various reasons concerned chiefly with the relative growth of population in those communities and the prosperity of that population. Again, the construction industry is one which inasmuch as it involves fixation of capital, expands most rapidly in good times when the business world takes an optimistic view of the future, and contracts in bad times when people feel pessimistic about the future. Thus in good times construction attracts considerable numbers of workers from other occupations, while in hard times the construction industry discharges large numbers of employees and has a high percentage of unemployed, all the higher because many of those employed in the industry in good times are in no sense skilled workers.

Construction is not only a great industry in itself, but provides a demand for the products of many other industries, such as the cement industry, the wood-working industry, the plumbing industry, the house-furnishing industries and many others. These industries, therefore, are active when construction is active and depressed when the volume of construction declines. The fluctuations in the volume of new construction are therefore of great importance to those engaged in supplying such commodities as wood for building, cement, steel for construction, plumbing equipment, paint, glass, hardware and furniture.

In Palestine, population is increasing most rapidly in the four main towns, Jerusalem, Haifa, Jaffa and Tel-Aviv, their combined population increasing from 135,000 in 1922 to 239,000 in 1931 and being now at least 400,000. This great increase in population has naturally brought about an active demand for new construction, especially in the most recent years. These four municipalities secure records either of the square metres of floor area of new buildings authorized or of the cubic metres of content of new buildings authorized, the latter figure being converted to the former by dividing by 3.5 metres, taken as the average height of rooms. The monthly average floor area of new buildings for which permits were issued by the four municipalities in the years from 1931 to 1934 is given at page 118 of the Report of the Mandatory Power for 1935 as follows :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Sq. metres</u>
1931	27,000
1932	27,000
1933	58,000
1934	76,000

The corresponding figures for 1935 and the available figures for the early months of 1936 are given in Table 23.

It will be observed that the floor area of new buildings authorized in the early months of 1936 is running rather behind the figure for the corresponding months of 1935.

TABLE 23. - BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN JERUSALEM, JAFFA, TEL-AVIV AND HAIFA (AREA IN SQUARE METRES).

	Jerusalem ⁺	Jaffa ⁺	Tel-Aviv	Haifa	Total
1 9 3 5					
January	7,650	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
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
1 9 3 6					
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		
May	10,758		19,015	21,038	
June	9,459		22,705	19,411	

⁺ 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.

STATE OF NEW YORK
 DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE

Name	Address	City	County	Assessed Value	Taxable Value
J. J.	17,800	17,800
...	10,000	10,000
...	20,000	20,000
...	10,000	10,000

Please pay for this bill to the Department of Taxation and Finance, Albany, New York, by check or money order payable to the order of the State Treasurer.