

One consequence of the expansion of the olive oil industry was the depreciation in the value of locally produced olive oil and soap which seriously reduced the income of many fallaheen depending on this branch of agriculture. The fall in prices of both items is demonstrated in the following table.

Table 5 *

Decline in Prices of Laundry Soap and Olive Oil Between 1920-35

Year	Laundry Soap (P.L. per 100 kgs.)	Olive Oil (P.L. per 100 kgs.)
1920	12.690	15.800
1925	5.560	6.410
1926	5.510	6.840
1927	5.260	6.910
1928	5.350	8.010
1929	4.910	7.800
1930	3.570	4.080
1931	3.180	3.850
1932	3.240	4.500
1934	3.470	-----
1935	3.410	-----

Source: Figures for 1920-26 are based on calculations from Statistical Abstract of Palestine, 1935-7, Table 76, p. 59 : Figures for 1927-35 are based on Statistical Abstract of Palestine, 1937-38, Table

(*) Figures presented here do not take into account inflation rates.

Had the latter been included income generated from oil products would have sharply been less.

The sharp decline in the prices of both laundry soap and olive oil, between 1920-30, estimated at about 400 percent (Table five) meant that the olive cultivator had to accept any price given to him if he wished to compete and sell his products. The inability to compete also caused a portion of the oil and soap producers to be pushed out of the market altogether. In 1927, olive oil soap exported from rural