

Palestine was estimated at 4,577 tons, valued at P.L.200,430. In 1937 the amount of soap exported dropped to 792 tons, valued at P.L.34, 983 only (Brown,1937:266). The following table shows the decline in the value of exported soap between 1929-37.

**Table 6**

**Value in P.L. of Soap Exported Between 1929-37**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Soap Exported (in P.L.)</b>
1929	214,135
1930	204,876
1931	117,393
1932	104,830
1933	57,531
1934	69,368
1935	77,897
1936	52,091
1937	74,259

Source: Economic Organization of Palestine, Himadeh (ed.), 1937, Table XVII p. 267.

It should be noted that not all soap shown in Table 6 is made of olive oil. By 1930, laundry soap made of other than olive oil had also begun to emerge and replace olive oil laundry soap. Olive oil laundry soap exported in 1937, as mentioned earlier, was estimated at 792 tons, and valued P.L. 34,983 only.

In addition to the gradual, though intensive, effects of the capitalist oil industry on the rural oil economy, some direct and immediately destructive results also ensued. These effects were unevenly distributed among the various classes within the rural areas.

For the rural bourgeoisie, competition meant a drop in profit and general loss of income. This was evident from the case of A. Nabulsi, the major soap manufacturer of Nablus. (23) However, the fact that the class represented by A.Nabulsi was not by nature antagonistic