

stated:

There is . . . no need for soap-manufacturers, who, apart from the farmer himself, are the principal consumers of olive oil, to import their requirements from abroad. In spite of the adequacy of the local supply, 2,500 tons of unrefined olive oil and 765 tons of olive oil were imported in 1929.⁶⁷

Between 1928 and 1940, more than 13,000 tons of olive oil was imported, while for the same period, more than 8,000 tons were exported.⁶⁸

Moreover, what further aggravated the position of Arab cultivators of olives were government ordinances that granted import tax exemptions for raw materials used in the manufacture of soap and other edible oils (other than olive oil), and starting in 1930, the loss of a substantial part of the Egyptian market for olive oil soap because of the imposition of high protective tariffs by Egypt.

Besides the tax-exempt imports of olive oil used in soap manufacture already mentioned, there was the 1928 exemption ordinance on acid oils used for the same purpose.⁶⁹ Between 1928 and 1939, more than 23,000 tons of acid oil was imported by European Jewish manufacturers of soap.⁷⁰ The growth in the manufacture of soap from acid oil presented serious competition to the more expensive soap made from pure olive oil both in the domestic and regional markets. By 1937, "Exports of laundry soap to Syria, the second and practically,

⁶⁷Johnson-Crosbie Report, 40.

⁶⁸*Abstract 1939*, 64-5, 70-1; *Abstract 1940*, 65, 71; *Abstract 1943*, 97, 99.

⁶⁹*Survey I*, 452.

⁷⁰*Abstract 1939*, 64-5; *Abstract 1940*, 65.