

37. From the nature of the recommendations, it will be observed that, in the opinion of the Committee, more than three parts of the problem is to deliver the grapes to the market in good condition, and at a reasonable cost of transport. The evidence shows that the general quality of the Palestinian grape entitles it to a place both on the London and on the Egyptian markets. The lack of success hitherto is due to the bad condition in which the grapes have arrived. The picking and the packing of the grape have been carefully dealt with by the Department of Agriculture, and it is for the cultivator or the exporter to profit by the instructions that have already been given and that will in future be given. The new ventilated truck and the new system of loading designed by the Railway authorities will help to solve the problem of transport within Palestine, provided that an adequate number of these trucks and careful supervision of the loading can be ensured. To reduce the present cost of transport, it is of vital importance that railway freight rates should be reduced. There remain the great difficulties of shipment, including the delays at the port of lading and the inadequacy of accommodation on board. The help of the Government is needed to secure from the various Shipping Companies facilities for the infant grape industry. In addition, a permanent body would be of great value to study the markets and to advise exporters not only of grapes, but also of all horticultural produce.

38. Appendices are attached showing :-

- A. The estimated areas in Palestine cultivated with table grapes in 1923/24 and 1926/27.
- B. The estimated yields for the corresponding years 1924 and 1927.
- C. Figures of imports and exports for the years 1926 and 1927 (the only figures available).
- D. The different varieties of grapes actually cultivated in Palestine.
- E. Varieties of grapes under experiment by different bodies (with an indication of the prospects).