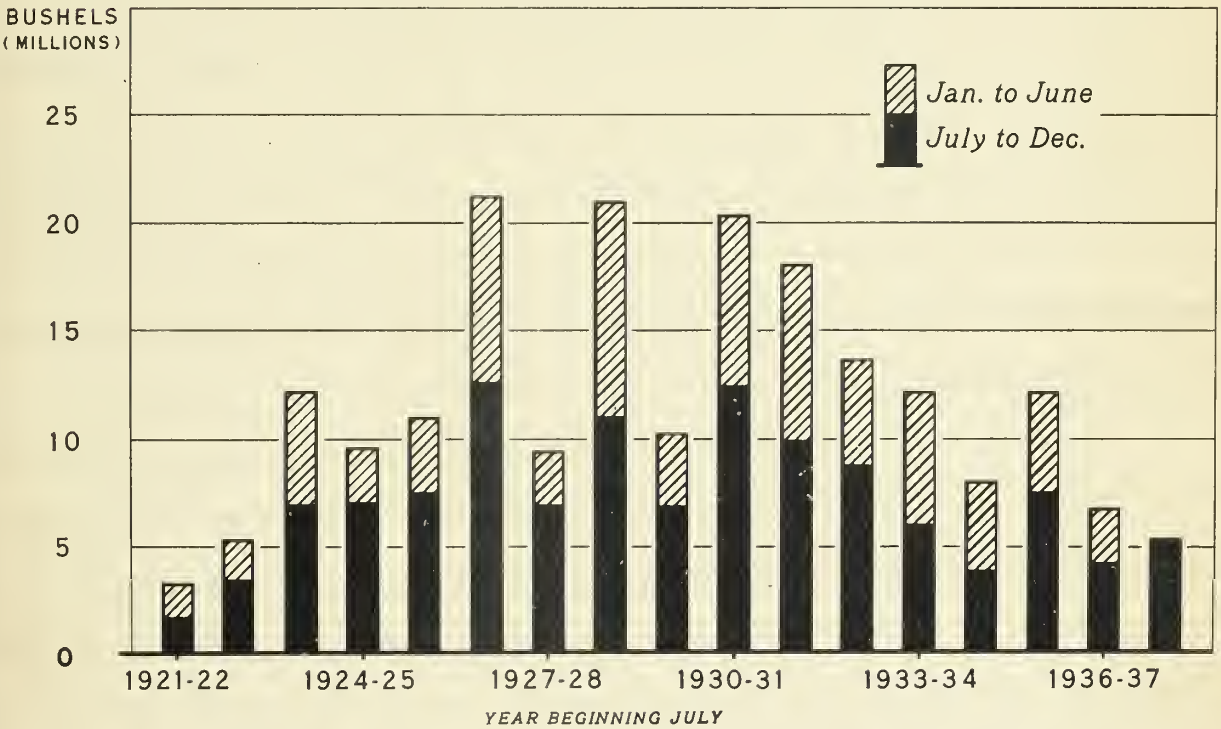
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON

TFS- 14 FEBRUARY 28 1938

THE FRUIT SITUATION

EXPORTS OF FRESH APPLES FROM THE UNITED STATES, 1921 TO DATE



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 34108 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Although exports of apples during the first half of the current season were one-fourth larger than a year earlier, they have been disappointingly small in view of the extremely large crop. Exports from July through December were no more than half as large as during the same periods in 1926-27 and 1931-32, which were years of comparable production. The unfavorable export situation is due largely to (1) competition in British markets with a very large Canadian crop; (2) almost complete loss of the German market because of strict exchange regulations; and (3) the unfavorable trading position of the United States with France as a result of the devaluation of the franc.

THE FRUIT SITUATION

Summary

Fruit prices in general have remained firm during the past month, with prices of oranges and grapefruit experiencing some improvement. Apple prices have been steady during the past few weeks at levels reached in mid-January, and the downward trends in apple prices appear to have leveled out.

A contributing factor to the weakness which developed in apple prices during the current season is the relatively small export demand. Only slightly more than 5 million bushels were exported from July through December, compared with about 10 million bushels in the same period of 1931-32, which also was a season of large supplies and low prices. Two factors largely account for the unfavorable export situation - competition in the British market with supplies from the large crop in Canada, and nearly a complete loss of the German market which in 1931-32 was our second most important foreign outlet for apples.

The remaining supply of oranges, excluding California Valencias, appears to be somewhat greater than the quantities marketed after the middle of February last year. The production of California Valencias, the chief source of supply during the summer and early fall, was indicated at slightly more than 25 million boxes, 50 percent larger than the small crop of last season and second only to the record crop of 1934-35.

After making allowance for estimates of the probable utilization of grapefruit by processing plants, the total remaining supply of grapefruit available for fresh market after mid-February appears to be from 15 to 20 percent smaller than the quantity marketed during the same period last year. The Florida crop on February 1 showed no change from a month earlier. The Texas crop continued to improve during January and the crop is now estimated at 9.7 million boxes, compared with the revised estimate of 9.6 million boxes last season.

Stocks of apples in cold storage on February 1, 1938, totaling 26 million bushels, were the largest on record, exceeding those of last year by 50 percent and the 1927-36 average by 27 percent. Apples moved out of cold storage during January at a slower-than-average rate.

ORANGES

Remaining supplies larger than year ago

Shipments of all oranges, including tangerines, during the season to date have been slightly heavier than a year earlier. But with a larger production of winter and spring varieties this year than last, in mid-February the remaining supplies of oranges, excluding California Valencias, appeared to be somewhat greater than the quantities marketed after the middle of February last year.

Until the first of January this year shipments of California and Arizona Navels were running slightly behind shipments during the same period of last season. Since then, however, the rate of movement has increased relative to that of a year earlier, and by mid-February the total movement of California and Arizona Navels for the season was about 7 percent greater than for the same period last year and 9 percent more than the average for the 3 years 1933-35.

Florida oranges have been moving to market in greater volume than a year earlier throughout most of the season to date. Total shipments of Florida oranges through mid-February were about 8 percent ahead of those for the same period last season, and about one-fifth greater than the 1933-35 average.

Production estimates - indicated record in Florida

The total production of all winter and spring varieties of oranges, excluding California Valencias, was indicated on February 1 at more than 42 million boxes, compared with 38 million in 1936-37 and the 1931-35 average of 33 million boxes. The indicated production of all oranges in Florida was slightly less than that reported a month earlier, as a result of a decrease in the tangerine estimate, but the crop is still estimated to be the largest on record. The estimate of the total California crop on February 1 was unchanged from that of a month earlier. Production of Navel and miscellaneous oranges was indicated to be a fifth larger than the freeze-damaged crop of 1936-37, and slightly above the 1931-35 average. The production of California Valencia oranges, the chief supply during summer and early fall, was indicated at slightly more than 25 million boxes, 50 percent larger than the small crop of last season and second in size to the record crop of 1934-35. The estimates for California were established before the occurrence of the storm and high winds during the second week of February, and consequently do not reflect possible damage which may have been caused by the storm.

Prices rise some, but much lower than year ago

The general level of orange prices at terminal markets experienced some rise during the past month. California Navels during the second week of February averaged 47 cents per box higher at New York and 32 cents per box higher at Chicago than a month earlier. In the same week Florida oranges averaged 3 cents per box higher at New York, and 20 cents per box higher at Chicago. During January last year prices of all oranges made a rapid recovery from the low December levels, largely because of the material reduction in the California crop from freeze damage in early January. After following last year's prices rather closely from the beginning of the season through December, prices continued to decline until mid-January. Prices of California Navels during January averaged about one-third and prices of Florida oranges one-fourth lower than in January last year.

Table 1.-Oranges and tangerines: Total shipments (rail, boat and truck) 1/ from producing areas by weeks, average 1933-35, annual 1936 and 1937

Week ended	Average 1933-34 to 1935-36		1936-37		1937-38	
	Weekly	Cumulative	Weekly	Cumulative	Weekly	Cumulative
	Cars	Total cars	Cars	Total cars	Cars	Total cars
Sept. 18	1,187	1,187	1,153	1,153	944	944
25	1,172	2,359	1,188	2,341	861	1,805
Oct. 2	1,156	3,515	1,142	3,483	846	2,651
9	1,147	4,662	1,193	4,676	852	3,503
16	1,216	5,878	1,302	5,978	1,221	4,724
23	1,455	7,333	1,422	7,400	1,201	5,925
30	1,568	8,901	1,320	8,720	1,309	7,234
Nov. 6	1,830	10,731	1,541	10,261	1,521	8,755
13	2,229	12,960	2,473	12,734	1,509	10,264
20	2,475	15,435	3,634	16,368	2,652	12,916
27	2,675	18,110	2,628	18,996	2,506	15,422
Dec. 4	3,333	21,443	3,806	22,802	3,512	18,934
11	3,592	25,035	4,339	27,141	4,451	23,385
18	3,113	28,148	3,917	31,058	4,042	27,427
25	1,816	29,964	1,768	32,826	2,096	29,523
Jan. 1	2,490	32,454	1,740	34,566	2,250	31,773
8	2,447	34,901	2,452	37,018	2,653	34,426
15	2,620	37,521	2,608	39,626	2,775	37,201
22	2,577	40,098	2,937	42,563	2,700	39,901
29	2,420	42,518	3,031	45,594	3,022	42,923
Feb. 5	2,394	44,912	2,943	48,537	2,841	45,764
12	2,590	47,502	2,487	51,024	3,632	49,396
19	2,506	50,008	2,559	53,583	3,252	52,648
26	2,788	52,796	2,408	55,991		
Mar. 5	2,677	55,473	2,649	58,640		
12	2,674	58,147	2,480	61,120		

1/ No truck shipments reported for Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi; total truck shipments from Texas, and interstate truck shipments from Florida, California and Arizona.

Table 2.- Citrus fruits: Production, average 1931-35, annual 1936 and 1937

Crop and States	Production 1/ Average 1931-35	1936	Indicated 1937
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
Oranges:			
Winter and spring varieties:			
Calif., Navels and miscel. ...	15,175	13,234	15,920
Fla. all ...	16,824	22,500	23,750
Five other States ...	1,087	2,611	2,604
Total ...	33,086	38,345	42,274
Summer and early fall varieties:			
Calif., Valencias ...	19,965	16,829	25,232
Total 7 States ...	53,051	55,174	67,506
Grapefruit:			
Fla., all ...	11,997	18,100	13,000
Seedless ...	2/ 3,633	6,000	5,000
Other ...	2/ 8,833	12,100	8,000
Texas ...	2,105	9,630	9,750
Calif. ...	1,786	1,550	1,890
Ariz. ...	981	1,400	2,300
Total 4 States ...	16,869	30,680	26,940
Lemons:			
Calif. ...	8,045	8,102	3/ 8,550
Limes:			
Florida ...	12	45	110

1/ Relates to crop of bloom of year shown; picking beginning November 1 in California and September 1 in other States.
2/ 1932-35 average.
3/ January 1 indicated production.

GRAPEFRUIT

Remaining supplies smaller than year ago

After making allowance for estimates of the probable utilization of grapefruit by processing plants, the total remaining supplies available for fresh market after mid-February appear to be from 15 to 20 percent smaller than the quantity marketed during the same period last year. Remaining supplies of Florida grapefruit for fresh market appear to be about one-third smaller, and Texas supplies about one-tenth smaller, but supplies in California and Arizona combined are about double those of last year.

Shipments of grapefruit from all areas combined for the season prior to January 1 were about the same as during the 1936-37 season. Since then, however, combined shipments have decreased relative to those of a year earlier, and the total for the season through February 12 was about 7 percent smaller than for the same period of last season. Shipments of grapefruit from Florida have been running somewhat behind those of 1936-37 throughout the season to date, and the cumulative total through February 12 was about one-fifth less than a year earlier. Shipments of Texas grapefruit throughout the current season have been heavier than last season, and the cumulative total through February 12 was about one-tenth larger than for the same period of 1936-37. Shipments from California and Arizona thus far have been about the same as those of last season.

Total crop smaller than last year but above average

The total grapefruit crop is now estimated at about 27 million boxes, compared with the record crop of 31 million boxes in 1936-37, and the 1931-35 average production of 17 million boxes. The Florida crop on February 1 showed no change from a month earlier, and prospective production remains at 13 million boxes, compared with last season's record crop of 18 million boxes.

The Texas grapefruit crop continued to improve during January, and has "sized-up" better than was anticipated earlier in the season. The crop is now estimated at 9.7 million boxes compared with the revised estimate of 9.6 million boxes last season. The grapefruit crops in California and Arizona as indicated on February 1 showed no change from the January 1 estimates.

Prices

Prices of Florida grapefruit have shown some improvement during the past month, and in the second week of February prices at New York averaged 15 cents per box higher than a month earlier. Prices of Texas grapefruit have fluctuated some during the past month, but prices at Chicago in mid-February were near those of a month earlier. Thus far in the current season prices of Florida grapefruit have remained somewhat above prices in 1936-37, the average at New York City for January being $2.21 per box compared with $2.08 in January 1937. Prices of Texas grapefruit, however, have been about the same as a year earlier. The January average at Chicago this year and last year was $1.91 per box.

The usual seasonal movement of grapefruit prices is generally upward from February or early March to the end of the season, and a rise in prices occurred during this period last season despite the record crop. The smaller remaining supplies of grapefruit this season is a particularly favorable price factor. Unfavorable factors are the relatively uncertain outlook for general business conditions and the unusually large supplies of other fruits.

Table 3.- Grapefruit: Total shipments (rail, boat, and truck) 1/ from producing areas, by weeks, average 1933-35, 1936, and 1937

Week ended	Average 1933-34 to 1935-36 Weekly	Average 1933-34 to 1935-36 Cumulative	1936-37 Weekly	1936-37 Cumulative	1937-38 Weekly	1937-38 Cumulative
	Cars	Total cars	Cars	Total cars	Cars	Total cars
Sept. 18	221	221	661	661	196	196
25	341	562	330	991	400	596
Oct. 2	431	993	508	1,499	485	1,081
9	458	1,451	609	2,108	499	1,580
16	543	1,994	529	2,637	681	2,261
23	650	2,644	1,006	3,643	1,305	3,566
30	738	3,382	1,062	4,705	1,369	4,935
Nov. 6	689	4,071	1,046	5,751	794	5,729
13	767	4,838	912	6,663	811	6,540
20	899	5,737	1,062	7,725	801	7,341
27	781	6,518	1,085	8,810	999	8,340
Dec. 4	925	7,443	1,012	9,822	1,300	9,640
11	933	8,376	1,061	10,883	1,142	10,782
18	700	9,076	942	11,825	1,077	11,859
25	433	9,509	633	12,458	727	12,586
Jan. 1	713	10,222	1,033	13,491	933	13,519
8	954	11,176	1,526	15,017	1,096	14,615
15	993	12,169	1,669	16,686	1,362	15,977
22	916	13,085	1,758	18,444	1,669	17,646
29	861	13,946	1,440	19,884	1,345	18,991
Feb. 5	878	14,824	1,402	21,286	1,101	20,092
12	846	15,670	1,771	23,057	1,272	21,364
19	953	16,623	1,652	24,709	1,294	22,658
26	1,002	17,625	1,435	26,144		
Mar. 5	920	18,545	1,415	27,559		
12	879	19,424	1,509	29,068		

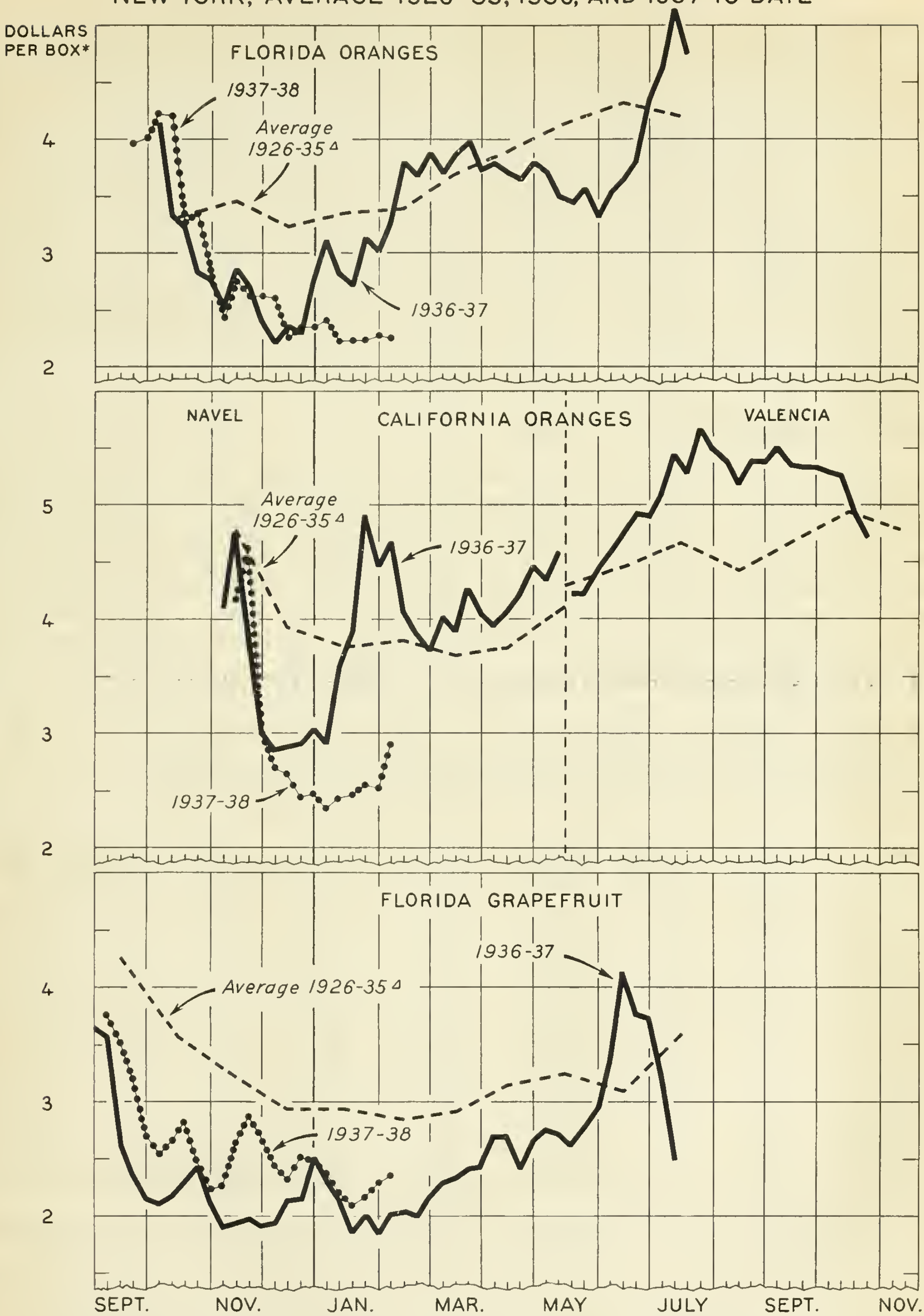
1/ Total truck shipments from Texas; interstate truck shipments only from Texas, California, and Arizona.

Table 4.- Citrus fruits: Weighted average auction prices per box, New York and Chicago, 1936-37 and 1937-38

Week ended 1/	Oranges				Grapefruit				Lemons	
	Calif. Navels		Fla.		Fla.		Texas		Calif.	
	1936-37	1937-38	1936-37	1937-38	1936-37	1937-38	1936-37	1937-38	1936-37	1937-38
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
New York City										
Dec. 4	3.01	3.00	2.40	2.62	1.91	2.69	2.30	2.64	3.69	7.43
11	2.86	2.69	2.22	2.60	1.94	2.44	2.37	2.17	3.69	5.76
18	2.89	2.64	2.35	2.25	2.14	2.32	2.23	1.98	3.87	5.44
25	2.91	2.44	2.50	2.35	2.15	2.52	2.17	2.12	3.95	5.47
Jan. 1	3.03	2.47	2.76	2.35	2.50	2.48	2.20	2.02	4.08	5.25
Mo. av.	2.93	2.66	2.38	2.43	2.10	2.49	2.26	2.15	3.85	5.82
Jan. 8	2.93	2.34	3.10	2.41	2.30	2.38	2.21	2.55	4.96	4.93
15	3.58	2.43	2.82	2.22	2.15	2.21	2.60	2.36	5.30	4.44
22	3.90	2.46	2.74	2.23	1.88	2.09	2.20	2.47	5.23	4.58
29	4.90	2.55	3.12	2.23	2.00	2.17	2.04	1.89	7.28	4.35
Mo. av.	3.60	2.44	2.94	2.27	2.08	2.21	2.19	2.18	5.57	4.52
Feb. 5	4.48	2.52	3.03	2.27	1.87	2.29	1.92	1.87	6.56	4.08
12	4.66	2.90	3.26	2.25	2.02	2.36	1.57	2.00	6.37	4.02
Chicago										
Dec. 4	2.93	2.38	2.59	2.57	2.08	2.12	1.93	2.21	4.05	7.49
11	2.90	2.72	2.41	2.62	1.57	1.96	1.81	2.09	3.95	5.87
18	2.94	2.72	2.22	2.37	1.85	1.81	1.90	2.00	4.02	5.42
25	2.93	2.65	2.47	2.17	--	--	2.28	2.07	4.38	5.12
Jan. 1	2.83	2.43	3.32	2.87	2.12	2.60	2.46	2.04	4.43	5.08
Mo. av.	2.91	2.65	2.45	2.45	1.80	1.96	2.07	2.06	4.14	5.54
Jan. 8	2.82	2.34	2.94	2.46	2.36	2.09	1.99	1.91	5.04	5.09
15	3.70	2.32	3.02	2.12	1.90	2.11	1.80	1.96	5.97	4.67
22	3.87	2.39	2.83	2.17	1.58	2.35	1.83	2.03	5.61	4.44
29	4.65	2.43	3.77	2.07	1.92	1.61	1.97	1.84	7.58	4.13
Mo. av.	3.76	2.37	3.07	2.20	1.96	2.04	1.91	1.91	5.96	4.56
Feb. 5	4.35	2.64	3.29	2.34	1.74	2/ 1.76	1.93	1.82	6.76	4.14
12	3.99		3.22		1.99		1.95		5.78	

1/ Based on 1937-38 calendar. 2/ Only 1 quotation.

ORANGES AND GRAPEFRUIT: WEIGHTED AUCTION PRICE AT NEW YORK, AVERAGE 1926-35, 1936, AND 1937 TO DATE



* FLORIDA ORANGES, 90 POUNDS NET PER BOX; CALIFORNIA ORANGES, 70 POUNDS; FLORIDA GRAPEFRUIT, 80 POUNDS
Δ ADJUSTED FOR CHANGES IN B.L.S. INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE FOOD PRICES (JUNE-DEC. 1936=100)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 32251 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

FIGURE 1

Remaining supplies largest on record

Stocks of apples in cold storage on February 1, totaling 26 million bushels, were the largest on record. They exceeded those of last year by 50 percent and the 1927-36 average by 27 percent. Cold storage stocks in the Western States were nearly one-fifth larger than those on February 1, 1937, but slightly below average. In the Eastern and Central States, however, February 1 cold storage holdings were the largest on record. The total movement of apples out of cold storage during January this year was at a relatively slow rate. Of the total cold storage stocks on hand on January 1, only 18 percent moved out during the month. This compares with a movement of 22 percent in January 1932, and 23 percent in January 1927 - 2 years of comparable apple crops - and with the 1927-36 average movement of 22 percent. The rate of movement of Western apples out of cold storage during January was slightly above average, but the rate of out-of-storage movement in other areas was much below average.

Prices steady near mid-January levels

Apple prices during the last few weeks have remained relatively steady at levels reached in mid-January. The downward trends which have occurred in western apple prices since mid-October and in eastern apple prices since late December appear to have leveled out. The general average of prices of all varieties of eastern apples at New York was $1 per bushel during the week ended February 12, compared with 99 cents for the third week of January. Auction prices of all western apples at New York for these same weeks averaged $1.53 and $1.49 per box, respectively.

Table 5.- Apples: February 1 cold storage holdings, 1927 to 1938

Year	Baskets and barrels 1/	Western boxes	Total
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
1927	11,671	10,435	21,706
1928	6,113	9,809	15,922
1929	8,238	12,388	20,626
1930	7,953	10,149	18,102
1931	6,971	15,347	22,318
1932	11,660	11,761	23,421
1933	9,985	10,124	20,109
1934	7,183	9,239	16,422
1935	8,455	12,329	20,784
1936	11,731	12,944	24,675
Av. 1927-36	8,996	11,452	20,448
1937	8,159	9,201	17,360
1938	15,118	10,938	26,076

1/ Includes eastern boxes or crates, barrels converted on basis of 1 barrel equivalent to 3 bushels.

Table 6.- Apples, eastern: L.c.l. price per bushel, Chicago and New York, by specified varieties and weeks, 1936-37 and 1937-38

Market and date	1936-37 Michigan McIntosh	1936-37 Michigan Greening	1936-37 Michigan Delicious	1936-37 All varieties	1937-38 Michigan McIntosh	1937-38 Michigan Greening	1937-38 Michigan Delicious	1937-38 All varieties
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Chicago								
Nov. 6	1.62	1.32	1.52	1.38	1.25	.92	1.01	1.06
13	1.64	1.25	1.64	1.47	1.36	.97	1.01	1.05
20	1.75	1.52	1.80	1.62	1.32	.90	1.06	1.08
27	1.75	1.42	1.79	1.62	1.24	.99	1.20	1.05
Dec. 4	1.87	1.53	1.78	1.74	1.32	1.00	1.21	1.10
11	1.75	1.44	1.66	1.61	1.38	1.18	1.27	1.15
18	1.74	1.42	1.62	1.57	1.38	1.12	1.28	1.22
25	1.68	1.32	1.68	1.50	1.38	1.18	1.28	1.25
Jan. 1	1.69	1.38	1.71	1.58	1.38	1.08	1.25	1.21
8	1.71	1.38	1.86	1.58	1.28	1.03	1.20	1.18
15	1.68	1.38	1.74	1.60	1.26	.92	1.20	1.08
22	1.75	1.44	1.90	1.64	1.08	.88	1.10	.95
29	1.66	1.36	1.88	1.60	1.10	.88	1.10	.99
Feb. 5	1.82	1.38	1.95	1.72	1.16	.90	1.12	.97
12	1.84	1.34	2.10	1.78	1.20	.92	1.12	1.00

Market and date	1936-37 New York McIntosh	1936-37 New York Greening	1936-37 New York Baldwin	1936-37 All varieties	1937-38 New York McIntosh	1937-38 New York Greening	1937-38 New York Baldwin	1937-38 All varieties
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
New York								
Nov. 6	1.98	1.36	1.12	1.65	1.37	.86	.75	1.11
13	2.00	1.36	1.12	1.53	1.29	.92	.74	1.15
20	2.00	1.35	1.23	1.48	1.42	.94	.82	1.12
27	2.00	1.38	1.32	1.44	1.40	.94	.72	1.09
Dec. 4	1.95	1.33	1.36	1.64	1.34	.92	.70	1.13
11	1.94	1.34	1.40	1.55	1.34	.92	.72	1.17
18	1.91	1.32	1.36	1.48	1.37	.90	.77	1.18
25	1.91	1.32	1.36	1.51	1.28	.88	.79	1.12
Jan. 1	1.86	1.36	1.38	1.58	1.26	.84	.82	1.07
8	1.88	1.30	1.38	1.60	1.30	.86	.81	1.08
15	1.88	1.33	1.42	1.71	1.24	.78	.81	1.05
22	1.90	1.27	1.38	1.65	1.23	.80	.83	.99
29	1.89	1.33	1.42	1.73	1.22	.85	.81	1.00
Feb. 5	1.88	1.38	1.45	1.65	1.24	.81	.78	.99
12	1.96	1.35	1.47	1.78	1.25	.78	.80	1.00

Table 7.- Apples, western: Weighted average auction price per box, all grades, at Chicago and New York, by specified varieties and weeks, 1936-37 and 1937-38

Market and week	1936-37 Washington Deli-cious	1936-37 Washington Jona-than	1936-37 Washington Rome Beauty	1936-37 All varie-ties	1937-38 Washington Deli-cious	1937-38 Washington Jona-than	1937-38 Washington Rome Beauty	1937-38 All varie-ties
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Chicago								
Nov. 6	1.96	1.68	1.73	1.75	1.65	1.18	1.32	1.42
13	2.04	1.79	1.69	1.87	1.53	1.23	1.14	1.33
20	2.25	1.79	1.72	1.93	1.61	1.21	1.21	1.31
27	2.22	1.75	1.69	1.90	1.70	1.07	1.11	1.33
Dec. 4	2.04	1.68	1.67	1.83	1.59	1.15	1.10	1.33
11	2.06	1.74	1.77	1.88	1.58	1.19	1.12	1.39
18	2.10	1.65	1.79	1.93	1.42	1.20	1.29	1.29
25	1.98	1.45	1.73	1.68	1.46	1.20	1.03	1.28
Jan. 1	2.29	1.91	1.78	2.03	1.56	1.13	1.27	1.30
8	2.30	1.88	1.72	2.01	1.47	1.11	1.26	1.28
15	2.36	1.86	1.64	1.94	1.37	1.06	1.08	1.22
22	2.31	1.89	1.66	2.02	1.27	1.18	1.08	1.21
29	2.40	2.11	1.69	2.17	1.35	1.14	1.05	1.21
Feb. 5	2.57	2.21	1.75	2.28	1.35	1.15	1.10	1.25
12	2.50	2.33	1.74	2.21	1.27	1.08	1.14	1.17
		Wine-sap				Wine-sap		
New York								
Nov. 6	2.15		1.85	2.01	1.93		1.56	1.74
13	2.15		1.84	2.01	1.80		1.52	1.70
20	2.30		1.90	2.16	1.78		1.56	1.70
27	2.30		1.96	2.16	1.89		1.57	1.79
Dec. 4	2.29		1.93	2.15	1.87		1.58	1.79
11	2.32		1.98	2.18	1.77	1.42	1.59	1.67
18	2.36	2.04	1.90	2.20	1.67	1.41	1.43	1.56
25	2.43	2.01	1.79	2.19	1.81	1.41	1.40	1.68
Jan. 1	2.48	2.05	1.95	2.27	1.84	1.48	1.44	1.73
8	2.48	2.11	1.97	2.25	1.74	1.55	1.59	1.70
15	2.44	2.13	1.95	2.25	1.54	1.44	1.48	1.51
22	2.44	2.14	1.96	2.30	1.52	1.40	1.43	1.49
29	2.55	2.22	2.07	2.34	1.55	1.41	1.37	1.50
Feb. 5	2.58	2.27	2.01	2.37	1.55	1.41	1.34	1.49
12	2.71	2.34	2.00	2.43	1.60	1.43	1.33	1.53

APPLE EXPORT SITUATION

A contributing factor to the weakness which developed in apple prices during the current season is the relatively small export demand. During the 1931-32 season, with a large crop and low prices in this country, about 10 million bushels of apples were exported during the 6 months from July through December, and the season total was 18 million bushels. During the period from July through December of the current season, the quantity of apples exported amounted to only a little more than 5 million bushels, and it is doubtful if the total for the season will be more than 10 million bushels. This decline in our export market has, of course, increased the quantity of apples available for domestic markets and has no doubt had an adverse influence upon domestic prices.

The comparatively unfavorable export situation this season is due to a number of factors. Important among them is the competition with Canadian apples in Great Britain, our most important foreign market for apples. The duty on imports into Great Britain of apples from the United States amounts to 1 cent per pound, whereas the duty on Canadian apples is only a fraction of this amount. The apple crop in Canada this year, like our own, was very large, and with the preferential duty, exports of Canadian apples to Great Britain have been comparatively large.

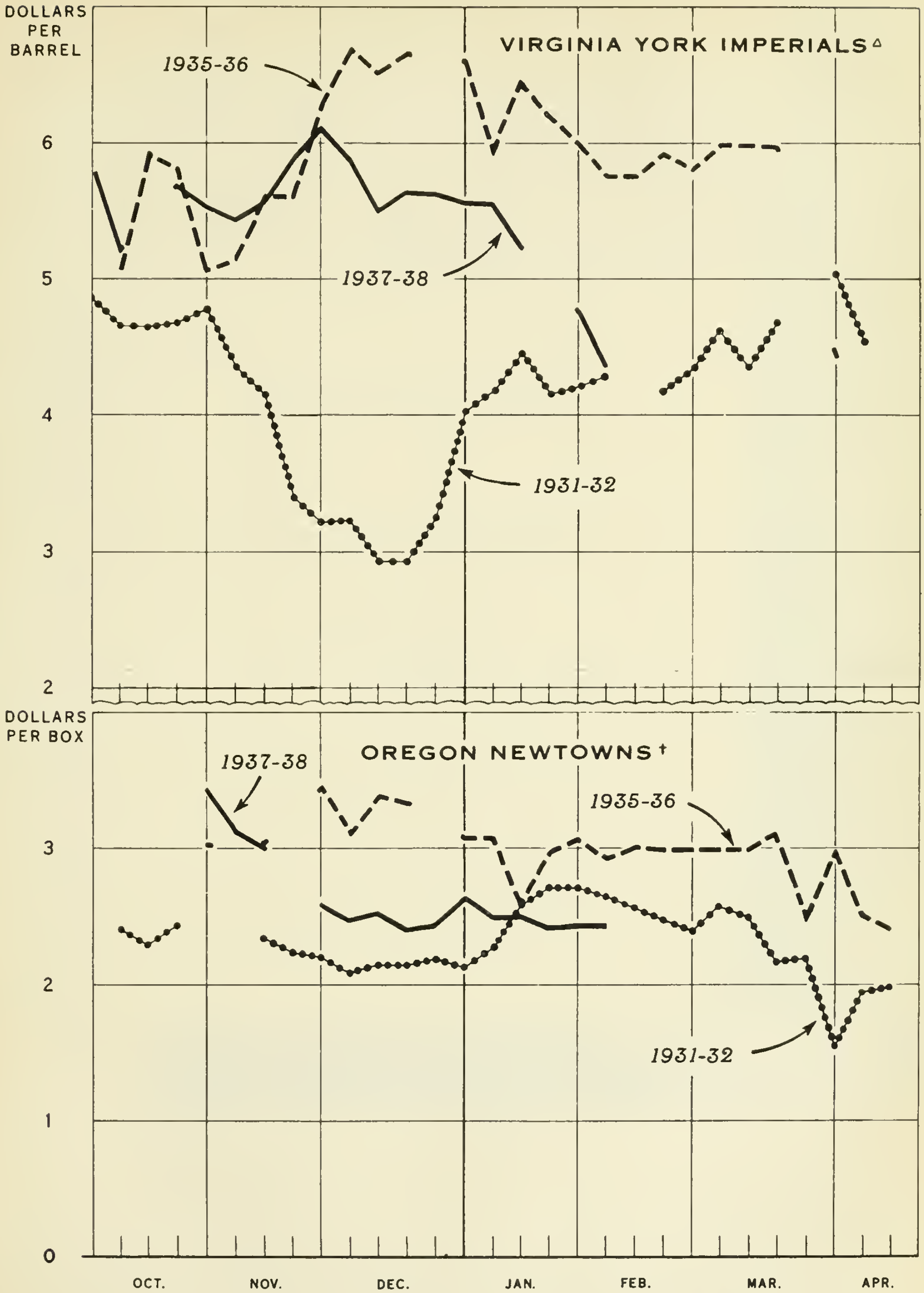
Another important factor is the almost complete loss of the German market, which in 1931-32 was our second most important foreign outlet for apples. The restrictions placed upon imports by the German Government have practically shut out our apples from German markets. Exports of apples to that country from July through December this season amounted to less than 3 percent of total exports of apples. Exports of our apples to France, formerly our third most important export market, have suffered by the devaluation of the franc, which has had the same effect as an increase in the duty. France has also established import quotas, on a physical basis, which place a definite limit upon the quantity of apples from the United States which might be marketed in that country, regardless of the exchange situation. Thus far, however, imports of American apples have been less than the quotas. Exports of our apples to other European countries are also hampered by high duties and trade restrictions.

Table 8.-
Apples: Exports from the United States, by countries, average 1926-27 to 1930-31 and 1931-32 to 1935-36, annual 1936-37 and July-December 1936 and 1937

Countries of destination	July-June Average 1926-27 to 1930-31	July-June Average 1931-32 to 1935-36	July-June 1936-37	July-December 1936	July-December 1937
	1,000 bbl.	1,000 bbl.	1,000 bbl.	1,000 bbl.	1,000 bbl.
In barrels:					
United Kingdom	1,587	947	249	172	397
Germany	216	122	6	1	1/
Netherlands	139	34	8	8	1
Belgium	146	181	79	59	51
France	41	95	11	9	18
Denmark	76	22	0	0	0
Other Europe	116	83	44	38	53
Total Europe	2,321	1,484	397	287	520
Other countries	228	53	49	40	53
Total	2,549	1,537	446	327	573
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
In boxes:					
United Kingdom	3,583	2,517	1,622	1,265	1,365
Germany	1,818	1,560	628	253	146
Netherlands	1,024	1,195	537	279	207
France	162	1,008	706	134	218
Other Europe	628	586	415	296	394
Total Europe	7,215	6,866	3,908	2,227	2,330
Canada	577	131	473	277	150
Argentina	255	95	41	41	62
Brazil	179	121	114	110	123
Philippine Islands	112	98	76	45	77
Palestine			132	97	100
Egypt			152	117	146
Cuba			55	30	39
Other countries	493	484	255	145	282
Total	8,831	7,795	5,206	3,089	3,309
	1,000 baskets	1,000 baskets	1,000 baskets	1,000 baskets	1,000 baskets
In baskets:					
Belgium		2/ 148	93	44	47
United Kingdom		2/ 238	66	42	178
Germany		2/ 34	1/	0	1
France		2/ 73	13	2	25
Canada		2/ 27	23	17	38
Other countries		2/ 30	15	14	19
Total		550	210	119	308
	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Grand total 3/	16,478	12,956	6,754	4,189	5,336

1/ Less than 500. 2/ Average 1932-36. 3/ 1 barrel assumed equivalent to 3 bushels.

APPLES: PRICES* AT LONDON, SPECIFIED VARIETIES, 1931, 1935, AND 1937



* AVERAGE OF WEDNESDAY QUOTATIONS △ GRADE, U. S. NO. 1; SIZE, 2 1/4 INCH MINIMUM
† GRADE, EXTRA FANCY; SIZE 163/216

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 34107 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

FIGURE 2