

October 18, 1938.

STOCKS OF EVAPORATED AND CONDENSED MILK IN HANDS
OF WHOLESALE GROCERS IN 38 CITIES

(Preliminary report)

Stocks of evaporated milk (case goods) in the hands of wholesale grocers on September 30, this year, appear to be only about one-half as great as the stocks a year earlier, judging by a preliminary tabulation of reports received to date by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Wholesale grocers' stocks of sweetened condensed milk (case goods), by a similar comparison, are indicated to be about one-fifth less on September 30 than the holdings on that date in 1937.

These preliminary indications are based upon the quarterly reports so far received from 257 firms. These firms reported their September 30 holdings of evaporated milk at 12,343,000 pounds and stocks of condensed milk at 327,000 pounds. For the same date in 1937, they reported holdings of 24,100,000 and 415,000 pounds, respectively. A total of 407 firms reported their stocks on September 30, 1937, as follows: 34,641,000 pounds of evaporated milk, 714,000 pounds of condensed milk. A year ago, therefore, the stocks held by the 257 firms represented about 70 percent of the total holdings of evaporated milk and 58 percent of the condensed milk reported by the 407 firms.

These same 257 firms reported their June 30, 1938, holdings to be 11,538,000 pounds of evaporated milk and 335,000 pounds of condensed. Total stocks of the 381 firms that submitted reports for June 30 were 15,798,000 pounds of evaporated and 496,000 pounds of condensed.

The usual final summary of quarterly wholesale grocers' stocks of evaporated and condensed milk, as of September 30, will be released in November.