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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 732.

NYASALAND.

REPORT FOR 1911-12.

(For Report for 1910-11, see No. 692.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1912.



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SKETCH MAP.

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THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Zomba,
Nyasaland Protectorate,
27th July, 1912.

SIR,•

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book of the Nyasaland Protectorate for the year 1911-12.

I have, &c.,

W. H. MANNING,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

I.—FINANCE.

1. The revenue of the Protectorate for the year 1911-12 (exclusive of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid and land sales) was £95,482, being £20,665 over the estimate. The corresponding figure for the preceding financial year, *i.e.*, excluding Imperial Grant-in-Aid, land sales, and the British South Africa Company's contribution of £8,000, was £86,430.

Sales of Crown lands produced £1,874, as against £550 in the preceding year.

Compared with the Estimates, there is a revenue increase under every head, with the exception of "Rents," which is short by £41, and "Interest," which is short by £34. The chief increases in revenue are:—Native hut taxes, £9,205; Customs, £5,695; port dues, &c., £2,508; miscellaneous receipts, £1,079, &c.

2. The total expenditure for the year was £118,070, which is £19 less than the Estimates and £5,701 more than was expended in 1910-11.

Compared with the Estimates, the chief increases are as follows:—

	£
Pensions	1,337
Medical	4,854
Miscellaneous	1,306
Public works extraordinary	1,479

but these are more than counterbalanced by savings on as many as thirteen heads of expenditure, the largest savings being:—

	£
Military	6,141
Deputy Governor	900
Post Office	761
District Administration	534
Customs	360
Marine Transport	294
Treasury	237

3. The following statement shows the revenue (inclusive of land sales and all other receipts except the Imperial Grant-in-Aid) and expenditure for the last five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1907-08	75,197	105,587
1908-09	80,534	103,032
1909-10	76,647	108,728
1910-11	94,980	112,369
1911-12	97,356	118,070

II.—TRADE.

4. The external trade of the Protectorate (import and export), not including goods in transit, amounted in value to £446,125, as

against £368,621 in the year 1910-11, being an increase of £77,504, equal to 21 per cent.

5. The value of goods imported for home consumption has increased by £47,838 (23·9 per cent.). Revenue yielding imports, excluding specie, goods imported by the Government, and railway material, account for an increase of £43,378 (23·2 per cent.). Under all headings, except alcohol and sundries, there are substantial increases, the principal items being as follows: textile goods (cotton piece goods, printed calicoes, and wearing apparel) £6,568, equal to 5·3 per cent. Provisions (including beer and wines) £9,539 or 54·5 per cent. Hardware (building material, household goods, glass ware, &c.) £9,828 or 75 per cent., and free goods (agricultural implements and machinery, vehicles, &c.) £18,314 or 62 per cent. In the value of alcohol imported there is a decrease of £334 (15 per cent.).

6. Of the total imports, 79 per cent. came from the United Kingdom, 6 per cent. from British Possessions, and 15 per cent. from foreign countries. The imports from the United Kingdom have increased by £44,000 (29 per cent.), while imports from Germany have decreased by £5,500, equal to 25 per cent.

7. In the quantity of produce exported there is a decrease of 1,541 tons, due to the restrictions put upon the export of maize and other foodstuffs and to the fact that the whole of the cotton crop produced last season could not be ginned and exported within the financial year. There is, however, an increase in the value of trade exports (deducting specie and Government exports) of £3,284 (2·2 per cent.) and including these items an increase of £29,000 (17·6 per cent.). The principal articles that show an increase are (1) tobacco, 441,978 lbs. in weight (25·9 per cent.) and £11,063 in value (25·9 per cent.); (2) coffee, 452,143 lbs. in weight (135·3 per cent.) and £9,419 in value (135·3 per cent.); (3) mica, 96,881 lbs. in weight (189·1 per cent.) and £4,296 in value (167·7 per cent.); (4) beeswax, 29,777 lbs. in weight (36·8 per cent.) and £1,489 in value (36·8 per cent.); (5) chillies, 20,017 lbs. in weight (13·2 per cent.) and £691 in value (27·3 per cent.); (6) cotton seed, 292,489 lbs. in weight (212·9 per cent.) and £533 in value (250 per cent.).

8. The abnormal increase in the export of coffee is due to the suitable weather conditions for bringing the trees into bearing which prevailed at the beginning of the wet season of 1910-11. The increase is not permanent.

9. The principal products in the export of which there is a decrease are (1) maize, 3,799,812 lbs. in weight and £5,013 in value (83·3 per cent.); (2) fibre, 21,220 lbs. in weight (66 per cent.) and £233 in value (70·6 per cent.); (3) cotton, 380,095 lbs. in weight (21·9 per cent.) and £14,558 (24·8 per cent.) in value, and (4) rubber, 11,762 lbs. in weight (19·7 per cent.) and £1,505 (14·1 per cent.) in value.

10. As stated above the export of maize has been prohibited, owing to the scarcity of foodstuffs in the Protectorate, and the large decrease is thereby accounted for.

11. The quantity of cotton exported is not a true return of the quantity produced as it is estimated that 224,000 lbs. of lint

cotton, being a part of last season's crop, remained in the country at the end of the financial year. That quantity reduces the shortage from the export of the previous year to 156,000 lbs., equal to 9 per cent. The abnormal and late rains in the first five months of 1911 considerably reduced the output of cotton on plantations in the Shire Highlands.

12. The supply of wild rubber is rapidly diminishing and plantation rubber has not yet reached the productive stage. There is, therefore, a temporary decline in the export of this article.

13. The direction of the export trade has been in the following proportions, viz.—90 per cent. to the United Kingdom, 1 per cent. to British Possessions, and 9 per cent. to foreign countries. The exports to the United Kingdom have increased by 27 per cent., and to Germany by 10 per cent.

14. The value of goods imported from oversea which passed through the Protectorate in transit to surrounding territories has remained practically stationary.

This trade is principally with Northern Rhodesia.

15. The value of the products of neighbouring countries, which were exported in transit, has increased by £13,000, equal to 169 per cent. The articles that show an increase are, in order of importance: rubber (from Portuguese East Africa), cotton (from Northern Rhodesia), and tobacco (from Portuguese East Africa).

16. During the first half of the year the transport conditions, so far as the state of the Shire river was concerned, were somewhat better than usual and steamers were able to reach rail-head until the middle of August. The transport of produce was thereby accelerated and no serious delays took place.

Towards the end of the financial year, however, the conditions altered and difficulty was experienced in bringing steamers to Port Herald even in the months in which the river should be at its greatest depth. In January, February, and March of the year under review the mean depth of the Shire river at Chiromo was 6 ft. 4 in., 7 ft. 3 in., and 5 ft. 1 in., respectively, while in the previous year it was 8 ft. 1 in., 11 ft. 1 in., and 10 ft. in the same months.

17. The number of vessels that cleared "inwards" from Chinde was 161 as against 128 in the year 1910-11. These vessels transported 5,926 tons of general cargo, 373 European, 139 Indian, and 9,699 native passengers, showing an increase of 1,196 tons (25 per cent.), 38 Europeans, 45 Indians, and 5,905 natives. From Nyasaland to Chinde the number of vessels cleared was 182—a decrease of 24 from the number cleared in the previous year—and they carried 3,753 tons of produce (a decrease of 1,384 tons, equal to 27 per cent.), 284 European (increase 21), 97 Indian (increase 37), and 6,927 native (increase 4,362) passengers. The total number of passengers, of all nationalities, who entered the Protectorate during the year was 10,211, while 7,308 left.

18. There are 25 steamers plying on the Zambesi and Shire rivers, of which number 13 are under the British flag, eight under the Portuguese, and four under the German flags. The number of vessels on the Protectorate Shipping Registers is 138 (107 on the Chiromo and 31 on the Fort Johnson Register).

19. So far as the import of trade goods is concerned the prospects are no doubt favourable although a temporary decline may occur owing to the stoppage of recruiting for the South African labour market. The opening up of new plantations and extension of existing ones will provide work for an increased number of labourers and there will consequently be a greater amount of money put into circulation. The demand for luxuries in the way of food such as tea, sugar, sardines, jam, and other tinned provisions, and also for soap, candles, &c., is rapidly developing amongst the natives, and that undoubtedly accounts for a considerable part of the large increase in the import of provisions. Tinned meats and milk, imported tea, flour, &c. are not consumed by Europeans to the same extent as formerly, as these commodities are being supplied in increasing quantities from local sources.

The difficulties of navigation on the Zambesi and Shire rivers will hamper the import trade in some measure during the first nine months of the ensuing year, but it is confidently anticipated that all consignments will reach the Protectorate before the financial year has closed.

20. The export of produce will most probably suffer serious interruption owing to the shallow state of the river and the want of a sufficient number of small and light draught barges to cope with the traffic. This applies specially to tobacco which is usually packed in tierces each weighing about 900 lbs., and in the export of which there will be a considerable increase. The production of cotton is expected to equal if not exceed last year's output, although the deficient rainfall will reduce the crops in the Lower River districts to a minimum. More ginning plants will be in operation, and no delays, such as were experienced last season, should occur in having the crop ready for export. Maize will not be exported as the supply in some districts will be down to famine standard. Under other headings it is anticipated that the exports will be up to the average.

21. Eight bonded stores are now established at various stations in the Protectorate, and are proving a convenience to importers. At the close of the financial year goods to the value of £5,400, subject to a duty of £880, were deposited in these stores.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Imports and Exports.

The total values of imports and exports (not including goods in transit) as compared with the previous year are as follows:—

	1910-11.	1911-12.
	£	£
Trade Imports	186,412	229,790
Government Imports	7,078	6,020
Railway Imports	—	818
Specie	6,220	10,920
Total Imports	199,710	247,548

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	1910-11.	1911-12.
	£	£
Trade Exports	148,176	151,460
Government Exports	—	182
Specie	20,735	46,935
Total Exports	168,911	198,577
Total Imports and Exports	368,621	446,125

Increase—£77,504 (21·0 per cent.).

Imports.

	1910-11.	1911-12.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Arms and ammunition	2,115	2,125	8	—
Alcohol (spirituous liquor)	2,182	1,848	—	334
Provisions, including beer and wines	17,493	27,032	9,539	—
Hardware	13,058	22,886	9,828	—
Soft goods	122,127	128,696	6,568	—
Free goods	29,803	47,617	18,314	—
Sundries	7,212	6,427	—	785
Specie	6,220	10,920	4,700	—
Total	199,710	247,548	48,957	1,119

NOTE.—The above figures include:—

	1910-11	1911-12	£
Government Imports	7,078
1911-12 " " " " " "	6,020 and
Railway material	818

NOTE.—1911-12 Government Imports and railway material are included in free goods.

Increase on Total Imports ... £47,838 (23·9 per cent.)

„ „ Trade Imports ... £43,378 (23·2 per cent.)

(i.e., Total Imports less Specie, Government Imports, and Railway material.)

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1910-11.	1911-12.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	150,630	194,783	140,651	179,011
India	10,765	12,319	—	321
Ceylon	—	24	—	—
South Africa and North East Rhodesia...	2,215	2,700	6,281	433
East Africa Protectorate	—	490	23	258
Zanzibar	—	180	—	—
Aden	—	213	—	—
Canada	12	26	—	—
Australia	60	80	—	—
Total British Possessions...	13,053	15,992	6,304	1,012

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1910-11.	1911-12.	1910-11.	1911-12.
	£	£	£	£
Austria	185	1,209	—	—
Belgium	809	162	—	—
Denmark	—	63	—	—
France	1,130	960	—	1,180
Germany	22,057	16,468	19,057	14,409
Holland	6,022	8,412	—	—
Italy... ..	59	1,271	—	9
Norway	20	85	—	—
Portugal and Portuguese East Africa ...	4,352	6,426	8,851	2,956
Russia	—	24	—	—
Spain	—	148	—	—
Sweden	20	147	—	—
Switzerland... ..	—	80	—	—
United States of America... ..	632	766	—	—
Japan	—	11	—	—
Egypt	—	171	—	—
Other Countries	741	380	48	—
Total Foreign Countries	36,027	36,773	21,956	18,554
Total	199,710	247,548	168,911	198,577

NOTE.—The above includes:—

	£	£
1910-11 specie imported from the United Kingdom	6,100	
„ „ imported from Portuguese East Africa	120	6,220
„ „ exported to United Kingdom	15,150	
„ „ exported to South Africa	5,000	
„ „ exported to Portuguese East Africa	585	20,735
1911-12 „ imported from United Kingdom	10,820	
„ „ imported from Portuguese East Africa	100	10,920
„ „ exported to United Kingdom	46,340	
„ „ exported to Portuguese East Africa	595	46,935

Exports during the year ended 31st March, 1912, as compared with the previous year:—

	1910-11.			1911-12.			Increase.		Decrease.	
	Weight.	Price per lb. (local) (where not otherwise stated).	Value.	Weight.	Price per lb. (local) (where not otherwise stated).	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
Ivory	Lb. 3,180	10s.	£ 1,590	Lbs. 2,479	10s.	£ 1,240	Lbs.	£	Lbs. 701	£ 350
Hippo' Teeth	390	2s.	88	372	2s.	27	—	—	108	11
Rubber—										
(a) Cultivated	59,471	3s. 6d. to 5s.	10,659	4,698	5s.	1,174	—	—	11,762	1,505
(b) Uncultivated				48,011	3s. 6d. and 4s.	7,980	—	—		
Wax	80,736	1s.	4,087	110,518	1s.	5,526	29,777	1,489	—	—
Strophanthus	16,818	2s. 6d.	2,102	11,869	2s. 6d.	1,484	—	—	4,949	618
Castor Oil Seed	102,098	1d. and 4d.	1,319	20,058	1d.	84	—	19	6,810	—
Sesame Oil Seed				75,230	4d.	1,254			—	—
Fibre	32,144	£20 to £28 per ton	830	10,924	£20 to £24 per ton	87	—	—	21,220	283
Coffee	834,161	5d.	6,962	786,304	5d.	16,881	452,148	9,419	—	—
Tea	42,042	6d.	1,051	42,876	6d.	1,097	1,824	46	—	—
Tobacco	1,704,637	6d. and 1s.	42,627	2,146,615	6d. and 1s.	53,690	441,978	11,063	—	—
Cotton	1,736,999	6d. to 1s.	58,687	1,856,904	6d. to 10d.	44,099	—	—	380,095	14,768
Cotton Seed	187,384	£3 10s. per ton	218	429,878	£3 10s. & £5 per ton	746	292,489	533	—	—
Chillies	151,656	4d.	2,528	171,678	4½d.	3,219	20,017	691	—	—
Rice	128,223	£5 per ton	286	41,104	£5 per ton	91	—	—	87,119	195
Maize	4,560,332	£3 per ton	6,123	760,520	£3 per ton	1,020	—	—	3,799,812	5,103
Maize Flour	419,680	£5 per ton	936	27,326	£5 per ton	61	—	—	392,354	872
Ground-nuts	540,827	£12 per ton	2,915	418,617	£12 per ton	2,243	—	—	122,210	672
Asbestos	—	—	—	932	6d.	28	932	28	—	—
Mica	51,222	1s.	2,561	148,108	6d. and 1s.	6,857	96,881	4,296	—	—
Cattle-head... ..	—	£3 per head.	786	—	£3 per head	147	—	—	—	639
Sundries	—	—	2,426	—	—	2,920	—	494	—	—
Total	10,101,990	—	148,176	6,610,901	—	151,460	1,336,051	28,078	4,827,140	24,789
*Government Exports...	—	—	—	39,300	—	182	39,300	182	—	—
Specie	—	—	20,735	—	—	46,935	—	26,200	—	—
Grand Total	10,101,990	—	168,911	6,650,201	—	198,577	1,375,351	54,455	4,827,140	24,789

* Government Exports:—Rice £81, Cotton £100, and Sundries 10s.

Net decrease in weight, ignoring Sundries and Specie 3,451,789 lbs. (1,541 tons).
 Net increase in value of Total Exports £29,658 (17.6 per cent.)
 Net increase in value of Trade Exports (i.e., Total Exports less Specie and Government Exports) £3,234 (2.2 per cent.)

Statement of Imports and Exports and the Direction of Trade.

During the Financial Year 1911-12 (1st April, 1911, to 31st March, 1912), Including Transit Trade.

Groups.	Imports.				Exports.											
					Domestic Produce.				Other than Domestic Produce.				Total Exports.			
	From United Kingdom.	From British Possessions.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	To United Kingdom.	To British Possessions.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.	To United Kingdom.	To British Possessions.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.	To United Kingdom.	To British Possessions.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	£ 21,349	£ 2,616	£ 6,953	£ 30,918	£ 70,596	£ 399	£ 4,565	£ 75,560	£ —	£ 392	£ —	£ 392	£ 70,596	£ 791	£ 4,565	£ 75,952
Raw Material and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	—	4,438	15,825	20,263	60,282	316	12,174	72,772	15,768	30	2,546	18,344	76,050	346	14,720	91,116
Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	173,862	16,048	32,362	222,272	16	—	45	61	—	—	—	—	16	—	45	61
Miscellaneous and Unclassified.	4,713	730	1,557	7,100	1,777	297	1,175	3,249	171	7	100	278	1,948	304	1,275	3,527
Bullion and Specie ...	10,820	—	100	10,920	46,340	—	595	46,935	—	—	—	—	46,340	—	595	46,935
Totals ...	210,744	23,832	56,897	291,473	179,011	1,012	18,554	198,577	15,939	429	2,646	19,014	194,950	1,441	21,200	217,591

The following table shows the value of imports and exports during the past five years, not including goods in transit:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1907-08	169,541	68,604
1908-09	140,916	122,644
1909-10	112,629	110,866
1910-11	199,710	168,911
1911-12	247,548	198,577

The following table shows the value of goods in transit to and from surrounding territories during the five years 1907-08 to 1911-12:—

	Transit to Surrounding Territories.	Transit from Surrounding Territories.	Total Transit Trade.
	Value.	Value.	Value.
	£	£	£
1907-08	19,041	4,223	23,264
1908-09	14,182	5,993	20,175
1909-10	15,113	5,246	20,359
1910-11	23,415	7,675	31,090
1911-12	23,257	20,669	43,926

The total transit trade for 1911-12 was £12,836 in excess of the amount for the previous year, being an increase of 41·2 per cent.

The following table shows the value of goods passed through the Protectorate in transit to and from surrounding territories during the year ended 31st March, 1912:—

	£
Firearms and Ammunition	426
Alcohol	79
Provisions	1,959
Hardware	2,680
Soft Goods	16,052
Ivory	2,998
Rubber	10,854
Wax	418
Tobacco	2,179
Cotton	3,815
Sundries	2,466
Total	43,926

NOTE.—The above includes goods to the value of £10,950 which have been entered for transit but had not left the Protectorate on the 31st March, 1912.

The value of goods imported in transit to surrounding territories from countries oversea amounted to £20,512, as against £16,849 during the previous year.

III.—AGRICULTURE.

22. In spite of the exceedingly unfavourable climatic conditions of the year for cotton, the value of produce exported shows an increase of 2.35 per cent. on last year's figures; this increase (which bears no comparison with the largely increased area under cultivation) was due to the comparative success of tobacco, which, thanks to the unusually cold and wet weather prevailing from April to August, could be planted up much later than usual and gave large crops, though the quality suffered.

23. 4,507 acres were planted with tobacco, as compared with 3,274 acres in 1910-11. 2,146,615 lbs. of cured tobacco were exported, an increase of 441,978 lbs. over the preceding year's figures; the increase in the local value of the total crop was £11,062 18s. 3d.

24. Off 23,332 acres under cultivation on Europeans' estates, cotton to a value of £44,098 11s. 6d. only was produced as against £58,687 5s. 10d. off 12,752 acres in the preceding year. Considering the adverse conditions indicated by these figures it is extremely satisfactory to note an increase of 408 bales in the native cotton crop. The following figures show the progress of the native cotton industry for the past four years.

	Tons seed		Bales of 400 lb. lint (27 per cent. of seed cotton).	
1908-9	...	130	...	196
1909-10	...	220	...	332
1910-11	...	692	...	1,046
1911-12	...	962	...	1,454

25. The prospects for the 1912 harvest are good for cotton and poor for tobacco, and it is unfortunate that the past year's experience has led to a decrease of the acreage under the former crop and a corresponding increase under the latter. The two crops are admirably calculated to balance each other, the one being as much benefited by excessive rain as the other is injured by it, while a normal year should produce good crops from both. Tobacco needs less labour than cotton and is of the two perhaps the crop less liable to complete failure, and it is possible that it will ultimately take first place as the Europeans' standard crop in this country; among natives, on the other hand, the cotton industry is every year obtaining a firmer hold and nothing but a very heavy fall in the price of cotton is now likely seriously to check it. The product is suited as few others could be to the native's present stage of development, and though he has yet much to learn as to its cultivation and grading, he can produce an excellent quality of cotton in quantities which pay him well. The system of cotton markets now being instituted by the Government in the principal native cotton districts will promote competition and secure for the native the best prices for his produce; it is hoped that the more

marked correspondence of price to quality which is bound to follow competitive buying in open markets will teach the native to pay more attention to grading his cotton,—work which at present has to be done at the ginneries at greater expense, and, probably, less thoroughly than the native producer himself could do it.

26. The cold wet season suited coffee, and though the acreage under the product was only 4,339 acres, as against 5,629 in the previous year, the export of 786,304 lbs. of coffee was more than double the 1910-11 crop in value.

27. The area planted with tea was increased from 1,190 to 2,593 acres; this new and promising industry is unfortunately limited by considerations of rainfall to one or two small districts. The amount of tea in bearing is insignificant and the value of the exported crop amounted to only a little over £1,000, but there is every reason to hope that it will in a few years be a very important item of the country's exports.

28. The 1,500 acres (approximately) planted with rubber are still almost entirely in the unproductive stage, and the export of rather more than £10,000 value under this head represents principally wild rubber from *Landolphia* vines and the roots of *Landolphia parvifolia*, for which satisfactory prices continue to be obtained.

29. The work on the Government experimental farms has been mostly directed to improving the strain of cotton seed; some attention has also been given to imported varieties of maize and to other food plants.

30. Afforestation work was considerably interfered with by the drought prevailing in the early months of 1912, and of 90 acres cleared and prepared for eucalyptus planting at Zomba only 60 acres could be planted up; on the Zomba plateau 40 acres were planted with cypress out of 50 prepared, and 100,000 eucalyptus plants were put out in the plantation near Blantyre.

31. Of the many varieties of eucalyptus which have been tried by the Forestry Department the following have shown the best growth,—*Citriodora*, *Maideni*, *Rostrata*, *Rudis*, and *Saligna*, all of which, in three years from seed, have attained heights of from 36 to 38 feet and girths of from 19 to 26 inches.

IV.—LEGISLATION.

32. Seventeen Ordinances were enacted during the year.

V.—EDUCATION.

33. There are no Government schools in the Protectorate, native education being in the hands of the missionary societies established in various districts.

During the last five years Government has made an annual grant of £1,000 in aid of primary education, which has been allocated, under certain conditions, to those societies desirous of participating. There are 1,527 schools in the Protectorate, the majority of which are "village schools" (*i.e.*, schools in charge of native teachers superintended by Europeans from the headquarters of the Missions), at which 119,402 natives received instruction during the year, the average attendance being 83,387.

Native artizans are trained in the industrial schools attached to the headquarters of most of the Missions, where carpentry, printing, bookbinding, agriculture, horticulture, and other practical trades are taught, much to the benefit of local industries.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

34. No cases of special interest were tried in the High Court during the year 1911-12. The number of civil cases was again small, owing to the same causes as affected the number in 1910-11. In addition, of the three pleaders who practised before the High Court one went home in the middle of the year and one died, leaving only one in the Protectorate. As a result many cases were held over until the arrival of a new pleader towards the end of March.

35. 123 cases came up from the subordinate Courts for confirmation by the High Court, as against 96 in the previous year. Particulars of these cases are as follows:—

Murder, other than wife or child murder ...	23
Manslaughter	31
Attempt to murder	4
Murder of wife or child	2
Rape	2
Other offences against the person	23
Offences against property	11
Miscellaneous offences	27
	123

In eight cases of murder the sentence of death was carried out.
 36. The number of persons tried in subordinate Courts during the year was 5,054. The figures for previous years are as follows:—

1906-7	1,770
1907-8	2,104
1908-9	2,137
1909-10	2,586
1910-11	3,206

The large increase shown is due almost entirely to the number of natives tried for leaving the Protectorate without passes in contravention of section 20 of The Employment of Natives Ordinance, 1909, and for offences against section 16 of the same Ordinance. The number tried under section 20 was 1,523 and under section 16, 811. Evasion of hut taxes and petty offences against Township Regulations also account for a large number of cases.

37. 106 cases were tried under The Witchcraft Ordinance, 1911, which appears to be working effectively.

38. The General Revision Bill, drafted by the Judge of the High Court as Commissioner for the Revision of the Protectorate Laws, was completed and has been submitted to the Secretary of State for his consideration.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

39. The European population is returned at 773, as against 766 in 1910-11 and the Asiatic as 463, the latter showing a decrease of 18 when compared with last year.

40. 24 European births were registered, as against 20 last year, and 18 in 1909-10.

41. Seven European deaths and eight Asiatic deaths were registered, as against nine European and three Asiatic deaths in the preceding year. Among the seven European deaths were two infants.

42. Four European marriages were celebrated.

43. The following table shows the European and Asiatic population in the Protectorate during the last four years.

	1908-9.			1909-10.			1910-11.			1911-12.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
European	436	159	595	409	178	587	531	235	766	539	234	773
Asiatic ...	449	9	457	421	14	435	445	36	481	427	36	463

44. The native population is estimated at 1,000,659, as against 969,183 last year.

VIII.—POSTAL.

45. Though the increase in postal revenue for the year was only £36 5s. 6d., the increase in the volume of business was greater than this would indicate; the increased bulk of the mails entailed greater expenditure in local transport, and, while the

revenue totalled £3,637 16s. 6d. for the year, the expenditure amounted to £5,258 5s. 3d.; showing a deficit of £1,620 8s. 9d., as against £1,376 in 1910-11.

46. The Post Office Savings Bank is gradually increasing its business, but so far has not made such great progress as was hoped; the idea is new to the natives of Nyasaland and it will need time to gain their confidence and overcome their natural conservatism.

IX.—MILITARY.

47. The annual training of the Reserve commenced on September 15th and 159 completed the training.

48. The musketry of the battalion shows an improvement on last year, and the 1st Battalion is again the best shooting Battalion of the King's African Rifles.

49. The health of the troops has been remarkably good—no epidemics occurring of any description. Six sepoy of the Indian Contingent have been invalided during the past year.

X.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

50. The decision, announced to the native population during the year, that the hut tax would be raised from 3s. to 4s. and from 6s. to 8s. for the low and high grade taxes respectively, was received with perfect quiet, and the justification for this increase by their own growing prosperity seems to have been appreciated by the natives themselves.

51. The revenue from hut tax again showed a satisfactory increase in 1911-12 as appears from the following table of hut tax returns for the last five years:—

						£
1907-8	...	...	...	...	...	36,609
1908-9	...	...	...	...	...	38,389
1909-10	...	...	...	...	...	41,530
1910-11	...	...	...	...	...	46,534
1911-12	...	...	...	...	...	50,984

The estimated revenue under the raised tax from this source in 1912-13 is £65,000.

52. There was some scarcity of food in the months of October and November, and the almost complete failure of the late rains threatens serious shortage in the latter part of 1912.

53. The decay of the power of native chiefs and the tendency all over the Protectorate to the splitting up of villages into small family groups continues: this tendency is to some extent gratifying in that it originates in the native's sense of his complete

security under the existing Government and goes far to guarantee a peaceful and contented future for the native population of the Protectorate. It becomes increasingly clear, however, that some paid native local authorities are required who shall be responsible to the District Residents for the good order and administration of their villages or areas, and it is hoped to provide for this by legislation during the coming year.

54. The health of the native community has been satisfactory and no serious epidemics have occurred during the year. Small-pox has made its appearance here and there, but the benefits of the widespread and thorough vaccination of the last few years are now being felt, and in no case has the disease spread. The number of cases diagnosed as sleeping sickness discovered during the year is small; it must, however, be borne in mind that, in spite of the efforts of the large medical staff now employed in searching for cases, it is probable that deaths from this disease are concealed by the natives, in whom confidence is somewhat shaken by the inevitably high proportion of deaths in the sleeping sickness camps.

Since 1908, when the first case of sleeping sickness was discovered, 56 cases only have been found after systematic search. All these are dead. The epidemic appears, as far as present investigations have determined, to be confined to a small area bordering on the lake shore.

The Royal Society's Commission is established and is pursuing its investigations at Kasu near the sleeping sickness area. An experiment on a small scale, aimed at killing out the big game within a limited area, has not been so successful as might be desired, owing to the apathy of the native population with regard to the free hunting rights granted them within that area. It is, however, hoped that during the current year the natives will make greater use of the facilities granted to them for killing and capturing game in this area.

XI.—GENERAL.

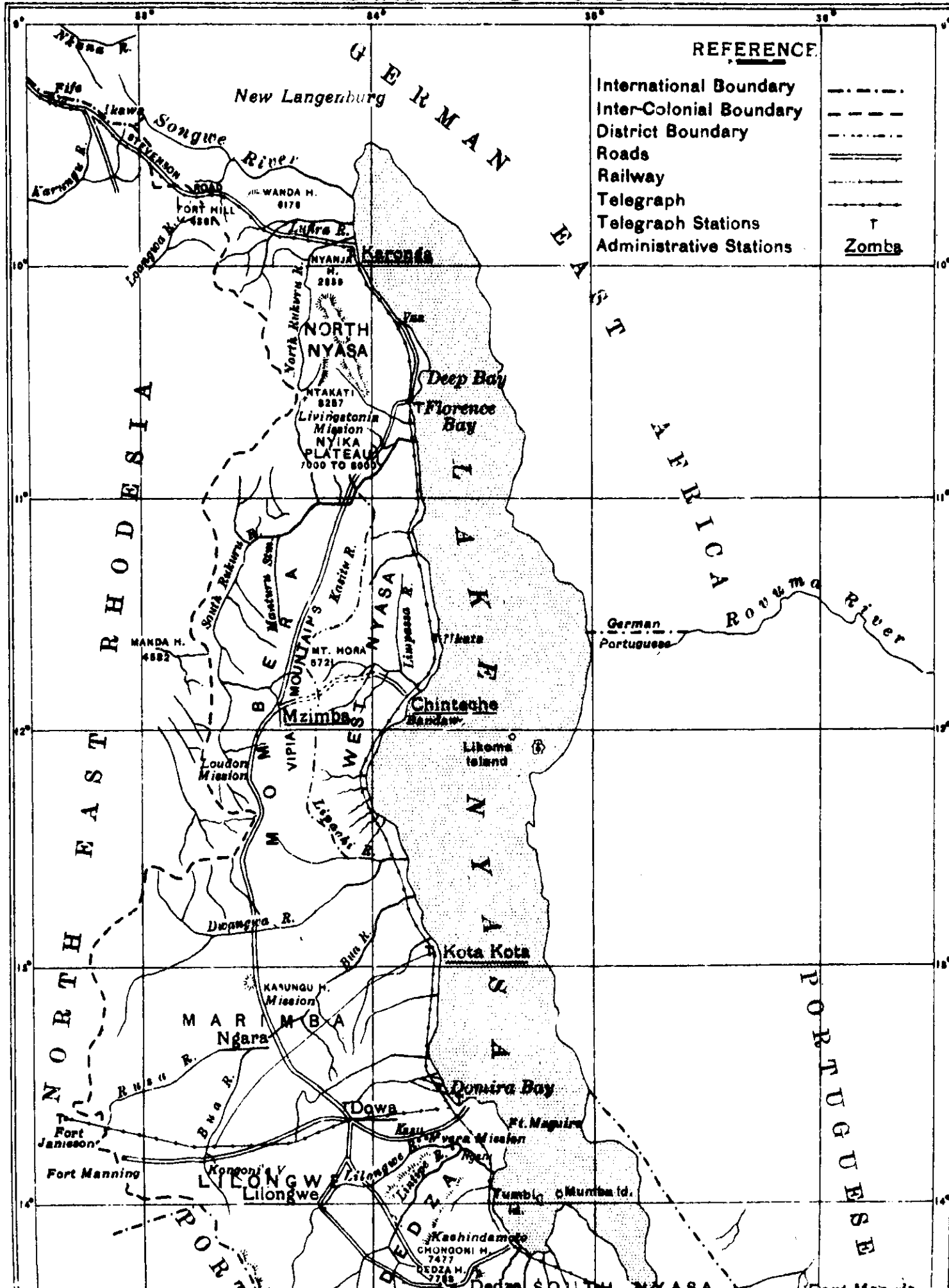
55. The decision to extend the Protectorate's railway to the coast has been universally welcomed by the European community as the most important step yet taken for the industrial advancement of Nyasaland.

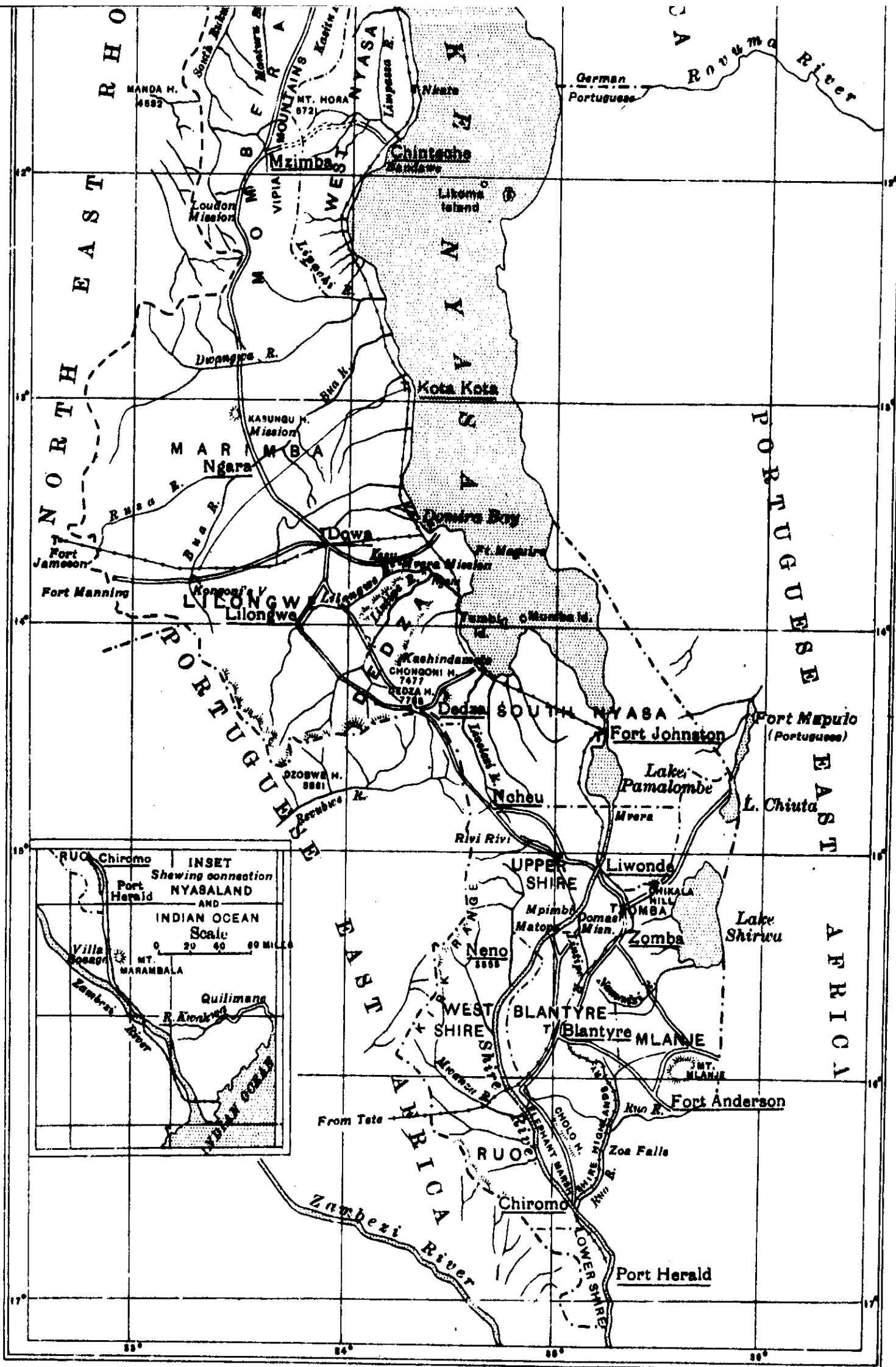
56. The financial burden thrown on the Protectorate by the guarantee of interest on the capital needed for the Zambesi—Port Herald section and by the redemption of the subsidy lands pledged to the constructors of the Shire Highlands Railway, is a heavy one; moreover, the actual process of construction may have the effect of raising the price of labour and thus adversely affect local industries; but the community realises that the solution of the vital problem of communication with the sea will be cheaply bought at the cost of these immediate difficulties.

57. A partial failure of the crops in the Lower Shire District occasioned some distress towards the end of 1911, which required

Government relief: the scarcity only affected a small area and the necessary measures were carried out at trifling expense. The failure of the late rains in the present season threatens a much more serious state of things in the latter part of 1912. There is little doubt that famine relief on a fairly large scale will be necessary in the Lower Shire District for some months. The crops in other Districts, while they nowhere failed so completely as on the Lower Shire, will leave but little surplus food, and it may be necessary to import grain from outside the Protectorate at considerable cost.

NYASALAND PROTECTORATE





COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
706	British Honduras	1910
707	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
708	Uganda	1910-1911
709	Straits Settlements... ..	1910
710	Basutoland	1910-1911
711	Leeward Islands	"
712	St. Vincent	"
713	St. Lucia	1910
714	St. Helena	1911
715	Weihaiwei	"
716	Ceylon	1910-1911
717	Gibraltar	1911
718	Gambia	"
719	Ashanti	"
720	Falkland Islands	"
721	Seychelles	"
722	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast... ..	"
723	Hong Kong... ..	"
724	Sierra Leone	"
725	Gold Coast	"
726	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
727	Fiji	"
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911-1912
729	Basutoland	"
730	Colonial Survey Committee	"
731	Malta	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906-7, and 1907-8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
