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No. 772.

NYASALAND.

REPORT FOR 1912-13.

(For Report for 1911-12, see No. 732.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1913.



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No. 772.

NYASALAND.

(For Report for 1911-12, see No. 732.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Zomba, Nyasaland,
23rd August, 1913.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book of the Nyasaland Protectorate for the year 1912-13.

I have, &c.,

F. B. PEARCE,
Acting Governor.

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

**NYASALAND PROTECTORATE REPORT FOR THE
YEAR 1912-13.**

I.—FINANCE.

The revenue of the Protectorate for the year 1912-13 (exclusive of the Imperial grant-in-aid and land sales) was £127,596, being £13,512 over the estimate.

The corresponding figure for the preceding financial year, *i.e.*, excluding the Imperial grant-in-aid and land sales, was £95,482, or an increase of £32,114.

Sales of Crown lands produced £677 in the current year, as against £1,874 in 1911-12.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure of the Protectorate for the financial year 1911-12 and 1912-13, under each head of revenue and service, respectively:—

REVENUE.

Head of Revenue.	Amount collected in 1911-12. £	Amount collected in 1912-13. £
1. Customs	22,035	26,543
2. Port, Harbour and Wharf Dues...	7,808	9,004
3. Native Hut Tax	50,970	65,685
4. Land Tax	—	7,991
5. Licences, Excise, &c.	5,282	5,334
6. Fees of Court or Office, &c. ...	1,920	1,553
7. Post Office	3,638	4,560
8. Rents of Government Property ...	1,559	3,172
9. Interest	6	382
10. Miscellaneous Receipts	2,264	3,372
Total Ordinary Revenue...	£95,482	£127,596
11. Land Sales	1,874	677
12. Imperial Grant-in-Aid	31,500	5,000
13. Loan from Imperial Treasury ...	—	50,000
Total Receipts	£128,856	£183,273

EXPENDITURE.

Head of Expenditure.	Expenditure, 1911-12. £	Expenditure, 1912-13. £
1. Charge on account of Public Debt	—	—
2. Pensions	3,479	4,089
3. The Governor	2,831	2,501
4. Deputy Governor's Department...	5,570	4,646
5. Printing and Stationery Depart- ment	—	2,318

Head of Expenditure.	Expenditure, 1911-12.	Expenditure, 1912-13.
	£	£
6. District Administration	22,922	23,747
7. Treasury Department	3,435	4,331
8. Customs Department	1,619	1,811
9. Audit Department	1,538	1,492
10. Marine Transport Department	3,910	3,655
11. Judicial and Legal Department	2,740	2,985
12. Prisons	1,597	1,702
13. Medical Department	14,502	9,508
13a. Medical Special Expenditure		
Scientific Commission	---	5,130
14. Education	---	1,000
15. Transport Department	3,633	2,131
16. Military	16,412	16,550
17. Miscellaneous Expenditure	7,958	2,282
18. Post Office	5,258	5,785
19. Agricultural, Forestry and Veteri- nary Department	4,775	4,996
20. Public Works Department	5,703	5,528
21. Public Works Annually Recur- rent	2,497	2,829
22. Public Works Extraordinary	7,348	5,450
23. Railway Extension	---	1,475
24. Bombay and London Agencies	343	420
	£118,070	£116,361
25. Redemption of Railway Subsidy Lands	---	50,000
Grand Total	£118,070	£166,361

Compared with the previous year there is an increase under every head of revenue with the exception of No. 6, Fees of Court or Office, &c., which latter is variable. The marked increase under head No. 3, Native Hut Tax, is due to the increase in the tax from 3s. to 4s. at the lower rate and 6s. to 8s. at the higher.

Head No. 4, Land Tax, is the first charge in taxation under the Land Tax Ordinance, 1911.

Expenditure Head No. 13, Loan from the Imperial Treasury, £50,000, is a sum advanced to Nyasaland to meet the first instalment due to the British Central Africa Company, Limited, to redeem the railway subsidy lands of 361,600 acres granted under the Shire Highlands Railway contracts, 1902 and 1908. The total sum of £180,800 which is being paid for the lands is subject to the terms of the railway contract for the construction of a railway from Port Herald to the Zambesi river dated the 12th March, 1913.

The following statement shows the revenue (exclusive of the grant-in-aid and the loan from the Imperial Treasury) and expenditure for the last five years:—

			Revenue.	Expenditure.
1908-9	...	...	80,534	103,032
1909-10	...	...	76,647	108,728
1910-11	...	...	94,980	112,369
1911-12	...	...	97,356	118,070
1912-13	...	...	128,273	116,361

II.—TRADE.

GENERAL TRADE.

The external trade of the Protectorate (import and export), not including goods in transit or specie, amounted in value to £447,539, as against £388,270 in the previous year, being an increase of £59,269, equal to 15·2 per cent.

IMPORTS.

The value of goods (excluding specie), imported for home consumption was £272,889, such value being the cost of the goods as they lay at the port of shipment, exclusive of trade discounts, freight, insurance and other charges. The total shows an increase of £36,261, equal to 15·3 per cent. Textiles (cotton piece goods, printed calicoes and native trade cloths generally) take the premier place in the imports; their value amounting to £156,475 or 57·3 per cent. of the whole imports. Under this heading there is also an increase of £27,780 (21·5 per cent.). Other articles that show increases are:—Vehicles £8,052 (165 per cent.), accounted for by the large and increasing import of motor cars and bicycles; hardware (which includes household furnishings) £4,986 (32 per cent.); sugar £1,187 (78·8 per cent.); other provisions £1,738 (9·9 per cent.); alcohol £744 (4·2 per cent.); and fire-arms and ammunition £466 (22 per cent.). There are decreases under the headings of:—Agricultural implements £5,381 (31·3 per cent.); free goods £2,182 (8·6 per cent.); and salt £797 (20·6 per cent.).

Of these imports 72 per cent. came from the United Kingdom, 6 per cent. from British Possessions, and 22 per cent. from foreign countries. The trade with the United Kingdom has increased by £14,954, equal to 8 per cent., that with British Possessions remains stationary, while the value of imports from Germany has increased by £18,249 (110 per cent.).

Exports.

The quantity of produce exported has increased from 6,650,201 lbs. to 7,033,294 lbs. in weight and from £151,642 to £174,650 in value, the latter showing an increase of £23,000 or 15·1 per cent. This increase would have been considerably greater but for the fact that the export of grain and other food-stuffs was totally prohibited during the year under review. The principal article of export is cotton, which shows an increase of 1,880,651 lbs. in weight (138 per cent.) and £36,840 in value

(83·5 per cent). In addition to this quantity about 100 tons of last season's crop of cotton remained in the Protectorate at the end of the financial year. Other products in the export of which there are substantial increases are:—Tobacco 115,930 lbs. in weight (5·4 per cent.) and £2,909 in value (5·4 per cent.); cotton seed 174,364 lbs. in weight (40 per cent.) and £228 in value (30 per cent.); fibre 129,768 lbs. in weight (1,187 per cent.) and £1,159 in value; tea 23,850 lbs. in weight (54 per cent.) and £596 in value; cultivated rubber 10,100 lbs. in weight (214 per cent.) and £2,126 in value, and strophanthus 9,112 lbs. in weight (76 per cent.) and £1,139 in value.

The export of coffee has declined by 591,600 lbs. in weight (75 per cent.) and £11,573 in value. The abnormal increase in the export of this commodity shown in the year 1911-12 was due to the unusually favourable weather conditions for coffee growing which prevailed at the beginning of that year, and it was then predicted that the increase would not be permanent. The cultivation of coffee is being abandoned gradually, and it is being replaced by cotton and tobacco.

There are also decreases in the export of wax—19,072 lbs. in weight (17·2 per cent.) and £954 in value, and sesame oilseeds 38,907 lbs. in weight (51 per cent.) and £649 in value. The latter product is not systematically cultivated, but either grows in a semi-wild state or is grown in small patches by natives, chiefly in the river districts. The shortage of the rainfall in those districts during 1912 probably accounts for the decreased export.

The direction of the export trade has been in the following proportions, viz.:—To the United Kingdom 93 per cent., to British Possessions 1 per cent., and to foreign countries 6 per cent. The exports to the United Kingdom have increased by £31,125 (23·4 per cent.), those to British Possessions have remained stationary, and exports to foreign countries have decreased. The Protectorate's most important foreign customer is Germany, and the value of produce exported to that country has decreased by £6,591, equal to 45 per cent.

Goods in Transit Inwards.

The value of goods that passed through the Protectorate in transit to neighbouring territories amounted to £28,294, being an increase of £5,037 (21·6 per cent.). The bulk of these goods went to Northern Rhodesia, where firms established in the Protectorate have trading stations that are stocked from their central stores here.

Goods in Transit Outwards.

There is a small increase in the value of the produce of neighbouring countries exported through the Protectorate, amounting to £579 (3 per cent.). This produce consists chiefly of cotton (raw) and ivory from Northern Rhodesia, and ivory, wax and unmanufactured tobacco from Portuguese East Africa.

Specie.

The amount of specie imported during the year was £4,100, while £53,490 was exported. The apparent discrepancy between these figures is explained by the fact that natives returning from work in the Transvaal Mines bring considerable sums of money—principally gold—into the Protectorate. That money, being in excess of the normal amount current in the country accumulates at the banks, and the surplus is exported periodically. The specie imported by the banks consisted of silver and bronze coin, with the exception of a sum of £1,000 in gold brought from a branch bank in Northern Rhodesia.

Bonded Stores.

Considerable use continues to be made of the bonded stores by importers, who are enabled through the facilities thereby given to them to keep reserve stocks of goods in the country without the necessity of paying import duty until such goods are required for consumption. At the end of the financial year goods, value £10,445, subject to a duty of £1,093, remained uncleared in the bonded warehouses.

Traffic.

The usual transport difficulties were experienced during the first seven months of the year owing to the unnavigable state of the Shire river, but in the remaining months the conditions were much improved and it was possible to ship all produce in good time. It is hoped that shippers will not have to contend with the difficulties of navigating the Shire river after the current year, as it is expected that the railway from Port Herald to the Zambesi will be open for traffic before the end of 1914.

The number of vessels (steamers, barges, and boats) that cleared "inwards" from Chinde was 143, and these vessels carried 6,661 tons of general cargo (an increase from last year of 735 tons), 362 European, 169 Indian, and 3,740 native passengers. In the previous year the number of passengers that entered the Protectorate was 373 Europeans, 139 Indians, and 9,699 natives. From Nyasaland to Chinde there cleared "outwards" 146 vessels, which transported 3,492 tons of cargo, 274 European, 169 Indian, and 1,390 native passengers, as against 3,733 tons of cargo, 284 European, 97 Indian, and 6,927 native passengers in the previous year. The decline in the number of native passengers is due to the prohibition of emigration to the Transvaal mines.

There are 24 steamers plying on the Zambesi and Shire rivers, of which 11 are under the British flag, 4 under the Portuguese, and 9 under the German flags. The numbers in 1911-12 were 13, 8, and 4, respectively. The number of vessels on the Shipping Registers is 134—a decrease of 4 from the previous year.

PROSPECTS OF TRADE.

As regards the import of textiles and other trade goods the prospects for the current year are not so favourable as they were for the year now under review. During the greater part of 1912 there was a scarcity of grain and other foodstuffs in certain districts of the Protectorate, in some places reaching the famine

stage, and what money the natives of these districts were able to earn had to be spent in buying food. In addition to this the influx of money into the country by repatriated natives practically ceased, and in consequence the trade in textiles suffered a considerable check. The result has been that there are now large stocks of native trade goods in the country, and it is probable that there will be a falling off in the import of such goods in 1913. As a considerable number of natives will be employed on railway construction later in the year more money will be in circulation, and the internal trade will tend to increase. As a result the import trade may benefit.

Deducting from the total import of textiles the liberal allowance of £10,000 as the value of clothing imported by Europeans, and taking the native population at one million, the value of soft goods imported for native consumption is equal to 2s. 11d. per head of that population.

The importation of alcohol, firearms, provisions, hardware, and sundries, which are principally for the use of Europeans, is likely to increase as the European population increases, and also as the demand for luxuries in the way of imported provisions spreads amongst the natives.

The export of produce during the current year will probably equal, if not exceed, the quantity exported in the year 1912-13. The last season has been unfavourable for cotton in some parts of the country, but the shortage in crops should be balanced by the greater acreage under cultivation and by the fact that full crops will be produced in the river districts, where they were a total failure in the previous season. A large increase in the export of tobacco is anticipated, the output being estimated at 4,000,000 lbs. There will also be an increased output of cultivated rubber. Under other headings (except coffee) no serious decrease is foreseen.

COMPARATIVE TABLES.

Imports and Exports.

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

	1911-12.	1912-13.
	£	£
Trade Imports	229,790	267,669
Government Imports	6,020	5,220
Railway Imports... ..	818	Nil.
Total Imports	236,628	272,889
Total Exports	151,460	174,628
Government Exports	182	22
Total Exports	151,642	174,650
Total Exports & Imports	388,270	447,539

Increase—£59,269 (15% per cent.).

Trade Imports.

	1911-12.	1912-13.	Increase.	Decrease.
(1) Alcohol—	£	£	£	£
(a) Spirits—distilled	1,848	2,592	744	—
(b) Wines and beers	2,287	2,559	272	—
(2) Fire-arms and Ammunition ...	2,122	2,588	466	—
(3) Free Goods—				
(a) Agricultural implements and machinery.	17,183	11,802	—	5,381
(b) Vehicles	4,878	12,930	8,052	—
(c) Live stock	396	233	—	163
(d) Other free goods	25,160	22,978	—	2,182
(4) Hardware—				
(a) Glassware and beads	5,786	5,149	—	637
(b) House building material ...	1,538	1,236	—	302
(c) Other hardware	15,562	20,548	4,986	—
(5) Kerosene	656	953	297	—
(6) Provisions—				
(a) Flour	1,266	1,513	247	—
(b) Sugar	1,505	2,692	1,187	—
(c) Salt	3,861	3,064	—	797
(d) Other provisions	17,458	19,196	1,738	—
(7) Sundries—				
(a) Stationary	1,792	2,322	530	—
(b) General	4,635	4,059	—	576
(8) Textiles—				
(a) Unbleached calico	15,163	27,292	12,129	—
(b) Longcloth (<i>Bafuta</i>)	14,478	20,923	6,445	—
(c) Cotton piece goods	51,273	53,141	1,868	—
(d) Other soft goods (including apparel).	47,781	55,119	7,338	—
Total	236,628	272,889	46,299	10,038

Note.—The above figures include—

1911-12 Government Imports £6,020, and Railway Material £818.

1912-13 " " £5,220.

Note.—Government Imports and Railway Material are included in Free Goods.

Increase on Total Imports ... £36,261 (15·3 per cent.).

 " " Trade Imports ... £37,879 (16·4 per cent.).

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

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1911-12.	1912-13.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	183,963	198,917	132,671	163,796
India	12,319	11,953	321	321
Ceylon	24	91	—	—
South Africa and North East Rhodesia...	2,700	3,276	433	481
East Africa Protectorate	490	320	258	12

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1911-12.	1912-13.
	£	£	£	£
Zanzibar	130	140	—	—
Aden	213	—	—	—
Canada	26	7	—	—
Australia	90	224	—	—
Mauritius	—	307	—	—
Total British Possessions...	15,992	16,318	1,012	814
Austria	1,209	527	—	—
Belgium	152	453	—	—
Denmark	63	41	—	—
France	960	2,038	1,180	35
Germany	16,468	34,717	14,409	7,818
German East Africa	—	—	—	1,157
Holland	8,412	10,574	—	32
Italy... ..	1,271	1,368	9	7
Norway	85	77	—	—
Portugal and Portuguese East Africa	6,326	5,361	2,361	955
Russia	24	7	—	—
Spain	148	28	—	—
Sweden	147	88	—	—
Switzerland... ..	80	—	—	—
United States of America	766	1,267	—	—
Japan	11	222	—	—
Egypt	171	157	—	36
Other Countries	380	694	—	—
Madagascar... ..	—	35	—	—
Total Foreign Countries	36,673	57,654	17,959	10,040
Total	236,628	272,889	151,642	174,650

Note.—The above includes Government and Railway Imports and Exports—and omits Specie.

Exports (omitting Specie) during the Year Ending 31st March, 1913, compared with the Previous Year.

12

	1911-12.			1912-13.			Increase.		Decrease.	
	Weight.	Price per lb. (local).	Value.	Weight.	Price per lb. (local).	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
Ivory... ..	lbs. 2,479	10s.	£ 1,240	lbs. 1,699	10s.	£ 849	lbs. —	£ —	lbs. 780	£ 391
Hippo Teeth	272	2s.	27	267	2s.	27	—	—	5	—
Rubber—										
(a) Cultivated	4,698	5s.	1,174	14,788	4s. 6d.	3,300	10,100	2,126	—	—
(b) Uncultivated	43,011	3s. 6d. and 4s.	7,950	46,314	8s.	7,708	3,308	—	—	277
Wax	110,518	1s.	5,526	91,441	1s.	4,572	—	—	19,072	954
Strophanthus	11,869	2s. 6d.	1,484	20,981	2s. 6d.	2,623	9,112	1,139	—	—
Castor Oil Seed	20,058	1d.	84	78,541	1d.	327	58,483	243	—	—
Sesame Oil Seed	75,230	4d.	1,254	36,323	4d.	606	—	—	38,907	649
Fibre... ..	10,924	£20 to £24 per ton	97	140,692	£20 to £24 per ton	1,256	129,768	1,159	—	—
Coffee	786,304	5d.	16,381	194,704	6d.	4,868	—	—	591,600	11,513
Tea	48,876	6d.	1,097	67,726	6d.	1,698	23,850	596	—	—
Tobacco	2,146,616	6d. and 1s.	53,690	2,262,545	6d. and 1s.	56,599	115,930	2,909	—	—
Cotton	1,856,904	6d. and 10d.	41,099	3,287,555	6d. to 1s.	80,939	1,880,651	36,840	—	—
Cotton Seed... ..	429,873	£3 10s. & £5 per ton	746	604,287	£3 10s. & £5 per ton	974	174,864	228	—	—
Chillies	171,673	4½d.	3,219	168,803	4½d.	3,166	—	—	2,780	53
Rice	41,104	£5 per ton	91	—	—	—	—	—	41,104	31
Maize	760,520	£3 per ton	1,020	—	—	—	—	—	760,520	1,020
Maize Flour	27,326	£5 per ton	61	—	—	—	—	—	27,326	61
Ground Nuts	418,617	£12 per ton	2,243	2,288	£12 per ton	12	—	—	416,329	2,231
Asbestos	932	6d.	28	—	—	—	—	—	932	23
Mica	148,103	6d. and 1s.	6,857	40,518	1s.	2,026	—	—	107,585	4,831
Cattle (head)	—	£3 per head	147	—	£3	1,155	—	—	—	—
Sundries	—	—	2,920	—	—	1,856	—	1,008	—	64
Potatoes	—	—	—	11,512	£9 per ton	46	11,512	46	—	—
Turmeric	—	—	—	2,550	8d. per lb.	32	2,550	32	—	—
Total	6,610,901	—	151,460	7,023,584	—	174,628	2,419,623	46,326	2,006,940	21,509
Government Exports	39,300	—	182	9,710	—	22	—	—	29,590	160
Grand Total	6,650,201	—	151,642	7,033,294	—	174,650	2,419,623	46,326	2,036,530	21,669

Government Exports—1911-12: Rice £81, Cotton £100, Sundries 10s. 1912-13: Rice £21, Sundries £1.

Net increase in weight, ignoring Sundries and Government Exports 412,683 lbs. (184 tons).
 Net increase in value of Total Exports £28,008 (16·1 per cent.).
 Net increase in value of Trade Exports (i.e., Total Exports less Government Exports) £28,168 (15·2 per cent.).

Statement of Imports and Exports, and Direction of Trade.

During the Financial Year 1912-13 (1st April, 1912, to 31st March, 1913). 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	£ 22,568	£ 3,883	£ 8,155	£ 34,646	£ 62,274	£ 414	£ 1,685	£ 64,373	£ —	£ 3,602	£ —	£ 3,602	£ 62,274	£ 4,016	£ 1,685	£ 67,975
Raw Material and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	128	3,732	14,224	18,084	100,487	465	7,716	108,668	9,159	—	6,907	16,066	109,646	465	14,623	124,734
Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	194,219	11,833	55,079	261,131	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous and Unclassified.	3,720	131	580	4,431	988	69	552	1,609	—	551	155	706	988	620	707	2,315
Bullion and Specie ...	1,600	1,000	1,500	4,100	—	47,266	6,224	53,490	—	—	—	—	—	47,266	6,224	53,490
Total ...	222,235	20,579	79,578	322,392	163,749	48,214	16,177	228,140	9,159	4,153	7,062	20,374	172,908	52,367	23,239	248,514

The following table shows import and export of specie in comparison with the previous year:—

Year.	Imports. £	Exports £
1911-12	20,420	74,594
1912-13	4,100	53,490
Decrease ...	£16,320	£21,104

The following are the countries of origin and destination of specie—imports and exports—for 1912-13:—

	Imports. £	Exports. £
United Kingdom	1,600	Nil
South Africa	—	36,266
British East Africa	—	10,000
Northern Rhodesia	1,000	1,000
Portuguese East Africa	1,500	6,224
Total ...	£4,100	£53,490

The following table gives the value of goods (a) in transit inwards to surrounding territories (b) in transit outwards from surrounding territories, in comparison with previous years:—

Year.	Inwards.	Outwards.	Total.
	£	£	£
1911-12	23,257	19,804	43,061
1912-13	28,294	20,383	48,677
Increase	5,037 (21·6 per cent.)	579 (2·9 per cent.)	5,616 (13 per cent.)

III.—AGRICULTURE.

The year proved a difficult one for agricultural development in consequence of the drought, which proved almost general throughout the Protectorate.

Native crops were affected adversely, with the result that the high cost of native foodstuffs, combined with their scarcity, made it necessary for European farmers to exercise strict economy in native labour, and in some cases areas which had been cleared for cultivation had to be curtailed when the planting season arrived.

The drought was most severely felt in the lower levels, but the distress attendant on the failure of the native harvest in these localities was foreseen and the measures taken by Government to provide for the supply of food and seed for the native population proved adequate.

The conditions in the Shire Highlands—the centre of European agricultural development—and in the North Nyasa district were much more favourable, particularly for cotton, and it was from these districts that the bulk of the agricultural exports emanated.

Cotton maintained its position as the most extensive exportable crop both in acreage and value. 8,093 bales of 400 lbs. each were exported as against 3,392 in the previous year.

The area under European cultivation was 24,155 acres, as compared with 23,314 in 1911-12. The local value of the total crop showed an increase of £36,840 6s. 0d. on that of the preceding year.

The prices realised on the home market for first quality Nyasaland cotton varied from 8d. to 9½d. per lb., or about 1d. in advance of the figures of the previous year, while second quality cotton was sold at a slight premium on the prices of 6d. to 7d. per lb. for prevailing "American middling."

The native cotton crop proved a failure in the low levels, where much of the cotton has been grown in the past. As a consequence the total crop for the year shows a decrease on that of the previous year of 217 tons 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 12 lbs., or a reduction in lint of 328 bales of 400 lbs. each.

The following figures show the progress of the native cotton-growing industry for the past five years:—

		Tons, Seed Cotton.	Bales of 400 lbs. lint.
1908-9	...	130	196
1909-10	...	220	332
1910-11	...	692	1046
1911-12	...	962	1454
1912-13	...	744	1126

The cotton seed distributed to natives for cultivation during the present season amounts to 130 tons, or about 40 tons in excess of any previous year. Excessive rain and absence of sun have made the prospects unfavourable in the high levels, but the crop promises to be a good one in the low-lying districts.

The experimental establishment of native cotton markets in the Mlanje and Upper Shire districts during the year under review was completely justified. Not only were they the means of teaching the native cultivator the importance of grading the cotton, but they secured for the native the best prices for his produce. It has been decided to extend the system to other native cotton-producing districts, and natives who grade their produce will receive an enhanced price for first quality cotton.

The seed supplied to natives is carefully selected and the work of selection which has been carried out in recent years on the Government experimental farms is beginning to have fruitful results.

This, taken in conjunction with the instruction given by trained natives under the supervision of officers of the Agricultural Department, has been the means of effecting a marked improvement in the quality of native cotton during the past two years.

The area under tobacco increased from 4,507 acres, in 1911-12, to 7,411 acres.

The quantity exported is returned at 2,262,545 lbs., or 115,930 lbs. more than the previous year. This was valued locally at £56,598 8s. 6d., and represents an increase of £2,908 12s. 9d.

The crop was easily made and no difficulty was experienced in obtaining a large percentage of good ripe tobacco, though late planted tobacco returned a somewhat low poundage per acre.

The progress of tobacco cultivation in Nyasaland has been remarkable, for, whereas but 24 acres were under cultivation in 1901, the crop now being harvested covers an area of 10,496 acres, while the crop exported to the home market during the year under review represents practically 3 per cent. of the average amount consumed in Great Britain.

Climatic conditions cause the cultivation of tea to be limited to a relatively small area in the south-east portion of the Mlanje district. The acreage under cultivation was returned at 2,812, or an increase of 219 acres. The quantity exported amounted to 67,726 lbs., as compared with 43,876 lbs. in the previous year. The crop continues to be one of the healthiest in the Protectorate and, with the recent introduction of up-to-date machinery and consequent improvement in quality, the industry is a promising one.

The partial failure of the rains once more proved coffee to be an unstable crop in Nyasaland and, though it is a specially profitable one in a very wet season unsuited for cotton or tobacco, planters are rapidly abandoning its cultivation.

The marked increase in export reported last year was consequently not maintained, the output having fallen from 786,304 lbs., valued at £16,381, to 194,704 lbs., valued at £4,868, with a reduction in acreage from 3,735 to 2,600.

Nyasaland chillies still remain the standard on the home market, but on account of over-production in the Protectorate last year, and the extension of chillie cultivation in East Africa and Uganda, the market was swamped and prices dropped from 45/50 shillings to 25/35 shillings a hundredweight, with the result that the acreage under cultivation in Nyasaland has fallen from 789 to 213 acres.

The total export of chillies during the year amounted to 168,893 lbs., valued locally at £3,166, a decrease of £53 in value, as compared with the previous year.

The cultivation of Ceara rubber is gradually emerging from the experimental stage, and although the acreage is smaller the trees still remaining are more likely to produce profitable rubber than the larger areas originally planted and partly uprooted on account of unsuitable environment.

The most satisfactory feature of the year has been the increase in the export of cultivated rubber, and this progress is likely to be maintained. The value of the exported crop amounted to £11,003, of which £3,300 represented the value of cultivated rubber.

The cultivated rubber exported to date is almost entirely the production of Ceara trees, the Para rubber on the estate of the African Lakes Corporation in the West Nyasaland district not

having attained an age for tapping. The total area under cultivation amounts to 8,896 acres, of which 7,659 are under Ceara.

The uncultivated rubber is principally the production of *Landolphia parvifolia*, which is being successfully extracted by the African Lakes Corporation from the underground parts of the plant by combined mechanical and chemical processes which it has been found turn out a quality of rubber much superior to the ordinary wild rubber exported from other parts of Africa.

It has been proved that the cultivation of rubber in Nyasaland is suitable only in areas with a rainfall of not less than 40 inches, and possessing a soil rich in humus and highly retentive for moisture.

During the past five years, fibre has been grown on experimental patches at various elevations, and the results have shown that sisal and Mauritius fibre are both adversely affected by cold in the higher elevations and will require to be cultivated below 2,500 feet. The "New Corona" fibre machine which was installed during the year by the British Central Africa Company at Mandimwe, in the Blantyre district, gave successful results, 60 tons of fibre having been extracted. The quality of the fibre must be regarded as very satisfactory since it realised the exceptionally high price of £29 5s. 0d. per ton on the home market.

The export of fibre for the year amounted to 140,692 lbs., valued locally at £1,256, and shows an increase in value of £1,159 over the export of the previous year.

The area under Mauritius hemp amounts to 856 acres and under sisal hemp to 152 acres, and an extension of these acreages is anticipated during the coming season.

The chief work on the Government experimental farms has been the continuation of the selection experiments in Nyasaland Upland cotton, which have proved most successful. The cultivation of imported varieties of maize resulted in 30 tons of seed being available for distribution to natives, and for sale to Europeans, with a view to replacing the poorer yielding native variety.

The trials with disc ploughs having proved successful, it is intended to undertake similar experiments with other forms of agricultural labour-saving implements, for future agricultural extensions by European planters are to a large degree dependent on the introduction of such machinery.

FORESTRY.

Afforestation work has been mainly directed to replacing the failures in the timber plantations caused by the cessation of the rains in February, 1912. Twelve acres were added to the eucalyptus plantation at Zomba, while 80,000 eucalypts were planted out during the year in the Mudi plantation at Blantyre.

The number of plants raised in the nurseries at Blantyre and Zomba was 312,370.

IV.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty Ordinances were enacted during the year under review, one of which—the Official Secrets Ordinance—was disallowed.

Among the more important of these legislative measures are the following:—

The Native Foodstuffs Ordinance provides for the regulation and control of the sale to purchasers of foodstuffs grown by natives at a time when any district or area is suffering from, or threatened with, a shortage of native foodstuffs.

The Townships Ordinance consolidates former enactments governing the establishment of townships and town councils and provides for their constitution and management.

The District Administration (Native) Ordinance makes provision for the administration of the native population and for the appointment of principal and village headmen, with a view to the gradual introduction of a system of subsidiary local government in the various districts of the Protectorate to replace the almost obsolete system of tribal rule.

The Christian Native Marriage Ordinance has for its object the provision of proper means and facilities for the marriage of Christian natives desirous of assuming the responsibilities of a Christian marriage.

The Crown Lands Ordinance is a measure providing for the granting or leasing of Crown Lands, and sets forth the conditions regulating the holding of Crown Lands granted or leased.

V.—EDUCATION.

There are no Government schools in the Protectorate, native education being carried out by the various missionary societies in Nyasaland.

During the last six years an annual grant of £1,000 has been made by Government in aid of primary education and has been allocated, under certain conditions, to the missionary societies desirous of participating. There are 1,855 schools in the Protectorate, the majority of which are established in native villages and are in charge of native teachers superintended by Europeans attached to the headquarters of the missions. 135,048 natives received instruction at these schools during the year, the average attendance being 90,957.

Most of the missions have industrial schools at their head stations where instruction is given in carpentry, printing, book-binding, agriculture, horticulture and other practical trades.

The teaching of the first principles of hygiene and sanitation is being extended and cannot but be of benefit to the physical welfare of the native population. The enactment of the District Administration (Native) Ordinance during the year under review will be the means of introducing better hygienic and sanitary conditions in the villages of the districts to which it is to be applied during the forthcoming year.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The number of cases tried in the High Court during the year was 47, including six criminal cases. The latter were of no special interest. The civil cases were mainly concerned with commercial disputes and include a claim for damages for libel by a district official in Portuguese East Africa against a trader in Nyasaland, the alleged libel being contained in a cablegram sent by the latter to the Minister for the Colonies at Lisbon.

Criminal cases involving 101 persons were received from the Subordinate Courts for confirmation by the High Court, as against 123 in the preceding year. These cases are classified as follows:—

Murder, other than wife or child murder ...	11
Manslaughter	13
Attempt to murder	3
Murder of wife or child	6
Rape	1
Other offences against the person	26
Malicious injury to property	3
Robbery with violence	3
Other offences against property	35
	101

Sentence of death was carried out in two cases of murder.

4,076 cases were dealt with in the Subordinate Court. These figures show a decrease as compared with the previous year, but this is principally attributable to the fact that there were fewer prosecutions of natives for leaving the Protectorate without passes, in contravention of Section 20 of the Employment of Natives Ordinance, 1909.

The number of convictions in respect of serious crimes of violence also shows a falling off.

A considerable proportion of offences of this class is the outcome of beer-drinking assemblies, but owing to the scarcity of native crops during the year the consumption of native beer was much below the average.

The comparative figures for the past five years are appended:—

1907-8	2,104
1908-9	2,137
1909-10	2,591
1910-11	3,206
1911-12	5,054

Thirteen estates of deceased persons and one bankrupt estate were wound up by the High Court.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The European population is returned at 758 as against 773 in 1911-12, showing a decrease of 15.

The Asiatic population amounts to 356, as compared with 463 in the previous year, the decrease of 107 being accounted for by the disbandment of the Indian Contingent of the 1st Battalion, King's African Rifles and the consequent return of the troops to India.

27 European births were registered, as against 24 in the preceding year.

The number of deaths of Europeans and Asiatics registered during the year amounted to 11 and 7 respectively, as compared with 7 and 8 in the previous year.

The European birth-rate was 35·62 and the death-rate 14·51 per 1,000.

Seven European marriages were celebrated during the year.

The following table gives the European and Asiatic population during the last four years:—

	1909-10.			1910-11.			1911-12.			1912-13.		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
European	409	178	587	531	235	766	539	234	773	518	240	758
Asiatic ...	421	14	435	445	36	481	427	36	463	327	29	356

The native population is estimated at 1,020,537 as against 1,000,659 last year.

VIII.—POSTAL.

The total revenue of the Post Office for the year amounted to £4,559 15s. 3d., showing an increase of £921 18s. 9d. on the previous year. The total expenditure was £5,796 3s. 3d., or £537 18s. 0d. in excess of the year 1911-12. The number of articles posted increased by 55 per cent., and mail matter delivered by 3·87 per cent.

Telephonic communication was established during the year between the various Government offices in Zomba by means of a central exchange at the Zomba Post Service.

SAVINGS BANK.

There are four saving banks conducted by the Government, situated at Zomba, Blantyre, Port Herald, and Fort Johnston. As their establishment dates only from the 1st of July, 1911, and the Nyasaland native has yet to recognize the value of thrift, progress will be slow until the system can be extended to all districts and natives have had time to realise its benefits. The total number of depositors on the 31st December, 1912, was 226, of whom 123 were natives. Deposits amounted to £4,210 7s. 9d., and withdrawals to £2,933 13s. 1d.

The total amount to the credit of depositors at the end of 1912 was £3,928 18s. 7d.

The rate of interest allowed is 2½ per cent. per annum.

The amount of invested funds is £3,262 0s. 8d.

IX.—MILITARY.

The garrison of the Protectorate has undergone considerable change during the year, "B" Company of the 1st Battalion, King's African Rifles, having proceeded to the East Africa Protectorate for service in Jubaland, and the Indian Contingent having been disbanded. Owing to these changes the Atonga Company of the Reserves was mobilised.

The annual training of the Reserves commenced on the 1st of June, 1912, and 217 reservists completed the training.

The health of the troops has been very good, no serious epidemic of any description having occurred.

X.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The condition and attitude of the native population have remained satisfactory throughout the year, and notwithstanding the scarcity of food which prevailed and the increase in the rates of the hut tax which came into force on the 1st of April, 1912, the natives as a whole have met their obligations in a creditable manner.

A year of bad harvest is not without its effect on the hut tax revenue, and, in the circumstances, an increase of 11,090 in the number of taxes paid, compared with that in the preceding year, may be regarded as satisfactory. The revenue derived from the hut tax amounted to £65,685.

The following table shows the hut tax revenue for the past five years:—

	£
1908-9	38,389
1909-10	41,530
1910-11	46,534
1911-12	50,970
1912-13	65,685

The almost total failure of the native harvest in the Lower Shire District for the second year in succession together with a partial failure of the food crops in the southern districts of the Protectorate rendered it necessary to continue the prohibition of the exportation from Nyasaland of native-grown grain. "The Native Foodstuffs Ordinance, 1912" was also enacted to enable restrictions to be placed on their purchase for the purpose of resale in or export from each of the districts affected by famine. The conservation of native food supplies was further safeguarded by the establishment of granaries by the residents in charge of these districts, thereby enabling natives to obtain food and seed at a season of the year when their own stocks became exhausted.

In the Lower Shire District, however, additional measures were taken and large supplies of grain were procured from the northern portion of the Protectorate and in German East Africa and trans-

ported to Port Herald, which was made the centre of the famine relief works.

The adult males in this district responded well to the call made upon them to use every effort to assist themselves and their families by entering into employment, with the result that it became possible to limit free issues of food to the very old and young. It is satisfactory to record that, despite the adverse conditions which prevailed and which were borne with marked cheerfulness by the native population, no case of death attributable to starvation came to light.

The prospects of the present harvest are favourable throughout the Protectorate.

The enactment of "The District Administration (Native) Ordinance, 1912" marks an important era in the future government of the native population, and it is believed that it will have far-reaching effects in the improvement of the conditions of native life, and in supplying a salutary measure of discipline and control in village life to replace the old system of tribal rule by chiefs, which has fallen into decay with the evolution of native life and passage of time.

Framed, as it has been, in accord with native ideas and practice, it is a measure which none the less avoids the defects of the archaic system of tribal rule and which has as its aim the gradual formation of a subsidiary local government by means of sectional councils of headmen chosen as far as possible by the natives themselves and presided over by the District Resident. By this means it will be possible to build up an organization to control the rising generation of natives who, finding themselves without the restraining influences to which their parents were accustomed, have of recent years evinced an inclination to emancipate themselves from the disciplinary responsibilities of village life and obedience to authority and to adopt habits prejudicial to native family life.

The establishment of these councils under the direction and guidance of the District Resident will, it is hoped, enable the people to recognise that they are being given some measure of responsibility for their own affairs, and that they will be afforded full opportunity of following a path of progress on lines which government will control and regulate.

The health of the native population has been on the whole satisfactory, and there has been complete immunity from serious epidemics during the year.

The Royal Society's Commission has continued its investigations at Kasu, in the vicinity of the sleeping sickness area. Up to the end of March, 1913, 126 cases of sleeping sickness have been recorded in the Protectorate, and during the year under review 63 cases have been diagnosed, as compared with 25 in the previous year, and 30 in the year preceding. Of the 63 cases diagnosed during the year 40 were males and 23 females.

The increase in the number of cases during the past year, as compared with the two previous years, is noteworthy; it would, however, be premature to draw deductions therefrom at this date, especially when it is remembered that, as the natives become accustomed to the presence of medical officers and have now no fear of cases being deported to a segregation camp, there is less

likelihood of concealment of the sick as time goes on, and therefore the chances of finding a larger proportion of the infected will be correspondingly increased.

The immunity of the native population from small-pox has been a satisfactory feature of the public health during the year, and though outbreaks of a sporadic character have been reported they have been due solely to infection having been conveyed from adjoining territories, and the disease in every instance has been rapidly checked.

This satisfactory state of affairs is the result of the widespread and thorough vaccination which has been carried out during recent years and which is being continued throughout the Protectorate.

The widespread existence of ankylostomiasis in the North Nyasa district formed the subject of investigation during the year, and it is intended to apply the District Administration (Native) Ordinance to this district with the special object of enabling Government to introduce a system of deep-trench latrines throughout the native villages. It is hoped that by this means the percentage of infected natives will be reduced and the physical condition of the natives improved.

The danger to be apprehended from the employment of Nyasaland natives as labourers in the South African mines and their return to the Protectorate with tubercular infection is evidenced by the results of the medical examination of 1,274 natives repatriated from the Transvaal mines during the year. It was found that no less than 3 per cent. were actually phthisical, while 9.5 per cent. were returned as suspicious cases.

XI.—GENERAL.

The outbreak of rinderpest in German East Africa and the consequent danger of its spread in a southerly direction to the borders of Nyasaland necessitated an increase in the veterinary staff and a supply of serum being obtained.

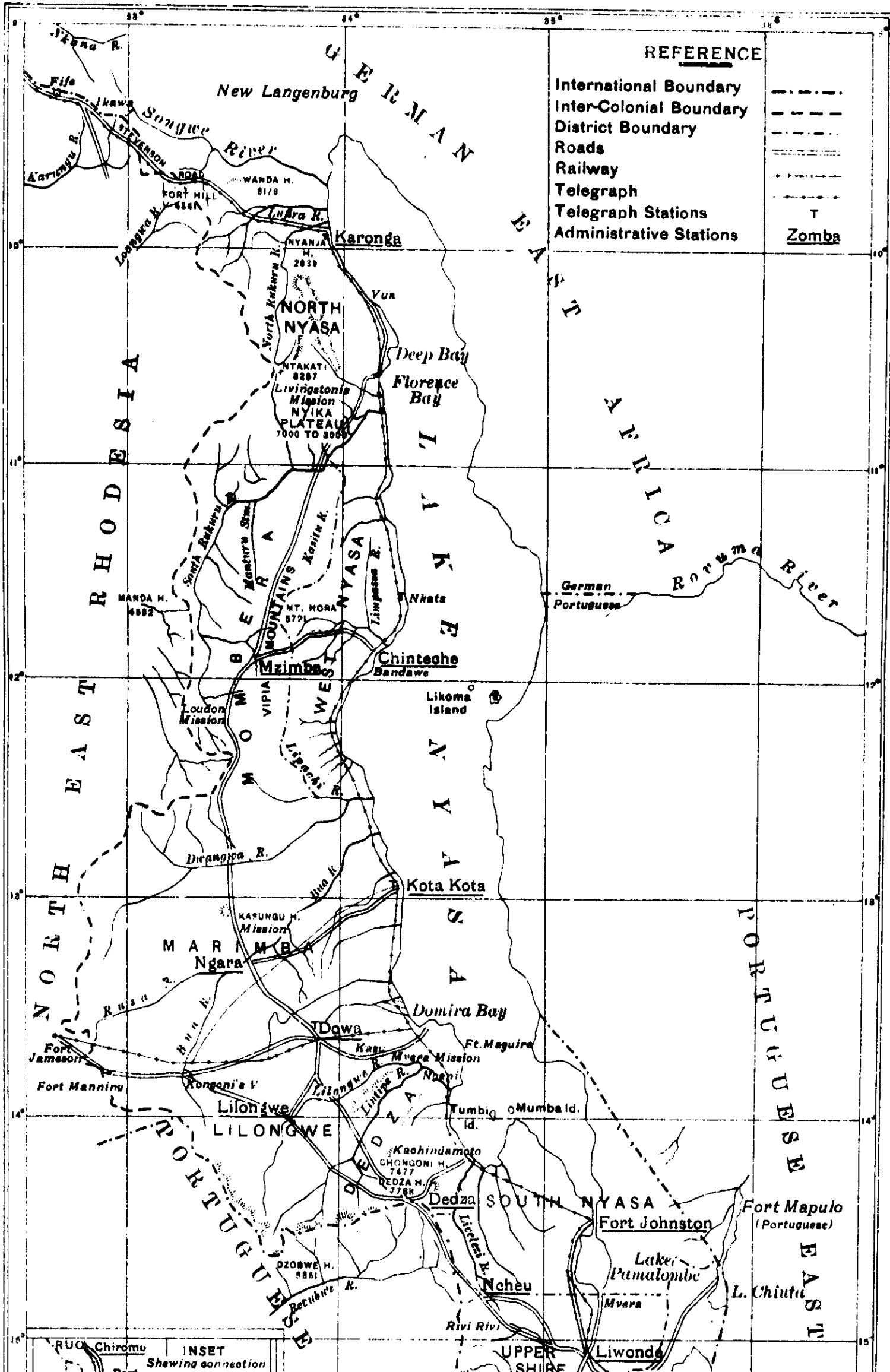
As a further precautionary measure the importation of live stock from surrounding territories has been prohibited. Co-operative measures are also being undertaken in conjunction with the Governments in South, Central, and East Africa in anticipation of the possible spread of the disease.

The macadamised road from Zomba to Limbe and Blantyre was completed during the year, and a regular Government motor lorry service between Zomba and Limbe has been maintained. The policy of providing macadam roads as feeders to the railway is being continued.

The increasing shallowness of the Upper Shire River which has now continued for a considerable number of years is evidence of the process of desiccation affecting the inland water system of this part of Africa, and is now of such a serious nature as to render the extension of the railway to Lake Nyasa a matter of urgent importance.

Until this extension is constructed the agricultural development of the districts bordering on Lake Nyasa will continue to be retarded, and large areas of cultivable land must remain unexploited.

SKETCH MAP OF NYASALAND PROTECTORATE



REFERENCE

- International Boundary
- Inter-Colonial Boundary
- District Boundary
- Roads
- Railway
- Telegraph
- Telegraph Stations T
- Administrative Stations Zomba

RUO Chiromo INSET
Showing connection

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.
739	Jamaica	1911-1912
740	Swaziland	"
741	Bahamas	"
742	Grenada	1911
743	Uganda	1911-1912
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	1911-1912
746	British Guiana	"
747	St. Vincent	"
748	Barbados	"
49	Leeward Islands	"
750	Straits Settlements... ..	1911
751	East Africa Protectorate	1911-1912
752	St. Lucia	"
753	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1911
754	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1911-1912
755	Gibraltar	1912
756	St. Helena	"
757	Weihaiwei	"
758	Ceylon	1911-1912
759	Sierra Leone	1912
760	Seychelles	"
761	Somaliland	1912-1913
762	Hong Kong... ..	1912
763	Turks and Caicos Islands... ..	"
764	Falkland Islands	"
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"
769	Basutoland	1912-1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
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.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.