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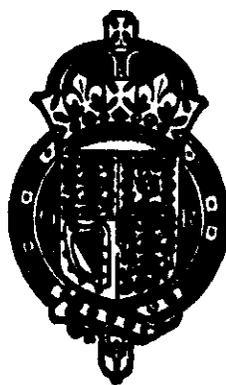
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NYASALAND.

REPORT FOR 1929.

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NYASALAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

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Geography.

The territory comprised in the Nyasaland Protectorate is a strip about 520 miles in length and varying from 50 to 100 miles in width. It lies approximately between latitude S. 9° 45' and 17° 16' and longitude E. 33° and 36°. The area is roughly 40,000 square miles or about one-third the area of the British Isles. The most southerly portion of the Protectorate is about 130 miles from the sea as the crow flies.

This strip falls naturally into two divisions: (1) consisting of the western shore of Lake Nyasa, with the high tablelands separating it from the basin of the Luangwa river in Northern Rhodesia, and (2) the region between the watershed of the Zambesi river and Shire river on the west and the Lakes Chiuta and Chilwa and the Ruo river, an affluent of the Shire, on the east, including the mountain systems of the Shire Highlands and Mlanje and a small portion, also mountainous, of the south-eastern coast of Lake Nyasa.

The Protectorate is divided for administrative purposes into four Provinces, the Zomba, Southern, Central, and Northern, each

of which is in the charge of a Provincial Commissioner. Each Province is sub-divided into districts in the charge of Residents.

The chief towns are Blantyre, with about 300 European inhabitants, Limbe near Blantyre, and Zomba, the seat of the Government.

Historical.

Very little is known of the history of the region now called Nyasaland before the middle of the past century. Jasper Bocarro, a Portuguese, is said to have been the first European to visit Nyasaland; he appears to have travelled early in the 17th century from the Zambesi to the junction of the Ruo and Shire rivers and thence via Lake Shirwa and the Lujenda river to the coast at Mikandani.

The real history of Nyasaland begins with the advent of Dr. Livingstone, who, after experiencing considerable difficulty in ascending the Shire, discovered Lakes Shirwa and Pamalombe, and on the 16th September, 1859, reached the southern shore of Lake Nyasa. Livingstone was closely followed by a mission under Bishop Mackenzie, sent out by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The mission settled in the Shire Highlands, but, on account of loss of its members by sickness and otherwise, it withdrew in 1862. It was subsequently re-established in 1881 on Lake Nyasa, with headquarters on the island of Likoma, where it still remains.

In 1874, the Livingstonia Mission, named in honour of the great explorer, was founded by the Free Church of Scotland. They were joined in 1876 by the pioneers of the Church of Scotland Mission, who chose the site of the present town of Blantyre and established themselves in the Shire Highlands, while the Free Church applied itself to the evangelization of the inhabitants of the shores of Lake Nyasa.

The missions were followed by the African Lakes Corporation, and in 1883 Captain Foote, R.N., was appointed first British Consul for the territories north of the Zambesi, to reside at Blantyre.

A serious danger had arisen in connection with Arab slave traders who had settled at the north end of Lake Nyasa. At the time of Livingstone's first visit he found the Arabs established in a few places on what is now the Portuguese shore of the Lake and at Kota-Kota on the west side. Arab caravans, trading with the tribes in and beyond the valley of the Luangwa, were in the habit of crossing the Lake on their way to and from the sea coast. Opposition of the new settlers to the slave trade carried on by Arab coastmen and natives alike resulted in a conflict with the Arab traders under Chief Mlozi, settled at the north end of Lake Nyasa, which spread to the Yao chiefs, who were under their influence.

In the summer of 1889, the late Mr. Johnston (afterwards Sir H. H. Johnston, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.) arrived at Mozambique as His Britannic Majesty's Consul and proceeded to travel in the interior to inquire into the troubles with the Arabs.

Treaties having been concluded with the remaining Makololo chiefs and with the Yaos round Blantyre, Mr. Johnston proceeded up Lake Nyasa, leaving Mr. John Buchanan, Acting-Consul, in charge, who, after the first encounter between Major Serpa Pinto and Mlauri, a powerful Makololo chief, proclaimed on 21st September, 1889, a British Protectorate over the Shire districts.

In 1891, an Anglo-Portuguese Convention ratified the work of Mr. Johnston, Mr. Sharpe (now Sir A. Sharpe, K.C.M.G., C.B.), and other pioneers of British Central Africa, and in the following spring a British Protectorate over the countries adjoining Nyasa was proclaimed. The Protectorate of Nyasaland, under the administration of an Imperial Commissioner, was confined to the regions adjoining the Shire and Lake Nyasa, the remainder of the territory under British influence north of the Zambesi being placed, subject to certain conditions, under the British South Africa Company.

On 22nd February, 1893, the name of the Protectorate was changed to "The British Central Africa Protectorate," but the old name "Nyasaland Protectorate" was revived in October, 1907, by the Order in Council which amended the Constitution.

Climate.

The climate of Nyasaland in its essential feature is similar to that of the rest of Eastern Africa within the tropics.

The climate is necessarily diversified in various districts, owing to variations in latitude, altitude, and general configuration of the terrain, presence or absence of rivers, forests, etc., but, as a large proportion of the Protectorate lies at an altitude of 3,000 feet or more the heat is not generally excessive. The monsoon commences to blow strongly in September, in conjunction with the sun's increase in southerly declination, and the first rains may be expected any time after mid-October. From their commencement to the end of December it is usual to experience violent thunderstorms and heavy precipitation in a few hours, followed by an interval varying from one to fifteen or twenty days of intense heat. With the return of the sun from its southern limit of declination, the thunderstorms diminish in intensity and frequency, and are replaced by steady rain—January, February, and March being usually the wettest months as regards duration of rainfall as well as actual amount. After March the frequency and intensity of rainfall diminish rapidly and from May to September the climate is comparatively cool and dry.

Languages.

The principal language spoken in the Protectorate is Nyanja, which is understood by most tribes throughout the country and is the official language which all civil servants are expected to learn. Other languages in use in various parts of Nyasaland are Yao, Nguru (which is spoken chiefly by natives who have immigrated from Portuguese East Africa), Tumbuka, Ponga, and Nkonde, the last three practically confined to the Northern Province. Swahili is spoken to a limited extent, chiefly by Mohamadan Yaos.

Currency, etc.

The currency of the Protectorate consists of English coinage, gold, silver, and copper, but there is no note issue and notes of other parts of the Empire are not legal tender.

The weights and measures in use are also the ordinary English units, although there is an increasing tendency to use the short ton of 2,000 lb. The only two banks operating in Nyasaland are the Standard Bank of South Africa and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), formerly the National Bank of South Africa.

I.—GENERAL.

Sir Charles Bowring, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., proceeded on leave on the 30th of May prior to relinquishing office as Governor and Commander-in-Chief. His successor, Mr. T. S. W. Thomas, C.M.G., O.B.E., took the prescribed oaths and assumed the Administration of the Government on the 7th of November.

At the 39th Session of the Legislative Council held on the 29th of April, the Governor referred to the grave concern that had been caused throughout the world by the severe illness of His Majesty the King and to the relief which had been afforded by His Majesty's recovery and gracious message issued to all people.

He announced that the Secretary of State had agreed to the appointment of an additional Unofficial Member of the Council specially to represent the interests of trade and commerce.

He stated that the new Education Bill would be introduced but that he did not propose to proceed beyond the first reading at that Session. His Excellency also stated that he did not propose to proceed further with the Crown Lands Bill until he received a reply from the Secretary of State to his despatch forwarding the report of the debate which took place on the motion for the second reading.

His Excellency opened the 40th Session of the Legislative Council on the 9th of December. He announced that His Majesty's Government had approved the construction of the Zambesi Bridge and of the extension of the railway to Lake Nyasa, and expressed his belief that the liability in respect of interest and sinking fund charges would not in the end impose an undue burden on the resources of the Protectorate if the energies of the country were

devoted to the wise and systematic development of its resources during the period of construction. On the assumption that the great bulk of produce would be grown in places not in direct contact with the railway, there must be an adequate system of feeder roads capable of standing heavy traffic all through the year in order to make the necessary motor transport easy and effective. His Excellency stated that the Director of Public Works was preparing a detailed scheme of roadwork, to be spread over the next few years, which would meet all reasonable requirements. He also said that the Acting Director of Agriculture was preparing a scheme for the establishment of a complete, up-to-date, agricultural laboratory, which would be built in close proximity to an experimental station so that the research officers might be in a position to test their investigations in the field. The Governor also announced that a Mycologist had been appointed and that he was at that time engaged at Mlanje with Dr. Storey, Senior Mycologist of the Amani Institute, who was studying the diseases which affect the tea industry.

Passing from material development to the question of physical and moral development, His Excellency remarked on the small staff available for medical and sanitary work, with the result that a large percentage of the native population is affected with hook-worm, malaria, or other tropical diseases. He pointed out that it was fruitless to hope for industry and energy in a diseased community, and said that he had asked the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services to prepare a scheme for attacking hook-worm and to advise what could be done if funds were made available for the establishment of more rural dispensaries, for the improvement of town and village water supplies, and for the improvement of sanitation. The Director of Medical and Sanitary Services had also been asked to consider the advisability of establishing an infant clinic in some thickly populated and otherwise suitable centre, to be supervised by a European lady doctor, with possibly the assistance of a European nursing sister.

These, and other schemes, would cost considerable sums and would also entail additional annual expenditure on maintenance. As regards capital expenditure, His Excellency proposed to apply through the Secretary of State for grants under the Colonial Development Act. Such grants might be by way of a loan or of a free grant and he intended to apply for the latter as the revenue of the Protectorate was totally inadequate to its needs, and to reduce the amount available for public services by increasing debt charges would merely retard development. As regards recurrent expenditure, he would look upon the maintenance of development works as the most important service for which the country had to provide.

Turning to education, the Governor stated that he had discussed the question of European education with the acting Director of Education who was considering the matter. He suggested that the native should not be treated as if he were a very undeveloped

European and that it should not be sufficient to teach him to read, write, and do sums, thus giving to his training a predominantly literary twist which would fit him for nothing except clerical work; but that the real object of education should be to make of a man a useful citizen by training his character.

His Excellency announced that he had not had time since his arrival to do more than read the more important correspondence on the subject of the Crown Lands Bill, but that it was quite clear that the European community was opposed to the Bill as it then stood. As it was essential that he should fully understand the reasons for this opposition before he proceeded further with the Bill, he proposed that the Report of the Select Committee should be formally presented to the Council and that further consideration of the Bill should be postponed.

The year under review was one of depression. Trade generally declined and the prices of the main exports of the Protectorate, tobacco and tea, were low.

II.—FINANCE.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure during each of the past five financial years:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	£	£
1925-26	322,160	303,205
1926-27	348,326	318,899
1927 (April-December) ...	346,341	266,519
1928	378,123	407,377
1929	372,508	410,688

The public debt of the Protectorate as at the 31st of December, 1929, was as follows:—

<i>Loan.</i>	<i>Total Loan received.</i>	<i>Interest and Annuity Charges paid in 1929.</i>	<i>Unredeemed balances.</i>
	£	£	£
Shire Highlands Railway:—			
Subsidy Lands	180,800	8,371	145,843
East African Protectorates:—			
Loan 1915, 4 per cent.	12,000	2,890	41,540
Loan 1915, 6 per cent.	33,348		
Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee and Annuity Loans 1921-27:—			
January Issues (Plus interest 1927, £9,660)	195,000	13,650	185,020
March Issues	210,550	14,739	174,750
July Issues	125,000	8,750	119,875
June Issues	45,000	3,150	43,582
December Issues	45,000	3,150	43,575
Totals... ..	£846,698	£54,700	£754,185

Trade conditions were again bad and the revenue was some £29,000 below the estimate.

Certain amendments were made in the Customs Schedule, estimated to bring in an additional £14,000 in a full year.

The items principally affected were :—

	<i>Additional Revenue.</i>
	£
Matches	3,200
Salt	1,645
Cotton Manufactures	5,050
Beads	560
Wines and Spirits	1,187

The duty on provisions was reduced at an estimated cost to revenue of £2,000 for a whole year.

Under the Native Hut and Poll Tax Ordinance, all widows were exempted from the tax. This would result in a loss of about £2,000 a year.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Cotton.—Although the European acreage return for 1929 shows a slight increase on that of 1928, there was a reduction in lint, from 52 tons in 1928 to 37 tons in 1929. There was, however, a very marked increase in the native production, good as it was in 1928, the figures in terms of seed cotton being 3,505 tons in 1929 as against 2,486 tons in the previous year. The increase is due largely to excellent climatic conditions on the Lower River, where the bulk of the native crop is produced, though credit must be given to the propaganda work of the District Commissioners, the agricultural staff, and the British Cotton Growing Association. It should be noted that strains on which the research staff of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation have been working are not yet in general cultivation, and the 3,000 tons produced on the Lower River was from the strain that has been in cultivation since 1913.

Tobacco.—The European acreage was approximately 3,000 less than in 1928, and climatic conditions were not favourable over the greater part of the Shire Highlands, in consequence of which both yield and quality was below normal, the total crop being 2,289 tons, as against 4,068 tons in 1928.

The bulk of the native tobacco crop is produced in the Central Province, where climatic conditions are decidedly different, and the abnormal character of the January-April rains was as beneficial in this area as they proved injurious in the Shire Highlands. The total native grown crop was 3,881 tons as against 2,414 tons in 1928.

There was an increase in the number of native growers from 34,761 in the previous season to 47,578, and the increase occurred in all provinces. The quality and the yield was, however, far superior in the Central Province. In this area in which the Native Tobacco Board's efforts are concentrated an innovation which proved most successful was the concentration of licensed buyers at eight buying stations, and the inspection by officers of the Board of all tobacco offered for sale.

Tea.—There is a steady increase in the area, the 1929 acreage being 8,866 as against 7,596 in the previous year, whilst the yield was raised from 628 tons to 778 tons. The reduced prices obtained seem to have encouraged more and more attention being given to the various phases of cultivation and manufacture, in order to effect the most economical production.

Sisal.—There is a slightly increased acreage, and the actual production increased from 1,179 tons in 1928 to 1,230 tons in 1929.

Coffee.—There is a slight increase in acreage—from 1,281 to 1,331, whilst the production was raised from 33 tons to 57 tons.

The exports and local values of the five principal crops during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

	1925		1926		1927		1928		1929	
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Tobacco	3,088	345,871	4,081	457,122	6,905	780,964	5,193	496,561	5,400	478,060
Cotton ...	1,023	96,245	1,377	93,245	828	45,834	797	58,264	947	62,660
Sisal ...	785	19,388	529	16,799	801	24,428	1,102	29,814	1,200	34,464
Tea ...	516	64,242	528	62,675	522	56,640	637	73,599	784	74,382
Coffee ...	9	768	25	2,174	16	1,203	21	1,542	44	3,239

Veterinary.

Trypanosomiasis and African Coast Fever were the main causes of losses in cattle during the year. The former disease was responsible for greater losses than during the previous twelve months, serious outbreaks having been recorded in the Lower Shire area and also in the more northern parts of the Central Province. The position as far as the Northern Province is concerned remains about the same.

African Coast Fever (*theileria parva* infection) was very severe in the Dedza District during the period under review. Additional tanks are being constructed in that District. The outlook here is, however, more hopeful as the native cattle-owners are becoming more accustomed to and less prejudiced against dipping, but the position will require special attention for several years to come.

Elsewhere the position remains the same and little improvement can be expected in the Northern Province until dipping on a large scale can be undertaken.

Redwater Fever (*babesia bigeminum* infection) is a disease which has been extremely rarely met with in Nyasaland, but *theileria mutans*, one of a group of organisms closely allied to *theileria parva*, has been somewhat more frequently met with, especially in young animals. It is in particular during the dry season, when grazing becomes scarce and the natural resistance on the part of the animal to the pathogenic effect of the causal organism is in consequence lowered, that *theileria mutans* infection is much in evidence.

Infestation of livestock with intestinal parasites is still of common occurrence. This is a condition which is now generally recognized by European stock-owners and, as a consequence, systematic dosing of animals is now more or less generally resorted to. In native-owned herds, however, the condition continues to be a grave factor in retarding the development of stock and, where not the direct cause of mortality, it is frequently a contributory cause. It is hoped that in the near future means will be available for the adoption of measures to combat this condition in the native areas.

No cases of anthrax or blackquarter were recorded during the period under review.

Demodectic (follicular) mange has been practically stamped out in the Southern and Zomba Provinces; although cases are still met with in the native areas.

The increased incidence of the disease rabies, especially in native-owned dogs, is a matter which has given cause for concern, and it appears highly desirable that further and more adequate legislation for the prevention of the disease be provided.

There are indications that European stock-owners are taking more interest in their herds and it would appear likely that the importation of further pure-bred bulls will follow.

There has been a more or less satisfactory increase in native-owned cattle.

Forestry.

The constitution of forest reserves continues to occupy an important place in the work of the Forestry Department and although the majority of the main catchment areas have now been put under reservation, a careful study of water supplies is to be made in each district so that further reservation proposals may be put forward where considered necessary or advisable. Extensive reconnaissance throughout the Protectorate has revealed that forest tracts of a sufficiently good quality to justify reservation solely for the object of timber production are scarce and very small in extent. During the year one new forest reserve of 26 square miles was constituted, one reserve was reconstituted, and two reserves were reduced in

area. Proposals were also put forward and were under consideration for the constitution of five new reserves, and for reducing the areas of two constituted reserves so as to free them of villages and settlements.

In the management of the forests it is only possible at present to undertake systematic exploitation and silvicultural operations in a few reserves, because the majority are too far removed from markets and are too poor in quality from the timber point of view to justify, for the time being, measures other than those of protection. Silvicultural observations and experiments, however, are being extended as much as possible with the object of ascertaining the extent to which various types of forest can be improved, both in quality and in natural regeneration, by operations such as complete fire-protection, early grass-burning, and improvement-fellings. Systematic trial plantings of selected indigenous and exotic species are being continued, and extended to as many localities as possible, in order to ascertain the best species for afforestation purposes under varying climatic and other local conditions. In addition, planting was also undertaken in connection with afforestation schemes, in forest reserves, at Limbe, Zomba, Mlanje, and Dedza.

There were 477 convictions under the Forest Ordinance during the year, compared with 1,213 in 1928.

Departmental exploitation of cypress blocks in the Mlanje Mountain Reserve was continued throughout the year and some stocks of sawn timber, surplus to the requirements of the Public Works Department, were sold to the public. Much of the timber (other than poles and firewood) used by the non-native population is still being derived from river-bank trees both on private estates and on crown lands, and although the sales from the latter are almost entirely limited to fallen and dead trees, it is not known to what extent restrictions are being applied to the cutting on freehold estates. Even with the strictest conservation measures, it is certain that river banks cannot be relied on to any great extent as a source of supply for meeting future timber demands.

Timber and firewood were sold to the public from Government plantations and considerable quantities were supplied free of charge to the Public Works and other Government departments.

The total cash revenue for the year was £3,549, which shows a decrease of £1,186 on the figure for 1928. £1,177 of this decrease represents reduced sales of firewood from Crown lands, due to coal taking the place of firewood on the locomotives of the Shire Highlands Railway.

A few further "village forest areas" were allocated during the year and a few small village plantations were formed, plants being obtained free of charge from departmental nurseries specially maintained for the purpose. It seems evident that little progress in the

scheme is possible until native organizations are developed which would be capable of taking on the responsibility of seeing that necessary works are carried out for the proper protection and management of the areas.

Short courses of instruction for native foresters and selected forest guards were held at centres in the southern and northern forest divisions.

Dr. J. Burt Davy, M.A., Ph.D., Systematic Botanist on the staff of the Imperial Forestry Institute, Oxford, visited the Protectorate for the purpose of investigating the forest flora, and he spent the whole of September visiting various types of forest in the Central, Zomba, and Southern Provinces. A very large number of herbarium specimens were collected by him, and his identifications would be a valuable contribution towards the elucidation of the Protectorate's forest flora. In order to obtain flowering material of various species, 164 specimens were collected later in the year and were sent to the Imperial Forestry Institute for determination.

Advice on forestry matters was given to the public whenever asked for, either by correspondence, interview or by personal inspection. Some field work was carried out by the Forest Officer, Southern Division, for the Imperial Tobacco Company in connection with the formation of plans for the future management of their eucalyptus plantations.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The continued dullness of the tobacco market and the fall in market prices of other important products detrimentally affected trade, with the result that the volume of trade decreased by £240,723, equal to 13.6 per cent., when compared with the trade volume of 1928.

Adverse rains considerably curtailed the yield of European grown tobacco; a crop which usually finds a local cash market. Imports for European consumption, more particularly those of a non-essential character, consequently were fewer. There were also decreased imports of railway rolling stock, commercial lorries, iron and steel manufactures and machinery.

The distribution of record sums of money in the purchase of native grown tobacco and cotton was a redeeming feature of the year's trade. Upwards of £170,000 were circulated in this manner. Bazaar trade in consequence did not suffer so severely from the general depression as, otherwise, might have been the case.

The demand for cotton piece-goods manufactures appears to be undergoing a degree of revival, if the increased yardage imported during the year is an indication. Bicycles, sewing machines, and cheap hardware continue much in favour with the native population.

Import trade incidence has changed appreciably since 1928. In that year goods imported for European consumption amounted to 57 per cent. of the total value, for Indian consumption 5 per cent., and for native consumption 38 per cent. For the year just ended the percentages were as follows:—European 52, Indian 4.6, and native 43.4.

The volume of trade, domestic imports and exports (excluding Government imports) and goods in transit, is shown below for each of the last five years:—

<i>Year.</i>							<i>Volume of Trade.</i>
							£
1925	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,294,300
1926	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,637,729
1927	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,206,438
1928	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,766,742
1929	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,526,019

As compared with 1928, the trade volume of the year may be analysed as under:—

					1929	1928	Decrease.
					£	£	£
Imports	...	...	...	...	743,540	869,403	125,923
Exports	...	...	...	...	625,480	706,757	81,277
Transit inwards	...	...	...	...	77,495	93,313	15,818
Transit outwards	...	...	...	...	79,504	97,209	17,705
					<u>£1,526,019</u>	<u>£1,766,742</u>	<u>£240,723</u>

The balance of trade favoured imports by £118,060.

Food, drink, and tobacco imports, generally, declined by £5,372, equal to 7.6 per cent. when compared with similar imports of a year ago. Salt imports increased by 25,566 cwt. and £4,831 (69.3 per cent.), and sugar by 2,073 cwt. and £1,024 (14.7 per cent.). Decreases are shown against ghee by 229 cwt. and £1,251 (44.9 per cent.) provisions by 1,025 cwt. and £2,867 (13.7 per cent.), spirits by 1,666 pf. gallons and £2,816 (22.6 per cent.) and cigarettes by 20 cwt. and £1,502 (33.2 per cent.).

Importations of manufactured articles were less by £115,310, equal to 15.7 per cent., when compared with the previous year's imports. Agricultural machinery and implements improved by 1,237 cwt. and £2,784 (22.8 per cent.), cotton manufactures by £1,962 (0.7 per cent), and petrol by 60,138 gallons and £5,300 (15.1 per cent.). The decreased importations were railway rolling stock and material by 98,266 cwt. and £49,413 (84.8 per cent.), vehicles and parts by £20,945 (24.9 per cent.), iron and steel by 20,941 cwt. and £25,000 (46.1 per cent.), and soap by 1,118 cwt. and £2,131 (22.1 per cent.).

Touring motor-cars, with a total import of 106 (54 from the United Kingdom) were fewer by 22 and commercial lorries, with a

total of 55, were less by 33. Cotton piece-goods, with a total import quantity of 9,415,048 lineal yards, were better by 1,224,608 yards.

Direct imports from the United Kingdom have fallen in 15 years from 75 per cent. of the total to 36.28 per cent., whilst trade with foreign countries has increased during the same period from 18.5 per cent. to 41.42 per cent. Imports from Germany increased by 2.1 per cent. and those from Japan by 1.9 per cent.

During the last five years direct cotton manufacture imports from the United Kingdom have declined from 42 per cent. to 15.6 per cent. of the whole, whereas such imports from foreign sources have risen, during the same period, from 22.8 per cent. to 53.1 per cent. Cotton manufactures from other parts of the Empire have decreased in five years from 35.2 per cent. to 31.3 per cent.

India contributed 13.5 per cent. of the Protectorate's import trade—mainly cotton manufactures. South Africa shipped 5.6 per cent. and Southern Rhodesia 1.9 per cent. Of the foreign countries Portuguese East Africa supplied 16.2 per cent. of the total, chiefly motor spirit, paraffin, cotton manufactures, salt, sugar, and coal; Germany shipped cotton manufactures, hoes, and hardware to the extent of 10.5 per cent. of the total imports; the United States of America supplied 4.3 per cent., cotton goods; Japan 3.4 per cent., cotton goods, and Holland 2.5 per cent., cotton blankets and piece-goods, beads, etc.

The allocation of direct consignments of domestic trade imports for each of the last five years, is given in the statement below:—

Year.	United Kingdom.		British Possessions.		Foreign Countries.	
	£	%	£	%	£	%
1925 ...	295,844	50.0	139,325	23.5	156,482	26.5
1926 ...	353,334	44.66	163,923	20.73	273,797	34.61
1927 ...	410,659	43.76	211,065	22.49	316,737	33.75
1928 ...	343,383	39.49	175,557	20.19	350,523	40.32
1929 ...	269,703	36.28	165,808	22.29	308,029	41.42

Continued inactivity of the tobacco market again restricted European production and adverse rains late in the season reduced the output of that under cultivation. Native acreages under tobacco were in excess of last year and, except in one or two districts, were unaffected by injurious rains. The European yield, therefore, was considerably below the average and native production much above. Of the 4,616 tons shipment weight exported native crops contributed 2,900 tons, equal to 62.8 per cent., whereas in 1928 the native grown proportion was 28.8 per cent. (1,500 tons out of 5,193).

Stabilized prices, guaranteed at the time of the seed issue, encouraged natives to take a keener interest in cotton growing. This resulted in an export for the year of 5,304 bales as compared with 4,464 bales in 1928, an increase equal to 18.8 per cent. Besides this there was a carry over of 1,120 bales as against 560 bales brought forward from 1928. Natives produced 98 per cent. of the crop. Exports of cotton seed weighed 863 tons.

Tea exports improved by 146½ tons (23 per cent.), being 783½ tons as against 637 tons shipped during the previous year, and sisal, with an export weight of 1,200 tons, increased by 38½ tons, equal to 3.3 per cent.

The total exports of the Protectorate weighed 10,617 tons and were valued at £625,480, as compared with 8,962 tons valued at £706,757 in 1928, an increase in weight of 18.48 per cent., but a value decrease of 11.5 per cent.

Of the total domestic products exported the United Kingdom took 96 per cent. by weight and 99.31 per cent. by value. Exports to other countries were negligible.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

Except for the steamers of the British India Line which maintain a regular mail service there are no fixed sailing dates from Beira, and passengers are often kept waiting some days at that port awaiting the departure of the ship on which they are booked. The voyage from England to Beira takes about 30 days by mail steamer and from five to six weeks by other vessels.

Railways.

There are three separate railway systems to be passed over on the journey from Beira to Blantyre, although they are all under one management. These are the Trans-Zambesi Railway from Beira to Murraca on the south of the Zambesi. Passengers and cargoes cross the river by a ferry-steamer, for as yet there is no bridge. From Chindio, opposite Murraca, the Central African railway runs to Port Herald, and the Shire Highlands Railway continues from the latter place, the port of entry into the Protectorate, to Blantyre. The journey normally occupies about 24 hours, passengers sleeping on the train.

Roads.

Road development continued in accordance with a revised programme for expenditure of the balance of £55,000 advanced under the East African Guaranteed Loan.

Advices that the construction of the Zambesi Bridge and the extension of the railway to the Lake were to be proceeded with modified the programme to some extent and materially affected proposals for further expenditure from Loan funds by curtailment

of improvement of roads that would compete with the railway, and by augmenting the expenditure on existing and new roads to serve as feeders to the railway and to the Lake ports.

Considerable progress was made in the replacement of temporary bridging by permanent reinforced concrete structures, notably on the Blantyre-Mwanza road, leading to Tete and Salisbury (Southern Rhodesia), the Zomba-Liwonde-Dedza-Lilongwe-Fort Manning road, leading to Fort Jameson (Northern Rhodesia), the Fort Johnston-Namwera-Kawinga road, the Zomba-Fort Lister road, and the Mlanje-Palombe road.

The replacement of a light semi-permanent bridge across the Tuchila river on the Luchenza-Mlanje road by a standard 100 ft. steel span, with brick arched approaches, suitable for 10 ton loads was commenced and sites for bridges for the same standard of loading were selected at the Ruo and Likabula rivers on the same road.

A similar 100 ft. steel bridge to that at the Tuchila (but with approach spans of reinforced concrete on rolled steel beams) was erected and opened for traffic at Ngara, where the Great North road, between Lilongwe and Kasungu, crosses the Bua river.

The Balakas-Fort Johnston road was completed to a preliminary standard of construction and opened to dry-weather traffic. With regard to maintenance work, this in general gave satisfaction with the exception of the road from Ncheu to Blantyre via Matope, and certain roads in the cotton-growing areas.

The former carried traffic from the Lilongwe native tobacco-producing district, which was estimated at some 6,000 tons, in heavy lorries, and became unuseable, in comfort, by touring cars. As rail-head for this traffic will be at Balakas on the opening of the railway extension, expenditure on permanent improvement of the road, beyond what is necessary for light traffic, is not justified.

As regards the cotton roads, it is more difficult than elsewhere to procure the necessary labour for thorough maintenance work, and the conditions of soil and drainage are less favourable than in the case of the main road system; moreover the transport is confined to a short period only during the year, and lorries are used which are ill-adapted to the special conditions which obtain. A method of constructing drifts across the sandy river beds using steel sleepers and wire ropes was devised which, if successful, will be generally applied on these roads, and should, together with other measures of improvement, eliminate the chief causes of complaint.

In no case has it been reported that transport of any produce has been prevented, or unduly delayed, owing to unsatisfactory road conditions.

Postal.

There was a slight decrease in the total number of items carried by mail as compared with 1928, but the decrease is not alarming.

The number of articles dealt with postally was 2,373,273 as compared with 2,440,000. Local letters decreased by 94,918 items. Letters to and from Great Britain have fallen in number but traffic from other countries has increased considerably. Parcels show an increase of 1,363.

C.O.D. parcels fell off during the year.

Money orders have increased while postal orders have slightly decreased both in number and value.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The actual number of telegrams dealt with has increased to 87,552 owing mainly to increased number of transmissions necessitated by the inability of some stations to work over long sections of line on account of adverse weather conditions. The revenue has decreased owing to the withdrawal of "beam" traffic for Tanganyika Territory and Kenya and Uganda. A further 60 miles of telegraph line was constructed during the year.

A trunk telephone service has been established between Zomba, Blantyre, and Limbe and is working satisfactorily. Calls passed amount to 32,886 local and 3,236 trunk.

There was no development in wireless telegraphy during the year.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Police Force consists of 14 European Officers, two European Assistant Inspectors, and 521 African ranks. The cost of the Department for 1929 was £18,910.

Crime.

Crime generally in the settled areas of the Southern and Zomba Provinces has not shown the same tendency to increase as in the years immediately following the War, although cases of burglary and housebreaking were more prevalent than the previous years. The total number of offences reported was 2,392 of which 351 were offences against the person and 1,026 against property, resulting in the convictions of 39 Europeans, 47 Asiatics, and 1,676 Africans.

There is little serious crime in the districts not affected by the settlement of non-natives.

Prisons.

The established prisons of the Protectorate consist of a Central Prison at Zomba for the detention of European, Asiatic, and long-sentence and recidivist African prisoners, with 19 District prisons situated at the headquarter stations in each District, for the detention of short-sentence prisoners.

The staff consists of a Chief Inspector of Prisons, Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent, and 139 African warders and

wardresses. The European officers are in charge of the Central Prison, and District prisons are under the supervision of District Administrative or Police Officers.

The total number of persons committed to the prisons during 1929 was 31,163, of whom three were imprisoned for debt, 726 were placed in custody pending trial and 2,434 sentenced to penal imprisonment, including five capital sentences.

The cost of the Prison Department for 1929 was £5,649.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The following table gives the expenditure under the various heads for 1929 compared with that for the previous year :—

	1928.	1929.
	£	£
Public Works Department	16,247	18,081
Public Works Annually Recurrent	15,651	16,424
Public Works Extraordinary	13,810	9,997
Loan	19,466	21,943
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£65,204	£66,445
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total increase		£1,241

Apart from ordinary maintenance and improvement of buildings, roads, etc., the most important works undertaken during the year were as follows :—

Buildings Completed.

Government House, Zomba; Quarters for Comptroller of Customs, Limbe; Assistant Director of Education and Assistant Auditor, Zomba; Quarters for Nursing Sisters at the European Hospitals, Blantyre and Zomba; Post Office Extension, Blantyre; Native Hospital, Dedza.

Buildings Commenced and in Progress.

Bacteriological Laboratory, and Quarters for Bacteriologist, Zomba; Quarters for Nursing Staff, Native Hospital, Zomba (these were let to contract); Magistrate's Court, Additional Office for Police, and Office for Forest Officer, Limbe; New Gallery for King's African Rifles Range, Zomba; Rifle Range for Nyasaland Volunteer Reserve, Zomba.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The population of the Protectorate at the end of 1929 was estimated at 1,936 Europeans, 1,117 Asiatics, and 1,356,945 Natives.

During the year 1929 there were 198 Europeans admitted to the Government hospitals as compared with 147 during 1928.

Six deaths were recorded; two from malaria, two from arteriosclerosis, one from appendicitis, and one from accidental injury. This number only represents deaths recorded at the Government hospitals; the figure for the whole Protectorate was 16.

The European out-patients treated at the Government hospitals numbered 897 cases as compared with 652 in 1928. There were 186 cases of malaria (127 in 1928), infections of the air-passages 130 (90 in 1928), influenza 35 (50 in 1928), diarrhoea and enteritis 66 (55 in 1928).

Regarding the native population, 3,438 were admitted to the Government hospitals as in-patients, compared with 3,781 in 1928, whilst 191,464 were treated as out-patients, compared with 168,181 in 1928.

The prevailing disabilities were affections of the skin, 48,105; diseases of the digestive system, 38,509; affections of the respiratory system, 31,780; injuries, 28,734; epidemic and infectious diseases, 14,687. Amongst the skin diseases ulcers were the chief affliction and no less than 26,557 cases were recorded; this represents nearly one person in fifty of the total native population attending a Government dispensary with an ulcer, not to mention the number who are treated at mission hospitals or at estate dispensaries. This is a larger number than that recorded last year, but it does not mean that ulcers are increasing; in fact there is reason to suppose that the severe type of ulcer is much less frequent than it was a few years ago. Natives are beginning to realize that early attention to small cuts and abrasions and to commencing ulcers will save them weeks of misery, and thousands are now coming to the dispensaries for early treatment. There are very few employers of labour who do not keep dressings and simple medicines for the treatment of their employees, and by so doing they must in many cases prevent a serious illness, particularly in the case of ulcer.

Of scabies there were 10,531 cases reported and of eczema 4,193. No doubt many of the latter were cases of long-standing scabies which were not recognized as such.

Turning to diseases of the digestive system, one finds that of the 38,509 cases recorded, 15,506 were constipation. In spite of the simple primitive life led by the native, he appears to suffer from this common complaint as often as his civilized white brother. Diarrhoea and enteritis accounted for 7,047 cases, in most cases due to this primitive life without sanitation. Hookworm was responsible for 3,182 cases as against 2,509 in 1928. Carbon tetrachloride with oil of chenopodium is issued free to employers of labour and to missionary workers for the treatment of hookworm, and many natives now realize the benefit of treatment.

It is often thought that the African is blessed with unusually good teeth, but 5,329 came for treatment of caries or pyorrhoea. This number represents a very small proportion of those who require treatment. To give proper dental treatment to all the natives who require it is at present practically impossible. Considering the state of their teeth it is surprising that only 2,674 came to have their dyspepsia treated.

Of the 31,780 cases of respiratory affections, bronchitis, and "colds on the chest" numbered 23,105, and pneumonia 1,028.

The injuries consisted mostly of minor accidents, cuts, bruises, abrasions, and sprains; some 432 were due to attacks by animals such as lions and crocodiles, etc., and 60 to snake-bite.

Smallpox, which broke out about a year ago, has been present in the northern part of the Protectorate all the year. Many of the cases were of a mild type—alastrim—but others were severe. During the year, 1,092 cases were reported, with 43 deaths.

Of the other epidemic or infectious diseases malaria numbered 7,085 cases, influenza 1,374, syphilis 1,049, yaws 1,705.

Of the recorded deaths amongst the native population, that is of the 116 who died in hospitals, 22 were due to accidental injuries, 18 to pneumonia, 8 to malaria, 6 to diarrhoea and enteritis, 4 to hookworm, whilst there were under three deaths from any other single disease.

IX.—EDUCATION.

The appointment of a successor to the late Director of Education was not made until the end of the year. He is expected to arrive early in 1930.

The Assistant Director of Education acted as Director during the year and as there is no Director inspectorate, tours of inspection were necessarily limited by the impossibility of long absences from headquarters.

Native Education.—The new Government Jeanes Training Centre was opened in May with 23 African teachers attending. These student-teachers represented 10 missionary societies. It is hoped that the Jeanes teacher, when trained and working in the districts, will be a powerful agent in the process of improving the standard of the village elementary schools—an urgent need.

The Carnegie Corporation has voted a grant of £1,000 per year for five years towards the upkeep of the Jeanes Training Centre.

The new Education Bill passed its first reading at the May session of Legislative Council, but as further amendments had been suggested from various quarters and approved by the Board of Education it was returned together with these to the Secretary of State for his consideration.

Missions are paying increased attention to systematized teacher training, and this is evident in the improvement in the answer papers at the Certificate Examinations. It is being more and more realized that training in recognized normal institutions is essential, and the "tabloid" courses of a few weeks, given at intervals during vacations, hitherto common are falling into disfavour.

The total number of Certificated African Teachers at the end of the year was:—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Honorary	193	15
Third Grade	806	18
Second Grade	138	—
First Grade	9	—

Vocational.—Carpenters and builders are trained chiefly by the Livingstonia, Church of Scotland Mission, and White Fathers' Missions, and also, to some extent, at the Dutch Reformed Church Mission at Mkhoma, and at the Universities Mission to Central Africa headquarters on Likoma Island.

Printers are trained by the Livingstonia, Church of Scotland and Dutch Reformed Church Missions, and by the Universities Mission to Central Africa. The training of Agricultural Demonstrators is carried on at Livingstonia, Blantyre, and Mkhoma.

Medical Assistants are trained in accordance with the syllabus laid down by the Medical Department at Livingstonia and Blantyre. At the end of the year the names of nine Africans trained by these missions appeared on the Medical Sub-register of the Protectorate.

Other missions paying considerable attention to the training of hospital dressers, nurses, and midwives are the Universities Mission to Central Africa, Dutch Reformed Church Mission, White Fathers' Mission, and Seventh Day Adventists Mission.

Female Education.—Native and half-caste girls attend most mission primary schools together with boys, but are generally very irregular in attendance. They are frequently kept at home to assist their mothers in domestic duties and cultivation.

Vocational training, including domestic subjects and handwork, is given at all mission stations. The Dutch Reformed Church Mission has always placed considerable importance on its girls "homes" where, in addition to the literary subjects, instruction is given in such practical subjects as sewing, weaving, basketry, mat-making, soap-making, cookery, &c.

The Universities Mission to Central Africa has a large staff of fully-qualified European lady teachers employed in the training of girls, and the Livingstonia and Church of Scotland Missions devote special attention to female education, both literary and vocational, as also do the Sisters of the two Roman Catholic missions.

Government Schools.—Two Government primary schools were opened during the year in Muhammedan areas in the Yao country.

Grants-in-aid of Native Education amounting to £8,360 were distributed to missionary societies during the year.

European Education.—The problem of European education was in evidence throughout the year. The main difficulty is in Blantyre, where the facilities provided by the Sunnyside Private School are considered inadequate. A proposal was made that Government should erect buildings for an elementary school for the municipality and guarantee it against loss up to a maximum of £800 per annum. As this proposal did not meet with the approval of the Secretary of State, recourse was made to increasing the grant-in-aid paid to the proprietor of the Sunnyside School to enable him to carry on.

Grants-in-aid were paid as follows:—

	£
Sunnyside School	467
Limbe Convent	210
Zomba Infants' School	60
Dutch Reformed Church Mission School	30

It is hoped to settle the question of European education satisfactorily early in 1930.

It is estimated that there were at the end of the year approximately 300 European children in the Protectorate. One hundred and ninety or so of these were still under seven years of age, at least 50 per cent. of this number being infants still much below school age. Probably as many children of parents resident in Nyasaland are being educated in Europe, South Africa, and Southern Rhodesia as are at school in the Protectorate. The prevailing opinion among parents favour sending children to the homeland when they reach eight or nine years of age on account of the climatic and other factors. This is endorsed by medical opinion, but financial considerations, unfortunately, in a great many cases, prevent parents from sending their children out of the country to be educated.

The enrolment at the four private elementary schools during 1929 was:—

	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
Sunnyside School	14	16
Limbe Convent	22	24
Zomba School	4	3
D.R.C.M. School	4	3

Indian.—There are, as yet, no special facilities given for the education of Indian children. A number of these attend native schools.

Half-caste.—Half-caste children are welcomed at all native schools and certain missions pay particular attention to their education, primary and vocational, and to their moral welfare.

X.—LABOUR.

In March a Native Labour Census was taken for the first time. The following table shows the numbers of natives in the employment of Europeans and Asiatics on the 27th March, and includes those working for Government on that date :—

<i>Skilled labourers (including clerks, mechanics, etc.).</i>	<i>Unskilled labourers (including carriers, cultivators, etc.).</i>	<i>Domestic Servants.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
12,082	70,201	5,735	88,018

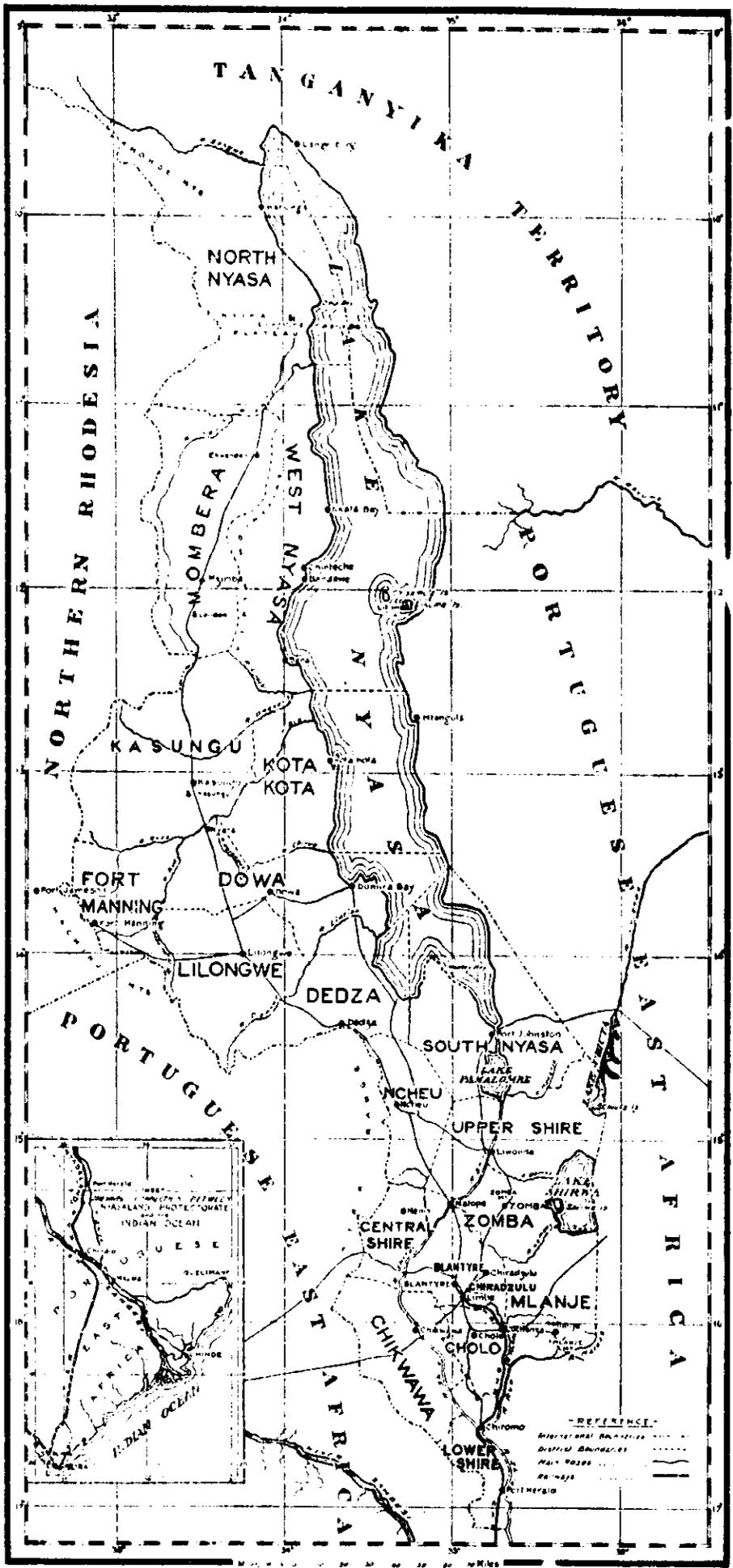
Summarized according to wages earned, the results were :—

<i>Under 6s. a month.</i>	<i>From 6s. to 20s.</i>	<i>Over 20s.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
23,950	61,073	2,995	88,018

These figures, while of interest, give an inadequate idea of the labour force of the country. They omit, for instance, natives working for others or on their own account as fishermen, hawkers, mat and basket makers, and the host of other employments of village communities.

For example, some 35,000 natives were engaged in growing cotton for sale during the season and nearly 48,000 were registered as tobacco growers. In addition, any number between 30,000 and 60,000 are working outside the Protectorate, chiefly in the Rhodesias and the Union of South Africa.

It is proposed to take a similar census each January and August, being the busy and slack seasons, respectively, and the results should give a useful indication of the economic conditions of the country and, in time, it may be possible to include in the census other particulars than the mere numbers of natives employed.



— ELEVATION ABOVE SEA LEVEL OF PRINCIPAL PLACES (Approximate) —

Zomba	2500 ft.	Fort Johnston	1700 ft.	Luchanga	3500 ft.
Blantyre	3800 ft.	Dedza	4500 ft.	Kota Kota	1800 ft.
Limb	6000 ft.	Ncheu	8500 ft.	Chikwawa	1270 ft.

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