



This document was created by the  
Digital Content Creation Unit  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
2010

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

---

No. 655.

•  
NYASALAND.

---

REPORT FOR 1909-10.

(For Report for 1908-9, see No. 619.)

---

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

October, 1910.

---



LONDON:  
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,  
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from  
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and  
82, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or  
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or  
E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1910.

[Cd. 4964-29.] Price 4½d.

## CONTENTS.

---

	PAGE
I.—FINANCE ... ..	4
II.—TRADE ... ..	4
III.—AGRICULTURE ... ..	8
IV.—LEGISLATION ... ..	11
V.—EDUCATION ... ..	12
VI.—JUDICIAL ... ..	12
VII.—VITAL STATISTICS ... ..	13
VIII.—POSTAL ... ..	14
IX.—MILITARY ... ..	14
X.—NATIVE AFFAIRS ... ..	15
XI.—GENERAL ... ..	16

SKETCH MAP.

---

No. 655.

NYASALAND.

(For Report for 1908-9, see No. 619.)

---

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,  
Zomba,  
Nyasaland Protectorate,  
August 13, 1910.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book of the Nyasaland Protectorate for the year 1909-10.

I have, &c.,  
H. R. WALLIS,  
Acting Governor.

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

---

## I.—FINANCE.

1. The revenue of the Protectorate for the year 1909-10 (exclusive of the Imperial grant-in-aid, the British South Africa Company's contribution, and land sales) was £68,592, being £1,812 below the estimate and £3,887 below the revenue collected during the preceding financial year. The apparent decrease, however, is partly accounted for by the fact that the British South Africa Company's contribution last year was £10,000 instead of £8,000, so that the actual net decrease, excluding what depends on the contribution, is £1,887. Sales of Crown lands produced £55, and the British South Africa Company contributed £8,000. The total revenue was thus £76,647.

Compared with the Estimates, there is a revenue increase of

£2,870 in native hut taxes,  
£341 in Court fees, &c.,  
£122 in rents;

and a shortage of

£4,096 in Customs,  
£725 in postal receipts,  
£549 in harbour dues, &c.,  
£325 in licences, &c.

2. The total expenditure for the year was £108,728, being £6,003 less than estimated and £5,695 more than in 1908-9.

Compared with the Estimates, the actual expenditure shows an increase of

£622 in respect of pensions,  
£454 „ „ public works extraordinary,  
£438 „ „ the Postal Department;

and a shortage of

£5,104 in respect of the military establishment,  
£746 „ „ „ Deputy Governor's Department,  
£313 „ „ „ Treasury.

3. The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1905-6 ... ..	76,738	108,682
1906-7 ... ..	82,106	111,564
1907-8 ... ..	75,197	105,587
1908-9 ... ..	80,534	103,032
1909-10 ... ..	76,647	108,728

## II.—TRADE.

4. The general external trade of the Protectorate, exclusive of goods in transit, amounted to £223,495, as against £263,560 in the year 1908-9.

5. The value of revenue-yielding imports for home consumption shows a decrease of £18,250, as compared with the value of similar imports in 1908-9. This decrease is chiefly in respect of soft goods, hardware, and provisions, these articles accounting for decreases of £9,814, £5,423, and £3,462, respectively. The large falling off in the import of soft goods (calico and printed cottons) is accounted for by the depression in native trade, and also, to some extent, by the failure of several Indian mercantile firms.

The decrease in the import of hardware is mainly attributable to the fact that building material, of which these imports chiefly consist, has not been required in large quantities, while the diminished import of provisions is a natural result of increased local production. Owing to the import of railway material having ceased, there is a drop of £8,000 in the value of goods imported duty free.

6. The satisfactory increase in exports which marked the financial year 1908-9 has been well maintained, the total exports for the year exceeding those of 1908-9 by 2,308 tons in weight, and by £15,713 in value. The increase is chiefly in tobacco (£12,867), cotton (£3,168), ground-nuts (£4,117), and rubber (£1,178). Maize appears on the export list for the first time as a considerable item, 2,000 tons having been shipped during the year, mostly to Germany. The export of rice has practically ceased. The sudden appearance of this product to the amount of 227 tons among the exports for 1908-9 was chiefly due to a scarcity of food in the Mozambique Company's territories during that year. Under normal conditions, the export of Nyasaland rice could not be remunerative, owing to the cost of overland transport from Lake Nyasa. Cultivated rubber has been sent out of the Protectorate to the amount of 2,623 lbs., as against 1,514 lbs. in 1908-9. The export of cotton has increased by 46 tons.

7. The value of oversea imports in transit through the Protectorate amounts to £10,191, being £1,103 in excess of the total for the preceding year. The transit export trade has decreased by £700. It consists principally of articles which, like ivory, are continuously diminishing in quantity.

There is every reason to anticipate a large improvement in the trade of the Protectorate during the coming financial year. The quickening of imports may, however, be delayed somewhat by the increased price of cotton goods, due to the high cost of the raw material, which will probably induce large importers to postpone their orders temporarily in the hope of obtaining easier prices at a later date.

The export trade can scarcely fail to advance materially, in view of the largely extended areas of cultivation, and the hitherto favourable crop prospects.

8. The net customs revenue amounted to £15,517, being £2,494 less than the revenue collected in 1908-9 and £4,693 below the estimate.

Imports, including specie, amounted to £112,629, or £28,287 less than in the previous year.

General details are shown in the following statement:—

	1908-9.	1909-10.
	£	£
Arms and ammunition ...	1,696	1,400
Alcohol (spirituous liquors) ...	2,087	1,530
Provisions (including beer and wines) ...	18,405	14,994
Hardware ...	14,469	9,046
Soft goods ...	71,006	61,192
Free goods ...	27,854	19,865
Sundries ...	3,143	3,756
Specie ...	2,205	846
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>£140,916</b>	<b>£112,629</b>

Net decrease, £28,287.

NOTE.—The above figures include:—

	1908-9	1909-10
	£	£
Free imports by Nyasaland Government, 1908-9 ...	5,172	5,616
„ „ „ „ 1909-10 ...	5,616	5,616

Exports during the year ended 31st March, 1910, as compared with the previous year:—

	1908-9.			1909-10.		
	Weight.	Local Price.	Value.	Weight.	Local Price.	Value.
	Lbs.	Per lb. s. d.	£	Lbs.	Per lb. s. d.	£
Coffee ...	934,896	0 5	19,477	748,410	0 5	15,574
Ivory ...	5,098	10 0	2,549	3,529	10 0	1,765
Hippo. teeth...	354	2 0	35	70	2 0	7
Rubber ...	15,415	4 0	3,083	27,144	3 0	4,261
Oil seeds ...	59,316	0 4	989	55,465	0 4	924
Beeswax ...	77,527	1 0	3,876	56,785	1 0	2,854
Strophanthu	11,691	2 6	1,461	12,142	2 6	1,518
Chillies ...	46,819	0 4	780	119,126	0 4	1,986
Tobacco ...	570,102	0 6	14,253	1,084,757	0 6	27,120
Cotton ...	756,120	0 9	23,355	858,926	0 7½	26,209
Ground-nuts...	101,319	0 1½	633	760,043	0 1½	4,750
Rice ...	507,509	£3 (ton)	1,574	52,466	£5 (ton)	131
Fibre ...	40,342	£25-30 (ton)	446	25,594	£20-30 (ton)	290
Tea ...	23,948	0 6	599	36,281	0 6	907
Cattle ...	—	—	645	—	—	6
Sundries ...	—	—	3,036	—	—	5,190
Maize ...	—	—	—	4,480,784	£2 (ton)	4,012
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>3,150,456</b>	—	<b>81,791</b>	<b>8,321,522</b>	—	<b>97,504</b>
<b>Specie ...</b>	—	—	<b>40,853</b>	—	—	<b>13,362</b>
<b>Grand Total...</b>	<b>3,150,456</b>	—	<b>122,644</b>	<b>8,321,522</b>	—	<b>110,866</b>

NYASALAND, 1909-10.

7

Net increase in weight, ignoring sundries and specie, 5,171,066 lbs. (2,208 tons).

Net decrease in value, £11,778.

Increase in value of trade exports (*i.e.*, excluding specie), £15,713.

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

			Imports for Home Consumption. £	Exports of Protec- torate Products. £
1905-6	...	...	222,581	56,778
1906-7	...	...	242,935	50,247
1907-8	...	...	169,541	69,604
1908-9	...	...	140,916	122,644
1909-10	...	...	112,629	110,866

NOTE.—The above includes import of specie—

			£
1908-9	...	...	2,205
1909-10	...	...	846

and export of specie—

			£
1908-9	...	...	40,853
1909-10	...	...	13,362

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1908-9.	1909-10.	1908-9.	1909-10.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ... ..	107,743	78,901	97,460	76,172
India ... ..	10,190	7,918	—	—
Australia ... ..	93	1	—	—
Canada ... ..	81	6	—	—
South Africa ... ..	392	1,098	1,380	10,710
N.E. Rhodesia ... ..	—	48	—	—
Total British Possessions ...	10,696	9,066	1,380	10,710
Germany ... ..	8,687	12,922	5,193	11,384
Italy ... ..	931	66	—	—
Holland ... ..	7,017	4,956	—	—
Portugal and P.E. Africa ...	2,052	4,074	17,974	10,603
America ... ..	1,505	738	—	—
France ... ..	969	729	—	—
Other Countries ... ..	1,816	1,177	687	2,047
Total Foreign Countries ...	22,477	24,662	23,854	23,984
Total ... ..	140,916	112,639	122,644	110,866

NOTE.—The above includes—

Specie imported from the United Kingdom, 1909-10 ... ..	£ 846
Specie exported to United Kingdom, 1908-9 ...	28,600
"    "    Portuguese East Africa, 1908-9 ... ..	12,253
	<u>£40,853</u>
	£
Specie exported to South Africa, 1909-10 ...	10,000
"    "    Portuguese East Africa, 1909-10 ... ..	3,362
	<u>£13,362</u>

### III.—AGRICULTURE.

9. Upon a general review of the agricultural situation, it may fairly be said that the past year has been one of the most satisfactory ever experienced in this Protectorate. The success already achieved, and the promise of the immediate future, have created such public activity and hopefulness as have not been witnessed here since the partial collapse of the coffee industry. It is therefore highly satisfactory to record that now at last another forward movement has begun which, although centred chiefly in cotton, is by no means confined to that product alone, but embraces several other important crops, and bids fair to prove of a lasting character.

10. Coffee is a very speculative crop in Nyasaland and is being gradually discarded in favour of cotton and tobacco. The total acreage for the year under review was 6,037, of which only 3,957 acres were carrying crop, the remainder consisting of old and partially abandoned gardens. The export for the past year amounted to 748,410 lbs., being a reduction of nearly 187,000 lbs. on the previous season.

11. The cotton crop has been successful and is rapidly improving its already strong position.

The European acreage under cotton has increased from 6,037 last year to 8,975 for the year under review, while the crop at present being harvested covers over 12,000 acres. The European output for the year 1909 amounted to 852½ tons (unginned). A particularly gratifying feature is the increasing yield per acre. Many estates which produced 100 lbs. of lint per acre a few years ago, are now averaging as high as 165 lbs., while some gardens have yielded over two hundred-weight. As to quality, the highland grown cotton is superior to that produced on the lower levels, although the yield of the latter is generally heavier. Nyasaland Upland cotton in point of lustre, silkiness,

and length of staple, leaves practically nothing to be desired, and at its best is unrivalled. It has obtained the record price of 1s. 2½d. per lb., and the brokers have given it as their opinion that the Nyasaland Upland crop of 1909 is the finest cotton ever grown from Upland seed in any part of the world. This excellent variety is now thoroughly acclimatised here and is doing very well over an unusually wide range of altitude, namely, from 1,000 to 3,000 feet. The European-grown Egyptian cotton on the Lower Shire River was a partial failure, owing to the ravages of bacterial blight, an American disease. However, although the crop was small, it sold at prices which compare favourably with those of cotton grown in Egypt.

12. The native cotton industry has likewise made satisfactory progress. If an important export trade in cotton is to be created here, it is imperative that the interest of the natives should be aroused and their willing co-operation enlisted. The constitutional apathy of the local tribes towards all novel forms of industry seemed at one time to present an almost insuperable obstacle to the establishment of cotton as a general staple of native cultivation. It may even yet be too soon to indulge in too sanguine predictions, or to assume that cotton will eventually take its place in every village garden and obtain a fair share of the attention which is now given to cereals, such as maize and millet. This, however, is the object which the Protectorate Government has in view. Its accomplishment must necessarily be a gradual process, because, if the co-operation of natives is to be of any real and lasting value, it must be given freely and intelligently from a conviction of the benefits which it confers on the cultivators themselves rather than from any unreasoning acquiescence in the wishes of those in authority. There can be no doubt that very encouraging progress has already been made towards this end. The native cotton crop for the year under review amounted to 220 tons, an increase of 130 tons on the previous year. The crop now approaching maturity promises well, and, as seed distribution has practically doubled in amount, there is reason to anticipate a further large increase in the output.

The quality of native-grown Nyasaland Upland cotton has always been as good as, if not better than, European-grown Upland, but the native-grown Egyptian crop has in the past been very disappointing. A marked improvement has, however, resulted from teaching the natives how to grade their cotton, and a large proportion of the native crop from Port Herald, on the Lower Shire River, obtained 1s. 1d. per lb., one of the highest prices hitherto secured by Egyptian cotton in this Protectorate. Under the system at present in vogue natives grow and sell their cotton more or less under the auspices of the Resident of the district, who, while leaving the vendors a perfectly free choice as to the disposal of their produce, assists them in every possible way by seed distribution, by advice as to methods of cultivation, and otherwise. It is interesting to note that not a few natives are now opening up independent plantations of their own, apart from the ordinary village gardens,

where the cotton is tended jointly and the profits are divided as a sort of communal enterprise.

In course of time it is to be hoped that native planters will be able to reap the benefit of any rise in the value of raw cotton, but at present there is much to be said in favour of adhering to a fixed purchase price, since the native mind is not yet competent to grasp the idea of market fluctuations and would be inordinately puzzled and discouraged by any sudden depreciation in the value of his wares.

13. The tea crop, although very promising, will necessarily remain of minor importance among the agricultural products of Nyasaland owing to the fact that the particular climate suitable to its needs occurs over but a limited area within the Protectorate. On the southern slopes of Mlanji mountain, however, where the rainfall varies from 70 to 90 inches per annum, there are at least 20,000 acres well adapted to tea, and the experimental plantations in the neighbourhood, which for some years attracted little attention, have now achieved very satisfactory results. The area under this crop has increased to about a thousand acres, more than half having been planted last season. It is questionable whether the yield from these estates will be so heavy as on the best Ceylon plantations, but the quality of the tea is superior to low-country Ceylon, and fetched prices last year varying from 5*d.* to 7*d.* per lb. in London.

The locality where tea is grown is within 20 miles of the Shire Highlands Railway, and there is every reason to believe that the industry will prove a very profitable one. The exports for last year amounted to 36,281 lbs., being an increase of some 12,000 lbs. on the previous year.

14. The tobacco season for the year under review was exceptionally good, and several estates averaged over 500 lbs. of cured tobacco per acre, the quality being uniformly superior. Next to cotton, tobacco may claim to be the most important crop now grown in Nyasaland. Although comparatively a new industry, the area covered by it extends already to 2,368 acres, while the export of cured tobacco for the year under review amounted to 1,084,757 lbs., as against 570,102 lbs. exported in the preceding season.

It is interesting to note that during the year in question some good sun-dried tobacco was produced by natives and sold to a local firm for export.

15. It has been conclusively proved that the Shire Highlands are not suitable for the cultivation of Para rubber; in fact the only locality within the Protectorate where this variety has proved successful is in the West Nyasa District, where 600 acres of Para are doing well.

The rubber of Nyasaland is Ceara, and the area under this has risen steadily to 4,403 acres. The quality of the rubber is satisfactory, two experimental packets having realised 8*s.* 10*d.* per lb. in London. The export, including wild rubber, amounted to 27,144 lbs., being an increase of about 11,000 lbs. on the preceding year.

It should, however, be stated that at present the available data regarding the length of life of Ceara trees and their recuperative capacity under tapping are insufficient to justify any confident prediction as to whether it would be safe for planters to enter into this cultivation on a large scale. So far as local experiments have been carried, at present they go to prove that Ceara trees are successful when planted in suitable soil and properly tended, but the idea, prevalent a few years ago, that Ceara will grow anywhere is quite erroneous. It is worth noting that rubber seed has been distributed during the year to a number of natives in West Nyasa, and has been planted in the environs of 66 villages in that district.

16. The fertile soils of Nyasaland are admirably suited to the cultivation of maize, which has always been a principal source of food supply to the natives, and which now for the first time is being grown to a considerable extent for export. In the meantime a careful watch is being kept by the Protectorate Government upon this new and growing trade, in order that the quantity of maize thus withdrawn from local consumption may not exceed what can safely be spared from native needs. The amount of maize shipped during the past year (the first in which this commodity has figured as a Nyasaland export) was 2,000 tons.

17. The export of chillies during the past year amounted to 119,126 lbs., being an increase of some 72,000 lbs. on the preceding year.

18. On the forest stations at Zomba and Mlanji 200,000 eucalyptus and 165,000 Mlanji cypress transplants were raised from seed. The indigenous cypress forests of Mlanji supply almost all the wood used for Government buildings, at about one-eighth of the cost of imported pine planks.

19. *Live Stock.*—The number of cattle in the Protectorate amounts to 57,658, of which 46,509 are owned by natives and 11,149 by Europeans. The European-owned herds now include a considerable number of animals bred from imported pedigree bulls crossed with native cows. Cattle do very well in Nyasaland. They thrive on the ordinary jungle grass and cost but little to keep. Of late years various restrictions have operated to impede their export to Southern Rhodesia, which is the nearest centre for the disposal of live stock, but these have now been so far modified as to admit of cattle being exported subject to certain conditions. Given a satisfactory market, there is no reason why this country should not progress very considerably as a pastoral region. Hitherto, however, although the facilities for rearing cattle have been ample, there has been little incentive to breed live stock in greater numbers than are required for local needs.

---

#### IV.—LEGISLATION.

20. Ten Ordinances have been enacted during the year.

---

## V.—EDUCATION.

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

During the past three years Government has made an annual grant of £1,000 in aid of primary education, which has been allocated, under certain conditions, to those societies desirous of participating. There are \*1,103 schools in the Protectorate, the majority of which are "village schools" (*i.e.*, schools in charge of native teachers, superintended by Europeans from the headquarters of the missions), at which 96,797 natives receive instruction, the average attendance being 64,014. Native artisans are trained in the industrial schools attached to the headquarters of most of the missions, where carpentry, printing, bookbinding, agriculture, horticulture, and other practical trades are taught, much to the benefit of local industries.

It is interesting to note that a special industrial school for blind natives is now established at Kota-Kota, on Lake Nyasa, under the auspices of the Universities (Church of England) Mission.

## VI.—JUDICIAL.

22. The number of offences reported during the year is 2,270, as against 2,018 last year, being an increase of 252. This is partly accounted for by the fact that several local town councils have recently prescribed rules and penalties relating to a variety of matters which concern the internal well-being of their respective settlements and have thus added considerably to the number of small statutory offences. It is, moreover, worthy of notice that, in a country like this, an increase in recorded criminal cases does not necessarily imply any corresponding increase in actual crime.

As the natives become more enlightened, and as magisterial jurisdiction strengthens its hold upon popular confidence, the tendency to compound offences or to invoke the aid of superstitious ordeals begins to disappear. Cases which, in former times, would have been allowed to lapse through despair of obtaining redress, or which would have been submitted to the judgment of "witch doctors," are brought more and more readily to the cognisance of the legitimate tribunals. Viewed in this light the increase in the criminal business of the District Courts is a satisfactory feature rather than otherwise. It indicates a larger trust in our system of justice, a gradual departure from archaic ideals, and a truer conception of crime in its relation to the State as distinguished from its merely tortious aspect.

---

\* The statistics for the Universities Mission to Central Africa, which are included in the above figures, are those for 1908-9, the Returns for the year under review not having been received.

23. A total of 139 cases came up for confirmation from the Subordinate Courts to the High Court, as against 96 in 1908-9, 83 in 1907-8, and 52 in 1906-7. These cases are classified as follows:—

Murder (other than wife or child murder) ...	17
Manslaughter ... ..	30
Attempted murder ... ..	7
Murder of wife or concubine ... ..	1
Child murder ... ..	1
Abortion ... ..	1
Rape ... ..	3
Unnatural crimes ... ..	2
Other offences against the person ... ..	24
Robbery with violence ... ..	9
Other offences against property ... ..	32
Miscellaneous offences ... ..	12
Total ... ..	139

24. In five cases of murder, sentence of death was carried out.

25. In the High Court 55 civil cases were entered.

On the criminal side one or two cases resulted from Indian bankruptcies.

26. Ten estates of deceased persons were wound up by the Registrar.

27. Three candidates qualified at the annual examination in law.

---

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

28. The European population is returned at 587, as against 595 last year, showing a decrease of 8.

29. The Asiatic population amounts to 435, as against 457 in 1908-9, being a decrease of 22.

30. Eighteen European births were registered, as compared with 14 last year.

31. The registered deaths number 16, as against 27 last year. These deaths are made up as follows:—

European (male adults) ... ..	8
„ (male infant) ... ..	1
„ (female infant) ... ..	1
Eurasian (male adults) ... ..	2
Asiatic (male adults) ... ..	3
„ (male infant) ... ..	1

Nearly half of these deaths resulted from fever, viz., six from malaria and one from hæmoglobinuric (blackwater) fever.

32. Sixteen marriages were celebrated during the year, as compared with eight in the preceding year.

33. The native population is estimated at 922,313.

---

## VIII.—POSTAL.

34. On the first of January, 1910, a direct exchange of mails was inaugurated between Chinde and Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, and *vice versa*. Communications with South Africa have thus been much accelerated. The service viâ Delagoa Bay and Johannesburg, which was unsatisfactory, has been suspended.

35. The overland service to Mzimba in Northern Angoniland is to be extended to Karonga in North Nyasa, when the relays will cover a distance of some 500 miles. As an instance of the risks and difficulties incident to the overland mail service it may be mentioned that, in August of last year, one of those mails was seized by lions and torn to pieces.

36. The total postal revenue shows a decrease on that of 1908-9 of £2,269 and the expenditure an increase of £294. The decrease in revenue is mainly attributable to the falling off in stamp sales to dealers, which were stimulated last year by a new issue of stamps, but which sank during the year under review by no less than £1,783, namely, from £1,974 to £190. The greater expenditure has resulted from the heavier weight of mail matter carried and the increased charges against mails by sea.

37. The following table shows the amounts of correspondence dealt with during the year:—

				1909-10.
Letters	...	...	...	780,375
Postcards	...	...	...	19,646
Newspapers	...	...	...	170,924
Book packets	...	...	...	82,242
Parcels	...	...	...	9,910
Samples	...	...	...	1,664
Closed bags (Colonial Office)	...	...	...	97

These figures do not take into account correspondence in transit (*i.e.*, re-sorted at different offices) which has been included in previous postal statistics.

The use of British postal orders is indicated by the following figures:—

		Sales.	Poundage.	Paid.
		£	£	£
1908-9	...	7,436	102	3,550
1909-10	...	10,040	136	6,334

It will be seen from the above figures that the popularity of these orders continues to increase.

## IX.—MILITARY.

39. A detachment of officers and men of the 1st Battalion King's African Rifles and Reservists embarked in December, 1908, for Somaliland, returning to Nyasaland in February, 1910. The Indian contingent left for Bombay in January, 1910, and was replaced by a new contingent in March of the same year.

40. The results obtained in musketry by the troops in Nyasaland compare very favourably with those of former years. The Somaliland detachment fired a modified course owing to the absence of range appliances. The standard of proficiency attained was satisfactory, particularly as some of the Reservists had not been exercised since leaving the battalion.

41. Few recruits have been required. A fair number of men of a good stamp, mostly Yaos, have offered themselves for enlistment, while, as in previous years, numbers of discharged soldiers have applied to be re-enlisted.

42. The band continues to make satisfactory progress.

43. The health of the troops in Somaliland was very good. Minor injuries to the feet, caused by thorns and sharp stones, accounted for the greatest number of hospital cases. There were three deaths from pneumonia. The troops in Nyasaland have enjoyed equally good health. Venereal disease has been rare among them and small-pox entirely absent. The health of the new Indian contingent compares favourably with that of former contingents.

44. The Reserve continues to be popular among discharged soldiers. No difficulty was experienced in mobilising the entire Reserve for Somaliland despite the fact that many men had to travel over considerable distances at short notice, in order to comply with the mobilisation orders. The Reservists, after a few months, were found to be practically as efficient as the time-serving men of the battalion.

45. The strength of the Volunteer Reserve has increased during the year 1909.

#### X.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

46. The condition of the native population continues to be satisfactory. The epidemics of small pox which harassed a great part of the Shire Highlands last year have been effectively repressed. Vaccination under Government auspices has been extensively carried out, 42,853 natives having undergone this operation in the Central Angoniland district alone.

47. Recruitment for extra territorial employment is now prohibited, while at the same time the engagement of natives for work within the Protectorate has been freed from all restriction. Local employers are free to enlist labour in Nyasaland when and where they please, while the representatives of other employers are excluded. More than this it is impossible to do for local needs, consistently with allowing full liberty of choice to the native workers themselves. The Nyasaland Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce has decided to employ a recruiter for the next wet season, and although, for obvious reasons, Residents of districts cannot be required or permitted to play the part of labour agents or actively to exert in favour of any employer the influence which attaches to their official position, yet they have been instructed to render such assistance as may properly be given to the Chamber and to endeavour generally to make the experiment a success. 2,320 passes were issued this year to natives leaving the Protectorate independently in search of

work. Probably a number also left without passes, though everything possible is done to prevent this.

48. The hut tax, as for many years past, has been collected without much difficulty. In most districts the proportion of tax defaulters probably does not exceed five per cent. and these are always members of the lowest and most nomadic tribes. The settled population may fairly be said to discharge its tax liabilities almost to the last shilling with little or no pressure from the Residents. The following table shows the hut tax return for the past five years:—

					£
1905-6	...	...	...	...	31,074
1906-7	...	...	...	...	35,619
1907-8	...	...	...	...	36,605
1908-9	...	...	...	...	38,389
1909-10	...	...	...	...	41,530

49. A naturally high birth-rate, coupled with a steady improvement in the conditions of existence, continues to operate towards the rapid increase of the native population, and this tendency is further accelerated by a sustained flow of immigration from adjoining territories. Welcome as this circumstance may be upon general grounds, it cannot fail to cast upon the Protectorate Government, very shortly, the necessity of dealing on a comprehensive scale with the whole question of native settlements and of providing definite reserves for the accommodation of this great and increasing populace.

50. During the financial year the deaths have occurred of three well-known and influential chiefs, namely Mponda, Makwira, and Mperembe. The latter was an Angoni Zulu, and one of the last survivors among native potentates of the old-fashioned type.

#### XI.—GENERAL.

51. 2,857 head of game were killed under licence this year, including 51 elephants.

The following licences were issued:—

Licence A (£25)	...	...	...	...	23
Licence B (£4)	...	...	...	...	91
Licence C (£2)	...	...	...	...	83
Native licence (£1)	...	...	...	...	47

52. There are now in the Protectorate 2,951 miles of roads, which may be classified thus:—

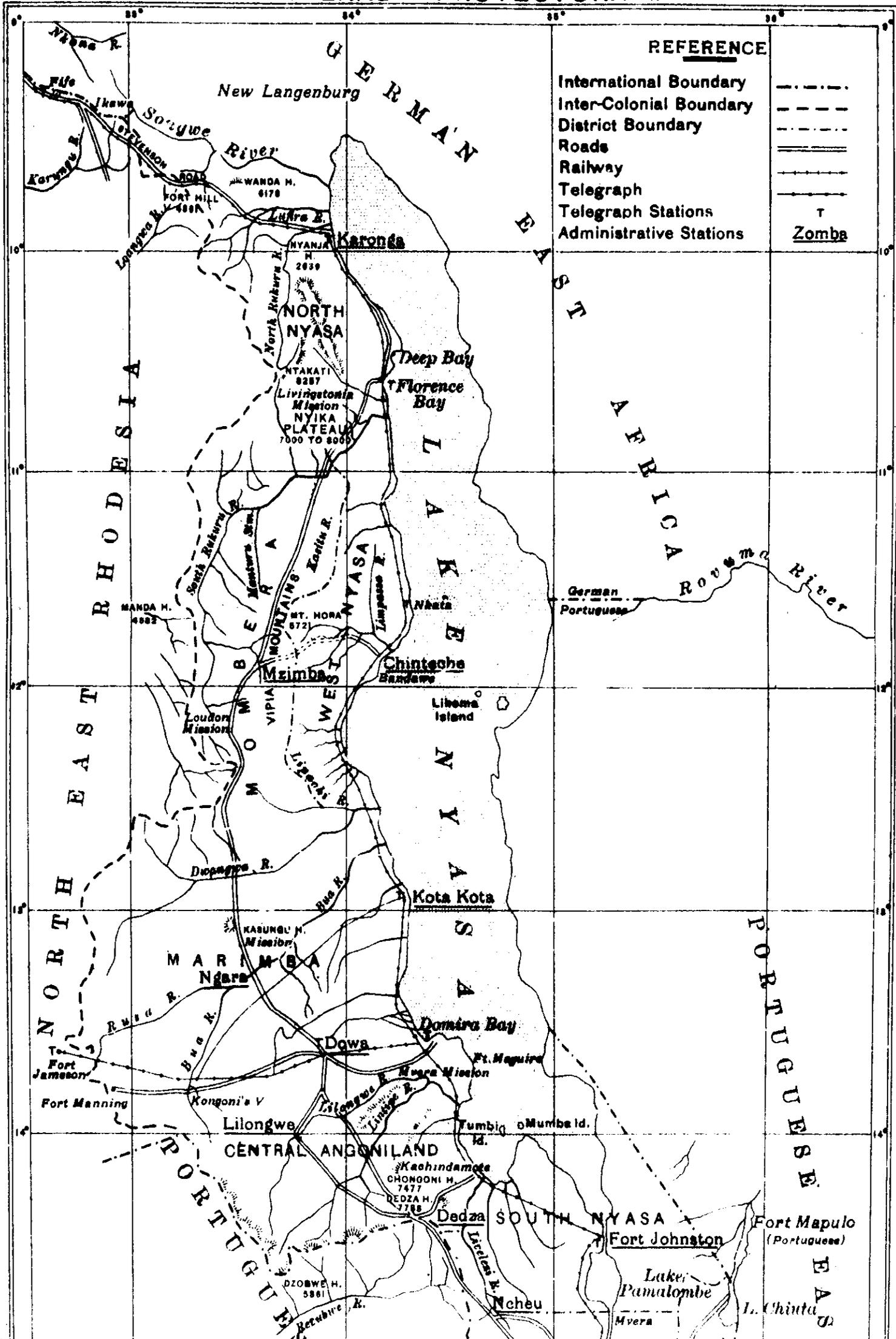
					Miles.
Waggon roads	...	...	...	...	213
Main district roads	...	...	...	...	649
Other district roads	...	...	...	...	2,089

53. The macadamising of the Zomba-Blantyre road, which is 40 miles in length, has been completed for 12½ miles and is being steadily extended. This metalled section remained in excellent order throughout the wet season, although the wheeled traffic upon it is considerable, the vehicles which habitually use it including two motor cars, a motor lorry, a number of motor and other bicycles, rickshaws, and ox-waggon. Macadamisation is likewise being applied to some of the Blantyre township roads, the cost of which is defrayed by the local rates.

54. The growth of sudd on the Upper Shire River has again seriously interfered with the work of the Marine Transport Department.

55. Active progress has been made towards the final completion of the Shire Highlands Railway from Port Herald to Blantyre, by strengthening the bridges on the line and by building abutments. The traffic on the line is very promising. The railway has strongly stimulated local industries and has begun to create a carrying trade in some products not hitherto exported at all. An extension of the line is, however, much needed, especially towards the coast, in order to keep pace with growing transport demands.

# NYASALAND PROTECTORATE



## REFERENCE

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



## 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 :—

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
616	St. Lucia ... ..	1908
617	Hong Kong ... ..	"
618	Fiji ... ..	"
619	•Nyasaland ... ..	1908-1909
620	Barbados ... ..	"
621	Trinidad and Tobago ... ..	"
622	Straits Settlements ... ..	1908
623	Somaliland ... ..	1908-1909
624	Mauritius ... ..	1908
625	St. Vincent ... ..	1908-1909
626	Jamaica ... ..	"
627	Swasiland ... ..	"
628	Grenada ... ..	1908
629	Leeward Islands ... ..	1908-1909
630	Southern Nigeria ... ..	1908
631	British Honduras ... ..	"
632	British Guiana ... ..	1908-1909
633	Northern Nigeria ... ..	"
634	Basutoland ... ..	"
635	East Africa Protectorate ... ..	"
636	Uganda ... ..	"
637	Weihaiwei ... ..	1909
638	St. Helena ... ..	"
639	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ... ..	"
640	Ashanti ... ..	"
641	Gambia ... ..	"
642	Malta ... ..	1909-1910
643	Seychelles ... ..	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee ... ..	1909-1910
645	Falkland Islands ... ..	"
646	Turks and Caicos Islands ... ..	1909
647	Gibraltar ... ..	"
648	Sierra Leone ... ..	"
649	Somaliland ... ..	1909-1910
650	Bahamas ... ..	"
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate ... ..	1909
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate ... ..	1909-1910
653	Ceylon ... ..	1909
654	Gold Coast ... ..	"

## MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
65	Uganda ... ..	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast ... ..	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria ... ..	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
68	Do. do. ... ..	Do. 1906-7.
69	St. Helena ... ..	Fisheries.
70	Colonies ... ..	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute ... ..	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji ... ..	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica ... ..	Cayman Islands.