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**COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL**

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**No. 832.**

**N Y A S A L A N D .**

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**REPORT FOR 1913-14.**

(For Report for 1912-13 see No. 772.)

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**Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.**  
*February, 1915.*

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 832.

NYASALAND.

(For Report for 1912-13 see No. 772.)

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THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,  
Zomba, Nyasaland Protectorate,  
19th December, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit the usual copies of the Statistical Blue Book of the Protectorate for the year 1913-14, together with a Report on it which has been prepared by Mr. A. M. D. Turnbull, Assistant Chief Secretary.

I have, &c.,

G. SMITH,  
Governor.

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

## REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1913-14.

## I.—FINANCIAL.

## REVENUE.

The revenue of the Protectorate from all sources for the year under review was £124,849, as against £128,272 in the preceding one. The following comparative statement shows the revenue for the years 1912-13 and 1913-14 :—

Head of Revenue.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs .. .. .	26,543	17,492	—	9,051
Port, Harbour, and Wharf dues	9,004	5,956	—	3,048
Native Hut Tax .. .. .	65,685	69,810	4,125	—
Land Tax .. .. .	7,991	8,085	94	—
Licences, Excise, &c. .. .. .	5,334	5,675	341	—
Fees of Court or Office .. .. .	1,553	3,154	1,601	—
Post Office .. .. .	4,560	7,013	2,453	—
Rents of Government Properties	3,172	3,065	—	107
Interest .. .. .	382	1,214	832	—
Miscellaneous .. .. .	3,372	3,020	—	352
	£127,596	£124,484	£9,446	£12,558
Land Sales .. .. .	677	365	—	312
Imperial Grant-in-Aid .. .. .	5,000	—	—	5,000
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>£133,273</b>	<b>£124,849</b>	<b>£9,446</b>	<b>£17,870</b>

As will be seen, there were increases under all heads except Customs, Port, Harbour, and Wharf Dues, Rents, Miscellaneous and Land Sales. The falling off in Customs and Port, Harbour, and Wharf dues is dealt with under the head "Trade." The decrease of £107 in Rents from Government properties is due to arrears, since paid, which were outstanding on the 31st March, 1914. Miscellaneous receipts suffer by comparison with the previous year owing to abnormal sales of stores, etc., which took place then. Land Sales are an insignificant item, the disposal of Crown land being limited to special cases. The Native Hut Tax realised £69,810, as against £65,685 in the previous year, a net increase of £4,125. The number of hut taxes paid rose from 304,617 to 314,579, representing an increase of 9,962 taxes, to which

every district contributed with the exception of Mombera District, where a decrease of 4,424 taxes was due to unfavourable local conditions affecting employment and trade in livestock. Fees of Court or Office were responsible for an increase of £1,601, the result of unusually heavy receipts from Estate duty. Sales of the new issue of postage stamps to stamp dealers account for the rise of £2,453 in Post Office revenue. The increase of £832 under the head "Interest" corresponds with a larger balance of general funds placed out at interest pending disbursement.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure of the year was estimated at £155,101; the actual expenditure was £133,106. This difference of £21,995 was mainly due to the provision necessary under Head No. 23, "Railway Extension," proving to be £15,147 less than the original estimate. The remaining difference, viz., £6,848, is divided among the other heads of expenditure in the proportions set out in the following comparative table of the actual and estimated expenditure for the year ending the 31st March, 1914:—

Head of Service.	1913-1914.			Under.
	Estimated	Actual.	Over.	
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt .. .. .	£ 1,750	£ 1,750	—	—
2. Pensions .. .. .	4,099	4,509	410	—
3. The Governor .. .. .	2,957	2,111	—	846
4. Deputy Governor .. .. .	5,406	5,015	—	391
5. Printing .. .. .	2,954	3,108	154	—
6. District Administration ..	26,059	25,301	—	758
7. Treasury .. .. .	4,747	4,353	—	394
8. Customs .. .. .	1,888	1,978	90	—
9. Audit .. .. .	1,648	1,610	—	38
10. Marine Transport .. .. .	4,690	4,633	—	57
11. Legal .. .. .	3,032	3,088	56	—
12. Prisons and Lunatic Asylum	2,509	2,423	—	86
13. Medical .. .. .	10,056	9,633	—	423
13a. Scientific Commission ..	5,489	5,214	—	275
14. Education .. .. .	1,000	1,000	—	—
15. Transport .. .. .	1,993	1,887	—	106
16. Military .. .. .	13,902	12,668	—	1,234
17. Miscellaneous .. .. .	1,736	1,813	77	—
18. Post Office .. .. .	5,740	5,465	—	275
19. Agricultural Department ..	8,183	7,406	—	777
20. Public Works Department	6,242	6,127	—	115
21. Public Works Recurrent ..	3,453	3,331	—	122
22. Public Works Extraordinary	13,869	12,171	—	1,698
23. Railway Extension .. .. .	21,300	6,153	—	15,147
24. London and Bombay Agencies .. .. .	399	359	—	40
<b>Total Expenditure ..</b>	<b>£155,101</b>	<b>£133,106</b>	<b>£787</b>	<b>£22,782</b>

Less than estimated, £21,995

The great excess of exports over imports is due to the exportation by the banks of the accumulation of coin introduced into the country by natives on their return from employment in the Transvaal and in Rhodesia, in regard to which no accurate statistics are available.

The banking business of the Colony is provided for by the Standard Bank of South Africa, with a branch at Blantyre, and the African Lakes Corporation, with branches at Blantyre and Zomba and agencies at Chinde and all the principal stations in the Protectorate.

#### POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

Savings bank business conducted during the calendar year ended 31st December, 1913, at the four branches, situated at Zomba, Blantyre, Fort Johnston, and Port Herald, shows little progress in the number of depositors, although the gross value of deposits has increased. At the commencement of the year there were 226 depositors, with balances to their credit amounting to £3,928 18s. 7d., at its close 228 depositors, with £4,567 15s. 6d. to their credit, representing a gain of two depositors and of £638 16s. 11d. in value. 186 new accounts were opened and 184 closed. The average of the amounts standing to the credit of depositors was £20 0s. 8d., as compared with £17 7s. 8d. at the close of the previous year, an average gain of £2 13s. 0d. per head.

The balances standing to the credit of the different classes of depositors at the close of the year and those at the close of the previous year are compared in the following table :—

Depositors.	31st Dec., 1912.		31st Dec., 1913.		Increase of Value of deposits.	Decrease of Value of deposits.
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		
Europeans ..	62	£ 2,317 6 6	60	£ 1,880 2 6	— — —	437 4 0
Indians .. ..	18	332 18 3	32	1,015 5 6	682 7 3	— — —
Natives .. ..	123	998 10 7	104	1,047 10 4	48 10 9	— — —
Trustee Accounts	23	280 3 3	32	624 17 2	344 13 9	— — —
Total ..	226	3,928 18 7	228	4,567 15 6	1,076 0 9	437 4 0

It will be seen that while deposits by Indians and Trustees and the gross value of deposits by natives have increased, the number of native depositors has decreased by 19.

The investments on behalf of the Savings Bank as at the 31st December, 1913, were as follows:—

Transvaal Government 3 per cent. Guaranteed .. .. .	£3,000
Straits Settlements 3½ per cent. .. .. .	1,500
	£4,500

The Assets and Liabilities, as shown in the books of the Savings Bank on the 31st December, 1913, are given in the following statement:—

Balance to the credit of depositors ..	£4,567 15 6
Warrants for repayment issued, but not paid until after 31st December, 1913	16 0 0
	£4,583 15 6
Value of investments .. £4,500	
Cash balance .. .. .	83 15 6
	£4,583 15 6

## II.—TRADE.

### IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Exclusive of specie and goods in transit the imports and exports for the year were of a value of £389,935, as compared with £447,539 in the last preceding year.

The following table exhibits the trade development of the Protectorate in the last ten years:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Transit Trade.	
	For Home consumption.	Specie.	Products of Protectorate.	Specie.	To other Countries.	From other Countries.
1904-5	£ 212,497	£ 8,200	£ 46,453	£ 2,000	£ 8,725	£ 6,327
1905-6	(a) 217,581	5,000	56,778	—	31,351	6,148
1906-7	(a) 233,835	9,100	49,138	1,109	20,402	19,855
1907-8	(a) 169,541	—	54,371	14,233	19,041	4,223
1908-9	(a) 138,711	2,205	31,791	40,853	14,182	5,993
1909-10	111,783	846	97,504	13,362	15,113	5,246
1910-11	193,490	6,220	148,176	20,735	23,415	7,675
1911-12	236,628	20,420	151,460	74,594	23,257	19,804
1912-13	272,889	4,100	174,650	53,490	28,294	20,383
1913-14	189,201	420	200,734	49,623	15,732	19,090

(a) These figures include railway material for the Shire Highland Railway, as follows:—1904-5, £69,684; 1905-6, £22,589; 1906-7, £35,575; 1907-8, £37,975; 1908-9, £8,852.

The value of Imports from and Exports to the United Kingdom, British Possessions and Foreign countries during each of the last five years is shewn in the following table :—

*Imports.*

From.	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom .. ..	78,901	150,630	183,963	198,917	134,403
British Possessions ..	9,066	13,053	15,992	16,318	14,640
Foreign Countries ..	24,662	36,027	36,673	57,654	40,158
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>112,629</b>	<b>199,710</b>	<b>236,628</b>	<b>272,889</b>	<b>189,201</b>

NOTE.—Government Imports are included, but not specie.

*Exports.*

To.	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom . . .	76,172	140,651	132,671	163,796	183,425
British Possessions ..	10,710	6,304	1,012	814	3,301
Foreign Countries ..	23,984	21,956	17,959	10,040	14,008
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>110,866</b>	<b>168,911</b>	<b>151,642</b>	<b>174,650</b>	<b>200,734</b>

NOTE.—Government Exports are included, but not specie.

As compared with the preceding year the decline in the value of imports was due mainly to an undue inflation of imports in 1912-1913 ; minor contributory causes were the depression in the native trade after the failure of the previous year's harvest, a low river, the absorption of several of the river steamers in the transport of materials for the railway extension, and a serious wash-out on the Shire Highlands Railway in March, 1914.

For the first time in the history of the Protectorate the exports exceed the imports in value.

Of the total imports 71 per cent. came from the United Kingdom, 7.7 per cent. from British possessions, and 21.3 per cent. from foreign countries. Compared with the year 1912-13 the trade from the United Kingdom has decreased by 32.4 per cent., that with British possessions by 10.2 per cent., and with foreign countries 30 per cent.

The direction of the export trade has been in the following proportions, viz:—To the United Kingdom 91.4 per cent., to British possessions 1.7 per cent., and to foreign countries 6.9 per cent. The trade with the United Kingdom has increased by 11.9 per cent., and that with Germany by 14.5 per cent. when compared with the year 1912-13.

The total value of goods passing through the Protectorate in transit, inwards and outwards, has decreased by 28 per cent. In the inward trade the decrease is £9,204 (32.5 per cent.), and in the outward trade £4,651 (22.8 per cent.). The decline indicates that neighbouring territories have shared in the depression of trade which has prevailed during the year in Nyasaland. The transit imports consist of general trade goods; the exports are mainly represented by cotton grown in Northern Rhodesia and sent into Nyasaland for rebaling and shipment, ivory from the same country, and ivory, beeswax, unmanufactured tobacco and a limited quantity of hides from Portuguese East Africa.

IMPORTS.

The value of the imports in 1913-14 was less by £83,638 than in the previous year, representing a decrease of 30 per cent. This decrease is principally in textiles, the bulk of which are Manchester goods imported for native trade. In textiles the trade has fallen from £156,475 to £94,017, being a decrease of £62,458, equal to 39.8 per cent.

Other noteworthy decreases are:—

	£	Per cent.
Agricultural Implements .. .. .	4,258	36
Vehicles .. .. .	8,396	55
Glassware and beads .. .. .	3,349	65
Other hardware .. .. .	10,485	51
Salt .. .. .	2,026	66
Other provisions .. .. .	4,665	24
Alcohol (distilled spirits) .. .. .	737	28

House-building materials show an increase of £1,028, equal to 83 per cent., and free goods £7,360, equal to 32 per cent.

The following table shows the principal items of trade imports during the last five years :—

	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14
<b>Alcohol :</b>	£	£	£	£	£
(a) Spirits, distilled .	1,530*	2,182*	1,848	2,592	1,855
(b) Wines and beers			2,287	2,559	2,182
<b>Fire-arms and Ammunition</b> .. ..	1,400	2,115	2,122	2,588	2,198
<b>Free Goods :</b>					
(a) Agricultural machinery ..	†19,865	†29,303	17,183	11,802	7,550
(b) Vehicles .. ..			4,878	12,930	4,534
(c) Live Stock .. ..			396	233	11
(d) Other Free Goods			25,160	22,978	30,338
<b>Hardware :</b>					
(a) Glassware and beads .. ..	†9,046	†13,058	5,786	5,149	1,800
(b) House building material ..			1,538	1,236	2,264
(c) Other hardware ..			15,562	20,548	12,596
<b>Kerosene and Petrol</b> .. ..	—	—	656	953	2,053
<b>Provisions</b> .. ..	14,994	17,493	24,090	26,465	19,736
<b>Sundries :</b>					
(a) Stationery .. ..	—	—	1,792	2,322	2,412
(b) General .. ..	3,756	7,212	4,635	4,059	5,655
<b>Textiles</b> .. ..	61,192	122,127	128,695	156,475	94,017
<b>Total</b> .. ..	<b>111,783</b>	<b>193,490</b>	<b>236,628</b>	<b>272,889</b>	<b>189,201</b>

(\*) Wines and beers included in Provisions in 1909-10 and 1910-11.

(†) Classification of Free Goods and Hardware under sub-heads commenced in 1911-12.

The United Kingdom continues to be the largest supplier of alcohol, arms and ammunition, agricultural implements and machinery, hardware, provisions, and textiles.

Germany furnishes many of the cheap lines of hardware, enamel-ware, tools, and native truck.

Fez caps, beads, and Hungarian flour form the specialities supplied by Austria.

#### EXPORTS.

The quantity of produce exported has increased from 7,023,584 lb. to 8,108,529, and the value from £174,628 to £200,623, equal to an increase of 14.9 per cent. This is an indication of the agricultural expansion which has taken place during the year. The principal increase is in tobacco, of which 3,763,014 lb. have been shipped as against 2,262,545 lb. in the previous year, the increase being £37,567 (66.3 per cent.).

Under other headings there are increases as follows :—

	Increase in weight. lbs.	Increase in value.	
		£	Per cent.
Cultivated rubber ..	23,564	2,938	47
Tea .. ..	48,348	1,209	41·6
Ground nuts .. ..	968,058	5,150	99·7

The increased export of ground nuts is due to the removal of the prohibition of export in force in the previous year.

Cotton shows the largest decrease in exports, having declined by 836,413 lb. in weight and £15,453 (17·8 per cent.) in value as a consequence of short crops caused by unfavourable climatic conditions. Other products showing decreases are :—

	Decrease in weight. lbs.	Decrease in value.	
		£	Per cent.
Uncultivated rubber .	19,593	4,342	56·3
Strophanthus ..	19,321	2,430	92·6
Fibre .. ..	103,732	926	73·7
Coffee .. ..	2,628	66	1·3
Chillies .. ..	156,346	2,988	94·3

The reduced export of uncultivated rubber, strophanthus, and chillies has been caused by the low prices prevailing on the home market.

The value of cattle exported has declined by £1,155 due to the importation of animals into Southern Rhodesia being prohibited.

The subjoined table is a comparative statement of the principal exports from Nyasaland for the last five years :—

Year.	Rubber.		Tea.	Cotton.	Tobacco.
	Cultivated.	Uncultivated.			
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1909-10* ..	27,144	—	36,281	858,928	1,084,757
1910-11* ..	59,471	—	42,042	1,736,999	1,704,637
1911-12 ..	4,698	43,011	43,876	1,356,904	2,146,615
1912-13 ..	14,798	46,314	67,726	3,237,555	2,262,545
1913-14 ..	38,362	26,721	116,074	2,401,142	3,763,014

\*In the years 1909-10 and 1910-11 rubber exports were not kept under the separate heading "cultivated" and "uncultivated."

The bulk of the export trade is with the United Kingdom. Ground nuts, beeswax, and strophanthus are, however, exported principally to Germany, which takes also a considerable proportion of castor oil seed and sesame oil seed and a small quantity of tobacco, coffee, and cotton.

Maize, maize flour, and potatoes are exported to Portuguese East Africa, as also much of the cotton seed.

Export trade with France is confined almost entirely to ground nuts.

#### SHIPPING.

Navigation of the Lower Shire river presented the usual difficulties during the dry season, and though no undue accumulations of produce occurred at Port Herald as has been the case in former years, this was mainly due to the principal exporters and buyers of produce holding up their shipments until the river became navigable. The construction of an extension of the railway to a navigable head of navigation on the Zambesi river will do much to remove these difficulties and it is hoped that the line will be open for traffic early in 1915.

The number of vessels of all classes cleared inwards from Chinde was 117, as against 143 in 1912-13. These vessels carried 3,521 tons of cargo, 357 European, 125 Indian, and 2,538 Native passengers, the figures for the previous year being 6,661 tons, 362 Europeans, 159 Indians, and 3,740 Natives.

The outward clearances were 165 vessels (as against 146 in 1912-13), carrying 4,219 tons of produce, 309 European, 104 Indian, and 1,835 Native passengers, as against 3,492 tons, 274 Europeans, 167 Indians, and 1,390 Natives in the previous year.

The number of steamers plying on the Zambesi and Shire rivers between Chinde and Nyasaland remains unchanged, viz., 24. Of these vessels 11 are under the British flag and 13 under the Portuguese.

The number of vessels registered in the Protectorate is 138, as against 134 in 1912-13.

Seven steamers ply on Lake Nyasa, six of which are under the British flag and one under the German.

Of the six British steamers three are Government vessels. Two of these are engaged in the transport of Government cargo and passengers between lake ports, the third being used as a tender at Fort Johnston.

Two Government barges ply on the Upper Shire river during the months when it is navigable, but there is now every indication that this service will have to be suspended permanently owing to the fall in the level of the lake and consequent drying up of the river.

The Government vessels carried 1,005 tons of cargo, 60 European, and 1,257 Native passengers during the year.

III.—AGRICULTURE.

COTTON.

Unfavourable climatic conditions combined with severe attacks by boll worm militated against the success of cotton cultivation in the Shire Highlands, whermost of the European plantations are situated. In the lower levels, on the other hand, and notably in the Lower Shire, Ruo, and West Shire Districts, the late rains produced exceptionally fine crops.

No difficulty was experienced in disposing of the crop on the home market, first quality cotton finding a ready sale at from 8*d.* to 9*d.* per lb., inferior grades only commanding less than 7*d.* per lb. A marked reduction in length of staple calls for greater care in the selection of seed so as to obtain a staple of one and three-sixteenths.

In former years the unsatisfactory baling of Nyasaland cotton was commented upon, but the difficulties have now been overcome and the increase in the number of hydraulic presses has had the effect of standardising a 400 lb. bale and thus meeting the requirements of the home market.

The exported crop in bales of 400 lb. lint amounted to 6,003 as against 8,093 in the previous year, the acreage under European cultivation being 25,697 as compared with 24,155 in 1912-13. The local value of the crop was £65,486 or a decrease of £15,453 on that of the preceding year.

The following table shows the acreage under cultivation and the production and value of the cotton crop for the past five years :—

Year.	Total Acreage under European Cultivation.	Crop (including native-grown cotton) exported at 31st March of each year.	Value.
		lbs.	£
1909-10.. ..	8,975	858,926	26,209
1910-11.. ..	12,752	1,736,999	58,687
1911-12.. ..	23,332	1,356,904	44,099
1912-13.. ..	24,155	3,237,555	80,939
1913-14.. ..	25,697	2,401,142	65,487

NOTE.—The export of any one year is from the cultivation in the preceding year.

The acreage under European cultivation of the crop now being harvested is estimated at 26,407 acres.

NATIVE-GROWN COTTON.

The native-grown cotton industry has made steady advance during the year under review, the crop having exceeded that of the previous year by 453½ tons of seed cotton, which is equivalent to an increase in lint of 685 bales of 400 lb. each.

The progress of the industry during the past five years can be gauged from the following statistics :—

Year.	Seed Cotton.		Lint.
	..	Tons.	Bales of 400 lb.
1909-10	..	220	332
1910-11	..	692	1,046
1911-12	..	962	1,454
1912-13	..	744	1,126
1913-14	..	1,198	1,811

The system of Government markets for the sale and purchase of native cotton, which was introduced on experimental lines in 1912-13, has been extended with marked success, as is evidenced by the enhanced prices secured on the home market, certain consignments having been valued as high as 9*d.* per lb. The institution of licence fees and market tolls payable by the local purchasers has enabled the industry to be placed on practically a self-supporting basis, the extra expense to the buyer having been more than compensated by the improvement in quality consequent on the natives, realising that by grading the crop a better price can be secured.

Inadequate transport facilities in the districts north of Zomba continue to retard the industry, thereby demonstrating the importance of extending the existing railway system to Lake Nyasa.

#### TOBACCO.

The quality of the tobacco crop was adversely affected by the climatic conditions prevailing during the year under report, a considerable proportion of the early crop having been destroyed by secondary growth and mildew. The main crop fared better, but an abnormal amount of spot caused by *Cercospora nicotianæ* had to be reckoned with.

Ten thousand four hundred and ninety-nine acres were planted as compared with 7,411 in 1912-13. The export of cured tobacco amounted to 3,763,014 lb., valued locally at £94,168, or an increase of 1,500,469 lb. in weight and £37,569 in value on the figures for the past year.

The acreage under cultivation and the production and value of the tobacco crop for the past five years are shown in the subjoined table :—

Year.	Total acreage		Crop exported at 31st March of each year. lbs.	Value. £
	..	under cultivation.		
1909-10	..	8,975	1,084,757	27,120
1910-11	..	12,752	1,704,637	42,627
1911-12	..	23,332	2,146,615	53,690
1912-13	..	24,155	2,262,545	56,599
1913-14	..	25,697	3,763,014	94,168

NOTE.—The export of any one year is from the preceding year's cultivation.

The highest quality leaf commands a ready sale on the London market at satisfactory prices, but the future success of the industry is dependent on quick markets being secured for the medium grades, which form the major portion of the crop.

It may be noted in this connexion that the establishment by the Imperial Tobacco Company, Ltd., of a buying and packing warehouse in Nyasaland has been of considerable benefit to those planters who prefer to dispose of their crop locally.

### TEA.

The production of tea is confined almost exclusively to south-east Mlanje, and the industry continues to be a promising one. A noticeable improvement has taken place in the quality of the crop since the establishment of up-to-date machinery. There are now three factories in the Mlanje district, all of which are increasing their operations yearly. Prices on the whole have been satisfactory, London sales varying from 5*d.* to 9*d.* per lb. as compared with the local price of 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb.

A satisfactory feature is the increase in local consumption.

The export for the year amounted to 116,074 lb., as compared with 67,726 lb. in the previous year, the local value being £2,902, or an increase in value of £1,219 over the export of the year 1912-13. The acreage has increased from 2,812 to 2,870. The restricted area with a suitable rainfall unfortunately debars the crop from ever developing into a very extensive industry.

Statistics for the past five years are appended in the following table :—

Year.	Total acreage under cultivation.	Crop exported at 31st March of each year. lbs.	Value. £
1909-10 .. ..	518	34,681	867
1910-11 .. ..	1,190	42,042	1,051
1911-12 .. ..	2,593	43,876	1,097
1912-13 .. ..	2,812	67,726	1,693
1913-14 .. ..	2,870	116,074	2,902

### RUBBER.

The growth of Para rubber in Nyasaland is, on an average, about two years behind that in Ceylon, but, considering the periods of drought to which the trees are subjected, it must be regarded as satisfactory. Experimental tapping on trees over 21 inches in circumference at 3 feet yielded satisfactory results, and demonstrates the better bleeding qualities of the variety as compared with Ceara grown under similar conditions. The production of Ceara rubber is satisfactory only when the trees are grown in rich soil highly retentive of moisture and where the annual rainfall is not less than 40 inches.

It has been found that the profitable tapping of Ceara rubber is limited to the few months when the soil is saturated, and that operations have to be suspended immediately the trees begin to cast their leaves in the early part of the dry season. This variety still gives no evidence of ever becoming suitable for general cultivation throughout the Protectorate.

The depressed nature of the rubber market had the effect of rendering the collection of wild rubber no longer profitable, with the exception of the exploitation of *Landolphia parvifolia* by the African Lakes Corporation, Ltd., within the area in the West Nyasa District held under a concession from Government on a royalty basis.

The value of the exported crop amounted to £9,598, of which £6,238 represents the value of cultivated rubber and £3,360 that of uncultivated rubber. The acreage under cultivation has increased from 8,896 acres to 10,562 acres.

#### OTHER PRODUCTS.

The area under chillies and capsicums has greatly decreased as a result of low prices on the home market, the crop for the year having been 12,547 lbs., valued at £178. The fluctuation in price during recent years and the restricted extent of the market combine to prevent these products from attaining any prominence as exportable crops.

Coffee continues to be gradually abandoned, the export having amounted to 192,076 lbs., valued at £4,802. The area under cultivation has sunk to 1,976 acres, being a decrease of 624 as compared with the previous year. Falling prices and the fickle nature of the crop have been responsible for the virtual abandonment of a crop which at one time was the premier export of the Protectorate.

The native rice crop, which is grown at present for sale locally, amounted to 1,203 tons during the year under review. Further development of this industry must await the extension of railway communication to the coast.

Within recent years cotton has been the most valuable crop produced by natives for export, but the export during the year of 970,346 lbs. of ground nuts, valued locally at £5,163, was mainly the output of native gardens.

With the extension of the railway system northwards to Fort Johnston, on Lake Nyasa, and southwards to Beira, in Portuguese East Africa, for which provision has been made, although execution is delayed by reason of the war, it is hoped that markets will be found for many articles which the Protectorate is capable of producing, but which it would be unprofitable to cultivate in the existing condition of its external communications.

### EXPERIMENTAL STATION.

The Government farms at Nyachiperi in the Lower Shire District, and at Namiwawa, in the Zomba District, continue to be made the centres of experiments with new crops and of seed selection.

The gradual extension in the use of agricultural labour-saving implements on European estates has been a satisfactory feature of the year, and although the initial cost of such machinery and work oxen is considerable, it will be found to be a profitable outlay of capital, especially in the case of tobacco plantations, where the whole system of farming is so exhaustive of soil nitrogen, the cattle being also utilised to manure the land by feeding off green crops.

### LIVE STOCK.

A considerable proportion of the Protectorate is undoubtedly suitable for cattle-raising, but owing to the continued prohibition of the entry of cattle from Nyasaland into Rhodesia there is at present no market for surplus stock, and no real progress can be looked for until railway communication has been extended to the coast.

There are estimated to be 75,897 head of cattle in the Protectorate, of which 65,003 are owned by natives.

The erection during the year in the Shire Highlands of dipping tanks and spraying machines, both by Government and private owners, has resulted in a marked diminution of tick-borne diseases as also of demodectic mange. It is hoped to extend facilities to the Mombera and North Nyasa Districts, where the bulk of the native-owned cattle are located.

The presence of rinderpest in German East Africa necessitated the strengthening of the veterinary staff, and special protective measures were initiated with a view to giving effect to the policy drawn up at the Veterinary Conference held at Bulawayo in April, 1913.

The energetic action taken by the Government of German East Africa to combat this epidemic appears to have been successful and there has been no spread of the disease in the direction of Nyasaland.

The concentration of the various herds of Government cattle at the Namiwawa farm has been undertaken as a preliminary step to the establishment of a Government stock farm and the initiation of experiments to ascertain the breeding, milking, and transport qualities of Nyasaland cattle and the possibility of profitable crossing with imported breeds.

### FORESTRY.

The continued deforestation in the vicinity of thickly populated native settlements and the conservation of Crown forests are questions in respect of which action has been unavoidably curtailed by the exigencies of the financial position. To provide a remedy for the former, efforts have been made in certain districts to encourage native communities to plant up small areas with rapid growing trees under

the supervision of the District Residents. Action in regard to the latter question has been limited at present, pending expert examination, to the proclamation of Zomba Mountain plateau as a demarcated Crown forest and to a preliminary survey of the natural resources of the cypress forests on Mlanje plateau.

The Mlanje cypress (*Widdringtonia whytei*) is indigenous on the higher slopes and plateaux of Mlanje mountain, growing at an elevation varying from 4,000 to 7,000 feet above sea level. The trees attain their finest growth on the Tuchila and Likabula plateaux, where the rainfall averages about 60 inches, and these two plateaux are comparatively well stocked with cypress. On the Lichenya plateau, on the southern side of the mountain, where the annual rainfall averages about 100 inches, quite two-thirds of the aggregate wooded area carries no cypress. The natural reproduction of the tree, is on the whole, poor, and steps are being taken to assist its natural regeneration by the removal of worthless trees and shrubs from the cypress woods. The timber is sawn on the plateaux and is extensively used by the Public Works Department for building purposes, as it is not only of excellent quality and durable, but impervious to the attacks of white ants. Plantations of this tree were first established on Zomba Mountain plateau in the year 1902-3, the area being increased by 20 acres during the year under review, making an estimated total area of 277 acres. The trees are as yet too young to enable an idea to be formed of the success of this experiment.

In the nursery at Blantyre 80,000 eucalyptus plants were raised during the year, a large number of which were issued free to natives through the Resident for the purpose of planting up small areas near their villages for the production of poles and firewood.

Owing to the absence on leave of the Chief Forest Officer no extensions were possible to the eucalyptus plantations at Zomba. The growth in the plantations is, however, satisfactory, and the oldest plantation, which is six years old, is now yielding at the rate of 2,455 cubic feet of solid wood-fuel per acre.

The principal plants raised during the year in the nurseries at Zomba were 100,000 eucalyptus and 70,000 Mlanje cypress.

#### ENTOMOLOGICAL.

The investigation of insect pests affecting the principal crops in Nyasaland was continued by the Entomologist until his departure, in November, 1913, and various bulletins on the subject were published during the year.

#### METEOROLOGICAL.

Meteorological observations are taken at Zomba Observatory and records of temperature and rainfall at fourteen other stations. The Observatory is 2,948 feet above sea level. The climate of Nyasaland falls into two main divisions, that of the Shire River Valley and Lake Nyasa, the other of the remaining districts of the Protectorate, which lie at a much higher elevation.

There are consequently considerable variations in temperature and humidity, the low levels being hotter and drier than the highlands.

The seasons comprise a rainy season, extending, as a rule, from the end of November to the end of March, and a dry season, during the remaining portion of the year. During the past five years there has, however, been a tendency for the rains to commence later.

The rainfall at Zomba for the calendar year 1913 was 51·73 inches or about 4 inches below the average, and the number of rainy days recorded was 110. The total number of rainy days for the agricultural season, October, 1913, to April, 1914, was 86, or 15 days less than the average of the last 16 years. The maximum rainfall during 1913 was at Mlanje station (2,462 feet above sea level), where the total amounted to 87·70 inches, rain having been recorded on 140 days.

The mean temperature of the air at the Observatory was 68°, the highest temperature recorded being 92°, on the 15th of October, and the lowest 47°, on the 14th of June.

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#### IV.—INDUSTRIES AND MINES.

##### INDUSTRIES.

Industrial ventures on the part of Europeans may be said to be confined at present to the making of tinware and furniture, and to a local manufactory of soap and oil. The main native industries are an extensive fishing industry on Lake Chilwa, the fish being sold in Blantyre and Zomba markets, basket and mat making, and pottery.

##### MINES.

Operations during the year have been confined to the mining of mica in the South Nyasa, Upper Shire, and Dedza Districts. This mineral up to the present has been found in scattered surface deposits only, and so long as this is the case it is doubtful whether its exploitation will result in any considerable output. The quantity of mica exported in 1913-14 amounted to 19,248 lbs., as compared with 40,518 lbs. in the previous year.

The mining and burning of limestone is undertaken in some districts by natives, notably at Chendausiku, in the Upper Shire District. The deposits of limestone on Nchisi Island in Lake Chilwa are worked by the Public Works Department for plastering and ordinary building purposes.

## V.—LEGISLATION.

Sixteen Ordinances were enacted during the year under review. Among the more important legislative measures were the following :—

The Public Roads Ordinance (No. 2 of 1913) provides for the declaration of certain roads as public roads and for the protection of such roads from damage.

The Immigration Restriction Ordinance (No. 4 of 1913) repeals the Immigration Restriction Ordinances of 1905 and 1908, and, while generally following previous legislation, makes better provision for contingencies likely to arise in consequence of the Protectorate being made more accessible through the extension of its railway system into foreign territory.

The Native Lunatics Ordinance (No. 5 of 1913) has as its object the regularisation of adjudications of lunacy in the case of natives and the proper care of such persons.

The Central Africa Railway (Construction) Ordinance (No. 9 of 1913) removes the restrictions imposed by the Employment of Natives Ordinances of 1909 and 1911 on the recruitment of labour for service outside the Protectorate, in so far as to permit natives to be recruited in Nyasaland for service in the construction of the new railway extension from the Zambesi River to Port Herald.

The Mining (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 2 of 1914) simplifies the procedure in regard to the making of bricks, the burning of lime, and the quarrying of stone on Crown lands.

The Commissions of Inquiry Ordinance (No. 3 of 1914) enables the Governor to appoint commissions of inquiry and to confer special powers upon such commissions.

The Medical Practitioners' Registration (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 4 of 1914) extends the scope of the Medical Practitioners Registration Ordinance (No. 9 of 1906) by enabling medical men with lesser qualifications than are therein contemplated to practise in the Protectorate under certain conditions and limitations.

A revision and consolidation of the Ordinances in force on the 31st of March, 1913 (prepared by Mr. C. J. Griffin, Judge of the High Court of Nyasaland), was published during the year and a codification of the Orders of His Majesty the King in Council, relating to the Nyasaland Protectorate and Local Proclamations, Orders, and Rules in force on the 31st of December, 1913, is in course of preparation and will be published at an early date.

## VI.—EDUCATION.

There are no Government schools in Nyasaland, the education of the native population being undertaken by the various missionary societies established in the Protectorate. Of these, ten participated in the annual grant of £1,000 from Government funds.

Mission schools are graded and as a rule may be divided into the following classes, viz., elementary schools, situated usually in native villages where instruction is given up to the first English Primer to all pupils who pass satisfactorily in the vernacular; central schools, in which the curriculum extends to Standard 3 of the Nyasaland Education Code; and secondary schools or central institutes, to which central school pupils are drafted who wish to learn a trade or to become teachers. The training at the central institutes extends over a period of six years and comprises the following branches: carpentry, printing, hospital work, gardening and simple agriculture, blacksmiths' and tinsmiths' work, office or clerical work. Girl pupils are instructed in laundry work and needlework.

The Dutch Reformed Church Mission have introduced a basket and chair-making industry, utilising local products for the purpose.

The teaching of the principles of hygiene and sanitation receives special attention both in the schools and training institutes of the larger missions. In this connexion it is satisfactory to record that several missions report a noticeable improvement in the sanitation of the villages in which they work. The instruction in the village schools is necessarily confined to the rudiments of hygiene and the practical value of sanitation and cleanliness. More advanced teaching takes place at the institutes, where lectures are delivered on the common diseases of the country, while, for example, at the Overtoun Institute of the Free Church of Scotland Mission the elements of anatomy and physiology are taught, together with instruction as to the rational treatment and prevention of the commoner diseases.

The Mission Schools at the end of the year 1913-14 numbered 1,952, as against 1,768 in the preceding year. The average attendance in these schools was 49,903 boys and 33,575 girls, the number of pupils on the roll being 76,205 boys and 52,728 girls.

The standard of education shows an annual improvement, the younger generation of more intelligent natives being keenly alive to the advantages resulting from a general education and recognising that the more highly paid classes of employment are open to those who avail themselves of the opportunities offered.

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## VII.—JUDICIAL.

### POLICE.

The authorised strength of the Native Police establishment on the 31st of March, 1914, was 360, consisting of 2 Sergeants-Major, 17 Sergeants, 22 Corporals, 18 Lance-Corporals, and 301 Privates.

There is no European Police Force at present.

Police units are attached to every Administrative Station and Sub-Station; their recruitment, training, and discipline are under the supervision of the Residents and Assistant Residents in charge of

the stations, and are governed by the provisions of "The Civil Police Discipline Ordinance, 1909."

#### SYSTEMS OF COURTS.

The High Court of Nyasaland exercises full jurisdiction, civil and criminal, over all persons and all matters in the Protectorate. Courts subordinate to the High Court consist of (1) District Courts, with jurisdiction over non-natives, in civil cases where the amount or value in dispute does not exceed £250, and in criminal cases any sentence except a sentence of death or of imprisonment exceeding seven years, but sentences of imprisonment exceeding six months or fine exceeding £20 are subject to confirmation by the High Court; (2) Sub-District Courts, with jurisdiction over non-natives where the amount or value in dispute does not exceed £50, and in criminal cases a sentence of imprisonment not exceeding one month, or fine not exceeding £5, or both; (3) District Native Courts, with civil and criminal jurisdiction over natives, sentences of imprisonment exceeding six months, or of fine exceeding £5, or of whipping exceeding twelve strokes, or of flogging exceeding twelve lashes, being subject to confirmation of the High Court; and (4) Sub-District Native Courts, which may try any native civil case, and may, in native criminal cases, pass a sentence of imprisonment not exceeding six months, or of fine not exceeding £1, or of whipping not exceeding twelve strokes, or of flogging not exceeding twelve lashes; any sentence of imprisonment exceeding one month, or any sentence in which more than two of the above forms of punishment are ordered, are subject to confirmation by the District Native Court.

#### CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Seven criminal cases were tried in the High Court, as against two in 1912-13, and there was in addition one criminal appeal.

Criminal cases involving 67 persons were received from subordinate Courts for confirmation by the High Court, as compared with 101 in 1912-13. In 62 the sentences was confirmed, and in 5 it was modified, including 2 cases in which the prisoner was acquitted. The following is a classification of these cases:—

Murder, other than wife or child murder	..	..	2
Manlaughter	..	..	10
Attempt to murder	..	..	4
Murder of wife	..	..	0
Murder of child	..	..	0
Concealment of birth	..	..	0
Abortion	..	..	0
Rape	..	..	4
Unnatural crimes	..	..	2
Other offences against the person	..	..	5
Malicious injury to property	..	..	0
Robbery with violence	..	..	0
Other offences against property	..	..	25
Miscellaneous offences	..	..	15
			—
			67

Sentence of death was carried out in one case of murder. —

The number of offences reported to the Police or Magistrates during the year was 3,264 as against 3,187 in 1912-13. They are classified as follows :—

Offences against the person .. .. .	841
Offences against property .. .. .	610
Other offences .. .. .	1,813
	3,264

In connexion with these offences 4,106 persons were apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates, seven of whom were committed for trial in the High Court.

The cases prosecuted in the Subordinate Courts (including preliminary enquiries with a view to commitment to the High Court) were distributed as follows :—

Offences.	Discharged for want of prosecution or evidence	Dismissed on the merits.	Convicted.	Committed to the High Court
Against the person ..	61	114	788	1
Against property .. ..	68	81	496	5
Against Regulations, Ordinances, etc. .. ..	35	51	2,200	1
Other offences .. ..	31	21	153	—
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>3,637</b>	<b>7</b>

The total number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals during the last five years were distributed as follows :—

	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14
Number of offences reported to the police ..	2,270	2,729	4,080	3,187	3,264
Number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates .. ..	2,589	3,211	5,054	4,076	4,106
Number of Summary Convictions :—					
1. For offences against the person .. ..	674	930	1,001	893	788
2. For offences against property .. ..	419	353	429	584	496
3. For other offences .. ..	1,083	1,441	3,188	2,027	2,353
Number of persons acquitted or discharged ..	415	482	436	570	462
Committed on trial before the High Court ..	—	—	—	2	7

The offences most prevalent during the year were assault, larceny, evasion of hut tax, and evasion of the pass laws.

## CIVIL STATISTICS.

The Civil business of the High Court witnessed a considerable increase, 88 actions having been tried, as against 41 in 1912-13. In addition there were 85 interlocutory applications arising out of these actions.

Natives continue to have recourse in increasing numbers to the District and Sub-District Native Courts, since they have learned by experience that their cases secure a ready and patient hearing and are dealt with expeditiously.

## PROBATE.

Four deceased estates were wound up by the High Court during the year, 19 others being in process of administration on the 31st March, 1914.

## PRISONS.

There are two prisons for long term prisoners, that is, for prisoners sentenced to terms exceeding six months, Natives being detained in the Central Prison, Zomba, and Europeans and Asiatics in the Central Prison, Blantyre. Asiatics are sometimes transferred to Zomba Central Prison.

The total number of prisoners confined in the Central Prison, Zomba, on the 31st of March, 1914 was 166, classified as follows :—

Class.	Sex.	Hard Labour.	Light Labour.	Lunatics.	Total.
Asiatics ..	Male	1	—	—	1
Natives ..	Male	149	13	—	162
„ ..	Female	2	—	1	3
Totals ..	—	152	13	1	166

During the year under report the administration of the Zomba Central Prison was strengthened by the appointment of a Deputy Superintendent, the establishment of prison warders placed on an organised basis, and improvements effected in the discipline and feeding of prisoners and in the efficiency of the convict labour.

A system of prison gardens maintained by the prisoners themselves was instituted both at the Zomba Central Prison and at District native prisons wherever suitable land was available. The results have proved satisfactory, for the more varied scale of rations has been of benefit both to the health of prisoners and to the output of their labour.

Criminal lunatics are confined in the Lunatic Asylum at Zomba.

VIII.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) POPULATION.

The European population on the 31st March, 1914, was returned at 799, thus showing an increase of 41 as compared with the previous year. The Asiatic population amounted to 408, this being an increase of 52 over the population of the preceding year.

The European and Asiatic population during the last five years is shown in the subjoined table :—

	1909-10			1910-11			1911-12			1912-13			1913-14		
	M.	F.	Total.												
European ..	409	178	587	531	235	766	539	234	773	518	240	758	540	259	799
Asiatic ..	421	14	435	445	36	481	427	36	463	29	356	388	20	408	

The native population is estimated at 1,065,119, as against 1,020,537 last year.

(b) BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

Twenty-six European births and seven deaths were registered during the current year, as against 27 and 11 respectively in 1912-13, the birth-rate being 32·54 and the death-rate 8·76 per mille.

There were no Asiatic births, whereas seven were recorded in the preceding year. The deaths among Asiatics decreased from eight in 1912-13 to one in 1913-14.

Nine European marriages were celebrated during the year.

Native Christian marriages celebrated under the Christian Native Marriage Ordinance numbered 254.

No organisation exists at present for the registration of marriage by native custom, or for recording births and deaths among the native population.

IX.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

GENERAL.

The health of the Protectorate, generally, has been satisfactory during the year 1913, and there has been no outbreak of epidemic or other sickness as a factor in the death-rate.

The investigation of ankylostome infection amongst natives was continued in various districts, and the results show that this disease prevails with about equal intensity throughout Nyasaland.

In regard to sleeping sickness it may be said that up to the present there would appear to be no tendency to any spread of the disease. Sixty-four cases were reported during the year—49 occurring in the "proclaimed area" of the Dowa district, 11 in the Marimba and 2 each in the South Nyasa and Upper Shire districts. The preventive measures which have been adopted consist mainly of clearings around villages and along some of the more frequented paths in the infected areas. Where extensive clearings have been made a quite appreciable diminution in the number of tsetse flies has been noticed.

But one case of small-pox was recorded, the patient having acquired the infection in the adjoining Portuguese territory. Measures were at once instituted to prevent any spread of infection and proved completely successful.

There has been no recurrence of small-pox in epidemic form since the year 1909, a result which is due to the systematic vaccination of the general population and which has removed one of the principal factors militating against a normal increase of population.

The total number of vaccinations performed during the year 1913 was 143,502, as compared with 132,992 in the preceding year.

Excluding injuries and the commoner skin affections, the chief causes of sickness, in order of frequency, were digestive and bowel complaints, bronchitis, malaria, dysentery, and syphilis.

Among the diseases with increased admission rates were malaria, respiratory disorders, venereal diseases, and tuberculosis. Chicken-pox and measles showed a considerable decrease.

Malarial fever represented nearly 5·64 per cent. of the total admissions, and was most prevalent in January, February, and May, or, in other words, at the height of, and shortly after, the rainy season.

#### HEALTH OF EUROPEAN OFFICIALS.

The health of officials has been satisfactory on the whole, and there have been no invalidings. There were two cases of enteric, one of which terminated fatally.

The general adoption of quinine prophylaxis caused an appreciable decline in the admissions for malarial fever.

#### HEALTH OF GENERAL EUROPEAN POPULATION.

A large proportion of the sick are treated by mission doctors and therefore do not come under the notice of Medical Officers. Six deaths were recorded by the medical staff, namely one each from malarial hyperpyrexia, cerebral embolism, myocarditis, appendicitis, and septicæmia.

The number of European patients admitted into the Government hospitals amounted to 73, and were distributed as follows :- Blantyre 47, Zomba 26.

HEALTH OF NATIVES.

The chief causes of sickness, in order of frequency, were digestive and bowel complaints, bronchitis, malaria, and dysentery. Among the diseases with increased admission rates were malaria, respiratory disorders, and venereal diseases. Although vital statistics are not available to enable any accurate reference to the health conditions obtaining in native villages, there is reason to believe that there is a large mortality among infants and children, the principal causes of which are mismanagement at childbirth, improper feeding, and the contagious and infective maladies to which the young are liable.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

The position of Government hospitals and dispensaries is shown in the sub-joined table :-

Station.	European Hospital.	No. of Beds.	Native Hospital.	No. of Beds.	Native Dispensary.
Port Herald ..	-	-	1	6	1
Mlanje ..	-	-	-	-	1
Blantyre ..	1	6	-	-	1
Zomba ..	1	6	3	46	2
Fort Johnston ..	1	2	1	6	1
Kola-Kota ..	-	-	-	-	1
Karonga ..	-	-	-	-	1

There is no native hospital at Blantyre, but at this station Government makes a yearly grant of £20 to the Church of Scotland Mission for the treatment of in-patients. At Zomba one of the three native hospitals is the property of the Church of Scotland Mission and is temporarily under the control of Government, an annual ground rental of £10 being paid for the use of the building.

Apart from these Government institutions much medical work, both among Europeans and natives, is undertaken by the various Missions established in the Protectorate.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

There is a Central Native Lunatic Asylum at Zomba accommodating an average of 22 inmates. The building is at present being extended, and when completed will enable the authorities to deal with a larger number of cases.

## X.—COMMUNICATIONS.

## GENERAL.

The necessity for the improvement of external communications in consequence of the marked annual fall in the level of the Lower Shire river has been recognised by the Imperial Government, with the result that during the year under report a commencement was made with the construction of a railway from Port Herald to Chindio, on the Zambesi river, a distance of 62 miles. This line will connect at Port Herald with the Shire Highlands Railway and will thus give through communication from the Zambesi to Blantyre.

The importance of this undertaking lies in the fact that it provides an outlet at a point on the Zambesi river which will be open to navigation by river steamers all the year round in a normal season, whereas under present conditions the Lower Shire river is navigable up to Port Herald for but six months of the year.

Chinde, in Portuguese East Africa, continues to be the ocean outlet for the Protectorate. The narrow and shallow bar outside the harbour and the rapid erosion of the settlement by the waters of the Zambesi combine to make it one of the least advantageous ports on the east coast of Africa. So long as the Protectorate is dependent on this port the transportation of cargo to and from Nyasaland will be fraught with difficulty and delay, and it is therefore to the further extension of the railway to Beira that this country must look for the final solution of its external transport problems.

The level of Lake Nyasa continues to fall, and as a result the Upper Shire river has ceased to be a navigable waterway between Fort Johnston and Liwonde. The transport of produce from the districts bordering Lake Nyasa to rail-head presents great difficulties, which can be obviated only by a northward extension of the railway to Lake Nyasa. Provision was made for this extension, but the outbreak of war has entailed the postponement of its construction.

The policy of providing macadamised roads to connect producing centres with the railway, which was initiated with the construction of the road from Zomba to Limbe and Blantyre, is being continued and a macadamised road between Mlanje and Luchenza railway station is now under construction.

## RAILWAY.

There are no Government railways in the Protectorate. The railway from Port Herald to Blantyre, 113½ miles in length, is owned and worked by the Shire Highlands Railway Company. This is a single line of 3 feet 6 inches gauge. An extension of the line southwards to Chindio, on the Zambesi river, is under construction and will, it is expected, be open for traffic in 1915.

MARINE TRANSPORT.

The Government steamers maintain a regular monthly service on Lake Nyasa in connexion with the transport of Government cargo and passengers.

The needs of the public are mainly served by the steamer of the African Lakes Corporation, Limited, which has run regularly throughout the year.

Reference has already been made to the condition of the Upper Shire river as a waterway. Barges plied between Fort Johnston and Liwonde for about three months of the year, the service being finally suspended in consequence of lack of water, accumulation of sudd, and formation of sand bars.

ROAD TRANSPORT.

The Government motor lorry service for the transport of Government cargo and passengers between Limbe and Zomba has been maintained.

Further experience has demonstrated the success of the undertaking, and it is intended to acquire an additional lorry in the ensuing year. At present there are two lorries, the older of which is, however, no longer suitable for a regular service.

The Albion lorry ran 7,913 miles during the year, carrying 435 tons of cargo and 203 passengers. The Wolseley lorry was laid up for six months of the year owing to a breakage of one of the wheels, and ran 2,243 miles, transporting 106 tons of cargo and 29 passengers.

XI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total outlay on public works (including surveys) was £21,638 or £7,831 in excess of that of the previous year. The principal increases were £4,007 for new public buildings, £772 for new roads, and £1,748 for machinery, &c.

BUILDINGS.

The new buildings erected comprised houses, offices, stores, etc., and do not call for special comment, no work of special importance having been undertaken. The approximate value of all Government buildings in the Protectorate (including Chinde) was £53,735 at the 31st March, 1914.

### ROADS.

Maintenance and repairs of main roads and bridges necessitated an outlay of £750. The cost of the maintenance of other roads and bridges was £966.

The construction of new roads accounted for an expenditure of £5,137, the principal item being the commencement of a macadam road to connect the plantations in south-east Mlanje with Luchenza railway station. Work was started on the most difficult section of this road along the southern slopes of Mlanje mountain with the result that five and a quarter miles only could be completed by the close of the year. An additional two miles of road was formed while metal was carried and broken for a total of eight and a quarter miles. The expenditure on this work amounted to £2,940.

Improvements at a cost of £500 were effected to the Zomba—Fort Johnston road with a view to making it fit for hand cart traffic in consequence of the Upper Shire river between Fort Johnston and Liwonde ceasing to be a navigable waterway for barge traffic.

The most important of the bridges erected during the year was that over the Tuchila river near Luchenza railway station. This work cost £680.

### ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The installation has been in operation for ten years and after providing for depreciation at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum and interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum, a profit amounting to £215 has been earned in this period. 1,163 lamps of 8 candle power are now installed as compared with 415 lamps of 8 candle power originally, the dynamos having been increased from an aggregate capacity of 15·4 to 58·74 kilowatts. During the year the work of bricking the water channel from the Mlungusi river to the reservoir tank at the head of the pipe line was carried out, and improvements were effected in the tank by lining the bottom with cement concrete and the sides and ends with brick work rendered over in cement. These works cost £496 and have been of great benefit to the installation by obviating stoppages caused in the past by lack of water.

## XII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

### POSTAL.

The postal service now comprises 19 Post Offices and 7 Sub-Post Offices.

The revenue for the year amounted to £7,012, as against £4,559 for the previous year, an increase of £2,543, due principally to more extensive sales of postage stamps to foreign dealers, consequent on a new issue. The expenditure was £5,465, being a decrease of £331 as compared with 1912-13.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, passing through the Post Office was approximately 1,304,839, as compared with 1,068,528 in 1912-13.

Foreign and inland letters, post cards, and newspapers show a considerable increase.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 8,460, being a slight decrease on the number in the preceding year. The increase in the number of registered articles was 727.

Postal order business again increased. The orders issued increased in number from 14,622 to 15,937, and in value from £12,080 to £12,957. The orders received increased in number from 12,080 to 14,021, and in value from £9,820 to £11,182.

The total value of the money orders issued amounted to £7,781, as against £7,376 in 1912-13. The total value of those drawn on the Protectorate rose from £2,996 in 1912-13 to £6,183 in 1913-14, the bulk of which represents money remitted by Nyasaland natives employed in Southern Rhodesia.

#### TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

*Telegraphs.*—The telegraph service is owned and managed by the African Trans-Continental Telegraph Company, whose line runs from Umtali, in Southern Rhodesia, to Tete, in Portuguese East Africa, where the Zambesi river is crossed; from Tete it is connected with Chikwawa, in Nyasaland, and thence traverses the Protectorate *via* Blantyre, Zomba, and the stations on Lake Nyasa to Karonga. From Karonga the line crosses the Tanganyika Plateau, passing through the northern districts of Northern Rhodesia to Lake Tanganyika and northwards into German East Africa. A branch line connects Domira Bay, on Lake Nyasa, with Fort Jameson, in Northern Rhodesia.

The Shire Highlands Railway Company own a telegraph line along the extent of railway between Port Herald and Blantyre.

A Portuguese line connects Chiromo and Chinde.

*Telephones.*—The only telephone system in existence at present is at Zomba, where there is an exchange between the various Government offices. During the year five additional offices were connected, making the total number of telephone connections twenty-one.

## XIII.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The condition of the native population continues to be satisfactory throughout the Protectorate, and nothing has occurred to vary the good opinion formed in the past of the general law-abiding character of the Nyasaland native or his ready compliance with constituted authority. A feature of the year has been the marked recovery of the population in the Lower River Districts from the depression caused by the drought and famine of the previous year. This state of affairs was largely contributed to by the excellent native cotton crop and an abundant harvest throughout these districts.

The harvest was generally a good one throughout the Protectorate, such shortages of food crops as did occur being confined to one or two small areas.

The application during the year of the provisions of the District Administration (Native) Ordinance to the Lower Shire and West Shire Districts and to the Ncheu and Kota-Kota divisions of the Upper Shire and Marimba Districts, respectively, has been attended by results which encourage every hope that the scheme will eventually remove many of the administrative difficulties attendant on the decentralisation of native society, the weakening of authority among native headmen, and the inclination of each individual native to free himself from the salutary discipline and control to which he had formerly to submit himself in his village. In initiating a scheme at once so comprehensive and so far-reaching, the policy has been not to attempt too much nor to burden the principal and village headmen too suddenly with the numerous responsibilities imposed by the Ordinance. For this reason attention was devoted to the concentration of villages and to the improvement of sanitation. It is gratifying to record that the concentration of scattered collections of huts into proper villages has been carried out rapidly and with an entire absence of friction. Sanitary problems do not enter into the ken of a primitive people and progress in this direction has therefore been slow. It is hoped, however, that as the headmen acquire confidence in themselves and secure the support of the natives within their administrative village areas the principles of sanitation will become more recognised and more closely observed.

Later in the year the Ordinance was partially applied to the Lilongwe division of the Lilongwe District and to the North Nyasa District; to the former at the special request of the Resident, to the latter for the purpose of dealing more effectively with ankylostomiasis, a disease very prevalent among the natives of that locality.

The native labour market has presented similar features to recent years—a plentiful supply in the dry season, and a shortage in the rainy season, when the cultivation of foodstuffs for his subsistence claims the native's attention.

The employment of Nyasaland natives is no longer permitted in the Witwatersrand Mines. Natives, more especially those residing in the northern and western districts of Nyasaland, show an increasing desire temporarily to leave the Protectorate for the purpose of securing more highly paid employment in Southern Rhodesia. Nyasaland natives formed the bulk of the labour employed in the construction of the new railway extension from Port Herald to the Zambesi river, the terms of their recruitment and engagement having been specially legislated for under the Central Africa Railway (Construction) Ordinance (No. 9 of 1913) and the Rules made thereunder. It is satisfactory to record that their labour proved efficient and that they enjoyed generally good health, despite the fact that the locality in which they were employed is regarded as possessing a very trying and enervating climate.

XIV.—MUNICIPALITIES.

Townships have been proclaimed at Port Herald, Chiromo, Limbe, Blantyre, Zomba, and Fort Johnston, the administration of each being vested in a Town Council elected by the ratepayers. In the case of Zomba, Chiromo, and Fort Johnston Town Councils, the Resident of the district acts as chairman *ex-officio*.

The total revenue and expenditure of these Town Councils during the year 1913-14 was as follows:—

Township.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Amount of Debt
Port Herald .. ..	£ 99	£ 96	Nil.
Chiromo .. ..	63	59	..
Limbe .. ..	101	79	..
Blantyre .. ..	487	541	..
Zomba .. ..	59	30	..
Fort Johnston .. ..	46	51	..

XV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Sir George Smith, K.C.M.G., was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Nyasaland Protectorate on the 13th

of August, 1913, in succession to Colonel Sir W. H. Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B., appointed to be Governor of Jamaica, and assumed the administration of the government on the 23rd of September, 1913.

Major F. B. Pearce, C.M.G., who had held the post of Deputy Governor since 1907, was appointed British Resident of the Zanzibar Protectorate on the 25th of March, 1914. He was succeeded by Mr. H. L. Duff, Secretary to the Administration, with the title of Chief Secretary.

A. M. J. TURNBULL,

Assistant Chief Secretary

19th December, 1914.

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## 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.
802	Ceylon .. .. .	1913
803	Bermuda .. .. .	"
804	Weihaiwei .. .. .	"
805	Gambia .. .. .	"
806	Gold Coast .. .. .	"
807	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast .. .. .	"
808	Sierra Leone .. .. .	"
809	Bahamas .. .. .	1913-1914
810	Cayman Islands (Jamaica) .. .. .	1912-1913
811	Fiji .. .. .	1913
812	Ashanti .. .. .	"
813	Basutoland .. .. .	1913-1914
814	Hong Kong .. .. .	1913
815	Bechuanaland Protectorate .. .. .	1913-1914
816	Imperial Institute .. .. .	1913
817	Falkland Islands .. .. .	"
818	Malta .. .. .	1913-1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago .. .. .	"
820	Jamaica .. .. .	"
821	Northern Nigeria .. .. .	1913
822	Grenada .. .. .	"
823	Zanzibar .. .. .	"
824	Barbados .. .. .	1913-1914
825	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	1913
826	Mauritius .. .. .	"
827	British Honduras .. .. .	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee .. .. .	"
829	Tonga Protectorate .. .. .	"
830	Swasiland .. .. .	1913-1914
831	Uganda .. .. .	1913-1914

### MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
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.
86	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon .. .. .	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute .. .. .	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1913.

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