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NYASALAND.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1096.)



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# NYASALAND.

## ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.\*

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### GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

#### BOUNDARIES.

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

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

The Protectorate is divided for administrative purposes into three Provinces, the Southern, Central, and Northern, each of which is in the charge of a Provincial Commissioner. Each Province is subdivided into districts in the charge of residents.

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

#### HISTORICAL.

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

The real history of Nyasaland begins with the advent of Dr. Livingstone, who, after experiencing considerable difficulty

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\* A map of the Protectorate will be found in the Report for 1912-13, No. 772 [Cd. 7050-13].

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in ascending the Shire, discovered Lakes Shirwa and Pamalombe, and on 16th September, 1859, reached the southern shore of Lake Nyasa. Livingstone was closely followed by a Mission under Bishop Mackenzie, sent out by the two English Universities. The Mission settled in the Shire Highlands, but, on account of loss of its members by sickness and otherwise, it withdrew in 1862. It was subsequently re-established in 1881 on Lake Nyasa, with headquarters on the island of Likoma, where it still remains.

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

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

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

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

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

In 1891, an Anglo-Portuguese convention ratified the work of Mr. Johnston, Mr. Sharpe (now Sir A. Sharpe, K.C.M.G., C.B.), and other pioneers of British Central Africa, and in the following spring a British Protectorate over the countries adjoining Nyasa was proclaimed. The Protectorate of Nyasaland, under the administration of an Imperial Commissioner, was confined to the regions adjoining the Shire and Lake Nyasa; the remainder of

the territory under British influence north of the Zambesi being placed, subject to certain conditions, under the British South Africa Company.

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

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Several important measures affecting the inhabitants of Nyasaland were undertaken during 1921.

According to the census taken in April, the population was 1,486 Europeans, 563 Asiatics, and 1,199,934 natives. The following figures show the increase of population as compared with 1911, when the last census was taken :

	1911.	1921.	Increase.
Europeans—			
Males .. .. .	531	1034	501
Females .. .. .	235	452	217
Asiatics—			
Males .. .. .	445	514	69
Females .. .. .	36	49	13
Natives—			
Males .. .. .	428,676	558,138	129,462
Females .. .. .	540,507	641,796	101,289

The Provincial system of administration was adopted during the year, and the Protectorate was divided into three Provinces, Southern, Central and Northern, each in charge of a Provincial Commissioner. The effect of the introduction of this system will be to decentralise much of the work that has hitherto been performed in the Secretariat by the Native Affairs branch, to co-ordinate and supervise the work of district officers, and to keep in closer touch with the views and needs of the native population.

The hut tax of 8s., with labour and produce rebates of 4s., was replaced by a hut or poll tax at a flat rate of 6s. As regards Europeans and Asiatics an income tax was introduced and the export duty on local products was abolished. On 1st October, the *ad valorem* customs import duty was increased from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. of the value at the port of shipment, and the old road and river dues, wharfage and registration charges were replaced by an inclusive charge of 1 per cent.

### HEALTH.

During the year 1921, the health of the Protectorate was satisfactory. In the Mlanje district smallpox broke out from time to time, apparently introduced from Portuguese East Africa. In other areas the outbreaks were of a sporadic nature and were easily controlled.

Two cases of bubonic plague were reported from the North Nyasa district, but neither case was seen till after death.

Although careful investigations were made no further cases were revealed, neither was there any noticeable epizootic disease among the rats with which this district is infested. Barium carbonate was reported to be the most satisfactory of the various rat poisons with which experiments were made during the year.

As regards the treatment of venereal disease, experience seems to show that the mental attitude of the native is the same towards this disease as towards others, and that treatment is not usually sought until serious inconvenience is occasioned. Nevertheless, venereal hospitals for the treatment of natives were opened in seven districts during 1921, and the returns show that a beginning has been made in familiarising the people with the opportunities afforded them at these treatment centres.

At the venereal hospitals the treatment of yaws is also undertaken, and later on it may be possible to deal more thoroughly with this disease, which is endemic and widely prevalent in the Dedza district.

The medical staff was increased during the year and this fact, combined with other circumstances, enabled medical aid to be extended to districts hitherto unprovided for. Indian Sub-Assistant Surgeons are stationed at posts of secondary importance, and, in addition, rural dispensaries are being opened in the more populous centres in each district under the charge of natives trained for the purpose and visited periodically by medical officers or sub-assistant surgeons. It is hoped that such schemes for increasing the medical facilities afforded to natives in remote districts will be further developed and extended in other directions as soon as the finances of the Protectorate permit.

It is understood that the drug, Bayer 205, which is being experimented with in Northern Rhodesia, is a decided advance on any treatment which has hitherto been employed in the cure of trypanosomiasis. The Medical Entomologist is studying the preventive side of this disease.

Lack of funds still renders it impossible to deal more completely with leprosy.

Nothing of special importance is recorded with regard to malaria among the native population. An increased number of cases was dealt with, but this is explained by the extension of medical staff assistance as reported above.

As regards sickness amongst the European population, 366 cases were treated by the medical department, and there were 12 deaths. Malaria was responsible for 28 per cent. of the cases dealt with, and of course many cases of malaria are self-treated and do not come under official cognisance. Gastro-intestinal disorders, respiratory complaints and dysentery made up the bulk of the other cases treated. As regards blackwater fever, there were 14 cases, resulting in two deaths.

European hospitals are maintained by Government at Blantyre, Zomba, and Fort Johnston, and native hospitals at the following stations, in addition to those mentioned :—Port Herald, Mlanje, and Karonga. Others are either in course of erection or are to be built later. The various missions established in the Protectorate continue to do a considerable amount of medical work.

#### IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

Excluding persons in transit through the Protectorate, 521 Europeans and 277 Indians entered, while 377 and 203, respectively, left. Of natives of Nyasaland the numbers recorded at stations of entry and exit were 6,419 inwards and 7,194 outwards, but it must be remembered that considerable numbers annually leave the Protectorate by various routes for employment in the Union of South Africa, Rhodesia, Portuguese East Africa and the mines at Katangas in the Belgian Congo. It is impossible to state numbers with any degree of accuracy, but the employment does not generally extend over a period of twelve months and it is estimated that the numbers outwards are about balanced by the numbers who return in any given period. The reports of the Rhodesia Mining Bureau shew that an average of about 12,500 described as Nyasaland natives were so employed during 1921.

#### AGRICULTURE.

It cannot be impressed too strongly on prospective planters in Nyasaland that a working capital of not less than £2,000 is advisable after an estate has been purchased or leased if the chances of ultimate success are to be other than problematical. In case of failure owing to lack of capital the chances of obtaining employment in the Protectorate are very slight. On the other hand, settlers with the necessary training and requisite capital should find a good field for investment in the agricultural resources of the country.

About 400 male Europeans were employed in agriculture in 1921, but owing to fall in prices the value of the agricultural exports was about £300,000 as against £500,000 in the previous year. The acreage under European cultivation was about 55,000 acres, of which some 18,000 acres were devoted to cotton, 14,000 acres to tobacco, 4,000 acres to tea, and the remainder to minor crops such as maize, coffee, rubber, fibre and others. The total increase of area under European cultivation, as compared with the year 1920, was about 5,000 acres.

As will be seen from the above, cotton and tobacco are the chief crops grown in Nyasaland. Tobacco is the hardier crop of the two, and certain parts of the Shire Highlands which are suitable for tobacco cultivation are too high and exposed for cotton. Speaking generally, tobacco will thrive at altitudes of

from 1,500 to 3,000 ft., but cotton succeeds best at the lowest and therefore less healthy elevations of a few hundred feet above the sea level. Between 1,500 and 2,500 ft., both crops can often be seen successfully cultivated on the same estate.

Tea is a crop which is steadily increasing its reputation in Nyasaland, but its cultivation is chiefly confined to south-east Mlanje, which has an exceptionally heavy rainfall. It is not a crop to recommend to the new settler, as the tea plant takes four or five years to come into profitable bearing, and no return at all is forthcoming for the first three years.

Maize is a crop that does well in the Shire Highlands, and it is possible that in course of time cheaper and easier transport will encourage its cultivation by European planters, who have hitherto neglected this product on account of heavy freight charges which rendered it unprofitable as an export crop.

Cotton and tobacco, in addition to the usual foodstuffs, are also grown by natives, and the Department of Agriculture devotes considerable attention to encouraging native activities in these respects.

#### TRADE.

The year under review was notable for a general depression of markets, the lack of demand for some of the staple products of the Protectorate, and for financial and exchange difficulties arising out of the War. It cannot be said, however, that the development of the country received any serious set-back or that its prospects are other than hopeful. On the other hand, 1921 did not see that revival of trade which it was anticipated would follow the conclusion of hostilities, and while markets for Nyasaland products remained stagnant the cost of imported commodities continued to be high.

The values of the imports and exports, excluding goods in transit, specie and Governmental stores, during each of the last five years were as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Imports,</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	£	£	£
1917 .. ..	411,549	158,324	569,873
1918 .. ..	516,680	485,052	1,001,732
1919 .. ..	608,788	483,251	1,092,039
1920 .. ..	507,573	670,072	1,177,645
1921 .. ..	637,567	416,404	1,053,971

The United Kingdom maintained its position as the largest exporter to Nyasaland, with 63·5 per cent. of the total imports to its credit. Foreign countries, principally Portuguese East Africa, and the United States of America, totalled 21·9 per cent., and British Possessions accounted for 14·6 per cent. As regards exports, 99·5 per cent. of the domestic products were shipped to the United Kingdom.

The following table gives the quantities of each of the principal products exported during the last three years :—

	1919.	1920.	1921.
	lb.	lb.	lb.
Cotton .. ..	1,285,334	913,718	1,475,232
Tobacco.. ..	4,565,579	4,963,130	4,945,169
Tea .. ..	879,010	496,830	208,255
Fibre .. ..	594,364	290,822	243,742
Rubber .. ..	121,128	128,253	44,910
Coffee .. ..	177,710	64,362	90,412

#### LABOUR.

During the last few years considerable strides have been made in the utilisation of ploughs, cultivators and other labour-saving machinery, and even with the wages of native agricultural labourers as low as six and seven shillings a month and food, planters are beginning to realise that the use of implements is more economical in the end. At the same time, both cotton and tobacco require in the various stages of cultivation, harvesting and grading, a large amount of hand labour. During the seasons of planting and harvesting two men an acre for tobacco, and two men for three acres of cotton is the usual number employed on many estates. These figures are being gradually diminished as machinery becomes more extensively employed, and the labour thus released becomes available for extending the scope of agricultural operations in the Protectorate.

The increasing use of mechanical transport has also released native carriers for employment in agricultural pursuits.

#### CRIME.

The re-organisation of the Police under European officers which was begun in 1920 was continued with satisfactory results during the year under review. The European staff consisted of a Chief Commissioner, six Superintendents and a Controller. The strength of the native ranks was 450. During the year the Civil Police Ordinance, 1908, was repealed and replaced by the Nyasaland Police Ordinance, 1921, which provided for the constitution, duties, discipline, etc., of the new force.

A training camp for native recruits was instituted at the Police headquarters in Zomba, and in time all native constables will be thoroughly trained in the duties and responsibilities of a policeman, matters on which the native is apt to develop unorthodox views unless strictly trained and supervised.

It is noteworthy that offences against property, which had increased to a disturbing extent after the War, showed satisfactory signs of diminishing during the year under review.

FINANCE.

The Government financial year ended on the 31st of March, 1922, so that it covers a somewhat different period from that to which the rest of this report relates.

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

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1917/18, ..	144,239	143,639
1918/19 ..	187,645	150,198
1919/20 ..	186,927	217,659
1920/21 ..	267,970	281,813
1921/22 ..	259,117	305,495

The excess of assets over liabilities at 31st March, in each of the above years was as follows :—

1918 .. .. .	£ 62,959
1919 .. .. .	100,406
1920 .. .. .	69,674
1921 .. .. .	75,831
1922 .. .. .	29,453

The Public Debt, excluding War Loans, for the same years is given in the following table :—

1918 .. .. .	£ 192,800
1919 .. .. .	192,890
1920 .. .. .	211,890
1921 .. .. .	209,388
1922 .. .. .	306,328

Of the amount of public debt as on 31st March, 1922, £166,952, represents the balance due to the Imperial Treasury of the loan of £180,800, advanced for the purpose of redeeming subsidy lands granted in connection with the construction of the Shire Highlands Railway. £39,376, represents the amount to which instalments totalling £40,000 on account of the East African Protectorates Loan (1914) has been reduced by sinking fund contributions. The remaining £100,000 represents a loan from the Imperial Treasury to enable the local Government to meet its liability under the Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee for payment of interest.

LAND.

The Report of the Lands Commission referred to in last year's report is still under consideration, and no alterations in the method of dealing with Crown Lands have so far been introduced. During 1921, many settlers who had hastily taken up land during the boom years found themselves in financial difficulties and in some instances were forced to abandon the holdings they had acquired. There was a noticeable decline in the amount of Government land leased for agricultural purposes during the year, the total acreage being only 14,420 acres, as against 81,553 acres during 1920.

The annual rental charged by Government under agricultural leases varies from 1s. to 3s. an acre according to the district. Land tax of one halfpenny an acre is payable in addition, and the lessee pays in advance stamp duties and legal fees as well as the cost of survey. A certain amount of land is obtainable from private holders, the rentals being much about the same as those charged by Government, and freehold land may occasionally be obtained at about £2 an acre for undeveloped estates. Government does not as a rule grant freehold estates.

## NATURAL RESOURCES.

### FORESTRY.

The question of re-forestation received a considerable amount of attention during the year. For many years past the natives of Nyasaland have been denuding the country of the light timber with which it was formerly well covered. The situation has caused grave concern for many years, as the question of climate is intimately bound up with that of forestry, and the continuous denudation of the soil would eventually render the country a desert, as has happened in other once fertile parts of the earth.

The most difficult aspect of the problem is the native attitude of mind towards the question of re-forestation. In the case of re-forestation the difficulty of interesting the villagers in schemes for planting areas with trees to replace those cut down by them for fuel and building purposes is increased by the fact that the beneficiaries will in most instances belong to a future generation. Natives are not sufficiently advanced in corporate ideas to have any desire to work for the benefit of their heirs and successors.

Nevertheless, the problem is one that must be faced, and influence is being brought to bear both on European settlers and on native chiefs and headmen with a view to making re-forestation keep pace as far as possible with the normal wastage, and to inculcate ideas of economy in the use of timber for domestic purposes. For these reasons it was found necessary to increase the staff of the Forestry Department, and during the year an additional Forest Officer was appointed, as well as a temporary Forester to supervise the cutting and planting of cedars in the Government forest on Mlanje mountain. An extensive forest reserve was created during the year in the Lilongwe District, and the natives, who well understood the beneficent motives which prompted the action of Government, willingly consented to move their villages outside the reserved area.

### VETERINARY.

Rinderpest continued to be dealt with in a satisfactory manner, and there was also no recrudescence of this disease in the parts

of Tanganyika Territory which border on Nyasaland. A cattle-free belt was maintained during the year along the northern border of the Protectorate and an extensive control area was created south of the cattle-free belt.

Sporadic outbursts of trypanosomiasis occurred among cattle in various parts of the country, and in the northern districts there have consequently been considerable extension of the tsetse fly belts. In some cases there were heavy losses of native-owned cattle.

Towards the end of the year east coast fever unfortunately broke out in the Southern Province. At the time of writing the position has improved, owing to the measures taken to enforce dipping of cattle, and to construct large numbers of new dipping tanks.

#### FISHERIES.

Fish of many kinds abound in the lakes and larger rivers of Nyasaland, but there is no established fishery in Nyasaland. Waterside natives catch considerable quantities of fish for food and they also supply native markets in the vicinity.

#### WATER POWER.

An increasing use is being made of the water power provided by streams and rivers for running machinery of various kinds in connection with agricultural operations. In Zomba, the electric light installation, Government workshops and printing plant are worked by water power.

#### MANUFACTURES.

There are at present no manufactories on a large scale in Nyasaland. Certain native industries, such as mat-making, ivory-carving, furniture and jewellery-making, and so on, cater for the limited local demand. Cotton is ginned at various centres in the country, and tea is manufactured in the Mlanje district.

#### BANKS.

No alteration in the position as regards banking and currency occurred during 1921. British sterling is the legal currency, and there are no notes in circulation.

The Standard Bank and the National Bank, both of South Africa, share the banking business of the community, and both banks have branches at all important centres.

The Post Office also runs a savings bank, but the native of Nyasaland has not yet conquered his instinctive distrust of such institutions. The position, however, improved slightly during the year, as regards withdrawals, and for the first time since 1918 deposits and accrued interest exceeded withdrawals. At

the end of 1921 the number of accounts open was 408 or one fewer than at the end of the previous year. The amount standing to the credit of depositors increased during the period from £5,981 to £6,073.

#### LEGISLATION.

During the year 1921 there were 24 Ordinances passed in Legislative Council. The most important were the Income Tax Ordinance, which imposed a tax on incomes for the first time in Nyasaland; the Native Hut and Poll Tax Ordinance, which decreased the rate of tax from 8s., with a labour rebate of 4s., to a flat rate of 6s. (where hut tax is not payable, a poll tax of equivalent amount is imposed instead); the Widows and Orphans Pension Ordinance, which introduced a contributory pension scheme for widows and orphans of civil servants; the Nyasaland Police Ordinance, which provided the necessary organisation for the new Police Force; and the Administrator General's Ordinance, which provided adequate machinery for dealing with the estates of deceased Europeans.

#### EDUCATION.

During the year the education of the Protectorate remained on the same footing as formerly. Native education is provided by the various mission bodies operating in Nyasaland. A grant of £2,000 is made by Government towards the expenses of the mission schools, and a wider scheme is under discussion by which a Department of Education will eventually be created. Technical education is carried on by some of the missions, and apprentices are trained in the various Government departments where manual labour is employed. During the year, a mission school for European children was opened at Limbe, but as a rule white children receive their education outside the Protectorate.

#### CLIMATE.

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

The climate is necessarily diversified in various districts, owing to variations in latitude, altitude and general configuration of the terrain, presence or absence of rivers, forests, etc., but as a large proportion of the Protectorate lies at an altitude of 3,000 ft., or more the heat is not generally excessive. The south-east monsoon commences to blow strongly in September, in conjunction with the sun's increase in southerly declination, and the first rains may be expected any time after mid-October. From their commencement to the end of December it is usual to experience violent thunderstorms and heavy precipitation in a few hours, followed by an interval varying from one to fifteen or twenty days of heat. With the return of the sun from its southern limit of declination, the thunderstorms diminish in

intensity and frequency, and are replaced by steady rain. January, February, and March are usually the wettest months as regards duration of rainfall as well as actual amount. After March the frequency and intensity of rainfall diminishes rapidly, and from May to September the climate is comparatively cool and dry.

### COMMUNICATIONS.

The Trans-Zambesi Railway was not opened during the year under review, but in dealing with communications it may be said that the port of entry for the Protectorate is now Beira in Portuguese East Africa.

Passengers from England have a choice of routes. The most usual one is the south route from England, either overland from Cape Town to Beira, or all-sea via Durban. Steamers occasionally sail by the north route through the Suez Canal direct to Beira, and passengers may either join the steamer in England, or proceed overland and catch it at Marseilles or Naples.

From Beira, passengers have a two days' railway journey to Limbe or Blantyre. The terminus of the Trans-Zambesia Railway is Muraça on the Zambesi, 174 miles from Beira and, as no bridge exists at present, passengers and cargo are ferried across to Chindio on the opposite bank by a river steamer. Thence the journey is continued by the Central African and Shire Highlands Railways (174 miles) without change of carriage. The Customs examination takes place at Port Herald.

The scheme for extending the railway system of Nyasaland to the south end of Lake Nyasa was still under consideration during the year under review, but no steps were taken to begin actual constructional work.

### TRANSPORT.

The increase in the amount of work falling upon the Government mechanical transport and the fact that many of the cars and lorries were practically worn out and required constant attention, necessitated an order being placed for six Albion light lorries and trailers suitable for use on the earth road between Zomba and Fort Johnston. Actually, however, these vehicles did not arrive until 1922.

### POSTAL.

There were 25 Post Offices conducting business in the Protectorate during 1921, of which 19 issued money orders.

During 1921, the overland mail service was increased from a weekly service to twice weekly between Zomba, Ncheu, Dedza, Lilongwe and Dowa. The service was also accelerated, so that

mails north of Lilongwe now reach Zomba on Friday instead of Monday. Mails to and from the south east area of Tanganyika Territory are now transported through the intermediary of this Protectorate.

The value of postal orders paid again showed a large increase, the figures for 1920 and 1921 being £14,000 and £23,000 respectively. There was a fall in value of money orders issued amounting to a total of about £4,000, the figures for 1920-21 and 1921-22 being £26,000 and £22,000 respectively. The total value of money orders paid during the same two periods was approximately £10,000 and £15,000, showing an increase of £5,000.

#### TELEPHONES.

The telephone system is still restricted to the Government installation at Zomba, a short official line connecting Fort Johnston with the Bar at the south end of Lake Nyasa, and a line connecting Livingstonia Mission with the Lake shore.

#### TELEGRAPHS.

The telegraphs are worked by the African Trans-continental Telegraph Company. Nyasaland is connected directly with Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, Fort Jameson and Fife, Northern Rhodesia, and Tukuyu, Tanganyika Territory. The main trunk line connects Blantyre, Zomba, Fort Johnston, Domira Bay, Kota-Kota, Chinteche, Livingstonia and Karonga. There is a branch line from Domira Bay, passing through Dowa to Fort Jameson. Blantyre is connected with Limbe, Mikolongwe, Luchenza (branch to Mlanje), Chiromo, Port Herald and Chindio (Portuguese Territory), by the telegraph line of the Shire Highlands Railway.

#### PUBLIC WORKS AND ROADS.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department during the year ended on 31st March, 1922, was £57,763, as compared with £36,204 in the preceding financial year.

No work of outstanding importance was undertaken, but the roads and bridges throughout the Protectorate were maintained in a satisfactory condition, and wood-decked culverts were in many cases replaced by more permanent structures.

Apart from roads and buildings the only item that calls for mention was the laying of a pipe line from the side of Zomba Mountain to provide water power for the Printing Department machinery and a supply of water for the protection of the Government Offices in case of fire.

## COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., 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, etc. <span style="float: right;">Year.</span>
1121	Gambia .. .. . 1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate .. .. . 1920-1921
1123	British Guiana .. .. . 1921
1124	Grenada .. .. . "
1125	Zanzibar .. .. . "
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast .. .. . "
1127	Gibraltar .. .. . "
1128	St. Vincent .. .. . "
1129	St. Helena .. .. . "
1130	Fiji .. .. . "
1131	Basutoland .. .. . 1921-1922
1132	Bermuda .. .. . 1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate .. .. . 1921-1922
1134	Barbados .. .. . "
1135	Trinidad .. .. . 1921
1136	British Honduras .. .. . "
1137	Ceylon .. .. . "
1138	Swaziland .. .. . "
1139	Hongkong .. .. . "
1140	Straits Settlements .. .. . "
1141	St. Lucia .. .. . "
1142	Ashanti .. .. . "
1143	Jamaica .. .. . "
1144	Falkland Islands .. .. . 1920
1145	Bahamas .. .. . 1921-1922
1146	Seychelles.. .. . 1921
1147	Turks and Caicos Islands .. .. . "
1148	British Solomon Islands Protectorate.. .. . 1921-1922
1149	Mauritius.. .. . 1921
1150	Sierra Leone .. .. . "
1151	Uganda .. .. . "
1152	Somaliland .. .. . "
1153	Kenya Colony and Protectorate .. .. . April-Dec., "
1154	Gold Coast .. .. . "
1155	Nigeria .. .. . 1922

## MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies .. .. .	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
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92	Colonies—General .. .. .	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island .. .. .	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.