

Annual report on Nyasaland / Colonial Office.

Contributors

Great Britain. Colonial Office.

Publication/Creation

London : H.M.S.O., [1946]

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COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

Nyasaland

1946



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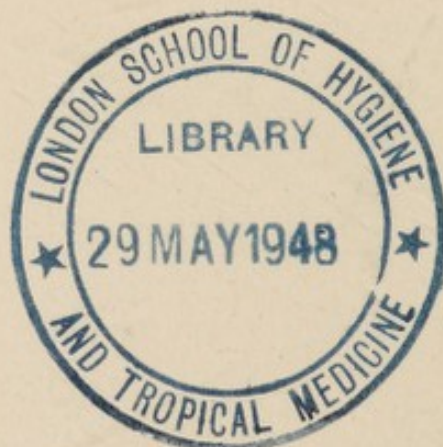
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IN 1940, PUBLICATION OF THE SERIES OF Colonial Annual Reports was suspended. The Reports now being issued cover the events of the first year after the war, and in many cases reference is made to progress during the war years.

All issues in the new series will have a pictorial cover and most will contain four pages of illustrations and a map of the Dependency concerned.

Particulars of the series are given inside the back cover.



ANNUAL REPORT ON NYASALAND

FOR THE YEAR

1946 ⁽²⁾¹⁹

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1948

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INTRODUCTION

Progress between 1939 and 1945

IN outward appearance the Nyasaland Protectorate changed but little during the war. It remained a predominantly agricultural country; the fact that many of its sons were in the fighting services was not unduly disturbing to a society accustomed to the regular absence of nearly a third of its fit adult males, and the undoubted political progress of these years was achieved quietly and without agitation or upheaval. Anyone returning to Nyasaland from an absence which covered the war years could be forgiven for concluding on first inspection that the territory was an island of changelessness in a chaotic world.

He would be wrong. Social, political, and economic progress were all considerable, retarded only by shortages of supervisory staff and materials, and schemes made possible by the generosity of Great Britain, expressed in the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1940, were already in operation when hostilities ended. Time had also been found, by a committee consisting mainly of unofficial members, for the formulation of numerous and far-reaching plans for the future development and welfare of the country. The individual African soldier, impressed by what he had seen during his service, was writing to his family from Madagascar or India descanting upon the value of education and enclosing sketches of the neat brick cottage he proposed to build on his return home, and this changed attitude had to be taken into account by the Development Committee in formulating its plans.

Important psychological changes were also taking place. One effect of the war was to make the serviceman, European, Yao, Ngoni, Nyanja, or Nguru, think of himself as a "Nyasa". By that name he was known to his comrades from the rest of the Empire, and under it he maintained a military reputation which for fifty years has been foremost among African troops. On the home front there was increasing realisation that the country formed part of a larger whole, while internally the formation of African Provincial Councils and of the Nyasaland African Congress was leading to an appreciation of social and political horizons wider than those of the village and the tribe.

On the social side, the European found in the African soldier surprisingly rich material for training, and the African new pride in his ability to learn and practise what he had been taught; it remains to ensure that the benefits thus won are not lost in peacetime.

Apart from actual military contribution to the war, which in manpower comprised nearly a third of the fit African male population, a quarter of the European men and a considerable proportion of the European women, Nyasaland's task was mainly agricultural, the aims

being the production of sufficient food to ensure that the needs of the civil and military population were fully met, the maintenance or increase of the output of economic crops to provide essential supplies for Great Britain and the other Empire countries, and the conservation of the country's natural resources. Throughout the war Nyasaland was self-sufficient in all essential foodstuffs except sugar and wheaten flour, and even the latter was being adequately supplied from local sources by 1945.

To consider specific crops, tea suffered from four unfavourable seasons during the period under review, beginning with a severe drought in 1941; and supplies of fertilisers were appreciably below requirements, which led to some increase in the sulphur deficiency disease known as "Tea Yellows". Nevertheless, the crop increased during the period, and the entire output was disposed of to the Ministry of Food at satisfactory prices. European production of flue-cured tobacco diminished by about a third during the six years, owing partly to shortage of labour and partly to an increased interest in tung cultivation; there was a steady rise in prices from 6½*d.* a pound in 1939 to 1*s.* in 1945. Native-grown tobacco, mostly fire-cured, increased steadily from 4,955 tons in 1939 to 12,256 tons in 1943, and dropped again to 9,176 tons in 1945; prices rose from 4½*d.* a pound in 1939 to 8¼*d.* in 1944, but declined to just under 6*d.* in 1945.

The acreage under tung was considerably expanded, from 2,068 acres at the end of 1938 to 10,132 acres in 1945, and production of seed increased nearly fifty-fold from 6½ tons in 1938 to 295 tons in 1945; quality too was greatly improved by the replacement of many of the early plantations by trees with a bigger and better yield. A factory for the extraction of tung oil was opened in 1942, and since then the entire crop has been processed there and the oil sold, on a co-operative basis, in South Africa and Australia.

Cotton production fluctuated greatly, owing to climatic difficulties and Red Bollworm infestation, but the 1943 crop was the heaviest since 1935; the price of No. 1 seed cotton rose steadily from .93*d.* a pound in 1939 to around 1½*d.* in 1945. The solitary rubber and sisal estates worked throughout the war at full pressure, and secured maximum possible output.

In the case of food crops, there were notable expansions in several items. The production of wheat was increased from 82 tons in 1940 to 606 tons in 1945, when the Protectorate became self-supporting in this regard; a flour mill was erected in Blantyre in 1941. Rice production, to which the largest contributor is the Kota Kota Produce and Trading Society, Limited, a company of bona fide growers, rose from 804 tons of paddy in 1940 to 2,038 in 1944, but declined to 1,578 tons in 1945. Production of other foodstuffs was adequate to meet the country's needs throughout the period, and after the bumper season of 1942 it was possible to export 5,000 tons of maize, the staple native food, to Rhodesia. The marketing of these foodstuffs was organised under the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance, which was first brought into operation in 1940 and now covers most parts of the country.

In the realm of animal husbandry little of special note occurred; a supply of animal products was maintained adequate for civil and military needs, although for some time it was necessary for the Veterinary Depart-

ment to organise the production of biltong as a substitute for fresh meat. The production of ghee increased from 19 tons in 1945 to over 40 tons in 1946, and this commodity is no longer imported into Nyasaland.

The Forestry Department's activities during the war years were mainly directed towards the provision of supplies for various branches of agriculture and for local consumption. Many thousands of poles and a considerable quantity of sawn softwood timber were drawn from State forests and supplied for the construction of military camps, but these additional demands did not lead to any overcutting in either State forests or plantations. Statistics are not available for the period under review, but it is estimated that annual output of forest products has at least doubled since 1936.

On the outbreak of war commercial activity came under a system of import and export licensing which naturally led to many complications; however, those concerned readily complied with the requirements of the regulations, and it may be said that in conjunction with the control of essential supplies and prices the system was beneficial to trade. It assisted distribution of imports which were in short supply and directed the destination of essential foodstuffs and other classified exports. Nor can it be said that wartime controls and shipping restrictions seriously hindered Nyasaland's export trade. In 1939 local producers were beginning to explore new markets for the country's exports, and in many of these they have now secured a good, perhaps a permanent, foothold; for example, in 1939 Nyasaland dark-fired tobacco was sold to only nine other countries, but by 1945 it had found its way to twenty-seven African and European countries, as well as to the Argentine. Imports were, of course, subject to serious restriction and there was latterly a marked shortage of consumer goods, but it augurs well for the future that the country has been visited by representatives from many business houses in Britain and elsewhere, who have expressed themselves as greatly impressed by the potentialities of the Protectorate.

A country so essentially agricultural as Nyasaland depends for its volume of trade on the yield of its crops and the prices paid for them; throughout the war years yields were, on the whole, good and prices were satisfactory, and the value and volume of exports in almost all categories steadily increased. The total value of import and export trade in 1939 was slightly over £1,500,000; by 1945 it had increased by over 130 per cent., to nearly £3,500,000.

Internally, war conditions led naturally to restriction of ordinary trading activities because of the shortage of consumer goods, but other commercial operations were stimulated, especially in the manufacture of such necessities as soap and rope. Towards the end of the period there was a very noticeable increase in applications by Africans for trading licences, especially from ex-soldiers; many of these enterprises might not succeed for want of capital and experience, and most of them were probably not more ambitious than roadside tea-shops with a bag or two of salt and a tin of paraffin for sale, but they represented a welcome development in the country's commercial life. The returned soldier, too, displayed considerable, though not always well-informed, interest in the possibilities of various forms of co-operative activity.

In addition to supplying soldiers, carrying on the life of the community, and engaging in the increasing production just referred to, Nyasaland's man-power was also called upon to continue its large contribution to the successful functioning of the economies of other African territories, particularly Southern Rhodesia and South Africa; there are normally some 120,000 male natives absent from their own country in employment elsewhere, of whom over 30,000 are to be found in South Africa. Throughout the period under review Government was continuously concerned with the control and general welfare of these migrants, and several notable advances took place. Following on the grant of a permit to the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association to recruit a considerable quota of Nyasaland natives for the Rand mines, a Labour Officer was appointed, by agreement with the Union Government, with an office in Johannesburg and responsibility for the interests of Nyasaland natives throughout the Union; he also undertook care of the interests of Northern Rhodesian natives in South Africa. A further step towards the care of these men was taken in 1945, when grants began to be paid towards the travelling expenses of missionaries working among migrant labour in the Union and in Southern Rhodesia, where there is undoubtedly wide scope for social and welfare work for the benefit of the emigrants. In 1942 a revised Tripartite Agreement on Migrant Labour was entered into by Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland, to replace that signed in 1937, some of whose provisions had not proved altogether satisfactory in practice; a further comprehensive revision was under active consideration at the end of 1945.

The creation in 1940 of a Central Labour Advisory Board associated unofficially with the officers of Government in advising on all important questions affecting labour; it has been particularly concerned with migrant labour and its recruitment. A series of enactments in 1944 covered Minimum Wages, Workmen's Compensation, Trade Unions and Trade Disputes (including Arbitration and Enquiry into the latter) and provided a new Native Labour Ordinance in place of the old Employment of Natives Ordinance, which had become out of date. Minimum Wage Boards under the relevant Ordinance were set up in 1945.

In 1944 preparations for demobilisation were begun, and the Labour Department was charged with the responsibility of working out the mechanics of demobilisation from the civil side, and the planning of training courses designed to fit ex-soldiers for civilian life. Dovetailing in with the demobilisation scheme, Registry Offices were established at main centres throughout the country to provide facilities for ex-soldiers looking for work.

Although Nyasaland is far from being a rich country, it was able to make some financial contribution to the war effort. Subscriptions to charitable funds came generously from all sections and races of the community, and in addition the Protectorate was able to give £117,000 to the Imperial Government towards the cost of the war, and to lend a further £635,000 free of interest. On the other side of the account, imperial generosity led to the extinction by His Majesty's Government of debts amounting to some £1,817,000 incurred in connection with the Trans-

Zambesia Railway Guarantee. The only other major financial operation was the redemption of the 6 per cent. Trans-Zambesia Railway First Mortgage Debentures and the $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. 12-Year Note issue, towards which the Imperial Government lent £773,000 in 1945; these were replaced by $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Debentures, and the liability of the Nyasaland Government in respect of the loan is limited to the amounts received from the Trans-Zambesia Railway Company year by year by way of interest or repayment of capital.

The fiscal history of the war years is one of increased taxation and rising revenue. The administration of Income Tax passed in 1939 from the Treasury to the Comptroller of Customs, and the staff was strengthened by an Asian clerk in 1941 and an experienced European officer seconded from the British Board of Inland Revenue in 1945. In 1940 allowances were considerably reduced and rates increased, and a Sur-tax introduced on all incomes over £2,000. The following year allowances were increased again, but the Sur-tax level was lowered to £1,500. Post-war credits were introduced in 1944, to the extent of half the difference between the tax actually charged and that which would have been paid had the 1939 abatements not been amended. In the same year companies, which had hitherto been charged at half the United Kingdom standard rate, came, so far as local companies were concerned, under a new assessment which took into account the individual liabilities of the shareholders, which resulted in an average rate of 7s. 6d. in the pound. There was no Excess Profits Tax, and the whole of the increased profits of the war years are therefore reflected in the increased revenue from Income Tax, which rose from £53,500 in 1939 to £250,000 in 1945. Profits from tobacco and tung-oil have begun to increase more recently than those from other commodities, and are only now being reflected to any material extent in Income Tax revenue.

Native contributions to the increased revenue came from the addition of a shilling to Native Tax in 1942, and the imposition between 1940 and 1943 of 100 per cent. surcharge on bicycle licences, which raised the cost of these from 2s. to 4s. It may here be noted that all African soldiers were exempted from Native Tax during their war service.

There was no abnormal increase in crime during the period under review, nor were there any civil disturbances; there was, however, a considerable increase in breaches of the liquor laws. Between 1939 and 1943 the average annual number of prosecutions for these offences was about 100; in 1944 it rose to 180 and in 1945 to 241, the majority of the offences being in respect of the possession or distillation of illicit liquor. These prosecutions were not the result of any special investigation on the part of the Police, but were detected in the ordinary course of duty. The work of the Nyasaland Police was markedly increased by war conditions and included intelligence, security, censorship and internment duties. A considerable advance in police organisation took place in 1945, when the establishment of literate police was widened and at the same time the rank of African Assistant Sub-Inspector was introduced.

Up to 1943 the Commissioner of Police was also Chief Inspector of Prisons, but in that year a separate Prisons Department was instituted, and the progress of this young Department in the succeeding three years

has been impressive. Release on licence—the “ticket-of-leave” system—was abolished in 1945, and emphasis is now placed on the remedial rather than the punitive and deterrent aspect of imprisonment. The segregation of prisoners of various classes advanced, and provision was made for the special treatment of first offenders. The Convict Leader system was introduced in 1943 and functions successfully, only three Leaders having been removed from office since then. Remission for good behaviour has also been increased, and the general reaction to these improved conditions, and to the farm work which now occupies much of the time of convicts in the Central Prison, has been a notable improvement in behaviour and morale. For example, during the five years 1941-45 corporal punishment, for violent breaches of prison discipline, was only awarded five times; the previous annual average of such awards was sixteen. Disciplinary cases among prisoners as a whole dropped from 594 in 1942 to 165 in 1945. Similar advances are to be noted in connection with the African staff whose general conditions of service and morale have been much improved; the post of African Goaler, held by men of education, was introduced in 1944, and the men appointed have reacted very well to the grant of a degree of responsibility.

Progress in the social services suffered from the shortage of staff, owing to the absence of many officers on military service and the imposition of new duties on those who remained. The Medical Department, for example, seconded seven from its staff of eighteen qualified officers for service in the Army, and for over a year assumed medical charge of all troops in the Protectorate, while the Education Department was for a considerable time without one of its two Superintendents but nevertheless functioned as an Information Office in addition to its normal duties. However, substantial progress was made in many directions. An educational survey of the country, district by district, carried out early in the war, led to the production of a five-year development plan which was approved in 1944, and was put into operation in 1945. Assistance up to a total of £345,000 is being granted towards the cost of this plan under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. The Standard VI examination was held as a Government examination for the first time in 1941. In 1942 production of vernacular literature, financed by the Native Development and Welfare Fund, began; Indian education was reorganised; and the Catholic Secondary School at Zomba was opened.

The Medical Department, in addition to the secondments mentioned above, also provided several nursing sisters and many African dressers for the East African Forces. All of the latter became Class I Nursing Orderlies, and almost all were discharged with the rank of serjeant or serjeant-major. The mission medical staffs also became sorely denuded, but, in spite of shortages of men and materials, the work done by the medical services, official and unofficial, increased steadily throughout the war years, as is shown by the numbers admitted as in-patients to Government hospitals, which rose from 11,000 in 1939 to over 23,000 in 1945, while out-patients at the ninety-four rural dispensaries increased from 395,000 to 508,000. These increases should not be regarded as indicative of an alarming deterioration in the health of the African, but as a sign of

his growing confidence in European medicine, greatly though that confidence has still to be improved.

The common ailments of the European population continued to be malaria, mild dysentery, influenza colds, and sore throats, but as the result of the inability of many children to leave Africa for their education, whooping cough, measles and chicken-pox figured more frequently in the returns than in the past. The only significant change in the incidence of infectious diseases among Africans was an outbreak of diphtheria in 1943, following upon an epidemic in Southern Rhodesia; in the Kasungu District of the Northern Province sixty-five cases were reported, with twenty-six deaths. It is impossible to say whether the increase in the number of cases of venereal disease shown in the returns was a true rise in incidence or not, but an unhappy feature is the fact that, when first seen, the ratio of secondary to primary lesions was two to one in males and four to one in females.

In spite of all difficulties, considerable additions were made to medical buildings during the period under review, particularly in the provision of sleeping quarters for patients at many of the rural dispensaries. The provision of drugs, dressings and equipment for all medical purposes in the country was eventually undertaken by the Medical Department, but acute difficulty was only experienced over some items of equipment.

Social medicine made advances in a number of directions, particularly in the provision of improved housing and better sanitation for the labour employed on estates, a number of which employ their own dressers and compound inspectors; the owners and managers are alive to the advantages which accrue from such improvements. A nutrition survey, under the direction of Dr. Platt, was at work until the early stages of the war, and produced results of lasting value. Research was, of course, greatly hindered by war conditions, but investigation continued into the question of the causation of tropical ulcer; this work tended to show that of the many factors involved not all are nutritional. In 1945 investigations were begun on the possibility of using a vegetable fish poison, *Tephrosia vogellii*, as a cheap molluscicide for the destruction of the intermediate hosts of bilharzial worms.

Throughout the war a severe strain was thrown on the Protectorate's communications by military traffic, which had to be carried over roads whose proper maintenance was impossible because of shortage of staff and the laying-up of the mechanical grading plant to conserve petrol. Nevertheless, work on the improvement of the Great North Road, a vital strategic artery, went steadily on, particularly in the replacement of pole bridges by permanent ones in stone or concrete, and the by-passing or embanking of swampy sections. The railway, too, was not without its troubles, for in addition to having to carry increasing traffics of both goods and passengers with the same engines and rolling-stock as were available in 1938, there were climatic and other difficulties to contend with, including the subsidence in 1940 of the pillars of the Chiromo bridge across the Shire, which necessitated the ferrying of passengers and freight across the river for some weeks.

Air communication became more and more important, and considerable improvements were made to the Protectorate's main airport at

Chileka, where a wireless station was built, a new runway was made, and the existing runways were extended to 1,500 yards. It was also necessary during the war to extend several emergency landing grounds to a much greater size, which could only be done in the time available by turning out whole countrysides; chiefs and headmen co-operated admirably in this task, meat and beer were provided for the workers, and what might have been regarded as something of a *corvée* was in actual fact a social function of a patriotic nature, thoroughly enjoyed by the participants.

As noted in the introduction to this survey, development works were by no means stifled by war conditions, though seriously hindered by them. In addition to the schemes financed by the British taxpayer, of which the five-year plan for education was the most notable, the execution of numerous minor plans was made possible by grants from the Native Development and Welfare Fund, which draws much of its revenue from the operations of the Native Tobacco Board and has also received the profits from Government trading in cotton. Work thus financed included soil conservation and land usage schemes, rural water supplies, crop protection, re-forestation in one of the leading tobacco areas, shelters and rest-houses for native travellers, grain storage facilities to assist famine relief, and the establishment of a small tanning industry.

War conditions greatly increased the number of activities requiring inter-territorial co-operation. Nyasaland was already a member of the East African Governors' Conference, through which most questions of military importance were discussed with East Africa Command, and from 1935 onwards there had been periodical conferences between the Governors of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland. In 1941 an Inter-territorial Secretariat was set up in Salisbury, in order to secure more effective co-ordination of the war effort of the three Central African territories, especially in economic matters. In 1944 the establishment of a Central African Council, covering the three territories, on a permanent basis and with a standing Secretariat was announced.

The Council, which met for the first time in April, 1945, has as its chairman the Governor of Southern Rhodesia; the Governors of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland are *ex officio* members. Each territory appoints in addition three ordinary members, those from Nyasaland being the Chief Secretary and two prominent unofficial Europeans. The Council's functions are consultative and advisory in character; matters with which it is particularly concerned are communications, economic relations, land usage, African labour, and research. It meets at least twice a year, and works largely through Standing Committees, among the more important of which are the Committees on Natural Resources, Migrant Labour, Economic Development, Civil Aviation, Health, Education, and African Housing.

This brief and necessarily incomplete survey of the work, development, and progress of Nyasaland during the strenuous years from 1939 to 1945 may well be concluded with the answer given by the Chief Secretary to a question asked in Legislative Council at its first post-war session, in December, 1945: "Most emphatically it is not the policy of the Government to freeze Europeans in the country out of the position which they have made for themselves in industry, commerce, and agriculture, nor

is it the policy of the Imperial Government to do so. The prosperity of Nyasaland depends upon the co-operation and goodwill of all sections of the community and each has an important part to play in its future development."

PART I

Nyasaland in 1946

THE survey of activities in the years from 1939 to 1945 ended with a quotation from the proceedings of a meeting of the Legislative Council held in 1945; the report for 1946 may well open with an extract from the speech with which the Governor opened the Budget Session of 1946: "This has again been a year of plans and proposals, of looking ahead and, in some cases, of actual beginnings. As time goes on we shall see the fruition of much of this year's patient and unspectacular endeavour."

One of the first tasks was, of course, the demobilisation and re-absorption of ex-Service men after the end of the World War. This involved the demobilisation of all but a few of the African troops, which was largely completed by September, and their smooth and expeditious return to their homes, an operation which, from the civil side, was conducted with very few hitches by officers seconded from the Administration. It also involved the registration of those who wanted paid employment or civilian training, the finding of employment for the few who did not wish a prolonged holiday at home, and the establishment, as part of a permanent scheme, of Registry Offices at all the main centres of population. Training courses were organised in agriculture, commerce, carpentry, building, and tanning and cobbling, and arrangements were made for those whose education had been interrupted by their military service to continue it if they so wished; these activities were characterised by close and friendly co-operation with the military authorities and the representatives of the country's agricultural and commercial interests.

The external trade of the country was healthy and, apart from a shortfall in imports of cotton piece-goods, showed general signs of expansion. The shortage of consumer goods which was generally experienced was mainly due to much increased consumption and attempts to make good the effect of the war years. Internal commerce boomed as far as supplies would allow, but an investigation of the national income showed that close on £1,000,000 was being retained in the hands of Africans, mainly no doubt under hut floors; much of this must have consisted of demobilisation payments to ex-soldiers, which totalled half a million pounds, an average of about £25 to each man. Exports continued to increase both in volume and in value, the latter mainly because of higher market prices for tea and tobacco. The total value of imports for the year was £2,000,000, compared with £1,580,000 in 1945, and that of exports was £2,364,000 compared with £1,876,000.

Important agricultural legislation was enacted during the year, introducing radical changes in the system of marketing tobacco and making suitable arrangements, at the request of the producers, for the conduct of

the comparatively new but steadily expanding tung industry. A Natural Resources Ordinance provided the necessary machinery for implementing the post-war land usage scheme when sufficient staff becomes available.

The production of crops during the year was on the whole satisfactory, and except for sugar and a small amount of wheat, the country continued to be self-supporting in essential foodstuffs, while considerable amounts of various food products were available for export, including over a thousand tons of groundnuts for Great Britain. The crop of groundnuts was probably the largest on record in Nyasaland, but the growers were not attracted by the price offered, and many of them preferred to retain their nuts for their own consumption. There was a sharp and substantial rise in the prices paid for tobacco, and although the crop was smaller than in 1945, there is some concern lest the attractive price may lead to over-cultivation of tobacco to the neglect of foodstuffs; special measures to stimulate food production were therefore taken during the planting season at the end of the year. The weather was favourable for tea, and both exports and prices exceeded those for the previous year; satisfactory progress was made in planting up the new acreage allocated to the Protectorate in 1944, in spite of a shortage of labour.

The effect of this shortage of labour was felt in many branches of industry during the year. It does not appear to be caused by increased emigration to the south, but is more probably due to the continued insufficiency of consumer goods and the consequent lack of incentive to paid employment. In order to maintain the economic structure of the country and to ensure adequate food supplies a "close season" for emigration in search of work was imposed during the planting season, from 31st October to 28th February. This applies to all those wishing to leave the country independently and also to all recruiting operations except those of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association and the Southern Rhodesian organisation, Agricultural Native Labour Ltd., which represent important sections of the economies of the two southern territories to whose successful functioning Nyasaland has long contributed much of the better man-power.

An event of considerable potential importance in the economic and social sphere was the visit during the year of the Right Honourable Sir Sidney Abrahams to conduct a Commission of Inquiry into land problems. He travelled extensively and discussed the subject of his inquiry with numerous representatives of all sections of the community; his report was published early in 1947 and a Planning Committee has now been appointed to make detailed proposals for its implementation.

The country's financial position is sound, as it should be with an expanding trade which takes tobacco, tea, groundnuts, cotton, and cotton seed to the United Kingdom, soya beans, tung oil and sisal to South Africa, and tobacco as far afield as Scandinavia and the Argentine. An estimated deficit of £120,000 for 1946 was converted into a surplus of some £50,000 mostly due to increased imports, although the rising incomes of European producers were to some extent also responsible, the yield from Income Tax being some £35,000 over the estimate, in spite of substantial concessions made earlier in the year. The continued popularity of Nyasaland's postage stamps among philatelists, and the release of the special Peace

issue, were reflected by a considerable increase in revenue from stamp sales, which, however, was undoubtedly also due to the great increase in African correspondence which advances in literacy and the influence of the war have brought about. The estimated surplus balance at the end of 1946 was £932,000, almost twice the pre-war annual ordinary revenue. Towards the end of the year a Fiscal Survey was carried out, but the report of the committee engaged on the work had not yet been published.

Another indication of education progress was to be seen in the decision further to pursue the policy of giving increased responsibility to Africans in the Police Force by the appointment of four African Assistant Sub-Inspectors. In addition, the literate establishment of the Force was considerably increased. About a quarter of its members are now literate in English, and all in the "literate" section have at least reached Standard IV. There has been a steady increase in the number of cases dealt with in the Police, but save in regard to breaches of the liquor laws this is mainly due to an increase in the proportion of alleged offences which are actually reported by the public.

The Prison Service is rapidly approaching the day when it can claim to be numbered among the Social Services, for regular progress is being made in implementing the policy of emphasising the remedial effect of imprisonment, although recidivists still account for over 16 per cent. of the prison population. The segregation of first offenders is now practicable, a prison farm has been opened near Zomba, and during the year the establishment of an approved school was authorised. General behaviour within the prisons continued to improve, reflecting the incentives provided by the Convict Leader scheme and the increased scale of remission of sentences for good conduct; there were no cases of corporal punishment for breaches of prison discipline.

The five year plan for education development passed smoothly through its second year, and there was a marked increase in the number of successful candidates for the Standard VI examination, which augurs well for the future of secondary education and for teacher and other vocational training; among these were four girls. Four Africans at present hold Government scholarships, two at Makerere, one at Fort Hare, and one in Johannesburg. A teacher belonging to the Church of Scotland Mission was seconded to the School of Oriental and African Studies in the University of London to assist in the teaching and study of Chinyanja. Other scholarships are held by non-natives at Universities in the United Kingdom and India.

In matters of educational policy, Government agreed in principle to recommendations by the Advisory Committees that men and women teachers should receive equal pay for equal work, that cost-of-living allowances should be introduced for certificated African teachers in assisted schools, and that the Education Department should take over the European School in Blantyre. A special committee reviewed the whole question of African higher education, especially the means of raising the local secondary schools to full matriculation standard and the provision of post-matriculation facilities outside Nyasaland; it reported towards the end of the year.

The Protectorate continued to be free from serious epidemic disease,

except for an outbreak of virulent smallpox, which was at one time regarded as threatening; a milder type of this disease continues to be prevalent in the Northern and Central Provinces. Vaccination was carried out on a very large scale, and every endeavour was made to localise the outbreaks. The arrival in larger quantities of drugs for the treatment of venereal disease enabled the Medical Department to carry on the campaign against these diseases more vigorously than was possible in 1945. The return of men from military service considerably strengthened both mission and Government medical staffs, and the scope of the latter was extended by the arrival during the year of Nyasaland's first Dental Officer. Housing for African labour on estates continued to be improved.

In other departments of social service, legislation was enacted for dealing with juvenile delinquents, and for the establishment of a proper probation system. A number of voluntary probation officers were appointed during the year, with the Labour Commissioner as their official head. With the assistance of the Nyasaland Council of Women, volunteer visitors began work among women prisoners at the Central Prison, with good initial results.

The Central African Council made steady progress with its task of co-ordinating a number of the activities of the three territories represented on it. Two meetings of the Council were held, in February and November, and in addition the various Standing Committees dealt with a considerable amount of business. During the year a Standing Agricultural, Veterinary and Forestry Committee was set up; several Special Committees also operated during the year. A recommendation of considerable importance in the economic development of the territories which was made to the constituent Governments was that legislation be enacted to allow the Southern Rhodesian Currency Board to invest up to 20 per cent. of its assets in local loans to these Governments. Investigations were begun into the question of priorities for rail transport of goods and the improvement of inter-territorial telecommunications. The Standing Committee on Migrant Labour held a number of meetings and the problems involved were discussed at length at the November meeting of the Council. The Council accepted the recommendations of the Committee, which were to the effect that the existing spontaneous flow of labour, which has so long been the custom in Central Africa, should be allowed to continue, subject to adequate safeguards which will secure to the individual reasonable conditions of travel and work coupled with a deferred pay and family remittance system and obviate the more adverse effects of uncontrolled migration upon the country of origin. At the end of the year, steps were being taken to include a new Tripartite Agreement between the three Governments concerned to give effect to these recommendations, which will be implemented where necessary by legislative action in the three Territories. (See also Part II, Chapter II.)

The African Provincial Councils (see also Part III, Chapter III) continued to conduct their proceedings with dignity and a practical approach to the problems presented to them; they have now passed through the experimental stage and are fulfilling a very necessary part in the government of the country. Those of the Southern and Central Provinces have so far advanced beyond a parochial outlook that they recommended during

the year the adoption of the principle of amalgamating all the Native Treasuries in their respective Provinces.

Experience of the work and outlook of these Provincial Councils appeared to justify further progress, and at the beginning of the year an African Protectorate Council was created under the Presidency of the Chief Secretary consisting of Chiefs and other prominent Africans appointed by the Governor from nominations by the Provincial Councils. The functions of this Council may best be described in the words of the Governor when he addressed its members at their opening meeting in January:

“I shall look to this Council for advice regarding all matters of major importance to the African people of Nyasaland and I will regard the resolutions of this Council as expressing the representative and authoritative views of the African people of this country. When the time comes to appoint Africans to the Nyasaland Legislative Council it will, in all probability, be from this Council that they are selected.”

Turning now to the progress of development schemes, the Post-War Development Committee (whose activities were mentioned in the Introduction) were engaged on the revision of plans formulated during the war, with a view to the submission of a comprehensive programme for post-war development on which it was hoped to make an effective start in 1947. The only large schemes financed from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund in operation during the year were the five year plan for educational development and the venereal disease campaign, to both of which reference has already been made. Among other activities financed from this source were those of the Tung Oil Experimental Station, the Soil Conservation Scheme, and the Fishery Survey of Lake Nyasa, all of which made satisfactory progress. Some £12,000 from Protectorate funds were spent on experimental and preliminary works in connection with the Vipya Tung Scheme, which visualises the development of tung in a large and otherwise unoccupied and unproductive area of the Northern Province. This scheme, if successful, will not only add greatly to the output of a valuable and useful crop—tung-oil is used extensively in the manufacture of paints and varnishes—but will also provide a much-needed market for the surplus foodstuffs and labour of a hitherto economically undeveloped area of the Protectorate.

A large number of schemes for purely African welfare and development were financed from the Fund which bears that title and draws its revenue mainly from the surpluses of the Native Tobacco Board and from the profits on Government trading in cotton. Among these were land usage schemes, crop protection, the provision of halls and social centres, soil conservation measures, agricultural shows, and the provision of a pure piped water supply for the native town of Kota Kota. Numerous grants from this fund were also approved which have had to remain unexpended because of inability to obtain materials and staff with which to carry out the projects.

In a period of steady progress such as that now recorded, one is apt to forget how much depends on the incalculables of the human element and the forces of nature, of which Nyasaland had four sharp and tragic

reminders in the course of the year. In January the Nyasaland Railways suffered their first fatal accident, when a heavily laden passenger train became out of control on a steep hill on the descent from the Shire Highlands to the Lower Shire, and a number of passengers were killed. In July the new railway steamer *Vipya* capsized during a storm in mid-Lake and sank in a minute and a half, taking with her some hundred and fifty of her passengers and crew, both African and European. Later in the year a disastrous road accident on the Great North Road near Lilongwe led to the loss of twenty lives. Finally, in December, a cloudburst on Zomba Mountain caused the fall of 28 inches of rain in 44 hours, with the consequent destruction of the capital's water supply, its anti-malarial works, its bridges, and most of its roads, and the death of some thirty people.

The motto of the Protectorate is *Lux in tenebris*.

PART II

Chapter I: Population

VITAL statistics are so far only available for the non-native members of the community. It was hoped that the collection of African statistics, in very simple form, might be begun immediately after the census taken in 1945, but the necessary stationery was not forthcoming until the end of 1946 and collection of these statistics will begin in 1947. It is, therefore, impossible to speak with accuracy of population trends among 2,225,000 of the Protectorate's population of 2,230,000.

The 1945 census was the first to be taken since 1931; all appropriate particulars of non-natives were recorded, but so far as the African population is concerned, it claimed to be no more than "a useful and, in the aggregate, a fairly accurate estimate of the African population, based on a count". For example, the age-group 0-1 year could only be enumerated by a count of all children who could not walk and were still carried on their mothers' backs, although most infants are so carried until long after their first birthday. Distribution of other age-groups could only be determined by similar rule-of-thumb methods, and any attempt to draw inferences from such information is fraught with danger, especially when emigration and immigration are almost unknown factors. It can, however, be said that the African population continues to rise steadily; between 1921 and 1931 it increased by a third, and the 1945 census showed an increase of rather more than a third on the 1931 figures. The estimated African population has therefore nearly doubled in twenty-five years, but a very considerable proportion of this increase must be attributed to immigration into the southern part of the Protectorate from Portuguese East Africa.

In each 100 of the African population there are approximately 51 women to 49 men, but without some knowledge of the number of married men absent from the Protectorate and of the marital state of immigrants it is difficult to draw any conclusions regarding surplus women or the extent to which they are absorbed by polygamy.

In 1945 some 123,000 men were known to be absent from the Protectorate, apart from those on military service; these are mainly employed in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa, and the great majority remain in touch with their homes and will return to them, at least for a holiday, within three years of their departure.

As regards the non-indigenous sections of the population, both European and Asiatic groups are increasing. The former had grown from 314 in 1901 to 1,975 in 1931, and to 2,400 in 1946, the last total comprising 1,350 males and 1,050 females. Of these rather less than half were born in the United Kingdom and Eire, and about 15 per cent. are Nyasa-

land born. Ten per cent. are under the age of five, and two-thirds are between twenty and sixty years of age, as might be expected in a country which, until recently, most Europeans leave on retiring from active business. Of those gainfully employed, a quarter are missionaries, a fifth are employed by Government, and slightly more in agriculture, to which all other employments may be regarded as ancillary. It is of interest to note that of 259 immigrants between 1st May, 1945, and 31st December, 1946, 62 were missionaries and 61 were Government servants; only 37 were definitely classified as concerned with agriculture.

The Asiatic population numbered 520 in 1921, 1,573 in 1931 (of whom only one in seven was female), and 2,804 in 1945; it is estimated that it has increased to about 3,100 in the last eighteen months. The great increase between 1931 and 1945 is not accounted for by any flood of male immigrants, but by a very marked increase in the number of Asiatic women and children; there are now ten females to every eighteen males, and a third of the whole number are Nyasaland born. Three-quarters of those gainfully employed are engaged in trading and storekeeping.

There is also a small group of mixed blood, Euro-African and Indo-African. As many of these are included in the African census returns, it is impossible to give figures of any accuracy, but the total is about 2,000, of whom rather more than half are under marriageable age; about a third follow a European mode of life. The men are mainly engaged in trading, transport, and agriculture.

Chapter II: Occupations, Wages, Labour Organisation

NYASALAND is an agricultural country and the great majority of its people are occupied in growing their own food and in the raising of economic crops. Statistics are only available for the latter, although in very many cases it is combined with the former employment. In 1946 there were registered 89,000 African producers of tobacco, and 43,000 of cotton, while in addition the European tobacco industry employed some 20,000 men on field work during the season; seasonal employment was given to a further 8,000 by the tobacco factories. The tea industry, which is entirely in European hands, employs about 30,000 Africans. Other large groups of Africans known to be in paid employment are those in domestic service (nearly all male), some 7,700, those employed by the Public Works Department, 4,000, and the 6,000 employees of the Nyasaland Railways.

The number of Africans absent from the Protectorate and employed or in search of employment in other Territories remained fairly steady during 1946, the estimates of those in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia being 35,060 and 82,000 respectively. It would appear that so far the returned ex-soldier has not begun to seek employment abroad in any large numbers. Reference has already been made in Part I to the Central African Council's discussions on problems affecting migrant labour and

the control thereof, and it is hoped that the proposed new Tripartite Agreement will materially assist in the solution of these problems.

During the year the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association's quota of recruits was increased from 8,500 to 12,750 and a quota of 5,000 was granted to a new organisation in Southern Rhodesia, Agricultural Native Labour Ltd., a semi-official body whose purpose is to perform for agricultural labour in Southern Rhodesia the functions exercised by the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association in respect of the Rand mines, i.e. the bulk recruitment of contracted native labour and its supply to persons and companies approved by the recruiting organisation. Sixty-eight Governor's permits were issued during the year to other applicants, covering a total of 5,845 men but only 1,668 were actually recruited.

Valuable work is being done among migrant Nyasaland Africans by two labour chaplains, both in close connection with the Missionary Societies operating in the Protectorate; one is a member of the Montfort Marist Fathers' Mission and the other is a Minister of the Dutch Reformed Church Mission. The latter confines his operations to Southern Rhodesia. The visits of these Chaplains and the opportunities thus given not only for spiritual consolation but for informal conversations about home and family matters are of great value in maintaining the morale of the emigrant and in helping to keep them from losing touch with their homes. The work of these Chaplains is subsidised from public funds.

The 1945 Census gave a total of nearly 390,000 African adult males in the Protectorate, exclusive of an estimated 123,000 absentees. In round figures, therefore, some 207,000 adult males out of the 390,000 in the Protectorate at any one time are employed in local industry or in the cultivation of cash crops; although women are increasingly employed in agriculture there are not enough of them to affect the estimate materially. Accepting Sir Arthur Newsholme's suggestion that in a given population about 20 per cent. will be over forty-five, and taking into consideration the requirements of subsistence, agriculture and of ordinary village life, we must conclude that there is not a large pool of adult male labour not usually employed and fit to work for wages either inside Nyasaland or elsewhere.

The hours worked in paid agricultural employment average thirty a week in field work, where the task system is commonly used; efforts to increase output by offering double wages for increased tasks or longer hours of work have not been successful. The ordinary African labourer in his own country does not want to work longer hours for any financial inducement; he will, however, willingly accept a similar offer in Southern Rhodesia or South Africa. The Public Works Department are unable to maintain constant European supervision, and are therefore not normally in a position to give piece-work; the labourer works a forty-five hour week and usually returns to his home in the afternoons. Factory workers, who are mostly seasonal employees, work a forty-eight to fifty hour week, slightly more in rush periods, much less at slack times. Domestic servants on the whole have a fairly easy time, owing to the system of specialisation imported into the country in the early days from India; they rarely take regular time off, but content themselves with a holiday when their employer is doing likewise.

The cost of living has risen considerably for all classes since the beginning of the late war. Taking the figure for both groups on 1st September, 1939, as 100, the European index for 1st January, 1946, was 144, and for 1st October 157, while for the lower African wage groups it was 140 and 145 for the same dates.

A minimum wage of ten shillings a month for African adult male unskilled manual labour was prescribed for the Southern Province in May, 1946. Monthly wage rates, inclusive of food allowance, in specific employments are:

Tea

Field Labour . . .	16s.
Overseers . . .	25s.
Factory Labour . . .	16s.
Overseers . . .	27s.

Tobacco

Field Labour . . .	14s.	} plus a bonus of 10 to 20 per cent. at the end of the season.
Overseers . . .	25s.	
Factory Labour . . .	25s.	
Skilled Workmen and Overseers . . .	40s.	

Public Works Department

Labourers . . .	12s. 6d.
Artisans . . .	23s. to 150s.

Railways

Labourers . . .	19s.
Artisans . . .	27s. 6d. to 160s.

Domestic servants with responsibilities, such as cooks, may expect about 22s. a month.

The staff of the Labour Department comprises six Europeans and thirty-four Africans. In addition to the former, there is provision for two Provincial Labour Officers, but so far shortage of suitable men has precluded their appointment. As one of the Department's heaviest responsibilities is the supervision and care of Nyasaland natives who are abroad, two officers, with the title of Nyasaland Government Representative, are stationed at Salisbury and Johannesburg respectively. Labour Department African clerks are stationed at all District Commissioners' offices; their chief duties are the maintenance of Registry Offices, of which there are thirteen, and the issue and recording of Certificates of Identification for those who wish to go abroad.

As yet there are no Trade Unions. It would be idle to pretend that labour in the Protectorate has not been affected by the world-wide restlessness, and in particular the Southern Rhodesia railway strike in October, 1945, might have been expected to have repercussions in Nyasaland. However, active evidence of discontent was confined to two small instances: one arose among the loco shed staff of the Nyasaland Railways, where the men agreed to return to work on receiving an undertaking that their alleged wage grievances would be investigated. In the other case there was the possibility of a strike when workers in a tea factory objected to long

hours; these were caused by a shortage of labour and the fact that a nearby tobacco factory was still in operation long after the end of its normal season. When the tobacco factory closed sufficient labour became available in the tea factory to enable the working of normal hours.

The labour situation was unsatisfactory throughout the year because although the man-power was available there was a reluctance to work for wages locally. The main causes of this situation were the high prices and marked shortage of consumer goods, particularly cotton piece-goods, and the large sums of money, arising from sale of crops and military employment, which were in African hands. The high prices paid for produce meant that those with produce for sale had no need to work for wages, while those whose gardens barely supported themselves and their families were reluctant to work for wages when there was so little to buy.

Factories legislation operated smoothly during the year. Although there were two serious accidents no loss of life resulted; both accidents were the result of workers ignoring safety devices round machinery.

The series of Ordinances dealing with labour matters which was enacted in 1944, and covered Minimum Wages, Workmen's Compensation, Trade Unions and Trade Disputes, Trade Disputes (Arbitration and Enquiry), and Native Labour (in general), was kept under review. The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance was brought into force on 1st July, 1946, at which date the Governor-in-Council was satisfied that employers could insure against their liabilities at reasonable rates; at the same time an Order was promulgated setting out the occupations to which the Ordinance applied. The Ordinance was also amended to allow the Chief Justice to make Rules of Court for regulating proceedings under it, and these Rules were subsequently made. The Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Ordinance, 1944, was amended by the deletion of two subsections regarding picketing in such numbers or in such manner as to be calculated to intimidate.

A further attempt to minimise the effect of emigration on the country's life was made by amendment of the Native Labour (Recruiting Permit) Rules under the Native Labour Ordinance, 1944. These now provide for a close season of three months between 31st October and the following 28th February, during which no recruiting is allowed; the object of this prohibition is to ensure that the proper preparation and maintenance of native gardens, on which the population depends for its food, and the cultivation of cash crops by Africans and Europeans alike, are not interfered with by recruiting activities.

There is no legislative provision for insurance against sickness or for old-age pensions, but all employers of African labour are required to provide medical attention for sick employees, and in cases where long service has been given many employers voluntarily arrange either for the payment of small pensions or of gratuities on retirement. It should be noted in this connection that the majority of the African community continue to regard the care and maintenance of the elderly as a family duty. Exemptions from tax are granted to elderly and infirm male Africans who are without means to pay, and provision is annually made in the Protectorate Estimates for the relief of necessitous cases irrespective of race.

Chapter III: Public Finance and Taxation

THE Protectorate's financial year ended on 31st December, and it is therefore impracticable to give complete figures for 1946; a revised estimate only is therefore given. Comparative total figures are:

	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	£	£
1939 (Actual)	817,485	805,637
1944 (")	1,029,283	1,032,195
1945 (")	1,916,205	1,771,184
1946 (Revised Estimate)	1,225,960	1,206,628

The temporary increase in 1945 was due to the receipt and expenditure of an Imperial grant of £773,000 in connection with the Trans-Zambesia Guarantee.

The main heads of revenue and expenditure are as follows:

<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Actual 1939</i>	<i>Actual 1944</i>	<i>Actual 1945</i>	<i>Revised Estimates 1946</i>
	£	£	£	£
Customs	189,933	198,427	212,351	290,000
Taxes, Licences, etc.	237,740	485,099	476,755	500,450
Fees of Court, etc.	10,402	27,004	33,162	31,698
Posts and Telegraphs	23,037	46,995	123,312	77,310
Rents	4,478	3,970	3,892	4,050
Interest Part (1)	5,630	3,311	3,889	5,604
Miscellaneous	28,281	41,432	54,257	50,040
W.O. Pension Fund	6,178	6,543	6,230	8,350
Land Sales	125	—	—	—
Total Ordinary Revenue	505,804	812,781	913,848	967,502
Colonial Development and Welfare Act Grants	18,825	3,779	22,117	70,716
Interest Part (2)	245,404	212,723	190,687	190,687
Trans-Zambesia Railway Guaranteed Loan Grant	47,452	—	773,000	—
Trans-Zambesia Railway Debenture Interest	—	—	16,553	27,055
Total Revenue	£817,485	£1,029,283	£1,916,205	£1,255,960
<i>Expenditure</i>				
Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary	39,301	58,983	72,701	98,437
Education	21,405	36,096	79,827	101,790
Medical	51,993	69,999	72,997	106,100
Provincial and District Administration	53,284	45,845	49,618	76,017
Public Works Department	67,021	111,744	133,090	185,947
Public Debt Charges	257,743	209,900	203,023	203,027
War Services	2,361	30,560	31,003	24,943
Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee	47,452	15,159	773,000	—
Other Services	265,077	453,909	355,925	410,367
Total Expenditure	£805,637	£1,032,195	£1,771,184	£1,206,628

The public debt amounts to £3,776,494 18s. 4d., made up as follows:

<i>Public Debt</i>	£	s.	d.
East African Protectorate 4 per cent. Loan	4,660	19	11
" " " 6 per cent. Loan	21,033	18	5
Redemption of Shire Highlands Railway Subsidy Lands	180,800	0	0
East African Guaranteed Loan 4½ per cent. 1952-1972	2,000,000	0	0
East African Guaranteed Loan 3 per cent. 1954-1974	1,570,000	0	0

Assets and liabilities at 31st August, 1946, the latest date for which

		<i>Liabilities</i>					
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
DRAFTS					4,483	19	3
DEPOSITS							
Administrator-General		6,663	10	4			
Official Receiver		172	12	4			
C.D. and Welfare Grants.(b)		3,970	16	0			
Miscellaneous		44,734	4	8	55,541	3	4
SPECIAL FUNDS							
Bankruptcy Contingency Fund		45	6	9			
Custodian of Enemy Property		18,412	19	7			
Ewing Bequest Library Fund		1,081	7	1			
Fines Funds		289	3	4			
Interest Free Loans		9,015	0	0			
Native Authority Dipping Fund		4,791	1	1			
Native Development and Welfare Fund		213,821	10	6			
Ruarwe Trust Fund		532	13	8			
Storey Memorial Scholarship Fund		352	18	2			
Tea Cess Fund		3,357	18	4			
Tung Cess Fund		35	7	10			
Tobacco Cess Fund		3,566	19	1	255,302	5	5
POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK					262,929	5	4
WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES					65,825	5	0
WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND					26,759	5	2
E.A. GUARANTEED LOAN, UNEXPENDED BALANCE					459,577	9	0
GUARANTEED LOAN, INVESTMENT ACCOUNT					54,081	5	0
WAR SURPLUS RESERVE ACCOUNT					635,000	0	0
POST-WAR CREDIT RESERVE ACCOUNT					20,000	0	0
GENERAL REVENUE BALANCE at 1st January, 1946		247,093	1	0			
Surplus and Deficit Account		142,551	4	4	389,644	5	4
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES							
Imperial Loan to meet 1914-18 War Expenditure:		£	s.	d.			
Local		42,000	0	0			
War Office Loan		55,499	7	5			
		£97,499	7	5	Total £2,229,144	2	10

NOTE.—(a) The following Stocks and Shares not included in the statement of assets are held by the Crown Agents for the Colonies on behalf of Government in respect of:

(i) The Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee:
 £150,000 Ordinary £1 Shares Trans-Zambesia Railway Co.
 £773,000 3½ per cent. First Mortgage Debentures.

(ii) Loan Funds:
 £800,287 Nyasaland Railways 5 per cent. "B" Income Debenture Stock.
 £48,350 Nyasaland Railways 5 per cent. "C" Income Debenture Stock.
 £1,958,387 Nyasaland Railways 5 per cent. Bridge Debenture Stock.
 £187,000 Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee First Mortgage Debenture.

(b) A sum of £13,563 13s. 2d. is due from Colonial Development and W. Funds.

figures are available, were:

		<i>Assets</i>			
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
ADVANCES		-	-	19,850	19 5
WAR OFFICE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT		-	-	2,307	4 8
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT—INTEREST FREE LOAN:					
	PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTIONS	-	-	9,015	0 0
	GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS	-	-	635,000	0 0
" "	—WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES			67,658	5 0
INVESTMENTS (a)					
	Administrator-General	665	6 6		
	Official Receiver	-	-		
	Surplus Funds	50,176	2 9		
	Custodian of Enemy Property	19,475	0 0		
	Post Office Savings Bank	257,924	18 9		
	Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	26,668	2 2		
	East Africa Guaranteed Loan	54,081	5 0		
	Ewing Bequest Library Fund	1,081	7 2		
	Ruarwe Trust Fund	532	13 8		
	Storey Memorial Scholarship Fund	352	18 2		
	Tobacco Cess Fund	1,500	0 0		
	Native Development and Welfare Fund	166,087	17 2		
				578,545	11 4
IMPRESTS				8,231	17 3
JOINT COLONIAL FUND				795,000	0 0
REMITTANCES				9,808	19 2
CASH ACCOUNT				(c) 103,726	6 0
Total				£2,229,144	2 10
<hr/>					
(c) CASH		£	s. d.		
	In Treasury and at Bank	66,298	17 5		
	With Agencies	7,786	18 9		
	With Stations and Sub-Accountants	29,640	9 10		
		£103,726	6 0		

The main heads of taxation and their yields were:

	<i>Actual</i> 1939 £	<i>Actual</i> 1944 £	<i>Actual</i> 1945 £	<i>Revised</i> <i>Estimates</i> 1946 £
Customs	189,933	198,427	212,351	290,000
Fines	574	3,027	2,209	3,000
Native Tax	142,401	177,331	175,645	180,000
Income Tax	53,546	257,728	250,244	255,000
Non-Native Poll Tax	4,400	8,586	9,020	9,200
Land Tax	2,520	3,679	2,349	2,300
Crown Lands				
Cotton Tax	320	943	1	780
Estate Duties	2,024	1,754	2,869	15,000
<i>Licences</i>				
Arms and				
Ammunition	934	326	331	300
Bankers	120	120	120	120
Bicycles	3,807	2,905	2,482	3,000
Game	410	173	186	200
Liquor	761	760	756	750
Miscellaneous	293	284	303	300
Motor Vehicles	7,558	6,126	6,422	6,500
Trading	14,537	18,139	20,347	20,500
Other Stamp Duties	3,553	3,218	3,471	3,500
Total	£427,691	683,526	689,106	790,450

Nyasaland, being within the region covered by the Congo Basin Treaties and the Convention of St. Germain-en-Laye, 1919, may not grant preferential treatment to any country and its Customs tariff applies equally to imports from all nations.

Most duties are levied *ad valorem*, but there are specific duties on certain goods such as cotton manufactures, liquor, tobacco and cigarettes, matches, motor vehicles, bicycles, petrol and fuel oils, and sugar. When a duty is *ad valorem* it is levied on goods imported from overseas on the c.i.f. value at Beira, provided that this is not less than the cost of the goods to the importer on board ship at the port of shipment plus 10 per cent. Goods imported from contiguous countries are valued as at the place of despatch, and in the case of those coming from South and East Africa the value is taken as the cost at the place of purchase plus 10 per cent. Among the *ad valorem* duties are:

Wearing Apparel	} 25 per cent.
Boots and Shoes	
Electrical Appliances	
Earthenware, Chinaware and Glassware	
Metal Manufactures	
Aerated Waters and Fruit Cordials	40 per cent.
Silk	50 per cent.
Perfumery and Toilet Preparations	33½ per cent.

Some specific duties are:

Cotton Blankets	10d. each
Cotton Piece Goods	2s. per 12 linear yards
Cigarettes	12s. per lb.
Whisky, Gin and Brandy	£3 4s. per proof gallon.
Bicycles	15s. each.
Motor Vehicles, Private	25s.-45s. per h.p. depending on h.p.
Motor Vehicles, Commercial	Over 30 cwts., 5s. per cwt. Under 30 cwts., 25s. per cwt.

Among articles accorded free entry are: building materials, agricultural and industrial implements and machinery, plant for water and electricity installations, mosquito netting, farm tractors, and bona fide personal baggage.

No export duties are levied, but cesses are applied to exports of tea (10d. per 100 lb.), tobacco (1½d. per 100 lb.), and tung-oil (£2 10s. per long ton). The proceeds are credited to the Nyasaland Tea Association, the Nyasaland Tobacco Association, and the Nyasaland Tung Board respectively, and are devoted to the development and benefit of these industries.

No excise duties had been imposed up to the end of 1946. Stamp duties are payable on the usual documents; the revised estimate of yield from these for 1946 was £3,500, compared with actual receipts of £3,471 for 1945 and £3,218 for 1944.

As regards Income Tax imposed on individual incomes, for the assessment year 1946-47 the personal deduction granted to a married man was increased from £300 to £450 and that for a single person from £175, reducing by the excess of income over £300, to £225 fixed. At the same time Post War Credits were discontinued.

The following table shows the Income Tax (including Sur-tax, which is charged under the same Ordinance and in the same assessment) payable for 1946-47 by individuals in three different categories at varying income levels:

Income £	Single Person			Married Man			Married with Two Children		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
200	—			—			—		
300		13	9	—			—		
400	6	18	9	—			—		
500	16	0	0	—			—		
600	26	0	0	5	7	6	—		
700	38	16	3	13	10	0	—		
800	52	11	3	23	10	0	2	17	6
900	70	1	3	35	7	6	9	10	0
1,000	88	16	3	49	2	6	19	10	0
1,500	193	10	0	140	7	6	95	7	6
2,000	335	13	9	265	7	6	202	5	0

Income £	Single Person			Married Man			Married with Two Children		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
3,000	671	12	6	587	5	0	506	15	0
5,000	1,499	2	6	1,392	5	0	1,287	15	0
7,500	2,731	0	0	2,618	10	0	2,498	10	0
10,000	4,140	7	6	3,999	15	0	3,861	12	6
*29,726	17,469	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
*29,951	—	—	—	17,469	4	6	—	—	—
*30,190	—	—	—	—	—	—	17,469	4	6

Companies fall into two categories, local companies and others. In charging a local company (i.e. a company incorporated in the Protectorate) the assessable profit is allocated between the members in proportion to their right to share in the profits. The liability of each member in respect of his apportioned share of the company's profit is then calculated, regard being had to his abatements and other chargeable income, and the aggregate of all members' liabilities on such apportioned shares represents the tax payable by the company on the assessable profit.

In the case of other than local companies the rate of tax charged is 5s. in the £, but most of these are United Kingdom companies which qualify for relief in respect of double taxation, and their effective rate, after such relief, is 4s. 6d. in the £, being one-half of the United Kingdom standard rate for the assessment year 1946-47.

During 1946 the depreciation allowances in respect of machinery, agricultural and industrial buildings and Native housing were considerably extended (the Income Tax (Deductions) Rules, 1946) broadly on the lines of the United Kingdom Income Tax Act, 1945, in principle though with greater percentage allowances. In addition, it has been provided that the cost of clearing new land for agricultural use and certain expenditure on research and experiments, may be allowed as a deduction in calculating taxable profit. The benefits under these heads apply to individuals and companies alike.

A non-native poll tax is payable by all non-native males over eighteen resident in the Protectorate, except visitors; this exception includes persons in the country temporarily for business purposes. The amount due from all persons affected who are in residence on 1st January, or who enter the Protectorate up to 30th June is £4; those entering between 1st July and 31st December pay £2 only for the year of entry. Any person failing to pay this tax within three months of becoming liable must pay a penalty equal to the tax due, in addition to that tax. The tax is allowed as a deduction for the calendar year in which an Income Tax assessment year begins. The estimated yield for 1946 was £9,200, compared with £9,020 for 1945, and £8,586 for 1944.

A poll tax is payable by all male natives resident in Nyasaland and over the apparent age of eighteen. No native is liable to pay in respect of more than one residence and exceptions may be granted to the aged or

* These are the points at which maximum Income Tax and Sur-tax becomes payable (i.e. 14s. 6d. in the £). In all the above figures a deduction of £4 has been made for Non-Native Poll Tax set off.

infirm, if without means, to immigrant natives living on a private estate with the owner's permission, provided they do not remain in the country for more than twelve continuous months, and to bona fide native visitors not employed or seeking employment within the country and not remaining in it for longer than three continuous months. The Governor possesses certain additional powers of exemption. The rate of tax is prescribed by the Governor-in-Council under the Native Tax Ordinance of 1939 and is variable; at present it ranges from 7s. in the poorer areas to 9s. in the richer ones. These areas do not necessarily coincide with administrative boundaries. The estimated yield for 1946 was £180,000 compared with £175,645 for 1945, and £177,331 for 1944. The tax is collected by native tax collectors working under the direction of the Native Authorities and the general direction of the District Commissioners.

Up to 1945, Estate Duty in Nyasaland was charged as a "fee" chargeable before the grant of Probate or Letters of Administration. Early in 1946, however, an Estate Duty Ordinance was enacted on the general lines of those existing in the neighbouring territories but following the system in the United Kingdom of making chargeable with duty all property in the Protectorate and all property situate outside the Protectorate of persons domiciled in it. This was an important provision because persons of means permanently resident in the Protectorate have been accustomed to invest considerable sums in United Kingdom or South Africa securities. Considerable sums were thus collected as duty during 1946. "Double duty" in the Protectorate and the United Kingdom or other British possessions with reciprocal legislation is not payable. There is no charge resembling legacy or succession duty. Provision is made for remission in the case of small estates falling to near relatives and cases in which death was caused by war injuries and occurred within three years of those injuries. Estates not exceeding £100 are exempt. Examples of charges are as follows:

Estates exceeding £100 but not exceeding £500	£1 per cent.
" £1,000 " " £5,000	£3 "
" £25,000 " " £30,000	£10 "
" £100,000 " " £120,000	£20 "

The yield for 1946 was £19,809 compared with £2,869 for 1945 and £1,754 for 1944. Collection is the duty of the Lands Officer as Secretary to the Estate Duty Commissioners.

Chapter IV: Currency and Banking

NYASALAND is a member of the Southern Rhodesian Currency Board, whose notes, in denominations of £5, £1, 10s. and 5s., and silver and copper-nickel coins are legal tender, as is the coinage of the United Kingdom. At 31st December, 1946, £6,648,841 was in circulation, compared with £5,829,774, at the end of 1945.

A disturbing feature of the country's present economy is the amount of currency being retained in African hands, largely under hut floors, whence it is unlikely to emerge until adequate supplies of consumer goods

are again available. The amount so retained is thought to be some £900,000, of which over half is in coin, and there is a considerable shortage of coin in actual circulation. It may be noted that despite energetic propaganda, only about 5 per cent. of the demobilisation payments to ex-soldiers were deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank.

Two commercial banks, the Standard Bank of South Africa, and Barclay's Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) operate in the Protectorate. The former has four branches, at Zomba, Blantyre, Limbe and Lilongwe, and the latter two, at Blantyre and Limbe. The Post Office Savings Bank has 32 branches, and deposits amounted to £265,000 at the end of 1946, an increase of 23 per cent. over 1945; there were 12,465 depositors, compared with 8,815 in 1945.

Chapter V: Commerce

THE value of imports and exports, excluding Government imports and specie, rose from £3,456,000 in 1945 to £4,365,000 in 1946, an increase of 26 per cent. Imports were valued at £2,000,000 against £1,580,000 in 1945, and exports, including re-exports, at £2,365,000 against £1,876,000. These increases reflect, of course, a number of marked increases in prices, but on the whole they are also due to increased quantities of the commodities involved.

Most imports of consumer goods showed increases in both quantity and value over 1945, but cotton piece goods were an exception: these dropped from over 11,000,000 to under 9,000,000 yards, and in value from £657,000 to £598,000. Cotton blankets, on the other hand, increased in number from 78,000 to 187,000 and in value from £25,000 to £65,000. An indication of a most desirable improvement in the African standard of living is to be seen in the increase of boot and shoe imports from under 600 dozen pairs, valued at £5,700, in 1945, to nearly 7,000 dozen pairs, valued at £24,600. Matches also showed a marked increase, by over 900 per cent., from 10,500 gross, valued at £3,150, to 95,000 gross, valued at £28,750. Turning to foodstuffs, sugar and salt were the most important single items; imports of the former, which is in great demand among ex-soldiers, rose only by 308 tons, from 2,517 tons to 2,825, but a 50 per cent. rise in price was reflected in an increase in value of £23,000, from £34,000 to £57,000. Imports of salt rose by nearly a fifth, from 4,700 tons to 5,600, but the increase in value was only £150. Grain and flour imports showed the effects of the effort made to render the country self-supporting in wheat; they dropped from 363 tons, valued at £10,900, to 160 tons, valued at £4,900.

As regards other principal imports, iron and sheet metal manufactures showed a marked decline in quantity, from over 1,000 tons to just under 700, with an equally marked increase in value, from £70,000 to £100,000. There was a comparatively small increase in earthen- and chinaware, from 2,915 tons to 3,250, but here again a rise in prices was reflected in the increase in value by over a 100 per cent., from just under £22,000 to just over £44,000. Vehicles imported increased from 122 to 211, and in value



TOBACCO MARKET



NATIVE CATTLE: NORTHERN PROVINCE



LAKE NYASA: AFRICAN FISHERMEN PLACING NETS



MLANJE MOUNTAIN: TEA GARDEN AND GUM PLANTATION

from £48,000 to £61,000; bicycles, of such importance in the African economy, increased from 4,702, valued at £26,000 to 6,260, valued at £39,000. The quantity of petrol imported rose from 621,000 gallons, valued at £50,700, to 920,000 gallons, valued at £63,000.

Apart from native foodstuffs, such as rice and fish, most exports showed an increase over the previous year in both quantity and value; an exception was dark fired tobacco, which in both leaf and strip decreased in quantity but showed a marked increase in value: leaf exported fell from 8,823,000 lb. to 8,581,000 lb. but rose in value from £441,000 to £604,000, and strips fell from 4,895,000 lb. to 3,471,000 lb. but rose in value from £204,000 to £240,000. Other types of tobacco increased in quantity from just under 4,000,000 lb. to over 5,120,000 lb. and in value from £180,000 to £402,000. Tea increased by 122,000 lb. from 13,717,000 lb. in 1945 to 13,839,000 lb. in 1946, and the value rose from £686,000 to £750,000; in this connection, the annual report of one of the leading companies referred to a loss of approximately 200,000 lb. of tea caused by absence of sufficient labour to pluck its full crop. Groundnuts increased from 2,550,000 lb., valued at £28,300, to 3,106,000 lb., valued at £34,900, but beans fell from 7,676,000 lb., valued at £56,900, to 4,377,000 lb., valued at £34,000. Outside the food group, cotton lint rose from 3,601,000 lb., valued at £114,000, to 3,828,000 lb., valued at £126,000, but sisal fibre fell from 763,000 lb., valued at £7,900, to 210,000 lb., valued at £1,900. Rubber also fell, from 154,000 lb., valued at £8,700, to 77,500 lb., valued at £4,400; this is partly ascribed to difficulties caused by the inadequate lake transport available. Tung oil rose by over 50 per cent., from 153,000 lb. valued at £19,000, to 237,000 lb., valued at £25,300. There was a notable increase in exports of wood and timber, from 868,000 lb., valued at £2,650, to 2,237,000 lb., valued at £7,050. The only mineral export of any note, corundum, rose from 795,000 lb., valued at £5,400, to 922,000 lb., valued at £6,200. Among the few manufactures exported, sisal rope and twine showed a small but satisfactory increase from 298,000 lb., valued at £12,400, to 339,000 lb., valued at £14,000.

Internal trade continued to be good. The services of skilled craftsmen were much in demand, and there appears to be a good future for builders, furniture makers, and shoemakers. The two principal domestic manufactures are cigarettes and pipe tobacco, and soap. The former had an output, almost entirely from local materials, of about 1,100,000 lb., valued at some £60,000; the cigarettes vary from those sold for Africans at ten for a penny to those intended for the non-native consumer at fifty for 1s. 6d. The two local soap factories turned out some 600 tons of soap for the Nyasaland market with a value of about £50,000; the bulk of the ingredients, apart from a small quantity of groundnut oil, are imported.

During the year one public company, six private companies, and one company limited by guarantee were incorporated in Nyasaland. The public company, Nyasaland Hotels and Brewery Ltd., was formed to take over the business and assets of three hotel concerns, the local mineral water factory, and a brewery business which had been dormant for some years. Its nominal capital is £200,000. Three of the private companies are of an agricultural nature.

Chapter VI: Production

TOBACCO continues to be Nyasaland's principal product, although there was a drop in production in 1946, due in part to a slight fall in the price paid for the native-grown crop in 1945 and also to an unfavourable season, which resulted in a light crop of fair quality leaf; all types sold over the auction floor fetched very good prices. Estimated quantities produced were 1,550 short tons by European growers and 4,258 short tons by native growers; figures for tobacco grown by tenants on private estates are not yet available.

Some 7,000 short tons of tea were produced, although the estates concerned had considerable difficulty in finding sufficient labour. Cotton production amounted to 5,740 short tons, there being a notable response to efforts to encourage the growing of this crop in the Central Province, where the harvest showed an increase of 460 per cent. on that of 1945. Tung continued to progress, the output for the year being 425 short tons of seed, and further acreage was planted up; one company lost some 45 acres of tung trees as a result of the Zomba flood. Sisal, part of which is consumed locally by rope and twine factories, gave a yield of 800 short tons. The output of the country's one rubber estate was 70 short tons.

Production of food crops was on the whole satisfactory, except for wheat and rice, which were rather below expectation with yields of 409 and 2,263 tons respectively. Maize, surplus to that retained for domestic use by the native growers, amounted to 12,801 short tons, and beans to 1,132 short tons. A special effort was made to increase the production of groundnuts so that a considerable surplus might be exported to Britain, and a record acreage was planted. The growers, however, declined to sell a large proportion of their crop on the ground that the price offered was too low; they have doubtless profited physically from the large amount of additional protein thus added to their own diet. The actual quantity marketed was 2,191 short tons. The only other food crop of any importance, European potatoes, yielded 230 short tons.

The country has an estimated animal population of 253,000 cattle, 37,000 sheep, 192,000 goats, and 49,000 pigs; the number of poultry is unknown. Although all of these play an important part in village economy and especially in the social life of the people, they do not occupy the place which they should in commerce; apart from a small trade in cattle and hides and skins, there is no export trade in animal products. Cattle exported to Tanganyika Territory numbered 762 in 1946 compared with 900 in 1945; exports of hides and skins amounted to 32½ tons compared with 39½ tons. The main items in internal trade are meat and ghee; the only figures for the former are those of slaughter at the larger centres, as no records are kept of beasts killed in the villages for home consumption. In 1946, 5,649 cattle and 4,864 sheep and goats were recorded as killed in slaughter centres, against 5,800 and 4,440 respectively for 1945. Production of ghee amounted to 31 short tons against 41½ in 1945; owing to the lack of transport on the Lake during the year it was necessary to close a number of dairies in the Karonga District. The extent of country available to cattle is severely limited by tsetse fly.

The forests of Nyasaland produce both coniferous softwoods and hardwoods of considerable usefulness. The principal softwoods are Mlanje cedar (*Widdringtonia whytei*) and a number of species of cypress and pine. The former is obtained from indigenous forests on Mlanje Mountain and plantations on Zomba Mountain, the other species from plantations at Zomba, Limbe, and Dedza. Current output, used mainly for Government building operations, is about 120,000 cu. ft. (round). The main hardwoods are mahogany (*Khaya nyasica*), Mwenya (*Adina microcephala*), and the valuable Mlombwa (*Pterocarpus angolensis*); they are in great demand by all sections of the community for constructional work and furniture, and annual production is now between 300,000 and 400,000 cu. ft. (round). Considerable use is also made of *Eucalyptus saligna*, one of the blue gums, the annual sawn output of which is unknown. The amount of timber taken in the form of poles for native building purposes is also unknown, as most of it comes free from unreserved lands, as does most of the firewood; about 600,000 cu. ft. of this is produced annually by the State forests. The only minor forest products of any importance are charcoal, of which a small quantity is sold in the townships, and stropanthus and beeswax, of which together less than five tons were exported during the year.

All softwoods of economic value are obtained from State Forest Reserves, sawing and extraction being done by the Forestry Department. Hardwoods come from all types of land, and sawing and extraction are mainly done by native sawyers under licence. A new venture has been undertaken in the Mlanje Forest Reserve, where an area of Mkweranyani (*Piptadenia b Buchananii*) is now being worked by a European using modern methods and machinery. Sawn eucalyptus, mainly *saligna*, is produced from a number of privately-owned plantations, particularly those of the Imperial Tobacco Company, who own and manage a considerable acreage of this timber. It is processed at the company's mill, and used for the manufacture of tobacco hogsheads and boxes.

Lake and river fish form an important addition to both native and non-native dietaries, and research in marine biology continued during the year. No accurate figures are available of the total weight of fish taken annually from Lake Nyasa, but it is thought to be in the region of 3,000 tons, and the opinion has been expressed that up to 60,000 tons could be so taken, provided that the fisheries were properly planned. As it is, there are fears that the south-east arm of the Lake, where most of the commercial fishing is done, is already being over-fished. In addition to local consumption, a considerable amount of fish is annually exported to other territories in smoked form, the quantity in 1946 being 113 tons, compared with 250 tons in 1945. A Fisheries Officer was appointed during the year, but had not arrived before its end.

Commercial fishing is largely in the hands of a European family concern, who both catch and cure fish for export, but the great bulk of the local trade is conducted by individual hawkers, who buy from independent fishermen and transport the fish by bicycle to the main centres of population. A fair living is understood to be made by enterprising Africans who own a number of bicycles and hire them to hawkers who do not possess their own.

The only mining production during the year was 399 tons of corundum in the Thambani area in the south of the Protectorate; this was an increase of 76 tons over the 1945 output.

The corundum mining concern, which is under European management, formerly employed some two hundred natives in mining the alluvial corundum and washing it. Experience, however, showed that a large percentage of the workers made no attempt to produce the value of their wages and food, unless under close European supervision, which was impracticable in an area of scattered small workings; the management therefore decided to abandon the use of direct labour, and instead to buy corundum from native diggers. This has not been very successful, as the richer patches have been worked out and the local people, living in a good agricultural area, feel little need for extra money.

Most of the industrial operations conducted in Nyasaland are in connection with the processing and packing of primary products such as tobacco, tea, and cotton, and there is little manufacturing. As noted in the previous chapter, the principal manufactures are tobacco and cigarettes, and soap, for local consumption; the annual value of their output is £60,000 and £50,000 respectively. In addition, two concerns produce rope and twine from local sisal, the output being worth about £14,000 in 1946. A nicotine extraction factory was producing annually nicotine sulphate and crude nicotine worth some £10,000, from scrap tobacco, but the price for scrap rose to such an extent in 1946 that this use became uneconomic and the factory was compelled to close for the time being. The only other industrial enterprise worthy of note is a small boat-building business, catering for both European pleasure and African need. With the help of the Native Development and Welfare Fund, a tannery was operated near Lilongwe with satisfactory results, among them the instruction in tanning and cobbling of a number of ex-soldiers who are now able to carry on these very desirable crafts at their own homes.

Agricultural production in Nyasaland may be said to be carried on in three different ways, on estates by direct labour, by native tenants who sell their produce to the estate owner, and by natives cultivating trust land on their own account, and possibly themselves employing paid labour to do so. Tobacco is produced by all three methods, the first of which is responsible mainly for flue-cured tobacco, whose production and curing requires a considerable amount of capital. Tenant growers are allocated land on an estate, issued with seed, advanced food and tools where necessary, and grow their crops under the supervision of the estate owner or manager. Trust land growers are under the supervision of the Native Tobacco Board, which likewise issues seed, supervises cultivation and curing, and buys the entire crop, which it later sells again over the auction floor; its profits, above a stated figure put to reserve, are available for native welfare and development schemes. Tea is entirely an estate crop, produced by direct labour, and so almost is tung, although a small number of trees in the Northern Province are now in the care of native farmers; these are not yet in production. Sisal and rubber are also entirely estate crops. A small quantity of cotton is produced by estates, but over 99.8 per cent. of the crop is produced by the small cultivator.

Local food crops are almost entirely in the hands of small cultivators

who sell the surplus from their holdings. Mention must here be made of the Kota Kota Produce & Trading Society Ltd., the shares in which are all held by bona fide rice growers; the Society purchases, mills, and markets the crop from its area. Ghee is made by individual dairymen, trained and supervised by the Veterinary Department, from milk from their own cattle, and that bought from their neighbours; it is marketed through the agency of the Department.

In concluding this survey of the various methods of production in Nyasaland, it can confidently be said that little economic production would ever have been possible without the initiative, courage, and energy of the European section of the community, and that at present it could not hope to continue without European supervision, management, and encouragement, whether these be official or unofficial.

The weather during the 1945-46 season was not, on the whole, very favourable to crops as although there was no shortage of rain, the distribution left much to be desired. In the Central Province there was an absence of good early planting rains, while in the Southern Province the early months gave every promise of an excellent harvest, but the crops were adversely affected by unusually heavy rains during March. Reference has been made elsewhere to the general shortage of labour which also affected production.

No Co-operative Societies exist at present in the Protectorate but an Administrative Officer, seconded for the purpose, began investigations and propaganda towards the end of the year with a view to the formation of such societies.

Chapter VII: Social Services

EDUCATION

EDUCATION is not at present compulsory for children of any race in Nyasaland.

There are some 4,300 primary schools for Africans, varying from "village" schools giving vernacular instruction only, of which there are over 4,000, to the nine "Station" schools which give the three-year senior course from Standard IV to Standard VI; the teaching of English begins in Standard I at "Central" schools which take the pupil up to Standard III. Primary education is still predominantly in the hands of the missionary societies who began it in the first days of their work in Nyasaland, but there are also a number of schools on European estates, and others managed by Native Authorities. All are registered by the Education Department and are subject to its inspection; practically all the "Station" and "Central" schools, and about a tenth of the "Village" schools receive Government grants, and schools so assisted contain over one-third of the school population.

There are two African secondary schools, with a total enrolment of 110; at present these proceed to Standard VIII, but they will continue to School Certificate standard when there are sufficient candidates. One school is mainly for Protestants and the other for Roman Catholics, and

each is controlled by a Board of Governors representing the Missions concerned, together with a number of Government nominees.

Teacher training is undertaken by the Missions and leads to certificate examinations conducted by the Education Department; these are chiefly the English Grade and Vernacular Grade certificates based on the senior and junior school courses respectively. In 1946, 413 men and 111 women were in training at sixteen State-aided institutions.

The only other institution under the control of the Education Department is the Jeanes Centre, which trains Community Workers and gives courses for Chiefs and Village Headmen, who attend with their wives and children. There is a strong agricultural bias in the work done at this Centre, and a prominent feature is the training of students' womenfolk in health matters and child welfare.

The 1945 census showed that 5.59 per cent. of the African population was literate in the Vernacular, and .96 per cent. in English; these figures are probably conservative, and may possibly refer only to adults, since some 210,000 pupils, nearly 10 per cent. of the total population, were enrolled in primary schools in 1946. It is estimated that about half of the country's children attend school for at least a short period between the ages of five and eighteen, the great majority, however, never passing beyond the lowest classes; nevertheless, the number of those passing the Standard VI examination at the end of the primary course has risen from 37 in 1941, when it was instituted, to 200 in 1946; of these, four were girls.

So far as Europeans are concerned, parents are encouraged to send children over the age of ten to schools outside the Protectorate, chiefly for reasons of health, but also on account of the small number of children concerned; a grant of £30 per annum is available to parents for each child between ten and eighteen who is attending schools in Southern Rhodesia or South Africa. For children up to ten, five schools are available locally, one conducted by the Education Department, and the others by Mission and other private agencies who receive Government grants; one of these private schools, at Blantyre, will be taken over by the Education Department in 1947. In addition to these facilities, correspondence courses are provided, free of charge, by the Southern Rhodesian Government, to children living in Nyasaland who are unable to attend schools. In 1946, 141 children attended schools within the Protectorate, 23 took the correspondence courses, and 165 were at schools in Southern Rhodesia or South Africa. The total cost of European education was £6,182.

Indian schools are likewise assisted by Government grants. In 1946, four schools with an enrolment of about 350 received £1,321; these schools take children to Standard VI.

A Government school for young children of mixed blood was opened in October at a cost of £4,600, and 27 were enrolled. A small hostel is run under private auspices in connection with this school, but until boarding accommodation is available it will only serve those children who live in the Blantyre area. Bursaries are available to older children attending schools in Rhodesia and South Africa. Recurrent expenditure on this service was £860.

The State also provided University scholarships of the annual value of £100 to £200; in 1946 seven of these were held by three Europeans,

three Africans, and one Indian, studying in Great Britain, Uganda, South Africa, and India.

The education given to Africans in the Army through the East African Army Education Corps during the war years had considerably increased the interest in and demand for adult education. Former African non-commissioned officers of the East African Army Education Corps were appointed as Mass Education Assistants during the year; both were mainly employed in the training of ex-soldiers for civilian occupations. Experimental work was also done at the Jeanes Training Centre on the compilation of charts suitable for use in mass education on the lines of the Laubach method. Provision was made in the 1946 Estimates for the appointment of a Mass Education Officer and a European assistant, but these vacancies had not been filled by the end of the year.

The Governor is advised on education policy by four separate committees for African, European, Asian, and Eurafrican education, and each administrative district has a School Committee to advise the Director of Education on local matters. Policy is implemented under the supervision of the Education Department, which also inspects all schools, controls and maintains Government schools, conducts Government and public examinations, and controls and pays all local educational grants. It has also been so far responsible for the Information Service and the supervision of African Civil Servants through the Native Civil Service Board. The European staff of the Department numbers thirteen, and there is a permanent African staff of fourteen. Total expenditure in 1946 was £88,759.

HEALTH

As in other aspects of the life of the Protectorate, statistics concerning its health and morbidity are scarce, unreliable, and incomplete. For example, little information can be gleaned from a statement of the number of deaths occurring in hospitals: the European section of the community belongs, on the whole, to the healthier age-groups, and the African likes to die at home; in most cases his relatives see that he gets there in time.

The commonest tropical diseases for which Africans are admitted to hospitals are malaria, tropical ulcer, schistosomiasis, and hookworm. Total admissions during the year to Government hospitals were 23,272. The majority of patients are not seriously ill, but they require admission because their homes are distant; this applies particularly to such diseases as schistosomiasis, where the course of treatment lasts over four weeks although the patient is up and about during the period of his stay in hospital.

There are 17 Government hospitals, with a total of 1,002 beds; there are also 95 rural dispensaries, many of which have rest-houses attached to them where patients coming from a distance may live while undergoing treatment. Hospital buildings are generally well constructed and reasonably well equipped; seven of those maintained by Government are in the charge of Medical Officers, and the remainder under Sub-Assistant Surgeons or African Hospital Assistants. Much of the pioneer medical work in Nyasaland was done by the various Missions, who still maintain

a number of hospitals and dispensaries, leper colonies, and ante-natal and child welfare clinics. Eighteen missionary doctors are on the local Medical Register, and there are also numerous nursing sisters engaged in this service.

During the year the epidemic of mild smallpox (*Variola minor*), which started in 1945, continued; it was confined to the Northern and Central Provinces, and the death rate was under 0.5 per cent. However, smallpox of the major type spread from Tanganyika Territory into the Karonga District and from Portuguese East Africa into the Fort Johnston District and thence to Liwonde and Zomba; there were 153 reported cases with 27 deaths; 402,650 vaccinations were performed during the year.

The venereal disease treatment campaign made possible by the grant of Colonial Development and Welfare funds was well on its way by the middle of the year. Pamphlets in the vernacular were distributed to all Government and non-Government hospitals. Medical missions received free issues of drugs and towards the end of the year penicillin became available in greater quantities than before. There is no doubt that the African is now well aware of the advantages of the treatment of venereal diseases by European methods, but it is becoming more and more evident that the difficulty is to get him to accept continued treatment for any length of time. The outlook is therefore good in the case of gonorrhoea with its short treatment by modern drugs, but poor in the case of syphilis.

Maternity and Child Welfare work are mainly in the hands of the missions, which receive assistance from public funds for this work. The number of confinements in mission centres was once more some 4,000; clinics operated by the White Sisters are recent innovations, but they are making steady progress.

So far as the African villager is concerned, pure water supplies are still in their infancy. Even where pure water is available from a deep well it is common in the wet season to see the women forsake it because of its distance from their homes and draw contaminated water from a stream or temporary waterhole which is nearer the village.

The majority of the Europeans live in the Shire Highlands and the plateau areas of the Central Province; both areas have a very definite cold season and are comparatively healthy. Few houses are mosquito-proofed, and malaria is therefore common, particularly during the rains, but as most people take prophylactic quinine or mepacrine, complications are rare. Government maintains hospitals for Europeans at Zomba, Blantyre, and Lilongwe; the last of these was extended during 1946 to include beds for maternity cases. In addition, the Seventh Day Adventist Mission maintains a small European hospital in the Cholo District for the admission of members of the general public. Admissions in 1946 to the three Government hospitals numbered 566, by far the commonest disease treated being malaria, which accounted for 184 admissions; diseases of the digestive system came next with 118 cases, and there were 29 cases of normal labour. Deaths numbered 13, of which three were from malaria.

Asiatics are more widely scattered through the territory than Europeans; they live under conditions not conducive to robust health, especially in rural areas where the more poorly paid members of this group are engaged in trading at small stores built of temporary or semi-permanent

materials. Asiatic patients are admitted to special wards at Zomba, Blantyre, and Lilongwe Government hospitals, and there is also a small Asiatic ward at the Seventh Day Adventist Mission in Cholo.

Some mention must be made of the effect of the Zomba flood on public health in the capital. It is true that the sadly disorganised sanitary services were put in order with, so far, satisfactory results, but many years of anti-malarial work have gone for nothing, and malaria control has for the time being gone back to the spray-gun stage.

The Government Medical Staff consists of a Director of Medical Services, his Deputy, two Senior Medical Officers, a Surgical Specialist, a Pathologist, fourteen Medical Officers, a Dental Officer (who arrived during the year), and a Pharmacist-Storekeeper; the nursing staff comprises a Matron and seventeen Senior Nursing Sisters and Nursing Sisters. All the foregoing are Europeans. There are ten Asian Sub-Assistant Surgeons, and an African staff of 43 Hospital Assistants, 254 African Dressers, and 61 African Nurses.

The Government sanitary staff comprises a Senior Health Inspector, two Health Inspectors, and 61 African Sanitary Assistants and Vaccinators. The Health Inspectors are attached to the townships of Zomba, Blantyre, and Lilongwe, and are almost wholly employed in supervising the routine sanitary measures of these towns on behalf of the local authorities. There are also a number of sanitary police in the employment of the various Native Authorities, and on estates.

During the year the last Medical Officer seconded to the Army returned to civil duties, and many ex-army nursing orderlies were taken into employment on their demobilisation. The African staff position is now brighter than for years past, as the result of an additional Medical Officer having been posted for training duties to Zomba African Hospital in 1944. His first students are now becoming available for posting as Dressers and Hospital Assistants, and their standard is much higher than that of their predecessors.

HOUSING

Housing in Nyasaland continues to be simple. The European and the well-to-do Asiatic live in brick bungalows with corrugated iron or thatched roofs, the rural Asiatic trader lives at the back of his brick or wattle-and-daub store, and the vast majority of the African population continue to live in wattle-and-daub huts of traditional round or oblong design, ventilated mainly through the door, usually with an open fireplace near the centre, and not infrequently also occupied by poultry or even larger livestock. One of the things more frequently noticed in African soldiers' mail during the late war was the expression of a determination to build a better type of house, usually a brick cottage, and in many cases this ambition has now been fulfilled, or will be when craftsmen and materials are available. This welcome improvement in the standard of living is also noticeable among the better educated and among those who have been at work in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa; it may almost be said that the hallmark of the enlightened man is a house with windows, a separate kitchen, and a pit latrine.

Housing of employees is a matter which receives considerable attention both from employers and from the Medical and Labour Departments. War conditions and shortages of labour and materials have prevented progress in this respect from being as great as could be desired, but labour quarters are steadily improving, to the benefit of all concerned. There are so many varieties of these quarters, ranging from the grass shack which serves as temporary shelter for the labourer on the roads, to the trim and comfortable little brick cottage of the senior clerk or foreman, that it is not practicable to describe them in a short report.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare activities have long been engaged in by the missions and by both non-official and official Europeans, but they have not yet reached any great volume, nor has their need yet been greatly felt outside those parts of the country most closely in touch with twentieth-century civilisation. The African village has a strong traditional community life of its own, and it is only when tribal and family ties are weakened or broken by residence in a town that artificial stimulus is needed in this respect, although Women's Guilds in connection with various churches are to be found flourishing in quite remote districts.

In the towns Welfare Societies and associations of people from specific parts of the country have been formed from time to time, but most of these appear to be dormant at the moment. Football leagues flourish, however, the Boys' Brigade has companies in the Southern Province, there are Guides at Livingstonia, and the Boy Scouts' Association has undergone a revival. Social centres and clubrooms are projected or have actually been completed in some of the larger settlements, but so far there is little sign of any great interest being taken in these by the people for whose benefit they exist; this, however, is no cause for depression, since it is better that interest should grow naturally, albeit with a little fostering, than that it should flare up and die away again.

The African community still takes care of the great majority of its disabled and aged, and destitution is no great problem; the occasional blind beggar to be seen in the towns probably regards himself in much the same light as "the Bishop's Beggar" in the Spanish story, and does equally well. When necessary, blind persons are sent to a training school in Northern Rhodesia, run by the Dutch Reformed Church Mission, and subsidised by Government. Little has therefore been necessary in this department of welfare work, and the only institutions solely concerned with it are the hostel at Blantyre for sick repatriates from the southern territories, and the King's African Rifles Memorial Home, founded in 1919 as an African Chelsea Hospital and now in process of being re-endowed and rebuilt.

Juvenile delinquency was the subject of legislation during the year and provision now exists for juvenile courts, approved schools, and a system of probation; corporal punishment for juveniles remained in the Penal Code, but proposals for its abolition are to be placed before the Legislature early in 1947. It is too early yet to report on the operations of the new machinery.

Active in all well-doing, and especially in social welfare, is the Nyasaland Council of Women, which has been prominent in most advances in this direction, whether they be for European or non-European benefit. In addition to concerning themselves with many of the matters already mentioned, its members have a fine record of voluntary service during the late war, and have of late been busied with a diversity of activities for the good of the community, including Nyasaland's first art exhibition.

Apart from the activities of the various Departments concerned, the Government makes a small annual provision for the relief of necessitous cases, and contributes to the King's African Rifles Memorial Home.

Chapter VIII: Legislation

FOUR of the more important Ordinances enacted during 1946 were directed to the improvement and progress of Nyasaland's agricultural industry. The Natural Resources Ordinance provided means for conserving the soil and timber of the country, by compulsion if necessary, and established a Board to oversee and control operations. The Tung Ordinance established a Tung Board to control the growing and marketing of tung, the extraction of tung-oil, and the licensing of factories used for the production and extraction of that oil. The Tobacco Ordinance consolidated all former legislation dealing with tobacco and among other things ordained that no tobacco may be exported from Nyasaland unless it has first been sold on a licensed auction floor. The Maize Control Ordinance established a Maize Control Board, with powers to distribute all maize produced in Nyasaland in the best interests of the inhabitants. Also of great importance to the national economy was the Co-operative Societies Ordinance, which provides for the formation and regulation of such societies, in the possibilities of which much interest has been displayed, especially among ex-soldiers.

Social welfare was represented in the year's more important legislation by the Children and Young Persons Ordinance, the Affiliation Ordinance, and the Midwives Ordinance. The first provides for Juvenile Courts and their procedure, for the remedial treatment of young delinquents, and for the establishment of approved schools. The Affiliation Ordinance provides machinery for the obtaining of affiliation orders by unmarried mothers against the fathers of their children, and the Midwives Ordinance establishes a Midwives Board and provides for the training, certification, and control of midwives.

The Central African Air Services Ordinance established a Central African Air Authority for the licensing of all aircraft used for hire or reward in the three territories of Nyasaland, Northern Rhodesia and Southern Rhodesia, and provided for a Central African Airways Corporation which is required to furnish the fullest possible air services within these territories. Also of interest to the travelling public is the Hotels Ordinance, which established a Hotel Board to licence and supervise hotels, with power to cancel the licence of any hotel not conducted in a sanitary or efficient manner.

The Civil Procedure (Suits by or against the Government or Public Officers) Ordinance laid down the procedure to be followed when the Government or its officers are sued civilly, and enabled the public to sue Government in tort as well as contract. The Rhodesia and Nyasaland Court of Appeal Ordinance provided for the constitution within the Protectorate of a Court empowered to entertain, hear, and determine appeals from the High Court of Nyasaland. When this Ordinance has been brought into force, and the necessary Orders-in-Council have been promulgated, the jurisdiction of the East African Court of Appeal in Nyasaland will cease. An Ordinance was also enacted to provide for a revised edition of the laws in force on 31st December, 1946; the last revision was in 1933.

Chapter IX: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

THE law administered in the Protectorate Courts is based upon that of England; criminal law is largely codified in the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code. Native law and custom are recognised in these Courts, in so far as they are not repugnant to statute law or natural justice, but are administered almost entirely in the Native Courts conducted by the Native Authorities.

The Protectorate Courts consist of the High Court and Subordinate Courts of the first, second, and third classes. The High Court has jurisdiction over all persons and all matters in the Protectorate; it may call for the records of all Courts subordinate to itself, to satisfy itself of the legality and propriety of the proceedings and sentence, and it is a Court of Appeal from Subordinate Courts in both civil and criminal matters. Appeals from its own decisions lie at present to the East African Court of Appeal, but an Ordinance of 1946 provides for the constitution of a Court of Appeal for Nyasaland and the Rhodesias; this Ordinance had not come into force at the end of the year.

The Chief Justice arranges regular Circuits to deal with the graver charges, normally murder and manslaughter, which the Subordinate Courts are not empowered to try; as far as possible the venue in such cases is in or near the district in which the alleged crime was committed. He also inspects the Court books and files of the Subordinate Courts, and is *ex officio* a Visiting Justice of the various Protectorate prisons.

Subordinate Courts of the First Class are held by the Provincial Commissioners, and also at Blantyre by a professionally qualified Magistrate. Second Class Courts are held by the District Commissioners, and Third Class Courts by the Assistant District Commissioners. First and Second Class Courts have a limited jurisdiction over Europeans and other non-natives, the sentences which may be imposed upon these persons by a Second Class Court being limited to six months. The same Courts may try natives for any offence other than treason, misprison of treason, murder, and manslaughter, but any sentence of more than six months' imprisonment is subject to confirmation by the High Court; Subordinate Courts

have the power to commit serious cases to the High Court for trial, and also conduct preliminary inquiries into the graver charges before they go to that Court.

In civil matters, First, Second, and Third Class Courts have jurisdiction over non-natives in all matters in which the amount or value in dispute does not exceed £100, £50, or £25 respectively. They may also try any native civil case, being guided therein by native law so far as it is applicable and not repugnant to justice and morality or statute. Third Class Courts are, however, not empowered to determine important cases relating to land and disputes between native Chiefs, which are reserved to the higher Courts.

The native civil jurisdiction of the Protectorate Courts is now rarely exercised, the vast majority of such cases being dealt with by the Native Courts which were established in 1933 and usually consist of a Chief and his advisers. They have a territorially limited jurisdiction, usually co-extensive with the area of the Native Authority of which the Chief is head, or they may be subordinate to the Court of such a Chief. There are also Native Appeal Courts, which are often those of a Paramount Chief, and from these further appeals lie to the District Commissioner, the Provincial Commissioner, and ultimately to the Chief Justice. In criminal matters the Native Courts deal with petty crimes, small thefts, minor assaults, disorderly conduct, damage to property, and the like, with offences against native law and custom, which may or may not include matrimonial misdemeanours, breaches of rules and orders made by the Native Authorities with which they are connected, and statutory offences under such legislation as the forest laws. A great deal of their work arises from the current looseness of the marriage tie. In criminal matters, and here it is well to remark that the distinction between civil and criminal cases is far from clear to the native mind and law, they have varying powers, depending on their status and ability, with a maximum power of imprisonment for six months. All cases are subject to review by the District Commissioners, and sentences of imprisonment are served in the Protectorate prisons.

The only case of any particular note during the year in the Protectorate Courts was a charge against a prominent Indian trader of contravening the Price Control Regulations. He was convicted by the magistrate, appealed to the High Court, which ordered a retrial, appealed against that order to the East African Court of Appeal, and is now undergoing retrial.

POLICE

The Nyasaland Police comprises 22 Europeans, none below the rank of Assistant Inspector, one Asian Sub-Inspector, and 499 African ranks, of whom 13 belong to the Criminal Investigation Department. There are now 4 African Assistant Sub-Inspectors and 24 Station Sergeants; the literate branch is 141 strong. Station Sergeants and other literate ranks were by the end of 1946 posted to all stations in the country, and more efficient investigation of reports of crime resulted. The Force was employed in the maintenance of law and order, the prevention and

detection of crime, and the protection of property; members of the Force also performed immigration duties and conducted the examination of motor vehicles. A regular system of beats was maintained in all the larger settlements, and patrols visited all parts of the country; efficiency was greatly increased by the use of recently-acquired motor transport. Close co-operation was maintained with the Native Authorities, to whom a large number of petty cases were referred for trial.

Before 1946 there were too few literate police officers available to compile accurate statistics of crime, and these were provided only for Zomba, Blantyre, Mlanje, Cholo, Fort Johnston, and Lilongwe, where European officers of police or African clerks were stationed. The posting of Station Sergeants and other literate African ranks to all stations has resulted in statistics for the whole country becoming available for the first time. Comparison with previous years is therefore of little value, but it appears that cases of burglary and house-breaking, theft, and arson continue to increase; during the year there were reported 586 cases of burglary or housebreaking, 1,434 of theft, and 109 of arson, together comprising more than two-thirds of the total crimes reported. Eighty-six homicides were reported, compared with 50 (for the whole Protectorate) in 1945; in 17 of these there was a history of the accused having attended a beer drink before committing the alleged offence. In six of these cases the accused were convicted of murder, and in nineteen of manslaughter; one was acquitted of murder but convicted under the Witchcraft Ordinance. Thirty-eight charges were awaiting trial at the end of the year, and in four the culprit remained undetected; 6,738 reports of offences were dealt with, from these resulted 5,268 prosecutions and the conviction of 4,892 persons; 3,146 of the offences reported were against the Penal Code and 3,592 were statutory.

PRISONS

The Prison Service suffered a great loss in the death, by drowning during the Zomba flood, of Mr. W. H. Ingram, its first Commissioner after its separation from the Police; to his efficient administration during his three years of office is largely due the general improvement in the all-round working of the Prisons Department.

The Central Prison at Zomba is the only prison in the Protectorate directly administered by the Department, the remaining fourteen being supervised by Administrative or Police Officers; it receives prisoners of all classes. The Provincial Prisons at Blantyre and Lilongwe take only first offenders whose sentences do not exceed two years, and the remainder normally receive only first offenders whose sentences do not exceed six months; four only receive convicts awaiting transfer, and remand prisoners. There is a prison farm at Pyupyu, near Zomba, which is run as a branch of the Central Prison but takes selected first offenders only.

The staff of the Department comprises four Europeans and 158 Africans, three of the latter being women; the number of African goalers was increased to four during the year. Disciplinary offences by members of the staff numbered 93, compared with 88 in 1945.

One thousand nine hundred and ninety prisoners were committed to

the various prisons during the year, compared with 2,113 in 1945; the number of women was 55 in 1946 and 108 in 1945. There were no European prisoners in either year and only seven other non-natives in 1946, against six in 1945. Remand prisoners numbered 1,017 in 1946 compared with 1,235 in 1945. The percentage of recidivists continues to rise, being 16.5 per cent. of the total committals, compared with 11.1 per cent. in 1945. The number of punishments for breaches of prison discipline fell from 165 to 158, the percentage of punishments to the prison population dropping from 7.8 per cent. to 7.1 per cent. The majority of punishments involved extra work or loss of remission; there were no cases of corporal punishment. No juveniles were admitted during the year; three youths convicted in 1945 are still at a station of the Montfort Marist Fathers and are making satisfactory progress. Health continued to be good, the average daily sick list for all prisons being 21.6 in a total average population of 782; there were six deaths.

The Convict Leader system made satisfactory progress, particularly at the prison farm; classification and segregation of prisoners of different types was further advanced on the completion of new buildings at the Central Prison. Tailoring, shoemaking, carpentry, tinsmithing, and building continued to be practised at the Central Prison; two prisoners at the farm took a course organised by the Agricultural Department and one of these was engaged by that Department on his discharge. Women prisoners received some instruction in handicrafts and other matters from voluntary lady visitors, whose services were greatly appreciated alike by staff and prisoners.

There is no Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, but Government provides funds from which prisoners receive some assistance on discharge, mainly in the form of clothes, free transport to their homes, and sufficient food, or cash in lieu, for the journey. In deserving cases, usually those of long-term prisoners, small cash grants are sent to the beneficiaries' District Commissioners, for payment on arrival home.

Chapter X: Public Utilities

THE only Public Utility Services operated in Nyasaland are the electricity and water supplies of the townships of Zomba and Blantyre, the electricity supply of Limbe, and the water supply of Lilongwe.

The Zomba piped water supply is taken from the Mlungusi River halfway up Zomba Mountain, and is distributed by gravity to all parts of the capital; the water is neither filtered nor otherwise treated, but has been shown by analysis to be clean and pure. Electricity is supplied by a small hydro-electric plant consisting of two Pelton wheels and two 70-kilowatt alternators, augmented by a 50-kilowatt diesel set. Both services, which are owned and operated by Government, were severely damaged in the flood of December 1946, but emergency services were rapidly improvised, and repairs are proceeding satisfactorily. Water is charged for at a monthly rate of 3s. 6d. per house, and electricity at 6d. per hundred square feet lighted area plus 1½d. a unit.

Blantyre draws its water from a dam on the Mudi River some four miles from the town. The water is passed through sedimentation tanks and pressure filters before being chlorinated and piped by gravity through a six-inch main to the township. The electrical power plant consists of three diesel driven alternators with a total output of 255 kilowatts. Both services are owned and operated by the Municipality; the charge for water is 2s. 6d. a thousand gallons up to an amount which depends on the rateable value of the property and 1s. a thousand gallons thereafter. Electricity charges differ according to different uses; for ordinary households there is a minimum monthly charge equal to three units per living-room at 1s. 8d. a unit, and thereafter 2d. a unit for the next fifty units and 1d. a unit for any excess.

Limbe does not have a piped water supply, but a scheme is under preparation for a gravity supply depending on a service reservoir into which water will be pumped from a dam. Electricity is bought in bulk from the Nyasaland Railways by the Municipality, which distributes it throughout the township. For ordinary households there is a minimum monthly charge of 5s., charges being levied on a basis of 1s. per unit up to an amount equal to 1s. per hundred square feet of the main buildings, and thereafter 3d. a unit.

Lilongwe has no electricity supply, and the present water supply merely delivers river water to the houses unfiltered and unchlorinated. Water is pumped from the river to a small service reservoir, and thence fed by gravity throughout the township. Plans have been prepared for augmenting this supply and for introducing filtering and chlorination. The undertaking is controlled by a Water Board and serviced by the Public Works Department; the charge is 2s. 3d. a thousand gallons.

Chapter XI: Communications

SHIPPING

SAILINGS to and from African ports continued to be irregular throughout the year. Internal water transport on Lake Nyasa is mainly in the hands of the Nyasaland Railways, who in July suffered the loss, referred to in Part I, of their new T.S.M.V. *Vipya*, a replacement for which is now on order. At present they have only one ship, the *Mpasa*, of 200 tons, but four tugs and a number of barges have been ordered and are expected to be put into service during 1947. The Universities' Mission to Central Africa and a private owner also operate small steamers on the Lake.

RAILWAYS

Communication with the sea at Beira and with Southern Rhodesia and South Africa is effected by the 3 ft. 6 in. line operated by the Nyasaland Railways, the Central Africa Railways, and the Trans-Zambesia Railway, via the Lower Zambesi Bridge, whose 12,064 feet make it the longest railway bridge in the world. Railhead is at Salima, on Lake Nyasa, and at Chipoka, further south on the Lake, trains connect with the lake

steamers. There has been a steady increase year by year in the goods and passenger traffic carried, except for a drop in 1944, when imports were small. Taking the section of the line served by Nyasaland Railways Ltd., goods traffic increased between 1939 and 1945 by nearly two-thirds, from 64,000 tons to 109,000 tons, and passengers carried rose by 126 per cent., from 107,000 to 242,000; the passenger figure includes those carried by the Sentinel Coaches which operate on the more populous parts of the line. It is a noteworthy achievement that the increased traffic was moved with the same engines and rolling stock as were available in 1939. Figures for 1946 are not yet available. The railway accident at Konjeni, in January, 1946, already referred to, was the first fatal accident in the history of Nyasaland's railways. No others occurred during the year, and the only serious interruption of traffic was during March and April, when the flooded Shiré River breached the line between Chiromo and Pokera Stations, and for six weeks passengers, mails, and a limited quantity of goods traffic were trans-shipped by river steamers. The construction of a new bridge and the realignment of the rail approaches at this point are in hand. Construction by the Portuguese Government of a railway connecting the Central Africa Railway at Dona Anna with Tete proceeds slowly. One hundred kilometres have been completed, and the remainder is expected to be finished within the next three years.

ROADS AND VEHICLES

Nyasaland is well served with roads and has good connections with neighbouring territories. The spinal column of its road system is the route from the Portuguese border on the Ruo River, near Mlanje, through Limbe to Blantyre, and thence north across the Shire at the Murchison Bridge, through the Central and Northern Provinces, and on to join the Northern Rhodesian and Tanganyika systems at Tunduma. Most other roads of importance are in effect links between this route and the railway or the lake. The total mileage of main roads, excluding the townships, is 1,856, of which only four miles are full-width tarmac. There are also 540 miles of other roads maintained by the Public Works Department, and some 1,500 miles maintained by the District Administration or the Native Authorities, but these are mostly for use by light traffic in the dry season only. The cost of maintenance of these roads varies from £30 a mile for metalled main roads to about 30s. a mile for minor district roads.

During 1946 construction was begun of a new feeder road to the railway, from Mlanda in the Ncheu District to Golomoti Station. This will be about seventeen miles long, passing through difficult hilly country, and dropping over 3,000 feet in some ten miles. General improvement of other roads continued, particularly in respect of bridging and drainage works on the Great North Road and the Fort Johnston-Monkey Bay and Ekwendeni-Nkata Bay roads.

As regards motor transport, the year was notable for the formation of the Nyasaland Transport Co., Ltd., which will run omnibus services between all the more important places in the country. It is expected to begin operations in June, 1947, and will afford a welcome means of employment for many technically-trained ex-soldiers.

AIR

With the growing importance of air communications it became necessary to establish these on a proper basis, and this was obviously a case for joint action by the three Central African territories, Northern and Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. A Central African Air Authority was accordingly established in 1946 by common legislation, the Authority to consist of four members appointed by each of the three Governments concerned, under a Chairman appointed by them jointly. Its functions are to keep under review and promote the progress and development of air services in Central Africa, to control the licensing of aircraft flying for hire or reward in the three territories, and to supervise and control the Central African Airways Corporation which was also established under the same legislation.

This Corporation was established with the object of providing the fullest possible air services within the territories, services to other territories, and feeder services to trunk services passing through other territories. It was also empowered to make arrangements for air training, and to undertake the manufacture of aircraft parts and equipment and aero engines, and to construct ancillary plant and buildings. Its capital was subscribed as to £250,000 by the Government of Southern Rhodesia, as to £175,000 by the Government of Northern Rhodesia, and as to £75,000 by the Government of Nyasaland, the total being £500,000.

The Corporation at present operates five services weekly between Blantyre and Salisbury, and from Salisbury operates twice a week to Beira, four times a week to Northern Rhodesia, and daily to Johannesburg. There is also a weekly service to Nairobi which passes through Nyasaland and connects with the "Springbok" Service which operates between South Africa and London Airport. Internal services are operated twice a week between Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe, and Fort Jameson, from which there is a connection to Lusaka. A local company, with headquarters in Blantyre, operates charter services.

During 1946 Chileka airport handled 617 incoming aircraft and 618 outgoing; 1,876 passengers arrived there, and 1,830 left, and freight handled amounted to 5,342 kilos incoming and 4,688 kilos outgoing.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

Statistics for 1946 are not yet available, but it may safely be said that the volume of postal traffic of all kinds continues to increase greatly every year. The number of telegrams has risen very markedly and the popularity of this form of communication among all sections of the community is throwing a heavy strain upon a system which is still almost entirely on a pre-war basis. Only one important centre in the Protectorate, Mzimba, is not served by the telegraph line and it has for some years past been provided with wireless communication. Telephone traffic also continues to increase and the implementation of post-war development schemes for the extension and improvement of the system is eagerly awaited by the public.

There is no broadcasting service operated within the Protectorate, but arrangements are in train with the Governments of Northern and

Southern Rhodesia for participation in their broadcasting systems; broadcasts in Chinyanja from Lusaka can be received in Nyasaland.

OPERATIONS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Apart from the maintenance and development of the road system, the Public Works Department had a busy year, hampered by a shortage of supervisory staff and materials, and complicated in December by the catastrophic Zomba flood, which seriously damaged the workshops and necessitated emergency repairs to the town's water and electricity supplies and the replacement of almost every bridge in a many-streamed area. In this operation Bailey Bridge equipment kindly made available by the Government of Southern Rhodesia was of considerable assistance.

The provision of new staff quarters continued, and improvements were made to both the European and African Hospitals at Zomba; at the latter a steam laundry is under construction. New offices for the District Administration were completed at Zomba, and those at Dedza are nearing completion. A new departure was the building in Zomba of an African Recreation and Cinema Hall at a cost of £2,400. Normal maintenance and improvement of buildings was carried out, at a cost representing just over one per cent. of their capital value. Maintenance of all State-provided wells and boreholes was also carried out.

Executive control continued to be through the division of the country into two sections, each under a Provincial Engineer responsible to the Director of Public Works, but the northern division is proving too large for effective control and will in due course be further divided, when a third Provincial Engineer will be stationed at the new Northern Province headquarters.

Total expenditure by the Department was £125,792, compared with £116,194 in 1945 and £57,621 in 1938.

Chapter XII: Research and Other Activities

THE year's most important development in this respect was the decision to establish a Research Council for the three Central African territories under the ægis of the Central African Council. This foreshadows the appointment of a Secretary and Chief Executive Officer, whose first task will be a survey of such additional research facilities as appear to be required in the territories.

In Nyasaland itself research continued in a number of directions. Investigations into agricultural matters were carried on by the Agricultural Department, in particular at the Tea and Tung research and experimental stations; tung investigations were also carried out on a large scale in connection with the Vipya development scheme. The Marine Biologist continued her work, and there were further investigations in connection with tsetse fly and trypanosomiasis, in connection with which the country had the advantage of a visit from Professor Buxton. Another visitor was Professor McSwiney, who was investigating

the whole subject of medical research in East and Central Africa. Anthropological investigation was renewed, the peoples concerned being the Anyanja on the Shiré River and the Angoni of the Dedza District. In addition to these activities there was, of course, continued investigation of more detailed problems by technical and non-technical officials and employees of commercial firms.

A large and well-equipped American expedition, under the leadership of Mr. Arthur S. Vernay, and including officials of the New York Botanical Garden and the American Museum of Natural History visited the country during the year to conduct extensive investigations of the flora and fauna of the Protectorate. They remained in Nyasaland for some five months, and visited typical areas in most parts of it. Detailed reports of their discoveries are not yet available, but the party collected a very large number of zoological and botanical specimens, and it is understood that among them several new species and sub-species have already been identified.

The most notable activity to which no reference has yet been made in this report is the provision of vernacular literature for Africans. During their military service many thousands of Africans developed a taste for reading, and, almost more important, several about the same period developed a turn for writing. During the past few years, with the assistance of the Native Development and Welfare Fund, numerous cheap books have been published, among them being several original works and a number of translations of such classics as *The Arabian Nights* and *Gulliver's Travels*; others are now awaiting printing. Orders from military units were apt to reflect the taste of the unit welfare officer rather than that of the troops, and the cessation of these now allows a truer assessment of the African's taste in literature; translations cannot hold their own against the original works of local authors, and the country's best seller, which is now in its sixth edition, is *Banja Lathu*, a work dealing with family life and obligations and elementary civics, written by a Nyasaland teacher. Total sales of vernacular books of this sort during 1945 and 1946 were over 30,000 volumes, and a further 46,000 volumes will be available for sale in 1947.

Following upon the Kanthack Report upon the possibility of permanently stabilising the level of Lake Nyasa, the Protectorate was visited during the year by Professor Debenham and Mr. Griffin, who made further investigations into the whole problem of the control and use of Lake Nyasa and the Shiré River.

PART III

Chapter I: Geography and Climate

THE Protectorate of Nyasaland is some 520 miles in length and varies in width from fifty to a hundred miles; it lies approximately between $9^{\circ} 45'$ and $17^{\circ} 16'$ south latitude and 33° and 36° east longitude. It is bounded on the east by Tanganyika Territory and Portuguese East Africa, on the south by Portuguese East Africa, on the west by Northern Rhodesia, and on the north by Tanganyika Territory. The land area of the Protectorate is about 37,000 square miles, or nearly three-quarters the area of England; the southern tip of the country is 130 miles from the sea.

The key to the physiography of the Protectorate is that part of the Great Rift Valley which, running down from the north, traverses Nyasaland from end to end. In this deep trough lies Lake Nyasa, 360 miles long and varying in width from 10 to 50 miles; the surface of the Lake is 1,500 feet above sea level and its greatest depth about 2,300 feet, so that the lowest part of the floor of the trough is over 700 feet below sea-level. From the south end of the Lake issues the River Shiré, which falls to about 120 feet above sea-level at Port Herald and finally joins the Zambesi 250 miles from the Lake.

The country east and west of the Rift Valley rises in mountains, generally steep and sometimes precipitous, to form high plateaux; west of the Lake these are generally between 3,300 and 4,400 feet above sea-level, but in the north the Nyika uplands rise as high as 8,000 feet. South of the Lake lie the Shiré Highlands with a general elevation of 2,000 to 3,500 feet rising to the mountain masses of Zomba (7,000 feet) and Mlanje (10,000 feet). In the extreme south the rift, occupied by the lower part of the Shiré, is only 200-300 feet above sea-level.

The only other geographical features of any note are the two minor lakes, Chiuta and Chilwa, which lie on the Portuguese border to the east, between Lake Nyasa and the Mlanje range.

On the lake shore there is a distinctive climate: the temperature seldom rises above 100°F . but the proximity of the Lake and the generally heavy rainfall during the wet season create a humid atmosphere which is trying. Elsewhere the climate varies with the altitude. In the highlands it is equable and healthy, and at altitudes above 3,000 feet extreme heat is unusual and fires are welcome in the evenings of the cold season; in the Shiré valley the temperature rises to 115°F . in October and November.

The rainfall divides the year into two seasons, the dry season from May to October and the wet season from November to April. The first rains are due at any time after mid-October, and from then until the end of December there are violent thunderstorms with heavy rain of no

long duration, occurring at irregular intervals, these intervals being hot and oppressive. Steady rains should be established in January and continue until about the end of March, often rising to a crescendo of storms in the last week or two of the season; dry spells of a week or more frequently occur about the beginning of February. After March rainfall diminishes rapidly and from May to September the climate is on the whole cool and dry; heavy scotch mists, known locally as *chiperones* (as they appear to come from Chiperone Mountain in Portuguese territory), are common in the highlands in June and July. The country can be divided into some seven zones of rainfall, with annual falls ranging from under thirty inches to over seventy inches, and the distribution of the dry season fall determines the areas suitable for certain crops; it has been suggested, for example that the limit of the true tea, coffee, and tung areas of the country may be traced on the dry season rainfall map by the seven-inch isohyet.

The small size of Nyasaland and the great variety of physical and climatic conditions within it account together for many of the difficulties and much of the expense involved in its administration and development. The multiplicity of problems caused by these factors, combined with its geographical position in Africa, help to explain the origin of many of its economic, administrative and financial problems.

Chapter II: History

NYASALAND is Livingstone's country. It is true that there are various Portuguese records from 1616 onwards of occasional journeys made across the southern end of what is now the Protectorate, and that in the eighteenth century Portuguese officials and miners penetrated into the neighbourhood of the present Northern Rhodesian border, not far from the site of Fort Jameson, but none of these left any lasting trace. It is also true that from an indefinite date, perhaps the sixteenth century, until almost the end of the nineteenth, there was constant passage through and settlement in Nyasaland by migrating Bantu tribes, but their traditions, as at present known, are too vague to be given the name of history.

The history of Nyasaland can therefore be said to begin with David Livingstone's discovery of Lake Nyasa on 16th September, 1859. In the early 'sixties the path he had opened was followed, under his guidance, by the pioneers of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, but in the short time between these expeditions the country had been defaced by tribal wars and slave raids in a way which made a harrowing contrast to the smiling land and people seen earlier by the great explorer. The missionary pioneers retired in the face of pestilence and death, after suffering heavy and tragic losses, and the Universities' Mission did not return until 1881.

After Livingstone's death, and inspired by it, both the Church of Scotland and the Free Church of Scotland established in 1874-75 missions as memorials to him, the former at Blantyre, named after his Scottish birthplace, and the latter at Livingstonia, first sited at the south end of the Lake but soon removed to the north. At this period, to quote the

Bell Report, "Nyasaland was a whirlpool of migrant tribes, war and slave-raiding, and during the dry season caravans of slaves in chains and slave-sticks started from the areas round the mission stations for the coast ports". These constituted a challenge which neither Christianity nor ordinary European humanity could ignore, and it is to the eternal credit of the Scottish missions that next after Livingstone's name in the roll of Nyasaland's great pioneers must be inscribed the name of Robert Laws of Livingstonia and Alexander Hetherwick of Blantyre, to whose services the country largely owes the growth of a *Pax Britannica* rather than the imposition of a *Pax Romana*.

At this early period there were no means of obtaining supplies or services except by the exchange of trade goods, chiefly calico, and the missions had perforce to trade. To relieve the missionaries of much of the commercial side of their activities a number of business men, mainly from Glasgow, who were interested in Livingstonia, formed in 1878 the African Lakes Co. as a transport and trading concern to work in close co-operation with mission activities, the original heads of the company (now the African Lakes Corporation) being the brothers Moir. One of their objects was to achieve Livingstone's aim of combating the slave trade by rendering it economically unsound in the face of legitimate commerce as well as by Christianity.

These pioneers were followed by other Europeans, missionaries, traders, hunters and coffee planters, but not until 1883 did a representative of the British Government appear, in the shape of a Consul accredited to "the Kings and Chiefs of Central Africa"; the second consul established himself at Zomba, now the seat of Government.

By now the first of Nyasaland's nineteenth century invaders, the Angoni—who are entitled to claim descent from Chaka's Zulus—had almost ended their wanderings, which had taken them in fifty years from Natal to Lake Tanganyika and back to the hinterland of Lake Nyasa; the Yaos, starting from somewhere about the headwaters of the Rovuma River, on the modern border between Tanganyika Territory and Portuguese East Africa, were still on the move round the south end of the Lake, warring as they went. At the same time the slave-traders at the north end of the country were becoming steadily more inconvenienced by the competition in religion and commerce by which they were now faced, and in 1888 trouble, followed by open warfare, arose between the Arab leaders of the trade and the African Lakes Co., who had to expend most of their resources on military operations. Fortunately for Nyasaland, it came under the eye of Cecil Rhodes, whose British South Africa Company came to the financial rescue.

About this time, too, the Portuguese Government began to cast interested eyes on the lands to the north of the Zambesi, on which river it had long had military and trading posts, and there was a certain degree of international friction. In 1889, however, one cause of friction was removed by the discovery of a navigable route through the Zambesi delta from the Indian Ocean which made Nyasaland accessible, by way of this route, the Zambesi, and the Shiré, by an international waterway without touching Portuguese territory. Nevertheless, in the same year a conflict took place on the Lower Shiré between a well-armed Portuguese

expedition under Major Serpa Pinto and one of the Makololo chiefs, in consequence of which the Acting Consul, a pioneer planter named Buchanan, proclaimed a British Protectorate over the Shiré country on 21st September, 1889, almost exactly thirty years after Livingstone first set foot on the shores of Lake Nyasa.

In 1891 an Anglo-Portuguese Convention ratified the work of Mr. H. H. (later Sir Harry) Johnson, Mr. (later Sir) Alfred Sharpe, and others, and a Protectorate was proclaimed over the countries adjoining Lake Nyasa; in 1893 the name of the territory was changed to "The British Central Africa Protectorate", but in 1907 a further Order-in-Council revived the old name of "The Nyasaland Protectorate". It must here be emphasised that Nyasaland did not fall under British influence by conquest or annexation; it was led under the protection of the Crown by British missionaries and traders with, as the first Proclamation put it, "the consent and desire of the Chiefs and people"; the note thus struck rings to-day in the degree of harmony which still persists in its more modern life.

By 1896 the slave-trade had been extinguished and the countries of the Yao and the Southern Angoni pacified, although the Northern Angoni did not come fully within the sphere of British Administration until 1904. They had, however, long given up raiding their neighbours, partly because of an unpleasant military surprise inflicted upon them by the Achewa to their south, but undoubtedly mainly because of the immense influence acquired over their Paramount Chief by Dr. Laws, to whom, with his colleagues, was due the peaceful entry into the British Commonwealth of 100,000 people with their 5,000 square miles of territory.

Since then the life of the country has on the whole been peaceful, though, of course, affected like every other land by the two World Wars. Nyasaland's position in 1914 with her long common border with German East Africa was dangerous, but prompt action on both land and water scotched the immediate danger, and she was able to contribute greatly to the British forces which waged the long and costly East African campaign. It was during this war that the country suffered the only armed rising in its modern history, when one John Chilembwe, a native pastor half-educated in the United States, and encouraged by the German authorities, rose with his followers in the Blantyre neighbourhood and murdered several Europeans against whom the rebels had personal grudges; rapid counter-measures were taken and the rising fizzled out with the death of its leader in a scuffle in the bush on the Portuguese border. To the credit of these misguided men, it must be recorded that such European women and children as fell into their hands were treated with the utmost consideration.

The year 1939 found the Protectorate far from any front, but nevertheless in a position to aid the war effort very considerably, in relation to her size, in both men and materials. In peacetime Nyasaland raises the two senior regular battalions of the King's African Rifles, and the First Battalion maintained its pride of place by being the first African colonial unit to be in action, in 1940 against the Italians on the Abyssinian border, and the last out of action in 1945, in the neighbourhood of Rangoon, after adding Abyssinia, Madagascar and Burma to a list of cam-

painging grounds which in the previous fifty years had embraced much of tropical Africa. By the end of the war nearly 30,000 Nyasalanders, including a very high proportion of the Protectorate's small European population—men and women—had served in the Forces; and to the two original battalions had been added a further seven line battalions, two field regiments of artillery, over 4,000 drivers in the East African Army Service Corps, and numerous other garrison and ancillary troops. The wandering habits of the natives of the country, to which fuller reference is made below, led also to their appearance in many of the non-Nyasaland units of the East African Forces, in the non-European units of the Union Defence Force, and in the Pioneers; a few of the last-named had the misfortune to be taken prisoner at Tobruk and thereby made the acquaintance of Italy and Germany before they were liberated.

The social and economic history of the Protectorate since its proclamation is on the whole one of steady progress. Migratory tribal units have settled down, and the last flood of immigrants was one of natives of Portuguese territory swarming over the border in search of work on the tea estates and later settling down in the Southern Province. Thanks largely to the work of the missions, which now have among them representatives of the Roman Catholic Church, the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa, and the Seventh Day Adventists, as well as the successors of the Scottish and Anglican pioneers, education has made considerable strides, skilled craftsmen continue to increase in numbers, and medical aid has reached far beyond the more settled areas of the country. The influences of western culture have undoubtedly done much to drag the African from the anchorages of his tribal beliefs and discipline, but on the credit side there has probably been the building up of more sound moral character than the superficial observer often believes; as in material progress much of the credit belongs to the missions, so in this moral sphere much is due to the influence and example of lay Europeans, both men and women. A comparatively recent advance is the inculcation among Africans of a spirit of voluntary service to their fellows, which had not been encouraged by an earlier insistence on the virtues of rugged individualism, usually expressed in terms of cash. As social welfare activities grow, so will the field for such service expand, but it is already finding its opportunity in probation work, in scouting, and in the management of such recreational activities as football leagues.

Reference has already been made to the wandering habits of the Nyasaland native; travel is in his blood, life at home is apt to be dull, and in a predominantly agricultural country cash returns are low. It was not long, therefore, after the pacification of the country that he began to find his way to the better wages of Rhodesia and the bright lights of the Rand. The Nyasa is now to be found in South Africa, the Rhodesias, Tanganyika, Kenya, the Belgian Congo, Portuguese East Africa, and London; he has also been reported from the New York waterfront. The stream of emigrants swelled steadily into a flood, until by the nineteen-thirties it was safe to say that nearly a third of the able-bodied men of Nyasaland were away from the country at any given time, with results regrettable, and occasionally calamitous, to village life. Since then measures have been taken to control the flow to some extent, to safeguard the emigrant while

out of the country, and to ensure that as many cases as possible he, and his savings, return home after a fairly short period, either for good or for regular holidays. The country's contribution to the economic progress of its neighbours has therefore been considerable, possibly too considerable for its own good.

Otherwise, the economic history of Nyasaland is its agricultural history, which is a record of pioneer planting by Europeans of single products over large areas with little previous experimental work, save perhaps in the most recent instance, tung. The earliest economic crop was coffee—a coffee tree figured prominently in the Protectorate's first coat of arms—which was displaced by cotton; cotton then gave way to tobacco and tea, and these two may now be regarded as established crops. Tung grows steadily in importance, but its position as a major crop will depend very largely on the result of the experiments now being carried on in connection with the Vipya development scheme. The last twenty years have also seen the establishment of certain minor secondary industries, but it is unlikely that these will ever be of more than purely local importance. They do, however, contribute considerably to the comfort and well-being of the native population, in their provision of cheap soap, cigarettes, and shoe-leather.

No sketch of the history of Nyasaland would be complete without a reference to the development of its communications. In the early days the Zambesi, the Shiré, and Lake Nyasa provided the main artery of communication, interrupted only by the sixty-mile portage round the Murchison Cataracts. By the time that the Chinde mouth of the Zambesi was discovered in 1889, the level of the Shiré had begun to fall, and steamers could not proceed beyond Chiromo. The growing importance of Blantyre led to the planning of a railway to it from the Lower Shiré, and in 1907 work was begun on a line from Chiromo to Blantyre; almost immediately, however, the continued fall in the level of the river made Chiromo useless as a port, and the railway was continued to Port Herald, the line being opened in 1908. Port Herald then became difficult or impossible of approach for steamers, and between 1913 and 1915 a further fifty miles of railway were constructed between Port Herald and Chindio, on the northern bank of the Zambesi in Portuguese territory.

Meantime the level of the Upper Shiré was also falling, and in due course steamer traffic became impossible outside Lake Nyasa. The Blantyre-Zomba road, one of the first to be made in the country, was therefore extended to Fort Johnston, at the south end of the Lake, and this was the main transport route in use during the first World War.

Navigation on the Zambesi next became uncertain, and a railway, opened in 1922, was built from Murraca, on the south bank of the Zambesi nearly opposite Chindio, to Dondo, eighteen miles from Beira, on the line from Beira to Rhodesia. The ferry service was, however, unsatisfactory, and the line was frequently washed out by floods. In 1935, therefore, a railway bridge across the Zambesi was opened, and at the same time the line was extended from Blantyre to the neighbourhood of the Lake at Salima, giving uninterrupted rail communication between the Lake at Chipoka and Beira on the Indian Ocean. As an illustration of the trials of those who plan in Africa, it may be added that about the time

this link was completed the Lake began to rise again and the Shiré with it, so that in the rainy season the railway bridge at Chiromo may have more than twenty feet of water under it, and a realignment of the track in this neighbourhood has become urgently necessary.

Chapter III: Administration

THE Protectorate is administered by the Governor assisted by an Executive Council composed of the Chief Secretary, the Financial Secretary and the Attorney-General, *ex officio*, and the Provincial Commissioner of the Southern Province and two unofficial members as nominated members. The laws of the Protectorate are made by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council constituted by the Nyasaland Order-in-Council, 1907. The Legislative Council consists of the Governor as President, six Official members, including the three *ex officio* members of the Executive Council, and six nominated Unofficial members. Five of the Unofficial members are selected for nomination by the Convention of Associations. The sixth Unofficial member, who for many years has been selected from one of the Missionary Societies, is nominated by the Governor to represent native interests, which are also the direct concern of the Official members.

The judicial system of the Protectorate is described in Part II, Chapter 9.

The principal departments of Government are: Judicial Affairs, Legal Affairs, Medical Services, Agriculture, Public Works, Education, Police, Prisons and Lunatic Asylum, Geological Survey, Veterinary Services, Forests, Posts and Telegraphs, Audit, Lands Office, Customs, and Printing and Stationery.

The policy of the Government is defined and controlled in the Secretariat. The Chief Secretary is the channel of communication between Government on the one hand and Heads of Departments and the general public on the other. He is the head of the Civil Service.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate is divided into three Provinces, Northern, Central and Southern, each in charge of a Provincial Commissioner, who is responsible to the Governor for the administration of his Province. The Provinces are divided into districts in charge of District Commissioners who are responsible to the Provincial Commissioner. Both Provincial and District Officers are responsible for the good conduct of the Native Administrations within their areas.

Local African self-government was introduced into the Protectorate in 1933 and has achieved considerable progress. Administrative and judicial work has been increasingly delegated to Native Authorities who have carried out their responsibilities with marked success. Among the duties delegated one of the most important is the collection of native tax, the bulk of which is now collected by Native Administrations. Native treasuries have tended towards amalgamation into larger units, thus permitting the pooling of funds for minor local works and for improving the conditions of service of employees of the administrations.

In 1944 and 1945 African Provincial Councils were set up in the three Provinces under the chairmanship of the Provincial Commissioners. These Councils, which are advisory, are composed of Chiefs and other responsible African members under the presidency of the Provincial Commissioners and are designed to facilitate consultation between Government and the African population through their leaders, to provide a ready and authoritative means for expression of African opinion and to promote the development of political responsibility among Africans. The Councils have proved very successful in operation.

In 1946 the further step of creating an African Protectorate Council was taken. This Council comprises twenty members chosen from the membership of the Provincial Councils and is under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary.

The African Protectorate Council met twice during the year and discussed a variety of subjects connected with African affairs; the most important was the desirability of a uniform rate of native tax throughout the country, which was favoured by the Council, a majority of whose members also expressed themselves in agreement with an increase in the rate because, as one Chief said: "If we do not stand on our own feet and insist that taxation be raised in order to raise the standard of the country, we will find that we are retarding the progress of the country." It may be added that this subject had been placed on the agenda through the initiative of African members of the Council and not of the Central Government.

Chapter IV: Weights and Measures

STANDARD British weights and measures are in use throughout the Protectorate.

Chapter V: Newspapers and Periodicals

The Nyasaland Times, published by the Blantyre Printing and Publishing Company, twice weekly, is the only local English newspaper.

Nkhani za Nyasaland is a vernacular news-sheet published by the Information Officer.

Several of the missionary societies publish magazines, chiefly in the vernacular.

South African and Rhodesian newspapers, European and African, have a considerable circulation in the Protectorate.

Chapter VI: Bibliography

GENERAL WORKS

British Central Africa. Sir H. H. Johnston. Methuen.

Fifty years old, but with that qualification one of the fullest and finest descriptions ever published of any portion of the earth's surface. It

covers history, anthropology, zoology, botany, health and disease, and the local languages, with much other interesting matter.

Handbook of Nyasaland. Murray. Crown Agents.

A general description of the country as it was in 1932, published under official auspices. A useful supplement to Johnston.

Report of the Commission Appointed to Inquire into the Financial Position and Further Development of Nyasaland ("The Bell Report").

Stationery Office, Colonial 152 of 1938. (Price 10s. By post 10s. 6d.)

Deals mainly with economic matters, but contains much useful general information.

Rhodesia-Nyasaland Royal Commission's Report ("The Bledisloe Report").

Stationery Office, Cmd. 5949 of 1939. (Price 7s. 6d. By post 7s. 11d.)

Deals mainly with the question of closer association and co-operation between the three territories, but also contains valuable general information.

The Union-Castle Steamship Company's annual *South and East African Handbook* contains some useful current information and maps.

HISTORY

The Zambesi and its Tributaries, and Last Journals. D. Livingstone.

First-hand accounts of the missionary explorer's travels in which he opened up Central Africa to the Western world.

Kirk on the Zambesi. R. Coupland. Oxford.

Livingstone and his companions seen through other eyes.

British in Tropical Africa. Evans. Cambridge.

Notes on the History of the Tumbuka-Kamanga Peoples. Cullen Young. R.T.S.

Material for the history, mainly traditional, of the tribes living near the headquarters of the Livingstonia Mission.

After Livingstone. Moir.

The development and pacification of Nyasaland, by one of the founders of the African Lakes Company.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Articles in *Harvard African Studies*, by Stannus, on the Yao; in *Africa*, by Margaret Read, on the Angoni; and *Notes on the Customs and Folk-lore of the Tumbuka-Kamanga Peoples*, by Cullen Young. Also *The Spirit-Ridden Konde*, by Mackenzie.

BIOGRAPHY AND AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Laws of Livingstonia. Livingstone.

Romance of Blantyre. Hetherwick.

Deals with the lives and experiences of two pioneer missionaries.

Nyasaland in the Nineties. Maugham.

African Small Chop. Duff.

Reminiscences of the early days of the Administration.

LANGUAGES

- Manual of the Nyanja Language.* Hetherwick. African Lakes Corporation.
The standard work on Chinyanja, but difficult for beginners.
Elements of Nyanja. Price. Hetherwick Press, Blantyre.
A Practical Approach to Chinyanja. Thomson. Government Printer, Zomba.
Yao Grammar. Sanderson. R.T.S.
Notes on the Language of the Tumbuka-Kamanga Peoples. Cullen Young.
R.T.S.

NATURAL SCIENCE

- Nyasaland Native Food.* Barker. Blantyre Printing and Publishing Co.
The Birds of Nyasaland. Belcher. Crosby Lockwood.
Report on the Fish and Fisheries of Lake Nyasa. Bertram, Borley and
Trewavas. Crown Agents.
Check List of Nyasaland Forests and Shrubs. Clements and Topham.
Imperial Forestry Institute.

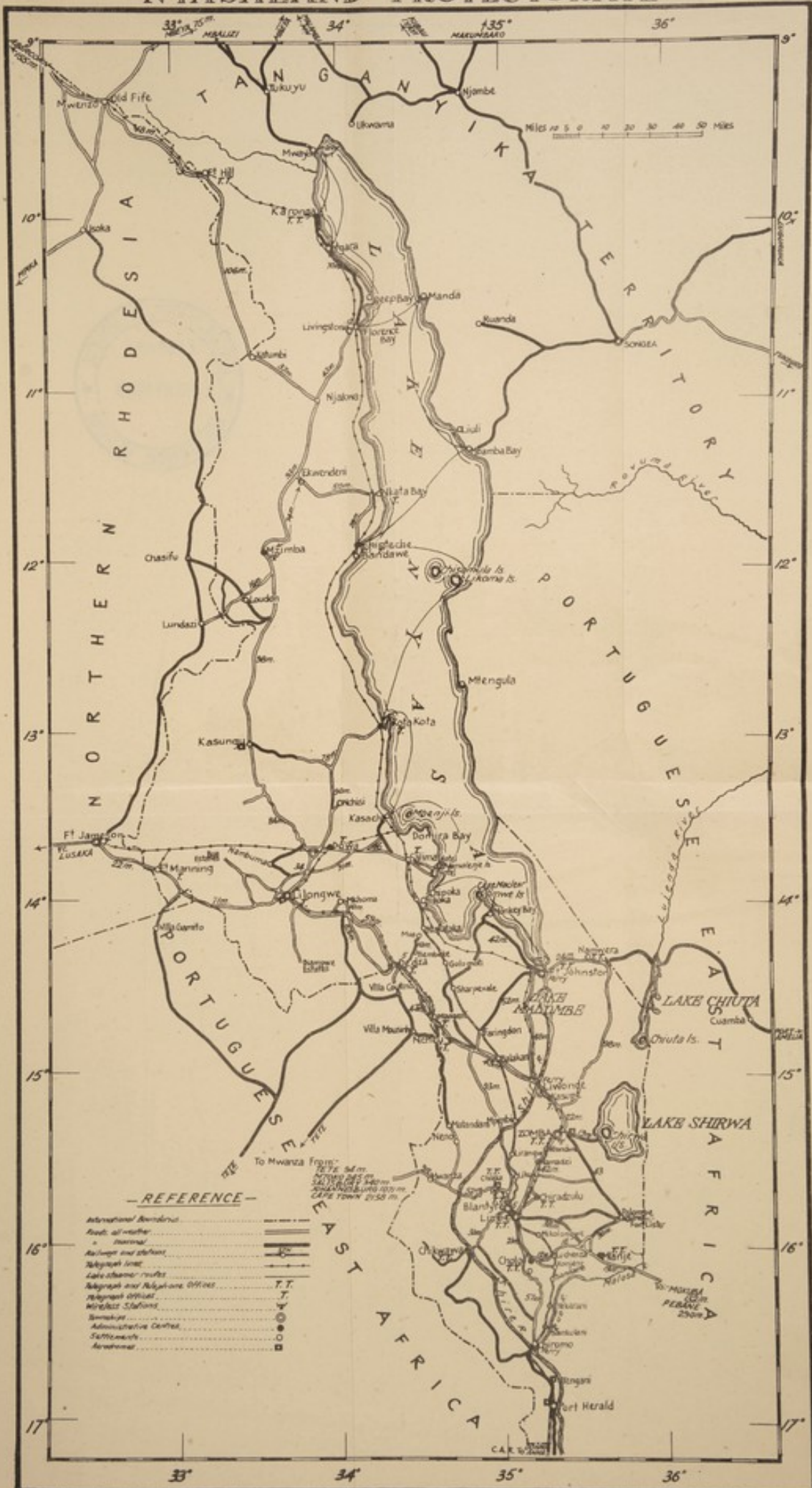
FICTION

- The White Leopard.* Inglis Fletcher.
The Circle of the Stars. Joan Sutherland.
One Way Home. Howard Buxton.
Three melodramas, geographically established in Nyasaland.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

- (to be obtained from the Government Printer, Zomba, or the Crown Agents
for the Colonies)
- Annual Reports of the various Departments.
Census Reports, 1911, 1921, 1931, and 1945.
Report on Tea Cultivation and its Development in Nyasaland (Mann), 1933.
Land Bank Report, 1936.
Memorandum on Native Policy, 1939.
Direct Taxation of Natives (Smith), 1937.
Tobacco Commission Report, 1939.
Report on Housing for African Employees, 1943.
Tsetse Investigation of Domira Bay Area (Potts).
Report of the Committee on the Development of the Lake Shore.
*Report on the Measures to be taken to Permanently Stabilise the Water Level
of Lake Nyasa* (Kanthack).
*Report on the Status and Control of Insect Pests of Cotton in the Lower River
District* (Pearson and Mitchell).
Report of the Post-War Development Committee.
The Nyasaland Government Gazette, issued twice monthly. 10s. per annum.

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