

The work of these Committees is of great value, and the Imperial Institute wishes to place on record its appreciation of the great help rendered by the individual members of the various Committees.

The assistance afforded by the Corresponding Members in the various parts of the Empire has helped considerably towards the prompt collection of information as to the mining and metallurgical industries of the Empire. The Imperial Institute wishes to place on record its indebtedness to the Corresponding Members.

Intelligence.

During the year 430 enquiries have been received and dealt with. Many of the enquiries relate to efforts to find markets for minerals and mineral products of Empire origin. Others are directed towards the finding of suitable raw materials of Empire origin required in the manufacturing industries. Still others ask for general or statistical information bearing on the mineral industries in different parts of the Empire. In addition, enquiries are received relating to the laws in force in the various parts of the British Empire.

The answering of enquiries dealing with the above-mentioned subjects requires, in many cases, as complete details relating to foreign countries as to the Empire, and for this purpose the careful indexing of all technical and other publications dealing with the various aspects of the mining and metallurgical industries throughout the world has been vigorously pursued as heretofore and has been found of very great value.

The following is a brief description of the nature of the more important enquires dealt with:—

Sources of Bromine within the British Empire. Owing to the shortage of bromine within the Empire, at the request of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the matter was looked into, and all parts of the British Empire were communicated with, with a view to obtaining information in connection with the possibility of its recovery. Details of the various possible sources were obtained, and owing to the interesting information received, the matter is being laid before the appropriate Advisory Technical Committee (Chemical Industries) for their further consideration, and in order to draft the memorandum to the enquirer on this subject.