

The fees received on account of investigations carried out for companies and private individuals during the year amounted to £43 11s. 6d. This total does not include the grant payable by the Cement Marketing Company, Ltd., which will amount to about £370 plus travelling expenses.

At the request of the High Commissioner for New Zealand, the Institute has agreed to undertake the sampling and analysis of all shipments of basic slag sent from the United Kingdom to the Dominions. This will involve tests on about 16,000 tons of material per annum, the shipments being distributed over a period of about four months.

Mineral pigments. During the year, samples of crude red and yellow ochre and umbers received from the Union of South Africa were submitted to technical trials. These indicated that, in most cases, the pigments obtainable by suitable grinding and levigation would not be sufficiently high-grade to render them suitable for export, but some could doubtless be used locally. One sample, however, was of good quality, and worth, in its crude condition, about £7 per ton in the United Kingdom.

Promising samples of ilmenite sand (the source from which titanium white is obtained) have been examined from British Guiana and Jamaica, and further enquiries are being made regarding the extent of the deposits in the latter locality.

Iron ores. Extensive deposits of hæmatite ore were recently found in Sierra Leone by Officers of the Gold Coast Geological Survey and a number of samples of the ore have been submitted to chemical analysis at the Imperial Institute. The results so obtained showed that all the samples contained high percentages of iron, together with small amounts of phosphorus and sulphur. It is probable that the average ore obtainable will be suitable for making high-grade pig-iron which could be used for steel-making by the acid-Bessemer or open-hearth processes.

Co-operation.

Since the re-organisation of the Imperial Institute, several new and important schemes for the more complete co-operation between the Institute and the Departments and Institutions doing analogous work have been established.

In addition to the close co-operation of the several parts of the Empire through the medium of the Corresponding Members there has been arranged a closer connection with the research bodies, viz., the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the analogous bodies throughout the Empire.