Building materials from Kenya. The question of the occurrence in Kenya of minerals which could be used for building purposes has received some attention during the year. In the past. a number of limestones, brick and tile clays, etc., have been examined at the Imperial Institute and a résumé of this work was supplied to contractors in the United Kingdom interested in the matter, for whom also tests were carried out on some Kenya building stones.

Early in 1926, the Government Geologist to Uganda made a brief survey of the building materials available in certain parts of Kenya and a series of 26 limestones, clays, etc., were sent to the Imperial Institute for complete chemical analysis and report. The results obtained showed that at a number of points along the railway there occur limestones and clays which could be used together for the manufacture of good quality Portland cement which would conform to the requirements of the British Standard Specification. Certain of the limestones could also be burnt for building and plasterers' lime.

Soils from Samoa. An extensive examination was made for the Dominion of New Zealand on 49 samples of soil from Samoa in connection with the alleged inferiority of certain coconut areas stated to be worked out. Complete chemical and mechanical analyses showed that in the majority of cases the soils from worked areas were as rich in plant food constituents as were those from virgin ground in the same locality.

Coal from New Zealand. Other work for the Dominion of New Zealand included the examination of products obtained during the experimental carbonisation in Germany of a consignment of New Zealand coal.

Coal, clays and limestones from Nyasaland. A number of mineral samples received from the Government Geologist of Nyasaland were submitted for analysis and technical trials at the Imperial Institute. These included borings from coal deposits, calcareous clays and limestones, the latter being found suitable for making Portland cement. Detailed statements, accompanied by estimates of cost where necessary, have also been supplied to the Government Geologist regarding the plant necessary for making (1) natural cement; (2) bricks, tiles and drain-pipes.

Soils from Nyasaland. Other work carried out for the Nyasaland Protectorate included the examination of 12 soils