

Accidents in Coal Mining in the United Kingdom, Germany and the United States. Details supplied to the enquirer as to the fatal accidents in these countries during the years 1920-1924.

Chrome ore. The authorities of the Union of South Africa requested a list of names of firms in the United Kingdom dealing in chrome ore. Lists were submitted giving:—

- (a) The selling agents and merchants.
- (b) Brokers.
- (c) Chemical manufacturers.
- (d) Alloy manufacturers.

Petroleum. The Director of the Geological Survey of India requested details as to the methods in force concerning the auctioning of concessions to work Government-owned deposits of minerals, with particular application to petroleum. Details were prepared by the Legal Section in connection with this subject and submitted to the enquirer.

Slate waste. An enquiry was received as to the possibility of the utilisation of the large quantities of slate waste that are made during the operations of mining slate in the slate areas. The matter was laid before the appropriate Advisory Technical Committee (Refractories, Glass-Making, and Building Materials Committee) and enquiries were made from all sources, including Government Departments and others who had experimented upon this material, as to the possibility of its utilisation. It was found after exhaustive enquiries, that owing to its heavy nature it is probable that, other than for local purposes, it cannot be used commercially. Further investigations are being proceeded with, with a view to encouraging research on this matter.

Mineral deposits and geology of Corsica and Sardinia with special reference to manganese, chrome and nickel. A statement was drawn up giving a list of the various works which are published dealing with this subject.

Low-temperature carbonisation of Nigerian lignites. At the request of the Director of the Geological Survey of Nigeria, a statement was drawn up giving a review of the various processes in operation and of possible value in connection with this subject. A suggestion was made as to which of these processes it was thought would be suitable for the treatment of Nigerian lignite.