

The table printed below shows the number of samples examined during the year by the Dominion Laboratory and its branches :—

Contributor or Department.	Dominion Laboratory, Wellington.	Auckland Branch.	Christchurch Branch.	Dunedin Branch.
Agriculture	20	23	368	3
Air	329	39	..	..
Army	13	12	7	..
Broadcasting	2	..	..	..
Customs	242	2	1	18
Education	4	..	..	..
Food Controller	..	..	..	12
Forestry	8	8	..	..
Government Printer	13	..	..	..
Health	4,211	5,602	6,747	1,985
Housing	160	28	5	..
Hydro-electric	94	..	..	..
Industries and Commerce	28	..	1	..
Internal Affairs	2	..	..	..
Internal Marketing	13	103	154	9
Labour	..	..	..	6
Lands and Survey	..	3	..	..
Local bodies	155	1	213	235
Main Highways Board	55	..	..	..
Marine	..	1	9	..
Mines	101	5	1	5
Native	24	..	..	..
Navy	9	12	..	..
Plunket Society	264	65	48	7
Police	42	245	124	15
Post and Telegraph	39	29	4	2
Prisons	104	..	..	..
Public Works	231	15	31	17
Railways	26	3	40	131
Scientific and Industrial Research—				
Dominion Laboratory	20	..	..	3
Coal Survey	535	..	..	..
Dominion Physical Laboratory	41	..	..	..
Geological Survey	183	..	..	6
Plant Research Bureau	14	..	..	..
Botany Division	11	..	..	..
Plant Diseases Division	97	610	..	..
Soil Bureau	6	..	..	..
Unclassified	15	12	1	56
Standards Institute	8	..	..	..
State Advances Corporation	57	93	8	..
Miscellaneous	636	123	111	71
Total	7,615	7,034	7,873	2,581

The activities of the Laboratory are briefly summarized below.

ROCKS, MINERALS, AND CLAYS

Rocks for analysis included samples of limestone, marl, phosphate rock, chalk, arkose, diatomite, and serpentine for use in the manufacture of serpentine-superphosphate.

Minerals, for which in most cases highly accurate complete analyses were made for the Geological Survey, included monazite, garnet, titanite (sphene), thorite, clinochlore magno-morenosite (a new mineral), biotite, phlogopite, feldspar, norite, and hornblende sphene. Owing to the small amounts available of such minerals it is frequently necessary to use micro-methods, and for this purpose a micro-balance is being obtained.

Quantities of radio-active elements present in beach concentrates were determined, and much time was devoted to the development of more accurate methods for the determination of uranium and thorium.