fare of the school. I have much pleasure in acknowledging the services of Mr. P. G. Morgan, M.A., the Assistant Lecturer, and also the valuable work done in the plant by Mr. Richard Vercoe, who has proved himself most reliable and painstaking in the discharge of his duties.

The following is a table of the attendances at th e several classes:—

TABLE of ATTENDANCES for Year ending 31st March, 1897.

Name of Subject.	1896. First Term.	1896. Second Term.	1896. Third Term.	1897. First Term.
Registered Students.				
General and mining geology	9	10	9	15
Mineralogy and blowpipe	10	14	11	15
Land- and mine-surveying	26	39	36	53
Mathematics	13	12	27	17
Mining and applied mechanics	25	35	41	50
Metallurgy of gold and silver	...	...	32	...
Practical chemistry	30	42	40	42
Theoretical chemistry	30	38	38	40
Practical assaying	42	63	64	62
Mechanical drawing	9	10	11	22
Total	194	263	309	316
Saturday science class	23	33	45	29
Total attendance at classes	217	296	354	345
Individual registered students	64	97	114	117
Total individual students	87	130	159	146

The annual examinations were held in December, 1896, the papers being set, as formerly, by examiners in Wellington appointed by the Government, viz.: Mr. H. A. Gordon, F.G.S.; Mr. William Skey, Government Analyst; Mr. Alexander McKay, F.G.S.; and Mr. C. H. Pierard.

Keeping pace with the increase in the attendances at the school, the number of candidates who presented themselves was more than double that of the preceding year. The results of the examination are shown in the following table.

The President's medal for the best aggregate was awarded to Mr. K. M. Barrance, who also won the gold medal for surveying, presented by Mr. Rhodes, of the Kauri Estates Company. Mr. Barrance and Mr. Fleming sat for the School of Mines scholarship examination, but no award was made.

RESULTS OF ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS, 1896.

Subject of Examination.	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.	Failed.	Total.
General and mining geology	3	...	3	...	6
Pumping and winding	1	2	2	...	5
Ventilation and explosives	...	4	...	...	4
Mining and applied mechanics	2	2	3	...	7
Theoretical chemistry (senior)	5	2	...	...	7
Theoretical chemistry (junior)	2	1	...	...	3
Practical chemistry (senior)	4	...	...	...	4
Practical chemistry (junior)	...	2	...	...	2
Practical assaying (senior, dry)	12	7	4	2	25
Practical assaying (junior, dry)	3	2	4	...	9
Practical assaying (senior, wet)	9	6	2	1	18
Practical assaying (junior, wet)	3	1	1	...	5
Surveying (land and mine)	...	1	7	...	8
Map-drawing	1	...	4	...	5
Mineralogy	...	3	1	...	4
Metallurgy	1	3	2	...	6
	46	36	33	3	118
Saturday science	2	...	...	...	2
Totals	48	36	33	3	120

The following tables show the separate parcels of ore treated during the past year in the experimental plant and the returns therefrom. The total bullion recovered from the several parcels amounts to about £340:—