Mabie, referring to German scientists, quote some one as having said: In no nation have the scientific men dived deeper in the sea of knowledge, nor staid down longer, nor come up muddier. By all means let us dive deep, and explore widely; but for the sake of ourselves, as well as of our science, let us see to it that our advanced and graduate courses do not produce men who come up muddy. C. STUART GAGER

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

MINING IN ALASKA IN 1917

THE annual report on the mineral resources and mineral production of Alaska in 1917 is now in preparation under the direction of G. C. Martin, of the Geological Survey, Department of the Interior. Some of the important features of this report relating to mining development during the year are abstracted in the following statement. Complete statistics of the mineral production of Alaska can not be collected within less than three or four months after the close of the year, but meanwhile it is desirable to publish the preliminary estimates here given, which are believed to vary not over 5 per cent. from the actual figures.

The value of the mineral production of Alaska in 1917 is estimated at $41,760,000, exceeding that of any previous year except 1916, which was $48,632,000. The decrease in 1917 was therefore about $6,870,000. During 33 years of mining Alaska has produced over $391,000,000 worth of gold, silver, copper, and other minerals.

Alaska mines are believed to have produced gold to the value of about $15,450,000 in 1917, compared with $17,240,000 in 1916. The total value of the gold mined in the Territory is now about $293,500,000, of which $207,000,000 has been won from placers. In 1917 about 88,200,000 pounds of copper was produced in Alaska, valued at about $24,000,000. The production in 1916 was 119,600,000 pounds, valued at $29,480,000. The total copper produced to date is 427,700,000 pounds, valued at $88,400,000.

The value of Alaska's lesser mineral products in 1917 was about as follows: Silver, $1,050,000; coal, $300,000; tin, $160,000; lead, $160,000; antimony, $40,000; tungsten, chromium, petroleum, marble, gypsum, graphite, platinum, etc. $600,000. The year 1917 marks the first production of chromium in Alaska, and about 81 ounces of platinum was saved in placer gold mining at several widely separated localities.

The data in hand indicate that the value of the placer gold output in 1917 was $9,850,000; in 1916 it was $11,140,000. The decrease was due chiefly to restriction of operations because of the high cost of supplies and the scarcity of labor. The placer output was increased only in the Tolovana, Marshall, and Ruby districts and at the new Tolstoi camp.

About 33 gold-lode mines were operated in 1917, compared with 29 in 1916. The value of this lode-gold mined decreased from $5,912,000 in 1916 to about $5,250,000 in 1917. The decrease was due chiefly to the disaster at the Treadwell mine. Southeastern Alaska, especially in the Juneau district, is still the only center of large quartz-mining development in the territory. Next in importance is the Willow Creek lode district. Gold-lode mining on Prince William Sound, Kenai Peninsula, and in the Fairbanks district is at a standstill.

The copper production of Alaska in 1917 was about 88,200,000 pounds, valued at about $24,000,000. This is less than the production in 1916, which was 119,600,000 pounds, valued at $29,484,000, but is greater than the production of any other year. The reduction in output was due largely to labor troubles at the Kennecott-Bonanza mine. During the year 17 copper mines were operated, compared with 18 in 1916–18 in the Ketchikan district, 6 in the Prince William Sound district, and 3 in the Chitina district. The enormous output of the Kennecott-Bonanza mine, in the Chitina district in 1917 as in previous years, overshadowed that from all others.

MILITARY MEDICAL RESEARCH IN FRANCE UNDER THE RED CROSS WAR COUNCIL

THE American Red Cross reports that the War Council has appropriated $100,000 for