the quantity produced in each state exceeding 100,000 cubic feet.

The value of the marble produced for monumental use in 1917, including rough and dressed stone, increased $318,307 (15 per cent.) over that in 1916. The quantity, however, decreased 255,230 cubic feet (27 per cent.). The average price per cubic foot was $3.50 in 1917, which was $1.29 more than in 1916. There was a large increase in the quantity of dressed monumental stone sold in 1917—107,403 cubic feet (54 per cent.), but a decrease of 362,926 cubic feet (49 per cent.) in the quantity of rough stone. Vermont produced more than 55 per cent. (377,418 cubic feet), and Georgia more than 25 per cent. of the country's output of monumental marble. Missouri, New York and Tennessee rank next in this product.

Marble for ornamental and "other uses" declined in quantity but increased in value in 1917, as it did in 1916. Marble for "other uses" includes rough stone sold to lime burners, to carbonic acid factories, to pulp mills and to blast furnaces; crushed stone for road metal and terrazzo; small cubes for mosaics; and finished stone for electrical apparatus and ornamental purposes. The stone sold for flux to blast furnaces amounted to 21,194 long tons, valued at $24,899, and for terrazzo to 17,551 short tons, valued at $51,218. In 1916 the stone sold for terrazzo was 24,340 short tons, valued at $83,466.

THE BRITISH NATIONAL UNION FOR SCIENTIFIC WORKERS[1]

The first general meeting of the National Union of Scientific Workers was held on October 27, and was attended by representatives of eleven branches with more than five hundred members. The constitution of the union was determined, subject to slight alterations in redrafting the rules. It was agreed upon by the meeting that the objects of the union should include:—(1) To advance the interests of science—pure and applied—as an essential element in the national life; (2) to regulate the conditions of employment of persons with adequate scientific training and knowledge and (3) to secure in the interests of national efficiency that all scientific and technical departments in the public service, and all industrial posts involving scientific knowledge, shall be under the direct control of persons having adequate scientific training and knowledge. Special objects deal with obtaining adequate endowment for research and advising, as to the administration of such endowment, setting up an employment bureau and a register of trained scientific workers, and obtaining representation on the Whitley industrial councils. An applicant is qualified for membership if he or she has passed the examination leading to a university degree in science, technology, or mathematics, and is engaged at the time of application on work of a required standard, though certain other qualifications are regarded as equivalent to university degrees and admitted in lieu thereof. A resolution was carried unanimously that a special advisory committee should be appointed to deal with questions arising in connection with the promotion of research. At the close of the meeting the officers for the ensuing year were appointed as follows: *President:* Dr. O. L. Brady (Woolwich). *Secretary:* Mr. H. M. Langton (miscellaneous). *Treasurer:* Mr. T. Smith (National Physical Laboratory). *Executive:* Mr. G. S. Baker, Dr. N. R. Campbell, Dr. C. C. Paterson (N.P.L.), Mr. R. Lobb, Mr. J. W. Whitaker (Woolwich), Dr. H. Jeffreys, Dr. F. Kidd (Cambridge), Dr. C. West (Imperial College), and Dr. A. A. Griffith (Royal Aircraft Establishment). The address of the secretary is Universal Oil Co., Kynochtown, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex.

[1] From *Nature*.

THE DE LAMAR BEQUESTS FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

The will of Captain Joseph Raphael De Lamar, mine owner and director in many large enterprises, leaves nearly half of his estate, estimated at $20,000,000, to the Harvard University Medical School, Johns Hopkins University and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University for medical reseach into the cause of disease and into the principles of correct living. The

bequests to these institutions in equal shares consist of his residuary estate, estimated at about $10,000,000. He gave a trust fund of $10,000,000 to his only child, Alice Antoinette De Lamar, with the provision that if she dies without issue the principal of this fund also goes to the institutions named. The clause setting aside the residuary estate requests that the fund be used as follows:

> For the study and teaching of the origin of human disease and the prevention thereof; for the study and teaching of dietetics and of the effect of different food and diets on the human system, and how to conserve health by proper food and diet and in connection with the foregoing purposes to establish and maintain fellowships, instructorships, scholarships and professorships; to construct, maintain and equip laboratories, clinics, dispensaries and other places for such study and research and to provide proper housing of same; to publish and disseminate the results of such study and research, not only in scientific journals and for physicians and scientists, but also, and this I especially enjoin on the legatees, by popular publications, public lectures and other appropriate methods to give to the people of the United States generally the knowledge concerning the prevention of sickness and disease, and also concerning the conservation of health by proper food and diet.

The will suggests that the legatees use any means they deem expedient for the purposes named, and requests that the fund be kept intact.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Royal Society has awarded its Darwin medal to Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, president of the American Museum of Natural History, in recognition of his research work in vertebrate morphology and paleontology. The Copley medal goes to Professor H. A. Lorentz, late professor of physics in the University of Leyden, For. Mem. R.S., for his researches in mathematical physics; the Davy medal to Professor F. S. Kipping, F.R.S., professor of chemistry, University College, Nottingham, for his studies in the camphor group and among organic derivatives of nitrogen and silicon; a Royal medal to Professor F. G. Hopkins, F.R.S., professor of bio-chemistry in the University of Cambridge, for his researches in chemical physiology.

SIR J. J. THOMSON was reelected president of the Royal Society at the anniversary meeting on November 30. The other officers are: *Treasurer:* Sir Alfred Kempe. *Secretaries:* Professor Arthur Schuster and Mr. W. B. Hardy. *Foreign Secretary:* Professor W. A. Herdman. *Other Members of the Council:* Sir George B. Beilby, Profesor V. H. Blackman, Mr. C. V. Boys, Sir James J. Dobbie, Sir Frank W. Dyson, Dr. M. O. Forster, Professor F. W. Gamble, Dr. J. W. L. Glaisher, Sir Richard Glazebrook, Sir Alfred D. Hall, Sir William Leishman, Professor W. J. Pope, Dr. W. H. R. Rivers, Professor E. H. Starling, Mr. J. Swinburne and Professor W. W. Watts.

THE Swedish Academy has awarded the Nobel prize for physics for the year 1917, to Professor C. G. Barkla, professor of natural philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, for his work on X-rays and secondary rays. The prize in physics for 1918 and that in chemistry for 1917 and 1918 have been reserved.

DR. PIERRE ROUX, director of the Pasteur Institute of Paris for many years, will retire from that post. He will be succeeded by Dr. A. C. Calmette, director of the Pasteur Institute of Lille.

THE Salters' Company has appointed Dr. M. O. Forster, F.R.S., to be the first director of the newly established Salters' Institute of Industrial Chemistry.

DR. GEORGE DAVID STEWART has been elected president of the New York Academy of Medicine.

MR. F. K. BEZZENBERGER, of Harvard University, has been commissioned captain, and is stationed at Cleveland as gas chemist in the Chemical Warfare Service.

DR. ROBERT P. FISCHELIS, director of the control department of the H. K. Mulford Co., has entered the Chemical Warfare Service and has been stationed at the control lab-