

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES IN CANADA, 1917-1918

As the war continues to absorb more and more of the national energies, historical activities in Canada, as elsewhere, undergo a corresponding contraction. This decline in all the normal fields of historical work is more noticeable during the year from July, 1917, to July, 1918, covered by the present survey, than in any previous similar period. The abnormal historical activities resulting from the war itself are, on the other hand, beginning to assume very considerable proportions.

THE WAR

The Canadian war record office, established in London under the direction of Colonel Lord Beaverbrook, to which reference was made in last year's survey, is performing services of great importance both to the contemporary and to the future historian. It prepares, collects, and preserves records of value for the narrative history of the Canadian forces serving in the field. These records include clippings from all the more important British newspapers referring to the doings of the Canadian troops; books and pamphlets bearing on Canada's part in the war or relating in any way to the Canadian forces; the official gazettes of Canada, the United Kingdom, and France; publications—such as trench papers—of Canadian regiments and other military organizations; official communiqués and the despatches of the accredited press correspondents regarding the Canadians and their services at the front; replicas of the badges of all Canadian units, and of the regimental colors; reports on the history of the formation and organization of each unit of the Canadian expeditionary force, prepared in each case by the officer in charge; records of such units which, having historical value, but no longer being required in routine service, are deposited in the office; general and routine orders of all departments and units of the Canadian expeditionary force; lists of honors and awards granted to Canadians, with statements of the services for which

