

## INTRODUCTION

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**T**HE writer submits this book to the public in the hope that it will have the merit:

(1) Of meeting the demand for a simple and compact history of The Great War that brings out the "high spots" and that gives a clear explanation of the various political and military moves of the rival combinations and the crises resulting therefrom;

(2) Of indicating how the news of the fluctuating fortunes of war, sometimes wholly good, sometimes wholly bad, and sometimes mixed, came tumbling in on the consciousness of the fascinated public, and

(3) Of revealing as well as possible the emotions and thoughts of mankind while passing through the greatest of world tragedies.

He feels that if he has succeeded in his endeavor, this modest little volume will fill a niche otherwise vacant in the literature concerning The Great War.

The writer is indebted to The Toronto Daily Star for permission to use the extracts which make up this volume. They form but a small part of the column "The War Reviewed" which the writer prepared as a daily feature of that paper from the day hostilities opened. No changes have been made in the text apart from those essential in condensation. By selecting the most pertinent portions of that current history of the war, a good "bird's eye view" of the struggle is obtained.

The admirable cover design is the work of James Frise.

W. R. PLEWMAN.

Toronto, Dec. 7, 1918.