

EDITOR'S PREFACE TO THE PRELIMINARY STUDIES OF THE WAR

THE following brief study of the early effects of the war upon Canadian industry, trade and finance, was prepared by the author, Dr. Adam Shortt, formerly of the Civil Service Commission of Canada, now Chairman of the Board of Historical Publications, to indicate in a general way the character of the extended study of the same subject which he is preparing for publication later. The chapter contains so much of interest and value to the people of our own country at the present juncture that it seemed proper to the Director of the Division of Economics and History and to the editor to publish it. It is the first of a series of preliminary studies on the effects of the war. It is the intention of the Endowment to prepare and issue in due time a comprehensive documentary and critical history of the war. Such a history, however, is a work of years and could not be prepared in time to be of immediate service to our people in their conduct of the war. Inasmuch as the experiences of the Allied countries already at war have valuable lessons for us, especially within the first year of our participation, it has been decided to issue a series of preliminary war studies, setting forth their experiences.

The effects of the war on the trade, the external policies of nations, and also upon their internal economic organization, will be far reaching. The cost of the war will be so great that expenditures upon measures promotive of welfare are likely to be long postponed. The programs of social betterment, legislation looking to the improvement of conditions of labor, the suppression of poverty, improvements in the conditions of employment of women and children, better health conditions, better