

"I wish to thank you for the Canadian history which you sent me this summer. Do you know whether we could get from twelve to twenty-five copies for our High School library and how much they would cost? We have practically nothing on Canada in our school library, and I prefer to get a book that is written and prepared in Canada, so as to be sure to get the real Canadian point of view. We have decided that our United States history is too narrow. We want to make it *American*. Any assistance you can give me will be most gratefully received."

### **School Library Number.**

The amount of space devoted in this issue to lists of books, book reviews, and book notices, requires, possibly, some explanation. Books are, in a sense, the tools of the teaching profession. This does not mean that lessons are, or should be, conducted by the old text-book method. But it is from books that the teacher obtains the information which gives "content" to his work; from books he obtains an insight into the educational thought of the day; from books he renews his own fund of knowledge. With an educational magazine, or two, and as many books as he can reasonably afford, the competent teacher equips himself for better work.

Then, too, the school library requires continuous replenishing. Some aver that this department of school work rarely receives its proper share of the teacher's attention. The library can be made a useful supplement, a valuable reinforcement, to the teacher's work. Of course, the choice of book rests largely with the teacher.

For these reasons this issue contains a list of educational books reviewed during 1917, with a very brief description of each. A good many reviews appear under "Hints for the Library". In these reviews the literary editors of *THE SCHOOL* give a description of the book and an unbiassed opinion as to its merits. It is hoped that all this material will be of value to teachers, not only this year but for several years.

This special feature of the December number has made it necessary to "hold over" several articles that were scheduled for publication this month. These will appear in the issue for January.

### **Educational Expenditures.**

In all lands are heard persistent clamourings for reforms in education. In most of the Provinces of Canada the greater reforms will certainly have to await the end of the war. But an insidious danger lies just ahead of us. With the cost of living ever increasing, certain obscurantists are demanding economies in education. "Education can wait; let us win the war", is their cry. It is so easy to reduce expenditures for new buildings, for medical and dental treatment of pupils, even for teaching