

The death of Dr. William Saunders, formerly Chief of Staff of the great experimental farm maintained by the Dominion Government near Ottawa, will cause deep regret throughout a wide circle of personal and scientific friends. For more than a quarter of a century until he was invalided two years ago, he was the controlling mind of an establishment which he did his best to develop as a great humanitarian institution. — *Halifax Chronicle*.

At the suggestion of Mr. T. B. Kidner, the school children of the Calgary public schools will knit, in their regular hours for needlework, caps and socks for our soldiers at the front.

The Annual Convention of the teachers of P. E. I., opened in Charlottetown on September 23, with an unusually large attendance.

OCTOBER MAGAZINES.

Since the war began, the selections in "World Wide" have been chosen with more than ordinary judgment. The issue of September 26 has extracts from articles in the London "Spectator," "Westminster Gazette," "Nation," and "Daily Telegraph," from the Manchester "Guardian," and from the New York "Times" and "Outlook." Most of these relate to the war more or less directly. Colonel Roosevelt's warning to the United States, called "Lessons of the War," and the report of Lord Rosebery's speech at Broxburn are of special interest. Canadians who have not access to many magazines and papers of the highest class will find the cream of them in "World Wide," and we are glad to draw the attention of our readers to the special offer of the publishers given in another column.

The fact that Canada is actually in a state of war is vividly impressed by Newton MacTavish in an article entitled "War Time in Canada," which appears in the October issue of *The Canadian Magazine*. Mr. MacTavish reviews what has taken place in Canada as a result of the war, bringing together into compact, comprehensible form all the various activities of the Government; in brief, he visualizes the operation of the Canadian governmental machinery which the war has set in motion. From the time of the summoning of the Governor-General and the Prime Minister to Ottawa to the call for further volunteers to go to the front a vast amount of preparation and precaution is here outlined.

Major John Gigelow contributes to the October *Century* a clear and timely analysis of "The Call to Arms in Europe" and Olive Schreiner furnishes several pages on "War." These head the list for timeliness and general interest.

Other articles include an intimate and delightful one by John D. Williams on that elusive quality of charm that makes the character of the great novelist and playwright, James Matthew Barrie; the second of Hilaire Belloc's illuminating studies of the French Revolution, "The Flight to Varennes;" Arnold Bennett's continued "From the Log of the Velsa," now speaking of French and Flemish waters.

Short stories are contributed by Mary Heaton Vorse,

Lawrence Perry, George Bronson-Howard, L. Frank Tooker, William Holloway and Dana Gatlin. Arthur Christopher Benson, the famous essayist, furnishes an essay on "Charm," and Arthur Rackman has painted the beautiful frontispiece.

We have just received a copy of the valuable little pamphlet "Why Britain is at War," in which the causes and the issues of the great war are set out in brief form and simple language from the diplomatic correspondence and speeches of His Majesty's Ministers. The Victoria League prepared this pamphlet for circulation in the United Kingdom and in the Dominion, as part of their campaign for distributing information about the war. It is now offered for sale to the general public and should be widely distributed. [The Macmillan Company of Canada, 70 Bond Street, Toronto. Post paid 10 cents.]

The September number of "The Round Table" is a special war number, reviewing the origins of the war and the great issues raised by it. The causes assigned are two, Austro-Hungarian politics and the aims of modern Germany. A good map shows the distribution of races in central and eastern Europe. It indicates in a general way the fact that Austria and Hungary are more divided by race differences than any other country; and one is not surprised to learn that it is no simple matter to keep peace between these races. In Austria, the Germans, who comprise about one-third of the inhabitants, and in Hungary, the Magyars, who are about half the population, have the political ascendancy over the other races; and especially in Hungary this power is used to tyrannize over the subject peoples. The first article in the magazine deals with the struggles of the last twenty years against the predominance of the German and Magyar races, and the plans for a new constitution for the Empire, in which all races should be represented. This plan of reconciliation, it appears, was favored by the Archduke Francis Ferdinand, whose murder was the immediate cause of the present war. But the rise of Serbia to a leading position as a result of the late Balkan wars had led the Serbs, who with the addition of their kindred the Croats are twice as numerous in Austria-Hungary as they are in independent Serbia, to look for political union and a revival of the ancient glories of their race; which would mean a breaking up of the dual monarchy. The Austrian rulers, therefore, as a matter of self preservation, felt it necessary to seize the first opportunity of crushing Serbia. As to the second cause, the aims of Germany, the writer argues convincingly that modern Germany has inherited from Prussia a belief that her way in the world is to be won by the sword. Hence he suggests that the real issue which is being determined in this war is whether the ideas of Britain or the ideas of Prussia are to extend their dominion over the world. The aim of modern Germany is shown to consist in dominion over everything and everybody not German. The aim of the British Empire is shown to be the combination union with liberty of other races and other communities to develop within it. There is also a careful summary of the diplomatic correspondence immediately preceding the war, and a reprint of Sir Edward Grey's speech in the House of Commons on the day before war was declared. [Published by the Macmillan Co.; price, 60 cents.]