

## PREFACE

THE Minister of Education, desiring that due recognition should be made of the service rendered by the teachers of Ontario in connection with the Great War, gave instructions that a permanent record should be compiled of all the male teachers of the Province who saw actual service in any military or naval capacity. The preparation of this record is in harmony with the policy pursued since the outbreak of the War. While it is not the purpose to record here any other than the military service rendered by the male teachers, it will not be amiss briefly to outline the various steps taken by official authority.

From the very outset of the War it was recognized that upon the teachers rested the responsibility of instructing the pupils in the issues and events of the conflict. In order to aid in the performance of this duty, the Department, as early as November, 1914, drew the attention of the teachers to the issues involved and directed them to take up the study of the War as part of the courses in History. Similar instructions were given each year of the War and suitable aids to the study of the subject were provided. To give further emphasis to the importance of such teaching, the study of the History of the War was made an integral part of all the courses in History prescribed for the examinations.

The call for volunteers was responded to so promptly and in such numbers by the older pupils in the Secondary and Professional Training Schools, that provision was made for granting certificates to those who enlisted before finishing their courses; the numbers thus granted academic certificates on incomplete courses due to enlistment during the several years of the War were as follows:—

|      |      |      |
|------|------|------|
| 1916 | 1917 | 1918 |
| 390  | 154  | 82   |

In addition to these, many pupils enlisted after writing their examinations and many more did so regardless of their school or examination standing. The local schools should have records of these.