

The work of abstracting and transcribing these War Diaries and other reports, letters, etc., bearing upon the Medical History of the War demands the time of one typist. So difficult are many of the documents to decipher that the last two typists have had to give up the work on account of eyestrain.

Other work in connection with the Medical History of the War should here be referred to. Both for the History and for eventual deposit with the Dominion Archivist at Ottawa, it was regarded as most necessary that plans and illustrations of the hospitals, other buildings and structures developed or taken over by the C.A.M.C., both overseas and in England, for medical purposes, should be obtained. On the recommendation of the Medical Historical Recorder, after full consultation with Major-General Carson, the services were obtained of Mr. R. G. Mathews, the well-known Canadian black and white artist, who in December, 1915, was given a commission as Lieutenant and Quartermaster in the C.A.M.C.: he has since been promoted Hon. Captain. Captain Mathews has made an extensive series of bird's-eye plans and drawings of Canadian hospitals in England, and of many of the base hospitals (Canadian) in France. This work is not yet complete. He is now engaged upon the work at Cliveden. The Ontario Hospital at Orpington and the Special Hospital at Buxton have not yet been visited by him, while overseas the casualty clearing stations and field ambulances will need a further visit upon his part to France. For photographs of interiors, etc., Lieut. Gwyer has been temporarily attached to the Office of the D.M.S. Lastly, at the recommendation of Matron Macdonald, Nursing Sister Cameron Smith, who has considerable literary reputation, has been instructed to gather together material for a chapter upon the history of Canadian nursing activities in the war.

II.—COLLECTION OF MEDICAL STATISTICS.

The Canadian Forces while at Salisbury Plain came under the same treatment as did local British troops. cases sent to hospital did not appear upon the British Casualty lists. A monthly return was sent to the War Office by military hospitals giving the *numbers* of Canadians admitted for various conditions. The only nominal roll was contained in the Admission and Discharge Books of each hospital. Only when the 1st Division went overseas did the names of sick and wounded overseas appear upon the British Casualty Lists, and the daily Canadian Casualty list began as an abstract from the casualty lists furnished to the War Office. Under this state of affairs, if a Canadian soldier from "local" troops in England when on furlough was admitted to a hospital in Scotland or Ireland, or at a distance from Salisbury, he might be absolutely lost for months: there were no means of tracing him.

It became essential, therefore, for the D.M.S. to co-operate with the Officer in Charge of Records in the endeavour to obtain fuller and more accurate casualty lists for the use of the Historical Recorder. What