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CANADIAN MILITARY LAW OVERSEAS.

We are indebted to Hon. Mr. Justice Dennistoun of the Court of Appeal, Manitoba, for an article on the above subject which will be read with much interest. It is in fact a valuable historical record. Mr. Dennistoun has recently returned from service overseas where he was Deputy Judge Advocate General, in charge of the legal affairs of the Canadian Forces from February, 1917, to September, 1919. There is therefore no one who can give better information on this subject than himself.

During the last two years it was considered advisable to put forward in a very definite manner the independent status of our forces and officers, and to press for its recognition by the War Office and Army Council as having an important bearing upon the broader questions of the status of the Dominion in relation to the United Kingdom and the Empire.

Previous to this period little thought was given to such matters and they were allowed to drift; but, with the arrival in England of the Overseas Minister it became necessary to assert his powers as opposed to those of the British military authorities in many important matters. The Canadian Military Authorities were successful in the end in convincing the War Office and the Army Council that they had a very limited control over the Canadian Forces and in the event of Canadian soldiers taking part in future wars of the Empire there should be no uncertainty as to our position.

The learned Judge's article as sent to us for publication reads as follows:—

"When the first Canadian Contingent sailed from Canada in 1914, there was much uncertainty as to the status of the force and of the officers who accompanied it, and this uncertainty was