

FOREWORD

THE PUBLICATION of the official account of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in the Great War is a welcome occasion for a tribute not only to Colonel Nicholson, the author, but also to his predecessor in this field, Colonel A. Fortescue Duguid.

Colonel Duguid's plan to write an eight-volume history of the Canadian Forces in the Great War was never realized. The quality of that part which was published makes clear how great this loss was, to the veterans of the Expeditionary Force and to Canada at large.

In 1956 the government decided that there should be a completed account of Canada's Expeditionary Force and authorized a one-volume work. Colonel Nicholson, Deputy Director of the Historical Section at that time, was assigned the task and, assisted by a devoted team of researchers, completed it during his term as Director, 1959-1961. He and his staff found both the published and the unpublished work of the earlier Historical Section of great value to them in many ways.

As one who has had nothing to do with either Colonel Duguid's work or with Colonel Nicholson's I am happy to speak a word of tribute linking the military scholarship of two generations. I hope the earlier historians and their fellow veterans of the Great War will find in the present work a worthy memorial of Canada's first great expeditionary force.

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