

to the support of the new ministry? Never forget that the value of a leader in any government depends not only on his own qualities, but also upon the strength and character of the following he is able to command. I should also like to ask him what kind of "union" government it would be if no Liberals were included.

A union government is necessarily in the nature of a political bargain. Most bargains require at least two parties to make them. Dr. Manion's union government would probably require at least three. Does Dr. Manion wish to take Mr. Woodsworth into his government? Will Mr. Woodsworth come if he is called? I doubt very much if the leader of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation will be prepared to sacrifice his principles upon the altar of Conservative necessity. Would Mr. Woodsworth's C.C.F. supporters follow their leader into such an unaccustomed fold? Will Mr. Blackmore join him and take Social Credit with him? Will Mr. Herridge's New Democracy be born in time? Does Dr. Manion want him if it is? If elected, will Mr. Herridge join Dr. Manion if he does? Who knows what members the present groups will have in the next Parliament? We have had a long succession of third parties in Canada. Sooner or later, one after another, they have vanished. In the last election, Dr. Manion's present first lieutenant, Mr. Stevens, was the leader of such a party. He ended up as the Casabianca on the burning deck of the Reconstruction Party.

Dr. Manion says he may take a woman into his Cabinet. If their support for union government is to be gained by this means, the women of Canada will, I imagine, wish to have a more definite proposal than this. From now on, they will be anxiously watching the lists of his candidates to see whether he will make his choice from his own party, or from some

other party or group. Will his Minister of Youth appear in the list of his candidates on nomination day?

How Will Union Government Ministers Find Seats in Parliament?

There is another very practical consideration. It would be well for you, the electors, and for Dr. Manion himself not to lose sight of it. If the ministers of the new union government are not to be found amongst the candidates to be nominated on nomination day, or, what is much more important, elected on election day, where and how is he going to get them elected to Parliament?

I have had some experience in forming ministries. I can tell Dr. Manion he would be wise to get his best brains into the House in a general election, and not to wait until the election is over to identify them and to discover constituencies willing to return them. His followers, who may be called upon to surrender their seats, may not share his high opinion of the mentality of their successors. Moreover, if the Cabinet is to be representative, ministers will also need to be selected from all parts of the country. Only a government that commands the support of all sections can expect to obtain such representations.

But perhaps Dr. Manion has not abandoned the hope of an alliance between the two old parties, which would leave what he calls "the extremists" to form the opposition. This was the only kind of union government which he could see on July 26th, 1939, and you remember how roundly he condemned it.

No Possibility of a Conservative Government.

It is just possible Dr. Manion plans to include all parties in his combination, thereby extinguishing opposition alto-