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Let me now say a few words about the proposal for national government as it has been discussed in the present elections. What Dr. Manion means, when he speaks of national government, is a coalition, or union government - a government composed of members of different political parties who combine their forces to achieve a given end. There may be times when this form of government may be desirable. In some circumstances, it may even be a necessity. Such a situation may arise when a government and an opposition are so evenly balanced that party government is well-nigh impossible. This was the situation after the union of Upper and Lower Canada and before Confederation. No party could secure a clear majority, and, without a coalition, government itself could not be carried on. was the situation which led George Brown and others to join with Sir John A. Macdonald to form a coalition government.

Circumstances have also