

CANDIDATE DR. THOMPSON (continued)

Mr. Pardee and others at Ottawa. Neither can the people with whom I come in contact. It seems to us that either action was taken too hastily, or some reason exists of which we do not know, and which has not been disclosed to us here to-day. On this account, those of us who came to the meeting looking for explanations are naturally disappointed that none have been given. The sentiment of the people is undoubtedly against the present Government, and in a large measure, I believe it is against conscription. There is no question that it is against coalition and extension. We have a right to expect that our representatives at Ottawa would get together, but this they evidently have not done. Why they have not done so they do not say. As a Liberal of the old school, I cannot too strongly impress this meeting with my belief that only by united action, and only under the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier can we hope to succeed. The Liberal Party is the Party of the people, and to legislate so that the greatest good may be done for the greatest number it is necessary to secure the return of a Liberal Government at the next election. It seems to me that the people are better prepared to do that than our Leaders are. This state of things is most regrettable, and must not continue. I could say more, but I refrain from doing so at the present time.

CANDIDATE HOGG (North Ontario):-

Like my friend Dr. Thompson, I cannot understand what has got into Graham, Pardee and some of our other friends at Ottawa. The position they have taken came on us with surprise, and matters have not been helped out here this afternoon. I am the candidate in North Ontario. I am whole-heartedly against conscription, and I am going to win North Ontario on that platform. I don't believe you can get one candidate in this room to come out squarely and say that he will conduct his campaign solely on the ground that he is in favour of conscription. I want to tell the gentlemen here from Ottawa that they have not correctly interpreted the people's views. I think it my duty to add that while George Graham is a friend of mine, and I esteem him highly, I will throw him down, or throw down any other man