

TO THE ELECTORS OF PARKDALE :

La and Gentlemen—

The letter of the Leader of the Government, of November 11th, shows how the suggestion came to the delegates to the Parkdale Convention, that they recognize the faithful and unswerving support of a Union Government by those who were not always in accord with the old Government. The leaders of Ward 6 Association responded to the Premier's plea with a chivalry and loyalty worthy of knights of old. But there was not sufficient time to acquaint all delegates with the proposal. Negotiations had necessarily to be hurried, and it is doubtful if one-tenth of those present ever heard, before they took their seats, of a proposal unprecedented in Canada for patriotism and sportsmanship. Yet when it was presented to them on the evening of Nov. 16th, they at once saw what an opportunity there was for making a noticeable demonstration of their belief in Government by union of both parties, and they accepted me as a representative of those who before the Union, were Liberals. Under these circumstances it is not worthy of credence that the delegates did not express their own minds, or came to the meeting with minds made up.

The proposal came as suddenly and unexpectedly to me as to any one else; but having been endorsed by the Prime Minister, and adopted with practical unanimity by the Convention, I accept the offer, and if you favor me, will earnestly and zealously support Sir Robert Borden and his new colleagues in their general policy, and in the non-partizan carrying on of the war. I am convinced that a one-party Government cannot properly do what is necessary.

To me it would be a very grave thing if the aspirations and desires of the people of Ontario should always have to be checked and smothered at the instance of racial opposers from outside.

Other Provinces vote whole-heartedly for what they want and against what they don't want.

Ontario has always shown a disposition to be fair and more than considerate in the interest of national unity, but at the present juncture Ontario would be more respected if her electors aligned themselves as they all profess to believe.

If you will have confidence that I can carry out your trust, I shall be gratified; and when the term is over, or perhaps sooner, I shall return the gift unbesmirched and undiminished to those who gave it.

Yours faithfully,

H. M. MOWAT,
Union Government Candidate.