

Canada's honor has been pledged, by her Government, to the prosecution of this war "to the last man and to the last dollar." It is idle to say that Sir Robert Borden had no right to make that pledge; he had a right to make it, the right of being in power by the will of the people of Canada. He made it; and his decision was validated by the spontaneous outburst of public sentiment by the formal approval of the Canadian parliament. The people of Canada must now stand back of it until the pledge is redeemed, or else be content to accept a position in the eyes of the world lower than that occupied by Russia to-day. It does not excuse Russia for failing to make good the pledge of the Romanoffs, how infinitely less will the world excuse Canada for failing to make good the pledge of a Government representative of her own people.

Absolutely the only way in which the pledge can now be redeemed is to support, with every resource in our power, a Union Government.

"The Union Government should have been formed the first year of the war," you say. Certainly it should, but "better late than never." The past is past, its lost opportunities cannot be regained; but the nation's pledge remains, and must be fulfilled. There is a chance for the Union Government now. Therefore, push for it to the utmost of your ability, never forgetting for an hour that the honor of Canada is at stake.

Quite as binding as the pledge of Canada to Britain and the Allies, is her pledge to every man, who voluntarily risked his life in the cause for freedom. If possible more binding, for it was made month after month, as the battalions moved away; not by the Government, but by ourselves, as those who, unable to go in person, declared their willingness to support, by every means in their power, those who did go. That pledge was made in ringing periods from platforms; it was made equally in the last handshake that every woman gave a soldier. Think of the thousands of boys under the sod in France and Flanders, who died in the faith of that pledge; and there will be no holding back from supporting Union Government, a government pledged first, last and all time to the prosecution of the war, and the relief of the boys now at the front.

No woman can honestly sing—

"God save our splendid men,  
Bring them safe home again—"

if she fails to support the Union Government with all that it implies.