

hundred thousand has been enrolled."

If the United States, which has just come into the war, does as well under conscription, in proportion to her population, as Canada has already done under voluntary enlistment, she will place immediately in the field an army of between four and five millions of men.

Laurier's War Policy.

Sir Wilfrid's policy is set forth in a manifesto issued by him to the people of Canada on November 5th.

As to the war and Canada's duty to participate in it, Sir Wilfrid says:

"It cannot be said too often that this war could not have been avoided by the Allies, and that it is a contest for the very existence of civilization. Of this the entrance of the United States into the conflict is further proof, if indeed further proof were needed. The American people long hoped that they would be spared that ordeal, but the ruthless violation by Germany of the most sacred canons of International law left them no option; they had to join in the fight against a power which has become the common enemy of mankind."

Sir Wilfrid promises, if returned:

1. To make the winning of the war the main object of his government. Sir Wilfrid says:

"Should I be called upon to form a Government I would hope to include in it representatives of business, of labour and of agriculture, of the men whose sole object in dealing with the affairs of the country will be to devote the whole resources, wealth and energy of the country to the winning of the war."

2. To find the men, money, and resources necessary to give the fullest support to our heroic soldiers at the front. Sir Wilfrid says:

"My first duty will be to seek out the ablest men of the country, men of organizing capacity as well as men representative of all classes in the community, and invite them, irrespective of what it may involve in the way of sacrifice of their personal interests, to join with me in the formation of a cabinet whose first object will be to find the men, money and resources necessary to ensure the fullest measure of support to our heroic soldiers at the front, and to enable Canada to continue to the very end to do her splendid part to win the war."

3. To give the soldier and those dependent on him first place in the concern of the State. Sir Wilfrid says:

"The man who is prepared to volunteer his services and to risk his life in his country's defence is entitled to first consideration. Those dependent upon him, and who spare him from their midst are the next most deserving of the State's solicitude and care. A policy which will accord first place to the soldier and the sailor in the concern of the State will, I believe, bring forth all the men necessary to fight its battles, without the need of recourse to conscription. If returned to power, I should adopt such a policy."

4. To make the entire resources and population of service in the war. Sir Wilfrid says:

"Each year has rendered increasingly apparent the necessity of organizing the nation, in order that, so far as may be possible, the resources and population of

Canada, in its entirety may be made of service in the successful prosecution of the war."

5. To so organize the nation that the armies of the allied countries may receive the help most needed. Sir Wilfrid says:

"To-day, under the exhaustion the war has caused in the old world, Great Britain and her Allies are appealing as never before for more food, more ships, and more coal. No country has vaster resources than Canada, to supply these imperative requirements. What is needed is vigorous efforts to further an unlimited production. To meet this existing need, I am prepared in addition to the measures already outlined to take what further steps may be necessary to increase, double, and quadruple the output of all that may be necessary for marching and fighting armies."

6. To treat all alike, and not to conscript human life only. Sir Wilfrid says:

"A fundamental objection to the Government's policy of Conscription is that it conscripts human life only, and that it does not attempt to conscript wealth, resources, or the services of any persons other than those who come within the age limit prescribed by the Military Service Act. This is manifestly unjust."

7. To consult and abide by the decision of the people as to further conscription. Sir Wilfrid says:

"As to the present Military Service Act my policy will be not to proceed further under its provisions until the people have an opportunity to pronounce upon it by way of a referendum. I pledge myself forthwith to submit the Act to the people and with my followers to carry out the wishes of the majority of the nation as thus expressed."

8. To organize a government campaign for voluntary recruiting.—(Thus far recruiting for overseas service has been left wholly to private enterprise. Sir Robert Borden's efforts were confined to a campaign for voluntary National Service, under a department of the Government created and conducted at great cost and which has since been abandoned. National Service was apart altogether from overseas service. Neither Sir Robert nor his government has conducted a recruiting campaign. Nothing, for example, has been attempted by the Government in the way of recruiting similar to the campaign for the Victory Loan). Sir Wilfrid says:

"I would at the same time organize and carry out a strong appeal for voluntary recruiting."

9. To raise regiments in Quebec and avoid internal dissensions in Canada at a time when the preservation of Canadian unity is all important to the strength of the Allies. Sir Wilfrid says:

"It is a fact that cannot be denied that the voluntary system, especially in Quebec, did not get a fair trial and a fair trial would receive from a generous people a ready response which would bring men to the ranks, with good will and enthusiasm, and which would eliminate from our political life one of its most harrowing problems, as no loyal Canadian can view without the gravest apprehension a disunited Canada at this critical hour of our history."

10. To give the returned soldiers first claim