AC901 AT 1917

## Why Women Should Support Union Government

"God Almighty hates a quitter." To the extent of the Divine spark in every woman, every woman hates a quitter. To-day, throughout the world, there is a feeling of profound contempt for the people of Russia because they have quit the war. Even the broadest minded citizen desiring to make allowance for a people, long enslaved and drunk with liberty turned to licence, cannot overcome a feeling of profound contempt for Russia's broken pledge to her Allies. What then will be the world verdict on Canada if she joins hands with Russia and quits the war?

To return Sir Wilfrid Laurier to power is to quit the war. Let no woman be deceived. Once enthroned at Ottawa, Sir Wilfrid will suspend the Military Act, a leisurely process of taking a referendum of the people will be discussed, but no active campaign to carry on and win the war will be adopted, moreover, it is highly questionable if the men now at the front, will receive just attention from a Government pledged, secretly, if not openly, to get out of the war as fast as possible.

Any lingering doubt as to the position of Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been dispelled by the open support of Bourassa.

For many years, Sir Wilfrid has been a heroic figure to the women of Canada, a "White Knight." Men have accused women of not really valuing purity of life, because they have admitted men of doubtful character to their homes. This, alas, is true, but in spite of this inconsistency, deep in the heart of every good woman is an altar to the "pure in manhood." Sir Wilfrid Laurier typified purity of life and manhood, and women of widely differing political and religious views have not only admired him, but have accepted his leadership. It is bitter to dethrone a hero; it hurts our pride; it seems that we have judged wrongly—our idol has feet of clay.

There need, however, be no bitterness in the present necessity of forsaking the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier; he has not failed as a "White Knight,"—that claim to heroism remains, though, alas, he has failed lamentably in a realization of his duty and Canada's at the present crisis in the world's liberty. A leader who fails in a crisis is a leader no longer and still to follow him would be to share in his recreancy.

