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NATIONAL UNITY AND NATIONAL SURVIVAL

Responsibility to our own and future generations

A Second Appeal to the Canadian Electorate for an Affirmative Vote on April 27th, 1942

AN ADDRESS BROADCAST BY

The Right Honourable W. L. MACKENZIE KING, M.P.

Prime Minister of Canada

APRIL 24th, 1942

Fellow Canadians:

Since I last spoke to you, there has been much discussion of the forthcoming plebiscite over the radio, in the press, and at public meetings. This discussion has gone far to clarify the issue. It has, however, also disclosed how little, in some parts of our country, the gravity of the world situation is appreciated; and how greatly, as a consequence, people are in danger of being misled by some of those who are asking them to vote NO on Monday next. I hope that what I say to-night may resolve any doubts in your minds about the importance of your voting YES. I hope it may also convince you of the necessity of doing all you can to see that the affirmative vote is as large as possible.

Freedom, not Conscription, the Issue

When the plebiscite was announced, many did not understand what it was on which they were going to be asked to express an opinion. Many thought that conscription was the question to be decided. In other words, they believed that the government was

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W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, MG 26 J 4, Volume 389, pages C273027-C274022

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