

shape to oppose what they declare to be steam-roller methods. The follower of the Laurier program is in turn out of line with the sentiment of the best thought of the Liberal party. The meeting prior to the close of nominations was alive with the hum of two score electors of the riding discussing the latest developments of the situation.

Major Mowat, in stating his case, declared that he could not do otherwise than accept the unanimous verdict of the Unionist convention, composed as it was of Conservatives outnumbering Liberals by at least four to one.

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### **Country First.**

"Parties have ceased in this war. I believe that the new alignment will persist for years afterwards, and that there will be Unionists for a long time who will put the interests of party behind them," declared Mr. Mowat. "The Government has got to impose obligations on the people—perhaps compulsory service—and also heavy taxes. The Government to enforce these must be Union, and not party."

"Fifty years ago it was impossible to achieve Confederation on account of the opposition of Quebec influences, and Mr. George Brown, together with my kinsman, Sir Oliver Mowat, united with the opposing political forces for the national interest. I am proud to be a party to this Union Government of fifty years afterwards."

"The referendum is a blank cheque. With the referendum there are no terms. It is the instrument of persons who wish to escape responsibility themselves. If you can vote for a referendum, as was the case of the vote on Dominion prohibition submitted to the electorate of Canada by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1898, and have it carried by a large majority only to have its enforcement cast aside because of the opposition of one Province, I must put myself on record as not approving of referendums."

### **Major Mowat's Position.**

With regard to the candidature of Major McCormack, Mr. Mowat admitted that his entrance into the contest had come as a surprise to him. It had gone out through the country that the Conservatives had shown deference enough to back a Liberal conscriptionist candidate in one of their own ridings. With the ratification of Premier Borden as the Union Government nominee, Mr. Mowat said there was no course but to accept. He had appreciated the action of the convention as representing the best feeling of the Conservative party, and he relied on the honor of those who had consented to his candidacy as a Unionist.