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CANADA AND THE WAR

taken Canada unitedly into the war would have been defeated. Four conflicting groups would be contending for power. The three groups who together had defeated the government would be without any basis of common action; one opposed to giving military aid to the allies, one for conscription, the third and largest without any fixed policy at all. The old Conservative party would be gone, and its so-called "national" successor trying in vain to form a government.

The present administration would either have to try to carry on with a daily prospect of defeat, or we would have to resign, go into opposition and leave those who had defeated us to form a government.

**Danger of War Cabinet becoming a debating society.**

If the present administration resigned in such circumstances, Dr. Manion would naturally be called upon to form a government. Could he form any government, let alone a strong government? Where would he find allies? The C.C.F. leaders have repudiated such an alliance in advance; the New Democracy has not committed itself. Perhaps the price of their support would be an experiment in social credit and monetary inflation. But what would such an experiment do to Canada's war effort? It might well, by destroying our credit, destroy the country altogether.

In such a combination, who would be the Ministers? Can you imagine an effective government stretching all the way from genuine Conservatism to the extremity of monetary theorists? The cabinet would cease to be a maker of policy and a director of administration. It would become a debating society. And all this at a time when the war would probably be growing in intensity, and when Canada would, as never

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before, need a strong government with unquestioned popular support.

**Government's return evidence of a united war effort of a united Canada.**

Let me now present the alternative. What will happen if the present government is returned with a clear and substantial majority? It will mean that the government which brought Canada into the war at the side of Britain and France, has been sustained. It will mean that men and women of all provinces, of all creeds and classes, have given their support to a tried and experienced administration, for the united war effort of a united Canada. It will mean that once the heat of the campaign has passed, our citizens will be able to forget party differences, and join with the war administration in the winning of the war. The return of the present administration will, without question, be held as the greatest evidence of the unity of the nation in its war effort. Such a result would do much to sustain the morale and to uplift the spirits of those at whose side Canada fights for victory, freedom, and an enduring peace.

**An appeal to the Canadian people.**

Ladies and gentlemen: Since the outbreak of war, causes have not changed, issues have not changed. Today, we see them in clearer outline than they appeared before our eyes in the tragic month of September. On the day when His Majesty the King proclaimed a state of war between the United Kingdom and Germany, it was my duty and my privilege to speak to the people of Canada. At that time, I concluded with an appeal which I would like to repeat to you tonight:

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