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form of a general election. This should not, and would not, involve delay. In 1914 we could have had two general elections before troops were actually despatched. Had we done so I believe much of the disunion which afterwards developed would probably have been avoided.

In 1917 the crisis was even more perilous than at the outbreak of war. Had the Government at that time undertaken to enforce conscription even in the face of such a crisis without an appeal to the people there is no telling what might have happened to this country. In this Dominion we absolutely must have regard to the composition of our people. I feel certain that the very assurance of their being consulted, as can without great inconvenience be done, will have a steady-  
ing and quieting effect, and will tend rather to strengthen the faith of each section in the fairness of their fellow citizens and predispose them to join with the others in any necessary steps to make certain ultimate security and peace.

The talk about a surrender to Bourassa is utter nonsense. Such a mistake arises through confusing policy with procedure. As you will have observed Mr. Bourassa, just as I would have expected, has not accepted, but rather denounced the course to which I am committed.