

Formation and Personnel of Union Government.

OTTAWA, October 18, 1917.

TO THE PEOPLE OF CANADA:

The present Union or National Government has been formed with a desire to give representation to all elements of the population who support the purpose and effort of Canada in this war. Representative men of both political parties are included in its personnel; and it is intended forthwith to give to Labour special representation upon the principle already followed with regard to Agriculture. Impressed by the urgent necessity of putting aside all minor considerations, of sinking all party differences, and of presenting a united front at this solemn and momentous juncture in the nation's history, the members of the Government have come together in the duty of service to the national interest.

The lines of policy which will be followed chiefly relate to the prosecution of the war and to consideration and solution of problems which will arise during its progress or which will supervene upon the conclusion of peace.

They may be outlined as follows:—

1—The vigorous prosecution of the war, the maintenance of Canada's effort by the provision of necessary reinforcements, the immediate enforcement of the Military Service Act, and the most thorough co-operation with the Governments of the United Kingdom and of the other Dominions in all matters relating to the war.

2—Civil Service Reform, with a view to extending the principle of the present Civil Service Act to the Outside Service, and thus to abolish patronage and to make appointments to the Public Service upon the sole standard of merit. The Civil Service Commission has already been directed to make a report