

ally to the south of us will furnish the millions of men that may be needed, if more millions are needed to conquer on the western front.

There is one criticism only that I want to offer with all due humility to the Allies. They have had no united command; up to this last month they fought separately, individually, and there seemed to be no co-ordination in their actions. Why was that? History alone will say. But if the entry of the United States had but the one effect of forcing the Allies to realize that there is but one fight, I would bless the United States for coming in. When we think of offensives taken on the left without an offensive taken on the right or in Italy, as a simple laymen I never could understand that there had been co-ordination from the outset between the Allies, and that since the enemy occupied the centre of Europe and could move promptly from one side to the other, why the Allies did not strike at the same time on the four fronts. This is past history, and let us hope that with co-ordination and a united command the Allies will soon show decisive results.

I have said that we all want to win the war, but we have not all agreed upon the means, and our disagreement has been upon the methods of our co-operation. We in this country have also lacked unity of mind and unity of action; and it is my painful duty to say—because I feel it strongly—that the sole responsibility for the lack of unity rests with the late Borden Government; so history will repeat, I am sure. We have had a disunited people because in 1914 the Government would not think for one moment of instituting a National Government in Canada such as was established in England and in France. More important was it here. If there had been a union government in this country in 1914 or 1915 we would have eliminated the element in the Cabinet which had preached in the province of Quebec the doctrine of non-participation in Imperial wars outside of Canada; if there had been a union government, much of the deadwood that was to be found in the Cabinet would have had to disappear, and there would have been unity of action which would have been for the best, not only for Canada, but for the Allies.

For my part, twice I threw out that idea of national government through the press. I suggested at one time through an English Liberal daily that Lord Shaughnessy should be called upon to form a government, and that Sir Robert Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier should enter his Cabinet. I

felt that, because of our petty party passions and narrow colonial vista, we should eliminate a figurehead representing a political party. It was done in the case of Mr. Asquith and then Mr. Balfour, an ex-prime minister, entered the Cabinet of Mr. Lloyd George. I felt that this was needed all the more in Canada, and that it was high time that unity of sentiment and of action should be created.

My honourable friend has just made a strong appeal for unity in the nation. I shall have to revert somewhat to the past—not very fully—and I hope it will be the last time that I shall do so, simply looking forward to this side of the House helping on the cause to the best of our light and ability. Is there real union in Canada today? I say there is not. There is not real union, and there is not a real union Government, and there is no undisputed mandate from the people to the present Government. Why is there no undisputed mandate from the people to the present Government? It is because the electoral franchise was frightfully tampered with. There is more than one way of gaining or holding power by force—seizing it like the Bolsheviks, or stealing it by unjust legislation. A government can perpetuate itself in power, and when it has done it once it can do it again. This is the case with the present Government, which I hold to be a de facto government. The War-time Elections Act was a most horrible, iniquitous, abominable piece of legislation. These three expressions, which may strike the ear of our honourable friends as extravagant, have been taken from the speeches of two ministers of the Crown in the present Government, and I can give the page of Hansard, if honourable gentlemen want it. The Government selected its judges before dissolving the House; it hand-picked the electors. Five hundred thousand women, says *The Mail and Empire*, who could be specially appealed to, women whose names were on the pay-sheet, and to whom the Government had the indecency to offer a bribe of five dollars more on each monthly allowance, just a month before the election were given the vote, and alien voters were also called in. It seems but yesterday that I raised my voice in this Chamber to say that it was an outrage on the electorate of Canada to allow a stranger who had never set his foot in Canada, knowing nothing even of the names of the candidates nor of the electoral divisions, to vote. I said that for the first time in