

did I feel impressed with his view that, differing from most of my Liberal friends, I would have assented to a further extension of the term of the last Parliament. There were some reasons against such a course, but they seemed to me to be minor things in comparison with the confusion that would probably arise (and did arise) from a war time election. As matters stand today I do not think the Liberals should desire to obtain power. If at any time events should impose on them as a party the responsibility of governing, they should, of course, meet the situation courageously and patriotically. But that responsibility, it seems to me, is not one to be desired at this stage. If placed in power now, they would be obliged to take over the responsibility of carrying on the war with an organization in the creation of which they had no part, in some portions of which possibly, they have no confidence. There would be no time for adequate reorganization. Satisfactory management of public affairs would be impossible under such circumstances. From every point of view then, I think it is better that the Union Government shall be permitted to carry on the war in what we all hope are its last stages, and in this work they should have the co-operation of the Opposition, coupled, of course, with legitimate criticism. When the war and its immediate business are over, a new situation will arise. Then, I think, the Liberals may reasonably ask for a new deal, in which, in all probability, a united party would place a Liberal Government in power at Ottawa.

The record of the Conservative Party under the leadership of Sir Robert Borden remains, and a time will come when it can again