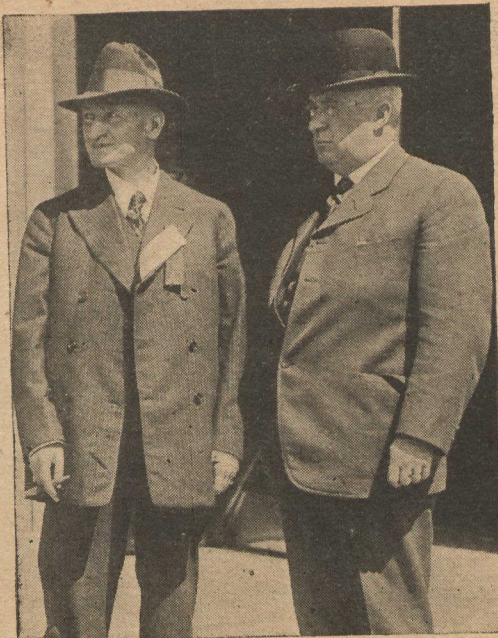
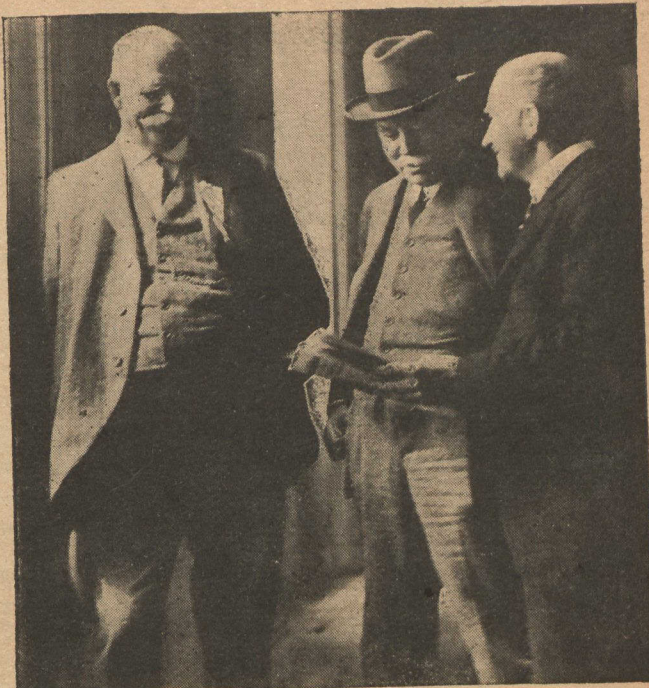




HON. T. JOHNSON, Minister of Public Works in Manitoba, convinces W. L. Parrish, member for South Winnipeg, that unity is strength—but it all depends on how you get unity. It was the electors of "storm centre" South Winnipeg, who signed the "dissatisfied" declaration four days after the Convention.



PREMIER SIFTON, of Alberta, agrees with Premier Brewster, of B.C., that the chief business of any government meriting the confidence of the people is—Winning-the-War. He went to Ottawa after the Convention.



SENATOR ROSS, of Saskatchewan, stands between ex-Lieutenant-Governor Brown, of that Province, and Hon. Mr. Mitchell, Provincial Treasurer of Alberta. He also went to Ottawa after the Convention. It is quite evident that considerable doubt exists in his mind as to what some part of yesterday's Convention report does mean when it appears in cold print.

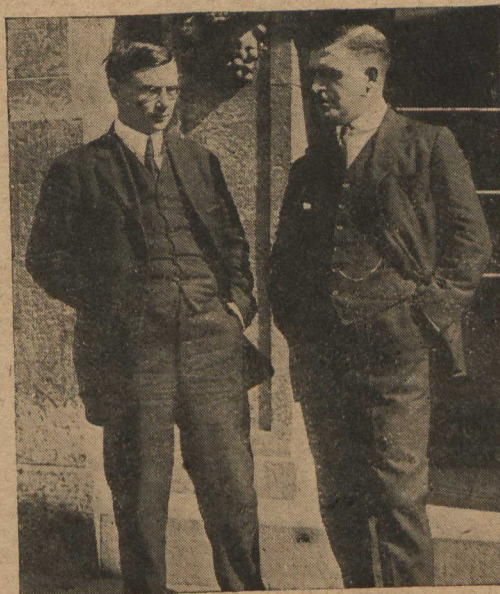
all the material resources of the Dominion for the relentless prosecution of the war. No one more bitterly or more caustically scarified voluntarism than did Henri Bourassa. With unerring precision he pointed out its defects—its draft upon the virile and the courageous elements in the population, and its gross injustice to married men and those whose hands are tied. He demanded that the manhood of Canada should be marshalled for battle, and that those fit to go, and untied, should be sent first. He demanded that the wealth of the Dominion should be mobilized so that the whole weight of the nation could be thrown with crushing effect against the enemy. But much water has flowed under the bridges since that golden hour when harmony might have been achieved. We do not mean to assert that Bourassa and Lavergne ever favoured Canada's entrance into the European struggle. But we do say that, once in, they advocated the use of the right instruments and methods for carrying the war through to a triumphant conclusion.

WHAT thinks the West, however, of the present situation? We do not venture to speak for party leaders or for party organizations. As far as they are concerned, it seems clear that the issues will be contested on old party lines. There will be a struggle for office, for the spoils of the victor. But serious students of the situation see in the present crisis a glorious opportunity for achieving a rebirth of the nation. That rebirth will be found not in a coalition government, a government of patchwork and of makeshifts, but in a government in which all parties in Canada are fused and coalesced. The hour demands its Napoleon or its Cromwell. For the time being party lines must be obliterated. The government should speak with one voice—the voice of a united people. Domestic reforms, pressing and imperatively important as many of them are, must wait until post-bellum days for settlement. The winning of the war is all.

If a national government were formed on that basis—



TWO of the most important men at the Convention were Hon. A. B. Hudson (left), Attorney-General of Manitoba, and Hon. J. A. Calder, of Saskatchewan. Mr. Hudson was Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, which drafted the three resolutions on War, Laurier, and National Government. An uncompromising win-the-war man, he freely endorsed the appreciation of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's services as a leader. Hon. J. A. Calder, regarded as a very able administrator and possible leader, also went to Ottawa after the Convention. The Globe correspondent said: "Mr. Calder has gone to Ottawa to confer with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and to impress the interpretation of certain resolutions as given in yesterday's statement by Hon. A. B. Hudson."



HON. W. F. A. TURGEON, Attorney-General of Saskatchewan, and W. A. Buchanan, M.P., Conscriptivist Liberal from Lethbridge, Alta.

the basis that obtains in England—it would sweep the country. Quebec would set its face like flint against conscription, and in fact against further participation in the war, during the course of the election; but once a national government had been established and the Military Service Act had become an accomplished fact, the people of that province would give their consent to its enforcement.

For Quebec, no matter what Bourassa and Lavergne may say, cannot endure outside of Confederation. This has been proved, in effect, time and time again. It has been only through Imperial protection that Quebec has retained its peculiar and indigenous characteristics, and has had free scope for the expression of its racial and religious life. In 1776, in 1812, in 1837, and on other historic occasions, Quebec has proved its understanding of the value of British protection, and the practice of the principles of freedom. No one, in fact, knows better than the leaders of the simple, kindly habitants that Quebec's future lies not in an independent republic on the banks of the St. Lawrence, nor in absorption by the United States, but in its present position as an integral part of the Dominion and of the Empire.

Should party politicians have their way, we shall have reached the parting of the ways, and shall be well forward on the high road that leads to national dishonour. A referendum on conscription will prove a will-o'-the-wisp, offering no real light or guidance. The issues will have been already decided. A Quebec that has already rejected conscription in a general election will not approve it under a referendum. And besides, there is grave cause for believing that a referendum in Canada is entirely unconstitutional. By the time the courts have decided that matter, the war will have been finished. No: a national, non-partisan government is the only way out.

HON. C. A. DUNNING, Prov. Treas. of Saskatchewan, seems to have said nothing at the Convention that got into public print. His leader, Premier Martin, was understood from the first to be a pro-Laurier man. One of the clearest-headed men in the West, Mr. Dunning, also must have been bewildered by the cross-currents of this remarkable Convention.



DR. D. B. NEELY, M.P. from Humboldt, Sask., who moved the War Resolution in the Convention; the one manifesto produced that unequivocally stated what Western Liberalism, expressing itself on behalf of the whole country, believes, and is prepared to adopt as a drastic war policy. The Turriff amendment, to add the words "by compulsion if necessary," was defeated.