

at any time. It would be an impossible situation for an administration charged with the responsibility of governing at a time of war. An experience of the kind would leave the government no alternative but a dissolution.

There is another possibility which might arise. It is that even within the government itself, and the ranks of its supporters, for causes at the moment wholly unforeseen, differences of view on matters of policy might arise which it might be found impossible to reconcile. In such a situation the only solution would be the verdict of the people themselves. Personally, I have little fear of anything of the kind occurring. But it is a possibility which, with the problems of government what they have become after four years of war, and in an atmosphere of strain and tension such as war engenders, no leader of a government can afford to overlook.

To all this must be added, in considering the date of a possible election, happenings and events at present completely beyond our ken, outside as well as within Canada, any one of which might make advisable or necessary, a reconstitution of the government or an immediate appeal to the people.

Support of fighting men the first consideration in deciding upon elections.

I am most anxious to take the country as completely as I can into my confidence in a matter so all-important as a general election at a time of war. All I can honestly say is

that I trust