

Union Government

The Reasons for its
Formation

Its Policy and Aims

and

A Discussion of the
Political Issues.

UNION GOVERNMENT

The Union or National Government now appealing to the Country for a mandate is a new condition or order of things in our politics brought about by the extraordinary necessities of the times. It is composed of leaders on both sides of politics, men of undoubted ability, who, "impressed by the urgent necessity of putting aside all minor considerations of sinking all party differences and of presenting an united front in this solemn and momentous juncture in the Nation's history, have joined together in the duty of service in the national interest."

PARTYISM FAILED

The truth is that partyism failed to measure up to the stupendous tasks and problems confronting the nation, and a remedy had to be found to enable the country to bring its full strength to bear in the present awful struggle for the maintenance of civilization, and incidentally, but directly, the freedom and liberties of Canada.

The abandonment of party politics, with its attendant evils of rancor, unfairness, favoritism and patronage, is the only sane course to pursue in this time of dire peril. To keep quarrelling politically among ourselves, while the power of the detestable Hun remains unbroken and the cause of civilization is still in the balance is nothing short of criminal folly.

UNIFIED EFFORT NECESSARY

There never was a time in our history when there was greater necessity for unified effort, and for the application of the best unprejudiced and untrammelled minds in the administration of our affairs. Tremendous problems confront us. First and all important is that of exerting every ounce of our power in men, munitions, provisions and wealth to help in winning the war. To put forth the maximum of our strength in these ways is our **plain manifest duty**, as decent, right thinking and humane people, and we should glory in it because of the justice and righteousness of the cause. If we were to neglect to perform that duty to the full, we would be unfit to call ourselves Canadians and brothers of the legions of gallant sons of Canada who have fought and died for us in Flanders; we would place a stigma upon our race which generations would not wipe out and leave to our children ignoble

traditions of which they would be thoroughly ashamed. Carry on we must and will, even to the limit of our last dollar and our last man. The idea of quitting in the middle of the fight and sneaking away from the scene of hostilities is unBritish, unCanadian, unmanly and quite unthinkable. The cry raised in some quarters that we have done enough merits only contempt. We shall not have done enough unless we continue our maximum of effort until victory, liberty, security and peace are secured. We are as one with our Allies, with Great Britain, the Mother of freedom, with France—glorious, regenerated, heroic, self-sacrificing France—and, like the others, we must fight on and on, shoulder to shoulder, until the fear of Prussianism with its detestable dogmas is forever removed from the civilized world.

We went into the war of our own free will, expressed in the unanimous action of our Parliament, and having put our hand to the plough we will not stop until the end of the furrow is reached.

MORE AND MORE MEN NEEDED

As to the necessity of sending more men to the Front there is no room for argument. It is a self evident fact that the more men the Allies can throw into the battle lines, the sooner will victory be achieved, and a lasting peace be given to a world hungering for it. Moreover, the earlier that victory is achieved the greater will be the saving in human lives.

On this point the Prime Minister, speaking in Parliament on June 11th, 1917 said in part:—

“I am in a position to assure the House and the Country that the need of reinforcements is urgent, insistent and imperative.

“The crying need is for physically fit and thoroughly trained troops, chiefly infantry.”

“During the next seven months we need reinforcements to the number of 70,000, in order to keep four divisions in the field. Continued offensive operations such as those of April and May might increase this number, and if the offensive continues it is not too much to say that we must expect this.”

“Reinforcements must be obtained or our fighting divisions must dwindle. The reinforcements now available will last only for a few months, the precise number of which for military reasons I am not at liberty to state.”

† THE MESSAGES OF GENERAL CURRIE

Consider also the messages sent out by General Sir Arthur Currie, the Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Forces in the Field.

Writing to the Hon. Mr. Rowell in July, 1917, he stated:—

“We are all anxiously looking to Canada to see what the

result of the conscription proposals of Sir Robert Borden will be.

"We are winning this war.....and it would seem as if the heroic sacrifices of the Canadians would be forgotten if the troops in the field are not kept at full fighting strength.

"I attribute a great deal of our success to our fighting organization. If our units are not kept up to strength that organization breaks down, and success cannot be expected in the same measure.

"Furthermore, if our units are kept at full strength, the morale of our troops remains very high; whereas, if units are allowed to become weak in numbers, the morale suffers accordingly.

"I pray that you will not relax your efforts in seeing that everything is done by Canada to furnish the necessary drafts of officers and men. The troops here expect it — let them not be disappointed."

Cabling to Sir Robert Borden in June, 1917, General Currie stated:—

"I note with special gratification your assurance that the troops in the field rely upon Canada giving them all necessary support. They have given blood freely to maintain their nation's honor and now confidently expect that the full fruits of their sacrifice will not be prejudiced. It is an imperative and urgent necessity that steps be immediately taken to ensure that sufficient drafts of officers and men are sent from Canada to keep the corps at its full strength."

Cabling also on August 11, 1917, to the Win-the-War League in Toronto, the General stated:—

"Greetings of win-the-war convention, held at Toronto, are much appreciated by all ranks Canadian corps. We sincerely sympathize with your endeavors to arouse our countrymen to the necessity of remaining united and firm in their determination to furnish troops in the field all necessary support. We deeply deplore the fact that the wisdom of doing so has become a subject for debate and controversy by those at home, and we have hoped that the example of what the corps has been able to accomplish by the united efforts of men who have already sacrificed so much would serve to inspire rival political factions to sacrifice their party prejudices in this hour of their country's peril. If support is now withheld, or even delayed, it means that additional burdens will have to be borne by men already doing the seemingly impossible. The fight must go on until final and complete victory is attained. From the agony of the battlefield goes forth the prayer that our homeland does not desert us in the hour of our need and of our approaching triumph."

General Sir William Robertson, Managing Director of the British Forces, wrote on August 4, 1917:—

"I should like to take this occasion of the third anniversary of the war to express my admiration for the services of the Canadian troops in France.

"The reputation they won in their first battle when, though completely untried and for the most part without war exper-

ience, they so largely contributed in the defence of Ypres in April, 1915, has been greatly enhanced on several occasions during the past year, notably by storming Vimy Ridge, a position which had resisted all efforts of the Allies for two years.

"These actions have shown the magnificent fighting qualities of the Canadian soldier. I am confident that the self-sacrifice and devotion which alone rendered them possible will continue to inspire Canada's efforts until the final victory is attained."

Major-General David Watson sent the following message from Headquarters, Canadian Division in the Field, on August 4, 1917:

"I state with positive certainty that a splendid state of determination and resolution exists in a greater degree than ever among every unit of the Canadian force to-day. This resolve and belief is the ever growing result of intimate knowledge that this terrible struggle into which we have entered has ever been and is now equally as important for the maintenance and development of our Dominion as it is for the vital protection and safeguarding of our interests and liberties. Willingly making all sacrifices required in consummation of these objects may we not securely rely on the unity and the practical assistance of our friends in Canada."

Major-General H. Burstall, the well known Canadian Soldier, now at the Front, wrote on August 4, 1917:—

"On the third anniversary of the war we find our fighting strength undiminished and our determination to carry on to a final victory, be it early or late, as set as ever it was. This determination is not because we are becoming callous. On the contrary as the war goes on the longing to return to Canada and our loved ones at home increases. Many of our best and bravest have gone forward never to return, or have given their lives in holding Canadian trenches inviolate. While we grieve for the loss of friends, and sympathize with their relatives, the loss we feel hardens our determination to carry on until peace is obtained on a sure basis of security for the future—a basis that will safeguard the next few generations at least from the horrors of war.

This feeling, we know, is shared by all Canada. We commence the fourth year of the war with four battalions. Heavy though the drain has been, we can only carry on the war to the basis of a final peace having our battalions maintained to full strength. For this we entirely rely on Canada. We are convinced that Canadians will never permit their battalions at the front to become worn out through lack of reinforcements, but will face the situation and take the necessary steps to provide them. For us all our thoughts are of Canada, and after every victory the one idea in all our minds is that Canada will again have reason to be proud of her sons at the front in upholding her honor and liberty. So we have absolute faith that Canada will respond with the reinforcements necessary to sustain us."

The people of Great Britain disregarded and spurned the solemn warnings in regards to Germany of their greatest soldier—

Lord Roberts—and we know that as a direct result of their doing so hundreds of thousands of lives of the cream of the race were sacrificed because of the unpreparedness of the Nation.

Let us not repeat that hideous and horrible blunder by disregarding the solemn and serious request of the distinguished Commander-in-chief of our Forces and his principal officers.

General Mewburn, the new Minister of Militia, in a recently published official statement, said:—

“The infantry recruits in Canada are fewer than the month's losses in the Canadian infantry in France. Every month a certain number of thousands of infantry recruits must leave the reserve battalions in England to go to France. Every month a smaller number of these recruits comes to these battalions from Canada—so the reservoir in England becomes smaller; and so we must contemplate either disappearance of the reserves in England or the procuring in Canada of a greater number of recruits.”

THE UNION GOVERNMENT STANDS BY COMPULSORY SERVICE

The Union Government is definitely and irrevocably committed to “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 (Conscription by selective draft) 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.”

There is nothing uncertain or vague in that language which we have quoted from the Prime Minister's Manifesto issued after the formation of the Union Government. It means that quick, sure and decisive action will be taken to reinforce our forces at the front and maintain Canada's proud standing in the Allied ranks.

THE LAURIER POLICY

On the other hand, the policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who leads the Opposition in the coming election, is clearly and definitely against Conscription, and is, moreover, a policy of uncertainty, procrastination and delay. Sir Wilfrid has pronounced himself as irrevocably opposed to Conscription. The policy he will pursue, if returned to power, is set forth in his election Manifesto thus:—

“As to the present Military Service Act, my policy will be not to proceed further under its provisions until the people have an opportunity to pronounce upon it by way of a referendum. I pledge myself forthwith to submit the Act to the people and with my followers to carry out the wishes of the majority of the nation as thus expressed.”

Analyze that attitude for a moment or two. We are now in the midst of an election, the preparation for, and the carrying on of, which diverts from the prosecution of the war more or less of the time of the Government for from two to three months, and if Sir Wilfrid be elected we are to have another election, in the form of a referendum, which will occupy at least three months, during which the war preparations of the nation on this side of the Atlantic will be at a standstill.

Assuming that on a referendum the people voted against Conscription, what would follow? Suppose the voluntary enlistment plan were again put into operation. What would be the chances of it succeeding? Not one in ten thousand. That plan practically exhausted itself months ago, and it would not be resurrected with success, in the face of knowledge that Conscription could not be resorted to. The very best evidence that could be adduced on this score is the record of claims for exemption from Military Service which amounted to over 90 per cent. of all the young men who were called upon to register.

It will be obvious from the foregoing analysis of the situation that on the one hand we have the Union Government with its declared policy of vigorous, continued prosecution of the war by the selective draft conscription of men, as the only practicable and fair means to adopt, and on the other hand you have a policy which is clearly antagonistic to conscription, and uncertain in its terms, but certain as to the serious delay which it would cause in Canada's prosecution of the war.

It should not be difficult for right and clear-thinking people to decide. Delay and uncertainty at this critical time in the history of the war when every man added to the fighting forces of the Allies and every additional ounce of power, counts tremendously, and may be the means of sparing thousands of lives through achieving early victory, is simply unthinkable. In view of the failure of Voluntary Recruiting and the enormous percentage of men claiming exemption from compulsory Military Service, Sir Wilfrid's attitude is tantamount to a notification to our Allies that we cannot and will not send more men to the front—that we have done enough. His proposals amount to letting the slacker continue to slack and letting the brave continue to fight to maintain the freedom of the coward.

CONSCRIPTION NOT PLEASANT, BUT FAIR AND ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY

The conscription of men for fighting purposes is by no means a pleasant task for any free nation or Government to undertake and it is particularly unpleasant in this country of people ac

customed to almost boundless freedom; but we submit, the unpleasant features of it pale into insignificance when the vital nature of the issues at stake are considered.

The principle of conscription is absolutely sound and democratic. Citizens of a free State are not worthy of the name unless they are willing to fight against enemies determined upon the destruction of the liberties of that State. To quote the words of the Prime Minister.

“It is a principle as old as the principle of self Government, that while the State owes to its citizens certain duties, the citizen also owes corresponding duties to the State. To the citizen the State assures protection and security of his person and property, the enforcement of law and orderly government. To the State, each citizen owes a duty of service, the highest duty of all is the obligation to assist in defending the rights, the institutions and the liberties of his country. I desire to express my profound conviction that there never has been, and there never will be, an occasion when that duty could be more manifest, more urgent, or more imperative than at the present time.”

If this were a small unimportant war we could understand that the principle of voluntary enlistment only should apply, but considering the fact that it is a world struggle, and that civilization and individual liberty are at stake, surely it is grossly unfair that while one half of the physically fit young men of the Country are fighting the battles of all of us in Flanders and France, the other half remain securely at home in the enjoyment too, speaking generally, of emoluments and return for their labors greater than ever before. Is that consonant with the true spirit of democracy?

Is it right or fair that one, two or three boys in a family should enlist and perhaps be killed or wounded while not one of the boys of the family next door are called upon to leave their sheltered home or to render any national service whatever?

Canada owes a mighty debt of gratitude to the hundreds of thousands of her sons who of their own free will shouldered the burdens of all of us in this Titanic struggle, and made a name for themselves and their country for courage, determination and heroism which is imperishable. We may never be able, adequately, to repay that debt, but we can, at the very least, see to it that we do not put our heroes to shame by declining to take the only practical steps to support and sustain them at the Front with necessary reinforcements.

UNION GOVERNMENT ENSURES FAIR PLAY

It is important to note that the carrying out of the Conscription measure has been surrounded with great safeguards so as to ensure justice, fair play and impartiality. In this connection

the formation of the Union Government gives very much greater assurance, and should instil greater confidence in the young men of the Country whose interests are concerned. It is very doubtful indeed whether the carrying out of the law would have been a success if the Party system of Government had been maintained. Favoritism and selfishness being inherent evils in Canadian politics, it would have been very difficult to make the relatives of Liberal boys conscripted by a Tory Government believe that their boys got equal justice with Tory boys, notwithstanding the safeguards thrown around the administration of the measure.

The fact that the Government of the country is now National and non-party should obviate any suspicion of political favoritism and should therefore be a strong contributing factor towards the successful operation of the law.

To conclude on this subject of conscription, it is perhaps scarcely necessary to repeat what is so well known, namely, that conscription was resorted to in the two greatest democratic and free countries in the world—Great Britain and the United States.

WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION COUNCILS

There is no gainsaying the fact that the Government has commenced its great work, at all events, in a businesslike way. The subdivision of the Cabinet into two Councils—one specially charged with all matters directly affecting the war, and the other with Reconstruction and Development during the progress of the war and until after demobilization, is certainly a common sense practical step in the right direction. The smaller personnel of each Council as compared with the full Cabinet, will ensure more concentrated effort and greater dispatch.

FINANCE AND TAXATION

Next in importance to providing reinforcements of fighting men is the problem of financing our activities in the war. In this respect surely, better results may reasonably be expected from a non-party Government untrammelled by ties of party and interest. It is natural that a party Government should to some extent consider its legislation in relation to its popularity, and to the effect such legislation will have upon its supporters. What a party Government would be afraid to do in the way of taxation, a Union National Government can do, without fear or favor, because its primary and sole object is the good of the Nation as a whole, and not of any one party or clique.

Few people quite realize the enormous load of debt Canada has incurred, and continues to incur, through the war. Assuming

that the war lasts another year our public debt, after complete demobilization and after all expenditures are liquidated, will probably be between \$1,500,000,000 and two billions. On this basis we will annually, after the war, have to provide a total sum of from 270 to 300 million dollars to carry on the Administration of the country, pay interest, pensions, etc.

That means about \$40 per head in annual taxes for every man and woman or \$200 per family per annum, over and above Provincial and Municipal taxes.

To devise schemes of taxation which will raise the enormous amounts required annually, and do it in an equitable manner, will tax the ingenuity and ability of the best minds in the new Government. A grave responsibility is thrown upon them. That the Government is well aware of this is evidenced by the declarations of policy contained in the Prime Minister's Manifestoes, namely:—

- (1)—Adequate taxation of war profits and increased taxation of incomes as necessitated by the continuance of the war.
- (2)—The reduction of public expenditure, the avoidance of waste and the encouragement of thrift.
- (3)—In order to meet the ever increasing expenditure for war purposes and also to ensure that all shall share in common service and sacrifice, wealth will be conscripted by adequate taxation of war profits and increased taxation of income. There will be close enquiry into expenditures in order to protect the treasury against purely local demands, and to eliminate undertakings of purely political origin and object.

There is undoubtedly a strong impression in the public mind that the existing methods of taxation are inadequate and to some extent inequitable, and further, that some important classes in the community, well able to stand taxation, have so far escaped paying their fair share. There is also a well founded and popular opinion that we have been placing too much of the war burden on the shoulders of posterity. It will be the duty of the Government to correct these weaknesses and they may be relied upon to do so.

ABOLITION OF PATRONAGE

The new Government has made an excellent start in the direction of economy by abolishing the patronage system in Government purchase and appointments. That system was the curse of our politics and the bane of public life, and it did more than anything else to lower the tone of political thought. It was the root of all our political evils—favoritism, extravagance and corruption. Unsound in principle, undemocratic, unfair and

vicious, though it was, nevertheless it was the great moving spirit under the party system. The usefulness as a legislator of the average member of Parliament supporting a Government was destroyed by it. As a matter of fact he was nothing short of a messenger boy to his constituents. Most of his time was spent in doing chores for his supporters and in supplicating the Ministers and Departments for favors. The system also bred and nourished the professional politician who lives only for the spoils of office. The loss, financial and otherwise, suffered by the country through the exercise of the system is incalculable.

The action of the Union Government in promptly abolishing the vicious practice is alone ample justification for the formation of that Government, and it merits the approval of all decent, fair-minded citizens. It, moreover, is an excellent omen for good in the future administration of the country.

The expressed intention of the Government to establish a Branch or Commission for the purchase of all supplies required by all the Government Departments is another reform which has been long in coming and is warmly welcomed. The old method under which each Department bought its own supplies without reference to any other Department led to all sorts of extravagance and abuses and was thoroughly unbusinesslike.

HIGH COST OF LIVING

Apart from the war the question of the high cost of living most intimately and vitally affects the whole people. The prices of the necessities of life have, largely through the demands of the war, risen to such an extent as to make the problem of existence to the average citizen one of grave importance. While it may not be possible, consistent with stimulating production, to adopt drastic measures towards lowering of prices to a point satisfactory to everybody, there is no doubt that resolute action by the new Government will do a great deal to ameliorate conditions.

It is gratifying to note that the Government promptly declared their policy in favor of:—

“Effective measures to prevent excessive profits, to prohibit hoarding and to prevent combination for the increase of prices and thus to reduce the cost of living.”

“The encouragement of co-operation among those engaged on agricultural production, with a view to diminishing the cost of production and marketing so that the price paid to the producer may conform more closely to that paid by the consumer.”

Already the hand of the Union administration is seen in the removal of the old ban on oleomargarine, and in the imposition of restrictions on the sale, at ruinous prices, of cereals in small packages.

The control of the packing industry by the Government has also been foreshadowed in a speech made by the Hon. T. A. Crerar.

RETURNED SOLDIERS

Of transcendent importance is the problem of caring for our returned soldiers and seeing that they are properly restored to the arts of peace. For this great task alone, a Union, no-party Government is absolutely necessary, unless we wish to invite chaos, confusion, jealousy, animosities, favoritism and intolerable unnecessary expense, which would surely be the result of the performance of the duty under party Government. Judging by the past history of party Government in Canada it seems humanly impossible for any such Government to escape the charge of favoring its friends. In times of peace we, perhaps unwisely, tolerated that, but it would be folly and ingratitude to allow the party system and methods to apply in the treatment of our returned heroes.

The men who have fought our battles so gloriously at the Front are richly deserving of the best possible and most generous and considerate treatment that can be accorded to them, and that treatment must be on a basis of absolute equality and entirely apart from political influence.

The men themselves who know what it is to fight and suffer in common would be the first to champion equality of treatment and denounce favoritism.

The policy so far announced by the Government in this regard, is to provide effective arrangements for demobilization, for the care and vocational training of returned soldiers, for assistance in enabling them to settle upon the land and for adequate pensions for those who have been disabled and to the dependents of those who have fallen.

In his recent Election Manifesto Sir Robert Borden, dealing with this matter, stated:—

“The men by whose sacrifice and endurance the free institutions of Canada will be preserved must be re-educated where necessary and re-established on the land or in such other pursuits or vocations as they may desire to follow. The maimed and broken will be protected; the widow and the orphan will be helped and cherished. Duty and decency demand that those who are saving democracy shall not find democracy a house of privilege, or a school of poverty and hardship. The franchise will be extended to women, not chiefly in recognition of devoted and capable service in the war, but as a measure of justice too long delayed. If men die women suffer, if they are wounded women heal, if they are maimed women labor. And since there can be no separation in suffering and sacrifice, there should be none in citizenship.”

CANADA'S DANGEROUS AND DIFFICULT PERIOD

Perhaps as dangerous and difficult period as Canada will ever face will be that between the close of the war and the full resumption of peaceful pursuits—a period when in addition to restoring 300,000 or more soldiers to peaceful and employment will have to be found quickly for the large army of men and women now exclusively engaged in the manufacture of munitions of war. Reflect upon that situation seriously and you surely will reach the conclusion that during that time of great trial the administration of the country's affairs had better be in the hands of a non-party Cabinet whose minds will be free to reach the best conclusions without reference to political ties or to the effect their actions may have in future elections.

MORE POPULATION

After the war Canada's greatest and most crying need will be population. The enormous burden of debt which has been incurred by the war necessities is a staggering load for a young, sparsely settled and populated country to carry. We must get in hundreds of thousands and millions of immigrants to help us to carry the load, and to join with us in building up a new and greater Canada. And we can get them if we only go about it right. The war has transformed the world so that nothing will ever be the same again. When blessed peace is restored the full nature and effects of that transformation will be seen. The millions of men engaged in warfare will emerge from the struggle with their life perspective greatly changed, and it may well be that the majority of them will be desirous of changing their modes of occupation and living. Canada, still comparatively in its infancy, with its immense areas of unbroken fertile land, its limitless timber, mineral and water power resources and its untold fishery wealth, will then be the land of great opportunity.

The Government wisely recognizing this has resolved to carry on a strong and vigorous policy of Immigration accompanied by suitable provisions to induce settlement upon the land. A new Department has been created for the purpose and placed in most capable hands.

A PLEA FOR UNITY AND BETTER UNDERSTANDING

A plank in the platform of the new Government which has great significance and importance is that expressing the desire and intention of the Government to aim at a truer understanding and comprehension between the various communities both East and

West, and the development of a national spirit of united effort among our people, as the trustees of a great heritage.

Perhaps the greatest weakness in the Canada of to-day is the lack of unity. The progress of the Country has undoubtedly been retarded by the confliction of interests racial, religious and sectional with the result that, though we have seen fifty years of legal Confederation, we to-day have the small population of only seven (instead of 15 or 20) millions, and that too, widely scattered. There are many causes for this, the chief of which are misunderstanding, and the fact that large numbers of the electorate have thought and voted in the terms of their inherited political, racial and religious beliefs, instead of in terms of the Country's good. There have also been sharp differences in economic matters which sympathetic understanding might at the least have very greatly minimized.

Never was the need greater for standing together and sinking party and other differences, with the firm determination to work out our common salvation. Unified, we can cope with the enormous mountain of debt which has been rolled up by the war, and also successfully solve the social and economic problems which will be our war legacies, but if discord and racial and sectional misunderstandings are permitted to prevail, as in the past, the country will sup sorrow with a long, long spoon for many a long and weary year to come.

The Union Government has entered upon its duties with the strong, firm determination to give of its very best in thought and industry for the common good. It has no "axes to grind," no favorites to play, and no special interests to cater to or be afraid of. It has no quarrel with any section of the community and it seeks none. It earnestly desires and longs for complete unity of the nation, and will work earnestly and zealously toward that end. To win the war, to maintain the national honor and integrity, to avoid discord and disruption, and to conserve the nation's resources, strength and credit are its primary objects.

The Government specially counsels moderation in speech and action, on the part of its supporters during the election. This is essentially a time for sobriety in thought and speech, and for the exercise of the loftiest patriotism. It is no wise necessary for Unionists to use inflammatory or abusive language towards those who may think differently; they can with perfect assurance rely upon the justice and righteousness of their cause and the correctness of their attitude. Seldom is anything of real value gained by sectional, racial or religious appeals. These are the darkest days in the history of the world and of Canada, and men should accordingly comport themselves with dignity and restraint.

The Government would welcome the hearty co-operation of

men of all races, creeds and schools of thought, and it sincerely hopes for a realization by all classes of the necessity of standing together in this time of awful crisis. **The conditions are such that a long, strong pull all together is absolutely necessary for the salvation of the country.**

*Issued by the Union Government Publicity Bureau
47 Slater St., Ottawa
Brantford Expositor Print*

