

# PRESS OF ALL CANADA ON UNION GOVERNMENT

The press of Canada, generally speaking, approves the new Union Government. The following extracts from the daily papers of yesterday and to-day will be found very enlightening:

## Good Sense and Patriotism Triumphed

Under the heading "Union at Last" The Free Press (Winnipeg) in its leading editorial this morning greets the announcement of the formation of a Union Government with an expression of deep thankfulness that the good sense and patriotism of the public men who have been in conference at Ottawa during the past ten days have triumphed over the obstacles, real and artificial, which have hitherto blocked the road to Union Government.

"The personnel of the new Government is a guarantee that Canada is to have an Administration that will be disinterested and capable."

## No Doubt of Effect on Country.

The Gazette (Montreal), referring to the Cabinet changes, says: "The negotiations have been somewhat lengthy. Their result is greater than many expected. The idea that the first duty of a Government in Canada at this juncture is to take action towards winning the war is widely accepted. Otherwise men of such pronounced views would not have taken the grave step of separating themselves from their party, even for a time, and incurring the criticism that will certainly be directed against them from those who look upon the situation with less clear vision. There should not be any doubt about the effect upon the country of the action just taken. The Borden Government may go forward to the elections confident that on the issue that overshadows all others it will have the support of so great a majority of the electors that little else will count."

## A Great Task Accomplished.

Toronto Mail and Empire say to-day: "By right of merit Sir Robert Borden is the undisputed leader of the nation through the wilderness of this Great War. Of his unequalled fitness for that high trust he has given the proofs of heroic labors and of great achievements. The latest and most to the honor of his statesmanship is the establishing of a Union Government. He has harnessed together and hitched to the car of State a Government team of Conservatives and Liberals to bound forward with the country's war business. The idea was large-minded and the task of carrying it out was one of immense difficulty. Now that we have a Union Government whose chief value for war service is the giving over of party strife, let all politicians think only of what the country is about and give their full attention to that."

## Only One Side Now.

Toronto World will say to-day: "Union Government or coalition has been a long time coming, but good things are better late than never. The Premier has held steadfastly to the principle, and his persistency in seeking for a solution of a situation which at times appeared hopeless deserved the success it has achieved. For the remainder of the war all who wish to win the fight and to devote the energies of the country to that purpose will be on one side. On the other will be those who think partisan politics, of whichever party, more important than the war or the country or any other consideration. Those who oppose a coalition, win-the-war Government are as near befriending the Kaiser as he could expect an uninterested alien enemy to do in Canada."

## Genuinely Patriotic Very Glad.

The Star (Montreal) says editorially: "Sir Robert Borden's success in assembling a Union Government to carry on and win the war will be received with a sigh of relief throughout the Dominion. The genuinely patriotic people of Canada will be very glad to be rid of a real war election. For that is the meaning of this development. With so large and influential a section of the Liberal party represented in and supporting the new Union Cabinet, the necessary election of members to the House of Commons becomes largely a formality in a decisive majority of the constituencies. "The nation would be eternally grateful if they now accepted the inevitable and made it unanimous. Especially must the Liberal leaders in this Province feel their grave and far-reaching responsibility in maintaining a course which threatens—in a most regrettable degree—to isolate French Canada. If French Canada could have hoped to serve as the nucleus of a majority—no matter how mistaken in the opinion of the rest of us—it might have felt encouraged to persevere. But, with that hope gone, it has its own future to consider, and the tragic unwisdom of separating itself futilely from the rest of the nation in a time of perilous strain and stress."

## Urging for the War.

The Toronto News says: "Sir Robert Borden has apparently achieved the impossible. In a country especially given to furious political faction, he has succeeded in the formation of a strong War Administration representative of all the patriotic elements in the population. For his long patience and final triumph history will give the Prime Minister a place with Lincoln—that other statesman who, in the face of vicious opposition and heart-breaking difficulties, was able at length to consolidate his nation in the cause of humanity and freedom. . . . While the chief credit is due to the Prime Minister, his colleagues are also to be thanked for sinking their personal ambitions in presence of a grave national emergency. Nor can praise be withheld from the Liberal leaders who, after much delay, have yielded to Sir Robert Borden's insistence and accepted his generous offer of a half interest in the Government, though they represent only one wing of a minority party. The concessions made by Liberal Unionists, as by Conservative Unionists, are to be measured only by the strength of poli-

tical ties and associations in this country."

## Calls Liberals Treacherous.

The Edmonton Bulletin, under the heading, "Big Business Holds the Fort," says in part: "Premier Borden is still Premier, and the men who said a few weeks ago that they would not enter a Government of which he was the head have swallowed their objections and taken office under his leadership."

"The Borden Government has been the Government of special privilege and big business during the six years it has been in office. Its policy has been to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. "It had reached the end of its tether so far as public opinion was concerned, and awaited the verdict of the people at the polls to disappear only to be remembered by the harm it had done. "Whether the people of Canada will endorse by their votes such an act of treachery to life-long principles as had been committed by the men calling themselves Liberals, who have entered the Borden Government, remains to be seen."

## Canada's Heart Should be Buoyant.

Evening Journal (Ottawa): "It is a real Union Government and the heart of Canada should be buoyant to-day with the hope that now, more than ever, the war effort of Canada will proceed with a vigor worthy of our great cause. To the initiative and patriotism, the persistence and patience of Sir Robert Borden, the achievement of Union Government is primarily due; but Sir Robert could not have accomplished anything had it not been for the unselfishness and public spirit of other Conservative leaders and the patriotism and courage of many leading Liberals. Not merely does the Union Cabinet insure the disappearance of obstruction to conscription, and enable the utmost necessary further conscription, whether of men or money, but it will promote fair play in Canada in every war connection. Both parties now become equally responsible for public conditions, whatever they may prove, from this out, and all of us will be more able to realize that the absence of the millennium in public affairs is never due merely to party Government. Some things are always on the knees of the gods."

## Hopes Borden's Judgment Correct.

The Winnipeg Telegram to-day says editorially: "The Telegram, in common with every good Canadian, every loyal British subject, sincerely hopes that the new Government may prove to be as loyal, as patriotic, as enterprising, as energetic, as efficient in the discharge of its vital duties as its predecessor. "There are elements in the new Government in which The Telegram has no confidence. But this does not prevent The Telegram from honestly hoping that Sir Robert Borden's judgment may yet prove to be correct in all particulars, that those of his new colleagues whom this paper now distrusts because of their records up to the present may cease to play the bitter party game, and will give him that loyal, unwavering and energetic support to which he is entitled, which he received from his former associates, and which is essential to his continued success as the leader of Canada's War Administration."

## Non-war Effort Must Mark Time.

The Times (Victoria) to-day says: "The Borden Administration of 1911 has been replaced by a Union Government, with Sir Robert Borden as leader. While there will be keen interest in the alteration of the portfolios, this becomes in the very nature of things a subordinate matter. In Union Government departmental administration, except as it affects the country's war effort, inevitably must mark time, for the fundamental principles of differences in policies and would make any other course impossible."

## A Great Work to Do.

The World (Independent) (Vancouver) says: "The Government on the whole is a strong Government. There are many able men in it. They have a great work to do, and they can do it in a great way. One of the first of their tasks ought to be the abolition of patronage for the duration of the war, at any rate."

## Strength is Cause for Rejoicing.

The Herald (Calgary) says: "After the exercise of much patience and

diplomacy, Premier Borden has succeeded in the formation of a Union Government Cabinet. The Herald is rankly delighted that success has attended the efforts of the Premier in this matter. If the list quoted from the Ottawa despatches is correct, the country has cause for rejoicing at the strength of the new Cabinet."

## The Gravest Defect.

The Province (Vancouver) says: "The gravest defect of the War Ministry as a Union Government is the absence of any representative of the French-speaking Liberals. Its weakness in Conservatives of that race is also conspicuous. The Premier's failure to obtain the co-operation of the one pre-eminent French-Canadian made it impossible to persuade others who have large influence among the Quebec majority. Of these, Sir Lomer Gouin, next to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, could have rendered the most assistance in a merger of parties."

## Do They Represent Liberalism?

The Soleil (Quebec) says, editorially, to-day: "The question is this: Are these Liberals true representatives of the strength and of the spirit of Canadian Liberalism? We do not believe that they are, and are convinced that future events will sustain our view. In fact, the Canadian Liberal party, now freed from disputable influences, will begin the real struggle for the future of Canada."

## Canada Rejoices in Union Govt.

The London Free Press, editorially, says: "Canada rejoices in Union Government for one supreme reason. That reason has nothing to do with political personalities, parties or policies. It is not bound up in the success of any individual group or community. It has no relation to partisan political division. Canada rejoices in Union Government because she knows and understands that Union Government is another term for united national effort for victory in the struggle of the nations."

## Will Cement Opinions, Simplify Issues.

The Colonist (Victoria) says: "The Union Government should prove an exceptionally strong one and without a doubt will commend itself to the people of Canada, who are overwhelmingly in favor of a union of parties. It will have the effect of cementing opinion throughout the country and will greatly simplify the issues in the coming election. It is finally settled now that the contest will be between Unionists and Laurier Liberals, that is, on the assumption that Sir Wilfrid decides to retain the leadership of those who are opposing the military service act."

## Sevigny Remains Alone.

Le Devoir (Montreal), organ of the Nationalist party, says editorially: "The French-Canadians will be represented in the Borden Cabinet by M. Sevrigny. M. Blouin, who figures in the official list, will be his military duties to attend to. The situation is anomalous, but M. Sevrigny indicated it when he said: 'If my colleague Blouin and I abandon the Government, what other French-Canadians will consent to succeed us?' M. Sevrigny remains alone, because nobody else wished to sit beside him."

## Party in Difficult Position.

La Patrie (Montreal) says editorially: "In accepting office the Liberals who have entered the Union Government have placed their party in a difficult position, in view of the general elections. Their conduct expresses disapproval of the direction given to the party."

## Freed From Curse of Curses.

The Winnipeg Evening Tribune says editorially: "Canada now takes her place among the nations in earnest in the great war. . . . We feel that it is incumbent upon and the supreme political duty of all citizens to give the National Government every sympathy and every encouragement to carry on, upholding the honor, dignity, justice and power of Canada in the great conflict. We are, at least, freed from that curse of curses: pull and patronage."

## Let the Country Greatly Rejoice.

The Morning Leader (Regina) contains its editorial comment on the formation of the Union Government to fifteen words: "The old Borden Government is a thing of the past. Let the country greatly rejoice."

## All True Canadians Will Rejoice.

The Daily News (Moose Jaw) says in part: "At last the efforts to bring into existence a Union Government have been successful, such a body, in reality, as well as in name, having been formed. Over this happy result of the lengthy negotiations all true Canadians whose hearts are in the war will rejoice."

## Victory of Real Liberalism.

The Daily Times (Moose Jaw) says: "The announcement from Ottawa looks like a real victory of real Liberalism, not partisan Liberalism. It was Liberalism that initiated the National Government idea in Canada, that fought for it, and that eventually made its achievement possible."

## Canada's Need Realized.

The Herald (Lethbridge), under the heading "Canada's Need is Realized," says in part: "At this moment we do not know the program of the new Government, but we can conjecture without any doubt that the new Ministry will adopt an aggressive war policy and will bring to play in this world-war all of Canada's resources, not only men, but wealth and industry."

## Mr. McLagan's View.

Stratford, Oct. 12.—Mr. George McLagan, one of the inscriptionist Liberals calling the Ontario convention, said to-night: "I am hopeful that the new Union Government will

prove a new Government and a real Union Government, that its members will, for the period of war at least, forget old parties, and loyally unite in bringing all Canada's resources to promote winning the war. I believe partisan candidates should be dropped and others chosen who are big enough to forget party and serve country."

## Genuine National Government.

Commenting on the formation of a Union Government, The Hamilton Herald says: "From to-day, probably Canada will have a genuine National Government, organized with a single eye to the energetic participation of Canada in the world-war. It will be a Government to which members of both the historic political parties can give whole-hearted support. It was long in coming, but it is here at last."

## On Horns of Dilemma.

The Daily Telegraph (Quebec) says: "Sir Robert Borden keeps agitating with nervous desperation for some measure of support from the Liberal party, in which he is vainly endeavoring to plant the germ of schism. But, in doing so, he finds himself on the horns of a dilemma. He finds that he can get a few outstanding Westerners in his Cabinet if he completely sacrifices the Tory party. For the support of Western Liberals he must throw over the Ontario interests, not only that, but he will incur the genuine hostility of the Western Tories, who are already preparing to bolt, if the violent attacks on the Premier's Union policy in the Rogers press is any indication."

## Practical Value to Be Demonstrated.

The Calgary News-Telegram says: "Theoretically the Union Government which was formed at Ottawa is an excellent combination; practically its value will have to be demonstrated. If it can remove the profiteers from Canadian political and commercial affairs and can give 100 per cent. efficient war service, it will satisfy its existence."

## Expresses Complete Satisfaction.

The Saskatoon Daily Star, which has long been demanding the formation of a Union Government, expresses complete satisfaction with the composition of the new Government. It also pays tribute to Sir Robert Borden, saying: "Naught Sir Robert Borden has done in the past, and he has done much, ranks in measure of achievement with this."

## A Case of First Things First.

The Edmonton Journal expresses confidence that Liberals who have joined the Ministry will co-operate loyally with the Premier and urge that antagonisms of the past be forgotten. It is a case of "first things first." Warm tribute is paid to the Premier for the "patience, persistence and breadth of outlook" he has shown.

## Climax of United People at War.

The Saskatoon Phoenix says editorially: "News of the formation of a representative Union Government will be received with feelings of deep satisfaction by the people of Canada. It is the national expression of the united and determined activities of Canada to do its full part to win the war. The Government, as announced, is a coalition in fact, and embraces within itself strong leaders of both parties. It is the culmination of patri-

otic desires, the climax in politics of a united people at war."

## Sacrifices Half the Portfolios.

Le Canada, Montreal, makes no editorial comment on the Union Government, but heads the story, as an Ottawa despatch, as follows: "At last the Borden Coalition Cabinet is formed. "Mr. Borden sacrifices half of the portfolios to the Liberals he has gathered up."

## Triumph of Statesmanship.

The Nelson News characterizes the formation of a union with so many outstanding Liberal leaders as a "triumph of statesmanship by Sir Robert Borden that will go down in history as one of the greatest achievements that stand to the credit of the Empire's public men."