

Loyal Canadians Should Vote 'Yes' On Plebiscite

Government Should Be Free To Meet Any Emergency

The eyes of the world will be upon Canada on April 27, when the plebiscite vote will be submitted to the people of this country. Canada will be on trial before the world and, rightly or wrongly, the result of the vote will be interpreted, both by friends and enemies, as indicative of Canada's desire to do her share in the war effort.

Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid, not of their party, but of Canada. This plebiscite vote is not a political question—it is far greater than any political party or party leader—it involves the very existence of our country.

The plebiscite is being held because the Government consider themselves bound by promise not to send conscripted men overseas and believe that, under the changed circumstances, they should be freed from the pledge and placed in a position where they can act promptly to meet any emergency. A "Yes" vote will leave the Government free to use the conscripted men training in Canada to reinforce and maintain the Armed Forces Overseas, if this should become necessary. A "Yes" vote will release Mr. King's government from any unwise promise made at a time when all believed in the strength of the Maginot line, that Holland was safe behind its water defences, and long before Japan was numbered among our enemies.

A "Yes" vote will not necessarily increase the number of men to be conscripted. Men are being called and trained now, but the Government feels restricted to Home Defence and unless Canada, too, is to become a battle-ground, the war must be won abroad, therefore recruits must be found for overseas.

The Selective Service plan assures the farmers that they will not be robbed of their help, men essential to the farms being exempt from the draft.

Our enemies will soon make the supreme effort. This is the critical year of the war. If Canada is to do her part in this critical hour, our Government must be free to make whatever decision any emergency may make necessary, and this can only be done by Canadians going to the polls with an emphatic "Yes" vote on the plebiscite. To vote "Yes" does not mean a vote for conscription—it simply frees the Government from promises made when the things which have happened in the world during the past two years appeared to be an impossibility.