

the present time? A. Largely, yes.

Q. And that you do not hold any particular brief for the legalization of the Communist Party? A. Well, I think it would be a good thing to do.

Q. But if you stand by your statement that you do not believe that any of us should work these days for the increasing of prestige of political parties, it is not of much consequence if the Communist Party is illegal or not?

A. You would not suggest that the Liberal party should be outlawed on the same basis, would you?

Q. Oh, no. You are not answering the question.

A. Yes, I am. I say that in so far as I am concerned, I see no need on the part of anyone -- and I am not saying anybody is doing that; I am just expressing my own opinion -- for enhancing or trying to promote what may be considered narrow party interests. If the Communist Party was declared legal, I would say that its whole activity, I would say one hundred per cent, would be of a nature to enhance the war effort.

Q. But at the same time to increase its own assets and prestige and power?

Mr. MacINNIS: That would be incidental.

Mr. BENCE: Just a moment.

that would be
WITNESS: I think/outside the point, would it not?

Mr. BENCE: Q. What I want to know is this. As far as you are concerned in giving your evidence here to-day, is the question of the legalization of the Communist Party a matter of great moment in your mind or is it not? A. Oh, yes, I think it is of great importance. I think it would tend to promote national unity in the country.

By Mr. MAYBANK:

Q. I take it that you take substantially the same position