

went along. By this I mean that there were periods in the war situation, at least in the beginning, that had sufficient earmarks to justify the characterization of this war as an imperialist war. Certainly even this imperialist war could not be compared to the war of 1914-18 because in my opinion it took place in a world entirely different to what the world was in 1914-18. And just as no war is a pure war and has all sorts of other intermixed features, as the war progresses with I think that/a closer examination of the events that were occurring, some of the mistakes that were made and some of the mistakes that others made, some of them perhaps more serious than any mistakes we have made, and I mean in so far as the consequences are concerned for the war as such -- I think that there might have been somewhat of a different story to tell in the periods involved. That is my frank and honest opinion, and I am speaking for myself in this regard.

By Mr. BENCE:

Q. I should like to ask this question. If you were free to-morrow, and the Communist Party was declared legal to-morrow, would you be working for the purpose of increasing the power, the political power and prestige of the Communist Party?

A. Well, frankly I would say this, that so far as I am concerned, in the course of this war -- this opinion may not be shared by others -- I feel that the main work that any man should do now is in the interests of the war effort and not to enhance any narrow party political aims or aspirations.

Q. Then in your presentation here to-day you have been arguing really for the release of people like yourselves who are anti-fascist and in favour of Canada's war effort at