

the question, Rev. Father Chagnon will take another aspect, and Mr. Charpentier, who is the president of the Catholic Federation of Labour, representing approximately, I think, 50,000 people, will take another aspect of the question. We believed it might be better to just give an outline of our thoughts that have been put down in writing and then proceed if such be your pleasure, Mr. Chairman, with speaking from documents coming from the communist party.

We are taking the position that the communist party, as we have it here in Canada, should be in the future what it is now in virtue of the ban placed upon it, an illegal organization, whose activity is forbidden and in which membership is declared by law to be against the interests of the country and an indictable offence.

We take it as self-evident that a party or an organization has no entity apart from its membership; therefore, if the government has chosen, after due consideration, to ban a party or an organization, it is because the aims, the speech, the activities of the membership of the party or organization have been judged detrimental to the interests of the country. It is futile to try to separate the members from the party as though they could be Simon-pure while the party, an imaginary entity, might presumably be something else again.

Historically we have the facts: The executive committee of the party, after investigation by the R.C.M.P. were tried and several members were condemned to the penitentiary, among others the present leader, Tim Buck. To declare that the trial and the condemnation were unjust is to indict and condemn the bench of the country. Therefore, at that time, the activities of the members were such as to be justification for years in the penitentiary.

BY MR. HAZEN:

Q. What year is that you mention? A. I believe that