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consequentially the dismemberment of the U.S.S.R. He said that this attitude of Ukrainian organizations was pro-Fascist, and did not understand why, if we had a censorship in force, we allowed newspapers in Canada to publish articles advocating the breaking up of the territories/our ally, the Soviet Union.

I replied that, though the Ukrainians were a very large bloc in Canada, more numerous really than either the Poles or the Russians, they were not a factor in influencing Canadian Government policy, and too much importance should not be attached to speeches and resolutions of the Ukrainian Nationalists. Ukrainian nationalism, like Irish nationalism, was a pretty sturdy growth. Ukrainian immigrants in Canada were mostly from the Western Ukraine, territories that had formerly been part of Austria-Hungary and latterly had been under Polish rule. Their nationalism had, in the years between the wars, been primarily aimed at separation from Poland though, like all national movements, they aspired to union as well as to independence. He objected to the Canadian Ukrainian Nationalists undertaking to speak on behalf of 50,000,000 Ukrainians, at least 30,000,000 of whom must be citizens of the U.S.S.R., who had fought very bravely in resisting the Nazi invasion and who were completely loyal Soviet citizens. He pressed his point about the anti-Soviet articles in Canadian-Ukrainian papers, stigmatizing them as pro-Fascist. I said that undoubtedly there were some elements in the Ukrainian Nationalist Movement which could be so described, but that the great bulk of the Canadian Ukrainians were not in any sense pro-Fascist. We would be much happier if they would look at the world through Canadian eyes and think of themselves solely as Canadian citizens, but the process of assimilation took time. There was no doubt that many Ukrainian Canadians had cherished hopes for the formation of a separate Ukrainian state.

I explained that we were very reluctant as a democracy to use the censorship powers taken under the Defence of Canada Regulations unless the successful conduct of the war required it. As a matter of policy, the Government did not invoke the censorship to suppress editorial opinion however critical it was, even of the Canadian Government. It would be difficult to apply a different censorship rule to criticisms of Allied Governments. Such criticisms, though often irritating, were not really important and the use of the censorship to suppress them might well do much more damage to the general interest than could the offending articles themselves.

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