

Feb. 10th 1951/

Arthur Baing, MP,
Parliament Bldgs,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Art:

I noticed in the Province, Thursday evening, that you had taken part in the debate in the House on Controls, and that you had stated, in effect, that controls would be an end to our democracy. When there is this hue and cry from all parts of the country, and from people in all walks of life clamoring for controls of this, that and the other, I do commend you, especially when you must know that a great number of voters in your own riding will disagree with you.

To me, Art, controls is not the answer. There is inflation, yes, if we term the increase in costs of all commodities, that has and is taking place, inflation. Is this a natural increase in the price of a commodity set by the supply and demand of that commodity, or is this a fight from the Dollar? We have no faith in this dollar of ours. Today we govern our purchases not so much by the statistical position of the article that might be needed, but realize that if we don't buy it today, we surely will have to pay more for it tomorrow.

Some say let us tax us more, we then will have less money to spend. To me this is ridiculous. Even if it had some sense, what would the labor organizations do? Why they would demand more wages, because their take home pay was less. Enforced savings, what do they do? Make us all save and give it to us back at the same time and then we all have so much to spend. There is again an unnatural demand for goods. No, Art, give us sound money. You and I have grown up in a period that to save, have life insurance, put our faith in good sound government bonds, was the essence of sound citizenship. Putting your money in the bank today certainly is not good business. Those who had money in the bank three years ago, and decided to add to their savings so that they could start to build a home, where are they today? Farther away from their home than ever.

We must have sound money. We must have faith in our Canadian Dollar. If there is no other way, then we should we return to the Gold Standard. Our Dollar must be tied to something. A managed currency becomes a mismanaged currency. Our currency situation is shaking the faith of many people in our democratic system.

I must draw this letter to an end and will probably write you next week. I am enclosing an Editorial and an Article from this morning's News Herald.