Inflation

about. Mr. Speaker, with a Social Credit government, there would be an immediate change in the course of our economy since the money would serve the population.

Why is it that a change from blue to red does not change our economy? This is simply because the members of the old parties are financed by the same sources, and encourage and protect the same gimmicked combines with banks, if I may use that expression. This is why, after 100 years, we are no longer able to distinguish who is in control of what in our country.

Mr. Speaker, someone mentioned parasols a while ago. I shall try to speak about the heart of the problem. What is the cause of inflation? Producers say that it is the consumers. Consumers say that it is the producers. The financiers say: "It is because we buy too much." Others say that it is because we do not buy enough. Unions suggest it is because salaries are not high enough and that some are making too much profits. Still others claim that profits reach sky high and add that, due to inflation, extravagant salary raises are demanded. In such circumstances, those who should be members of a strong government fall in with those who are crushing the humble people and say to them through the soft and caressing voice of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner): "Tighten your belts, be reasonable in your demands". He said so a week ago.

Mr. Speaker, we are discussing today the food problem. Who is controlling food? This government, through its Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Ouellet), stated Monday last on radio that the government could not directly intervene to alter prices or intervene indirectly to protect the consumer since the rise in prices was due on one hand to underproduction in Canada as a result of the weather and on the other to a world-wide drought. Anyone aware of the situation realizes that it is a matter of overproduction. But who influences and controls prices then? Who governs this country if the President of the Privy Council himself admits that he can do nothing because inflation comes from outside Canada? Yet, Mr. Speaker, I know that he does not suffer from inflation, because his salary is high enough. That is why he is trying to bring this bill before the House. The small taxpayers, Mr. Speaker, they know the problem of inflation. If it is not the government since he admits it, then who is it? Give some names!

First of all, Mr. Speaker, everybody knows all about Dominion Stores Ltd. and how they feed us so well. Let us go tonight to the heart of the matter. I am not trying to put the blame for inflation on anybody, I am seeking to find the roots of that problem, those who are responsible for our economy and who control this powerless government. That store chain, Dominion Stores Ltd., the most important in Canada, is controlled by Argus Corporation, whose Chairman of the Board is Mr. John A. MacDougall. This means that he has direct control over Dominion Stores Ltd., General Bakeries, the second largest bakery in Canada, Massey-Ferguson Industries, the leading manufacturers of farm machinery in the country, Hollinger Mines Ltd., which owns our iron mines, Iron Ore Ltd., in Schefferville, which sends our minerals to the United States for processing so that they can sell them back to us with a profit, companies which also control Domtar Ltd., the largest paper and building material company in

Canada, and finally Standard Broadcasting, which controls CJAD in Montreal and CFRB in Toronto.

The same gentleman, although he may not be responsible for inflation, is one of those using inflation, with the help of this government, against and to the expense of small people. That gentleman is also senior director of AVCO Corporation, a 16-company conglomerate ranging all the way from a finance company to military contracts with the United States.

More important still, the same gentleman is a director and a member of the executive committee of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. To support him, three other Argus Corporation directors are also on the board of that bank, namely A. A. Thornbrough, financial adviser and A. L. Firley, junior chairman of Domtar's executive committee. It is amazing how those families gather together, and we always find one of our private, chartered banks behind that gimmick. Very amazing indeed.

If we are to believe the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), chartered banks are holy institutions, they are sanctuaries. Those sanctuaries control and overburden small-income people. They move producers against consumers, promoting struggles between these two groups. Owing to their actions, low-income people are affected by this inflationary situation, by the depreciation of money, as my colleague from Kamouraska (Mr. Dionne) indicated, and those people go on profiting by inflation.

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce vice-chairman John Leitch is chairman of the corporation controlling Maple Leaf Mills, of which he is also a director. And he is also a director of Massey-Ferguson. Those two large Canadian industries play a part in food production.

My fellow citizen working with Drummond or Utex earns \$5,000 or \$6,000 a year. In fact, according to Revenue Canada, the average annual income in my constituency is \$6,700, or \$129 a week. Workers follow the sales advertised by Dominion Stores and Steinberg's, to make both ends meet and give bread to their families.

These workers are victims of the financial system, controlled by the financial establishment that controls this government.

Another vice-chairman and director of the Canadian Industrial Bank of Commerce, Mr. W. F. McLean is also vice-chairman and director of Canada Packers, a company holding 500,000 equity shares of Dominion Stores Ltd., an investment worth around \$9 million.

It is surprising, Mr. Speaker, to see how all those families keep together: the world of farm machinery, the world which controls production input, the world which controls banking, which controls the marketing for Dominion Stores Limited. All this belongs to the same group of financiers, as said my colleague, the hon. member for Kamouraska. Mr. Speaker, only a handful of men are running the country.

In short, Argus Corporation owns directly 23 per cent of the shares in Dominion Stores Limited, and an additional 6 per cent indirectly through Canada Packers.

Mr. Speaker, how can small producers, small farmers, small tradesmen in Canada face this tremendous increase in prices if their income is frozen?