

Personal

Ottawa, February 7, 1933

H. M. LAY, Esq.,  
Barrister,  
Ottawa.

My dear Harry:

I have a copy of Evans' article, and agree with you that the question of the Government's expenditures is one of the most important of all matters before the country at the present time. The old liberal doctrine of economy in the affairs of Government continues to be as important as ever.

I have not time to go further into the question of the central bank. However, with regard to the question you ask as to why there should not be Government supervision and control of business generally, such as manufacturing, there is, I think, an answer which is obvious, namely, the Government does not give to other trades the right to issue currency over and above actual gold on deposit, nor does it grant the many special privileges which distinguish banking as a trade from trades and industries which are wholly competitive and which, except indirectly through the tariff, etc., receive no special concession from the State.

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William  
Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr.  
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)  
Harry Morrison Lay and family January-  
July 1933

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