

Bingham Lake Minn  
Jan. 23, 1955

*acknowledged*

*Fm-15*

Henry Hazlitt,  
c/o Newsweek,  
Broadway & 42nd St., New York N.Y.

Dear Mr. Hazlitt:

I surely missed your column, and was wondering how to find out what had happened, when the publication announced that you were ill. I was very glad to find you back in print, and presumably much better in health. At least there is no loss of punch. I believe one of the fine things about your column and one almost equally treasured by me, Raymond Moley's, is their brevity—Politicians are wordy—statemen, patriots are sparing. They do not hide two grains of wheat in two bushels of chaff—as Morse for instance, and then the wheat has been treated so that it is no longer fit for nourishment.

I wish with all my mind and heart that your message would reach our controls, the bureaucrats, the theorists, the astute politicians—if such a term could be applied to them. Your *It Can Be Balanced* (Jan. 10, 1955) sums the situation up so clearly. I note with some little hope that Byrd of Va. is against further bribes to foreign countries—of course he doesn't call it bribes. Once in history someone whose name escapes me now, said "The only way to resume (specie payment) is to resume." The only way to limit the debt is to cut expenses. We had a Minnesota Governor once, Christensen, who advocated what you rightly condemn, cutting the budget 10% (or 20%) "all along the line". Right indeed to speak of "appalling surpluses". Common sense and conscience are certainly cancelled here—and as you may recall it was "the awful aspect of plenty" which was spoken of 20 years ago. There is a *prima facie* lie in an economy where price increase is heralded as a triumph—This open-faced lie is due to fiat money which makes every transaction contain a large measure of falsehood. And how much there is in your statement of the belief (or shall we say feigned belief) "that deficits are necessary to prosperity"

Why not add to the objection to "overturning the Constitution (the Government) by force and violence (difference between these two terms?) objection to overturning the government by fraud, falsehood, and bribery? I know of no Constitutional phrase that allows our using public funds in any foreign country "we" choose. Public funds—practically all are expended with the excuse "If so much can be used for such and such a country, institution, idea, then we are justified to use what we are using without regard to expenses—" A family here recently sent the man of the family to a mental institute and at once the mother with her seven children become much better off, with almost no limit to the use of public funds under the ADC (Aid to Dependent children. Their TV still mounts above the house they occupy.

I must not write further. Perhaps columnists and many other writers become so because it is hard to find an audience vocally. I am truly grateful that you and Raymond Moley keep hammering away. O if there were some way to start a little opposition from the "people" and perhaps get a chain reaction—however it is mobs only it seems that react in that manner.

You probably write much more than the weekly column, and I ask you not to consider any ack. of this necessary—

*Frances Jefferson*