

*The Budget—Mr. Boulanger*

**Mr. Boulanger:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Sherbrooke talks more often about textiles outside the house than he does here.

**Mr. Graftey:** That is not true.

**Mr. Boulanger:** Every week, we read in the local papers statements made by the hon. member for Sherbrooke to the effect that the Conservative government has done much for the textile industry.

**An hon. Member:** That is false.

**Mr. Boulanger:** While we know what the situation really is. The textile situation is worse in Canada than it has ever been.

**Mr. Chevrier:** Plants are closing down.

**Mr. Boulanger:** Plants have been closed down. Those of Cornwall have closed down two years ago. Some are being closed down all over Ontario, and those that do not close their doors move to the Dutch Indies. In fact, we have noted that two or three industries had moved last year.

What is the government doing?

**Mr. Graftey:** Much, and you know it.

**Mr. Boulanger:** Mr. Speaker, what is the government doing to remedy this situation? There is much talk, but no action.

**Mr. Chevrier:** Much verbosity.

**Mr. Boulanger:** Yes, verbosity—

**Mr. Martineau:** That is like the Liberals.

**Mr. Boulanger:** —and articles in the papers. We will remember that at the next general election, and most particularly the people of the province of Quebec.

**Mr. Pigeon:** You are playing politics over the matter, like the hon. member for Laurier (Mr. Chevrier).

**Mr. Boulanger:** While we have 528,000 unemployed in Canada, and the number of jobless is greater in the province of Quebec than in other provinces, textile goods are being imported—

**Mr. Pigeon:** That is probably due to Mr. Lesage.

**Mr. Boulanger:** Here is what the government should do. There are means of controlling imports of textile goods. There are means of stopping the export of our labour force to other countries; we even have special legislation to that effect, providing that the

government may set up a price on imported goods which are being sold at a price lower than that of our domestic products.

We also have the anti-dumping legislation. But when is it going to be enforced? Two years ago, about 20 specialized inspectors were appointed to supervise imports, and most particularly those coming from the United States. Now a study of statistics reveals that imports from the United States are higher than ever.

**Mr. Graftey:** That is not true.

**Mr. Boulanger:** What are those inspectors doing—

**Mr. Graftey:** You are now at the other extreme.

**Mr. Boulanger:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Graftey) lives in an area where the textile industry is very important, and I wonder why he does not take the floor to talk about the matter, instead of interrupting others.

**Mr. Graftey:** Do you want an answer to that?

**Mr. Boulanger:** Why does he not talk about it in his constituency?

**Mr. Pigeon:** Mr. Speaker, could I direct a question to the hon. member for Drummond-Arthabaska—

**Mr. Graftey:** The hon. member does not state all the facts.

**Mr. Pigeon:** You are afraid, I presume?

**Mr. Graftey:** Would the hon. member allow a question?

(Text):

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. The hon. member who has the floor does not appear to be willing to permit the intervention. I would ask hon. members to let him continue.

(Translation):

**Mr. Boulanger:** Mr. Speaker, why don't they let me deal with matters of concern to the Canadian people in general and to the people of our region, the eastern townships, instead of showing fight. They are afraid to speak about the textile question. They have the right to do so as much as I have. The hon. member for St. Hyacinthe (Mr. Ricard) should come to the defence of the textile industry since there are a great many textile factories in his riding.

He should tell us what is happening to that industry in St. Hyacinthe, when two or three factories closed down last year.

**Mr. Ricard:** Which ones?

**Mr. Pigeon:** Name them.

**Mr. Graftey:** The hon. member is a joker.