

I would support this principle, but his advice has been ignored. I know that we play politics here, and that politics is the art of the possible. Therefore, I assume that as a result of pressure from certain quarters, perhaps, this proposal was left out. However, theoretically this situation can result. If a young man comes to this House at age 21, six years later, at age 27, he could start to draw a pension of \$3,780 per year. Given a life expectancy of around 60 years, he will tap the treasury for \$226,800. Yet a man who came to the House at age 51 and stayed till he was 57 would only get 50 per cent of that amount, given the same life expectancy. So, I would take exception to this particular provision in the plan.

My third complaint is this. There are few people in this great land of ours who at any time during their productive years or years of employment will be called upon to make such a fantastic deposit toward a pension as provided for in this plan. Very, very few industrial corporations have the unmitigated gall to charge their employees 12 per cent on their \$12,000 salary by way of pension contributions. Some people like to say that it is 8 per cent on \$8,000. I do not. I say it is 12 per cent on \$12,000 salary.

Having said that, I am delighted that the constituents of my hon. friend from Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) are going to receive some benefit. However, the average Member of Parliament at the present time will have a hell of a hard time making the deposits required.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

## TEXTILE LABELLING ACT

### MEASURE CONCERNING CONSUMER ARTICLES

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs)** moved that Bill S-20, an act respecting the labelling, sale, importation and advertising of consumer textile articles, as reported (without amendment) from the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Macdonald, Rosedale (for Mr. Basford)** moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

● (4:20 p.m.)

[Translation]

**Hon. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Mr. Speaker, before the bill is given third

### *Textile Labelling Act*

reading, I wish to make a few comments, since I think it will mostly affect textile workers.

We all know the textile industry is one of the oldest in the province of Quebec and even in the country. It is most vital because, with related industries, it provides a great number of jobs. In the province of Quebec alone, the primary textile industry employs at least 47,000 of the national total of 83,000.

The clothing industry is closely connected with that industry. In Canada, some 110,000 people are employed in the clothing industry, 60,000 of them in the province of Quebec alone.

Labelling should be carried out and that practice would be welcomed by all, because in the past importers have knowingly misled the good faith of Canadian buyers.

I greatly approve the step proposed by the minister (Mr. Basford) and while I do not want to delay the proceedings of the House, I will just the same add a few words.

I think that I will have the opportunity to bring the matter up again before too long and state to the House other reasons why the government should endeavour to protect that industry.

Mr. Speaker, the annual output of the Quebec textile industry is worth \$850 million. It is also interesting to note that between 1961 and 1966, capital expenditures totalled \$635 million in the province of Quebec. I am therefore of the opinion that that industry is of prime importance to the economic life of this country and our province, and we should do the impossible to try to assure its survival, for that is a truly domestic industry.

Between 1954 and 1968, the part of the textile industry in the Canadian trade fell from 68 to 60 per cent. If my information is correct, those imports are even less important now than they were in 1968.

From 1954 to 1967, imports of textile products and clothing from countries where production costs are low have increased from 5 to 43 per cent. Even if more information is given on the labels of consumer products, Canadian consumers will have lost much if Canadian workers lose their jobs.

From 1954 to 1967, the labour force in the Canadian textile industry decreased by 5.8 per cent, which represents 5,000 jobs. The other day I read in a magazine that if textile products imported in 1967 had been produced in Canada, 20,000 new jobs would have been