

to an alteration of words in *Hansard*. The Prime Minister replied on that occasion:

I know the hon. gentleman is a model of accuracy, and for that reason I would like the opportunity to say this. The blue copy which was sent down by *Hansard* is exactly as it appears today in yesterday's *Hansard*. I do not make it a habit to change *Hansard* in order to alter what appears there, except in so far as changes are made by my staff in the ordinary run of things. Yesterday when the blue was brought to my attention it did not contain the word "inexcusably". However, I recall having said that, but I would not alter *Hansard* in order to change the meaning or purport of the context prepared by *Hansard*.

And then on June 8, in the official report of *Hansard*, the Prime Minister is reported as having said:

Mr. Speaker, I think this is the first time I have corrected *Hansard*, but I think this should be corrected. It is at page 4363, following a discussion in which there was not that unanimity between members of the opposition that there is sometimes, and I said I would suggest that the two sides get together. *Hansard* reports it as "fit" together.

So on several occasions this session the Prime Minister has had the kind of running interference with which this particular situation again confronts him.

I think the Prime Minister, having suggested for our consideration what we should do in the future, would want me to repeat, and remind him in the house, of the words used by the then leader of the opposition, his former leader, Mr. Drew, who at page 1103 of *Hansard* for February 13, 1956 said:

I submit that there are well established rules in regard to the printing, in regard to the amendments, in regard to the nature of the corrections which go much farther than those that have been suggested. There are long established rules governing how corrections are to be made. Certain changes can be made by the member speaking.

Then the leader of the opposition of that day at page 1104 quoted a statement made by Mr. Speaker Black in an earlier session:

Instructions for any alterations in the official report of the debates should not be given without communicating them to the house in session, and for this reason, whenever I have deemed it advisable, to direct that certain statements be expunged, I have done so from the chair, thus giving a ruling which, under standing order 12, is subject to an appeal to the house.

These words of Mr. Drew and this whole situation will, I am sure, cause the Prime Minister to recognize the validity and usefulness of the words he used on April 12 when he said, "I do not make it a habit to change *Hansard*."

Mr. Diefenbaker: I thank the hon. gentleman for the references he has made. I can assure him and those associated with him that the most careful examination will be made of all changes such as I indicated that come within the purview of the rights of members, to the end that hon. gentlemen

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opposite should maintain the same traditions which they say apply here and with which I entirely agree, namely that changes must not change the purport and the meaning—and the change in question did not.

TRADE

TEXTILES—ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN EXPORTS FROM JAPAN

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I should like to inform the house that an announcement was made yesterday in Tokyo concerning the export to Canada of certain textile items. The government of Japan announced that, effective June 18, the issuance of new export licences would be suspended for a broad range of textile exports in the category of apparel. The announcement did not specify the term during which the suspension would remain in effect.

This action by the Japanese government is to be welcomed as an important additional step toward the development of a more orderly and effective system of export controls relating to trade in textiles between Japan and Canada.

As the house will realize, and as the Japanese government realizes, it is in the interests of both countries that trade should grow in an orderly fashion and that there should be no repetition of the conditions of 30 years ago, when a flood of cheap Japanese goods into Canadian markets did irreparable damage to Canadian producers and manufacturers with prolonged adverse results to our mutual trade relations.

The announcement by the Japanese government affects two broad categories of goods. One relates to spun rayon, cottons and mixtures of these and other synthetics, and includes such items as brassieres, underwear, dress and work shirts and skirts. The other relates to spun rayon, mixtures of spun rayon and rayon, and mixtures of which the main component is spun rayon. In this second group fall blouses and sport shirts of spun rayon; coats and slacks of spun rayon, including short pants, overalls including work clothes, car coats, raincoats and other dresses and coats, jackets and windbreakers, summer suit sets, play suits and beach sets, gowns and pyjamas; knitted underwear and outerwear, including T-shirts, blouses, sport shirts, sweaters, slacks, gowns and pyjamas and other underwear and outerwear.

Over the past year and particularly in recent months there has occurred an extraordinary increase in Japanese exports to Canada of a number of lines of textile products. The excessive inflow of such goods has