

C215259

MR. BRACKEN:

Criticism:

Pensions

Reference:

Halifax Chronicle, October 8, 1947

"We demand at the same time that there should be an adjustment made in old age pensions, and in the pensions payable to veterans and widows of the last war and world War I in keeping with the higher cost of living."

Suggested Reply:

In the last session of Parliament the Minister for Veterans Affairs pointed out that it was his intention to recommend the appointment of a Committee to consider the whole question of pensions to veterans and widows of both world wars. As to the demand that there be an increase in the old age pensions, when this matter was before the House last session the Minister for National Health made it clear that the plans advanced at that time should be considered in the light of a fully comprehensive social security ~~plan~~ ^{scheme} which it is hoped will be achieved at the earliest possible date. To append an Old Age Pension allowance amounts that have been suggested here and elsewhere by the leader of the Opposition would throw the whole program off-balance and would make such things as medical insurance, hospitalization etc. impossible of attainment.