

**Senator Phillips:** I am sure the witnesses know whom they negotiated with.

**The Chairman:** I think we are ready for the question and I would like to have a vote on it—at least on the principle of it. Then, if the motion carries, I am sure we will be able to find a name.

Those for the motion?

Those against the motion?

Motion defeated.

**Senator Martin:** Mr. Chairman, may we go to the bill now?

**Senator Phillips:** I have one further question, Mr. Chairman. I am a bit confused on the fact that Senator Martin knows so much about the mailout. It is rather unusual for someone in his position to know exactly the date of the mailout, the number and what is to be included.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I think it is only fair that we should all have the benefit of having seen the mailout. I would not say I would want the wisdom of Senator Martin, but I would like the benefit of seeing the mailout, what is in it, and the cost to the taxpayer, who designed the mailout, and who took the final responsibility; in other words, who is responsible for the mailout. Can I have that, please?

**Dr. Willard:** Well, Mr. Chairman, the minister is the executive head of the department. He has the responsibility for anything that is issued. As to the statement or material that will appear in the press that we are trying to get out by the 28th of this month, which gives us about ten days from today, we were working on that as late as this afternoon so it would be available for the minister who had to leave for Hamilton this evening. I think he will get an opportunity to look at that material tomorrow. He hopes that there will be approval at that time.

With regard to the cheque inserts perhaps Mr. Bergevin could make some comment on that.

**Mr. Bergevin:** The text of the mailout is definitely not ready. It is in the form of a handwritten paper because we do not have some essential details. We are working on it now.

Of course, the text for the insert in June will follow the special mailout by two or three days. We cannot work on all of them at the same time. But the text, the final draft or final mailout has to be Monday and the other one Wednesday. We cannot work on the two of them together. The insert will complete, if you like, some aspects of the mailout—you know, some details that we give in the mailout.

**Senator Martin:** The insert will contain what information?

**Mr. Bergevin:** Again, we do not have the final text of the June insert. Is that what you have asked? The June insert or the mailout?

**Senator Martin:** No, the insert.

**Mr. Bergevin:** The June insert will contain the table that Dr. Willard referred to previously on the various rates for the OAS, how the cheques are made up and what their

normal cheque will be thereafter. It is going to be part of the insert.

**Senator Thompson:** Does the mailout go to individual pensioner?

**Mr. Bergevin:** That is right, around June 15, if this schedule is kept.

**Dr. Willard:** A question was asked about costs, Mr. Chairman. We have our preliminary estimates. These are not firm, but this is what it looks like. The information notice to all pensioners will cost about \$200,000. The kits that will have to go out to non-GIS pensioners and to others will go out in July; that is, the kits for those 100,000 people who are not now getting GIS but who will move up into that category. That will cost about \$210,000. The advertising may be of the order of \$128,000. All told, it looks as though the administrative costs for the fiscal year 1972-73, will run, all told, about \$1,165,000 compared with the present expenditures that are running about \$9,311,000. So this year added expenditures will be heavier. Next year they will drop back to about \$173,000.

**Senator Martin:** Mr. Chairman, I have a series of questions I would like to ask that do not arise specifically out of any of the clauses of the bill. May I address myself to that now?

**The Chairman:** Yes, unless Senator Phillips has more questions on this particular aspect.

**Senator Phillips:** Yes, I have one particular question. I am not sure if I understand the witness correctly when he says he must have it by May 23. Did I understand you to say that, sir?

**Mr. Bergevin:** No, sir. I said the 22nd, Monday morning.

**Senator Phillips:** Why Monday morning?

**Mr. Bergevin:** Because I do not have the text now. I have to talk to my superior and find out what it is going to be like. I have to have the last figure, the one in the legislation.

**Senator Martin:** You cannot put it in until the legislation is law, in other words.

**Mr. Bergevin:** Really.

**Senator Phillips:** But is it not unusual for you to be put in this situation whereby you must have something completed by a certain date? As a senior civil servant you have, I assume, gone through this type of procedure before. Is it unusual for you to be given a specific date?

**Mr. Bergevin:** My answer to that, sir, is very simple. I was asked by my minister and deputy minister a question: "How soon can we get these cheques out?" We sat down with our partner, the Department of Supply and Services, and we prepared the schedule which Mr. Yeomans gave you a few moments ago. This is how we can go step by step. We went back and we said that May 19 would be our date in order to be able to come up with the goods. That is