

APPENDIX "A"**Payments to Nursing Homes under
the Hospitalization Act**

The following information is provided with respect to Senator Croll's request for a record of what is being paid by each province to nursing homes under the Hospitalization Act.

Two provinces (Alberta and Ontario) have introduced programs under which the cost of nursing home care to eligible residents is being defrayed in part through payments made under the provincial hospital insurance scheme. Three other provinces (B.C., Saskatchewan and Manitoba) have made recent policy announcements concerning the introduction of similar programs in those provinces.

Alberta Nursing Homes Act (1964)

This plan which is administered by the Alberta Hospital Services Commission provides that an eligible patient in an approved nursing home need only pay \$3.00 per day as a co-insurance payment for the cost of care. The balance, currently \$7.00 per day, is paid by the Hospital Services Commission.

The main conditions for receiving this benefit are that the resident:

- a. Requires nursing care in accordance with established medical criteria.
- b. Has resided in Alberta for the past three years.
- c. Pays the required co-insurance payment of \$3.00 per day.

Ontario Extended Care Benefits (1972)

Ontario introduced a plan in April 1972 which operates along lines similar to the Alberta Plan but with some administrative variations. Benefits are available not only in licensed participating nursing homes but in extended care units in municipal homes for the aged and charitable institutions.

Eligible residents are required to pay only \$3.50 per day and the balance, currently \$9.00, is paid by the province. With respect to licensed nursing homes this payment is administered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan.

The main conditions of eligibility are that the resident:

- a. Meets the medical requirements for extended care.
- b. Has resided in Ontario for at least twelve months prior to admission.
- c. Is a member in good standing of Ontario Health Insurance Program.
- d. Pays the required co-payment of \$3.50 per day.

A common feature of the two programs is the limitation of costs to the individual resident.

APPENDIX "B"**Comforts Allowances and Related Benefits**

With respect to Senator Molgat's question concerning comforts allowances and related benefits, there are marked variations from province to province and also within different classes of institutions in any particular province.

Prior to the federal cost-sharing agreements the provision of comforts allowances was not a matter of provincial policy in most provinces. It was left largely to the discretion of the individual homes whether personal comforts were to be provided in cash or in kind. Uniform practices have tended to develop initially in homes which are being operated directly by provincial or municipal authorities. Subsequently there has been a gradual extension of such policies to homes which are operated privately or by charitable organizations.

Because of the almost infinite variety of situations, it would be almost impossible to provide the kind of comparative statement envisaged. As a general observation it can be said that the trend towards increasing cash comforts allowances has been accompanied by a tendency to decrease the provision of comforts in kind. To the extent that residents are able to pay for their own cosmetics, newspapers, carfare, etc., the home administration is less obliged to provide such items.

APPENDIX "C"

Estimated Cost of Payment of GIS to Spouses (between ages 60 and 65) of OAS Pensioners in Receipt of GIS	
Estimated number of GIS pensioners with spouses aged 60 to 65	50,000
Average monthly payment of GIS to present GIS recipients	\$ 54.00
Average yearly payment (\$54 x 12)	\$648.00
Estimated cost (\$648 x 50,000)	\$ 32.4 million