

Dr. WILLARD: At the moment, in the United States, the minimum amount of \$40 is available at age 65, and in a reduced amount at age 62. In Canada at age 70 we have \$75, and in 1970 the proposal is that \$51 will be available at age 65.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: Mention was made in the Senate proceedings that there was a compromise on the proposals that were made. Could you tell us what the new proposed minimum is.

Dr. WILLARD: I have a note here which states that in July the House of Representatives passed a bill which would have given a 5 per cent increase across the board in the monthly payments payable to present and future O.A.S.D.I. beneficiaries.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: Five per cent would make it \$42?

Dr. WILLARD: That would make it \$42, and it would make the combined rate \$143.40.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: What do you mean by the combined rate?

Dr. WILLARD: Their proposal was to put the ceiling from \$4,800 to \$5,400, and when combined with the 5 per cent increase this eventually would have led to a maximum retirement pension of \$143.40.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: At what age?

Dr. WILLARD: At age 65.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: That is, to the maximum that we are proposing of \$156.17 after the transition period.

Dr. WILLARD: Yes, after ten years.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: After all, there is a certain transition period in the United States although they have not passed the legislation to date.

Dr. WILLARD: If you look at the record of change in the United States I think you will find that the number of amendments over the years have been considerable.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: I appreciate that.

Dr. WILLARD: In, say, 12 years time from now there could be a number of other changes, so it is difficult to compare in absolute terms what the comparison will be 12 years hence.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: And, I appreciate that. All I am trying to do is compare what the situation is today or what the present proposal in the United States is today with what will be available in Canada after the transitional period. Would you go so far as to agree with me, assuming no further change is made in respect of the United States plan than the change you have referred to, that after the transitional period we will have a higher level of pensions in Canada than in the United States?

Dr. WILLARD: Yes, we would.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: Now, Dr. Willard, I would like to refer you, if I may, to table 8 on page 25 of the white paper.

The CHAIRMAN (*Mr. Cameron*): If this is a new line of questioning, Senator McCutcheon, there might be someone else who would like to put questions in respect of table number 2.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: All right, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (*Mr. Cameron*): Apparently no one wishes to put any further questions in respect of table 2. Would you proceed, Senator.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: I would like to refer to table 8 at page 25 of the white paper. The table sets out the old age and aged survivors' benefits as a