

28. The Cabinet,

(a) approved the recommendation of the Minister of Finance that dues, payable to Civil Service Associations represented on the National Joint Council and their local affiliations, be deducted from pay cheques on a voluntary and revocable basis as of and from July 1st, 1953; and,

(b) agreed in principle that similar check-off privileges be extended to Maritime Medical Care provided such extension did not give rise to any real difficulties.

Old Age Pensions Act; recovery of overpayments during period
1927 to 1951

29. The Minister of Finance said that, during the period 1927 to 1951, certain overpayments had been made to persons 70 years of age and more who were in receipt of means test pensions under the now repealed Old Age Pensions Act. According to information submitted by the provinces, at the time the Old Age Pensions Act was repealed and replaced by the Old Age Security Act and the Old Age Assistance Act, overpayments amounting to \$564,905 were being recovered in respect of 3,948 cases either by monthly deductions from pensions or by outright suspension of pensions.

Section 95 (3) of the Financial Administration Act provided that the Treasury Board may authorize the Minister of Finance, in certain circumstances, to deduct the amount of overpayments of pension from any sum payable by Canada to such persons and that the amounts so deducted, less the portions originally contributed by Canada, may be paid to the provinces.

It was now for consideration whether resort should be had to the provisions of this section with a view to recovering these overpayments of pensions under the Old Age Pensions Act. Several alternative methods of recovery were submitted.

An explanatory note had been circulated.

(Minister's memorandum, March 9, 1953 -
Cab. Doc. 69-53).

30. In the course of discussion, it was pointed out that, although it could be argued that pensioners who had been overpaid, through fraud or misrepresentation or any other cause, should not be relieved of the obligation of making refund merely because their pensions had been

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