

## Government Rejects Bids for Veterans

OTTAWA C.—Pleas for more and bigger allowances to Old Soldiers of the First World War rematurely aged by combat duty have been made by members of all parties in the Commons. The government has rejected the requests.

Opposition members and some liberal back-benchers Thursday asked for improvements in war veterans allowances paid to so-called "burned-out" veterans more than 60.

They urged the government to accept the requests of the Canadian Legion to increase the allowances to \$60 a month from \$50 for single veterans and to \$120 from \$90 for married veterans.

A second legion request received equal support—to boost the ceiling on permissible income to \$1,200 from \$720 for single and to \$2,000 from \$1,200 for married veterans. The present income ceiling allows additional income of \$120 a year without a reduction in the allowance.

SOME \$40,000

Allowances now are paid to some 40,000 veterans or widows. Col. A. J. Brooks (PC-Royal) urged immediate action. The average age of recipients was 64 or 65.

"They are dying off very quickly. A month or a year or two years means a great deal to them."

Clarke Gillis (CCF-Cape Breton South), Victor Quelch (SC-Acadia) and Elmore Philpott (L-Vancouver South), all First World War veterans, were among those who supported the plea.

Veterans Affairs Minister Lapointe said the question is under continuous review by the government, but he pointed to the cost. He said that granting of the Legion's two requests would mean an additional \$18,000,000 to \$19,000,000 a year above the \$27,715,000 now paid in allowances.

Other requests that allowances be paid to First World War veterans who served in England would cost another \$5,870,000.

Granting all demands would increase the outlay on allowances 95 per cent.

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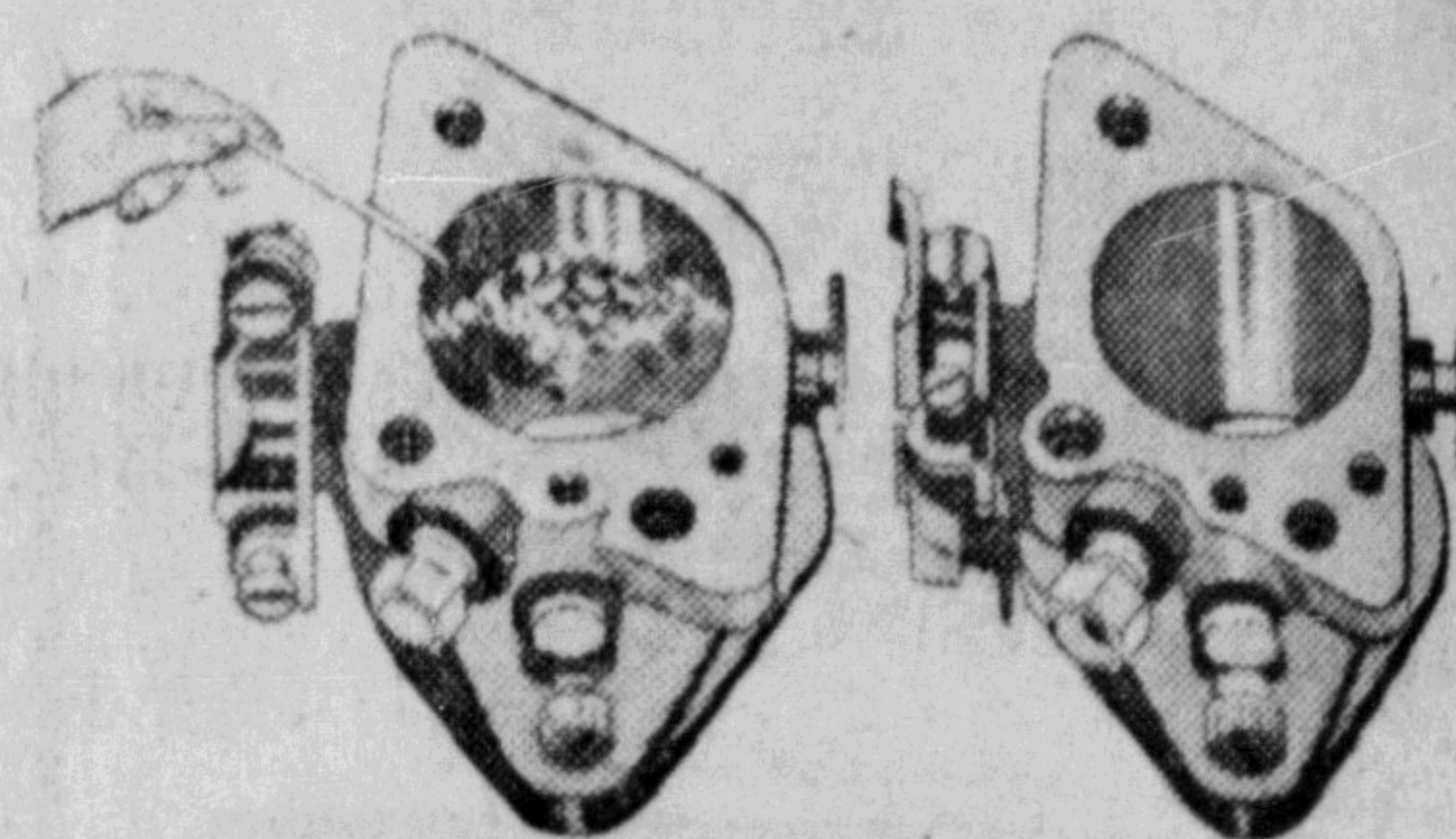
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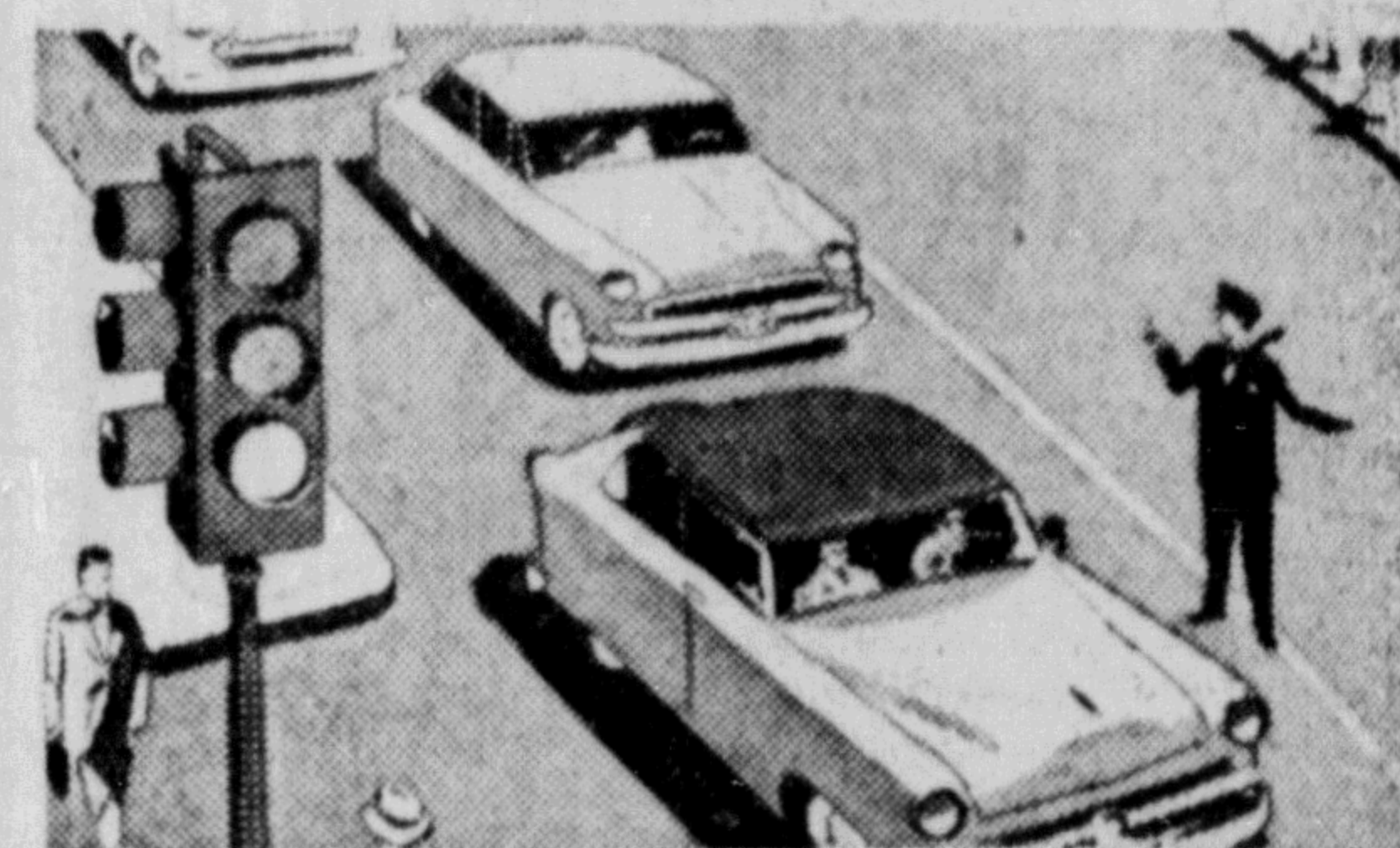
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