

Citizen Control of the Citizen's Business

TORONTO'S CITIZENS CAN CONTROL TORONTO'S AFFAIRS ONLY THROUGH FREQUENT, PROMPT, ACCURATE AND PERTINENT INFORMATION WITH REGARD TO TORONTO'S BUSINESS.

ISSUED BY THE

21 KING STREET EAST



TELEPHONE: ELGIN 1904

White Paper No. 90

September 15th, 1925

The City of Toronto will have spent out
of Current Account in the year 1925

\$28,074,823.20

less any surpluses that may possibly accrue during the year. This sum does not include expenditure on public utilities such as Water Works and Civic Abattoir. It takes account of deficits only on these revenue producing enterprises, just as surpluses from such enterprises under the City Council are a part of the general current revenue and reduce the amount required to be raised by taxation.

This represents an estimated expenditure out of taxation and incidental revenue other than taxation of \$51.10 per person—men, women and children—and per average family of 5 of \$255.50.

In 1924, using the same method of compilation, the total estimated expenditure was \$28,268,145.03 and the per capita estimated expenditure was \$52.14. In 1923 the per capita estimated expenditure was \$52.43 so that since 1923 the per capita estimated expenditure on this basis has been reduced \$1.33.

What the \$28,074,823
buys in Community Services and a comparison with 1924.

COMMUNITY SERVICES	TOTALS		% OF TOTALS		PER CAPITAS	
	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925 *	1924 †
General Government	\$ 3,814,683	\$ 3,875,872	13.6%	13.7%	6.94	7.15
Protection of Persons and Property.....	4,957,557	4,987,618	17.7%	17.7%	9.02	9.20
Health and Sanitation.....	3,403,933	3,461,192	12.1%	12.2%	6.19	6.38
Highways	2,489,924	2,464,030	8.9%	8.7%	4.53	4.51
Education	9,543,905	9,493,708	34.0%	33.6%	17.42	17.52
Recreation.....	1,458,567	1,478,547	5.2%	5.2%	2.65	2.73
Charities and Correction	1,734,538	1,654,044	6.2%	5.9%	3.14	3.05
Special Services	292,266	325,070	1.0%	1.1%	.53	.60
War Purposes and Special Grants...	379,450	528,064	1.3%	1.9%	.68	.97
	\$28,074,823	\$28,268,145	100.00%	100.00%	51.10	52.14

* Figures based on an actual population of 549,429.

† These figures based on an actual population of 542,187 and therefore differ to some extent from figures in White Paper No. 76 which were based on an estimate somewhat higher.

What is Purchased Out of the \$28,074,823
in order to make the rendering of the Services possible and a
comparison with 1924.

OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE	TOTALS		% OF TOTALS		PER CAPITAS	
	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925 *	1924 †
Salaries, Wages and other pay- ments for personal services	\$14,702,662	\$14,600,411	52.4%	51.6%	26.77	26.93
Other Services; such as transpor- tation, contractual services, etc.	1,158,510	1,063,269	4.1%	3.8%	2.11	1.96
Heat, Light and Power	933,910	938,177	3.3%	3.3%	1.70	1.73
Supplies other than Heat, Light and Power	2,328,330	2,393,911	8.3%	8.5%	4.24	4.42
Upkeep and Depreciation of Plant, Equipment.....	1,134,010	1,181,632	4.0%	4.2%	2.06	2.11
DEBT SERVICE	6,599,522	6,511,401	23.5%	23.0%	12.01	12.01
(a) Interest	3,570,978	3,526,054	12.7%	12.5%	6.50	6.50
(b) Sinking Fund & Installments	3,028,544	2,985,347	10.8%	10.5%	5.51	5.51
Unclassified	909,907	1,015,411	3.3%	3.6%	1.65	1.87
Capital Outlay from current funds	307,972	563,933	1.1%	2.0%	.56	1.04
	\$28,074,823	\$28,268,145	100.00%	100.00%	51.10	52.14

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IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE
THAT IN 1925, AS COMPARED WITH 1924
ACCORDING TO THE CIVIC ESTIMATES

1. The proposed expenditure for **General Government** is decreased \$61,189—this notwithstanding the fact that undistributed debt charges, an item under this function, increased about \$76,000. The reduction was brought about mainly by a cut of \$101,000 in cost of certain financial items such as exchange, bank charges, stamp tax, etc., the cutting down of sundry works to the extent of \$25,000, a decrease in the cost of maintenance of city buildings of about \$12,000, and the omission of the \$10,000 grant to the Civic Employees' Pension Fund. Really, therefore, little decrease was made in general organization costs. This statement is borne out by the fact that while capital outlay from current expenditure decreased about \$150,000 and estimated cost of supplies purchased decreased \$70,000, yet the total estimated expenditure for salaries, wages, etc., increased \$102,252, and will, it is estimated, make up 52.4% of the total expenditure in 1925.

2. The proposed expenditure for **Protection of Persons and Property** is decreased about \$30,000, although the cost of Police Protection, one of the items in this classification, increased \$29,000, and Miscellaneous Courts of Justice increased \$5,000. The decrease is accounted for by a cut in the Fire Department of \$12,000, in the Architect's Department of \$11,000, and in the maintenance or erection of fire halls and police stations of \$42,000.

3. The proposed expenditure for **Health and Sanitation** decreased \$57,000. The decrease is caused by a cut of \$35,000 in the expenditures of the Department of Public Health. The Street Cleaning Department also, by eliminating \$31,000 for plant, and because \$25,000 was included for an addition in 1924 where no such sum was included in 1925, and by a \$4,000 cut in administration expenses, were able to effect a decrease of about \$10,000, notwithstanding an estimated increase of about \$51,000 in cost of street cleaning, refuse collection and refuse disposal operations. There was also a \$10,000 decrease in vote for sewers and sewage disposal.

4. The proposed expenditure for **Highways**, in all, is increased about \$25,000. Cost of street lighting has gone up \$10,000, and debt charges in connection with roads about \$120,000. That the estimated increase was so small is due to a reduction of \$25,000 in the estimates for the cost of snow removal—a very uncertain item—and about \$80,000 in maintenance, etc., of roads, bridges, highways, etc.

5. The proposed expenditure for **Education** is increased \$50,000 and now amounts to 34% of the total expenditure—this in face of the fact that the appropriation for Public Libraries was cut about \$43,000. There is also an estimated decrease in Separate School expenditures of about

\$27,000, but the Board of Education's estimated expenditure increased about \$120,000, increased debt charges accounting for about \$32,000 of this amount.

6. The proposed expenditure for **Recreation** represents a decrease of about \$20,000, although cost of maintenance of parks increased \$18,000, debt charges \$5,000, and cost of playgrounds, etc., under Board of Education, \$20,000. The cut was made by the elimination of certain special items, such as buildings, etc., to the extent of \$44,000, by reducing the cost of improvement of parks to the extent of \$17,000 and of conducting bathing stations, \$2,000.

7. The proposed expenditure for **Charities and Correction** is increased about \$80,000. There is, however, a decrease of \$10,000 in the estimated expenditure of the Welfare Branch of the Health Department, proposed increase in cost of unemployment relief amounts to \$60,000, Mothers' Allowances \$17,000, cost of public hospitals, about \$9,000, other small items making up the balance. In connection with the public hospitals, while the estimated cost for care of free patients increased \$75,000, the estimated payments of hospital deficits offset this by a decrease of \$75,000.

8. The decrease of \$148,614 under **War Purposes and Special Grants** is due solely to the decrease in the debt charges on money borrowed for war purposes.

9. **Debt Charges** have increased until they are 23.5% of the total estimated expenditure compared with 23% in 1924. The estimated increase in this object of expenditure is about \$88,000.

A study of the above comments leads one to wonder just how long we can keep trying to decrease municipal expenditures without adopting more fundamental methods of control, is it possible that a thorough study of the municipal Civil Service and organization would be a more scientific and basal way in which to produce a permanent reduction in taxation, or to provide funds for desirable services?