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.

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The City of Toronto Proposes to Spend on Current Account During 1926

\$28,190,117

not including the expenditures on the Water Works or Civic Abattoir, but including the deficit on the latter, the surplus on water works operation being included in the general revenues. The gross figures are used throughout, governmental grants, etc., not being deducted from the proposed expenditure, but added to the general revenue for meeting these expenditures. After deducting from the total given above all estimated miscellaneous revenues available for 1926, provisions for unfinished work brought forward, and all surpluses from 1925 operations of civic departments and the Board of Education, etc., there remains to be raised by taxation the amount of

\$24,450,686

This represents an estimated Per Capita tax of \$44.21 out of an estimated Per Capita expenditure of \$50.98 on a population estimated as 553,000. The Per Capita expenditure in 1925 was \$51.10, and in 1924, \$52.14. The Per Capita estimated expenditure has, therefore, apparently declined \$1.16 in two years. This takes no account of unpaid deficits on city-owned radials or of the Harbour deficits.

What the \$28,190,117 is to buy in services to the Community in comparison with 1925

COMMUNITY SERVICES	TOTALS		% OF TOTALS		PER CAPITAS	
	1926	1925	1926	1925	1926*	1925**
General Government	\$ 3,282,273	\$ 3,814,683	11.7%	13.6%	\$ 5.93	\$ 6.94
Protection of Persons and Property	5,188,388	4,957,557	18.4%	17.7%	9,38	9,02
Health and Sanitation		3,40 ,933	12.3%	12 1%	6.27	6.19
Highways	2 514 454	2,489,924	8.9%	8.9%	4.55	4.53
Education	0.0/2 553	9,543,905	35.0%	34.0%	17.84	17.42
Recreation	1,549,721	1,458,567	5.5%	5.2%	2.80	2.65
Charities and Correction		1,734,538	6.0%	6.2%	3.09	3.14
Special Services	100 150	292,266	1.4%	1.0%	.73	.53
War Purposes and Special Grants	214 525	379,450	.8%	1.3%	.39	.68
TOTALS	\$28,190,117	\$28,074,823	100.%	100.%	\$50,98	\$51,10

^{*}Figures based on estimated population of 553,000.

What is to be Purchased out of the \$28,190,117 in order to produce these services (in comparison with 1925 estimates)

OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURES	TOTALS		% OF TOTALS		PER CAPITAS	
	1926	1925	1926	1925	1926	1925
Salaries and Wages and Other Payments for Services of persons, such as retiring allowances, fees, etc.	\$14,960,927	\$14,702,662	53.1%	52.4%	\$27.06	\$26.77
Other Services, such as Transportations, communication contractual services, etc Heat, Light and Power	1,239,823 898,671	1,158,510 933,910	4.4%	4.1%		2.11 1.70 4.24
Supplies other than H.L. & P. Upkeep and Depreciation of Plant and Equipment	2,463,045 1,486,417	2,328,330	8.7% 5.3%	8.3%		2,06
Debt Service	1010100	6,599,522 3,570,978 3,028,544	21.5% 12.0% 9.5%	23 5 % 12.7 % 10.8 %	96.09	
Unclassified Capital Outlay from Cur. Fds.	964,471	909,907 307,972	3.4%	3.3%		1.65
TOTALS	\$28,190,117	\$28,074,823	100.%	100.%	\$50,98	\$51.10

IT IS TO BE NOTED THAT

The Civic business analyzed and classified on the previous page is only a part and a continually decreasing part of the city's business as a whole. The expenditure of the trading operations, such as the Hydro, the Toronto Transportation Commission, the Harbour Board, the Canadian National Exhibition, the Water Works and the Civic Abattoir are not included. These amount to some \$27,000,000 more annually. The city's business, therefore, represents an annual sum of about \$55,000,000, an amount which would have staggered men of an earlier generation. The amount represented in the regular civic estimates is about 51% of the total business and is of most direct interest to the taxpayer inasmuch as the general taxes account for over 86% of this 51%.

Nor are the results of the operation of the utilities of no moment to taxpaying citizens. The estimated surplus of the Water Works in 1926 reduces taxation by over \$700,000, and the estimated Abattoir deficit and the Housing deficit increase it by \$27,000. The deficit on the Metropolitan Radial for the first six months of its fiscal year has just been announced as about \$162,000, an increase of about \$20,000 over the corresponding period of the previous year.

There is, therefore, no part of the community's public business which is not important from the standpoint of the taxpayer, and it is essential that all parts should be efficiently and economically administered.

^{**}Figures based on actual population of 549,429.

The Civic Estimates have, of recent years, greatly improved in form, but owing to the fact that the estimates are, as yet, unstandardized as between departments, it is still necessary for the Bureau to make arbitrary divisions of some totals in making this analysis. While the totals are therefore accurate there may be slight variations in the sub-totals, not sufficient, however, to affect the percentages or per capitas.

The results are sufficiently close to the facts to indicate the main features of the civic administration and are presented herewith as indicating the Bureau's belief that the estimates and accounts of all departments should be standardized throughout so as to assist the Council to supervise more effectively the civic expenditures.

The large sums spent on salaries and wages continue to offer a convincing argument for a thorough administrative survey of civic departments and of outside boards, particularly from the standpoint of personnel.