

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. 114

June 14th, 1927

Toronto's Current Budget for 1927 STORY NO. 3.

As stated in Story No. 2 of this series, the **net** general taxation for 1927 is to be

\$26,972,984

and the gross current expenditure, including those of the Board of Education and Separate School Board, but not including any expenditures on publicly owned utilities but only such deficits on these as may occur is to be

\$30,126,925

Owing to continued improvements in the form of estimates by the extension of the principle of including deficits only of special services in general expenditure, it is necessary to adjust slightly the estimated expenditures as above given in order to render them comparable with those of the four years immediately preceding.

The pages within contain such a comparison, showing proposed expenditure by "object" i.e., the classes of things necessary to be purchased in order to make possible the performance of the general functions shown in the classification of Story No. 2 in this series.

COMPARISON OF ESTIMATED CIVIC EXPENDITURES FROM CURRENT FUNDS
BY "OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE"

OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE	T O T A L S					P E R C A P I T A S					P E R C E N T O F T O T A L E X P E N D I T U R E S				
	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1927*	1926	1925	1924	1923	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923
Salaries and Wages and other payments for the services of persons such as retiring allowances, fees, etc.	\$15,500,915	\$14,960,927	\$14,702,662	\$14,600,411	\$14,388,053	\$27.30	\$26.88	\$26.77	\$26.93	\$26.71	51.0	53.1	52.4	51.6	50.9
Other Services, such as Transportation, Communications, Contractual Services, etc.	1,383,210	1,239,823	1,158,510	1,063,269	1,113,644	2.44	2.23	2.11	1.96	2.07	4.5	4.4	4.1	3.8	4.0
Heat, Light and Power.....	883,715	898,671	993,910	938,177	884,788	1.56	1.61	1.70	1.73	1.64	2.9	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.1
Supplies, other than Heat, Light and Power.....	2,421,147	2,463,045	2,328,330	2,393,911	2,568,693	4.26	4.42	4.24	4.42	4.77	8.0	8.7	8.3	8.5	9.1
Upkeep and Depreciation of Plant and Equipment.....	1,268,003	1,337,453	1,134,010	1,181,632	1,088,022	2.23	2.40	2.06	2.18	2.02	4.2	4.8	4.0	4.2	3.8
Debt Service.....	6,195,804	6,062,100	6,599,522	6,511,401	6,415,795	10.91	10.89	12.01	12.01	11.90	20.4	21.5	23.5	23.0	22.7
(a) Interest.....	3,591,989	3,369,671	3,570,978	3,526,054	3,594,513	6.33	6.05	6.50	6.50	6.67	11.8	12.0	12.7	12.5	12.7
(b) Sinking Funds and Instalments.....	2,603,815	2,692,429	3,028,544	2,985,347	2,821,282	4.58	4.84	5.51	5.51	5.23	8.6	9.5	10.8	10.5	10.0
Unclassified.....	2,108,011	964,471	909,907	1,015,411	1,113,489	4.21	1.73	1.65	1.87	2.07	6.9	3.4	3.3	3.6	4.0
Capital Outlay from Current Funds.....	366,120	262,964	307,972	563,933	673,953	.64	.48	.56	1.04	1.25	1.2	.9	1.1	2.0	2.4
Total on Present Basis.....	\$30,126,925														
Adjustments to make comparable with preceding years (special services). ..	282,491										.9				
Comparable Totals.....	\$30,409,416	\$28,190,117	\$28,074,823	\$28,268,145	\$28,246,437	\$53.55	\$50.64	\$51.10	\$52.14	\$52.43	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

*On estimated population.

NOTES--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 capita very seriously.

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.

COMMENT

1. In the five year period there have been increases in the per capita costs of (a) salaries and wages and other payments for the services of persons (b) other services (c) upkeep and depreciation of plant and equipment (d) unclassified, including deficits on certain special services, mostly occurring in 1927 through payments on harbour and radial deficits.
2. The estimated payments for salaries and wages, etc., for 1927, include the vote of \$40,000 for salary adjustments. The payments under education for salaries, wages, etc., have increased during the five year period and accounted for about half of the total increase under this head in 1927 over 1926. The percentages of the total expenditure devoted to salaries and wages, etc., increased until 1927, when it was lowered considerably largely on account of an increase in expenditures such as payments on Harbour and Radial deficits.
3. There were important decreases in per capita General Debt Charges and Heat, Light and Power.
4. The payment by the City of deficits on Harbour and Radials, or such portions as cannot be properly met from other sources, is a step in the interests of all taxpayers and citizens, and Council is to be congratulated on the acceptance of this sound policy. If and when any public services whose deficits have been paid by the City in whole or in part accumulate surpluses, these should be regarded as current assets of the taxpayers applicable to the reduction of taxation.
5. The most important item in the total estimated expenditure is that for salaries and wages and, therefore, probably offers the greatest opportunity for the practice of real economy. This is not to be attained by reducing rates of pay, but by putting into effect the main recommendations of the Civic Survey Commission and such other policies as are shown to be desirable. It would appear self evident that (a) where all appointments and promotions are made on the basis of the highest merit and on that basis only (b) when the service is thoroughly classified on a standardized basis (c) when salary grades, maxima and minima, are established uniformly on a just and sound basis (d) when all retirements are made according to a definite system based on the requirements of efficiency of the service and justice to the taxpayers (e) when as the result of the above measures it has become safe to establish a contributory pension fund (f) and finally when arrangements are made for the permanent administration of the system to prevent the otherwise certain recurrence of existing conditions, the citizens and taxpayers will benefit either by a reduction of the salary and wage bill through the arrest of its growth or by an increase in the amount and value of the services rendered.