

BUREAU OF MUNICIPAL RESEARCH

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

137 WELLINGTON ST. W.
TELEPHONE EL. 1904



TORONTO
CANADA

White Paper No. 223

June 22, 1937

POLICE STORY No. 2

Police Expenditure 1921 to 1936 and 1937 (Estimated) Actual and Relative

In fifteen years (1921-1936)

The population of the City increased.....	23.5%
Total general current expenditure met out of current funds increased	43.3%
Per capita general current expenditures paid out of current funds increased.....	16.1%
Per capita police expenditures increased.....	5.7%
The proportion of total current expenditure out of current funds which went to police decreased	8.5%
The proportion of police establishment to 10,000 population decreased (1921-1935).....	9.5%

Household burglary and theft insurance rates have increased 30% within a year. Although not included in the tax rate, the cost of burglary and theft insurance is a part of the cost of protection.

SOME COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Year	Population	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE		Per Cent. Police Expenditure † is of Total Current Expenditure	No. of Police per 10,000 population (no civilians included)
		Total Current Expenditure financed out of current funds	Police Expenditure †	On General Current Account paid out of Current Funds	On Police †		
1921	522,666	\$25,788,318*	\$1,842,463	\$49.34	\$3.53	7.1%	15.8
1928	585,628	31,222,525	2,253,153	53.31	3.85	7.2%	17.1
1929	606,370	32,760,708	2,512,507‡	54.03	4.14	7.7%	16.6
1930	621,596	35,500,110	2,835,238‡	57.11	4.56	8.0%	16.1
1931	627,231	39,061,539	2,605,514	62.28	4.15	6.7%	15.9
1932	626,674	37,678,877	2,635,551	60.13	4.21	7.0%	15.7
1933	623,562	35,225,088	2,465,764	56.49	3.95	7.0%	15.4
1934	629,285	35,958,647	2,476,595	57.14	3.94	6.9%	15.3
1935	638,271	36,486,738	2,484,528	57.16	3.89	6.8%	15.1
1936	645,462	36,960,571 (approx.)	2,404,781	57.26	3.73	6.5%	14.3
1937	652,000 (est.)	37,691,976 (est.)	2,512,110	57.80	3.85	6.7%
% increase 1936 over 1921	23.5%	43.3%	30.5%	16.1%	5.7%	-8.5%	-9.5% (1921-1936)

* Partly Estimated. † Including benefit fund payments and debt charges on police stations. —Decrease.

‡ The 1929 and 1930 costs contain a large amount of capital expenditure re the signal system. The 1935 costs contain an amount of capital expenditure re the radio system.

C O M M E N T

1. With one slight break the number of the police force per 10,000 population has declined steadily since 1928 and was materially lower in 1936 than in 1921. In absolute numbers the force is the smallest since 1927.
2. The per capita cost of the police to the citizens is the same as in 1928. The total per capita expenditure for all services is much higher than in 1928.
3. The percentage of the total expenditure going to police is materially lower (as shown in the 1937 estimates) than in 1921 or 1928.

Have you read the 1935 report of the Chief Constable? If not, read Chapter 3 "Reorganization and Development" dealing largely with Radio Equipment and the re-established Police Training School. Also read the paragraph on Transport, p. 13. In 1935, departmental motor vehicles travelled nearly two million miles. Some of them look, act and sound like it. A copy of the 1935 report may be obtained by communicating with the Police Department.

THE SERIES

In story No. 1, in this series, the following features were emphasized:

1. Police administration in all fields has become much more complicated in recent years.
2. Mechanical aids of the most advanced type and in the highest state of efficiency are absolutely necessary to cope with modern police problems.
3. The Toronto Police establishment per 10,000 population was in 1935 lower than in 1921 and in total than in 1929, the year before the onset of the depression, (by 44).
4. Police "occurrences" were more frequent per 1,000 population in 1935 than in 1929, the year before the onset of the depression, by 32%.
5. As in London, England, (and in most large British cities), the provision of mechanical equipment has controlled the increase in size of the police force.
6. The decision as to which is better in the interests of society, an increase in and improvement of mechanical equipment or an increase in personnel or both, particularly in a time of financial stringency is of the greatest importance to the citizens.
7. There is a limit beyond which an increase in personnel cannot be avoided and is not desirable from the standpoint of the protection of society from predatory interests.

In story No. 3, the next in the series, increased demands on the Police Department will be discussed and information given as to the increase in motor vehicle registration, tourist traffic, crime "pressure", following increase in population, etc., and methods of financing without increasing total community costs.