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

White Paper No. 235

November 24, 1938

City of Toronto

1938 BUDGET STORY No. 3*

The estimated current cost of general and educational services for 1938 is

\$36,441,018

The 1938 appropriations total

\$37,046,200

The difference, \$605,182, represents the added tax burden in 1938 due to the funding of current direct unemployment relief costs in whole or in part, since 1932.

Last year the corresponding figure was \$219,005. The policy adopted in 1932 to cut the then current tax rate, is now serving to increase the current tax rates. Unless absolutely necessary and to the degree that it is necessary, postponing payment for current costs is not economic.

^{*}For Budget Stories Nos. 1 and 2, see White Paper No. 232, June 14. 1938 and White Paper No. 233, September 14, 1938.

Estimated Current Expenditures for the Years 1928-1938 (both inclusive) Analyzed by Cost of Main Functions to be Met out of Taxation, Revenue other than Taxation, and in 1933 to 1938 inclusive of the Actual or Estimated Proceeds of Debentures Issued to Meet the Net Cost of Direct Unemployment Relief.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BY MAIN FUNCTIONS				TOTAL							PER CAPITA*											
	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1938*	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928
General Government. Protection of Persons and Property Health and Sanitation.	5,016,355	5,773,381		\$ 4,535,174 5,752,584 3,924,359	\$ 4,940,483 5,753,640 3,898,599	\$ 4,800,260 5,730,269 3,773,605	\$ 4,156,319 6,152,768 4,240,838		6,218,191		5,647,757	7.71	\$6.75 8.91 6.03	\$7.01 8.77 6.08	\$7.11 9.01 6.15	\$7.85 9.14 6.20	\$7.70 9.19 6.05	\$6.63 9.82 6.77	\$7.24 9.59 6.74	\$5.85 10.00 6.45	\$5.48 10.22 6.34	\$5.43 .9.64 6.34
Highways. Education† Recreation.	2,527,861 12,816,847 1,576,604	12,760,809	12,202,669	2,404,625 12,391,099 1,576,106	12,525,388	2,497,217 12,316,402 1,576,220	3,094,780 12,513,049 1,918,150	3,631,504 12,491,296 2,020,748		3,103,222 11,149,016 1,924,538	10,541,979	3.88 19.69 2.42	3.91 19.68 2.57	3.76 18.91 2.40	3.77 19.42 2.47	3.80 19.90 2.47	4.00 19.75 2.53	4.94 19.96 3.06	5.79 19.92 3.22	5.68 19.09 3.10	5.12 18.39 3.17	5.24 18.00 3.18
Welfare, Charities and Correction To be met out of Revenue (less D.C. on Unemployment Relief Debentures). To be met out of proceeds of Debenture Issues.	4,838,523 2,948,523 1,890,000		3,809,208		5,653,869 2,803,974 2,849,895z	4,994,243 2,593,452y 2,400,791	2,730,662 2,730,662 Nil	2,890,183 2,890,183 Nil		2,123,100 2,123,100 Nil		7.43 4.53 2.90	7.98 5.22 2.76	9.53 5.90 3.63	9.78 4.67 5.11	8.99 4.46 4.53	8.02 4.17 3.85	4.36 4.36 Nil	4.61 4.61 Nil	3.93 3.93 Nil	3.50 3.50 Nil	3.15 3.15 Nil
Special Grants	66,029 1,302,748 (Surplus)‡	62,879 1,408,745 (Surplus)‡		71,481 1,723,549 126,272	64,900 1,742,958 186,634	31,968 1,916,739 1,258,328	36,750 1,848,998 880,288		35,950 1,541,332 (Surplus)	40,750 1,302,383 (Surplus)		.11 2.00 (Surp.)	.10 2.17 (Surp.)	.09 2.53 (Surp.)	.10 2.70 .20	.10 2.77 .30	.05 3.07 2.02	.06 2.95 1.40	.06 2.59 (Surp.)	.06 2.48 (Surp.)	.07 2.15 (Surp.)	.05 2.52 (Surp.)
Total Expenditure (not including debt charges on unemployment relief debentures 1933-1937 inclusive)		\$37,670,074	\$38,132,690	\$38,750,524	\$38,713,916	\$38,895,251	\$37,572,602	\$37,486,425	\$35,206,777	\$33,009,077	\$31,363,450	\$55.98	\$58.10	\$59.08	\$60.71	\$61.52	\$62.38	\$59.95	\$59.76	\$56.64	\$54.44	\$53.55
Less to be met out of proceeds of sales of debentures. Plus current debt charges on unemployment relief debentures	1,890,000 2,495,182	The second second	2,341,360 1,440,324	3,260,000 1,017,124	2,849,895z 320,266z	2,400,791 12,239y	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	2.90 3.83	2.76 3.10	3.63 2.23	5.11 1.60	4.53 .51	3.85	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	Nil Nil
Total Current Expenditure to be met out of current funds	\$37,046,200	\$37,889,079	\$37,231,654	\$36,507,648	\$36,184,287	\$36,506,699	\$37,572,602	\$37,486,425	\$35,206,777	\$33,009,077	\$31,363,450	\$56.91	\$58.44	\$57.68	\$57.20	\$57.50	\$58.55	\$59.95	\$59.76	\$56.64	\$54.44	\$53.55
Population (actual)	651,000*	648,309	645,462	638,271	629,285	623,562	626,674	627,231	621,596	606,370	585,628											

†Current expenditures out of revenue from all sources, as with all main functions. Includes Public Schools, Separate Schools, Collegiate Institutes, Public Library, etc.

‡After borrowing over 2 million dollars for current expenditures on relief in 1936, \$1,792,500 in 1937, and \$1,890,000 in 1938.

*The 1938 population is the City's Estimate, and 1938 per capitas are based thereon. In all other years the per capitas are based on the actual populations.

yRelief debt charges of \$12,239 were included in the City expenditures for 1933.

D.C.-Debt Charges.

zWhite Paper No. 199 used the \$2,000,000 Estimated Unemployment Relief total mentioned in the introduction to the 1934 Estimates, but not included in the Estimates proper. In order that one year might be comparable with the others, the approximate actual figures given in the 1935 Estimates were used in the White Papers 206 and 215 and in this Paper.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS

- 1. That a detailed administrative survey be made of the City, in all its departments to locate any opportunity for savings or increased efficiency.
- 2. That a long term budget of capital expenditure be established in close co-ordination with the current budget and subject to annual revision by Council in the light of changed and changing conditions.

- 3. That a permanent advisory Town Planning Commission be set up with the power of advising on town planning, including zoning, and housing.
- 4. That the legislative machinery of the City be made more effective by providing for three-year "staggered" terms for aldermen, the elimination or diminution of the ward influence, and the simplification of the standing committee system.

COMMENT

- After declining for three years, the estimated cost of general government is on the way up.
- 2. The estimated cost of Protection of Persons and Property shows an apparent decrease, but this is due to a reduction in the cost charged for water to the Fire Department. Other costs increase in total. At the same time the cost of Protection of Persons and Property is considerably less than in 1929.
- The estimated cost of Health and Sanitation has decreased for the second time in three years.
- The estimated expenditure on Highways is a million dollars less than in 1930 and more than half a million dollars less than in 1929.
- 5. There is a slight increase in the estimated cost of education, although on the per capita basis, it is practically the same. The per capita cost is lower than in 1931, but is higher than in 1929 by \$1.30 or about seven per cent.
- 6. There is a decrease in the estimated cost of recreation. The estimated cost in 1938 is almost \$350,000 less than in 1929. The per capita is 75 cents or 23.6% less.
- 7. For the third year there is a reduction in estimated welfare costs.

The Bureau of Municipal Research is an independent, non-partisan agency, carried on in the interests of all taxpayers and citizens by the voluntary contributions of some citizens. Naturally it receives, and can receive, no support from governmental or municipal sources. It ascertains facts as to municipal government, analyzes these facts, and presents the results to the general public, along with constructive suggestions based on the facts. It backs no candidates, recommends no one for civic appointment, and has no axe to grind other than that of those who use and directly or indirectly pay for the cost of municipal services.