

# 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. 251*

*September 27th, 1940*

1940

## City Budget Story No. 3

The total amount appropriated from current funds was

**\$35,577,889**

of this

**\$34,163,233**

represents expense properly chargeable to 1940 revenues and

**\$1,414,656\***

due to funding certain current expenditures since 1932. On the general assessment this amounts to over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mills in the tax rate. That is, in war time we are paying local taxes on debts contracted for current purposes. Of course no one knew when the policy was adopted in 1933 that a war would intervene before these debts were retired. This only goes to show that an unsound policy once adopted may lead to undesirable results never contemplated and that the best policy is to meet and conquer difficulties when they occur. To postpone the evil day is only to make heavier the final reckoning which may come at a very inopportune time.

\*Direct Unemployment Relief. How much of this was due to relief of unemployables is unknown to the Bureau.



Estimated Current Expenditures for the Years 1930-1940 (both inclusive) Analyzed by Cost of Main Functions to be Met out of Taxation, Revenue other than Taxation, and in 1933 to 1940 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*										
	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1940*	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930
General Government.....	\$ 4,364,345	\$ 4,244,626	\$ 4,454,210	\$ 4,377,636	\$ 4,523,198	\$ 4,535,174	\$ 4,940,483	\$ 4,800,260	\$ 4,156,319	\$ 4,543,338	\$ 3,637,223	\$6.72	\$6.54	\$6.88	\$6.75	\$7.01	\$7.11	\$7.85	\$7.70	\$6.63	\$7.24	\$5.85
Protection of Persons and Property.....	4,851,358	4,997,764	5,016,355	5,773,381	5,659,197	5,752,584	5,753,640	5,730,269	6,152,768	6,016,129	6,218,191	7.48	7.70	7.74	8.91	8.77	9.01	9.14	9.19	9.82	9.59	10.00
Health and Sanitation.....	3,661,504	3,728,294	3,841,841	3,911,038	3,925,144	3,924,359	3,898,599	3,773,605	4,240,838	4,229,809	4,011,583	5.64	5.74	5.93	6.03	6.08	6.15	6.20	6.05	6.77	6.74	6.45
Highways.....	2,378,246	2,536,888	2,527,861	2,533,904	2,429,685	2,404,625	2,390,878	2,497,217	3,094,780	3,631,504	3,530,684	3.66	3.91	3.90	3.91	3.76	3.77	3.80	4.00	4.94	5.79	5.68
Education†.....	12,605,404	12,786,453	12,816,847	12,760,809	12,202,669	12,391,099	12,525,388	12,316,402	12,513,049	12,491,296	11,865,987	19.42	19.70	19.79	19.68	18.91	19.42	19.90	19.75	19.96	19.92	19.09
Recreation.....	1,464,209	1,518,770	1,576,604	1,665,246	1,547,659	1,576,106	1,556,567	1,576,220	1,918,150	2,020,748	1,923,013	2.26	2.34	2.43	2.57	2.40	2.47	2.47	2.53	3.06	3.22	3.10
Welfare, Charities and Correction.....	3,430,456	4,224,103	4,838,523	5,176,436	6,150,568	6,245,275	5,653,869	4,994,243	2,730,662	2,890,183	2,442,814	5.29	6.51	7.47	7.98	9.53	9.78	8.99	8.02	4.36	4.61	3.93
To be met out of Revenue (less D.C. on Unemployment Relief Debentures).....	2,886,456	2,824,103	2,948,523	3,383,936	3,809,208	2,985,275	2,803,974	2,593,452	2,730,662	2,890,183	2,442,814	4.45	4.35	4.55	5.22	5.90	4.67	4.46	4.17	4.36	4.61	3.93
To be met out of proceeds of Debenture Issues.....	544,000	1,400,000	1,890,000	1,792,500	2,341,360	3,260,000	2,849,895	2,400,791	Nil	Nil	Nil	.84	2.16	2.92	2.76	3.63	5.11	4.53	3.85	Nil	Nil	Nil
Special Grants.....	37,130	53,585	66,029	62,879	61,379	71,481	64,900	31,968	36,750	38,050	35,950	.06	.08	.10	.10	.09	.10	.10	.05	.06	.06	.06
Combined Deficits on Public Utilities and Special Services.....	1,195,869	1,253,596	1,302,748	1,408,745	1,633,191	1,723,549	1,742,958	1,916,739	1,848,998	1,625,368	1,541,332	1.84	1.93	2.01	2.17	2.53	2.70	2.77	3.07	2.95	2.59	2.48
General Deficit brought forward from previous year.....	174,712	(Surplus)‡	(Surplus)‡	(Surplus)‡	(Surplus)‡	126,272	186,634	1,258,328	880,288	(Surplus)	(Surplus)	.27	(Surp.)	(Surp.)	(Surp.)	(Surp.)	.20	.30	2.02	1.40	(Surp.)	(Surp.)
Total Expenditure (not including debt charges on unemployment relief debentures 1933-1939 inclusive).....	34,163,233	\$35,344,079	\$36,441,018	\$37,670,074	\$38,132,690	\$38,750,524	\$38,713,916	\$38,895,251	\$37,572,602	\$37,486,425	\$35,206,777	\$52.64	\$54.45	\$56.25	\$58.10	\$59.08	\$60.71	\$61.52	\$62.38	\$59.95	\$59.76	\$56.64
Less to be met out of proceeds of sales of debentures.....	544,000	1,400,000	1,890,000	1,792,500	2,341,360	3,260,000	2,849,895	2,400,791	Nil	Nil	Nil	.84	2.16	2.92	2.76	3.63	5.11	4.53	3.85	Nil	Nil	Nil
Plus current debt charges on unemployment relief debentures.....	1,958,656	2,581,538	2,495,182	2,011,505	1,440,324	1,017,124	320,206	12,239	Nil	Nil	Nil	3.02	3.98	3.85	3.10	2.23	1.60	.51	.02	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Current Expenditure to be met out of current funds.....	\$35,577,889	\$36,525,617	\$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	\$54.82	\$56.27	\$57.18	\$58.44	\$57.68	\$57.20	\$57.50	\$58.55	\$59.95	\$59.76	\$56.64
Population (actual).....	*649,000	649,123	647,803	648,309	645,462	638,271	629,285	623,562	626,674	627,231	621,596											

‡ The 1938 apparent reduction in estimated expenditure out of current revenues was not real, but was due almost entirely to the change in estimating charges for water to the Fire Department, by which both general revenue and general expenditure were reduced by the same amounts, about \$831,000. The change makes the figures of Fire costs more comparable with those of other cities, but of course, affects the comparability of Toronto figures of 1938, 1939 and 1940 with those of former years.

† 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, \$1,890,000 in 1938, \$1,400,000 in 1939, and \$544,000 in 1940.

\* The 1940 population is the City's Estimate, and 1940 per capita are based thereon. In all other years the per capita are based on the actual populations.

y Relief debt charges of \$12,239 were included in the City expenditures for 1933. D.C.—Debt Charges.

z White 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, 215, 235, 241, and in this Paper.



## COMMENT

During the struggle for existence in which we are engaged the paramount duty of a City Council is to cut expenditure and taxation to the lowest level possible consistent with the preservation of community health and efficiency. Anything less is shortsighted and unpatriotic no matter what the motives for failing to do so may be. Winning the war is the first consideration and the City's best contribution as a corporation to this end is to free as much as possible of the resources of its citizens for federal war taxation and war finance. Every dollar not so set free is a reduction of the war effort and is equivalent to so much aid and comfort for the enemy which is seeking our enslavement, "What price liberty?" Sacrifice.

No one can truthfully say that everything has been done that can be done until it is proved by competent inquiry that—

- a. A reduction in the number of civic departments from 16 to 8 or 9 and
- b. the establishment of an advisory city planning commission as a basis for long-term capital planning

would not lead to increased economy and efficiency.

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