

# 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.

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TORONTO  
CANADA

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## TORONTONIANS ARE ALSO ONTARIANS AND CANADIANS

They hold a 100% interest in the Corporation of the City of Toronto. They hold an interest of over 17% in the going concern known as the Province of Ontario. They hold an interest of 5½% in the going concern known as the Dominion of Canada.

These percentages are on the basis of population. On the basis of wealth the percentages would be greater.



## AT LEAST THREE PUBLIC BOARDS OF DIRECTORS FOR EACH CITIZEN\*

The electors of Toronto choose the civic Board of Directors and the executive. (They also select two other Boards of Directors for school affairs). They, with other Ontarians, elect the provincial Board of Directors from which the executive is selected. They with other Canadians elect a federal Board of Directors.

That is, the citizens of Toronto elect the local Boards of Directors. As Ontarians they help elect the Provincial Board of Directors. As Canadians they help elect the Federal Board of Directors. All three are **their** Boards of Directors of concerns they own and support financially. These concerns have no rights as against one another. They have only duties to the citizens. In the last analysis the citizens alone have a right to say how their public contributions are to be spent and by which of their Boards of Directors.

The people of Toronto want their municipal government to reduce expenditure and take less money from them so that they will have more to invest in war savings certificates and out of which to pay war taxes. **The people of Ontario**, as of other provinces, want their province to spend less, in order that their own contributions to the conduct of the war, either as loans or as taxes, may be increased. **The people of Canada** want the federal government to spend less on ordinary departments so that all contributions to the war effort should be as great as possible. Is, however, the desire strong, insistent and vocal enough to influence public policy?

\* Except in unorganized areas.

## ECONOMY AND EVEN DRASTIC RETRENCHMENT IN ORDINARY EXPENDITURE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY FOR AN ALL-OUT DEFENCE EFFORT.

If 50% or even 40% of the national income will be required for the support of our war establishments, it is idle to think that governing bodies can keep on spending the people's money on *peace time* activities, at anything approaching the present level. Such a thought is worse than idle. It is unintelligent. It is short-sighted. It is selfish. It is unpatriotic. It may mean national suicide.

The ostrich, it is claimed, has been libelled by the statement that it thinks it can annihilate a condition by not looking at it. Is there still any Canadian who would not be libelled by a similar statement? If the citizens of Toronto are alive to their own interest, they will hold local public bodies responsible for making the most effective use of public funds not only from the standpoint of local needs, but from that of national needs.

It is the attitude of mind toward proposed public expenditures which is the important thing. If representatives on public bodies were sure by personal contact and experience that citizens in general were deeply concerned that 100% of all public expenditures should contribute either to essential and unavoidable peace services or to national war needs, the most effective use of public revenues, as far as humanly possible, would follow as a matter of course. Every citizen has a duty to perform in this regard and means are ready to hand. Any citizen can telephone or send a post card to his alderman or representatives in Legislature and Parliament setting forth his conviction as to general or particular public expenditures.



For over a quarter of a century the Bureau of Municipal Research has maintained a watch tower in the interests of citizens and taxpayers. Its services have been limited by the extent of the financial and moral support given to it. Its services were never more needed. Each citizen may think that alone he or she cannot do much. Co-operative effort supplies the key to effective action.