

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. 294

October 24th, 1944

TORONTO'S CURRENT BUDGET, 1944

Estimated Revenue and Expenditure \$34,968,251.*

Story No. 3

WHAT PAYMENTS WERE MADE TO PERSONS, WHAT PURCHASES OF EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, ETC., AND WHAT DEBT CHARGES WERE INCURRED IN PRODUCING THE SERVICES AND DISCHARGING THE GENERAL FUNCTIONS FOR WHICH THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION EXISTS.

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM ESTIMATED CURRENT REVENUE, 1944

A. Total from Sources other than Local Taxation, as under:	\$ 4,894,387
1. General: Fines, Provincial Grants for Schools and Libraries, Licenses, Rents, Special Charges, etc.....	\$ 2,591,332 (2)
City.....	\$1,742,714
Board of Education (Net).....	\$ 769,033
Separate School Board (1).....	\$ 35,568
Public Library Board (Net).....	\$ 44,017
2. Special Services: Water Works Surplus.....	544,639
3. Provincial Subsidy of 2 mills on general assessment.....	1,758,416
B. Total from Local Taxation, as under:	\$29,925,768
1. Supplementary Revenue from Taxation.....	\$ 245,117
2. Tax Levy Net.....	\$29,680,651
C. Surplus brought forward from 1943.	\$ 148,096
Total estimated revenue and surplus.	\$34,968,251*

NOTE

(1). Approximate—For Toronto Area only.

*This total is greater than that given in Story No. 1 (White Paper No. 291, May 1st, 1944) by \$35,568, as a result of obtaining further information not then available.

(2). Corrected figure. Sec. W.P. No. 293.

CITY OF TORONTO

Estimated Current Expenditures out of Taxation, Grants, Surpluses, Credits, Other General Revenues.
Analyzed according to the Objects of Expenditures entering into the Cost of the General Functions of the Municipal Government.

OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE	TOTAL							PER CAPITA						
	1944	1943	1942	1941	1932	1931	1930	1944	1943	1942	1941	1932	1931	1930
Salaries, Wages and Other Payments for Personal Services.....	\$20,436,511	\$19,262,552	\$18,321,616	\$18,238,793	\$18,852,387	\$18,659,092	\$18,076,871	\$30.05	\$28.57	\$27.38	\$27.81	\$30.08	\$29.75	\$29.08
Other Expenses.....	7,729,058	7,947,282	7,709,632	7,503,512	11,181,919	11,202,753	9,976,278	11.36	11.78	11.52	11.45	17.85	17.86	16.05
Debt Services.....	6,723,242	6,837,939	8,181,229	9,130,125	7,355,757	7,411,177	6,662,214	9.89	10.14	12.23	13.92	11.74	11.81	10.72
(a) Interest.....	2,318,734	2,472,615	2,734,564	3,038,458	4,139,629	4,122,266	3,888,667	3.41	3.67	4.09	4.63	6.61	6.57	6.26
(b) Debt Retirement..	4,404,508	4,365,324	5,446,665	6,091,667	3,216,128	3,288,911	2,773,547	6.48	6.47	8.14	9.29	5.13	5.24	4.46
Capital outlay*.....	79,440*	.....	.....	.....	182,539	213,403	491,414	.12	....	....	....	.29	.34	.79
Total Expenditure.....	\$34,968,251	\$34,047,773	\$34,212,477	\$34,872,430	\$37,572,602	\$37,486,425	\$35,206,777	\$51.42	\$50.49	\$51.13	\$53.18	\$59.96	\$59.76	\$56.64
Population (Actual).....	680,000 (Estimated)	674,285	669,130	655,751	626,674	627,231	621,596	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

*In the 1930 City Budget the greater part of capital outlay out of current funds was for the police signal system. Since 1932 the Budget has not provided for capital expenditures from current revenues, but the City's debt has been steadily reduced. The capital outlay figure in the 1944 estimated expenditure is from the estimates of the Separate School Board.

C O M M E N T S

1. It will be noted that the estimated expenditure for salaries, wages, pensions and other payments for personal services have increased by \$1,173,959 or over 6% of the total estimated cost of personal services. \$800,282 was in city services and \$373,677 in school services. As the total increase in estimated expenditure was \$920,478 or 2.7%, there must have been a reduction in other items. How much of this reduction was for upkeep items other than salaries and wages?
2. Other expenses, which include upkeep items such as materials, supplies and equipment decreased \$218,224.
3. Debt charges decreased \$114,697.
4. The 1944 City Budget does not provide for the setting up of a reserve for after-the-war rehabilitation of plant which necessarily has deteriorated during the war, although this was strongly recommended by the Commissioner of Finance in the draft estimates. No doubt, with an eye on the tax-rate, the Board of Control and Council felt apparently that they could not establish such a reserve and at the same time increase salaries and wages.
5. The 1944 City Budget bears little evidence on its face that it was based on the needs of the City as a whole, on the needs of the citizens and taxpayers, on the place that Toronto holds in the national economy or on the post-war needs of the nation.

QUERIES

1. Why should not a tentative budget for any year be discussed during the Civic election for that year?
2. Would not such an arrangement give the citizens something definite to think and discuss instead of the personalities which multiply words, but which require a minimum of thought? What is more fitting to discuss at the City election than the City's business?
3. Could not the necessary amendments to provincial legislation for an advanced budget be obtained?
4. If the term were three years, and only one-third of Council were coming up for election on January first, would there have been so great an urge for increases, and would the resulting document have been more or less conformable to general public opinion?

What the City's 1944 Revenue was to be spent on:—

