

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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Toronto Budget for 1945 Current Revenue and Expenditure Where the Money comes from and Where the Money goes to

STORY NO. 1

These Figures Contain a Story that Concerns Everyone
They will Repay Study

SOME HIGH SPOTS

	1945 Estimates \$	1944 (Approx. Actual) \$	Decrease \$
(A) General and School Tax Levy			
Total (Gross).....	28,424,451.00	29,958,498.00	1,534,047.00
Per Capita.....	41.80	44.26	2.46
Per Average Family (4.75).....	198.55	210.24	11.69 (5.56%)
(B) Tax Rates			Decrease
Public School Supporters.....	31.45 Mills	32.85 Mills	1.40 Mills
Separate School Supporters.....	34.60 "	36.55 "	1.95 "
(C) Increase in School Revenues (Apart from Taxation and prior Surplus)			Increase
Board of Education.....	\$ 3,619,850.00	\$ 773,292.00	\$ 2,846,558.00
Separate School Board.....	158,210.00	47,873.00	110,337.00
Total.....	3,778,060.00	821,165.00	2,956,895.00
(D) Decrease in Provincial Grants (Apart from Schools)			Decrease
Subsidy.....	876,758.00	1,758,416.00	881,658.00
Re Corporation Business Tax.....	180,000.00	150,000.00	30,000.00
Total.....	1,036,758.00	1,908,416.00	871,658.00
(E) Net Increase in General Expenditures			
Increase in salaries and wages.....		678,672.00	678,672.00
Other Maintenance.....		273,518.00	273,518.00
Total.....		952,190.00	952,190.00
Decrease in Debt Charges.....			718,339.00
Net Increase in General Expenditures.....			233,851.00
(F) Ability to Bear Taxation as Measured by Assessment			Decrease
General Assessment.....	876,758,865	879,208,739	2,449,874
School Assessment.....	949,670,251	951,762,565	2,092,314

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM
Estimated Current Revenue 1945
(With Comparative Figures from the 1944 Estimates)

	1945 Estimates	1944 Estimates
(A) TOTAL FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN LOCAL TAXATION as under	\$ 7,473,948	\$ 4,894,387
1. General, Fines, Provincial Grants for Schools and Libraries, Licenses Rents, Special Charges, etc.	\$ 5,740,639	\$ 2,591,332
City	1,923,028	
Board of Education	3,619,850	
Public Library Board	39,551	
Separate School Board (1)	158,210	
2. Special Services	696,551	544,639
Abattoir Surplus	10,838	
Waterworks Surplus	685,713	
3. Provincial Grants to City (General)	1,036,758	1,758,416
Subsidy 1 mill on General Assessment	876,758	
In Lieu of Corporation Tax	160,000	
(B) TOTAL FROM LOCAL TAXATION as under	28,440,820	29,925,768
1. Supplementary Revenue from Taxation	192,000	245,117
2. Tax Levy Net	28,248,820	29,680,651
(C) SURPLUSES BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 1944	220,261	148,096
1. Board of Education	219,788	
2. Public Library Board	473	
Total Estimated Revenue and Surplus	\$36,135,029	\$34,968,251

- (1) Estimated Toronto Share of Toronto and Suburban Separate School Board Revenues.
(2) In addition there were L. I. Rate—Ratepayers share amounting to \$209,680, for 1945 and \$572,381, for 1944.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES
Estimated Current Expenditures 1945
(With Comparative Figures from the 1944 Estimates)

	1945 Estimates	1944 Estimates
(A) OVERHEAD—as under	\$ 4,283,247	\$ 6,025,690
Debt Charges (Excluding Library)	1,400,280	
At Large	342,163	
Courts		1,343,938
(B) ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS—as under	291,728	1,256,886
Assessment Department	166,348	
City Clerk's Department	73,900	
City Planning and Surveying Department	116,154	
City Audit Department	94,823	
Law Department	14,435	
Mayor's Office	402,411	
Treasury Department	143,534	
City Council—General	40,605	
City Council—Grants		
(C) PROTECTIVE DEPARTMENTS—as under	\$ 2,529,499	\$ 8,172,982
Public Welfare Department	1,206,225	
Health Department	2,448,743	
Police Department	1,988,515	
Fire Department		5,656,569
(D) SERVICE DEPARTMENTS—as under	176,807	5,055,235
Department of Buildings	1,018,405	
Parks Department	1,100,684	
Property Department	2,337,508	
Street Cleaning Department	1,023,165	
Works Department		
(E) EDUCATION EXPENDITURE (including Debt Charges)—as under	8,988,537	14,097,999
Board of Education	411,851	
Separate School Board	659,739	
Public Libraries		
Expenditure from Government Grants and other Revenues (Including Grants to Public Library)	4,037,872*	
(F) DEFICITS AND DEFICIENCIES ON SPECIAL SERVICES	837,851	895,606
TOTAL	\$36,135,029	\$34,968,251

*Government School Grants, \$3,570,634. (Approx).

OBSERVATIONS

Comparison of the 1944 figures (Estimates) with those of 1945 (Estimates) shows that provision for:

- (a) Overhead expense decreased by over half a million dollars.
- (b) Administrative departments increased about \$87,000.
- (c) Protective Departments increased by about \$200,000.
- (d) Service Department increased about \$600,000.
- (e) Educational services (including, of course, expenditures out of Government grants) increased about \$888,000.
- (f) Total estimated expenditures increased about \$1,165,000.

There is still no provision for "a special post-war rehabilitation reserve fund," (Page 15, 1944 estimates) but the Board of Control has sent on to Council in Report No. 20 which was adopted by Council "a suggested program of post-war works and improvements" to be undertaken by the City at a cost of about \$8¼ million. It is to be hoped that this will shortly be developed into a forward looking programme approved by the ratepayers.

QUERIES

1. How long will it take to absorb the whole of the net increase in government grants, general and school?
2. When and if it is entirely absorbed, how much better off will local taxpayers be?
3. Does the 1945 budget make adequate provision for the rehabilitation of the pavements, sidewalks, buildings and other physical assets of the City?

**From the 1945 Annual Report of the
Bureau of Municipal Research**

RESULTS OF DEPARTMENTAL REGROUPING

The Report of the Advisory Committee (Hon. William J. Stewart, C.B.E., Chairman) states that a "reduction in the number of departments would:—

- (1) Decrease the element of inter-departmental overhead
- (2) Reduce the strain on overhead departments
- (3) Simplify and make more effective the supervisory functions of the Mayor, its Board of Control and the City Council
- (4) Tend to reduce the natural inter-departmental competition for funds
- (5) Combine in one department related functions which require co-ordination and would make such co-ordination a matter of routine
- (6) Facilitate interdepartmental co-ordination (co-operation)."

"In fine, it would promote effectiveness in the use of personnel and equipment, and would, if given a fair chance, result either in more service for the same money, or the same service for less money".

There are many excuses for taking no action or inadequate action. There always are and the history of human progress is largely the history of getting things done which could not be done. The fear, seldom justified, of terrible things which may happen in individual cases is a great deterrent.

It is to be hoped that the recent co-ordination of the Legal, Assessment and City Clerk's Departments will become actual as well as theoretical.

With regard to Report No. 20 of the Board of Control re "Programme of post-war works and improvements," the following questions among others are raised in the minds of taxpayers.

1. How much of the $\$8\frac{3}{4}$ million dollars (approximately) is to be financed out of current revenues and how much out of borrowed funds?
2. If borrowed funds are to bear the lion's share, how and when are the proposals to be presented to the taxpayers?
3. Are these proposals related to and integrated with a complete City Plan?
4. How much of the total will go to salaries and wages, and how much to materials and land purchase?
5. What impact is the programme expected to make on employment of skilled and unskilled labour?