



# BMR

## NEWS BRIEFS

32 ISABELLA STREET, TORONTO 5

May 10, 1960

### FILLING THE GAP

Whether everyone agrees with recent editorials and their conclusions from the Bureau's 1960 annual report on Metro's debt policy, the press comments illustrate the continuing need for facts and constructive suggestions to improve local governments and their functions.

Mr. Average Voter is supposed to know everything his governments are doing and not doing - why amalgamation, how to deal with the T.T.C., what can Metro afford. And if the Voter were to live to a hundred years or so, and did not have to busy himself with making a living, possibly he might have the time to gather all the facts on which to develop his case with thoroughness and precision - provided of course, that he had the facilities, the energy and the interest.

The Bureau's growing and significant role over the past forty-six years is to undertake all the detailed work the busy citizen cannot. The Bureau does not relieve anyone of his civic responsibilities and the obligation to learn what goes on about him. But it does give him the facts which help him to recognize the problems and analyze his governments objectively. Judged solely by the recent news coverage which has been given to the Bureau's analyses of civic questions, our members can take some pride that their interest and support is providing the essential tools for an informed and active citizenship.

### ANNUAL MEETING FIRSTS

The Bureau and its companion organization, the Citizens Research Institute, scored twice at the annual meeting held at the Royal York Hotel this month. Two hundred and eighty-five members and friends swelled the attendance to an all time record; and Ontario's new Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs accepted the Bureau's platform from which to make his first public speech in his new position.

Mr. Lorne Cumming took time out from Queen's Park to give an informal presentation of municipal problems and indicate some of his thinking as to the responsibility for solving them.

The Bureau and Institute annual meeting scooped other organizations by inviting Mr. Cumming ten days after his February 1st appointment.

## ELECTIONS

The following members were elected to direct the affairs of the Bureau for the coming year:

Trustees - J. T. Bryden  
E. A. Jarrett  
H. K. Macintosh

Members of the Bureau Council - Currie M. Carmichael  
Henry R. Jackman  
E. A. Jarrett  
Oakah L. Jones  
H. K. Macintosh

R. G. Meech  
John Parkin, Sr.  
James N. Swinden  
H. J. Vandewater

Continuing members of the Council - Kenneth B. Andras  
T. L. Avison  
R. C. Bertram  
R. W. Bolstad  
Murray A. W. Bosley  
R. J. Burtis  
K. C. B. Corbett  
G. F. Cossar  
M. Des Brisay  
W. J. Farmery

W. F. Holding  
T. A. Hutchison  
K. W. Kernaghan  
K. M. Kilbourn  
D. W. Lang  
A. H. Lemmon  
James E. McConnell, Jr.  
J. Aubrey Modland  
Hector C. Mitchell

## BUREAU REPORTS

Recent publications dealing with local government which have been prepared for members, elected officials and the public are:

Terms of Reference for Appointed Members of Local Boards and Commissions - the background, basic principles and rules that should apply to separated bodies and their appointed members

Directory of the Metropolitan and City Governments, 1960 - local government reference of names, positions, addresses and phone numbers of elected, appointed and public officials in Metro and Toronto

The Canadian Experience With Payments in Lieu of Taxes - the problem, developments, improvements and inadequacies of Federal and provincial payments to Canadian municipalities in lieu of taxes on crown properties

The Forty-Sixth Annual Report of the Bureau of Municipal Research - detailed analysis of Metro's debt policy, debt distribution, debt and taxable capacity, capital programme, the Metro plan and the Bureau's conclusions.

SPEECHES, LECTURES AND PANELS

Library School, University of Toronto  
Parks and Local Government, University of Toronto Extension  
Business and Government, University of Toronto Extension  
The Role of the Mayor - "Let's Find Out", C.J.B.C. Radio

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SURVEYS

For the Metropolitan Roads Department - Preliminary report in preparation  
on proposed study of economic impact of expressways.

For the Ontario Municipal Association - salary survey of local municipalities  
salary survey of Ontario counties  
survey of municipal employees pensions  
survey of municipal employees sick  
leave benefits.

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