BUREAU OF MUNICIPAL RESEARCH

ESTABLISHED 1914



137 WELLINGTON ST. WEST TORONTO, CANADA

Feb / 1940

A CO-OPERATIVE MEANS OF SELF HELP FOR CITIZENS AND TAXPAYERS

Pertinent facts are the basis of all intelligent action. This is as true of municipal affairs as of all others.

The members of the City Council need facts.

The heads of departments need facts.

The citizens and taxpayers need facts.

The members of City Council can obtain the facts necessary to build policy on.

The heads of departments have essential facts readily available.

But the citizens and taxpayers as individuals cannot obtain the facts necessary for their action without an expenditure of time and energy quite out of the question.

The Bureau of Municipal Research is the staff agency of citizens and taxpayers for the supplying of pertinent facts from an independent non-partisan standpoint.

The next two pages illustrate how these facts are made available to the members of public bodies, and their officials, as well as to all supporters of the Bureau. The third page illustrates how, through the co-operation of the press, these facts are taken into the 150,000 homes of Toronto.

BUREAU ACTIVITIES AS REFLECTED IN

HEADLINES OF TYPICAL WHITE PAPERS

BUREAU OF MUNICIPAL RESEARCH



White Paper No. 229

January 19, 1935

In 1938

the City of Toronto is faced with some problems of long standing the solution of which cannot be much longer postponed. Among

I. Sewage Disposal
II. Another Traffic Artery to the North

III. Zoning, Town Planning and Housing

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF TORONTO

Is a huge enterprise with about 280,000 voting (?) stockholders, over \$200,000,000 invested capital, over \$60,000,000 annual current revenues and expenditures, about 15,000 employees, annual payrolls amounting to about \$26,000,000, and annual purchases of supplies, equipment and material, repairs and contractual services, of about, say, \$11,000,000

White Paper No. 242

September 30th, 1939

The Trend of Development in Police Administration

INCREASED DEMANDS ON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The cost of any department depends on the number and amount of the services required of it and of the unit costs of producing those services. If unit costs remain constant and required functions do not change, the total appropriation should not increase. It, however, more servicese'air required, unless these are offset by decreases in cost and improved administrative efficiency, either the appropriations must increase or in the long run exhibiting services must suffer as to quantity, quality or both. For a time, added burdens may at least apparently be carried by increased activity on the part of personnel; but in the long run increased services mean increased

White Paper No. 221

THE RELATION OF THE PROVINCE TO THE MUNICIPALITY

White Paper No. 243

October 6th, 1939

The Annual Report

Commissioner of Finance of Toronto

Whits Paper No. 245

December 8th, 1939

IN PEACE

it makes a real difference whether or not there is economy and efficiency in municipal government.

IN WAR

waste and inefficiency in municipal administration are disloyal to the national cause because they divert resources from national defence. Any one who condones and does not combat waste an inefficiency in effect gives aid and comfort to the enemy.

BUREAU OF MUNICIPAL RESEARCH



THE TAX BURDEN ON REAL PROPERTY

White Paper No. 239

1939 CITY BUDGET STORY No. 1

ESTIMATED CURRENT REVENUE FOR 1939.

Surplus brought forward from 1938....

Reporting Direct Unemployment Relief Expenditures

Personal deficits are unpleasant, but must be faced. If they are not, bankruptcy quickly follows.

White Paper No. 236

White Paper No. 238

February 21st, 1939

A HOME OWNING CITIZENSHIP

The trend in housing away from the single family dwelling is due to many causes. Among these are:—

- 1. The decrease in the size of the average family.
- The increase in the proportion of older people in the population.

December 26th, 1939

Re "Questions," City Elections, January 1st, 1940

Between 1932 and 1938 the total net debenture debt of Toronto decreased from \$172,00,002 to \$122,500,246, or \$42,439,816. Other important decreases have been made this year. This should not be regarded as an invitation to retrace our steps and to build up our debenture debt again to "magnificent" proportions. After the not too happy period of the last ten years, is it an entirely foolish idea that the

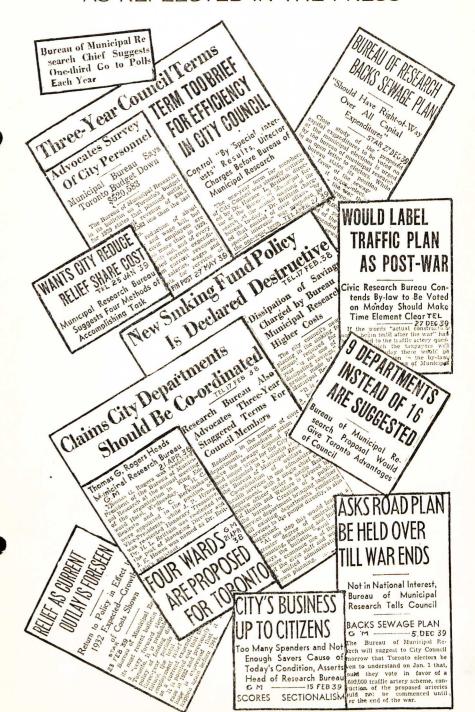
Novamber 9th, 1989

On the First Day of January, 1940

the electors of the City of Toronto are to elect 50 men and women to supervise the expenditure out of taxation and general fund of about \$364 millions and the services that this sum buys.

In addition there is the expenditure of the Water Works Department of over \$3 millions and the authorizations of expenditure out of debenture funds, affecting general taxation which has varied in the period 1924 to 1939 from about \$11 millions to over \$21 millions or an average of about \$6 millions annually.

BUREAU ACTIVITIES AS REFLECTED IN THE PRESS



BUREAU AIMS AND METHODS

The aim of the Bureau is to further efficient and economic civic administration through informed citizenship.

Its methods are:

- a. To ascertain the facts.
- b. To analyze the facts.
- c. To publish the facts in clear, concise language, with constructive suggestions.

All its publications are sent, among others, to:

- a. Subscribers.
- b. Members of City Council, Board of Education and Separate School Board.
- c. The Press.

An effort is made to issue timely material of news value, so that the material issued by the Bureau, or the most essential parts of it, may go into all the homes of Toronto. The Press of Toronto have co-operated by making use of the material in editorials and news notes. On page 3 within a small sample is given of references in the press.

If you wish to join the 350 citizens of Toronto who pool their appropriations for municipal research and receive regularly the White Papers, Bulletins and Open Letters of the Bureau, you may do so by becoming—

- a. A bulletin member at \$10.00 per year.
- b. A general member at \$25.00 per year.
- c. A guarantor or sustaining member at \$100.00 a year.