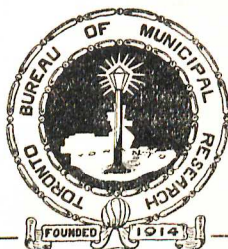


Citizen Control of the Citizen's Business

TORONTO'S CITIZENS CAN CONTROL TORONTO'S AFFAIRS ONLY
THROUGH FREQUENT, PROMPT, ACCURATE AND PERTINENT INFORMATION WITH REGARD TO TORONTO'S BUSINESS.

ISSUED BY THE

21 KING STREET EAST



TELEPHONE ELGIN 1904

White Paper No. 151

February 18th, 1930

Business is Business

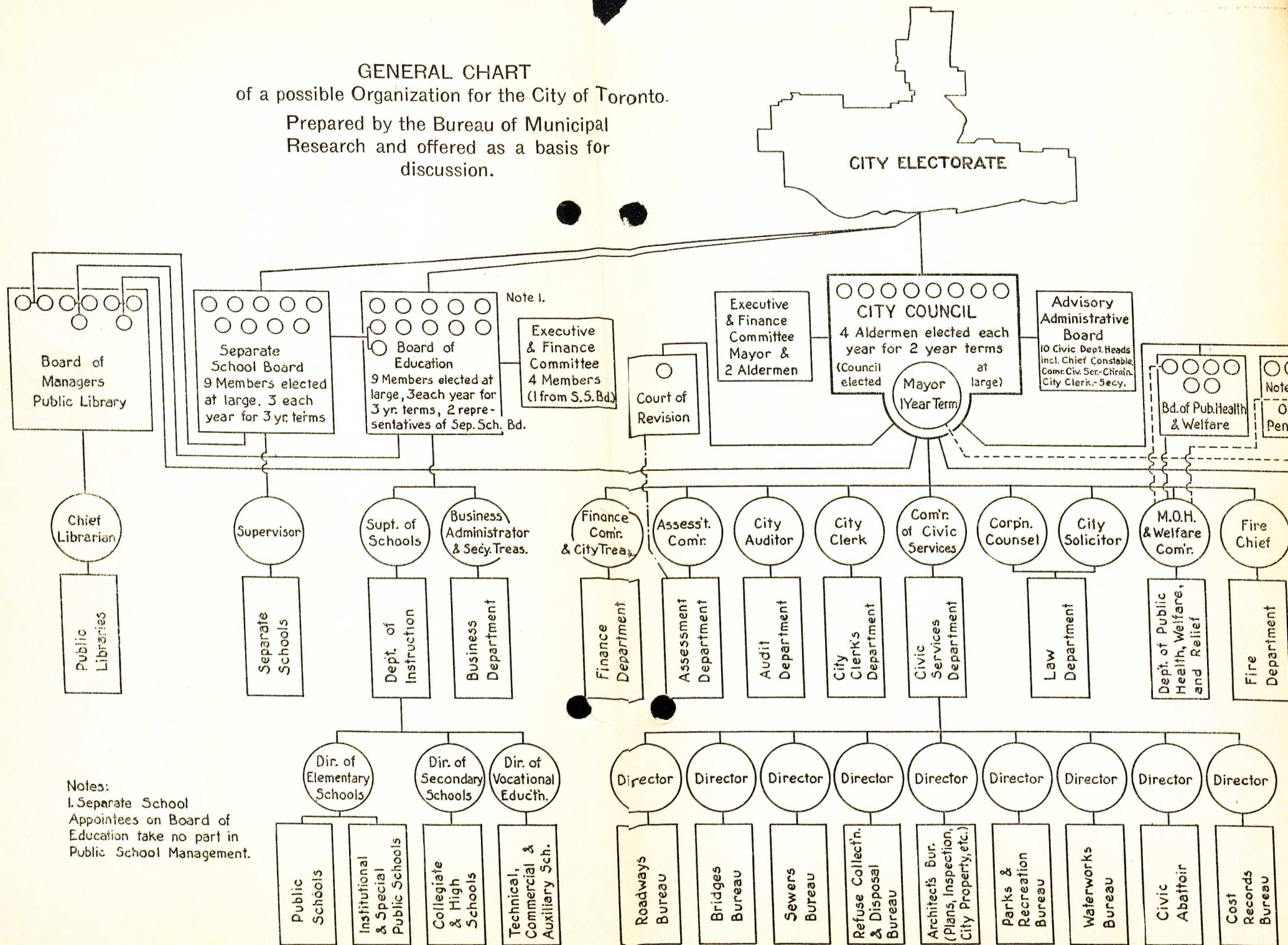
STORY No. 3

An outline of a possible suggested organization for the City of Toronto which would simplify both the policy-forming and policy-carrying-out machinery of the City and would tend to weaken the influence of sectional considerations in the determination of civic policies.

NOTE;—The Bureau includes in this chart only those administrative units which found a place in the previous chart, as in that chart several subordinate civic units are not given separate mention, and certain Boards or Commissions, for the most part not governmental in their nature, upon which the City Council has representation, are omitted from the chart in the interests of brevity and clearness.

GENERAL CHART of a possible Organization for the City of Toronto.

Prepared by the Bureau of Municipal
Research and offered as a basis for
discussion.



5. The number of heads of departments directly responsible to Council or Boards and Commissions is reduced from 31 to 16 and those directly responsible to Council or Board of Control from 15 to 9.
6. Ward lines are eliminated. The abolition of ward lines and the election at large of all members of legislative and policy-forming bodies will not only remove the glaring anomalies of the present system but will tend to weaken what is known as "ward politics", make it harder for the "ward politician" to secure an entry into the civic field, and promote the decision of general municipal policies on a city-wide rather than a sectional basis.

There are always special interests vitally concerned in the retention of the ward system. They may even secure its reintroduction after its abolition through playing on the dissatisfaction of citizens in general with their local government. When things go wrong people naturally look for a cause and are apt to seize upon whatever is presented to them adroitly as the ostensible cause. It is, therefore, possibly too much to expect that the ward system can be abolished so long as the average citizen is not sufficiently trained in analyzing public problems and so long as he is readily susceptible to appeals to sectional loyalty. The arguments for the ward system usually heard are the same in a town of 5,000 people occupying a square mile of territory as in a metropolis of a million occupying 40 square miles of territory. Some municipalities think it necessary to give separate representation to, say, 1,500 people. In some a ward may contain 110,000 people. It seems to be a matter of custom, prejudice, fear and suspicion rather than of logic. Some cities have done away with the existing comparatively small wards, and have set up in their stead large electoral districts or wards. In this way the dangers of extremely narrow sectional views may, at least partially, be offset, while the real or assumed dangers of membership in Council not being geographically represented were largely met. In case the people of Toronto feared to abolish the ward system entirely, they might divide the city into four wards, in some such way as was outlined in the Bureau's White Paper No. 105, Nov. 16, 1926. A logical division into three wards would also be possible.

The chart could be modified according to this suggestion without affecting the rest of the legislative and administrative machinery.

The Bureau offers this chart and accompanying explanation as a contribution to the discussion which is always going on in a progressive community as to ways and means of securing better results from municipal expenditure and citizen effort. Suggestions from subscribers, or from citizens not subscribers, will be welcomed as further contributions to the discussion.

It is to be hoped that a careful examination and impersonal appraisal of the material contained in this paper will not be prevented by considerations of personal or "vested" interest, or by sheer lack of interest.