

We are giving most serious thought and study to the budget for the coming year, and we have been seeking new sources of revenue to avoid the necessity of increasing the realty tax, and to endeavour to obtain from a section of the population who derive all the benefits without giving anything in return, some contribution towards the expenses of the City. No matter what the sins of our predecessors have been, there is at present an earnest effort being made by your civic officials to eliminate wasteful methods.

Failing expert investigation the results must be slow in appearing. If we are to have any real success, we require above all the confidence of the

people. Kaval press interests who seek to grind us to their will, as between millstone, do more harm to the public, by destroying their faith in the administration, than they can possibly do to the administrators themselves. We cannot be manipulated by the howling of an organ to suit its financial backers; we cannot follow blindly the policy of newspapers which would fix a tax rate for any public department regardless of the debit and credit items in that department's account, or its deficit or surplus.

Pending a Bureau of Municipal Research, and its results in our civic government, I ask that public judgment be reserved until the full development of our plans for reconstruction.

