

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR APRIL, 1923, WITH
COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR MARCH, 1923, and APRIL, 1922.

A pronounced expansion in building operations during April was indicated in the monthly reports on building permits furnished by municipal officials to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The aggregate value of the building authorized by the 56 cities making returns stood at \$17,544,061, a total \$8,999,833 or 105.3 per cent higher than in March, when the prospective building was estimated at \$8,544,228. The value for April, moreover, exceeded that for the corresponding month of last year, \$14,047,198, by \$3,496,863, or 24.9 per cent. It was also higher by 43 and 18 per cent than in April 1921 and 1920, respectively.

Detailed reports received from 50 cities showed that they had issued permits for approximately 1,600 dwellings, valued at \$6,821,000. As mentioned in former reports, the construction of several dwellings is very often authorized by a single permit. Over 3,100 permits for such buildings as garages, stores, factories, etc., aggregated more than \$9,549,000 in value.

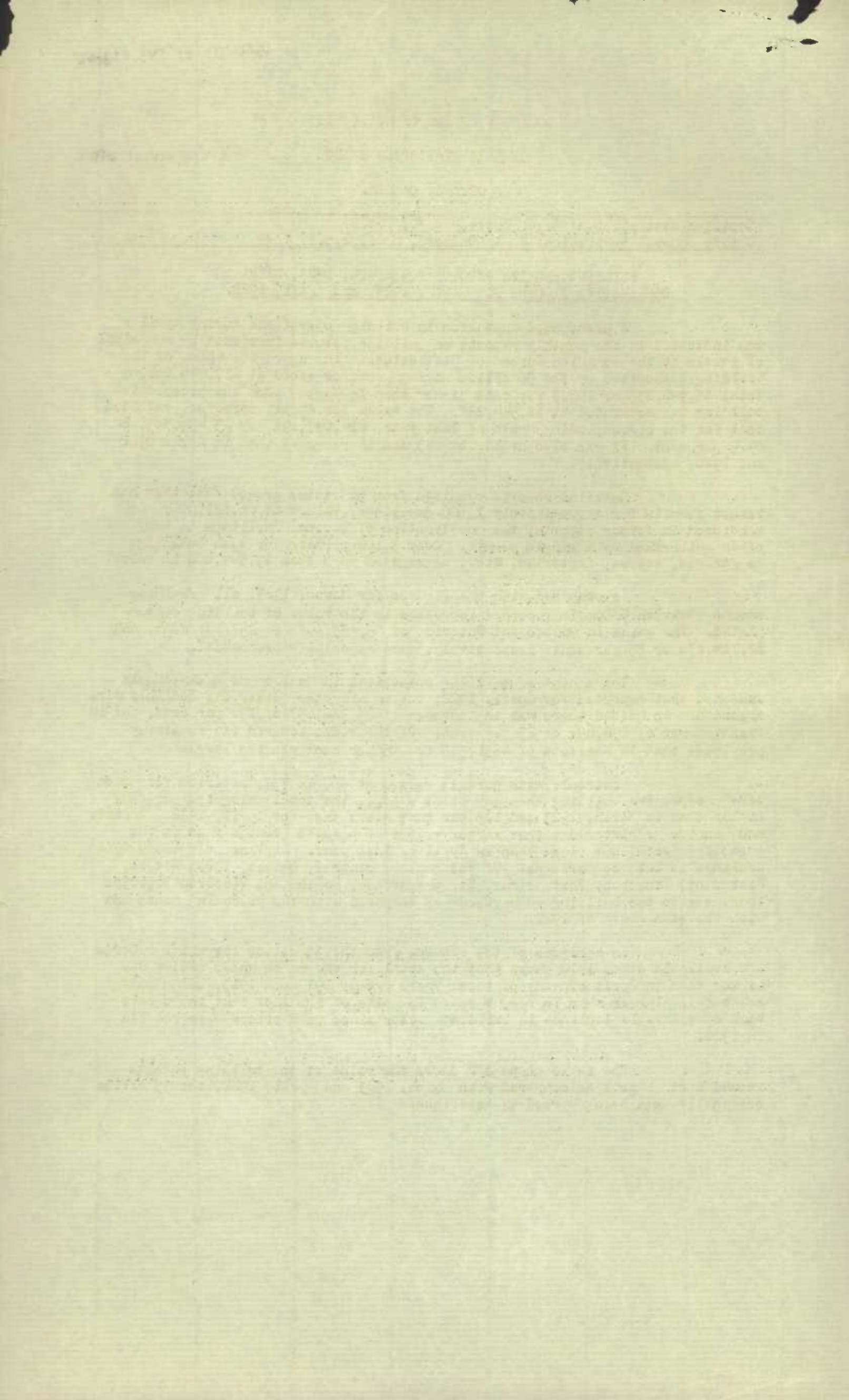
As compared with the figures for March, 1923, all provinces except British Columbia recorded increases in the value of building contemplated. The gains in Quebec and Ontario of \$5,473,802, or 257 per cent, and \$2,714,876 or 55 per cent respectively, were especially pronounced.

The amount of building authorized in Quebec and Saskatchewan exceeded that reported for April, 1922, but in all other districts declines were recorded. In Quebec there was an increase of \$4,980,657 or 190 per cent, and in Saskatchewan of \$90,694 or 29 per cent. Of the reductions in the remaining provinces that in Manitoba of \$891,389 or .55 per cent was the largest.

Montreal, with permits valued at \$6,616,757, reported very much more prospective building than any other centre, the total being 130 per cent higher than in March, 1923, and 125 per cent above that for April, 1922. Toronto and Winnipeg registered rather larger values of permits granted than in the preceding month, but less than in April of last year. At Vancouver there were declines in both comparisons. Of the smaller centres, Quebec, Three Rivers, Westmount, Kingston, Port Arthur, St. Catharines, Regina and Victoria reported increases in the building authorized as compared with the preceding month and with the same month of 1922.

An analysis of the returns from the 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 shows that the total for the month under review was higher than in April of any of those years except 1912 and 1913, being substantially larger than in recent years in spite of the fact that there have been considerable declines in building costs since peak prices were reached in 1920.

The table on page 2 shows the value of the building permits issued during April as compared with March, 1923 and April, 1922, the 35 cities originally used being marked by asterisks.



Estimated Cost of Building Work as Indicated by
Building Permits.

CITY	April 1923	March 1923	April 1922
Prince Edward Island-Charlottetown	\$ nil	\$ nil	\$ 20,700
Nova Scotia	55,243	51,325	147,684
x Halifax	35,040	21,325	105,563
New Glasgow	4,575	nil	10,120
x Sydney	15,628	10,000	32,001
New Brunswick	114,350	20,745	316,793
Fredericton	nil	nil	48,250
x Moncton	46,350	445	134,343
x St. John	68,000	20,300	134,200
Quebec	7,600,282	2,126,480	2,619,625
x Montreal - Maisonneuve	6,616,757	1,999,200	2,038,834
x Quebec	416,795	89,645	339,776
Shawinighan Falls	12,500	nil	33,450
x Sherbrooke	95,000	25,300	34,000
x Three Rivers	228,830	8,700	35,400
x Westmount	230,400	3,635	138,165
Ontario	7,650,654	4,935,778	7,783,109
Belleville	12,200	5,500	8,300
x Brantford	92,415	5,580	57,145
Chatham	41,770	5,150	61,675
x Fort William	37,900	153,550	51,525
Galt	15,746	7,350	19,066
x Guelph	91,196	54,258	60,505
x Hamilton	611,825	379,400	731,300
x Kingston	413,481	11,655	67,437
x Kitchener	270,658	122,461	280,220
x London	371,800	249,900	368,775
Niagara Falls	56,010	17,807	242,247
Oshawa	202,880	72,000	82,350
x Ottawa	638,950	94,750	855,485
Owen Sound	21,000	500	33,200
x Peterborough	61,277	2,015	98,802
x Port Arthur	629,355	3,982	12,260
x Stratford	53,307	28,930	304,865
x St. Catharines	145,417	21,655	119,334
x St. Thomas	22,081	3,575	30,790
Sarnia	111,056	65,040	134,727
Sault Ste Marie	27,965	11,235	119,610
x Toronto	3,230,590	3,068,318	3,555,790
Welland	77,325	1,685	15,720
x Windsor	398,480	436,170	444,495
Woodstock	15,970	103,312	27,486
Manitoba	488,775	134,860	1,380,164
x Brandon	4,850	585	17,680
St. Boniface	35,075	21,775	61,234
x Winnipeg	448,850	112,500	1,301,250
Saskatchewan	399,649	68,860	308,955
x Moose Jaw	60,716	5,520	41,605
x Regina	235,355	49,840	195,855
x Saskatoon	83,578	13,500	71,495
Alberta	307,035	177,685	432,075
x Calgary	120,000	97,200	205,200
x Edmonton	152,200	35,800	196,150
Lethbridge	29,775	42,580	28,580
Medicine Hat	5,060	2,105	2,145
British Columbia	928,073	1,048,495	1,038,093
Nanaimo	23,995	22,655	11,320
x New Westminster	35,580	16,000	22,725
Point Grey	301,400	244,600	472,900
Prince Rupert	2,500	6,555	16,000
South Vancouver	81,290	40,990	59,036
x Vancouver	334,306	694,200	364,475
x Victoria	149,002	23,495	91,637
Total - 56 cities	17,544,061	8,544,228	14,047,198
x Total - 35 cities	16,465,969	7,863,389	12,539,082

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