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BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR MAY, 1926, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR APRIL, 1926
AND MAY, 1925, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1920-1926.

According to returns from 60 cities, the value of the building permits issued during May amounted to \$13,513,422, as compared with \$18,933,755 in the preceding month and \$15,500,165 in May, 1925. This was a slight decrease of \$475,333 or 2.5 p.c. from last month's total, but in the more significant comparison with May of last year there was an increase of \$3,013,257 or 15.9 p.c. The total for the month was higher than in any May since 1920, with the exception of 1922 and 1923, when the index number of wholesale prices of building materials was higher, standing at 162.5 and 167.4 respectively, as compared with 147.7 in May of 1926.

Some 45 cities reported that they had issued permits for nearly 1,950 dwellings valued at nearly \$9,500,000, and for nearly 4,000 other buildings, valued at over \$3,200,000. In April, authorizations included some 1,700 dwellings and 2,900 other buildings, each category being valued at about \$7,000,000.

As compared with April, 1926, there were increases in all provinces except Manitoba, where there was a decline of 76.0 p.c. from last month's unusually large total of \$5,301,628. All provinces except Ontario registered higher totals of permits issued than in May, 1925. Ontario showed a decrease of \$734,468 or 8.7 p.c. from last year's total for May.

Montreal and Vancouver showed increases in the value of building authorized as compared with both April, 1926, and May, 1925, while Toronto's total was greater than last month's, but under that for May, 1925. Winnipeg, on the other hand, showed an increase over the May, 1925, figures, but a decrease from last month's total. Halifax, Moncton, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Westmount, Brantford, Chatham, Fort William, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, London, Niagara Falls, Peterborough, Stratford, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, Windsor, Ford, Walkerville, Brandon, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw, Calgary, Edmonton, Nanaimo, Point Grey, South Vancouver, and Victoria recorded greater totals of building permits issued in May than in either the preceding month or the corresponding month of last year.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 1926.

The table following shows the value of the building authorized in May and in the first five months of each year since 1920. The January -May average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials during the first five months of those years are also given (1913 = 100).

Year	Value of permits issued		Average Indexes of wholesale Prices of Building Materials in first five months
	In May	In first five Months	
1926	\$13,513,422	\$59,753,631	151.1
1925	15,500,165	50,011,236	153.8
1924	14,762,400	45,390,525	166.0
1923	13,917,418	57,852,503	165.7
1922	19,468,741	53,918,812	161.1
1921	14,433,990	41,320,556	200.7
1920	13,076,380	47,574,581	215.9

It will be observed that the cumulative total for the first five months of 1926 is the largest since this record was begun in 1920, being 3.3 p.c. larger than in 1923, the previous high level, and 43.7 p.c. higher than in 1921, when building in the cities reached its lowest point in recent years. Further, the wholesale prices of building materials are lower in 1926 than in any previous year during the period.

The table on page 2 gives the value of the building permits issued by cities in March and April, 1926, and April, 1925. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "X".

Estimated Cost of Building Work as Indicated by Building Permits

Cities	May, 1926	April, 1926	May, 1925
	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island - Charlottetown		Nil	5,000
Nova Scotia	92,691	84,576	93,437
x Halifax	38,052	26,995	79,412
New Glasgow	600	160	11,750
x Sydney	4,039	57,421	2,275
New Brunswick	109,163	97,205	42,565
Fredericton	5,690	3,300	29,100
x Moncton	94,978	52,505	8,465
x Saint John	8,500	41,400	5,000
Quebec	5,365,226	3,273,084	3,214,210
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	2,731,110	1,942,197	2,140,920
x Quebec	377,636	358,237	569,905
Shawinigan Falls	28,125	26,925	77,200
x Sherbrooke	178,000	147,900	35,160
x Three Rivers	409,230	174,675	281,650
x Westmount	1,591,125	623,150	109,375
Ontario	7,707,534	6,746,731	8,442,002
Belleville	14,595	203,490	22,475
x Brantford	19,520	10,425	8,490
Chatham	70,650	37,155	67,200
x Fort William	184,680	55,220	65,925
Galt	14,058	54,320	18,143
x Guelph	24,650	32,705	45,220
x Hamilton	502,000	343,450	310,300
x Kingston	208,364	59,049	27,092
x Kitchener	169,557	160,212	166,588
x London	418,120	246,945	224,880
Niagara Falls	187,645	120,150	185,240
Oshawa	43,375	11,957	76,590
x Ottawa	382,875	176,915	1,875,385
Owen Sound	25,060	3,450	426,425
x Peterborough	50,770	14,730	25,210
x Port Arthur	98,466	85,938	179,785
x Stratford	72,510	53,482	54,378
x St. Catharines	91,180	91,070	52,590
x St. Thomas	89,727	30,410	25,020
Sarnia	78,085	55,312	116,390
Sault Ste. Marie	31,362	52,935	41,715
x Toronto	2,668,044	2,466,160	2,823,972
York Townships	484,110	556,365	629,625
Welland	51,150	122,114	18,720
x Windsor	971,320	969,308	441,650
Ford	193,275	162,175	149,550
Riverside	61,400	55,455	121,750
Sandwich	219,925	363,025	111,130
Walkerville	269,000	144,000	116,000
Woodstock	12,061	8,809	14,564
Manitoba	1,273,317	5,301,628	729,920
x Brandon	93,820	6,570	18,500
St. Boniface	127,197	33,708	46,980
x Winnipeg	1,052,300	5,261,350	664,440
Saskatchewan	860,198	815,895	651,347
x Moose Jaw	28,120	22,525	12,680
x Regina	519,190	550,465	219,890
x Saskatoon	312,888	242,905	418,777
Alberta	663,194	306,921	466,295
x Calgary	279,894	131,966	181,850
x Edmonton	372,575	153,710	270,575
Lethbridge	9,775	10,915	13,560
Medicine Hat	950	10,330	310
British Columbia	2,442,094	2,362,715	1,855,389
Nanaimo	13,900	7,450	8,300
x New Westminster	43,465	90,305	33,645
Point Grey	580,750	569,950	551,100
Prince Rupert	9,375	22,650	264,864
South Vancouver	164,800	145,850	163,790
x Vancouver	1,534,155	1,461,080	795,980
x Victoria	95,649	65,430	37,710
Total 60 Cities	18,513,422	18,988,755	15,500,165
xTotal 35 Cities	15,816,509	16,206,805	12,212,694
	1926	1925	1924
Cumulative Record for 60 Cities- first five months	59,753,631	50,011,236	45,890,525

