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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
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BUILDING PERMITS FOR APRIL, 1927, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR MARCH, 1927,  
AND APRIL, 1926, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920 - 1927.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulated returns from 63 cities which granted building permits valued at \$18,512,196 during April, as compared with \$11,646,227 in the preceding month and \$19,044,499 in the corresponding month of last year. There was, therefore, an increase of \$6,865,969 or 59.0 p.c. in the first comparison, but a decrease of \$532,303 or 2.8 p.c. in the second. The granting of a permit for a large store in Winnipeg during April, 1926, caused the total to be very high in that month. However, the aggregate for the elapsed months of this year - \$43,366,274 - exceeded that for any other since the record was begun in 1920, while building cost continued to be lower than in any of the last eight years.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had issued over 1,700 permits for dwellings valued at nearly \$8,200,000, and for some 3,800 other buildings estimated to cost over \$8,000,000. In March, authority was given for the erection of some 1,300 dwellings and 2,500 other buildings, valued at approximately \$5,400,000 and \$5,600,000, respectively.

Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta recorded increases in the value of the building permits issued during April as compared with March, Quebec showing the greatest gain of \$3,210,823 or 145.1 p.c. New Brunswick and British Columbia registered declines of 0.5 p.c. and 19.6 p.c., respectively.

As compared with April, 1926, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta reported increases in the value of the building authorized. Quebec again indicated the most pronounced advance, of \$2,149,585 or 65.7 p.c. Of the remaining provinces, Manitoba recorded the greatest loss, of \$4,050,557 or 76.4 p.c. due to the granting of a permit in April of last year for an unusually large building in Winnipeg.

Of the larger cities, Montreal registered an increase in the building authorized during April as compared with the preceding month and with April, 1926; in Winnipeg there was a gain in the first comparison and a loss in the second, while Toronto and Vancouver showed reductions in both comparisons. Of the smaller centres, Halifax, Fredericton, Quebec, Shawinigan Falls, Three Rivers, Chatham, Fort William, Galt, Guelph, London, Niagara Falls, Oshawa, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Stratford, Sarnia, the Townships of York, Ford, Sandwich, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Nanaimo, New Westminster and North Vancouver reported increases in the value of the permits issued as compared with March, 1927, and April, 1926.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1927.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 63 cities during April and in the first four months of each year since 1920. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first four months of the same years are also given (1913 = 100).

Year	Value of Permits Issued		Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first four months
	In April	In First Four Months	
1927	\$ 18,512,196	\$ 43,366,274	147.2
1926	19,044,499	41,538,073	152.0
1925	15,482,383	35,463,398	154.0
1924	13,689,101	31,737,100	166.5
1923	19,530,851	39,008,970	165.3
1922	15,833,688	34,513,861	160.7
1921	13,500,360	27,069,872	204.6
1920	15,648,915	34,558,901	213.4

The aggregate for the first four months of this year was thus 4.4 p.c. greater than in 1926, the previous high level of the record, while the average index number of wholesale prices of building materials continued to be lower than in any other year since 1920.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 63 cities during April and March, 1927, and April, 1926. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "X",

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Table 1. Estimated Cost of Building Work as Authorized by Building Permits Issued by 63 Cities.

Cities	April, 1927	March, 1927	April, 1926
	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island-Charlottetown	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nova Scotia	400,320	37,739	84,566
x Halifax	372,220	32,117	26,995
New Glasgow	700	Nil	150
x Sydney	27,400	5,622	57,421
New Brunswick	111,400	112,010	97,205
Fredericton	79,500	Nil	3,300
x Moncton	22,275	85,020	52,505
x St. John	9,625	26,990	41,400
Quebec	5,422,969	2,212,146	3,273,384
x Montreal - xMaisonneuve	2,061,253	1,218,720	1,942,197
x Quebec	2,546,699	510,206	358,237
Shawinigan Falls	44,040	23,765	28,125
x Sherbrooke	112,025	27,705	147,000
x Three Rivers	425,300	271,825	174,575
x Westmount	233,652	159,925	623,150
Ontario	8,225,993	6,051,411	6,741,994
Belleville	24,045	7,450	203,490
x Brantford	22,320	33,895	10,425
Chatham	75,899	35,600	37,155
x Fort William	71,940	24,960	55,220
Galt	934,000	28,840	54,320
x Guelph	78,360	54,981	32,705
x Hamilton	371,400	377,500	343,450
x Kingston	11,617	24,734	59,049
x Kitchener	136,478	39,649	160,242
x London	403,460	224,755	246,945
Niagara Falls	298,163	197,038	120,150
Oshawa	518,065	225,150	11,975
x Ottawa	300,030	244,275	176,715
Owen Sound	238,000	22,075	3,450
x Peterborough	35,915	9,310	14,730
x Port Arthur	51,704	42,380	85,938
x Stratford	66,870	15,555	53,482
x St. Catharines	36,536	82,284	86,520
x St. Thomas	21,425	6,540	30,410
Sarnia	99,475	96,292	55,312
Sault Ste Marie	38,503	40,750	52,935
x Toronto	2,207,632	2,261,313	2,466,160
York and East York Townships	754,625	508,050	556,365
Wolland	60,040	98,455	122,114
x Windsor	634,515	822,315	969,308
Ford	171,840	85,115	162,175
Riverside	33,915	74,625	55,450
Sandwich	428,700	115,515	363,025
Walkerville	96,000	222,000	144,000
Woodstock	4,521	27,360	8,809
Manitoba	1,251,073	598,270	5,301,630
x Brandon	610	25,800	6,572
St. Boniface	53,763	25,420	33,708
x Winnipeg	1,196,700	547,050	5,261,350
Saskatchewan	827,340	281,305	816,245
x Moose Jaw	273,100	9,445	22,525
x Regina	233,170	121,205	550,815
x Saskatoon	271,070	150,655	242,905
Alberta	553,758	216,633	306,921
x Calgary	292,192	119,013	131,966
x Edmonton	221,935	82,750	153,710
Lethbridge	38,940	11,035	10,915
Medicine Hat	691	3,835	10,330
British Columbia	1,719,343	2,139,363	2,422,554
Kamloops	12,935	35,274	10,313
Nanaimo	14,585	3,290	7,450
x New Westminster	177,450	127,460	90,305
Prince Rupert	18,800	6,550	22,650
x Vancouver	735,731	875,835	1,461,080
Point Grey	454,460	766,870	569,950
North Vancouver	51,495	28,464	42,860
South Vancouver	129,043	119,900	145,850
x Victoria	114,844	175,720	72,096
Total - 63 Cities	18,512,196	11,646,227	19,044,499
x Total - 35 Cities	13,827,453	8,837,509	16,208,113

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