

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
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BUILDING PERMITS FOR MARCH, 1929, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1929,
AND MARCH, 1928, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST QUARTER, 1920-1929.

According to returns tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during March was \$24,056,656; this was an increase of \$13,583,177 or 129.7 p.c. over the February total of \$10,473,479, and of \$8,928,243 or 59.0 p.c., as compared with the aggregate of \$15,128,413 reported for the same month in 1928. Last month's total was the highest for March since this record was commenced in 1920. Building costs, as shown by the Bureau's index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials, continued lower than in most years of the record.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had granted nearly 1,200 permits for dwellings valued about \$4,700,000 and some 1,900 permits for other buildings estimated to cost approximately \$18,000,000. In February, authority was given for the erection of some 600 dwellings and nearly 1,000 other buildings, estimated at approximately \$2,000,000 and \$8,000,000 respectively.

All provinces except British Columbia reported increases in the building authorized during March as compared with the preceding month. The greatest gain was that of \$10,453,070 in Quebec.

As compared with March, 1928, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta recorded advances, that of \$7,966,067, or 233.8 p.c., in Quebec being most pronounced. There were decreases in Nova Scotia, Manitoba and British Columbia, the greatest decline of \$369,410 or 20.5 p.c. being in British Columbia.

Of the larger cities, Montreal and Toronto registered gains as compared with the preceding month and also as compared with March of last year. In Winnipeg, there was an advance in the former, but a loss in the latter comparison, while Vancouver showed reductions in both comparisons.

Of the smaller centres, Charlottetown, Sydney, Fredericton, Saint John, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Fort William, Galt, Kitchener, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Stratford, Sault Ste. Marie, York Townships, Ford, Woodstock, Brandon, Regina, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, New Westminster and North Vancouver reported higher totals than in either February, 1929, or March, 1928.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST QUARTER, 1929.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 6 cities during March, and in the first quarter of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1920 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first quarter of the same years are also given (1926=100).

| Year | Value of Permits Issued in March | Value of Permits Issued in First Quarter | Indexes of value of permits issued in First Quarter (1920=100) | Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in First Quarter (1926=100) |
|------|----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 1929 | \$ 24,056,656 | \$ 42,894,805 | 226.8 | 100.1 |
| 1928 | 15,128,413 | 33,163,338 | 175.4 | 96.6 |
| 1927 | 11,713,640 | 25,028,353 | 132.4 | 97.0 |
| 1926 | 10,634,491 | 22,493,574 | 119.0 | 102.0 |
| 1925 | 8,631,627 | 19,981,015 | 105.7 | 102.9 |
| 1924 | 9,493,620 | 18,047,999 | 95.4 | 112.2 |
| 1923 | 9,658,950 | 19,478,119 | 103.0 | 110.6 |
| 1922 | 10,615,531 | 18,680,173 | 98.8 | 108.0 |
| 1921 | 7,290,589 | 13,569,512 | 71.8 | 135.7 |
| 1920 | 8,736,675 | 18,909,986 | 100.0 | 139.4 |

The aggregate for the elapsed months of 1929 was higher by 29.3 p.c. than the total for the same months of 1928, the previous high level of this record of ten years.

The Table on page 2 gives the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities in February and March, 1929, and March, 1928. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are indicated "x".

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Estimated Cost of Building Work as Indicated by Permits issued by 61 Cities.

| Cities | March, 1929 | February, 1929 | March, 1928 |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Prince Edward Island | 15,000 | - | - |
| Charlottetown | 15,000 | - | - |
| Nova Scotia | 568,365 | 23,532 | 896,175 |
| x Halifax | 551,070 | 15,432 | 893,950 |
| New Glasgow | - | 1,200 | - |
| x Sydney | 17,295 | 6,900 | 2,225 |
| New Brunswick | 304,410 | 14,155 | 217,893 |
| Fredericton | 13,000 | 5,000 | - |
| x Moncton | 2,645 | 4,550 | 11,650 |
| x Saint John | 288,765 | 4,605 | 206,243 |
| Quebec | 11,373,955 | 920,885 | 3,407,888 |
| x Montreal - x Maisonneuve | 10,954,170 | 782,610 | 2,695,020 |
| x Quebec | 233,145 | 77,275 | 277,943 |
| Shawinigan Falls | 30,315 | 5,200 | 1,600 |
| x Sherbrooke | 35,060 | 20,000 | 28,850 |
| x Three Rivers | 74,275 | 25,400 | 36,375 |
| x Westmount | 46,990 | 10,400 | 368,100 |
| Ontario | 6,650,107 | 5,738,040 | 6,042,125 |
| Belleville | 7,800 | 9,650 | 10,175 |
| x Brantford | 17,740 | 4,150 | 51,864 |
| Chatham | 20,200 | 131,000 | 26,225 |
| x Fort William | 53,025 | 22,450 | 20,480 |
| Galt | 28,800 | 3,675 | 4,736 |
| x Guelph | 28,125 | 7,885 | 43,195 |
| x Hamilton | 786,350 | 255,800 | 1,115,400 |
| x Kingston | 32,785 | 70 | 71,830 |
| x Kitchener | 302,843 | 61,216 | 48,050 |
| x London | 101,450 | 135,200 | 209,535 |
| Niagara Falls | 29,150 | 57,191 | 201,471 |
| Oshawa | 61,050 | 22,250 | 291,850 |
| x Ottawa | 160,430 | 91,035 | 46,250 |
| Owen Sound | 28,000 | - | - |
| x Peterborough | 24,515 | 7,535 | 3,245 |
| x Port Arthur | 23,875 | 9,510 | 155,080 |
| x Stratford | 26,680 | 510 | 4,000 |
| x St. Catharines | 34,135 | 116,200 | 38,300 |
| x St. Thomas | 12,225 | 45,600 | 1,105 |
| Sarnia | 37,375 | 70,085 | 64,015 |
| Sault Ste. Marie | 17,050 | 5,660 | 8,630 |
| x Toronto | 2,830,217 | 2,710,559 | 2,787,485 |
| York & East York Townships | 1,029,530 | 806,950 | 346,000 |
| Welland | 1,490 | 1,700 | 7,000 |
| x Windsor | 426,965 | 687,750 | 312,955 |
| Ford | 91,186 | 8,700 | 21,350 |
| Riverside | 28,625 | 87,600 | 21,850 |
| Sandwich | 27,950 | 2,250 | 65,100 |
| Walkerville | 355,000 | 371,000 | 47,000 |
| Woodstock | 25,341 | 4,859 | 17,949 |
| Manitoba | 1,019,275 | 515,350 | 1,294,400 |
| x Brandon | 10,925 | 5,800 | 7,000 |
| St. Boniface | 16,100 | 10,800 | 96,800 |
| x Winnipeg | 992,250 | 498,750 | 1,190,600 |
| Saskatchewan | 1,158,140 | 270,075 | 945,815 |
| x Moose Jaw | 5,575 | 1,400 | 7,555 |
| x Regina | 779,745 | 158,750 | 231,910 |
| x Saskatoon | 372,820 | 109,925 | 706,350 |
| Alberta | 1,532,083 | 1,170,870 | 519,386 |
| x Calgary | 688,448 | 1,094,440 | 293,626 |
| x Edmonton | 798,825 | 71,150 | 197,545 |
| Lethbridge | 27,705 | 4,180 | 21,750 |
| Medicine Hat | 17,105 | 1,100 | 6,465 |
| British Columbia | 1,435,321 | 1,820,572 | 1,804,731 |
| Kamloops | 15,675 | 1,000 | 16,975 |
| Nanaimo | 4,100 | 4,735 | 7,150 |
| x New Westminster | 81,940 | 19,275 | 54,250 |
| Prince Rupert | - 2/ | 2,360 | 80,900 |
| x Vancouver 1/ | 1,226,250 | 1,525,785 | 1,516,745 |
| North Vancouver | 21,475 | 10,250 | 20,360 |
| x Victoria | 85,881 | 257,167 | 108,351 |
| Total - 61 Cities | 24,056,656 | 10,473,479 | 15,128,413 |
| x Total - 35 Cities | 22,107,434 | 8,849,943 | 13,063,287 |

1/ Includes Point Grey and South Vancouver, formerly given separately. From Jan. 1, 1929, when the amalgamation of these cities was effected, the total for the 35 cities includes the "Greater Vancouver" aggregate instead of that of the area formerly known as Vancouver.

2/ Report not received.

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