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BUILDING PERMITS FOR MAY, 1929, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR APRIL, 1929, AND
MAY, 1928, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 1920-1929.

The value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during May, 1929, was lower by 24.5 p.c. than in April, 1929, and by 16.4 p.c. than in May, 1928, but was higher than in any other May for which data are available. According to statements tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the authorizations amounted to \$23,007,371, as compared with \$29,648,147 in the preceding month and \$27,515,522 in May, 1928. The total for the elapsed months of this year - \$95,551,123 - exceeds that for the same period in any other year since this record was begun in 1920, while building costs continued lower than in most of the last ten years.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had issued over 1,900 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$8,400,000 and for some 4,300 other buildings estimated to cost over \$14,000,000. In April, authority was given for the erection of some 1,700 dwellings and 4,000 other buildings, valued at approximately \$9,000,000 and \$17,000,000 respectively.

Quebec and Alberta reported increases of 3.1 p.c. and 5.1 p.c., respectively, in the value of the permits issued as compared with April, 1929. Of the declines in the remaining provinces, that of \$2,204,511 or 55 p.c. in British Columbia was most pronounced.

As compared with May, 1928, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia registered increases, that of \$770,599 or 49.7 p.c. in Saskatchewan being largest. The other provinces recorded declines, of which that of \$4,526,969 or 34.3 p.c. in Ontario was most noteworthy.

Of the larger cities, Montreal reported higher totals of building permits issued than in either April, 1929, or May, 1928; in Toronto there was an increase in the first, but a loss in the second comparison, while Winnipeg and Vancouver showed decreases in both comparisons. Of the other centres, Moncton, Brantford, Guelph, Hamilton, London, Sarnia, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw, Calgary and Nanaimo recorded increases in the value of the building authorized as compared with both the preceding month and the same month of last year.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 1929.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities in May and in the first five months 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 five months of the same years are also given (1926 = 100).

Year	Value of Permits issued in May	Value of Permits issued in first five months	Indexes of value of permits issued first five months (1920=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first five months (1926 average=100)
1929	\$ 23,007,371	\$ 95,551,123	200.6	99.6
1928	27,515,522	79,285,027	166.4	96.9
1927	20,138,657	62,479,480	131.1	96.7
1926	18,504,296	60,042,369	126.0	101.3
1925	15,520,435	50,983,833	107.0	103.1
1924	14,807,589	46,544,689	97.7	111.3
1923	18,937,638	57,946,608	121.6	111.1
1922	19,527,061	54,040,922	113.4	102.0
1921	14,460,878	41,530,750	87.2	132.2
1920	13,082,015	47,640,916	100.0	144.7

The aggregate for the first five months of this year was 20.5 p.c. greater than in 1928, the previous high level of the record, while the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials continued lower than in most of the years since 1920.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during May and April, 1929, and May, 1928. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "X".

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

Cities	May, 1929	April, 1929	May, 1928
	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island - Charlottetown	-	5,000 1/	nil
Nova Scotia	432,321	1,520,931	122,325
x Halifax	414,951	1,419,295	115,640
New Glasgow	4,850	81,875	2,300
x Sydney	12,520	19,761	4,385
New Brunswick	180,415	208,004	179,457
Fredericton	5,500	-	67,000
x Moncton	84,135	65,350	28,915
x Saint John	90,780	142,454	83,542
Quebec	6,991,545	6,778,155	6,889,400
x Montreal - Maisonneuve	6,068,947	4,955,460	4,066,945
x Quebec	337,428	995,620	1,297,975
Shawinigan Falls	67,700	42,525	180,765
x Sherbrooke	87,300	87,000	288,200
x Three Rivers	122,000	255,075	678,825
x Westmount	308,170	442,475	376,690
Ontario	8,656,895	10,181,793	13,183,864
Belleville	30,125	13,515	42,150
x Brantford	81,180	75,116	44,064
Chatham	201,070	46,225	268,450
x Fort William	160,800	1,035,225	295,500
Galt	41,770	58,133	87,337
x Guelph	67,465	48,465	63,999
x Hamilton	615,850	353,150	491,450
x Kingston	21,827	86,759	46,161
x Kitchener	301,677	272,141	329,915
x London	342,405	206,985	230,110
Niagara Falls	62,430	150,628	210,020
Oshawa	270,360	39,750	284,610
x Ottawa	293,585	900,000	420,400
Owen Sound	35,200	6,000	88,500
x Peterborough	58,270	131,040	79,187
x Port Arthur	81,916	75,125	3,441,035
x Stratford	26,576	59,485	68,627
x St. Catharines	97,150	328,903	78,030
x St. Thomas	8,680	22,340	30,454
Sarnia	139,210	42,055	128,810
Sault Ste. Marie	71,506	39,624	61,845
x Toronto	4,137,328	3,850,436	4,653,687
York & East York Townships	880,396	915,830	802,743
Welland	10,175	18,530	38,920
x Windsor	365,930	737,966	327,800
East Windsor 2/	104,850	117,300	36,300
Riverside	25,350	96,450	71,550
Sandwich	35,050	38,375	40,425
Walkerville	73,000	234,000	346,000
Woodstock	15,764	98,232	75,100
Manitoba	762,980	1,972,315	2,097,260
x Brandon	81,830	68,600	95,380
St. Boniface	92,300	34,765	88,730
x Winnipeg	588,850	1,868,950	1,913,150
Saskatchewan	2,322,069	3,205,536	1,551,470
x Moose Jaw	270,350	46,990	176,100
x Regina	1,209,599	2,186,458	526,515
x Saskatoon	842,120	972,088	848,405
Alberta	1,855,391	1,766,147	1,798,668
x Calgary	1,004,759	935,907	842,421
x Edmonton	788,450	528,735	884,225
Lethbridge	33,287	135,125	36,695
Medicine Hat	28,895	166,330	35,327
British Columbia	1,805,755	4,010,266 1/	1,693,078
Kamloops	12,475	31,464	14,136
Nanaimo	10,460	6,000	1,577
x New Westminster	97,535	125,300	30,329
Prince Rupert	6,580	22,050 1/	16,850
x Vancouver 3/	1,406,350	1,481,295	1,477,094
North Vancouver	22,355	10,425	23,565
x Victoria	250,000	2,333,732	129,527
Total - 61 Cities	23,007,371	29,648,147 1/	27,515,522
x Total - 35 Cities	20,726,713	27,113,931	23,898,052

1/ Includes Charlottetown and Prince Rupert not shown in the previously published April statement. 2/ Formerly Ford City. 3/ 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.

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