Published by Authority of Hon. James Malcolm, M. P.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH OTTAWA - CANADA

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DOMINION SUREAU of STATISTICS

Issued July 20, 1929.

Dominion Statistician: Chief, General Statistics: R. H. Coats, B. A., F. S. S. (Hon.), F. R. S. C. S. A. Cudmore, M. A., F. S. S.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR JUNE, 1929, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR MAY, 1929, AND JUNE, 1928, AND CUMULATIVE REPORT FOR FIRST HALF-YEAR.

The value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during June was \$27,637,491; this was an increase of \$3,630,120 or 15.1 p.c. as compared with the May total of \$24,007,371, while in the more significant comparison with June, 1928, there was also an increase of \$4,885,531 or 21.5 p.c., the value for that month having been \$22,751,960. The aggregate for the first half of 1929 also exceeded that for the first half of any other year on record for these cities; with a total of \$124,188,614, it was 21.7 p.c. higher than in the period January-June, 1928, the previous high level. The wholesale costs of building materials this year have averaged lower than in most of the last nine years.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statements showing that they had issued over 1,600 permits for dwellings valued at more than \$8,700,000 and some 3,300 permits for other buildings estimated at approximately \$17,000,000. During May, authority was given for the erection of over 1,900 dwellings and some 4,300 other buildings, valued at approximately \$8,400,000 and \$14,000,000, respectively.

Improvement over May, 1929, was reported in New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, the gain of \$3,886,284 or 215.2 p.c. in the last named being most pronounced. Of the declines elsewhere, that of \$1,474,058 or 21.1 p.c. in Quebec was greatest.

As compared with June, 1928, there were increases in Nova Scotia and the four Western Provinces, British Columbia again reporting the greatest advance of \$3,851,602 or 209.3 p.c., while of the decreases in the remaining provinces, that of \$829,552 or 7.8 p.c. in Ontario was most noteworthy.

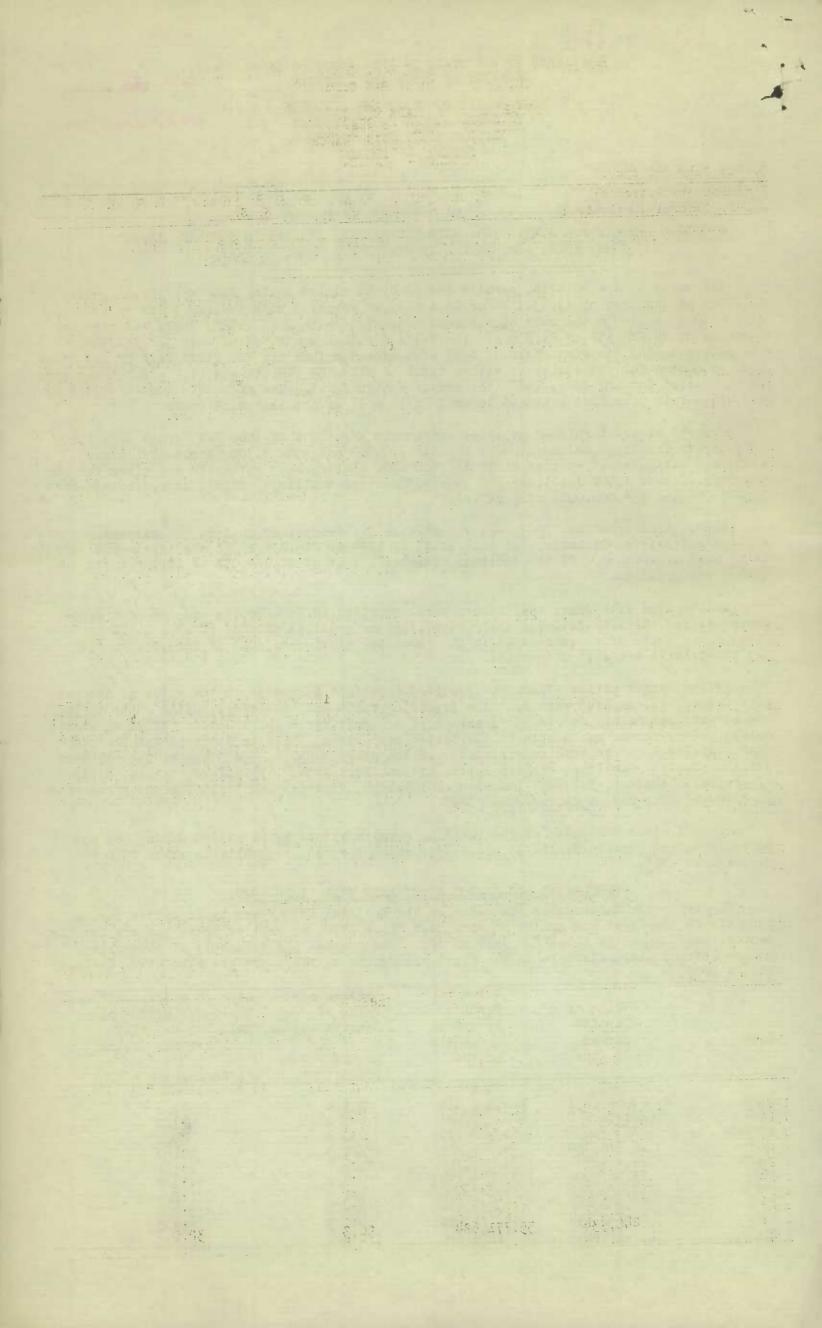
Of the larger cities, Vancouver recorded important increases in the value of the permits issued, as compared with both the preceding month and the corresponding month in 1928; the advance was mainly due to the granting of a permit for a large hotel. Winnipeg showed a loss in the former and a gain in the latter comparison, while in Montreal and Toronto there were declines in both comparisons. Of the other centres, New Glasgow, Quebec, Fort William, Guelph, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Port Arthur, Stratford, Sarnia, Windsor, Riverside, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Kamloops and North Vancouver reported improvement over May, 1929, and June, 1928.

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

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST HALF YEAR, 1920-1929.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during June and in the first six 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 six months of the years are also given (average 1926 = 100).

| | Value of | Value of Permits | Indexes of Value of | Average indexes of Wholesale prices of |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Year | Permits Issued | Issued in First Six | Permits issued, First Six | Building Materials in First Six Months. |
| | In June | Months | Months (1920=100). | (1926 average = 100) |
| | \$ | ¢ | (1)20-100). | (1)LO avolage - 100) |
| 1929 1928 | 27,637,491 22,751,960 | 124,18 8 ,614 102,036,987 | 201.4 | 99.6 97.0 |
| 1927 | 18,363,239 | 80,842,719 | 130.9 | 96.6 |
| 1926 19 2 5 | 18,718,050 14,915,884 | 78,760,419 65,899,717 | 127.5 106.7 | 101.0 |
| 19 2 5 1924 | 13,967,006 | 60,674,154 | 98.2 | 110.8 |
| 1923 1922 | 14,286, 252 17,052,582 | 73,047,496 71,281,674 | 118,3 | 111.4 |
| 1921 | 14,240,934 | 55,771,684 | -90,3 | 132.0 |
| 1920 | ,113,794 | 61,754,710 | 100.0 | 144.5 |



The aggregate for the first half year of 1928 was higher by \$22,151,627 or 21.7 p.c. than in 1928, the previous high level of this record; although the average index number of wholesale prices of building materials is this year slightly higher than it was last year, the advance in the volume of construction is proportionately considerably greater.

Provincial Totals of Building Permits Issued.

Table 2 is a record by provinces of the building permits issued by 61 cities during the first six months of each year since 1920; it also shows the totals for the same years, the proportion that the six months' aggregates bear to the yearly totals, and the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials and of wages in the building trades.

All provinces, except Ontario, reported higher aggregates of building permits issued then in the first six months of last year; in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia the totals were, in fact, larger than in any other year since 1920, while the Ontario and Manitoba aggregates were exceeded only once in the ten years, by the 1928 and the 1926 figures, respectively. Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan registered the greatest proportionate gains of 147.5 p.c. and 85.7 p.c. respectively, over 1928, while there was a reduction of less than one p.c. in Ontario.

During the first six months of this year, the 31 cities furnishing returns in Ontario reported 37.0 p.c. of the total value of the building authorized, as compared with 45.5 p.c. in the same months of 1928. In Quebec, the proportion increased from 22.5 p.c. last year to 26.3 in the elapsed months of 1929, and in British Columbia, from 12.4 p.c. to 13.1 p.c.

Totals of Permits Issued by Four Leading Cities.

In Table 3 are given the aggregates of permits issued in the four largest cities in the first half of each year since 1920, together with the proportion that their totals are of the yearly and half-yearly totals for the 61 cities. The building authorized was valued at \$66,190,652 in the first six months of 1929; this was 35.2 p.c. higher than in the same months of last year; it also considerably exceeded the aggregate for any other year of the record, in most of which the cost of building materials as higher. The increase in these four cities was substantially greater than the general increase in the 61 cities, and the retio to the total for the 61 cities was the highest on record.

Except in Toronto, the total for each of these cities was greater than in 1928, Montreal and Vancouver showing the marked increases of 77.9 p.c. and 71.8 p.c., respectively, over the 1928 figures. The aggregate for the first half of 1929 was higher in these two cities than in any other year since 1920, while the aggregates for Toronto and Winnipeg were each exceeded only once in the same ten years.

Contracts Awarded.

According to the MacLean Building Review, the value of construction contracts awarded throughout the Dominion during the January-June period, 1929, was \$275,121,700 as compared with \$256,257,300 in 1928 and \$191,323,800 in 1927. Of the total contracts awarded this year, \$69,513,300 was classed as residential building, \$94,255,300 as business, \$37,719,600 as industrial, and \$76,633,500 as engineering. In 1928, the total was divided as follows:-residential, \$72,531,000, business, \$91,713,300, industrial, \$38,290,500, and engineering, \$55,722,500. There were thus large increases during the first half of 1929 as compared with last year in the engineering and business building classes, the latter being heavily represented in the building permits statistics.

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Table 1. Estimated Cost of Building Work as Indicated by Building Permits issued by

| Cities | June, 1929 | May, 1929 | June, 1928 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Prince Edward Island - Charlottetown | nil | nil | nil |
| Tova Scotia | 242,037 | 4 32,321 414,951 | 78,630 |
| x Halifax Mew Glasgow | 137,852 93,250 | 4,850 | 55,070 775 |
| x Sydney | 10,935 | 12,520 | 22,785 |
| Mew Brunswick | 181,460, | 180,415 | 209,608 |
| Fredericton | _ 3/ | 5,500 | nil |
| x Honcton | 50,275 | 84,135 | 13,060 |
| x Saint John | 131,185 | 90,780 | 196,548 |
| Quebec | 5,517,487 | 6,991,545 | 5,889,851 |
| x .ontreal - x Maisonneuve | 3,697,514 | 6,068,947 | 4,203,976 |
| x Quebec | 1,193,273 | 337,428 | 497,125 |
| Shawinigan Falls | 37,350 | 67,700 | 522,870 |
| x Sherorooke | 117,000 | 87,300 122,000 | 206,800 |
| x Three Rivers x Westmount | 176,000 296,350 | 308,170 | 215,150 . 243,930 |
| Ontario | 9,850,852 | 8,656,895 | 10,680,404 |
| Belleville | 28,650 | 30,125 | 14,800 |
| x Frantford | 19,408 | 81,180 | 83, 954 |
| Chatham | 65,000 | 201,070 | 60,185 |
| x Fort William | 189,900 | 160,800 | 100,760 |
| Galt | 16,130 | 41,770 | 38,230 |
| x Guelph | 168,295 | 67,465 | 76,420 |
| x Hamilton | 1,355,800 | 615,850 | 882,650 |
| x Kingston | 30,884 | 21,827 | 35,191 |
| x Kitchener | 131,255 | 301,677 | 274.331 |
| x London | 252,415 | 342,405 62,430 | 336,070 44,139 |
| Miagara Falls Oshawa | 108,755 | 270,360 | 352,580 |
| x Ottawa | 502,960 | 293,585 | 452,715 |
| Owen Sound | 15,100 | 35,200 | 96,900 |
| n Peterborough | 18,445 | 58,270 | 25,013 |
| x Port Arthur | 169,420 | 81,916 | 101,845 |
| x Stratford | 111,041 | 26,576 | 27,650 |
| x St. Catharines | 103,550 | 97,150 | 121,810 |
| St. Thomas | 24,235 448,029 | 8,680 | 43,150 |
| Sarnia Sault Ste. Marie | 77,755 | 1 3 9,210 71,506 | 200,098 59,887 |
| x Toronto | 3,396,474 | 4,137,328 | 5,174,450 |
| York & East York Townships | 1,032,330 | 880,396 | 1,079,135 |
| Welland | 7,635 | 10,175 | 6,870 |
| # Windsor | 1,196,553 | 365,930 | 325,033 |
| East Windsor | 47,990 67,750 | 104,850 | 223,175 |
| Riverside | 67,750 | 25,350 | 67,550 |
| Sandwich | 52,100 60,000 | 35,050 73,000 | 240,225 |
| Walkerville Woodstock | 14,393 | 15,764 | 25,588 |
| ianitoba | 1,580,386 | 1,762,980 1/ | 1,345,810 |
| x Brandon | 15,426 | 81,830 | 61,625 |
| St. Boniface | 31,610 | 92,300 , | 166,785 |
| x Winnipeg | 1,533,350 | 1,588,850 1/ | 1,117,400 |
| Saskatchewan | 2,412,530 | 2,322,069 | 1,357,475 |
| x Loose Jaw | 40,000 | 270,350 | 36,930 |
| x Regina | 1,022,105 | 1,209,599 | 624,170 |
| x Saskatoon | 1,350,425 | 842,120 | 696,375 |
| Alberta | 2,160,700 1,106,965 | 1,855,391 1,004,759 | 1,349,745 |
| x Calgary x Edmonton | 976,915 | 788,450 | 634,010 |
| Lethbridge | 64,940 | 33,287 | 22,485 |
| Medicine Hat | 11,880 | 28,895 | 5,047 |
| British Columbia | 5,692,039 | 1,805,755 | 1,840,437 |
| Kamloops | 80,600 | 12,475 | 8,400 |
| Nanaimo | 31,140 | 10,460 | 4,500 |
| New Westminster | 39,119 | 97,535 | 92,360 |
| Prince Rupert x Vancouver 2/ | 5,337,925 | 6,580 1,406,350 | 2,200 |
| North Vancouver | 120,600 | 22,355 | 25,190 |
| x Victoria | 82,655 | 250,000 | 45,343 |
| | | | |
| Total - 61 Cities | 27,637,491 | 24,007,371 1/, | 22,751,960 |

^{1/} Corrected total. 2/ 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 for the area formerly known as Vancouver. 3/ Report not received.

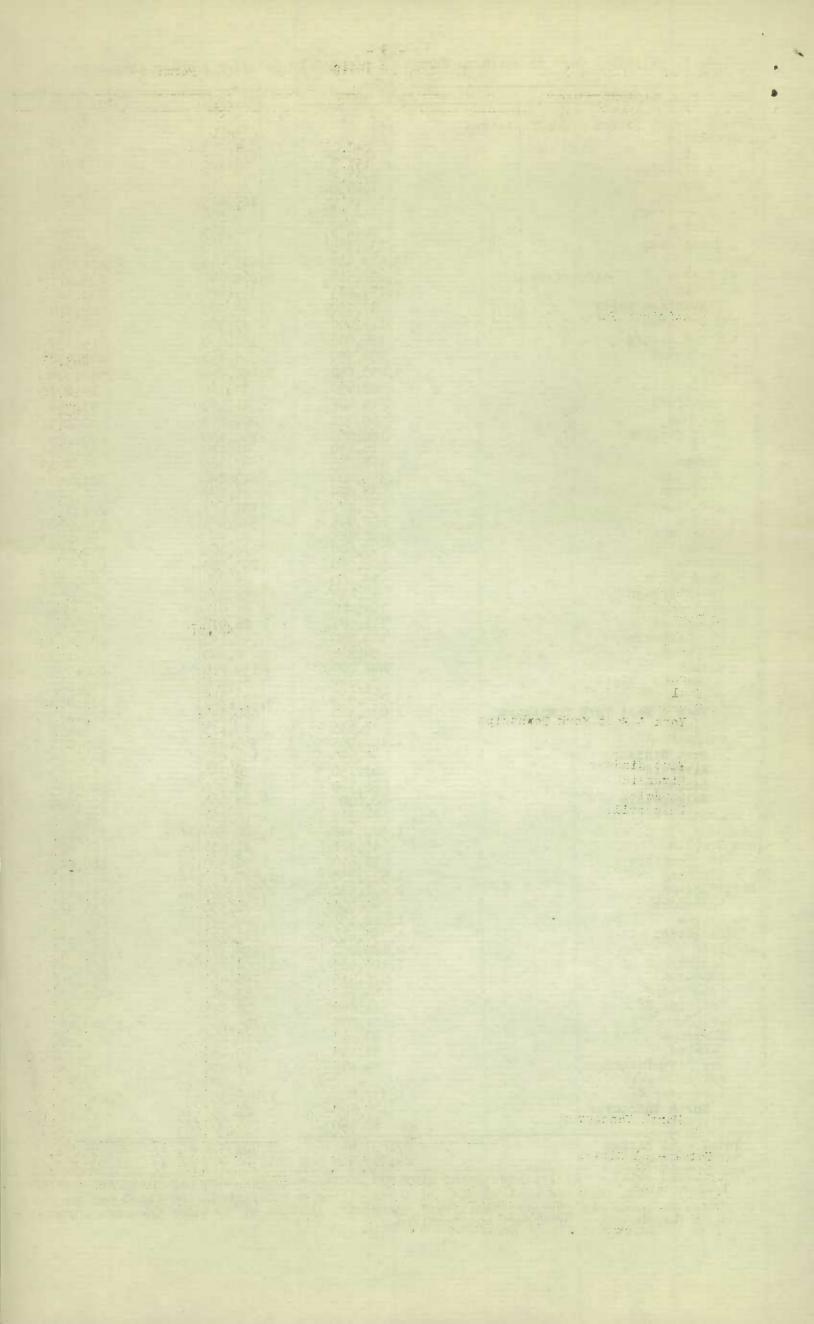


Table 2.- Provincial Totals of Building Permits Issued by 61 Cities During First Half-Year, 1920-1929.

| Province | No. of Cities 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| Prince Edward Isd. Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia | . 1 20,0 3 3,210,6 3 893,8 6 32,642,3 31 45,948,8 3 7,112,2 3 9,459,5 4 8,620,3 7 16,280,7 | 1,297,200 762,468 32 22,838,301 84 46,203,940 91 6,890,235 20 5,093,105 64 6,338,136 | 5,037,703 4,202,147 | 17,000 294,397 551,353 19,575,823 31,334,947 8,491,110 2,884,162 2,429,373 13,182,254 | 11,000 851,958 755,090 16,647,887 31,808,126 3,140,730 1,506,755 1,508,554 9,669,617 | 16,700 603,754 304,289 16,523,301 29,028,415 2,201,396 1,863,334 2,522,201 7,610,764 | 27,500 332,844 446,666 19,598,131 42,761,546 2,331,030 1,470,594 1,279,915 4,799,270 | 49,500 1,223,584 1,107,458 12,503,048 41,858,395 4,439,403 2,430,585 2,213,495 5,449,206 | 127,200 1,734,457 534,855 10,870,750 29,105,123 3,696,283 1,874,257 2,427,465 5,401,294 | 34,500 2,338,612 1,123,270 13,318,280 29,355,724 5,740,273 2,219,660 3,791,546 3,832,845 |
| Canada 6 months Canada 12 months | 61 124,188,6 | 14 102,036,987 219,105,715 | 80,842,719 184,613,742 | 78,760,419 156,386,607 | 65,899,717 125,029,367 | 60,674,154 126,583,148 | 73,047,496 133,521,621 | 71,281,6,4 | 55,771,684 116,794,414 | 61,754,710 |
| Proportion of perfirst 6 months to year | | 46.6 | 43.8 | 50.4 | 52.7 | 47.9 | 54.7 | 48.1 | 47.8 | 52.8 |
| <pre>1/ Average weighte numbers of wholes building materials</pre> | ale prices of | 97.0 | 96.6 | 101.0 | 103.1 | 110.8 | 111.4 | 108.0 | 132.0 | 144.5 |
| 2/ Average index mages in building (for year) | | 185.6 | 179.3 | 172.1 | 170.4 | 169.7 | 166.4 | 162.5 | 170.5 | 180.9 |

^{1/} Compiled by Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Average 1926 = 106

^{2/} Compiled by Department of Labour, Average, 1913 = 100.

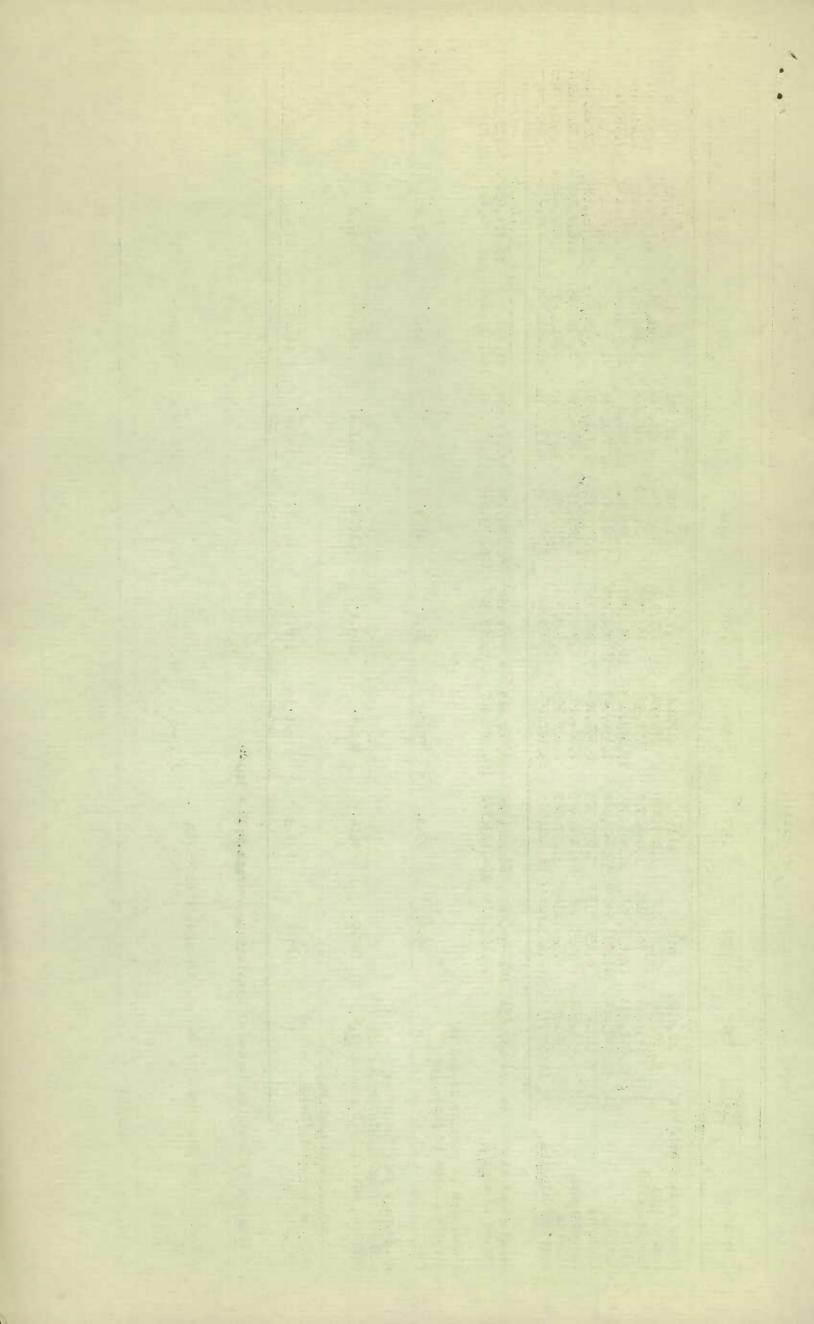


Table 3. - Building Permits Issued by Four Largest Cities in First Half-Year, 1920-1929.

| City | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | |
|--|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|---|-----|
| | Ş | \$ | Ş | .9 | Ş | Ş | ŷ | ý | y y | ¥ | |
| Montreal | 27,315,216 | 15,356,336 | 11,689,052 | 12,682,239 | 11,440,158 | 11,248,115 | 15,469,327 | 9,142,774, | 7,330,178. | 8,263,498. | |
| Toronto | 19,944,176 | 20,334,098 | 13,038,265 | 11,945,913 | 12,998,633. | 11,007,603 | 18,016,857 | . 3,17.,893,725. | 11,688,813 | 12,922,551 | |
| Winnipeg | 6,727,250 | 6,153,000 | 4,579,300 | 8,069,600 | 2,412,940 | 1,770,000 | 2,104,500 | 4,049,700 | 3,084,050. | 5,435,450, | |
| Vancouver | 12,204,010 | 7,105,285 | 6,023,951 | 7,756,825 | 4,899,543 | 4,137,261 | 2,230,159 | 2,013,431. | 1,660,382 | 1,485,068 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total, 4 largest | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 months | 66,190,652 | 48,948,719 | 35,330,568 | 40,454,577 | 31,790,174 | 28,162,979 | 37,820,84 | 3 33,099,630. | 23,763,423. | 28,106,567. Jr. | 9 |
| Total, 4 largest cities 12 months | | 111,279,782 | 94,732,185 | 83 613 495 | 63,438,784 | 64,348,121 | 68.496.764 | 71,907,956. | 53,795,051 | 51,744,488 | |
| | | 111,217,102 | 748135,107 | | | 07,540,121 | 0.0,170,101 | , 14.1001975 | - 7311,771-7- | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | |
| Proportion of permits issued by 4 largest cities in first 6 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | |
| months to total for year | | 44.0 p. | c. 37.3 p.c | . 48.4 p.c | . 50.1 p.c | . 43.8 p.c | . 55.2. p. | c 46.0 p.c | 44.2 p.c | 54.3 p.c8 | . 5 |
| Proportion of permits issued by 4 largest cities in 6 months, to 6 months' total for | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 61 cities - | 53.3 p. | .c. 48.0 p. | c. 43.4 p.c | . 51.4 p.c | . 48.2 p.c | 46.4. p.c | 51.8 p. | c 46.4 p.c | 42.6 p.c | 45.5 p.p. | |



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