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EUILDING PERUITS FOR JUNE, 1929, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEITUTS FOR MAY, 1929, ARD JUNE, 1928, AND CUKULATIVE REPORT FOOR FIPST HALF-YEAR.

The value "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 liay total of $\$ 24,007,371$, while in the more significant comparison with June, 1928, there was also an incruase of $\$ 4,885,531$ or $21.5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$., the value for that month having been $\$ 22,751,960$. The nggregate 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 puriod jenuery-June, 1928, the previous high level. The wholesalc 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 pomits for dwellines 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.

Iuprovement over iay, 1929, was reported in New Brunswick, Ontar10, 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 $21.1 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. in Quebec was greatest.

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

If 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, hile in Montreal and Toronto there were declines in both comparisons. Of the other centres, Mew Glasgow, quebec, Fort William, Guelph, amilton, 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.

Tablo $l$ §ives the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during fiay 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 YFAR, 1920-1929.
The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during Jure 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 ingex numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first six months of the years are also given (average $1926=100$ ).

| Year | Value of <br> Permits <br> Issued <br> In June | Value of Permits Issued in First Six Months | Indexes of <br> value of. <br> Permits issued, <br> First Six <br> ronths <br> $(1920=100)$. | Average indexes of Wholesale prices of Building Materials in First Six Fionths. $(1926 \text { average }=100)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1929 \\ & 1928 \\ & 1927 \\ & 1926 \\ & 1925 \\ & 1924 \\ & 1923 \\ & 1922 \\ & 1921 \\ & 1020 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ \\ 27,637,491 \\ 22,751,960 \\ 18,363,239 \\ 18,718,050 \\ 14,915,884 \\ 13,967,006 \\ 14,285,252 \\ 17,252,582 \\ 14,240,934 \end{gathered}$ | $124,188,614$ 102,036,987 80,842,719 $78,760,419$ $65,399,717$ $60,674,154$ $73,047,496$ $71,281,674$ $55,771,684$ 754,710 | $\begin{array}{r} 201.4 \\ 165.2 \\ 130.9 \\ 127.5 \\ 106.7 \\ 98.2 \\ 118.3 \\ 115.4 \\ 90,3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 99.6 \\ 97.0 \\ 96.6 \\ 101.0 \\ 103.1 \\ 110.8 \\ 111.4 \\ 108.0 \\ 132.0 \\ 144.5 \end{array}$ |

The ag regate for the first half year of 1928 was higher by $\$ 22,151,627$ or 21.7 p.c. inin in. 1923, the previous high level of this record; althoumh the average index number of wholesile rices of building materials is this year slighty hi her than it was last year, the avance in tie volume of construction is proportionately considerably greater.

## Proviacial Totals of Buildin Peraits Issued.

Irble 2 is a record by provinces of the buildins permits issued by 61 cities durin the first six months of each year since 1920; it also shows the totals for the same years, the ronortion that the six months' aggregates bear to the yearly totals, and the averuge index ambers of wholesale prices of buildin materials and of wases in the building trades.

All provinces, exceot ontario, reported hi her aggresates of building perinits issued thon in the first six months of last year; in Nova Scotia, quebec, Saskatchewan, Alberta and aritish Columbia the totals were, in fact, larger than in any other year since 1920, while th. Cntario and icinitoba ageregates were exceoded only once in the ten years, by the 1928 ain the 1926 iicures, respectively. ITova Scotia and Saskatchewan registered the greatest jroportionate gains of $147.5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. and $85.7 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. respectively, over 1928 , while there was a roduction of less than one D.c. in Ontario.

Durin the iirst six months of this year, the 31 cities furnishing returns in Onterio reported $37.0 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. of the total value of the building authorized, as compared with $45.5 \mathrm{o} . \mathrm{c}$. in the same moinths of 1928. In Quebec, the proportion increased from 22.5 p.c. last year to $\because 6 . ?$ in the elapsed zonths 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 हiven the acyregates of permits issued in the four largest cities in the irst half of each fear since 1920, together with the proportion that their totals are of the yearly and holf-yearly totals for the 61 cities. The building authorized was valued at $\$ 00,190,652$ in the first six months of 1929 ; this was 35.2 p.c. higher than in the same months of last year; it also considurably exceeded the agaregate for any other year of the record, in most of which the cost of building materials shigher. The increase in these four cities was substantially greater than the general increase in the 61 cities, and the ritin to the totil for the 61 cities mas the highest on record.

Except in Toronto, the total for each of these cities was greater than in 1928 , Xontrual and Vancouver showing the marked increases of $77.9 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{c}_{\text {. and }} 71.8 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. , respectivoly, over the 1923 figures. The agsregate for the first half of 1929 was higher in these two citius than in any other year since 1920, while the aggreates for Toronto and Minaipes wre each exceeded only once in the sarae ten years.

## Contracts Awarded.

Accordin to the Raclean Building Review, the value of construction contracts awarded tinoushout the Dominion during the January-June period, 1929, was $\$ 27$, 121,700 as compared Uitn $\$ 256,257,300$ in 1928 and $\$ 191,323,800$ in 1927. Of the total contracts awarded this your, $\$ 69,513,300$ was classed as residential building, $\$ 94,255,300$ as business, $\$ 37,719,600$ as industrial, and $\$ 76,633,500$ as en ineering. In 1928, the total was divided as follows:residential, $\$ 72,531,000$, business, $\$ 91,713,300$, industrial, $\$ 38,290,500$, and engineering, \$5j, 722,j00. There Mere thus large increases during the first half of 1929 as compared with last year in the engineering and business building clesses, the latter beins heavily represented in the building permits statistics.

Table 1. Estimated Cost of Buildin. Work as Indicated by Building Permits issued by
61 Cities.
-

| Cities | June, 1929 | May, 1929 | June, 1928 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Prince Idward Island - Charlottetown Nove. Scotia | nil 242.037 | 432,321 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { nil } \\ & 78,630 \end{aligned}$ |
| $x$ Veilfax | 137,852 | 414,951 | 55,070 |
| We: $\hat{\text { vlas.ow }}$ | 93,250 | 4,850 |  |
| $x$ Sydney | 10,935 | 12.520 | 22,785 |
| Qe: Pmanswick | 181,4601 | 180,415 | 209,608 |
| Erenericton | - 31 | 5,500 | nil |
| $x$.oncton | 50,275 | 84.135 | 13,060 |
| * Seint John | 131,185 | 90,780 | 196.548 |
| quebec | 5,517,487 | 5,991,545 | 5,889, 851 |
| x . ontreal - x Haisonneuve | 3,697,514 | 6,068,947 | 4,203,976 |
| $x$ Ouebec | 1,193,273 | 337,428 | 497,125 |
| Shawinigan Falls | 37.350 | 67,700 | 522,870 |
| x Sherorooke | 117,000 | 87,300 | 206,800 |
| x Three Rivers | 176,000 | 122,000 | 215,150 |
| $x$ estrount | 296,350 | 308,170 | 243.930 |
| Ointerio | 9,850,852 | 8,656,895 | 10,680,404 |
| 3elleville | 28,650 | 30,125 | 14,800 |
| $x$ Erantford | 19,408 | 81,180 | 83,954 |
| Cha thara | 65,000 | 201,070 | 60,185 |
| $\therefore$ Fort 7illiam | $180,900$ | 160,800 | 100,760 38,230 |
| $x$ Gruelph | 168,295 | 67,465 | 76,420 |
| $x$ Namilton | 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 | 336,070 |
| Tiagara Falls | 108,755 | 62,430 | 44,139 |
| Oshava | 147,600 | 270, 360 | 352,580 |
| - Ottawa | 502,960 | 293.585 | 452,715 |
| Owen Sound | 15,100 | 35,200 | 96,900 |
| $x$ Peterborough | 18,445 | 58,270 | 25.013 |
| $x$ Port Arthur | 169.420 | 81,916 | 101,845 |
| $x$ Stratfora | 111,041 | 26,576 | 27,650 |
| $x$ St. Catharines | 103,550 | 97,150 | 121,810 |
| \% St. Thomas | 24,235 | 8,680 | 43,150 |
| Sarnia | 448,029 | 139,210 | 200,095 |
| Sult Ste. Marie | 77.755 | 71,506 | 59,857 |
| $x$ Toronto | 3,395,474 | 4,137,328 | 5,174,450 |
| York \& East York Towinsips | 1,032,330 | 880,396 | 1,079,135 |
| - ${ }^{\text {clland }}$ | 7,635 | 10,175 | 6.870 |
| * 7indsor | 1,196,553 | 365,930 | 325,033 |
| East Findsor | 47,990 | 104,850 | 223,175 |
| Riverside | 67,750 | 25,350 | -67.550 |
| - Sandutch | 52,100 | 35,050 | 240,225 |
| \#elkerville | 60,000 | 73,000 | 110,000 |
| \#.oodstock | 14,393 | 15,764 | 25,588 |
| amitoba | 1,580,386 | 1,762,980 | 1,345,810 |
| $\chi$ Brandon | 15,426 | 81,830 | 61,625 |
| St. Boniface | 31,610 | 92,300 | 166,785 |
| $\times$ Winipeg | 1,533,350 | 1,588,850 | 1,117,400 |
| Saswatchewan | 2,412,530 | 2,322,069 | 1,357,475 |
| $x$ coose Jaw | 40,000 | 270,350 | 36,930 |
| $x$ Liegina | 1,022,105 | 1,209,599 | 624,170 |
| x Saskatoon | 1,350,425 | -842,120 | 696,375 |
| Alourta | 2,160,700 | 1,855,391 | 1,349,745 |
| $x$ Calcary | 1,106,965 | 1,004,759 | 688,203 |
| $\cdots$ Edronton | 976,915 | 788,450 | 634,010 |
| Lethbridge | 64,940 | 33,287 | 22,485 |
| Cedicine Hat | 11,880 | 28,895 | 5,047 |
| 3ritisli Columbia | 5,692,039 | 1,805,755 | 1,840,437 |
| Taniloops | 80,600 | 12,475 | 8, 400 |
| TTanaimo | 31,140 | 10,460 | 4,500 |
| $\therefore$ New Mestminster | 39,119 | 97. 535 | 92,360 |
| Prince Rupert | - 3/ | 6,580 | 2,200 |
| $x$ Vancouver $2 /$ | 5,337,925 | 1,406,350 | 1,662,444 |
| Worth Vancouver | 120,600 | 22,355 | 25,190 |
| $\times$ Victoria | 82,655 | 250,000 | 45,343 |
| notak - 61 Cities <br> x Total - 35 Cities | $\begin{aligned} & 27,637,491 \\ & 24,976,904 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24,007,371 \\ & 21,726,713 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 22,751,960 \\ & 18,833,516 \end{aligned}$ |

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[^1]2/ Comi, led by Department of Labour, Average, $1913=100$.

cities in first 6 months to total for year

Proportion of pormits
issuod by 4 largest
cities in 6 months, to
6 months' total for
61 cities -
33.3 p.c
48.0 p.c. 43.4 p.c.
51.4 p.c. 48.2 p.c.




[^0]:    l/ Corrected total. $2 /$ Includes Point Grey and South Vancouver formerly given separately. Fi: om Jan. 1, 1929, when the amalganation of these cities was effected, the total for the 35 cities includes the "Greater Vancouver" asgregate, instead of that for the area formerly known as Vancerver. 3/ Report not receiveã.

[^1]:    1/ Compiled by Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Averaga 1926 I:100

