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Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S.(Hon.), F.R.S.C.  
 Chief, General Statistics Branch: S. A. Cudmore, M.A., F.S.S.  
 In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge.

BUILDING PERMITS REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 1932, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER, 1932, AND DECEMBER, 1931, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR THE YEARS, 1920-1932.

The building permits issued by 61 cities in December, 1932, represented construction work valued at \$1,480,731, as compared with \$2,505,309 in November, 1932, and \$7,895,106 in December, 1931. There was, therefore, a decrease of \$1,024,578 or 40.9 p.c. in December as compared with the preceding month, and of \$6,414,375 or 81.2 p.c. in comparison with the high total for the same month of 1931. In this record, which goes back to 1920, the December, 1932, figure was exceeded by the total for December of each year from 1920-1931, but the wholesale costs of building materials, as measured by the Bureau's index number, were lower than in any other year since 1920.

Detailed statements were received from some 50 cities, showing that they had issued almost 100 permits for dwellings valued at some \$350,000 and over 600 permits for other buildings at an estimated cost of about \$900,000. There was also one permit in St. Boniface for engineering work at a cost of \$100,000. During November, the construction of some 200 dwellings and 1,400 other buildings was authorized; these were estimated to cost approximately \$630,000 and \$1,800,000, respectively.

As compared with the preceding month, Manitoba alone, registered an increase in the value of the authorized building, showing a gain of \$84,350, or 27.7 p.c. Declines were indicated in the remaining provinces. While the absolute decreases were \$582,834 or 38.3 p.c. in Ontario and \$349,114 or 57.3 p.c. in Quebec, the relative decreases of \$20,015 or 90.4 p.c. in Saskatchewan and \$30,194 or 59.6 p.c. in Alberta were most pronounced.

All provinces except New Brunswick recorded decreases as compared with December, 1931, in the value of the building authorized. In this comparison also, Quebec and Ontario reported the most marked losses of \$2,825,870 or 91.5 p.c. and \$2,927,747 or 75.7 p.c., respectively.

Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver showed decreases in the value of the building permits issued as compared both with November, 1932, and December, 1931. Saint John, Belleville, Moose Jaw and Prince Rupert recorded advances in both comparisons.

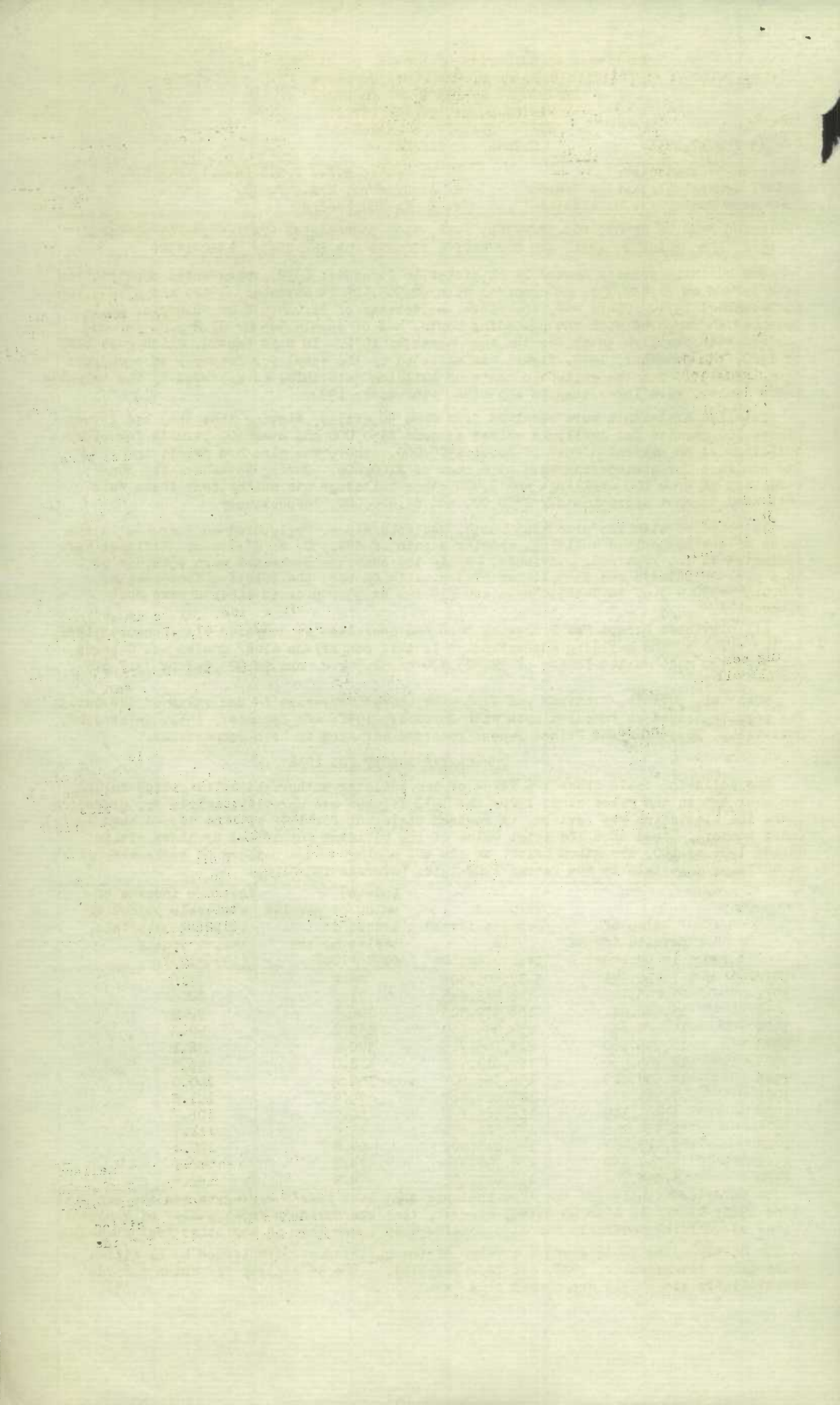
CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR 1932.

The following table shows the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during December and in the years since 1920; the 1932 figures are unrevised, while for preceding years the statistics are revised. (A revised statement for 1932 will be issued next month). Index numbers, based upon the total value of the building authorized by these cities during 1926 as 100, are given below, as are the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the years, 1920-1932. (Average 1926=100).

	Value of permits issued in December	Value of permits issued in twelve months	Indexes of value of permits issued in twelve months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials, twelve months (1926=100).
1932	\$ 1,480,731	\$ 39,403,306	25.2	77.6
1931	7,895,106	112,222,845	71.8	82.6
1930	15,440,281	166,379,325	106.4	90.9
1929	14,688,682	234,944,549	150.2	99.0
1928	16,095,160	219,105,715	140.1	98.1
1927	11,755,566	184,613,742	118.0	96.7
1926	11,508,818	156,386,607	100.0	100.0
1925	7,363,777	125,029,367	79.9	103.8
1924	6,463,319	126,583,148	80.9	106.7
1923	6,974,256	133,521,621	85.4	111.7
1922	9,517,402	148,215,407	94.8	108.6
1921	5,537,330	116,794,414	74.7	122.7
1920	4,844,354	117,019,622	74.8	152.4

The unrevised statistics for 1932 indicate that last year's aggregate was the smallest since 1920; it should also be noted, however, that the Bureau's index number of wholesale prices of building materials was also considerably lower than in any other year since 1920.

The accompanying table gives the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities in November and December, 1932, and December, 1931. The 35 centres for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".



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

C i t i e s	December	November	December
	1932	1932	1931
P. E. I. - Charlottetown	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Nova Scotia	48,900	108,703	70,355
x Halifax	48,525	108,123	70,305
New Glasgow	375	380	50
x Sydney	Nil	200	Nil
New Brunswick	22,655	25,308	7,315
Fredericton	Nil	Nil	Nil
x Moncton	215	5,880	360
x Saint John	22,440	19,428	6,955
Quebec	260,940	609,054	3,086,810
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	215,805	248,174	2,982,690
x Québec	12,035	319,895	83,195
Shawinigan Falls	Nil	4,135	500
x Sherbrooke	2,200	4,000	9,300
x Three Rivers	500	200	9,000
x Westmount	30,400	32,650	2,125
Ontario	938,925	1,521,759	3,866,672
Belleville	2,650	125	Nil
x Brantford	2,155	1,822	55,958
Chatham	2,800	200	56,450
x Fort William	150	21,500	10,200
Galt	405	2,760	26,862
x Guelph	1,785	9,587	10,116
x Hamilton	11,600	44,950	557,250
x Kingston	8,230	7,310	19,277
x Kitchener	7,560	37,474	22,394
x London	21,995	37,985	50,225
Niagara Falls	300	2,145	15,521
Oshawa	375	6,665	900
x Ottawa	47,540	38,440	96,810
Owen Sound	Nil	1,100	4,500
x Peterborough	555	6,383	200
x Port Arthur	2,935	25,226	2,970
x Stratford	1,535	1,635	7,745
x St. Catharines	2,100	17,920	22,527
x St. Thomas	Nil	3,525	Nil
Sarnia	886	4,880	14,522
Sault Ste. Marie	2,430	950	9,825
x Toronto	805,352	1,197,314	2,630,181
York & East York Townships	9,374	46,249	164,685
Welland	1,725	1,070	6,150
x Windsor	2,275	1,660	66,625
East Windsor	Nil	Nil	3,556
Riverside	-	Nil	Nil
Sandwich	Nil	Nil	Nil
Walkerville	Nil	Nil	Nil
Woodstock	2,213	2,884	11,223
Manitoba	114,750	30,400	465,970
k Brandon	1,800	Nil	225,870
St. Boniface	100,050	300	163,600
x Winnipeg	12,900	30,100	76,500
Saskatchewan	2,230	23,245	27,978
x Moose Jaw	1,000	100	150
x Regina	630	12,450	25,728
x Saskatoon	600	10,695	2,100
Alberta	20,425	50,619	89,308
x Calgary	13,008	15,934	57,700
x Edmonton	5,960	13,485	4,890
Lethbridge	1,457	50	3,718
Medicine Hat	Nil	21,150	23,000
British Columbia	71,906	136,221	280,698
Kamloops	620	1,940	2,020
Nanaimo	175	2,504	24,125
x New Westminster	2,650	9,305	11,250
Prince Rupert	1,725	275	1,235
x Vancouver	53,660	111,893	215,900
North Vancouver	850	145	2,800
x Victoria	12,226	10,159	23,368
Total 61 Cities	1,480,731	2,505,309	7,895,106
x Total 35 Cities	1,352,321	2,405,402	7,359,864



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