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BUILDING PERMITS FOR MARCH, 1932, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1932,
 AND MARCH, 1931, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST QUARTER, 1920-1932.

According to returns tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during March was \$3,323,602; this was an increase of \$745,005 or 28.9 p.c., over the February total of \$2,578,597, but a decrease of \$6,625,377 or 66.6 p.c., as compared with the aggregate of \$9,948,979 reported for the same month in 1931. Building costs, as shown by the Bureau's index number of wholesale prices of building materials, were, however, lower than in 1931 and any other year since 1920.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had granted nearly 400 permits for dwellings valued at over \$900,000 and some 1,100 permits for other buildings estimated to cost approximately \$2,200,000. In addition, three centres reported that they had authorized five engineering projects valued at approximately \$128,000. In February, authority was given for the erection of some 300 dwellings and nearly 800 other buildings, estimated at approximately \$1,100,000 and \$1,400,000, respectively, while an engineering project, valued at \$20,495, was also reported.

New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the building authorized during March as compared with the preceding month. The greatest gains were those of \$584,320 or 49.8 p.c. in Quebec, and \$130,899 or 433.4 p.c. in Saskatchewan. Of the declines in the remaining provinces, that of \$93,968 or 52.4 p.c. in Alberta was greatest.

As compared with March, 1931, all provinces recorded decreases; the largest reduction was that of \$2,419,029 or 71.8 p.c. in Quebec.

Of the larger cities, Montreal registered a gain as compared with the preceding month, but a falling-off as compared with March of last year. Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver showed declines in both comparisons.

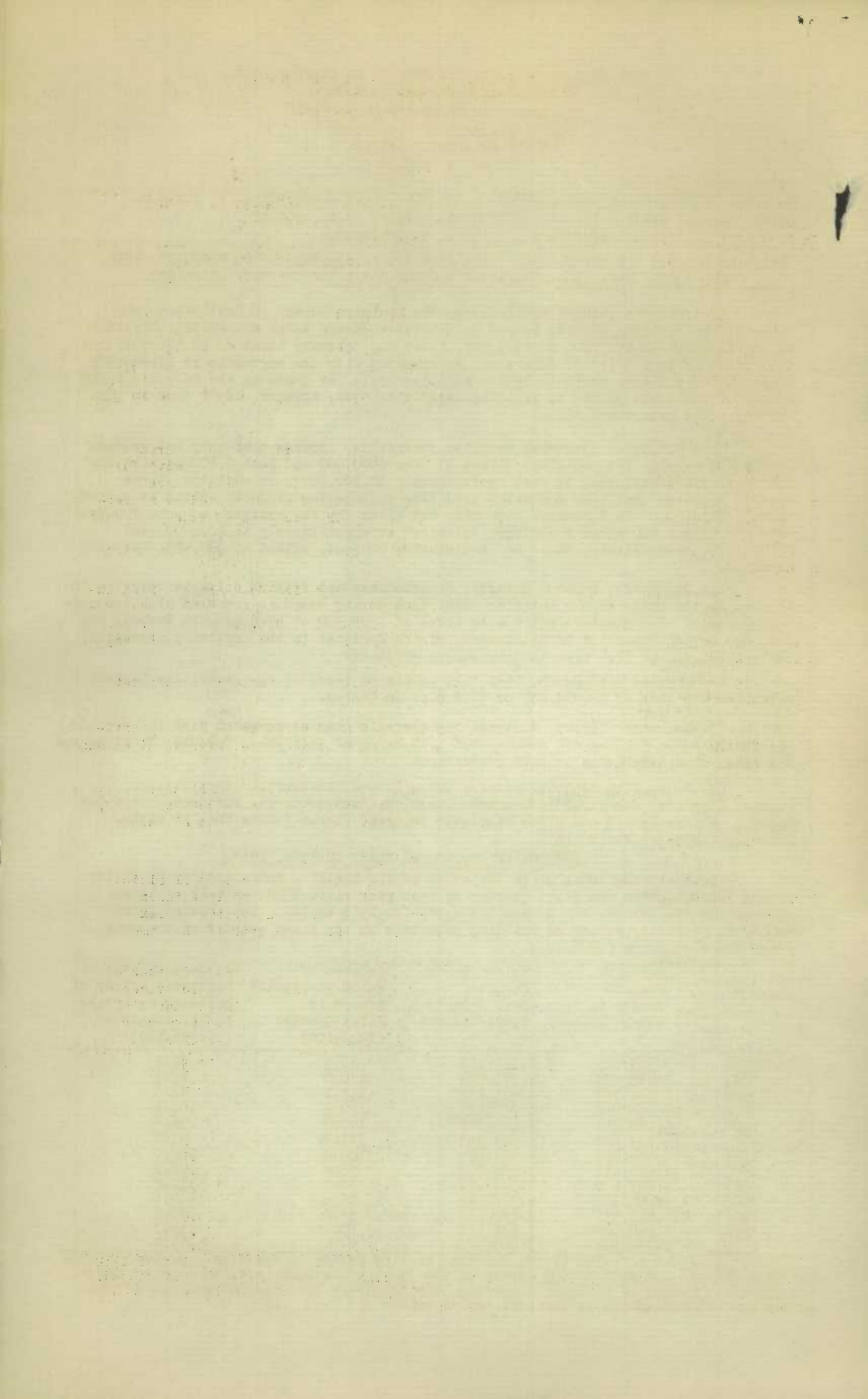
Of the smaller centres, Sydney, Three Rivers, Belleville, Fort William, Galt, Guelph, Kingston, Ottawa, Peterborough, Sandwich, Woodstock, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw, Nanaimo, Prince Rupert and North Vancouver reported higher totals than in either February, 1932, or March, 1931.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST QUARTER, 1932.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 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 1926 as 100. The average index number 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 (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in First Quarter (1926=100)
1932	\$ 3,323,602	\$ 8,664,128	38.5	79.3
1931	9,948,979	24,746,094	110.0	83.3
1930	13,356,787	29,495,262	131.1	96.6
1929	24,063,018	42,950,228	190.9	100.1
1928	15,128,413	33,153,338	147.4	96.6
1927	11,713,640	25,028,353	111.3	97.0
1926	10,874,491	22,493,574	100.0	102.0
1925	8,631,627	19,981,015	83.2	102.9
1924	9,493,620	18,047,999	80.2	112.2
1923	9,658,950	19,478,119	86.6	110.6
1922	10,615,531	18,680,173	83.0	103.0
1921	7,290,589	13,569,512	60.3	135.7
1920	8,775,675	18,909,936	84.1	139.4

The aggregate value of the building permits issued in the first quarter of 1932 was less than in the same period in any of the years since 1920 but, as already stated, the wholesale prices of building materials have this year been considerably lower than in the same period in any of the last twelve years.



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

Cities	March, 1932	February, 1932	March, 1931
Prince Edward Island - Charlottetown	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Nova Scotia	55,850	66,400	222,735
x Halifax	50,560	66,225	220,485
New Glasgow	770	175	1,700
x Sydney	4,520	Nil	550
New Brunswick	15,755	14,055	29,730
Fredericton	1,500	Nil	8,600
x Moncton	1,750	11,600	2,800
x Saint John	12,505	2,455	18,330
Quebec	950,393	797,314	3,369,422
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	839,108	727,599	2,970,148
x Quebec	71,785	34,015	241,924
Shawinigan Falls	700	5,000	300
x Sherbrooke	14,000	25,900	24,000
x Three Rivers	24,150	600	15,800
x Westmount	650	4,200	117,250
Ontario	1,697,935	1,173,615	3,143,686
Belleville	2,400	200	400
x Brantford	20,028	23,115	62,043
Chatham	6,700	2,325	15,000
x Fort William	11,050	1,650	10,900
Galt	18,521	2,450	16,525
x Guelph	25,425	6,270	20,605
x Hamilton	113,500	105,300	783,950
x Kingston	12,645	3,115	12,157
x Kitchener	4,710	31,335	39,121
x London	79,060	32,245	150,835
Niagara Falls	690	5,230	6,380
Oshawa	1,475	155	20,500
x Ottawa	350,275	139,700	325,240
Owen Sound	Nil	Nil	7,500
x Peterborough	12,475	10,650	145
x Port Arthur	2,725	60	6,268
x Stratford	1,020	350	7,803
x St. Catharines	5,144	42,120	158,085
x St. Thomas	800	2,650	6,140
Sarnia	7,570	2,365	16,150
Sault Ste. Marie	12,067	8,000	56,631
x Toronto	588,646	604,750	892,911
York & East York Townships	385,509	97,295	466,580
Welland	5,750	2,160	14,195
x Windsor	13,475	14,300	29,455
East Windsor	994	33,000	2,550
Riverside	Nil	-	3,150
Sandwich	4,500	Nil	450
Walkerville	4,000	Nil	8,000
Woodstock	7,381	2,825	4,017
Manitoba	41,200	63,750	311,277
x Brandon	500	1,250	77
St. Boniface	4,850	Nil	4,550
x Winnipeg	35,850	62,500	306,650
Saskatchewan	218,325	37,426	370,504
x Moose Jaw	111,800	Nil	11,604
x Regina	94,500	19,926	244,450
x Saskatoon	12,025	17,500	114,450
Alberta	85,403	179,371	1,281,023
x Calgary	49,943	141,511	208,090
x Edmonton	31,410	30,465	55,125
Lethbridge	2,405	7,035	1,009,600
Medicine Hat	1,645	360	8,208
British Columbia	258,741	246,666	1,220,602
Kamloops	975	400	39,800
Nanaimo	8,215	5,300	170
x New Westminster	12,675	16,845	45,975
Prince Rupert	12,965	10,035	9,518
x Vancouver	186,715	193,665	1,001,135
North Vancouver	11,350	3,150	9,935
x Victoria	25,846	17,271	114,069
Total - 61 Cities	3,323,602	2,578,597	9,948,979
xTotal - 35 Cities	2,820,670	2,391,137	8,218,570

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