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BUILDING PERMITS FOR APRIL, 1932, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR MARCH, 1932,
AND APRIL, 1931, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1932.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulated returns from 61 cities which granted building permits valued at \$4,237,160 during April, as compared with \$3,323,602 in the preceding month, and \$13,495,165 in the same month of last year. There was, therefore, an increase of \$913,555 or 27.5 p.c. in the first comparison, but a decrease of \$9,258,005, or 68.6 p.c., as compared with April, 1931. In considering these figures, it should be noted that the wholesale costs of building materials have this year averaged much lower than in any of the past twelve years.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had issued some 450 permits for dwellings valued at over \$1,100,000 and for nearly 2,000 other buildings estimated to cost more than \$2,700,000. In addition, four cities - Brantford, Port Arthur, St. Boniface and Moose Jaw - reported that they had authorized engineering projects valued at approximately \$224,000. In March, authority was given for the erection of nearly 400 dwellings and 1,100 other buildings, valued at approximately \$900,000 and \$2,200,000, respectively, while five engineering projects valued at approximately \$128,000 were also reported.

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia recorded increases in the value of the building permits issued during April as compared with March, 1932, the greatest gain of \$345,583 taking place in Alberta.

As compared with April, 1931, New Brunswick reported an increase in the value of the building authorized, while the remaining provinces recorded decreases, that of \$3,107,498, or 78.9 p.c. in Quebec being most pronounced.

Of the larger cities, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver registered increases in the building authorized during April as compared with the preceding month, but declines as compared with April, 1931, while in Montreal there were decreases in both comparisons. Of the smaller centres, Sydney, Fredericton, Saint John, Shawinigan Falls, Chatham, Kingston, Kitchener, Niagara Falls, Oshawa, St. Thomas, Welland, Sandwich, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw and Medicine Hat reported increases in the value of the building represented by the permits issued, as compared with March, 1932, and April, 1931.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1932.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during April and in the first four months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first four months of the same years are also given (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in April	Value of permits issued in first four months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first four months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first four months (1926 average = 100).
1932	\$ 4,237,160	\$12,901,288	31.1	79.2
1931	13,495,165	38,241,259	92.1	83.8
1930	16,978,076	46,471,338	111.9	96.2
1929	29,656,709	72,606,937	174.8	99.2
1928	18,606,167	51,769,505	124.6	96.8
1927	17,312,470	42,340,823	101.9	96.8
1926	19,044,499	41,538,073	100.0	101.7
1925	15,482,383	35,463,398	85.4	103.1
1924	13,689,101	31,737,100	76.4	111.6
1923	19,530,851	39,008,970	93.9	110.8
1922	15,833,688	34,513,861	83.1	107.7
1921	13,500,360	27,069,872	65.2	136.9
1920	15,648,915	34,558,901	83.2	143.1

The aggregate for the first four months of this year was below the average for the months, January-April, in the years since 1920. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials, however, was also decidedly lower than in any other year of the record.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during April and March, 1932, and April, 1931. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

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

Cities	April, 1932	March, 1932	April, 1931
	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island-Charlottetown	-	-	-
Nova Scotia	213,207	55,850	1,179,865
x Halifax	108,256	50,560	1,117,945
New Glasgow	26,250	770	57,450
x Sydney	78,701	4,520	4,470
New Brunswick	260,290	15,755	121,460
Fredericton	2,700	1,500	Nil
x Moncton	32,140	1,750	78,015
x Saint John	225,450	12,505	43,445
Quebec	830,064	950,393	3,937,562
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	661,312	839,108	3,226,562
x Quebec	69,557	71,785	222,965
Shawinigan Falls	7,350	700	5,410
x Sherbrooke	17,600	14,000	300,700
x Three Rivers	31,970	2,150	36,295
x Westmount	42,275	650	145,630
Ontario	1,820,222	1,697,935	3,960,807
Belleville	17,125	2,400	21,700
x Brantford	35,361	20,028	41,478
Chatham	9,360	6,700	4,440
x Fort William	40,850	11,050	53,400
Galt	13,151	18,521	22,397
x Guelph	11,100	25,425	33,243
x Hamilton	97,750	113,500	389,300
x Kingston	88,910	12,645	54,485
x Kitchener	137,664	4,710	58,970
x London	87,180	79,060	214,220
Niagara Falls	36,002	690	34,260
Oshawa	8,685	1,475	6,475
x Ottawa	144,775	350,275	466,645
Owen Sound	4,500	Nil	15,000
x Peterborough	11,360	12,475	37,872
x Port Arthur	17,666	2,725	41,180
x Stratford	4,200	1,020	17,798
x St. Catharines	11,919	5,144	77,100
x St. Thomas	13,750	200	13,620
Sarnia	5,035	7,570	10,922
Sault Ste. Marie	9,453	12,067	29,245
x Toronto	817,173	588,646	1,734,630
York & East York Townships	157,188	385,509	471,855
Welland	21,080	5,750	19,620
x Windsor	10,625	13,475	44,190
East Windsor	Nil	994	990
Riverside	-	Nil	2,950
Sandwich	5,650	4,500	1,600
Walkerville	Nil	4,000	18,000
Woodstock	2,610	7,381	23,222
Manitoba	198,567	41,200	1,084,822
x Brandon	4,997	500	21,027
St. Boniface	54,370	4,850	14,445
x Winnipeg	139,200	35,850	1,049,350
Saskatchewan	195,477	218,325	795,781
x Moose Jaw	160,152	111,800	44,166
x Regina	18,175	94,500	110,995
x Saskatoon	17,150	12,025	640,620
Alberta	430,986	85,403	470,613
x Calgary	250,279	49,943	276,333
x Edmonton	160,400	31,410	173,085
Lethbridge	12,512	2,405	19,220
Medicine Hat	7,795	1,645	1,975
British Columbia	288,347	258,741	1,944,255
Kamloops	4,080	975	14,255
Nanaimo	1,225	8,215	1,945
x New Westminster	8,260	12,675	52,950
Prince Rupert	1,020	12,965	24,755
x Vancouver	211,950	186,715	1,730,635
North Vancouver	5,490	11,350	12,030
x Victoria	56,322	25,846	107,635
Total - 61 Cities	4,237,160	3,323,602	13,495,165
x Total - 35 Cities	3,824,429	2,820,670	12,660,954



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