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

BUILDING PERMITS FOR MARCH, 1933, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1933, AND MARCH, 1932, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST QUARTER, 1920-1933.

According to returns tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during March was \$934,555; this was an increase of \$26,649 or 2.9 p.c. over the February total of \$907,906, but a decrease of \$2,462,174 or 72.5 p.c., as compared with the aggregate of \$3,396,729 reported for the same month in 1932. Building costs, as shown by the Bureau's index number of wholesale prices of building materials, were, however, lower than in 1932 and in any other year since 1920.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had granted nearly 115 permits for dwellings valued at almost \$245,000 and some 950 permits for other buildings estimated to cost approximately \$580,000. In addition, two centres reported that they had authorized engineering projects valued at approximately \$7,500. In February, authority was given for the erection of some 80 dwellings and nearly 590 other buildings, estimated to involve expenditures of approximately \$291,000 and \$575,000, respectively, while an engineering project, valued at \$10,000, was also reported.

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta reported increases in the value of the building authorized during March as compared with the preceding month. The greatest gains were those of \$45,195 or 152.7 p.c. in Nova Scotia and \$22,810 or 268.4 p.c. in Manitoba. British Columbia alone showed a decline of \$109,233 or 44.2 p.c.

As compared with March, 1932, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick recorded increases; of the reductions, the largest was that of \$1,344,339 or 77.7 p.c. in Ontario.

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

Of the smaller centres, Chatham, Fort William, Fredericton, Halifax, Kamloops, Kitchener, Moncton, Niagara Falls, Owen Sound, Saint John, St. Thomas and Westmount, reported higher totals than in either February, 1933, or March, 1932.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST QUARTER, 1933.

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 of 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)
1933	934,555	\$ 3,016,339	13.4	75.2
1932	3,396,729	9,453,012	42.0	79.3
1931	9,948,979	24,746,094	110.0	83.7 x
1930	13,356,787	29,493,262	131.1	96.7 x
1929	24,068,018	42,950,228	190.9	99.2 x
1928	15,128,413	33,163,338	147.4	95.5 x
1927	11,713,640	25,028,353	111.3	96.4 x
1926	10,634,491	22,493,574	100.0	102.0
1925	8,631,627	19,981,015	88.2	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	108.0
1921	7,290,589	13,569,512	60.3	139.1 x
1920	8,736,675	18,909,986	84.1	139.4

x Revised figures.

The aggregate value of the building permits issued in the first quarter of 1933 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.

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

Cities	March, 1933	February, 1933	March, 1932.
	\$	\$	\$
P. E. I. - Charlottetown	-	Nil	Nil
Nova Scotia	74,795	29,600	55,850
x Halifax	74,595	27,900	50,560
New Glasgow	200	1,700	770
x Sydney	Nil	Nil	4,520
New Brunswick	27,450	15,565	15,755
Fredericton	5,000	Nil	1,500
x Moncton	5,550	1,000	1,750
x Saint John	16,900	14,565	12,505
Quebec	220,873	214,575	950,393
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	183,515	194,210	839,108
x Quebec	15,530	13,590	71,785
Shawinigan Falls	450	1,300	700
x Sherbrooke	2,000	2,200	14,000
x Three Rivers	1,525	775	24,150
x Westmount	17,853	2,500	650
Ontario	386,273	348,745	1,730,612
Belleville	Nil	Nil	2,400
x Brantford	2,879	857	20,028
Chatham	9,450	1,150	6,700
x Fort William	33,250	16,500	11,050
Galt	1,565	2,780	18,521
x Guelph	1,615	10,260	15,080
x Hamilton	28,825	5,800	113,500
x Kingston	3,112	2,780	12,645
x Kitchener	6,187	4,435	4,710
x London	44,175	34,855	79,060
Niagara Falls	2,016	350	690
Oshawa	1,425	1,730	1,475
x Ottawa	34,505	42,525	351,275
Owen Sound	6,900	375	Nil
x Peterborough	5,075	10	12,475
x Port Arthur	8,029	18,715	2,725
x Stratford	250	3,170	1,020
x St. Catharines	3,235	885	5,144
x St. Thomas	280	Nil	200
Sarnia	2,621	1,760	7,570
Sault Ste. Marie	975	5,085	12,067
x Toronto	168,202	152,792	630,668
York & East York Townships	15,730	33,986	385,509
Welland	2,000	4,750	5,750
x Windsor	3,240	2,600	13,475
East Windsor	Nil	Nil	994
Riverside	-	Nil	Nil
Sandwich	Nil	Nil	4,500
Walkerville	Nil	Nil	4,000
Woodstock	732	595	7,381
Manitoba	31,310	8,500	41,202
x Brandon	110	Nil	502
St. Boniface	Nil	750	4,850
x Winnipeg	31,200	7,750	35,850
Saskatchewan	17,325	8,120	248,773
x Moose Jaw	1,000	2,000	39,988
x Regina	10,385	5,670	94,500
x Saskatoon	5,940	450	114,285
Alberta	38,575	35,614	85,403
x Calgary	24,300	25,684	49,943
x Edmonton	12,205	9,065	31,410
Lethbridge	1,870	770	2,405
Medicine Hat	200	95	1,645
British Columbia	137,954	247,187	268,741
Kamloops	9,923	8,602	975
Nanaimo	725	1,120	8,215
x New Westminster	4,625	6,050	12,675
Prince Rupert	2,585	1,530	12,965
x Vancouver	97,730	195,875	186,715
North Vancouver	2,120	150	11,350
x Victoria	20,246	33,860	35,846
Total - 61 Cities	934,555	907,906	3,396,729
Total -x35 Cities	868,068	839,328	2,893,797

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