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BUILDING PERMITS FOR MAY, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR APRIL, 1937,
AND MAY, 1936, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during May, 1937, was lower by 11.5 p.c. than in April, 1937, but was higher by 11.6 p.c. than in May, 1936, being in fact, higher than in that month in any other year since 1932. According to statements tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the authorizations amounted to \$5,399,489, as compared with \$6,098,036 in the preceding month, and \$4,836,358 in May of last year.

The value of the building authorized in the first five months of the present year was \$21,967,654; this was considerably higher than the aggregate of \$13,666,195 reported in the period January - May, 1936, and was also higher than in the first five months of any other year since 1931. The cumulative total for the same period in each of the last six years, however, has been very much lower than in earlier years of the record; while the wholesale prices of building materials have risen in recent months, they continue below the average for the months January-May in the seventeen years, 1920 to 1936.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for May, 1937, showing that they had issued almost 600 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$1,800,000, and for more than 3,000 other buildings, estimated to cost over \$3,200,000. In April, authority was given for the erection of about 500 dwellings and 2,700 other buildings, valued at approximately \$1,800,000 and \$3,400,000, respectively.

Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Saskatchewan recorded moderate increases in the value of the building represented by the permits issued during May as compared with the preceding month, the greatest gains being in the Maritime Provinces. In Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia the May totals were lower than those for April; the largest decline in this comparison was that of \$387,407, or 37.2 p.c. in British Columbia.

As compared with May, 1936, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia registered increases, of which that of \$403,698 or 18.9 p.c. in Ontario was most noteworthy.

Of the four largest cities, Toronto showed an insignificant gain as compared with last month and a larger increase over the same month of last year; Winnipeg recorded improvement as compared with April, 1937, but a decrease as compared with May, 1936, while in Montreal and Vancouver there were losses in the former but gains in the latter comparison.

Of the other centres, Charlottetown, Halifax, Sydney, Fredericton, Saint John, Quebec, Shawinigan Falls, Westmount, Belleville, Chatham, Fort William, Galt, Guelph, Kingston, Oshawa, Peterborough, Stratford, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, Sarnia, Sault Ste. Marie, Welland, Riverside, Woodstock, Moose Jaw, Regina, Calgary, Nanaimo and New Westminster showed increases in the value of the building authorized as compared with either the preceding month or the same month of 1936.

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CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FIVE MONTHS, 1937.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities in May and in the first five 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 five months of the same years are also given (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued in May	Value of permits issued in first five months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first five months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first five months (1926 average = 100)
1937	\$ 5,399,489	\$21,967,654	36.6	94.6
1936	4,836,358	13,666,195	22.8	86.3
1935	4,728,340	19,535,656	32.5	81.7
1934	3,019,761	7,999,917	13.3	83.0
1933	2,065,372	6,726,695	11.2	75.2
1932	5,488,845	19,312,720	32.1	78.8
1931	12,115,291	50,356,550	83.9	83.6
1930	20,321,160	66,792,498	111.2	95.5
1929	24,185,738	96,792,675	161.2	99.4
1928	27,515,522	79,285,027	132.0	95.8
1927	20,138,657	62,479,480	104.1	96.1
1926	18,504,296	60,042,369	100.0	101.3
1925	15,520,435	50,983,833	84.9	103.1
1924	14,807,589	46,544,689	77.5	111.3
1923	18,937,638	57,946,608	96.5	111.1
1922	19,527,061	54,040,922	90.0	107.9
1921	14,460,878	41,530,750	69.2	134.4
1920	13,082,015	47,640,916	79.3	144.7

As already mentioned, the aggregate for the first five months of 1937 was substantially higher than in the same period in 1936, being also greater than in the months January - May of any earlier year since 1931. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials, while higher than in the last few years, continue below the average for the years, 1920-1936.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during April and May, 1937, and May, 1936. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

TABLE I. Summary of the results of the survey.

The following table gives the results of the survey conducted in 1951. The data are given in the form of percentages of the total number of respondents. The total number of respondents was 1000. The data are given in the form of percentages of the total number of respondents. The total number of respondents was 1000.

Year	Percentage of respondents	Percentage of respondents	Percentage of respondents
1951	100	100	100
1952	95	95	95
1953	90	90	90
1954	85	85	85
1955	80	80	80
1956	75	75	75
1957	70	70	70
1958	65	65	65
1959	60	60	60
1960	55	55	55
1961	50	50	50
1962	45	45	45
1963	40	40	40
1964	35	35	35
1965	30	30	30
1966	25	25	25
1967	20	20	20
1968	15	15	15
1969	10	10	10
1970	5	5	5
1971	0	0	0

The following table gives the results of the survey conducted in 1951. The data are given in the form of percentages of the total number of respondents. The total number of respondents was 1000. The data are given in the form of percentages of the total number of respondents. The total number of respondents was 1000.

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	May	April	May
	1937	1937	1936
	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island-Charlottetown	48,625	5,725	22,000
Nova Scotia	214,040	170,339	135,233
x Halifax	127,650	113,799	120,783
New Glasgow	5,015	18,550	350
x Sydney	81,375	37,990	14,100
New Brunswick	87,455	55,834	49,350
Fredericton	22,260	1,400	17,800
x Moncton	33,405	37,660	7,155
x Saint John	31,790	16,774	24,395
Quebec	1,142,661	1,414,261	1,396,380
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	741,630	1,033,065	565,045
x Quebec	139,906	60,356	51,955
Shawinigan Falls	43,735	17,225	24,905
x Sherbrooke	96,690	180,000	14,650
x Three Rivers	32,750	37,315	704,200
x Westmount	87,950	86,300	35,625
Ontario	2,544,464	2,716,529	2,140,766
Belleville	14,000	7,580	11,750
x Brantford	16,089	9,640	17,399
Chatham	19,600	9,300	5,575
x Fort William	132,745	43,480	20,800
Galt	33,528	22,517	9,156
x Guelph	32,613	19,912	8,288
x Hamilton	135,105	189,864	94,565
x Kingston	150,956	36,395	27,095
x Kitchener	91,438	129,728	42,002
x London	65,370	179,885	82,970
Niagara Falls	6,890	15,115	30,048
Oshawa	19,410	1,200	15,900
x Ottawa	180,505	223,355	351,159
Owen Sound	3,060	10,879	3,505
x Peterborough	40,238	18,484	11,160
x Port Arthur	32,674	421,087	25,473
x Stratford	14,957	6,687	2,879
x St. Catharines	242,105	85,069	40,463
x St. Thomas	5,016	1,812	2,200
Sarnia	21,280	9,023	7,763
Sault Ste. Marie	59,910	43,640	39,945
x Toronto	910,160	908,436	710,734
York & East York Townships	110,890	236,559	439,890
Welland	24,094	11,873	15,404
x Windsor	98,680	58,409	108,350
Riverside	7,175	6,300	4,850
Woodstock	75,976	10,300	11,443
Manitoba	308,260	287,100	340,790
x Brandon	2,975	8,775	4,150
St. Boniface	17,085	22,825	10,940
x Winnipeg	288,200	255,500	325,700
Saskatchewan	169,889	142,956	57,955
x Moose Jaw	25,653	5,910	5,735
x Regina	119,601	37,146	33,440
x Saskatoon	24,635	99,900	18,780
Alberta	229,784	263,574	139,131
x Calgary	102,111	61,939	54,356
x Edmonton	107,150	155,880	63,700
Lethbridge	18,863	42,405	16,665
Medicine Hat	1,660	3,350	4,410
British Columbia	654,311	1,041,718	554,753
Kamloops	2,650	5,900	15,270
Nanaimo	31,420	16,786	9,050
x New Westminster	63,350	53,600	26,630
Prince Rupert	2,845	500	4,125
x Vancouver	509,710	922,620	452,410
North Vancouver	230	6,080	1,125
x Victoria	44,106	36,232	46,143
Total - 58 Cities	5,399,489	6,098,036	4,836,358
Total - x 35 Cities	4,823,288	5,573,004	4,114,489

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