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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH OTTAWA - CANADA.

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Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.) In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge.

> BUILDING PERMITS FOR JUNE, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR MAY, 1939, AND JUNE, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST HALF-YEAR, 1920-1939.

The value of the building represented by the permits for construction taken out in 58 cities during June was greater than in the same month in any other year since 1931. Amounting to \$7,581,492, the authorizations showed an increase of \$1,190,713, or 18.6 p.c. over the May, 1939, figure of \$6,390,779, and exceeded by \$1,004,018 or 15.3 p.c., the aggregate for June, 1938, when the permits issued were for construction work estimated to cost \$6,577,474.

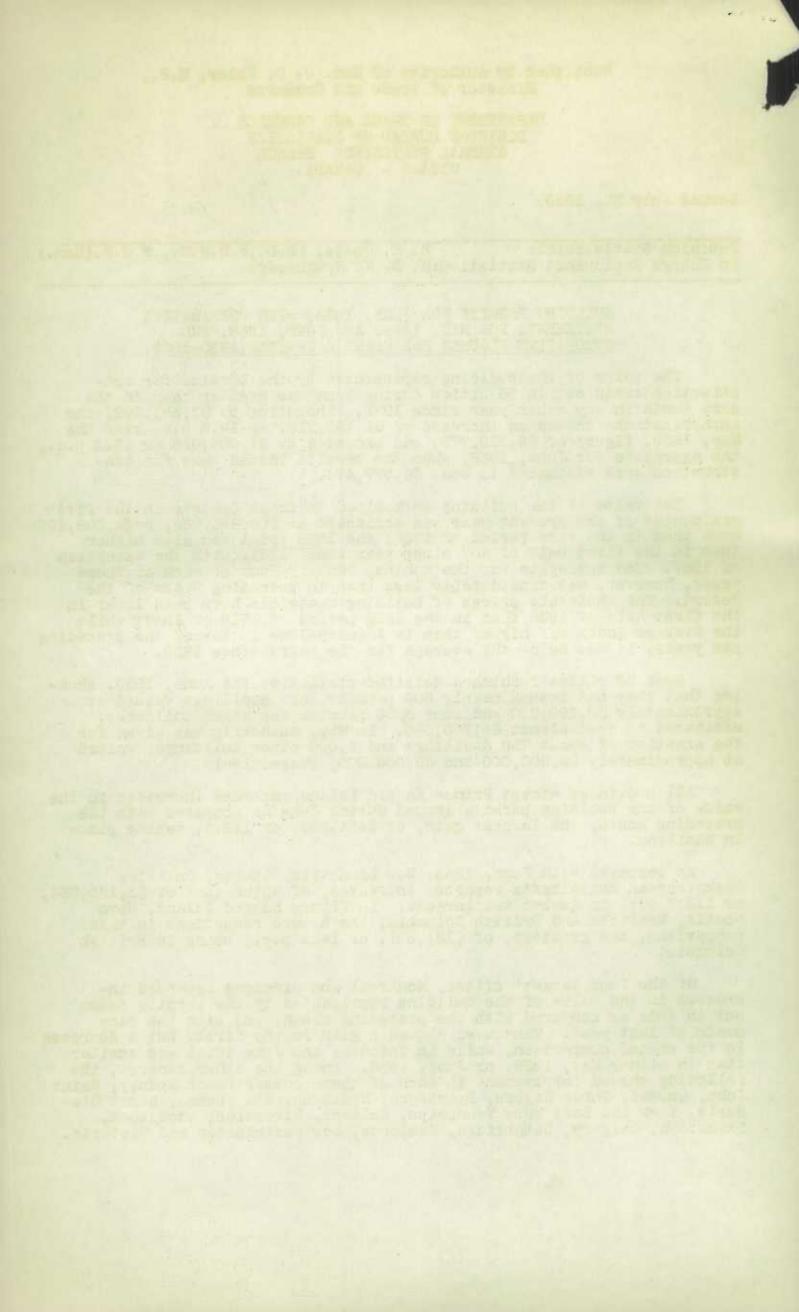
The value of the building authorized in these centres in the first six months of the present year was estimated at \$26,861,062, or \$1,008,493 more than in the same period of 1938; the 1939 total was also higher than in the first half of any other year since 1931, with the exception of 1937. The aggregate for the months, January-June of each of these years, however, was considerably less than in preceding years of the record. The wholesale prices of building materials have been lower in the first half of 1939 than in the same period of 1938 or 1937; while the average index was higher than in January-June in any of the preceding six years, it was below the average for the years since 1920.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for June, 1939, showing that they had issued nearly 800 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$2,200,000 and some 3000 permits for other buildings, estimated to cost almost \$4,700,000. In May, authority was given for the erection of about 750 dwellings and 3,000 other buildings, valued at approximately \$2,800,000 and \$3,000,000, respectively.

All provinces except Prince Edward Island recorded increases in the value of the building permits issued during June as compared with the preceding month, the largest gain, of \$451,299, or 129.5, taking place in Manitoba.

As compared with June, 1938, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta reported increases, of which that of \$1,135,734, or 113.7 p.c. in Quebec was largest. In Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Manitoba and British Columbia, there were reductions in this comparison, the greatest, of \$181,621, or 14.5 p.c., being in British Columbia.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal and winnipeg recorded increases in the value of the building represented by the permits taken out in June as compared with the preceding month, and with the same month of last year. Vancouver showed a gain in the first, but a decrease in the second comparison, while in Toronto, the June total was smaller than in either May, 1939, or June, 1938. Among the other centres, the following showed improvement in each of these comparisons: Sydney, Saint John, Quebec, Three Rivers, Brantford, Hamilton, St. Thomas, Sault Ste. Marie, York and East York Townships, Welland, Riverside, Woodstock, Saskatoon, Calgary, Lethbridge, Kamloops, New Westminster and Victoria.



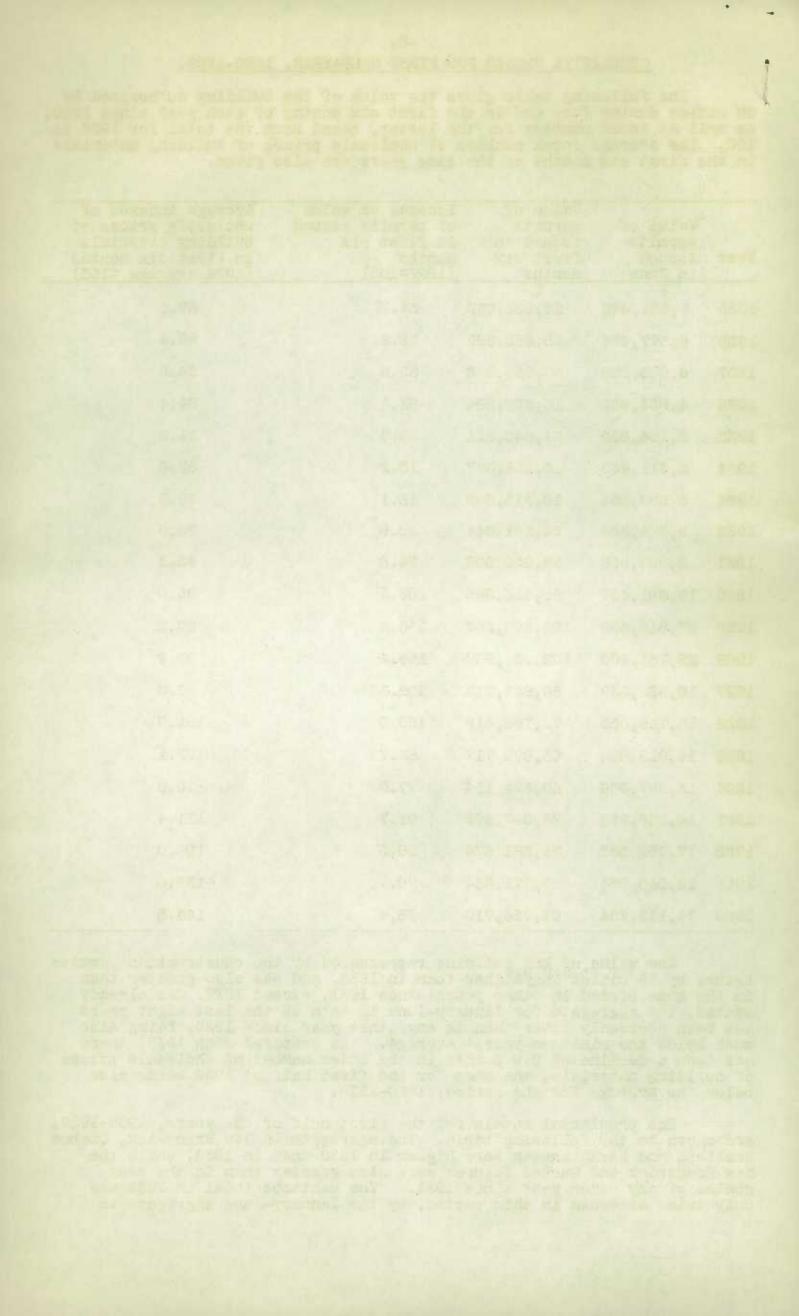
## CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST HALF-YEAR, 1920-1939.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during June and in the first six 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 six months of the same years are also given.

Year	Value of permits issued in June	Value of permits issued in first six months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first six months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first six months (1926 average =100)
1939	₩ 7,581,492	¥ 26,861,062	34.1	87.5
1938	6,577,474	25,852,569	32.8	90.4
1937	6,005,958	28,056,942	35.6	94.9
1936	4,656,689	18,322,884	23.3	. 84.4
1935	5,104,855	24,640,511	33.8	81.2
1934	2,411,460	10,411,377	13.2	82.8
1933	3,589,204	10,315,899	13.1	78.9
1932	5,028,324	24,341,044	30.9	76.8
1931	8,593,958	58,950,508	74.8	83.5
1930	18,621,487	85,413,985	108.4	95.0
1929	27,816,592	124,609,267	158.2	99.2
1928	22,751,960	102,036,987	129.6	95.9
1927	18,363,239	80,842,719	102.6	96.0
1926	18,718,050	78,760,419	100.0	101.0
1925	14,915,884	65,899,717	83.7	103.1
1924	13,967,006	60,674,154	77.0	110.8
1923	14,286,252	73,047,496	92.7	111.4
1922	17,052,582	71,281,674	90.5	108.0
1921	14,240,934	55,771,684	70.7	132.0
1920	14,113,794	61,754,710	78.4	144.5

The value of the building represented by the construction permits issued by 58 cities was higher than in 1938, and was also greater than in the same period in other years since 1931, except 1937. As already stated, the aggregate for January-June in each of the last eight years has been decidedly lower than in any other year since 1920, being also much below the nineteen-years' average. As compared with 1938, there has been a decline of 2.9 points in the index number of wholesale prices of building materials, the mean for the first half of 1939 being also below the average for the period, 1920-1938.

The provincial totals for the first half of the years, 1935-1939, are shown in the following table. The aggregates in New Brunswick, Quebec Manitoba and Saskatchewan were higher in 1939 than in 1938, while the New Brunswick and Quebec figures were also greater than in the same months of any other year since 1931. The Manitoba total in 1939 was only twice exceeded in this period, by the January-June aggregate in



1935 and in 1932; that for Saskatchewan was higher than in other years since 1931, except 1937, 1933 and 1932. In Ontario, the estimated cost of the building authorized in the first half of the present year was lower than in 1938, 1937, 1935 and 1932, but was greater than in 1936, 1934 and 1933. Alberta showed improvement over the corresponding months in any year in the period, 1937-1933, but the 1939 figure was lower than in 1938 or 1932. In British Columbia and Nova Scotia, the value of the building represented by the permits taken out was lower than in either 1938 or 1937, but the totals for the first six months of 1939 considerably exceeded those for any other year since 1931.

Provinces	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
Pr. Ed. Island	\$ 26,550	\$ 38,310	\$ 101,140	\$70,600	<b>\$</b> 96,325
Nova Scotia	681,910	847,668	827,709	597,255	324,295
New Brunswick	458,075	360,316	287,433	85,011	141,017
Quebec	7,557,160	4,725,189	5,418,604	3,894,008	5,873,941
Ontario	10,003,079	10,344,723	13,901,771	7,883,866	12,678,819
Manitoba	1,646,933	1,517,750	1,058,013	664,830	2,355,065
Saskatchewan	368,128	303,984	469,005	238,832	233,030
Alberta	1,509,114	1,787,462	923,590	1,095,038	1,162,981
Br. Columbia	4,610,113	5,927,167	5,069,677	3,095,038	1,775,038
Caneda	26,861,062	25,852,569	28,056,942	18,322,884	24,640,511

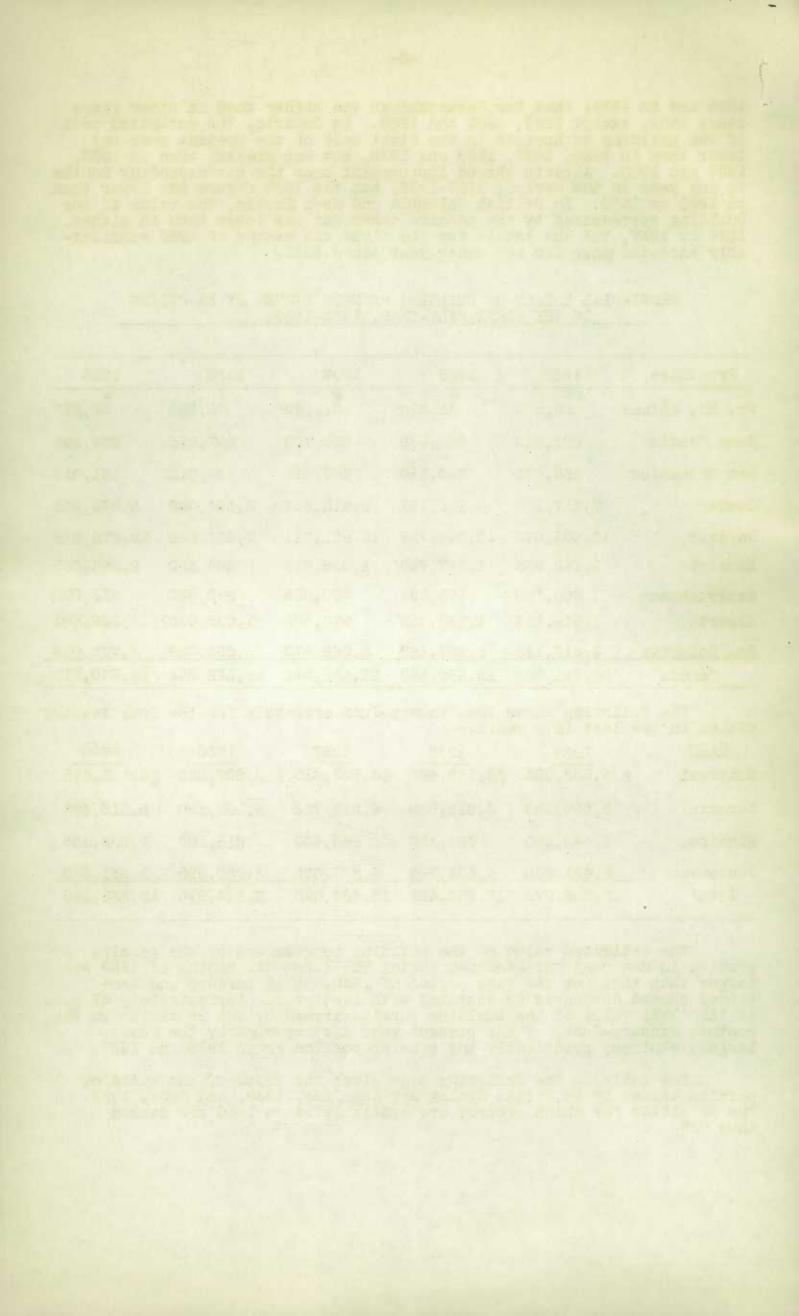
PROVINCIAL TOTALS OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED BY 58 CITIES IN THE FIRST HALF-YEAR, 1935-1939.

The following shows the January-June aggregate for the four leading cities in the last five years:-

City	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
Montreal	\$ 4,038,084	\$3,185,464	\$3,923,810 \$	2,297,855	\$4,421,415
Toronto	3,529,258	3,816,855	4,219,755	3,166,190	5,315,395
Winnipeg	1,449,250	763,350	963,400	618,100	2,262,450
Vancouver	 3,491,680	4,684,760	4,377,055	3,050,825	1,331,880
Total .	12,508,272	12,450,429	13,484,020	9,134,970	13,331,140

The estimated value of the building represented by the permits granted in Montreal and Winnipeg during the first six months of 1939 was larger than that for the same period of 1938, while Toronto and Vancouver showed decreases as compared with last year. Approximately 47 p.c. of the total value of the building permits issued by the 58 cities in the months, January-June, of the present year was reported by the four largest centres, practically the same proportion as in 1938 and 1937.

The table on the following page gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during May and June, 1939, and June, 1938. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".



Estimated Value of Construction work as Indicated by Building Permits

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-	Issued by 58 Cities.					
1	Cities	June	May	June		
*	010163	1939	1939	1938		
	P.E.I Charlottetown	₽,050	13,000	₽ 13,210		
	Nova Scotia	184,522	174,067	255,453		
	x Halifax	97,907	97,547	207,998		
	New Glasgow	3,275	9,240	4,410		
	x Sydney	83,340	67,280	43,045		
	New Brunswick	175,405	156,095	117,080		
	Fredericton x Moncton	1,900	34,400 45,985	22,325 71,205		
	x Saint John	173,505	75,710	23,550		
	Quebec	2,134,283	1,997,466	998,549		
	x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	1,139,215	1,078,494	686,734		
	x Quebec	204,013	135,102	136,295		
	Shawinigan Falls x Sherbrooke	45,200 144,500	202,200 273,900	41,795 61,600		
	x Three Rivers	537,390	215,615	53,075		
	x Westmount	63,965	92,155	19,050		
	Ontario	2,676, 343	2,497,026	2,654,515		
	Belleville	18,100	18,250	8,815		
	x Brantford	22,835	14,395	19,890		
	Chatham x Fort William	28,375 61,353	34,190 54,053	18,575 228,465		
	Galt	30,289	40,983	29,192		
	x Guelph	26,532	32,156	48,510		
	x Hamilton	281,559	230,565	165,994		
	x Kingston	67,779	40,473	86,055		
	x Kitchener	48,018	76,784	50,330		
	x London Niagara Falls	85,890 23,890	75,825 33,845	99,315		
	Oshawa	24,905	62,865	154,830 8,215		
	x Ottawa	232,790	319,520	195,575		
	Owen Sound	4,235	5,420	8,585		
	x Peterborough	42,921	125,537	35,820		
	x Port Arthur	68,557	59,652	151,269		
	x Stratford x St. Catharines	6,342 28,536	4,695 28,630	9,938 45,463		
	x St. Thomas	31,640	8,014	21,800		
	Sarnia	35,407	42,954	29,813		
	Sault Ste. Marie	77,550	51,742	24,340		
	x Toronto	762,989	810,845	1,052,893		
	York & East York Townshi		209,430	93,524		
	x Windsor	22,792 60,524	19,390 65,136	17,867 26,279		
	Riverside	30,550	8,270	6,025		
	Woodstock	213,215	23,407	17,138		
	Manitoba	799,805	348,506	868,755		
	x Brandon	2,100	38,965	2,850		
	St. Boniface x Winnipeg	67,605 730,100	30,691 278,850	663,905 202,000		
	Saskatchewan	149,370	77,530	115,395		
	x Moose Jaw	5,125	6,774	9,155		
	x Regina	83,655	40,212	100,010		
	x Saskatoon	60,590	30,544	6,230		
	Alberta x Calgary	383,926 174,401	366,911 166,319	304,408 58,388		
	x Edmonton	143,175	150,315	230,795		
	Lethbridge	66,225	46,137	13,675		
	Medicine Hat	125	4,140	1,550		
	British Columbia	1,068,488	760,178	1,250,109		
	Kamloops	16,403	6,651	2,575		
	Nanaimo x New Westminster	5,954 73,910	7,896 55,005	30,475 45,700		
	Prince Rupert	1,175	5,200	116,169		
	x Vancouver	864,265	600,410	989,940		
	North Vancouver	5,615	12,275 72,741	9,625		
	x Victoria	101,166	72,741	55,625		
	Total - 58 Cities Total - x35 Cities	7,581,492	6,390,779 5,468,203	6,577,474 5,240,841		
	1/ Report not received in time			U, NIU, OHL		

1/ Report not received in time for tabulation.



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