

Building Permits.—The estimated value of construction in 63 cities of Canada, as indicated by their building permits, is shown for the years 1922 to 1927 inclusive in Table 3. These cities had in 1921 about 32.6 p.c. of the population of Canada, while their 1927 building permits aggregated \$184,613,742 or 44 p.c. of the total contracts awarded, as shown in Table 1. In this table, the 35 cities for which statistics of building permits are available since 1910 are indicated by an asterisk (*), and the totals for these cities are given beneath the totals for the larger group.

Table 4 shows the value of the building permits issued by 35 cities in the years 1910-1927. The average weighted index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials since 1914 are also given, as are the average indexes of wages in the building trades since 1910, the latter being compiled by the Department of Labour, and the former by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. These indexes are introduced to show as far as possible the fluctuations in building costs with their effect upon construction work. Attempts have been made to determine the relative proportion of material and wage costs in general building, but representative data could not be obtained.

Owing to the increasing use of the automobile and other means of rapid transportation, a growing percentage of those who work in the cities reside outside the municipal boundaries. Hence arises in part the necessity for an extension of the record of building permits to include such suburban areas as the York Townships in the case of Toronto, and North and South Vancouver.

3.—Value of Building Permits taken out in 63 Cities for the calendar years 1922-1927.

NOTE.—Asterisks indicate the 35 original cities, statistics for which are available since 1910.

| Cities. | 1922. | 1923. | 1924. | 1925. | 1926. | 1927. |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| P.E.I., Charlottetown..... | 81,500 | 56,200 | 31,900 | 21,800 | 29,000 | |
| Nova Scotia..... | 2,416,624 | 739,646 | 901,621 | 1,093,787 | 906,945 | 1,540,647 |
| *Halifax..... | 1,752,632 | 378,699 | 731,209 | 1,035,564 | 764,498 | 1,537,899 |
| *New Glasgow..... | 58,545 | 41,785 | 18,505 | 20,286 | 7,870 | 10,850 |
| *Sydney..... | 604,847 | 319,162 | 151,907 | 43,937 | 136,577 | 291,898 |
| New Brunswick..... | 2,028,239 | 1,049,856 | 1,492,364 | 996,325 | 771,421 | 1,365,965 |
| *Fredericton..... | 283,197 | 305,895 | 257,325 | 98,175 | 37,050 | 14,799 |
| *Moncton..... | 1,037,942 | 385,461 | 101,774 | 204,620 | 342,701 | 736,110 |
| *Saint John..... | 707,100 | 358,500 | 1,133,265 | 683,530 | 391,670 | 614,176 |
| Quebec..... | 30,336,234 | 35,493,853 | 42,562,336 | 35,186,268 | 42,167,440 | 58,326,532 |
| *Montreal-Maisonneuve..... | 21,132,586 | 27,125,863 | 31,013,419 | 25,520,523 | 31,720,049 | 45,200,842 |
| *Quebec..... | 5,397,566 | 4,786,933 | 7,331,846 | 3,274,371 | 3,839,281 | 6,360,165 |
| *Shawinigan Falls..... | 124,400 | 124,990 | 229,377 | 384,925 | 315,760 | 347,885 |
| *Sherbrooke..... | 712,000 | 732,100 | 529,878 | 1,037,110 | 712,350 | 689,930 |
| *Three Rivers..... | 1,193,650 | 780,735 | 1,046,310 | 2,064,815 | 1,445,575 | 2,332,500 |
| *Westmount..... | 1,770,032 | 1,933,232 | 2,411,608 | 2,904,524 | 4,034,425 | 3,388,260 |
| Ontario..... | 81,396,259 | 74,673,080 | 57,320,141 | 59,888,967 | 65,373,757 | 79,883,344 |
| *Bellefleur..... | 254,400 | 54,825 | 196,000 | 194,725 | 306,610 | 670,010 |
| *Brantford..... | 465,420 | 615,686 | 191,480 | 159,537 | 232,049 | 571,599 |
| *Chatham..... | 366,317 | 245,867 | 352,329 | 193,858 | 591,650 | 575,087 |
| *Fort William..... | 1,448,685 | 1,425,180 | 1,272,570 | 727,340 | 1,291,250 | 1,209,450 |
| *Galt..... | 731,707 | 135,631 | 124,742 | 108,723 | 181,185 | 181,023 |
| *Guelph..... | 964,808 | 571,484 | 404,304 | 426,641 | 344,816 | 493,169 |
| *Hamilton..... | 4,928,465 | 5,452,980 | 3,309,800 | 2,675,830 | 3,128,950 | 3,837,150 |
| *Kingston..... | 701,495 | 649,233 | 1,035,620 | 493,758 | 608,532 | 420,487 |
| *Kitchener..... | 2,461,321 | 1,893,892 | 1,221,122 | 1,546,262 | 1,100,111 | 1,273,632 |
| *London..... | 2,605,630 | 3,261,065 | 2,113,509 | 2,389,800 | 3,621,200 | 2,814,950 |
| *Niagara Falls..... | 676,694 | 758,513 | 802,622 | 1,114,290 | 1,504,000 | 1,517,510 |
| *Oshawa..... | 1,155,130 | 1,923,110 | 786,985 | 576,205 | 1,044,100 | 5,255,188 |
| *Ottawa..... | 5,021,782 | 3,521,817 | 2,540,699 | 4,942,327 | 3,101,748 | 6,446,045 |
| *Owen Sound..... | 196,450 | 319,450 | 161,125 | 536,970 | 154,450 | 330,350 |
| *Peterborough..... | 439,154 | 295,798 | 437,510 | 272,637 | 342,757 | 624,295 |
| *Port Arthur..... | 1,167,429 | 2,640,321 | 1,186,207 | 403,458 | 961,580 | 3,473,730 |
| *Stratford..... | 700,527 | 509,272 | 641,619 | 407,731 | 480,915 | 221,254 |
| *St. Catharines..... | 1,290,576 | 806,310 | 713,638 | 666,962 | 940,642 | 1,147,286 |
| *St. Thomas..... | 221,964 | 334,239 | 164,026 | 350,181 | 138,597 | 92,632 |
| *Sarnia..... | 880,260 | 791,470 | 840,803 | 725,698 | 601,646 | 1,064,415 |