



Q *Building Statistics for April—Month notes a number of substantial improvements over corresponding period—Toronto's big total a feature.*

ALTHOUGH MORE DECREASES occurred than has been noted in any previous month during the past year, the total investment for building work undertaken in thirty cities reporting to CONSTRUCTION for April, amounted to \$13,792,239, as against \$11,846,496 in the corresponding period of last year. Such losses as were sustained in the less fortunate localities were more than offset by the substantial totals piled up in the more successful centres. Considering the high state of development in the period immediately preceding, and the fact that labor disturbances and a somewhat late spring interfered with contemplated work in several sections, the headway made in general was all that could be expected.

Toronto's magnificent total of \$3,272,818, which was by far the outstanding feature of the month, in particular is most attractive. Not only is this amount far in excess of the corresponding figures, but is over \$1,500,000 greater than is noted in any other city in the list.

Ontario in all reports six losses and seven gains, the former approximating one-half the decreases included in the accompanying table. Fort William, where a marked advance was made in the previous month, suffered a decline of 19 per cent. Peterboro' fell behind 35 per cent. Ottawa and Port Arthur were both in the rear 35 per cent., and Brantford and Stratford experienced set-backs of 23 and 63 per cent. in order named. Apart from these places, however, the Province witnessed some very substantial improvements. Besides Toronto's marvellous showing, Hamilton issued permits aggregating in value \$624,150, as against \$382,175 for the same month in the previous year. London also, as indicated in her amount of \$132,334, representing a gain of 26 per cent., experienced a busy time of it, and as much can be said for Preston, where the volume of work amounted to \$110,300. Other substantial gains

noted are, Berlin, 38 per cent.; St. Thomas, 31 per cent., and Windsor, 354 per cent.

In this connection it might be said that there are numerous secondary towns and cities throughout the Province that are prospering to an unusual degree, but in many cases as no permits are required and hence no system of record kept, the totals for these places are unavailable.

As regards the West, operations were exceedingly brisk in many centers. Winnipeg, however, by a loss of 17 per cent., again sustains a decrease, and Vancouver, whose tremendous activities have so far this season attracted widespread attention, meets its first reversal in a loss of 18 per cent. Brandon, on the other hand, extended its stride and registered a gain of 58 per cent.; while most places in Saskatchewan, judging from the returns to hand, forged ahead in a striking manner. Saskatoon's investment amounted to \$808,040, as compared with \$292,956 in April of last year; Regina registered a total of \$562,490, representing an increase of 83 per cent.; and Prince Albert has an amount of \$162,355, netting a gain of 825 per cent., the highest percentage increase noted for the month. An advance of 59 per cent. is also announced from Moose Jaw, where permits amounted to \$244,524, which is \$170,424 in excess of the amount registered in the previous month.

In Alberta, Calgary surpasses the high-total of the previous month by a slight margin, the exact figures being \$1,127,256, which is a gain of 86 per cent. over the corresponding period. Edmonton, also with an increase of 42 per cent., moved well ahead, permits being issued for new work amounting to \$359,027; although Lethbridge, in the same Province, is 6 per cent. behind her former figures. This decrease, however, is due to the miner's strike, which is responsible for a number of projects being laid over for the present time. In British Columbia, aside from Vancouver's decrease previously mentioned, a slight falling off is noted at Nelson, which is 10 per cent. behind. Victoria, on the other hand, is to the front with a gain of 45 per cent., the value of permits issued amounting to \$280,110.

Of the Eastern cities reporting, St. John is the only one on the "upside," the investments there aggregat-