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BUILDING PERMITS FOR AUGUST, 1929, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JULY, 1929,  
 AND AUGUST, 1928, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1929.

There was a slight seasonal decline in the value of the building permits issued during August, 1929, as compared with July, but in the more significant comparison with August of last year, there was a considerable increase; during the month under review, the 61 co-operating centres authorized building estimated to cost \$21,560,361 as compared with \$22,841,709 in July, 1929, and \$17,448,542 in August, 1928. There was, therefore, a decrease of 5.6 p.c. in the first comparison, and an increase of 23.6 p.c. in the second. The aggregate for the elapsed months of this year continued higher than in the same months of any other year since 1920, exceeding the previous high level in 1928 by 16 p.c.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics showing that they had issued nearly 1,400 permits for dwellings estimated to cost approximately \$6,000,000 and over 2,800 permits for other buildings valued at about \$13,500,000. During July, authority was granted for the erection of some 1,500 dwellings and 2,900 other buildings, estimated at about \$7,000,000 and \$15,000,000, respectively.

New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and Alberta reported gains as compared with July, 1929, that of \$1,245,015, or 97.2 p.c., in Saskatchewan being most noteworthy. Of the reductions elsewhere registered, that in British Columbia of \$1,502,218 or 55.0 p.c. was greatest.

New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta reported higher aggregates of building permits issued than in August of last year, Ontario and Alberta showing the largest increases. Declines in this comparison were recorded in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia, that of \$424,416 or 9.2 p.c. in Quebec being most pronounced.

Of the larger cities, Toronto showed improvement as compared with August, 1928, but the total was smaller than in July, 1929, while Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver reported decreases in both comparisons. Of the other centres, Moncton, Shawinigan Falls, Three Rivers, Brantford, Fort William, Galt, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, Niagara Falls, Owen Sound, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, Moose Jaw, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, Nanaimo and New Westminster registered gains in both comparisons.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1929.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during August and in the first eight months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1920 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first eight months of the years since 1920 are also given (average 1926 = 100).

Year	Value of Permits issued in August	Value of Permits issued in first eight months	Indexes of value of permits issued, first eight months (1920 = 100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first eight months (1926 average = 100)
1929	21,560,361	168,606,059	195.4	99.6
1928	17,448,542	145,247,485	168.3	97.5
1927	29,478,378	126,690,292	146.8	96.8
1926	11,672,599	109,211,942	126.5	101.7
1925	9,511,008	88,223,328	102.2	104.3
1924	9,406,733	81,762,083	94.7	109.1
1923	11,425,031	97,551,074	113.0	111.7
1922	18,158,932	105,181,416	121.9	108.4
1921	10,928,039	77,665,614	90.0	128.6
1920	10,805,846	86,303,601	100.0	156.3

The aggregate for the first eight months of this year was 16.1 p.c. greater than in 1928, the previous high level of the record, while the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials continue lower than in most years of the record.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during July and August, 1929, and August, 1928. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "X".



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

Cities	August, 1929	July, 1929	August, 1928
Prince Edward Island - Charlottetown	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nova Scotia	382,105	681,845	432,270
x Halifax	341,280	508,700	407,045
New Glasgow	22,875	94,560	5,275
x Sydney	17,950	78,585	19,950
x Brunswick	447,900	46,138	66,600
Fredericton	-	-	Nil
Moncton	420,575	15,040	43,045
x Saint John	27,325	31,098	23,555
Quebec	4,203,303	5,033,345	4,627,719
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	3,312,625	3,689,065	3,634,211
x Quebec	286,135	525,075	607,408
Shawinigan Falls	251,153	47,680	12,400
x Sherbrooke	50,330	133,200	17,200
x Three Rivers	153,960	38,825	63,150
x Westmount	149,100	599,500	293,350
Ontario	9,006,710	9,485,114	6,940,000
Belleville	50,900	201,775	19,000
x Brantford	93,062	90,755	82,022
Chatham	37,930	9,150	78,875
x Fort William	80,025	76,475	44,700
Galt	63,086	41,990	50,052
x Guelph	33,840	37,507	39,105
Hamilton	1,327,600	438,800	443,400
x Kingston	279,461	51,655	26,372
x Kitchener	126,835	120,892	52,682
x London	171,915	250,235	155,670
Niagara Falls	166,510	42,502	58,680
Oshawa	68,220	283,550	205,445
x Ottawa	121,743	321,700	400,220
Owen Sound	400,250	22,000	3,200
x Peterborough	35,938	27,650	74,095
x Port Arthur	40,700	65,336	36,645
x Stratford	21,536	73,586	16,409
x St. Catharines	123,250	102,737	40,119
x St. Thomas	31,175	12,900	11,980
Sarnia	52,496	54,620	48,269
Sault Ste. Marie	199,695	214,790	63,106
x Toronto	4,068,975	4,895,224	3,719,454
York & East York Townships	382,128	1,172,220	628,005
Welland	21,405	179,500	19,345
x Windsor	365,645	474,760	276,905
East Windsor	46,450	30,768	112,300
Riverside	16,500	22,500	28,600
Sandwich	17,590	24,775	16,300
Walkerville	52,000	115,000	173,000
Woodstock	9,350	29,762	16,045
Manitoba	939,639	1,520,832	1,270,115
x Brandon	61,374	83,702	137,330
St. Boniface	2,465	82,480	85,735
x Winnipeg	875,800	1,354,650	1,047,050
Manitowishwan	2,525,395	1,280,380	1,864,897
x Moose Jaw	28,141	25,800	21,650
x Regina	2,170,429	799,785	1,338,620
x Saskatoon	326,825	454,795	504,627
Alberta	2,826,001	2,062,529	899,775
x Calgary	1,849,651	1,473,729	692,880
x Edmonton	888,075	463,735	171,155
Lethbridge	75,100	100,925	24,520
Medicine Hat	13,175	24,140	11,220
British Columbia	1,229,308	2,731,526 <sup>1/</sup>	1,347,166
Kamloops	16,645	19,112	4,100
Nanaimo	26,575	8,720	750
x New Westminster	124,375	57,525	63,175
Prince Rupert	-	15,675 <sup>1/</sup>	1,595
x Vancouver 3 <sup>/</sup>	908,340	2,534,230	1,102,825
North Vancouver	38,550	15,075	38,590
x Victoria	114,823	81,189	136,131
Total - 61 Cities	21,560,361	22,841,709 <sup>1/</sup>	17,448,542
x Total - 35 Cities	18,663,168	19,988,440	15,230,045

<sup>1/</sup> Includes Prince Rupert not shown in July report. <sup>2/</sup> Report not received. <sup>3/</sup> Includes Saint Grey and South Vancouver, formerly given separately, from January, 1929, when the amalgamation of these cities was effected, the total for the 35 cities includes the "Greater Vancouver" aggregate, instead of that for the area formerly known as Vancouver.

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