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BUILDING PERMITS FOR OCTOBER, 1931, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1931, AND OCTOBER, 1930, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS, 1920-1931.

The estimated value of the building authorized by 61 cities during October was \$8,713,402; this was a decrease of \$1,609,012, or 15.6 p.c., as compared with the September total of \$10,322,414, and of \$4,043,000, or 31.7 p.c., as compared with the aggregate of \$12,756,402 for October, 1930. The cumulative total for the elapsed ten months of 1931 (\$95,611,669) was also lower than the average for the same period in the eleven years, 1920-1930; in connection with these data, however, it should be noted that there has also been a very decided decline in the wholesale costs of building materials, the Bureau's index having fallen from 154.4 p.c. of the 1926 base in the first ten months of 1920 to 83.0 p.c. in the months January-October of the present year, a decline of 46 p.c.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had issued nearly 900 permits for dwellings estimated to cost approximately \$4,500,000, and about 3,000 permits for other buildings valued at almost \$3,800,000. In addition, Brantford, Saskatoon and Prince Rupert reported the authorization of undertakings classed as engineering projects valued at \$32,246, \$300,000 and \$100,000, respectively. During September, authority was granted for the erection of about 800 dwellings and 2,000 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$3,200,000 and \$5,900,000, respectively.

Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan recorded increases of 49.0 p.c. and 479.8 p.c., respectively in the value of authorized building as compared with September, 1931. The greatest decrease in this comparison was that of \$908,816 or 20.2 p.c. in Quebec.

In the comparison with October, 1930, there were gains of 184.2 p.c. and 40.1 p.c. in Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan, respectively; the other provinces recorded declines, that of \$2,196,813 or 38.0 p.c. in Quebec being most pronounced.

Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver showed decreases in comparison with both September, 1931, and October, 1930. Of the other centres, Halifax, New Glasgow, Fredericton, Sherbrooke, Fort William, Peterborough, Port Arthur, Walkerville, Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Rupert reported increases over September, 1931, and October, 1930.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS, 1931.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during October and in the first ten 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 ten months of the years since 1920 are also given (average 1926 = 100).

Year	Value of permits issued in October	Value of permits issued in first ten months	Indexes of value of permits issued first ten months, (1920 = 100).	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first ten months, (average 1926 = 100).
1931	\$ 8,713,402	\$ 95,611,669	89.7	83.0
1930	12,756,402	139,117,752	130.6	93.3
1929	18,073,378	204,084,467	191.5	99.6
1928	21,558,085	187,179,719	175.7	97.9
1927	18,848,019	160,000,554	150.2	96.8
1926	14,738,402	134,902,338	126.6	100.4
1925	11,312,644	109,676,825	102.9	104.0
1924	13,089,588	109,906,921	103.2	107.7
1923	9,999,187	118,319,159	111.0	111.7
1922	10,737,525	127,515,975	119.7	108.6
1921	10,491,228	99,064,670	93.7	125.2
1920	10,401,041	106,547,319	100.0	154.4

The aggregate for the first ten months of this year was 31.3 p.c. lower than in 1930, and was also less than the eleven-year average of \$136,028,700, while the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials were much lower than in any other year since 1920.

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Estimated Cost of Building Work as Indicated by Building Permits issued by 61 cities.

Cities	October, 1931	November, 1931	October, 1930.
	\$	\$	\$
P. E. I. - Charlottetown	-	-	2,000
Nova Scotia	267,010	179,207	93,942
x Halifax	257,798	172,512	80,342
New Glasgow	6,700	1,275	5,090
x Sydney	2,512	5,420	8,510
New Brunswick	64,853	841,469	168,663
Fredericton	17,000	15,890	Nil
x Moncton	12,920	81,900	124,975
x Saint John	34,933	743,679	43,688
Quebec	3,585,585	4,494,401	5,782,398
x Montreal - x Maisoniève	3,129,122	3,374,719	5,238,888
x Quebec	365,093	1,053,702	297,815
Shawinigan Falls	1,540	3,675	10,000
x Sherbrooke	67,500	24,100	52,100
x Three Rivers	8,550	16,755	19,695
x Westmount	13,780	21,450	163,900
Ontario	2,939,938	3,601,595	4,367,180
Belleville	13,935	8,650	26,850
x Brantford	48,291	29,048	56,100
Chatham	6,050	925	32,816
x Fort William	30,150	21,850	14,300
Galt	2,440	77,525	9,778
x Guelph	15,413	19,135	35,681
x Hamilton	205,450	226,600	451,550
x Kingston	24,739	30,399	51,537
x Kitchener	67,167	40,535	172,243
x London	84,700	122,520	105,880
Niagara Falls	29,045	1,420	66,448
Oshawa	1,030	16,535	11,005
x Ottawa	160,640	74,015	227,520
Owen Sound	5,000	6,450	Nil
x Peterborough	31,850	8,555	26,780
x Port Arthur	80,236	79,870	8,550
x Stratford	14,810	31,915	11,885
x St. Catharines	69,285	35,950	104,147
x St. Thomas	4,750	2,205	7,600
Sarnia	15,404	13,308	51,739
Sault Ste. Marie	10,517	21,380	57,074
x Toronto	1,595,827	2,179,430	2,061,078
York and East York Townships	337,187	483,030	605,629
Welland	12,349	48,582	28,375
x Windsor	22,067	4,370	30,180
East Windsor	590	750	12,900
Riverside	450	1,200	11,125
Sandwich	875	625	34,750
Walkerville	43,000	5,000	33,000
Woodstock	6,691	9,768	20,660
Manitoba	199,582	204,752	464,300
x Brandon	2,162	7,152	9,200
St. Boniface	8,020	5,200	14,250
x Winnipeg	189,400	192,400	440,850
Saskatchewan	886,510	152,920	632,755
x Moose Jaw	125	18,900	400,275
x Regina	519,210	39,525	124,090
x Saskatoon	367,175	94,495	108,390
Alberta	269,403	332,888	415,517
x Calgary	154,165	141,184	256,933
x Edmonton	90,710	99,970	102,035
Lethbridge	21,928	90,144	54,554
Medicine Hat	2,600	1,590	1,995
British Columbia	500,521	515,182	829,647
Kamloops	9,255	6,745	9,345
Nanaimo	200	2,375	8,790
x New Westminster	23,796	24,480	28,850
Prince Rupert	103,885	3,290	7,554
x Vancouver	323,875	449,335	690,595
North Vancouver	6,090	725	9,210
x Victoria	33,420	28,232	75,303
Total - 61 cities	8,713,402	10,322,414	12,756,402
x Total - 35 cities	8,051,621	9,496,307	11,631,465

