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

The value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during September stood at \$10,322,414; this was an increase of \$2,098,340, or 25.5 p.c., as compared with the total of \$8,224,074 in August, 1931, but a decline of \$770,606, or 7 p.c., in comparison with the aggregate of \$11,093,020 recorded in September of last year. The cumulative total for the first nine months of this year, (\$86,898,267), was lower than in 1930 and other years of the record; in considering these data, it should, however, be noted that there has also been a very decided decline in wholesale costs of building materials, the Bureau's index (1926=100) having fallen from 155.3 in the first three quarters of 1920, to 83.8 in the first nine months of the current year.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for September, showing that they had issued 800 permits for dwellings estimated to cost approximately \$3,200,000, and nearly 2,000 permits for other buildings valued at over \$5,900,000. In addition, Brantford, Galt and Lethbridge reported the authorization of engineering projects valued at \$22,356, \$53,000 and \$75,000, respectively. During August, authority was granted for the erection of about 1,000 dwellings and 2,000 other buildings, estimated in each class to cost approximately \$3,900,000.

New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario reported increases in the estimated value of building as compared with August, 1931, that of \$1,953,763, or 76.9 p.c., in Quebec being most pronounced. Of the declines in the remaining provinces, that of \$248,016 or 42.7 p.c. in Alberta was greatest.

As compared with September, 1930, there were gains of \$789,139 and \$1,514,244 in New Brunswick and Quebec, respectively. In the remaining provinces, there were reductions, of which that of \$824,433 or 61.5 p.c. in British Columbia was the largest.

Of the larger cities, Montreal and Toronto registered higher totals of permits issued than in either the preceding month or the same month of last year. In Winnipeg and Vancouver, on the other hand, there were decreases in both comparisons. Of the other centres, Moncton, Saint John, Quebec City, Galt, Port Arthur, Stratford, St. Catharines, York and East York Townships, Welland and Lethbridge showed increases as compared with both August, 1931, and September, 1930.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST NINE MONTHS, 1931.

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

Year	Value of Permits issued in September	Value of Permits issued in first nine months	Indexes of value of permits issued, first nine months, (1920=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first nine months, (Average 1926=100)
1931	\$ 10,322,414	\$ 86,898,267	90.4	83.8
1930	11,093,020	126,361,350	131.4	94.1
1929	17,117,017	186,011,017	193.5	99.6
1928	20,374,149	165,621,634	172.2	97.8
1927	14,462,243	141,152,535	146.8	95.8
1926	11,047,503	120,163,936	125.0	100.7
1925	10,140,853	98,364,181	102.3	104.2
1924	15,055,250	96,817,333	100.7	108.3
1923	10,708,898	108,312,972	112.7	111.7
1922	11,597,034	116,778,480	121.5	108.5
1921	10,907,828	88,575,442	92.1	126.8
1920	9,842,677	96,146,278	100.0	155.3

The aggregate for the first nine months of this year was 31.2 p.c. less than in 1930, and was also lower than the eleven-year average of \$122,210,012, while the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials were much lower in 1931 than in any other year of the record.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during August and September, 1931, and September, 1930. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "X".

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

Cities	September 1931	August 1931	September 1930
	\$	\$	\$
P. E. I. - Charlottetown	-	Nil	Nil
Nova Scotia	179,207	326,365	192,862
x Halifax	172,512	274,865	186,632
New Glasgow	1,275	350	4,130
x Sydney	5,420	51,150	2,100
New Brunswick	841,469	170,670	52,330
Fredericton	15,890	43,950	Nil
x Moncton	81,900	32,335	15,755
x Saint John	743,679	94,385	36,575
Quebec	4,494,401	2,540,638	2,980,157
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	3,374,719	2,092,943	2,550,667
x Quebec	1,053,702	251,960	229,461
Shawinigan Falls	3,675	8,760	17,720
x Sherbrooke	24,100	85,400	75,150
x Three Rivers	16,755	28,025	4,885
x Westmount	21,450	73,550	102,274
Ontario	3,601,595	3,473,709	3,870,338
Belleville	8,650	9,600	5,175
x Brantford	29,048	6,912	53,771
Chatham	925	8,500	19,916
x Fort William	21,850	10,250	66,950
Galt	77,525	19,070	20,398
x Guelph	19,135	19,458	27,880
x Hamilton	226,600	253,500	364,400
x Kingston	30,399	28,810	33,123
x Kitchener	40,535	56,935	116,563
x London	122,520	236,950	116,955
Niagara Falls	1,420	6,487	37,680
Oshawa	16,585	20,505	8,125
x Ottawa	74,015	165,655	156,195
Owen Sound	6,450	5,000	30,500
x Peterborough	8,555	20,338	102,605
x Port Arthur	79,870	17,761	22,535
x Stratford	31,915	6,649	15,762
x St. Catharines	35,950	32,440	30,073
x St. Thomas	2,205	1,790	19,135
Sarnia	13,308	11,503	40,647
Sault Ste. Marie	21,380	201,345	54,125
x Toronto	2,179,430	1,834,752	1,854,398
York and East York Townships	483,030	460,777	454,772
Welland	48,582	12,990	42,050
x Windsor	4,370	11,235	103,625
East Windsor	750	2,100	25,423
Riverside	1,200	3,280	11,120
Sandwich	625	3,150	6,200
Walkerville	5,000	Nil	16,000
Woodstock	9,768	5,967	14,237
Manitoba	204,752	253,582	689,425
x Brandon	7,152	3,752	15,725
St. Boniface	5,200	21,680	5,650
x Winnipeg	192,400	228,150	668,050
Saskatchewan	152,920	177,780	839,131
x Moose Jaw	18,900	2,610	48,638
x Regina	39,525	64,095	314,788
x Saskatoon	94,495	111,075	475,705
Alberta	332,888	580,904	1,129,112
x Calgary	141,184	203,154	918,332
x Edmonton	99,970	342,840	178,450
Lethbridge	90,144	14,520	9,530
Medicine Hat	1,590	20,390	22,800
British Columbia	515,182	700,426	1,339,665
Kamloops	6,745	4,983	17,555
Nanaimo	2,375	1,175	5,325
x New Westminster	24,480	26,050	26,915
Prince Rupert	3,290	16,000	7,870
x Vancouver	449,335	571,530	1,142,707
North Vancouver	725	7,580	8,730
x Victoria	28,232	73,108	130,563
Total - 61 Cities	10,322,414	8,224,074	11,093,020
x Total - 35 cities	9,496,307	7,314,412	10,207,342

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