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BUILDING PERMITS FOR AUGUST, 1933, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JULY, 1933,
 AND AUGUST, 1932, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1933.

There was a seasonal decline in the value of the building permits issued during August, 1933, as compared with July, 1933, while in comparison with August of last year, there was also a considerable reduction; during the month under review, the 61 co-operating centres authorized building estimated to cost \$1,927,882, as compared with \$2,148,497 in July, 1933, and \$3,823,251 in August, 1932. There was, therefore, a decrease of 10.3 p.c. in the first comparison, and of 49.6 p.c. in the second. The aggregate value of the building authorized in the first eight months of this year, viz., \$14,117,473, was lower than in 1932 and other years of the record; in considering these data, however, it should be noted that there has also been a very significant decline in wholesale costs of building materials, the Bureau's index, based on the 1926 average as 100, having fallen from 143.8 in the first eight months of 1920, when building costs were at their peak, to 77.2 in the period, January-August, 1933, or by 46 p.c.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics showing that they had issued about 200 permits for dwellings estimated to cost over \$600,000, and 1,400 permits for other buildings valued at approximately \$1,150,000. During July, authority was granted for the erection of some 265 dwellings and 1,500 other buildings, estimated at about \$800,000 and \$1,000,000, respectively.

Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia reported gains as compared with July, 1933; the percentage gain of 51.6 in Saskatchewan and the actual gain of \$129,944 in Ontario were most pronounced. Of the percentage reductions elsewhere indicated, that of 76.3 p.c. in New Brunswick, and of the actual reductions, that of \$365,233 in Quebec, were greatest.

Nova Scotia also reported a slightly higher aggregate of building permits issued than in August of last year, there being an increase of \$10,805, or 14.7 p.c. Declines in this comparison were recorded in the remaining provinces, the percentage decline of 78.6 in Saskatchewan and the actual decline of \$763,248 in Quebec being most notable.

Of the larger cities, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver showed improvement as compared with July, 1933, but depreciation as compared with August, 1932, while Montreal reported a decrease in both comparisons. Of the other centres, Halifax, Sydney, Brantford, Chatham, Fort William, Hamilton, Oshawa, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Port Arthur, St. Thomas, Sarnia, Sandwich, Woodstock, Calgary and Kamloops recorded gains in both comparisons.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-33.

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 1926 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, (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first eight months (1926 average =100)
1933	1,927,882	14,117,473	12.9	77.2
1932	3,823,251	32,576,464	29.8	87.3
1931	8,201,879	78,194,996	71.6	83.0
1930	14,029,564	115,268,330	105.5	93.4
1929	21,582,221	163,894,072	154.6	99.2
1928	17,448,542	145,247,435	133.0	96.4
1927	29,478,378	126,690,292	116.0	96.2
1926	11,672,599	109,211,942	100.0	100.7
1925	9,511,008	83,223,328	80.8	103.1
1924	9,406,735	81,762,083	74.9	109.0
1923	11,425,031	97,551,074	89.3	111.8
1922	18,158,932	105,181,416	96.3	108.4
1921	10,928,039	77,565,614	71.1	128.6
1920	10,805,846	36,303,601	79.0	143.8

The aggregate for the first eight months of this year was less than in earlier years of the record, but as already stated, the average index number of wholesale prices of building materials was also much lower than in any other year of this record.

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

Cities	August, 1933	July, 1933	August, 1932
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	-	-	300,000
Nova Scotia	84,480	73,675	67,325
x Halifax	71,800	67,835	66,645
New Glasgow	1,080	2,010	380
x Sydney	11,600	3,830	300
New Brunswick	18,766	2/ 79,110	50,814
Fredericton	440	150	800
x Moncton	5,287	1/ 66,195	22,675
x Saint John	13,039	12,765	27,339
Quebec	388,183	753,416	1,151,431
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	269,420	468,152	972,710
x Quebec	71,328	86,444	99,291
Shawinigan Falls	1,900	3,825	6,320
x Sherbrooke	14,900	84,600	32,200
x Three Rivers	2,335	4,575	8,035
x Westmount	28,300	105,820	32,875
Ontario	1,005,086	875,142	1,026,307
Belleville	8,000	8,000	Nil
x Brantford	18,962	14,959	991
Chatham	44,825	5,510	1,600
x Fort William	20,800	10,750	11,850
Galt	11,465	16,874	13,870
x Guelph	5,990	14,241	12,794
x Hamilton	143,050	51,375	71,800
x Kingston	6,331	59,572	29,672
x Kitchener	18,318	25,348	25,115
x London	29,425	48,475	26,650
Niagara Falls	1,310	8,379	900
Oshawa	8,695	2,200	500
x Ottawa	119,800	91,430	75,965
Owen Sound	3,500	1,300	1,475
x Peterborough	5,873	2,572	99,800
x Port Arthur	13,005	4,055	4,780
x Stratford	4,535	25,987	5,966
x St. Catharines	19,731	18,907	21,790
x St. Thomas	10,251	1,616	1,310
Sarnia	9,693	3,274	3,607
Sault Ste. Marie	14,445	4,170	28,633
x Toronto	405,469	385,945	430,555
York & East York Townships	55,375	57,125	118,600
Welland	1,350	2,465	9,040
x Windsor	3,700	5,175	13,300
East Windsor	350	Nil	500
Riverside	-	Nil	100
Sandwich	75	Nil	Nil
Walkerville	Nil	Nil	3,000
Woodstock	20,763	5,438	12,144
Manitoba	79,340	78,595	171,467
x Brandon	1,815	4,120	727
St. Boniface	3,775	10,075	10,240
x Winnipeg	73,750	64,400	160,500
Saskatchewan	34,825	22,965	162,830
x Moose Jaw	225	4,300	15,281
x Regina	10,475	14,230	19,045
x Saskatoon	24,125	4,435	128,504
Alberta	138,531	109,086	158,629
x Calgary	96,777	37,448	54,941
x Edmonton	34,465	69,456	76,080
Lethbridge	2,734	1,622	22,258
Medicine Hat	4,555	560	5,350
British Columbia	178,671	156,508	734,448
Kamloops	7,635	6,311	3,055
Nanaimo	3,090	Nil	3,776
x New Westminster	1,415	21,150	15,597
Prince Rupert	2,267	6,540	2,450
x Vancouver	139,410	95,510	633,820
North Vancouver	1,200	1,760	36,665
x Victoria	23,654	25,237	39,085
Total - 61 Cities	1,927,882	2/ 2,148,497	3,823,251
Total - x 35 Cities	1,719,360	2/ 2,000,909	3,237,988

1/ Major received too late for inclusion in July report. 2/ Corrected total.

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