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BUILDING PERMITS REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 1934, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER, 1934, AND DECEMBER, 1933, AND TOTALS FOR THE YEARS, 1920-34.

The building permits issued by 61 cities in December, 1934, represented construction work valued at \$2,496,535, as compared with \$2,606,868 in November, 1934, and \$1,983,292 in December, 1933. There was, therefore, a decrease of \$110,333 or 4.2 p.c. in December as compared with the preceding month, but an increase of \$513,243 or 25.9 p.c. in the more significant comparison with the same month of 1933. The value of the building authorized during 1934 was \$26,828,209, an increase of \$5,051,713 or 23.2 p.c. over the total for 1933; the 1933 figures are based on revised statistics furnished by city officials, while those for 1934 are at present unrevised. Revised figures for 1934 will be published next month.

Detailed statements were received from some 50 cities, showing that they had issued some 125 permits for dwellings valued at more than \$400,000 and over 450 permits for other buildings at an estimated cost of about \$1,900,000. There were also four permits taken out for engineering work at a cost of \$104,000. During November, the construction of some 250 dwellings and 1,500 other buildings was authorized; these were estimated to cost approximately \$900,000 and \$1,605,000, respectively.

As compared with the preceding month, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta reported increases in the value of the authorized building, Alberta showing the greatest gain of \$144,074 or 230.8 p.c. Declines were indicated in the remaining provinces, that of \$237,597 or 48.3 p.c. in Quebec being most pronounced.

Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia recorded increases as compared with December, 1933, in the value of the building authorized. In this comparison also, Ontario reported the greatest gain of \$826,568 or 83.6 p.c. Of the reductions in the remaining provinces, that of \$583,961 or 69.7 p.c. in Quebec was most marked.

Of the four largest cities, Toronto registered increases, both as compared with November, 1934, and December, 1933. Vancouver reported a decline as compared with November, 1934, but an increase over December, 1933, while Montreal and Winnipeg showed reductions in the value of the building permits issued in each comparison. Of the smaller centres, New Glasgow, Moncton, Saint John, Shawinigan Falls, Brantford, Chatham, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Oshawa, Peterborough, Port Arthur, St. Thomas, Sarnia, York and East York, Welland, Walkerville, Woodstock, St. Boniface, Calgary, Lethbridge and Nanaimo recorded advances as compared with the preceding month, and also with December, 1933.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR 1934.

The following table shows the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during the Decembers of the years since 1920, and also for the completed years; the 1934 figures are unrevised, while for preceding years the statistics are revised. Index numbers, based upon the total value of the building authorized by these cities during 1926 as 100, are given below, as are the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the years 1920-34.

Year	Value of permits issued in December	Value of permits issued in twelve months	Indexes of value of permits issued in twelve months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials, twelve months (1926=100)
1934	\$ 2,496,535	\$ 26,828,209	17.2	83.0
1933	1,983,292	21,776,496	13.9	78.3
1932	1,569,255	42,319,397	27.1	77.2
1931	7,895,106	112,222,845	71.8	81.9
1930	15,440,281	166,379,325	106.4	90.9
1929	14,688,682	234,944,549	150.2	99.0
1928	16,095,160	219,105,715	140.1	97.1
1927	11,755,566	184,613,742	118.0	96.1
1926	11,508,818	156,386,607	100.0	100.0
1925	7,363,777	125,029,367	79.9	102.9
1924	6,463,319	126,583,148	80.9	106.6
1923	6,974,256	133,521,621	85.4	111.8
1922	9,517,402	148,215,407	94.8	108.7
1921	5,537,330	116,794,414	74.7	122.7
1920	4,844,354	117,019,622	74.8	144.0

The unrevised statistics for 1934 indicate that last year's aggregate was 23.2 p.c. higher than in 1933, though it was lower than in other years since 1920; in this connection, it should be noted that the Bureau's index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials were also lower in 1934 than in any year from 1920 to 1930.



Estimated Value of New Building as Indicated by Building Permits issued by 61 Cities.

C i t i e s	December,	November,	December,
	1934	1934	1933
P. E. I. - Charlottetown	2,850	1/ 5,450	Nil
Nova Scotia	42,211	66,300	11,540
x Halifax	40,811	64,425	8,940
New Glasgow	1,400	450	600
x Sydney	Nil	1,425	2,000
New Brunswick	20,945	21,125	57,020
Fredericton	Nil	5,300	55,000
x Moncton	2,535	2,130	360
x Saint John	18,410	13,695	1,660
Quebec	254,279	491,876	838,240
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	169,735	337,786	547,215
x Quebec	5,369	25,960	256,530
Shawinigan Falls	55,250	1,000	4,620
x Sherbrooke	7,500	19,100	5,000
x Three Rivers	675	2,950	600
x Westmount	15,750	105,080	24,275
Ontario	1,815,106	1,707,301	988,538
Belleville	Nil	5,625	Nil
x Brantford	43,950	26,545	36,088
Chatham	8,400	3,150	100
x Fort William	6,170	7,850	100
Galt	60	22,810	120
x Guelph	4,355	9,060	25,650
x Hamilton	90,165	33,625	31,500
x Kingston	3,200	13,768	950
x Kitchener	4,140	12,737	224
x London	84,360	134,925	102,725
Niagara Falls	8,678	1,930	2,965
Oshawa	2,000	1,825	Nil
x Ottawa	14,155	79,780	1,450
Owen Sound	800	3,300	Nil
x Peterborough	4,208	3,434	500
x Port Arthur	7,190	2,275	540
x Stratford	545	5,330	1,420
x St. Catharines	6,145	13,625	4,575
x St. Thomas	15,950	2,485	350
Sarnia	7,375	3,915	2,515
Sault Ste. Marie	935	21,230	2,640
x Toronto	1,392,627	1,050,776	698,745
York & East York Townships	78,805	63,927	54,375
Welland	1,850	325	50
x Windsor	3,400	33,180	11,550
East Windsor	100	125,000	Nil
Riverside	Nil	2,500	5,000
Sandwich	12,700	13,900	Nil
Walkerville	6,000	3,000	1,000
Woodstock	6,843	5,469	3,406
Manitoba	43,200	24,450	21,000
x Brandon	2,000	2,200	2,200
St. Boniface	26,850	1,500	350
x Winnipeg	14,350	20,750	18,450
Saskatchewan	8,525	69,689	9,950
x Moose Jaw	350	950	Nil
x Regina	7,775	67,139	8,175
x Saskatoon	400	1,600	1,775
Alberta	206,498	62,424	13,364
x Calgary	190,806	37,526	8,052
x Edmonton	8,085	21,560	4,535
Lethbridge	5,607	1,248	742
Medicine Hat	2,000	2,090	35
British Columbia	102,921	158,253	43,640
Kamloops	120	3,972	517
Nanaimo	4,297	948	2,500
x New Westminster	2,100	11,490	800
Prince Rupert	Nil	1,925	1,060
x Vancouver	85,050	115,240	21,575
North Vancouver	145	475	1,075
x Victoria	11,209	24,203	16,113
Total - 61 Cities	2,496,535	1/ 2,606,868	1,983,292
Total - x35 Cities	2,263,470	2,304,604	1,844,622

1/ Includes Charlottetown, not previously included in the November total.

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