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BUILDING PERMITS FOR AUGUST, 1934, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JULY, 1934, AND AUGUST, 1933, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1934.

There was a slight increase in the value of the building permits issued during August, 1934, as compared with the preceding month, while in the more significant comparison with August of last year, there was a very considerable increase; during the month under review, the 61 co-operating centres authorized building estimated to cost \$3,273,889, as compared with \$3,219,086 in July, 1934, and \$1,910,809 in August, 1933. There was, therefore, an increase of 1.7 p.c. in the first comparison and of 71.3 p.c. in the second. The aggregate value of the building authorized in the first eight months of this year, viz., \$16,775,616, was higher than in 1933, though lower than in any other year of the record; in considering these data, it should be noted that the wholesale prices of building materials were lower in 1934 than in other years since 1920, with the exception of 1933, 1932 and 1931.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics showing that they had issued about 250 permits for dwellings estimated to cost over \$900,000, and more than 1,600 permits for other buildings valued at approximately \$1,980,000. During July, authority was granted for the erection of some 200 dwellings and 1,600 other buildings, estimated at about \$1,000,000 and \$1,900,000, respectively.

Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia reported gains as compared with July, 1934, that of \$396,182 or 69.7 p.c. in Quebec being most pronounced. Of the reductions elsewhere indicated, that of \$489,249 or 94.9 p.c. in New Brunswick was the greatest.

All provinces except Prince Edward Island and Alberta reported higher aggregates of building permits issued than in August of last year, the largest increases of \$706,656 and \$576,045 taking place in Ontario and Quebec, respectively.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver showed improvement as compared with July, 1934, and also with August, 1933, while in Toronto there was a decline in the first, but an increase in the second comparison. Of the other centres, Halifax, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Westmount, Belleville, Fort William, Galt, Kingston, London, Niagara Falls, Peterborough, Sarnia, Sault Ste. Marie, Sandwich, St. Boniface, Regina, Edmonton, Nanaimo, New Westminster and North Vancouver recorded gains in both comparisons.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1934.

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 of wholesale prices of building materials in the first eight months of the years since 1920, (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 = 100)
1934	\$ 3,273,889	\$ 16,775,616	15.4	83.4
1933	1,910,809	14,407,111	13.2	77.2
1932	3,823,251	32,576,464	29.8	77.7
1931	8,201,879	78,194,996	71.6	83.0
1930	14,029,564	115,263,330	105.5	93.4
1929	21,582,221	168,894,072	154.6	99.2
1928	17,448,542	145,247,485	133.0	96.4
1927	29,473,378	126,690,292	116.0	96.2
1926	11,672,599	109,211,942	100.0	100.7
1925	9,511,008	88,223,328	80.8	103.1
1924	9,406,733	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	77,665,614	71.1	128.6
1920	10,805,846	86,303,601	79.0	143.8

The aggregate for the first eight months of this year was higher by 11.6 p.c. than in 1933, but was lower than in earlier years of the record; as already stated, the average index number of wholesale prices of building materials was also lower in 1934 than in other years of this record except from 1931 to 1933.

Table 1 gives the values of building permits issued by 61 cities during July and August, 1934, and August, 1933. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1920 are marked thus "x".

1000
1000
1000

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

C i t i e s	August, 1934.	July, 1934	August, 1933
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	\$ -	\$ -	10,200
Nova Scotia	95,690	113,198	84,480
x Halifax	89,645	68,748	71,800
New Glasgow	745	1,100	1,080
x Sydney	5,300	43,350	11,600
New Brunswick	26,370	515,619	18,616
Fredericton	6,420	16,200	440
x Moncton	1/ -	464,410	5,137
x Saint John	19,950	35,009	13,039
Quebec	964,228	568,046	388,183
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	618,545	450,619	269,420
x Quebec	32,873	48,722	71,328
Shawinigan Falls	250	5,700	1,900
x Sherbrooke	18,885	11,775	14,900
x Three Rivers	46,675	8,550	2,335
x Westmount	247,000	42,680	28,300
Ontario	1,709,444	1,441,516	1,002,788
Belleville	6,525	6,200	3,625
x Brantford	43,786	46,650	18,962
Chatham	5,600	2,750	44,825
x Fort William	458,950	35,050	20,800
Galt	25,985	1,758	12,465
x Guelph	10,115	15,554	5,990
x Hamilton	95,070	46,830	143,050
x Kingston	24,079	7,471	6,331
x Kitchener	29,492	38,013	18,318
x London	73,800	45,555	29,425
Niagara Falls	28,290	6,493	1,310
Oshawa	3,150	13,475	8,695
x Otsawa	135,765	204,105	119,800
Owen Sound	2,000	Nil	3,500
x Peterboro	23,979	15,910	5,873
x Port Arthur	7,400	14,665	13,005
x Stratford	4,199	2,198	4,535
x St. Catharines	9,438	24,425	19,731
x St. Thomas	1,430	3,800	10,251
Sarnia	14,070	13,165	9,693
Sault Ste. Marie	14,735	7,620	14,445
x Toronto	567,586	630,333	407,546
York & East York Townships	104,802	188,365	55,375
Welland	3,460	14,710	1,350
x Windsor	9,930	42,166	3,700
East Windsor	125	525	350
Riverside	1/ -	Nil	Nil
Sandwich	400	Nil	75
Walkerville	2,000	3,000	Nil
Woodstock	3,283	10,730	20,763
Manitoba	106,700	96,887	49,515
x Brandon	4,200	4,087	1,990
St. Boniface	10,350	5,050	3,775
x Winnipeg	92,150	87,750	43,750
Saskatchewan	51,805	282,740	34,825
x Moose Jaw	21,250	254,100	225
x Regina	25,170	21,815	10,475
x Saskatoon	5,385	6,825	24,125
Alberta	122,451	78,265	138,531
x Calgary	48,276	33,600	96,777
x Edmonton	70,470	36,120	34,465
Lethbridge	2,090	8,450	2,734
Medicine Hat	1,615	95	4,555
British Columbia	197,201	122,815	183,671
Kamloops	4,450	1,000	7,635
Nanaimo	5,730	Nil	3,090
x New Westminster	8,050	1,700	1,415
Prince Rupert	1,050	525	2,267
x Vancouver	148,350	101,992	139,410
North Vancouver	3,290	1,125	1,200
x Victoria	26,281	16,473	28,654
Total - 61 Cities	3,273,889	3,219,086	1,910,809
Total - x 35 Cities	3,023,474	2,911,050	1,696,462
1/ Report not received			

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