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BUILDING PERMITS FOR OCTOBER, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1937, AND OCTOBER, 1936, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The estimated value of the building authorized by 58 cities during October was \$4,384,952; this was a seasonal decrease of \$693,930 or 13.7 p.c., as compared with the September total of \$5,078,882, but an increase of \$122,345 or 2.9 p.c. over October, 1936, when the aggregate value was \$4,262,607.

The value of the building authorized in the first ten months of the present year was \$47,135,318; this was higher than the aggregate of \$34,946,019 reported in the period, January -- October, 1936, and also exceeded that reported in the first ten months of any other year since 1931. However, the cumulative total in each of these six years has been very much lower than in preceding years for which data are available; while the wholesale prices of building materials have recently advanced, the index for the elapsed months of 1937 was below the average for the years since 1919.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had issued more than 400 permits for dwellings estimated to cost approximately \$1,360,000, and about 2,500 permits for other buildings valued at almost \$2,828,000. During September, authority was granted for the erection of about 350 dwellings and 1,800 other buildings, the estimated cost being approximately \$1,270,000 and \$2,560,000, respectively.

Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and Alberta recorded increases in the value of authorized building as compared with September, 1937, the gain of \$167,745 or 57.6 p.c. in Manitoba being greatest. In the remaining provinces, the largest decreases were those of \$333,654, or 28.1 p.c. in Quebec, and \$349,476 or 13.7 p.c. in Ontario.

In comparison with October, 1936, there was improvement in Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia, Manitoba reporting the most pronounced increases of \$163,360 or 55.2 p.c. In this comparison, Quebec recorded the greatest reduction of \$161,447 or 15.9 p.c.

Winnipeg showed an increase over the preceding month, and also as compared with the same month of last year. In Toronto, there was a slight improvement over September, 1937; and a similar decline as compared with October, 1936; in Vancouver, on the other hand, there was a decrease in the former, but an increase in the latter comparison, while the Montreal total for October was lower than in either the preceding month or the same month of last year.

Of the other centres, Quebec, Belleville, Chatham, Galis, London, Niagara Falls, Oshawa, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Stratford, St. Thomas, Sarnia, Sault Ste. Marie, Riverside, Woodstock, Regina, Edmonton, Kamloops and North Vancouver reported increases over September, 1937, and also as compared with October, 1936.

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CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS, 1937.

The following tables gives the value of the building authorized by 58 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 1926 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 in first ten months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first ten months. (average 1926=100)
1937	\$ 4,384,952	\$ 47,135,318	34.9	94.4
1936	4,262,607	34,946,019	25.9	85.9
1935	4,030,318	40,711,114	30.2	81.2
1934	2,598,024	22,313,170	16.5	82.8
1933	1,775,052	18,169,066	13.5	77.8
1932	3,170,570	38,196,769	28.3	77.5
1931	8,442,627	97,045,622	71.9	82.4
1930	12,756,402	139,117,752	103.1	92.0
1929	18,073,373	204,084,467	151.3	99.2
1928	21,558,085	187,179,719	138.8	96.8
1927	18,848,019	160,000,554	113.6	96.2
1926	14,738,402	134,902,338	100.0	100.4
1925	11,312,644	109,676,825	81.3	103.0
1924	13,089,588	109,906,921	81.5	107.6
1923	9,999,187	118,319,159	87.7	111.8
1922	10,737,525	127,515,975	94.5	108.5
1921	10,491,228	99,064,670	73.4	125.2
1920	10,401,041	106,547,319	79.0	144.4

The aggregate for the first ten months was higher by 25.9 p.c. than in 1936, and also exceeded that for the same period in each of the four years immediately preceding, but was substantially lower than the average of \$102,805,733 reported in the seventeen years, 1920-1936. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials, though higher than in any of the years, 1930-1936, was lower than in other years since 1920.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by each of the 58 cities during September and October, 1937, and October, 1936. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	October 1937	September 1937	October 1936
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	11,200	8,400	21,440
Nova Scotia	58,242	148,130	108,548
x Halifax	35,627	115,610	96,340
New Glasgow	4,200	7,920	2,778
x Sydney	18,415	24,600	9,430
New Brunswick	22,809	45,548	80,442
Fredericton	Nil	6,080	11,260
x Moncton	14,089	15,830	12,107
x Saint John	8,720	23,638	57,075
Quebec	853,453	1,187,107	1,014,900
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	596,494	939,345	607,895
x Quebec	192,111	36,032	87,823
Shawinigan Falls	9,700	13,200	41,495
x Sherbrooke	19,000	149,500	44,200
x Three Rivers	27,835	22,750	183,862
x Westmount	8,313	26,280	49,625
Ontario	2,204,783	2,554,259	2,041,789
Belleville	41,200	1,475	15,575
x Brantford	30,320	49,715	15,705
Chatham	14,975	7,515	4,250
x Fort William	21,700	50,400	8,000
Galt	29,712	6,820	6,404
x Guelph	5,830	14,190	13,637
x Hamilton	119,485	212,967	160,814
x Kingston	15,572	40,917	35,409
x Kitchener	64,510	255,333	75,450
x London	70,940	50,870	50,090
Niagara Falls	27,820	13,305	23,270
Oshawa	113,275	30,000	4,680
x Ottawa	207,120	47,395	124,149
Owen Sound	16,598	5,525	8,085
x Peterborough	25,076	24,035	19,755
x Port Arthur	18,915	46,704	16,738
x Stratford	54,230	9,360	9,075
x St. Catharines	29,240	19,528	45,680
x St. Thomas	17,627	10,882	2,620
Sarnia	35,529	7,585	7,775
Sault Ste. Marie	45,086	31,750	10,940
x Toronto	1,031,029	1,013,192	1,045,033
York & East York Townships	58,495	218,199	247,630
Welland	8,920	47,292	5,245
x Windsor	72,543	319,360	72,955
Riverside	10,600	7,200	9,135
Woodstock	18,436	12,745	3,690
Manitoba	459,210	291,465	295,850
x Brandon	2,750	5,375	Nil
St. Boniface	26,760	140,590	1,650
x Winnipeg	429,700	145,500	294,200
Saskatchewan	48,417	66,969	55,733
x Moose Jaw	2,655	17,750	4,613
x Regina	43,327	42,969	33,670
x Saskatoon	2,435	6,250	17,450
Alberta	209,133	201,762	283,355
x Calgary	49,248	53,922	217,695
x Edmonton	140,940	80,290	51,900
Lethbridge	15,070	52,940	12,960
Medicine Hat	3,875	14,610	800
British Columbia	517,705	575,242	260,550
Kamloops	10,645	5,060	6,900
Nanaimo	8,259	17,650	6,270
x New Westminster	42,450	85,450	15,950
Prince Rupert	780	4,895	3,880
x Vancouver	354,970	390,535	251,440
North Vancouver	28,523	4,425	3,115
x Victoria	72,078	67,227	72,995
Total - 58 Cities	4,384,952	5,078,882	4,262,607
Total - x 35 Cities	3,845,294	4,413,701	3,803,380

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