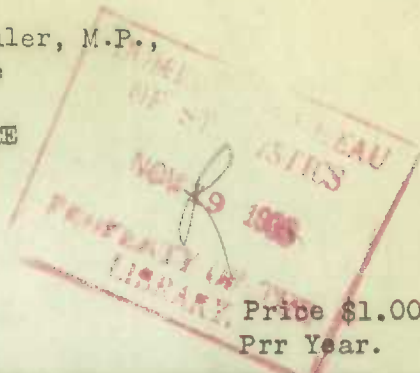


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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
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BUILDING PERMITS FOR OCTOBER, 1938, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1938, AND OCTOBER, 1937, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS, 1920-1938.

The estimated cost of the building authorized by 58 cities during October was \$9,587,462; this was a pronounced increase of \$4,304,041 or 81.5 p.c., as compared with the September total of \$5,283,421, and of \$5,185,625, or 117.8 p.c. over October, 1937, when the aggregate value was \$4,401,837. The estimated cost of the construction work authorized in October, 1938, was substantially greater than in any other month since September, 1931. The permit for a large public building in Ottawa was a factor in the high total for last month, while the construction work authorized in Montreal and Edmonton also greatly exceeded in value that reported in any other month of recent years.

The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in the first ten months of the present year was \$52,696,759; this was higher than the aggregate of \$47,362,820 reported in the period, January-October, 1937, and also exceeded that indicated in the first ten months of any other year since 1931. However, the cumulative total in each of these years has been very much lower than in preceding years of the record; the wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same period of 1937, although they continue higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had issued about 550 permits for dwellings estimated to cost approximately \$1,600,000, and some 2,500 permits for other buildings valued at more than \$7,000,000. During September, authority was granted for the erection of about 470 dwellings and 2,600 other buildings, the estimated cost being approximately \$1,636,000 and \$3,150,000, respectively.

All provinces except Nova Scotia and British Columbia recorded increases in the value of the building authorized as compared with September, 1938, the gains of \$3,017,863 or 196.6 p.c. in Ontario and \$974,879 or 51.5 p.c. in Quebec being greatest. Nova Scotia and British Columbia showed decreases of \$136,336, or 63.8 p.c. and \$92,809 or 15.3 p.c., respectively.

As compared with October, 1937, there was improvement in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta; in this comparison also, Ontario and Quebec reported the most pronounced increases of \$2,341,126 or 105.9 p.c. and \$2,017,766 or 237.2 p.c., respectively. Manitoba showed a decline of \$183,675 or 40 p.c. as compared with October, 1937, while the falling-off in British Columbia was slight.

Montreal reported an increase in the value of authorized building as compared with the preceding month, and also over the same month of last year. In Toronto and Winnipeg, there was improvement from September, 1938, that in the latter being slight, but these cities reported declines as compared with October, 1937. The Vancouver total for October was lower than in either the preceding month, or the same month of last year.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Of the other centres, Charlottetown, New Glasgow, Fredericton, Quebec, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Chatham, Hamilton, Kingston, Ottawa, St. Catharines, York and East York Townships, Welland, Windsor, Riverside, Brandon, St. Boniface, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Kamloops, New Westminster and Prince Rupert reported increases over September, 1938, and also as compared with October, 1937.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS, 1938.

The following table 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)
1938	\$ 9,587,462	\$ 52,696,759	39.1	90.1
1937	4,401,837	47,362,820	35.1	94.9
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	18,073,378	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	118.6	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 11.3 p.c. than in 1937, and also exceeded that for the same period in each of the five years immediately preceding, but was substantially lower than the average of \$99,725,571 reported in the eighteen years, 1920-1937. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials, though lower than in 1937, was higher than in preceding years since 1930.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by each of the 58 cities during September and October, 1938, and October, 1937. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
1890	Jan 1			
	Jan 2			
	Jan 3			
	Jan 4			
	Jan 5			
	Jan 6			
	Jan 7			
	Jan 8			
	Jan 9			
	Jan 10			
	Jan 11			
	Jan 12			
	Jan 13			
	Jan 14			
	Jan 15			
	Jan 16			
	Jan 17			
	Jan 18			
	Jan 19			
	Jan 20			
	Jan 21			
	Jan 22			
	Jan 23			
	Jan 24			
	Jan 25			
	Jan 26			
	Jan 27			
	Jan 28			
	Jan 29			
	Jan 30			
	Jan 31			

The above is a true and correct copy of the original account as shown to me by the person who has the custody of the same.

Witness my hand and seal of office this 31st day of January 1890.

Notary Public for the State of New York.

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Estimated value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits issued by 58 Cities.

Cities	October, 1938	September, 1938	October, 1937
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	22,900	2,800	11,200
Nova Scotia	77,457	213,793	58,242
x Halifax	50,767	115,568	35,627
New Glasgow	4,895	3,175	4,200
x Sydney	21,795	95,050	18,415
New Brunswick	30,264	22,615 1/	22,809
Fredericton	6,500	4,200	-
x Moncton	12,119	5,040	14,089
x Saint John	11,645	13,375	8,720
Quebec	2,868,359	1,893,480	850,593
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	2,229,494	1,051,838	596,494
x Quebec	427,390	220,982	192,111
Shawinigan Falls	48,975	12,785	9,700
x Sherbrooke	80,350	30,800	19,000
x Three Rivers	51,050	437,205	24,975
x Westmount	31,100	139,870	8,313
Ontario	4,552,574	1,534,711	2,211,448
Belleville	29,925	35,525	41,200
x Brantford	25,693	32,410	30,320
Chatham	26,325	20,400	14,975
x Fort William	27,000	49,055	21,950
Galt	25,905	32,514	29,712
x Guelph	7,777	7,803	5,830
x Hamilton	252,859	184,680	119,485
x Kingston	43,512	13,628	15,572
x Kitchener	36,308	115,592	64,510
x London	60,320	41,050	70,940
Niagara Falls	16,570	11,885	27,820
Oshawa	6,440	12,675	113,275
x Ottawa	2,705,460	133,244	207,125
Owen Sound	4,915	3,375	16,998
x Peterborough	62,516	77,089	25,076
x Port Arthur	38,200	46,720	18,915
x Stratford	23,530	7,590	54,230
x St. Catharines	50,240	12,990	29,240
x St. Thomas	12,065	22,241	17,627
Sarnia	27,885	7,058	35,529
Sault Ste. Marie	22,965	56,000	51,096
x Toronto	584,403	434,857	1,031,029
York and East York Townships	216,792	105,179	58,495
Welland	19,714	15,000	8,920
x Windsor	202,111	31,441	72,543
Riverside	12,635	3,855	10,600
Woodstock	10,509	20,855	18,436
Manitoba	275,200	226,085	458,875
x Brandon	7,225	7,050	3,415
St. Boniface	62,675	15,135	25,760
x Winnipeg	205,300	203,900	429,700
Saskatchewan	346,240	152,659	48,417
x Moose Jaw	8,150	9,350	2,655
x Regina	81,895	59,784	43,327
x Saskatoon	256,195	83,525	2,435
Alberta	900,804	630,805	209,078
x Calgary	72,169	450,174	49,198
x Edmonton	812,110	157,865	140,940
Lethbridge	15,510	21,241	15,070
Medicine Hat	1,015	1,525	3,870
British Columbia	513,664	606,473	531,175
Kamloops	28,265	6,177	10,645
Nanaimo	4,360	3,450	8,259
x New Westminster	110,800	32,315	42,450
Prince Rupert	4,200	550	780
x Vancouver	313,090	503,670	354,970
North Vancouver	12,050	7,125	28,523
x Victoria	40,899	53,186	85,548
Total - 58 Cities	9,587,462	5,283,421 1/	4,401,837
Total - x 35 Cities	8,955,537	4,880,937 1/	3,856,774

1/ Includes Moncton, received too late for inclusion in September totals.



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