UUL Published by Authority of the Hon. W. D. Euler, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce ADMANDS SUREAL DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH OTTAWA - CANADA. Issued August 19, 1938. Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.) In Charge Employment Statistics: M. E. K. Roughsedge. BUIDLING PERMITS FOR JULY, 1938, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JUNE, 1938, AND JULY, 1937, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST SEVEN MONTHS, 1920-1938. The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in 58 cities during July stood at \$6,230,254, a seasonal decline of \$330,165 or five p.c. as compared with the June, 1938, total of \$6,560,419; however, there was an increase of \$700,959 or 12.7 p.c. in the more significant comparison with the July, 1937, aggregate of \$5,529.295. The value of the building authorized in the first seven months of the present year was \$32,011,461; this was 4.7 p.c. lower than the aggregate of \$33.586,237 reported in the period January - July, 1937, but was higher than in the first seven months of any other years ince 1931. The cumulative total for the January-July period in each of the last seven years has been very much lower than in earlier years of the record, being also considerably less than the eighteen-year average of \$69,352,486. The wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same months of 1937; while they have been rather higher than in January-July of the six years immediately preceding, they continue lower than the average for this period in the years since 1919. Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for July, 1938, showing that they had issued nearly 600 permits for dwellings valued at over \$2,076,000, and about 2,400 permits for other buildings estimated at some \$3,961,000. In June, authority was given for the erection of about 540 dwellings and 2,500 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$2,000,000 and \$4,000,000, respectively. As compared with June, 1938, there was an increase of \$56,251 or 5.6 p.c. in Quebec, and of \$485,396 or 39.1 p.c. in British Columbia. The remaining provinces recorded declines of which those of \$253,281, or 9.6 p.c., in Ontario and \$416,460, or 47.9 p.c., in Manitoba were most pronounced. Increases over July, 1937, were reported in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia. The largest gain was that of \$1,080,894, or 167.1 p.c. in British Columbia, while the most noteworthy reduction was that of \$381,810, or 13.8 p.c. in Ontario. Three of the largest cities, viz., Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver, showed improvement as compared with June, 1938, and July, 1937, but in Toronto, the July, 1938, aggregate was lower than in either comparison. Of the other centres, Sydney, Sherbrooke, Chatham, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Sault Ste. Marie, Saskatoon, Lethbridge, New Westminster and Victoria showed gains over the preceding month and also as compared with the same month of last year.

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## CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST SEVEN MONTHS, 1920 - 1938.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 cities during July, and in the first seven months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the January - July total in 1926 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first seven months of the years since 1920 are also given, (1926 average - 100).

Year	Value of permits issued in July	Value of permits issued in first seven months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first seven months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first seven months (1926 average =100)
1938	6,230,254	32,011,461	32.9	90.3
1937	5,529,295	33,586,237	34.5	95•9
1936	5,029,802	23:352:686	24.0	84.5
1935	4,396,402	29,036,913	29.8	81.8
1934	3:257,470	13,668,847	14.0	82.8
1933	2,180,403	12,496,302	12.7	76.5
1932	4,412,169	28,753,213	29.5	78.1
1931	11,042,609	69,993,71.7	71.8	83.3
1930	15,824,781	101,238,766	103.9	94.2
1929	22,702,584	147,311,851	151.2	99.2
1928	25,761,956	127,798,943	131.2	96.2
1927	16,369,195	97,211,914	99.8	96.1
1926	18,683,415	97,443.834	100.0	100.8
1925	12,812,603	78,712,320	80.8	103.1
1924	11,681,196	72,355,350	74.3	109.8
1923	13,078,547	86,126,043	88.4	111.7
1922	15,740,810	87,022,484	89.3	108.3
1921	10,965,891	66,737.575	68.5	130.2
1920	13,743,045	75,497,755	77.5	144.2

The aggregate for the first seven months of this year, as already mentioned, was 4.7 p.c. lower than the corresponding figure in 1937, but exceeded that for the same period in any other year since 1931. The average index number of wholesale prices of building materials was rather lower than in the same months of 1937; it was also below the average for the last eighteen years, although it exceeded the January July figure in any of the years, 1931-1936.

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

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Est:	imated Value of Construction			
	Cities	July 1938	June 1938	July 1937
		\$	13,210	1,480
	nce Edward IsCharlottetown	10,250	255,453	455,087
	Halifax	253,097 58,792	207,998	396,170
	New Glasgow	7,590	4,410	27,430
x	Sydney	186,715	43,045	31,487
New	Brunswick	58,517	117,140	94,554
	Fredericton	3,200	22,325	4,460
X	Moncton Saint John	26,780 28,537	71,265 23,550	59,456
Quel		1,054,800	998,549	993,424
	Montreal - x Maisonneuve	712,167	686,734	619,659
x	Quebec	103,452	136,295	59,535
x	Shawinigan Falls Sherbrooke	30,425 149,500	41,795 61,600	79,950 57,700
X	Three Rivers	29,420	53,075	85,425
x	Westmount	29,836	19,050	91,155
Onta	ario	2,391,699	2,644,980	2,773,509
	Belleville	6,100	8,815	17,700
X	Brantford Chatham	16,425	19,890 18,575	26,874 10,950
x	Fort William	173,552 40,775	228,465	36,185
	Galt	40,479	29,192	44,009
x	Guelph	14,095	48,510	10,840
	Hamilton	123,946	165,994	275,299
X	Kingston	53,430	86,055	18,170
X	Kitchener London	8 <sup>1</sup> 4, 57 <sup>1</sup> 42, 705	50,330 99,315	97,725 87,415
	Niagara Falls	5,672	154,130	22,775
	Oshawa	9,480	-	10,525
x	Ottawa	407,595	195,615	125,438
	Owen Sound	11,635	8,585	7,450
	Peterborough Port Arthur	77,383 60,432	35,820 151,269	26,610 50,048
X	Stratford	4,671	9,938	4,815
	St. Catharines	35,370	45,463	76,865
x	St. Thomas	13,266	21,800	5,620
	Sarnia	23,710	29,813	13,993
-	Sault Ste. Marie	31,650	24,340	23,250
X	Toronto York & East York Townships	770,779 172,015	1,052,233	1, <b>0</b> 27,580 182,870
	Welland	11,438	17,867	13,295
x	Windsor	147,118	26,279	504,779
	Riverside	1,175	6,025	31,670
Mani	Woodstock	12,232	17,138	20,759
	Brandon	452,295 3,950	<b>8</b> 68,755 2,850	316,840 19,910
	St. Boniface	94,395	663,905	84,080
	Winnipeg	353,950	202,000	212,850
	atchewan	58,098	115,395	102,629
	Moose Jaw	3,145	53,155	12,229
X	Regina Saskatoon	20,793 34,160	100,010	74,350 16,050
Albei		223,573	304,408	144,741
x	Calgary	35,713	58,388	72,251
X	Edmonton	168,555	230,795	55,750
	Lethbridge	19,305	13,675	15,040
Bri+	Medicine Hat ish Columbia	Nil 1,727,925	1,550 1,242,529	1,700 647,031
2120.	Kemloops	2,520	2,575	8,885
	Nanaimo	20,572	30,475	7,096
x	New Westminster	74,577	45,700	63,100
	Prince Rupert	3,200	116, 169	2,075
X	Vancouver North Vancouver	1,566,800	989,940 9,625	5 <b>1</b> 4,655
x	Victoria	5,500 54,756	48,045	44,790
Total		6,230,254	6,560,419	5,529,295
Tota.		5,534,159	5,232,701	4,891,403

