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BUILDING PERMITS FOR AUGUST, 1938, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JULY, 1938, AND AUGUST, 1937, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1938.

The value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during August, 1938, was less than in the preceding month, but greater than in August of last year; during the month under review, these municipalities authorized building estimated to cost \$5,814,330 as compared with \$6,230,254 in July, 1938, and \$4,262,966 in August, 1937. There was therefore a decrease of 6.7 p.c. in the first comparison, but an increase of 12.9 p.c. in the second and more significant comparison.

The value of the building represented by the permits taken out in the first eight months of the present year was \$37,825,791; this total showed little difference from that of \$37,849,203 reported in the period, January-August, 1937, while the cumulative total in both 1938 and 1937 was decidedly higher than in the first eight months of any other year since 1931. However, the estimated cost of the construction work undertaken in each of these years has been very much lower than in earlier years of the record, being also below the eighteen-year average of \$60,157,517. The wholesale prices of building materials have recently been lower than in the same months 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 over 500 permits for dwellings estimated to cost about \$1,480,000 and more than 2,100 permits for other buildings valued at approximately \$3,760,000. In addition, there was one engineering project valued at \$45,000. During July, "uthority was granted for the erection of some 600 dwellings and 2,400 other buildings, estimated at about \$2,076,000 and \$3,961,000, respectively.

As compared with July, 1938, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Alberta reported gains, that of \$223,114 or 21.2 p.c. in Quebec and \$440,734 or 18.4 p.c. in Ontario being most pronounced. Of the reductions elsewhere indicated, those of \$222,025 or 49.1 p.c. in Manitoba, and \$849,446 or 49.2 p.c. in British Columbia were greatest.

Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia reported higher aggregates of hidlding authorizations than in August of last year; the greatest increase was in Quebec, where there was a gain of \$503,712 or 65.1 p.c. Of the declines recorded in the remaining provinces, that of \$40,676 or 45.2 p.c. in Saskatchewan was most marked.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal showed an increase as compared with July, 1938, and also with August, 1937. The Toronto total was higher in August than in July, but it declined considerably from that of August, 1937. Winnipeg showed reductions in both comparisons, while the Vancouver aggregate was lower than in the preceding month, but higher than in August of last year. Of the other centres, Charlottetown, Halifax, Fredericton, Moncton, Quebec, Belleville, Brantford, Hamilton, London, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Port Arthur, St. Thomas, Sault Ste. Marie, York & East York Townships, Welland, Riverside, Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, New Westminster, Prince Rupert and Victoria recorded gains in both comparisons. (2011) Sold the state of the

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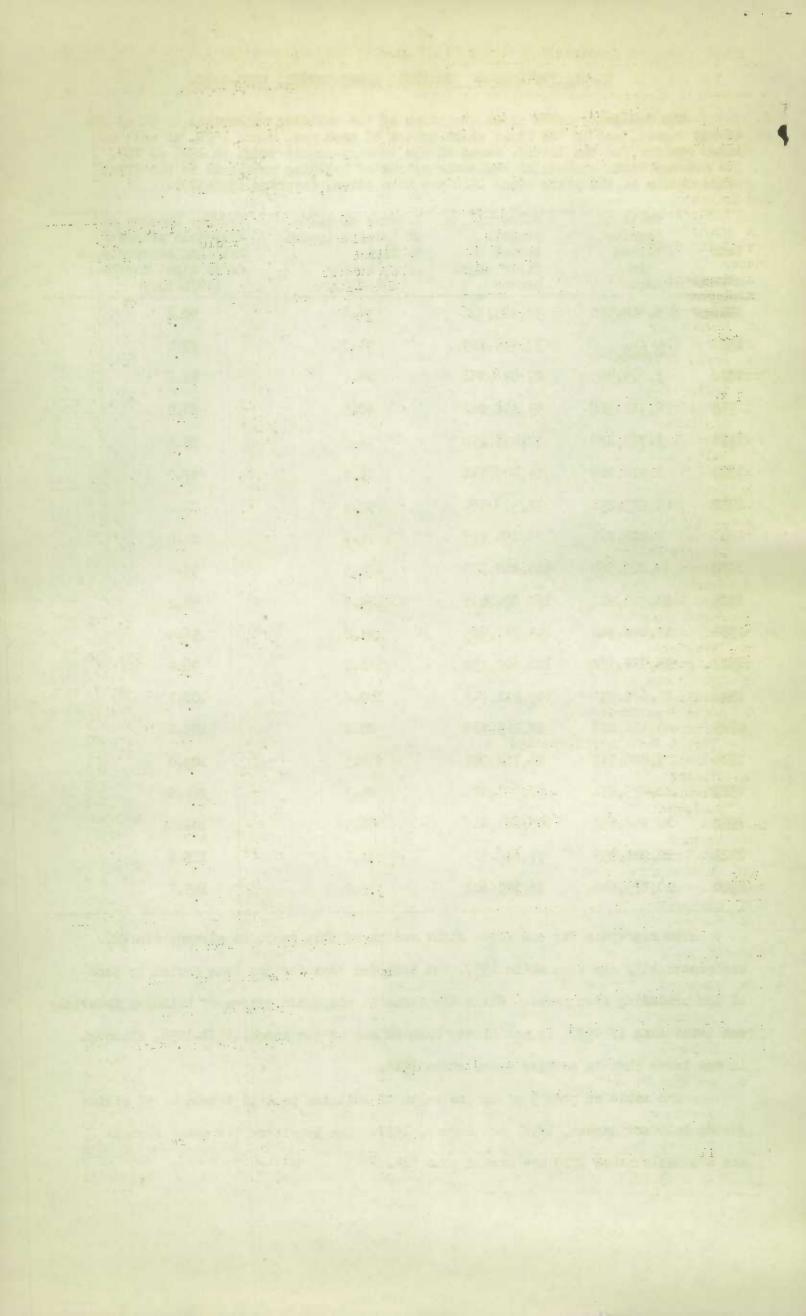
## CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS, 1920-1938.

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

Year	Value of permits issued in August	Value of permits issued in first eight months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first eight months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first eight months (1926=100)
1938	\$ 5,814,330	37.825,791	34.6	90.2
1937	4,202,900	37,849,203	34.7	95.4
1936	3,673,455	27,026,141	24.7	84.6
1935	4,311,968	33,348,881	30.5	81.2
1934	3,764,425	17,433.272	16.0	82.8
1933	1,910,809	14,407,111	13.2	77.0
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	115,268,330	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	29,478,378	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, as already stated, was practically the same as in 1937, but exceeded that for the same period in each of the preceding five years. While the index of wholesale prices of building materials was lower than in 1937, it was higher than in any of the years, 1931-1936, although it was lower than in earlier years since 1919.

The table on page 3 gives the value of building permits issued by 58 cities during July and August, 1938, and August, 1937. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1920 are marked thus "x".



Cities	Augus t 1938	July 1938	Augus t 1937
P.E.I Charlottetown	\$ 14,950	\$ 10,250	\$ 12,850
lova Scotia	156,696	253,097	139,810
x Halifax	125,502	58,792	66,010
New Glasgow	5,190	7,590	10,650
x Sydney	35,004	186,715	63,150
lew Brunswick	90,943	58,517	34.420
Fredericton	10,125	3,200	675
x Moncton	64,470	26,780	15,925
x Saint John	16,348	28,537	17,820
luebec	1,277,914 984,719	1,054,800 712,167	454,707
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve x Quebec	209,325	103,452	140,195
Shawinigan Falls	1,175	30,425	23,125
x Sherbrooke	37,100	149,500	76,300
x Three Rivers	23,625	29,420	15,925
x Westmount	21,970	29,836	63,950
Intario	2,832,433	2,391,699	2,193,187
Belleville	12,350	6,100	7,925
x Brantford	32,325	16,425	27,275
Chatham	79,500	173:552	8,050
x Fort William	33,240	40,775	112,725
Galt	33,875	40,479	43,511
x Guelph	8,511	14,095	6,125
x Hamilton	144,007	123,946	91,793
x Kingston	47,958	53,430	<b>32,</b> 676 52,722
x Kitchener	55,389 65,425	84,571 42,705	59,315
x London	3,870	5,672	22,605
Niagara Falls Oshawa	10,780	9,480	11,510
x Ottawa	689,905	407,595	81,215
Owen Sound	88,298	11,635	8,340
x Peterborough	32,173	77,383	15,465
x Port Arthur	104,516	60,432	63,950
x Stratford	6,766	4,671	9,547
x St. Catharines	109,855	35,370	135,830
x St. Thomas	14,552	13,266	1,145
Sarnia	5,960	23,710	3,475
Sault Ste. Marie	72,075	31,650	37,833
x Toronto	863,340	770,779	1,031,411
York & East York Townships	211,970	172,015	128,280
Welland	22,461	11,438	21,008 154,650
x Windsor	48,508	147,118	5,760
Riverside	25,350 9,474	1,175 12,232	19,046
Woodstock	230,270	452,295	240,340
x Brandon	3,255	3,950	4,585
St. Boniface	25,215	94,395	9,455
x Winnipeg	201,800	353,950	226,300
Saskatchewan	49,216	58,098	89,892
x Moose Jaw	1,969	3,145	5,635
x Regina	15,297	20,793	15,681
x Saskatoon	31,950	34,160	68,576
lberta	273,429	223,573	163,854
x Calgary	66,134	35,713	54,304
x Edmonton	163,375	168,555	69,250
Lethbridge	42,950	19,305	40,300
Medicine Hat	970	Nil 1 727 025	Nil 614,411
British Columbia	878,479 425	1,727,925 2,520	697
Kamloops	420 Nil	20,572	88,016
Nanaimo	96,440	74,577	43,040
x New Westminster Prince Rupert	3,450	3,200	300
x Vancouver	687,120	1,566,800	400,035
North Vancouver	3,615	5,500	600
x Victoria	87,429	54,756	81,723
Total - 58 Cities	5,814,330	6,230,254	4,262,966
		5, 534, 159	3,758,955

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