

Section 2.—Contracts Awarded and Building Permits.

In this section barometric statistics are given of work actually in sight as contracts awarded and building permits. These figures are related to the figures of work performed during the year only so far as the work thus provided for is completed and duly reported in the Census of Construction. Further, values of contracts awarded, and especially of building permits, are estimates (more often under-estimates) of work to be done. Obviously, these statistics and those of Section 1, cannot be expected to agree, since much work contracted for towards the end of any one year is often not commenced until the next and, especially as regards big contracts, extends into more than one year. The figures here given are, therefore, supplementary to those of Section 1 and are valuable as showing from year to year the work immediately contemplated during the period.

A record of contracts awarded during the years 1911-38, as compiled by MacLean Building Reports, Ltd., is given in Table 9. The aggregate for 1938 was less by 16.4 p.c. than the 1937 figure. Table 10 shows, in some detail, the value of the construction contracts awarded in the latest six years.

Engineering contracts accounted for 28.2 p.c. of the total value of the contracts awarded in 1938, residential buildings for 29.4 p.c., industrial buildings for 8.5 p.c., and business buildings for 33.9 p.c. As compared with 1937, residential building showed a decrease of 2.1 p.c. in value, engineering projects of 32.7 p.c., industrial construction of 52.7 p.c., while business construction increased to the extent of 14.5 p.c.

9.—Summary of the Value of Construction Contracts Awarded in Canada, 1911-38.
(From MacLean Building Reports, Ltd.)

Year.	Value of Construction Contracts.	Year.	Value of Construction Contracts.	Year.	Value of Construction Contracts.
	\$		\$		\$
1911.....	345,425,000	1921.....	240,133,300	1930.....	456,999,600
1912.....	463,083,000	1922.....	331,843,800	1931.....	315,482,600
1913.....	384,157,000	1923.....	314,254,300	1932.....	132,872,400
1914.....	241,952,000	1924.....	276,261,100	1933.....	97,289,800
1915.....	35,916,000	1925.....	297,973,000	1934.....	125,811,500
1916.....	99,311,000	1926.....	372,947,900	1935.....	160,305,000
1917.....	84,841,000	1927.....	418,951,600	1936.....	162,588,000
1918.....	99,842,000	1928.....	472,032,600	1937.....	224,056,700
1919.....	190,028,000	1929.....	578,651,800	1938.....	187,277,900
1920.....	255,605,000				

10.—Construction Contracts Awarded in Canada, by Provinces and Types of Construction, 1933-38.

(From MacLean Building Reports, Ltd.)

Item.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
PROVINCE.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island.....	386,900	384,600	414,800	339,900	459,000	1,781,400
Nova Scotia.....	2,690,800	4,993,700	7,903,400	8,073,800	11,220,000	10,537,600
New Brunswick.....	3,951,000	4,590,300	6,055,300	9,495,100	9,878,200	7,208,800
Quebec.....	32,539,200	34,135,500	44,471,900	45,749,500	71,940,800	65,778,900
Ontario.....	42,573,400	63,352,300	70,872,800	72,393,300	97,777,400	73,070,100
Manitoba.....	2,138,000	3,905,000	8,744,400	6,994,400	7,945,100	6,115,200
Saskatchewan.....	775,200	1,563,200	3,941,300	2,200,600	6,704,900	3,969,000
Alberta.....	2,825,900	3,489,400	5,893,000	6,297,400	4,901,000	8,180,000
British Columbia.....	9,219,400	9,391,500	12,108,100	11,044,000	13,230,300	10,641,900
Totals.....	97,289,800	125,811,500	169,305,000	162,588,000	221,656,700	187,277,900