

the centres studied, and accurate and representative data are difficult to obtain. Experience, the result of a study made in fifteen cities, indicates that the average proportions in all types of construction were 63·6 p.c. for materials and 36·4 p.c. for labour. The reduction in the cost of building operations in the depression years was probably much more than is indicated by the declines in the indexes of wholesale prices and wages from the relatively high averages shown since the War of 1914-18.

6.—Values of Building Permits Taken Out in 35 Cities and Index Numbers of the Building Construction Industries, 1926-43

NOTE.—These cities are the 35 referred to (•) in Table 5. Figures for the years 1910-25 will be found at p. 422 of the 1942 Year Book.

Year	Value of Building Permits	Average Index Numbers of—		
		Wholesale Prices of Building Materials	Wages in the Building Trades ¹	Employment in Building Construction ²
	\$	(1913=100)		(1926=100)
1926.....	143,052,669	149·2	172·1	100·0
1927.....	164,791,231	143·4	179·3	108·7
1928.....	197,566,322	145·3	185·6	112·0
1929.....	214,277,386	147·7	197·5	135·3
1930.....	152,404,222	135·5	203·2	134·3
1931.....	101,821,221	122·2	195·7	104·3
1932.....	38,443,406	115·2	178·2	54·1
1933.....	19,890,150	116·8	158·0	38·5
1934.....	24,911,430	123·1	154·8	47·8
1935.....	42,839,627	121·2	159·8	55·4
1936.....	36,337,439	127·3	160·8	55·4
1937.....	49,694,847	140·8	165·3	60·1
1938.....	54,532,781	132·9	169·4	60·1
1939.....	53,048,231	133·8	170·7	62·1
1940.....	70,789,456	142·6	174·6	83·5
1941.....	85,003,123	160·1	184·6	139·5
1942.....	64,571,168	171·9	195·7	157·9
1943.....	51,646,345	180·7	*	160·2

¹ Compiled by the Department of Labour.

² As reported by employers.

³ Not available.

Employment in Building Construction, 1943.—The Dominion Bureau of Statistics makes current surveys of the employment afforded by industrial establishments normally employing 15 persons or over. The index of employment in building construction, calculated (1926 average = 100) from data furnished by some 1,075 employers, averaged 160·2 in 1943; the slight increase over the 1942 index was largely due to continued activity in defence projects.

Section 3.—The Annual Census of Construction

The annual Census of Construction undertaken by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics covers all construction, maintenance and repair work undertaken by contractors, builders and public bodies (except the smaller municipalities) throughout Canada. It does not include maintenance and repair work on steam and electric railways, telegraph and telephone systems and the lesser public utilities when such