

# BUILDING TEMPO UNBROKEN HERE

Moves Along at Million-Dollar-a-Month Pace With Sign  
Of Neither Slump Nor Boom; July Construction  
Totalled at \$1,247,429.

By RICHARD LEWIS

Talk of military conscription, an uncertain economic outlook and the election haven't affected Indianapolis building, according to new construction permits issued at City Hall.

There isn't a sign of a slump. Neither is there any indication of a boom.

Building here is moving along at the \$1,000,000-a-month pace established in April, the records of Building Commissioner George R. Popp Jr. show. Building permits are considered the weather vanes of the industry.

New construction in the City totaled \$1,247,429 in July. While this was a drop of about \$400,000 from the previous month, it was also \$400,000 above July a year ago.

In the last two years, the building trend has shown that new construction permits begin to fall off at the end of June. Apparently, contractors fear unfavorable weather for construction in the fall.

The valuation of permits taken out for dwellings last month was \$82,140 compared with June dwellings valuations of \$593,400, a drop of \$11,260. It was \$13,190 higher than the corresponding valuation for July, 1939, which was \$468,950.

Business building permits totaled \$122,800 and industrial building permits, \$43,000. In June, business building permit valuations were \$242,100 and industrial, \$559,000.

In July, 1939, business building permits totaled \$45,115 and industrial were \$13,000.

If 1940 building follows the pattern of 1939 when new construction here hit an 11-year peak, building may be expected to fall off month by month until the end of the year.

As shown by permit valuations, building activity has increased steadily since January to this year's peak in June. Last month, it was beginning to dip below the peak.

#### Underpass Urged

A group of West Side residents are pushing an idea for relieving those traffic jams on W. Morris St. and the Belt Railroad. They have asked City officials to consider building an underpass at the grade crossing to eliminate traffic tie-ups when a slow freight rumbles over the crossing.

#### Fowl Arithmetic

An interesting example of fowl mathematics has been observed by Albert H. Losche, City Purchasing agent, who likes to get away from routine, business arithmetic once in a while.

Three years, Mr. Losche was awarded the custody of two wild mallard ducks by the Park Department. First, there were two ducks. Then, four ducks. Now, there are 64 ducks. The mallards eat right out of Mr. Losche's hand—\$2 worth of hulled corn a week. He feeds them on the banks of Fall Creek, just back of his home at 3214 Sutherland Ave.

#### Seek 'Cowboy' Pilot

Several days ago, Irvington residents were roused out of a 6 a. m. slumber by the roar of airplane motors over their rooftops. They could hardly believe what they saw: A sport model plane, skimming the chimneys and the trees.

Sometime later, residents of northeast Indianapolis heard and saw the same thing. A good many of them were annoyed.

The Civil Aeronautics Authority is making an investigation. When they find out the identity of the "cowboy" pilot, they're going to ground him.

STOUTS FACTORY

**It's in Suits**  
**SALE**  
FOR  
THE  
WHOLE  
FAMILY  
SATURDAY

A WEEKLY EVENT

LADIES'

\$2.89

FACTORY  
SECONDS  
SAVE  
ONE-HALF

MEN'S

\$2.98

SHOES SOLD  
HIGHER PRICE

SIZES 6s TO 12s

WIDTHS A TO Ds

ALSO  
OXFORDS  
AND  
STRAPS  
FOR  
BOYS AND  
GIRLS

CHILDREN'S

\$1.89

SHOES

318-332 Mass. Ave.

352-354 W. Wash. St.

5 P.M.

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SHOE STORES

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