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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
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BUILDING PERMITS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 1926, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JANUARY,  
1926 AND FEBRUARY, 1925.

There was an increase of 54.2 p.c. in the value of the building permits issued in February, 1926, as compared with the preceding month, and of 20.8 p.c., over the corresponding month of last year. Reports were tabulated from 60 cities which had authorized building value at \$7,104,343; the total for January, 1926, was \$4,608,688 and for February, 1925, \$5,879,858.

Some 45 cities furnished detailed statements showing that they had issued over 600 permits for dwellings estimated to cost nearly \$2,570,000 and about 1,000 permits for other buildings valued at not quite \$4,200,000. In the preceding month, authority was granted for the erection of over 550 dwelling at a proposed cost of some \$2,200,000, and of more than 900 other buildings valued at approximately \$1,900,000.

All provinces except New Brunswick and Manitoba registered increases in the value of the building permits issued during February as compared with January. The greatest gain was that of \$2,187,604, or 239.6 p.c., in Quebec.

As compared with February of last year, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Manitoba reported declines in the value of the building authorized, there being reductions of 40.3 p.c., 99.8 p.c., and 36.0 p.c., respectively, in those provinces. Of the increases recorded in the other provinces, that of \$824,907 or 36.2 p.c. in Quebec was most pronounced.

Montreal and Toronto issued permits at a higher valuation than in either January, 1926, or February, 1925; in Winnipeg there was an increase in the former and a decline in the latter comparison, while in Vancouver there was on the contrary a falling off as compared with the preceding month, but an increase over February of last year. Three Rivers, Brantford, Chatham, Kingston, Niagara Falls, Port Arthur, Welland, Ford, Riverside, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Nanaimo, Prince Rupert and Victoria indicated increases as compared with both January, 1926 and February, 1925.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TWO MONTHS, 1926.

The Value of the building permits issued by 60 cities during the first two months of 1926 and of the last six years is shown in the following table, which also gives the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials for the same two months:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Value</u>	Average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials for two months. (1913 = 100).
1926	\$ 11,713,031	152.7
1925	11,320,628	153.5
1924	8,532,399	167.5
1923	9,813,909	164.3
1922	8,048,752	161.6
1921	6,161,045	209.7
1920	10,151,941	205.2

It will be noted that the 1926 total for January-February was the highest on record, being greater by 3.5 p.c. than in 1925, by 37.3 p.c. than in 1924, by 19.4 p.c., than in 1923, by 45.5 p.c., than in 1922, by 90.1 p.c., than in 1921 and by 15.4 p.c., than in 1920. At the same time the index number of wholesale prices of building materials is this year the lowest since 1920.

The table on Page 2 give the value of the building permits issued by 60 cities in February and January, 1926 and February, 1925. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus, "x".



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Estimated Cost of Building Work as Indicated by Building Permits.

Cities	Feb. 1926	Jan. 1926	Feb. 1925
Prince Edward Island - Charlottetown	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nova Scotia	20,225	13,230	33,860
x Halifax	13,225	10,130	32,560
New Glasgow	Nil	Nil	1,000
x Sydney	2,000	3,100	300
New Brunswick	125	106,860	56,150
Fredericton	Nil	Nil	19,000
x Moncton	125	1,100	26,150
x St. John	Nil	105,760	11,000
Quebec	3,100,770	913,166	2,275,863
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	2,900,470	543,510	1,947,668
x Quebec	30,975	15,976	68,420
Shawinigan Falls	Nil	7,600	18,000
x Sherbrooke	5,000	6,500	20,700
x Three Rivers	72,325	27,320	19,875
x Westmount	92,000	306,700	201,200
Ontario	2,075,165	1,930,407	2,073,325
Belleville	5,200	1,350	7,600
x Brantford	15,600	940	3,340
Chatham	11,500	10,100	Nil
x Fort William	9,600	10,100	11,060
Galt	660	3,800	1,300
x Guelph	3,500	400	22,550
x Hamilton	118,950	91,600	170,550
x Kingston	10,955	360	515
x Kitchener	22,380	33,035	37,360
x London	16,255	33,640	22,525
Niagara Falls	124,300	76,575	30,730
Oshawa	12,250	16,800	2,450
x Ottawa	24,540	24,800	91,017
Owen Sound	Nil	Nil	Nil
x Peterborough	1,395	12,500	5,475
x Port Arthur	48,455	2,920	3,795
x Stratford	1,630	355	33,340
x St. Catharines	1,200	6,760	11,200
x St. Thomas	1,140	5,150	830
Sarnia	18,955	28,927	48,310
Sault Ste Marie	1,455	6,845	2,600
x Toronto	1,133,910	1,115,630	1,054,935
York Townships	223,550	111,100	273,950
Welland	5,350	880	3,305
x Windsor	164,870	233,950	147,025
Ford	24,800	19,435	14,300
Riverside	13,000	2,000	4,800
Sandwich	32,400	53,750	33,325
Walkerville	25,000	25,000	3,000
Woodstock	2,365	1,705	3,138
Manitoba	98,850	115,550	154,375
x Brandon	1,700	800	5,000
St. Boniface	12,000	37,500	22,225
x Winnipeg	85,150	77,250	127,150
Saskatchewan	215,815	21,410	47,080
x Moose Jaw	3,800	950	16,650
x Regina	204,725	9,200	14,050
x Saskatoon	7,290	11,260	16,380
Alberta	120,483	76,500	61,261
x Calgary	71,373	55,050	45,000
x Edmonton	37,450	18,150	11,790
Lethbridge	11,660	3,165	4,471
Medicine Hat	Nil	135	Nil
British Columbia	1,472,910	1,431,565	1,177,944
Nanaimo	7,600	5,000	4,300
x New Westminster	47,800	42,050	46,675
Point Grey	458,900	270,300	547,700
Prince Rupert	25,500	15,805	19,150
South Vancouver	85,320	86,850	64,690
x Vancouver	792,485	981,545	452,925
x Victoria	55,305	29,515	36,004
Total 40 Cities	7,104,343	4,602,622	5,879,258
x Total 35 Cities	6,002,578	3,323,566	4,739,014
	1,126	1,276	1,144
Cumulative total for 60 cities, first two months	11,713,051	11,320,628	8,632,399