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BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR JANUARY, 1927, WITH COMPARATIVE
STATEMENTS FOR DECEMBER, 1926, AND JANUARY, 1926.

There was a seasonal decline in the value of the building permits issued by 63 cities during January as compared with the preceding month, but the aggregate was higher than in January, 1926. The co-operating municipalities reported permits for building estimated to cost \$5,429,299, as compared with \$11,508,818 in December, 1926, and \$4,719,534 in the corresponding month of last year. There was, therefore, a reduction of 52.8 p.c. in the former, and an increase of 15.0 p.c. in the latter, more significant comparison.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statements showing that they had granted almost 500 permits for dwellings valued at \$1,980,000 and nearly 950 permits for other buildings estimated to cost approximately \$3,150,000. In December, authority was granted for the erection of some 500 dwellings and 900 other buildings estimated at approximately \$3,300,000 and \$7,000,000 respectively.

Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the building authorized as compared with December; British Columbia, with an advance of \$850,354, or 85.7 p.c., showed the greatest absolute increase, but this was exceeded by the proportionate gain of \$22,705, or 218.3 p.c., in Saskatchewan. Of the declines recorded in the remaining provinces, that of \$6,144,252, or 87.0 p.c., in Quebec was most pronounced, representing reaction from the exceptionally high December total.

As compared with January, 1926, there were increases in all provinces except Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Manitoba. The most marked advance was in Ontario - \$403,977, or 20 p.c. Alberta, however, registered a larger proportional gain, of 89.8 p.c. The greatest loss was in New Brunswick, of \$101,500, or 95.0 p.c.

In Toronto and Vancouver, there were increases in the value of the building permits granted as compared with both the preceding month and the corresponding month of last year. Montreal showed a decrease in the former and an increase in the latter comparison, while in Winnipeg the January total exceeded that for December, but was less than in January, 1926. The following cities reported increases in both comparisons - Sherbrooke, Galt, Guelph, Kingston, Port Arthur, St. Catharines, Welland, Riverside, Walkerville, Woodstock, Moose Jaw, Regina, Calgary, Lethbridge, Nanaimo, New Westminster and North Vancouver.

The value of the permits issued by 63 cities in January of the years 1920-27 is shown below:

Year	Value
1927	\$5,429,299
1926	4,719,534
1925	5,447,270
1924	4,460,579
1923	4,139,498
1922	3,326,537
1921	2,595,564
1920	4,017,024

The 1927 figure for January is thus shown to have been exceeded only once in the eight year's record, the total for January 1925, being higher, but only by \$17,971 or 0.3 p.c.

The table on page 2 gives the value of the building permits issued by 63 cities in January, 1927, and December and January, 1926. The 35 cities for which statistics are available since 1910 are indicated thus "X".

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