

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
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BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR JANUARY, 1931, WITH COMPARATIVE
STATEMENTS FOR DECEMBER, 1930, AND JANUARY, 1930.

There was a seasonal decline in the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during January as compared with the preceding month, but the aggregate was slightly higher than in January, 1931. It was also greater than in January of most years since this record was instituted in 1920, being exceeded only by 1929 and 1928. The co-operating municipalities reported permits for building estimated to cost \$7,510,745 as compared with \$15,440,281 in December, 1930, and \$7,217,397 in January, 1930. There was, therefore a reduction of 51 p.c. in the former, but an increase of 4.1 p.c. in the latter, more significant comparison.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statements, showing that they had granted over 400 permits for dwellings valued at about \$1,800,000 and more than 1,000 permits for other buildings estimated to cost approximately \$4,500,000. In December, authority was granted for the erection of some 500 dwellings and 1,200 other buildings, estimated to cost approximately \$2,600,000 and \$12,000,000, respectively.

New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and Alberta reported increases in the value of the building authorized during January as compared with December, the gain in the first named being most noteworthy. Of the declines recorded in the remaining provinces, that of \$5,778,568, or 79.8 p.c., in Quebec was most pronounced.

As compared with January, 1930, there were increases in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. The most marked gain in this comparison was in British Columbia, where the value of the building authorized increased by \$1,092,074, or 109.9 p.c. Reductions were recorded in Nova Scotia and the three Prairie Provinces, that of \$816,835, or 76.1 p.c. in Saskatchewan being greatest.

In Montreal and Vancouver, there were decreases in the value of the building permits granted as compared with the preceding month, but increases over the corresponding month of last year. Toronto showed a decline in both comparisons, while in Winnipeg the January total was higher than in December, but lower than in January, 1930. The following cities reported increases in both comparisons - New Glasgow, Saint John, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Fort William, Guelph, Kitchener, London, Oshawa, York and East York Townships, Welland, Walkerville, Woodstock, Moose Jaw, Lethbridge and New Westminster.

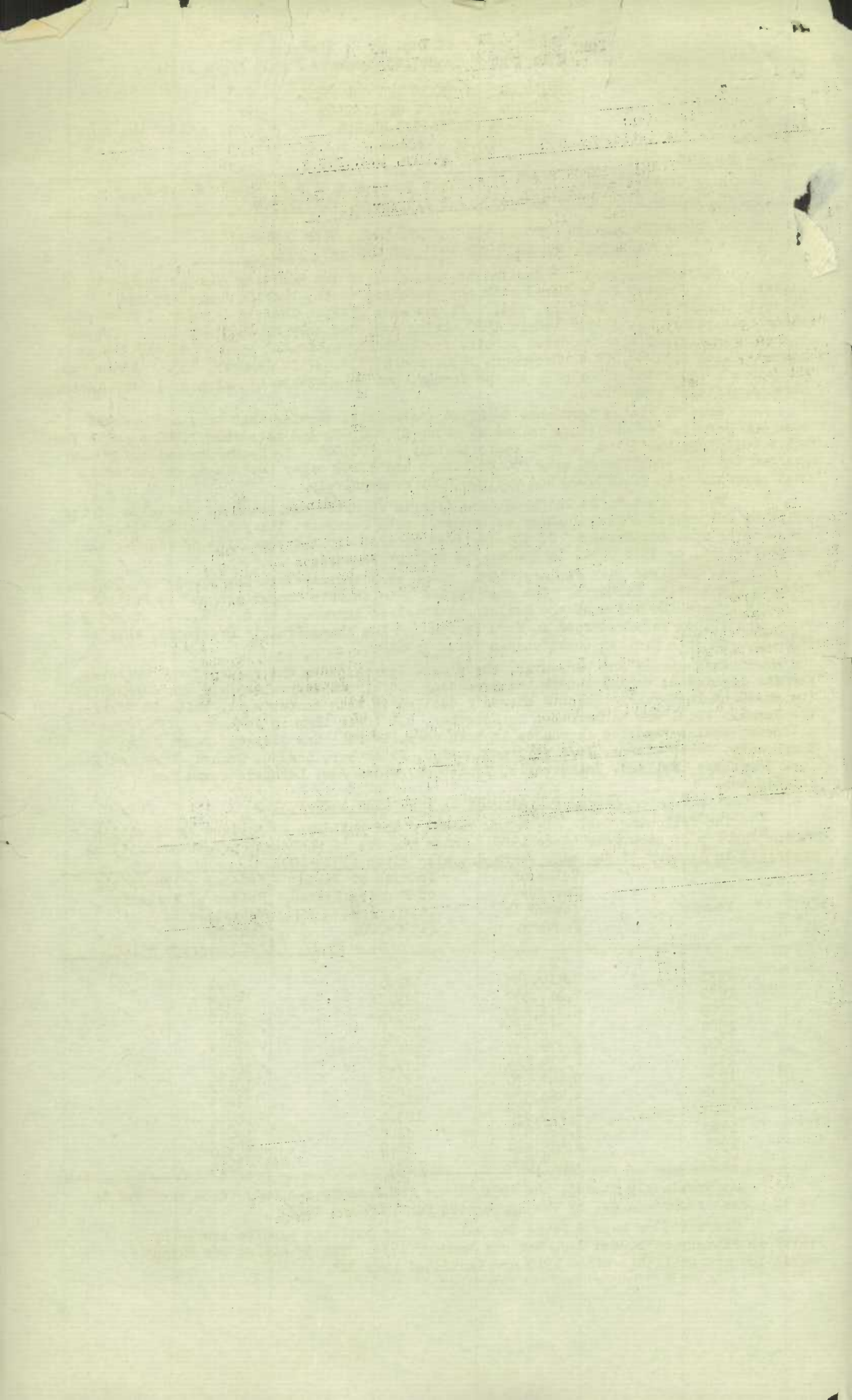
RECORD FOR JANUARY IN THE YEARS 1920-1931.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during January of each year since 1920. Index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in January of the same years are also given (1926=100).

Year	Value of Permits Issued in January	Indexes of Value of Permits Issued in January (1920=100)	Indexes of Wholesale Prices of Building Materials in January (1926 average = 100)
	\$		
1931	7,510,745	187.0	84.1
1930	7,217,397	179.7	97.3
1929	8,416,880	209.5	98.0
1928	7,716,587	192.1	95.2
1927	5,676,537	141.3	96.3
1926	4,719,534	117.5	102.3
1925	5,447,270	135.6	101.9
1924	4,460,579	111.0	112.4
1923	4,139,498	103.1	109.8
1922	3,326,537	82.8	109.3
1921	2,595,564	64.6	143.0
1920	4,017,024	100.	134.5

As previously stated, the 1931 figure for January was only twice exceeded in the 12 years' record, i.e., by the aggregates for 1929 and 1928.

The table on page 2 gives the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities in January, 1931, and December and January, 1930. The 35 cities for which statistics are available since 1910 are indicated thus "X".



Estimated Cost of Building Work as Indicated by Permits Issued by 61 Cities.

Cities	January, 1931	December, 1930	January, 1930
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	-	Nil	Nil
Nova Scotia	49,840	227,202	148,540
x Halifax	44,840	217,762	148,540
New Glasgow	5,000	140	Nil
x Sydney	Nil	9,300	Nil
New Brunswick	80,875	5,435	22,210
Fredericton	-	-	Nil
x Moncton	Nil	200	Nil
x Saint John	80,875	5,235	22,210
Quebec	1,466,442	7,245,010	1,059,933
x Montreal -xMaisonneuve	1,028,570	6,675,354	891,875
x Quebec	317,247	501,836	54,158
Shawinigan Falls	Nil	Nil	800
x Sherbrooke	93,900	54,000	72,800
x Three Rivers	26,725	8,820	300
x Westmount	Nil	5,000	40,000
Ontario	3,289,884	4,197,903	2,954,686
Belleville	200	133,920	Nil
x Brantford	71,137	427,115	13,904
Chatham	2,300	153,294	38,517
x Fort William	14,000	11,200	2,000
Galt	7,350	9,075	3,035
x Guelph	36,525	7,162	8,360
x Hamilton	158,200	190,300	320,650
x Kingston	14,800	9,900	15,825
x Kitchener	72,550	14,723	18,695
x London	522,650	30,060	44,150
Niagara Falls	5,305	39,330	15,180
Oshawa	49,050	20,475	4,250
x Ottawa	40,400	128,570	44,500
Owen Sound	Nil	20,200	Nil
x Peterborough	7,525	10,370	19,325
x Port Arthur	925	12,622	450
x Stratford	11,530	5,663	42,325
x St. Catharines	4,458	24,125	43,965
x St. Thomas	880	8,565	300
Sarnia	9,525	17,200	75,385
Sault Ste. Marie	1,158	2,075	1,845
x Toronto	1,243,036	2,538,096	1,730,887
York and East York Townships	494,558	300,582	133,100
Welland	14,990	5,300	170
x Windsor	7,350	49,250	217,840
East Windsor	500	4,250	1,700
Riverside	Nil	600	4,200
Sandwich	1,200	1,200	61,100
Walkerville	482,000	21,000	90,000
Woodstock	15,782	1,681	3,028
Manitoba	111,425	661,950	732,700
x Brandon	Nil	1,800	Nil
St. Boniface	75	609,000	2,500
x Winnipeg	111,350	51,150	730,200
Saskatchewan	256,658	225,995	1,073,493
x Moose Jaw	4,000	300	Nil
x Regina	34,083	192,220	54,143
x Saskatoon	218,575	33,475	1,019,350
Alberta	169,433	155,781	231,721
x Calgary	93,428	62,904	191,636
x Edmonton	26,100	27,765	20,600
Lethbridge	47,555	14,712	17,985
Medicine Hat	2,350	50,400	1,500
British Columbia	2,086,188	2,721,005	994,114
Kamloops	6,505	11,800	640
Nanaimo	350	15,960	17,500
x New Westminster	198,860	16,525	16,125
Prince Rupert	2,940	2,700	4,600
x Vancouver	1,797,550	2,593,150	866,744
North Vancouver	11,765	16,933	3,800
x Victoria	68,218	63,937	83,705
Total - 61 Cities	7,510,745	15,440,281	7,217,397
x Total - 35 Cities	6,350,287	13,988,454	6,735,562

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