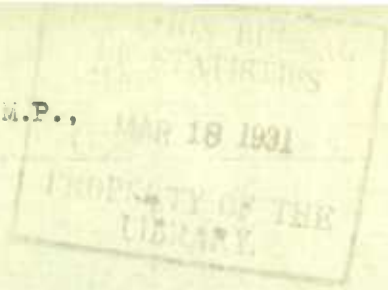


DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
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BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1931, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JANUARY, 1931, AND FEBRUARY, 1930.

The value of the building represented by the permits issued by 61 cities during February, as compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, was lower by \$1,581,158 or 21.1 p.c. than in the preceding month, and was also less by \$2,989,491 or 33.5 p.c. than in February of last year! the total stood at \$5,929,587 during February, 1931, as compared with \$7,510,745 in January, 1931, and \$8,919,078 in February, 1930. The February, 1931, total was below the average for February in the years, 1920-30, but the aggregate for the first two months of this year was higher than the January-February average in the last eleven years; it was in fact, higher than in any earlier year since 1920 except 1928, 1929 and 1930, while the wholesale costs of building materials were considerably lower than in any of the preceding eleven years.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had granted over 600 permits for dwellings valued at about \$2,200,000, and nearly 1,100 permits for other buildings, estimated to cost in excess of \$3,500,000. In January, authority was given for the erection of some 400 dwellings and 1,000 other buildings, estimated at approximately \$1,800,000 and \$4,500,000, respectively.

Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta reported increases in the value of the permits issued as compared with January, 1931; the largest gain, of \$487,950, took place in Manitoba. Of the declines in the remaining provinces, that of \$1,544,539 or 46.9 p.c. in Ontario was most pronounced.

As compared with February, 1930, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia registered gains, that of \$345,495, or 24.9 p.c. in Saskatchewan being greatest. Of the decreases in the remaining provinces, that of \$2,492,352 or 48.8 p.c. in Ontario was most marked.

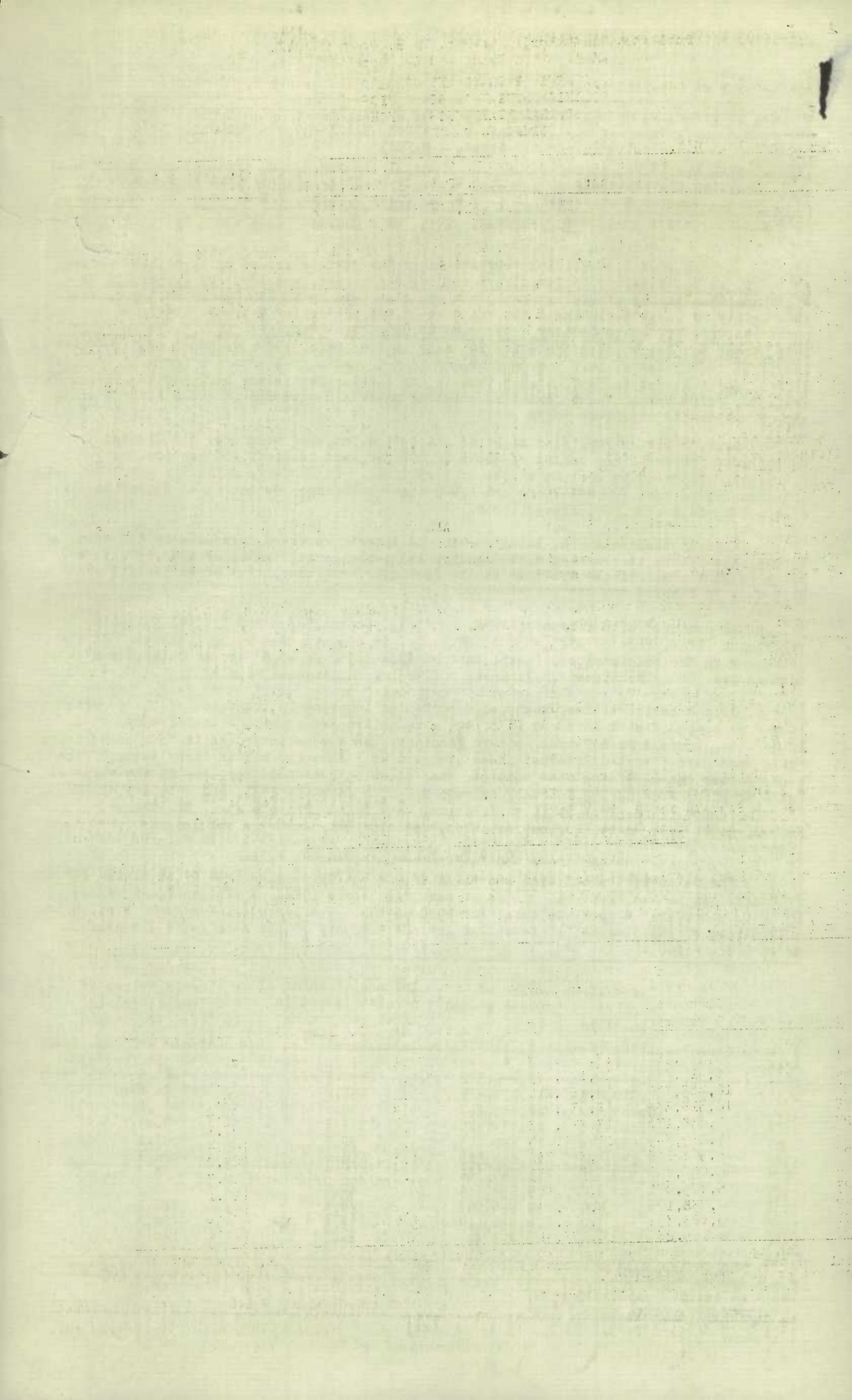
Of the larger cities, Montreal recorded an increase in the value of the permits issued as compared with January, 1931, but a reduction as compared with February, 1930. In Toronto, there were declines, and in Winnipeg, there were increases in both comparisons, while Vancouver reported a reduction as compared with January, but an increase over February of last year. Of the other cities, the following recorded increases in the value of building authorized during February as compared with January, 1931, and February, 1930:— Westmount, Brantford, Fort William, Kingston, Owen Sound, Peterborough, St. Thomas, Sarnia, Sault Ste. Marie, Regina, Edmonton, Medicine Hat, Kamloops and Nanaimo.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TWO MONTHS, 1931.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during February, and in the first two months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1920 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in January and February of the same years are also given (1926 = 100).

Year	Value of permits issued in February	Value of permits issued in first two months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first two months (1920 = 100).	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first two months (1926 = 100)
	\$	\$		
1931	5,929,587	13,440,332	132.1	85.8
1930	8,919,078	16,136,475	158.6	96.8
1929	10,465,330	18,882,210	185.6	95.6
1928	10,318,338	18,034,925	177.3	90.4
1927	7,638,176	13,314,713	130.8	97.1
1926	7,139,549	11,859,083	116.6	102.4
1925	5,902,118	11,349,388	111.6	103.2
1924	4,093,800	8,554,379	84.0	112.3
1923	5,679,671	9,819,169	96.5	110.1
1922	4,738,105	8,064,642	79.3	108.3
1921	3,683,359	6,278,923	61.7	140.5
1920	6,156,287	10,173,311	100.0	137.5

The aggregate for the first two months of 1931 was lower by 16.7 p.c. than the total for the same months of 1930, but was greater than the average of \$12,042,474 recorded in the years 1920-1930.



Estimated cost of Building Work as Indicated by Permits issued by 61 Cities

Cities	February, 1931	January, 1931	February, 1930
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	-	-	Nil
Nova Scotia	113,350	49,340	324,855
x Halifax	113,150	44,840	321,405
New Glasgow	200	5,000	700
x Sydney	Nil	Nil	2,750
New Brunswick	28,525	80,875	458,495
Fredericton	-	-	416,000
Moncton	1,400	Nil	14,050
x Saint John	27,125	80,875	28,445
Quebec	1,208,455	1,466,442	1,715,307
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	1,078,860	1,028,570	1,458,790
x Quebec	46,457	317,247	111,717
Shawinigan Falls	4,000	Nil	42,250
x Sherbrooke	5,150	93,900	19,900
x Three Rivers	24,350	26,725	45,450
x Westmount	49,638	Nil	37,200
Ontario	1,745,345	3,289,884	4,237,697
Bellefleur	3,400	200	8,750
x Brantford	80,697	71,137	7,770
Chatham	69,950	2,300	409,567
x Fort William	98,300	14,000	30,000
Galt	100	7,350	4,950
x Guelph	1,033	36,525	7,740
x Hamilton	322,400	158,200	516,200
x Kingston	75,945	14,800	32,050
x Kitchener	11,173	72,550	12,675
x London	43,270	522,050	31,815
Niagara Falls	8,950	5,305	20,350
Oshawa	1,850	49,050	5,875
x Ottawa	38,600	40,400	97,430
Owen Sound	6,000	Nil	Nil
x Peterborough	9,000	7,525	1,000
x Port Arthur	9,989	925	10,055
x Stratford	24,650	11,530	36,200
x St. Catharines	9,755	4,458	14,865
x St. Thomas	2,800	880	835
Sarnia	19,089	9,525	16,490
Sault Ste. Marie	2,335	1,158	1,675
x Toronto	698,185	1,243,036	2,632,228
York & East York Township	174,581	494,558	166,509
Welland	2,200	14,990	20,685
x Windsor	16,246	7,350	66,690
East Windsor	Nil	500	14,750
Riverside	600	Nil	35,000
Sandwich	1,600	1,200	12,900
Walkerville	12,000	482,000	18,000
Woodstock	647	15,782	4,143
Manitoba	600,375	111,425	403,270
x Brandon	Nil	Nil	Nil
St. Boniface	375	75	6,570
x Winnipeg	600,000	111,350	396,700
Saskatchewan	285,504	256,658	137,057
x Moose Jaw	1,655	4,000	625
x Regina	268,359	34,083	88,507
x Saskatoon	15,490	218,575	47,925
Alberta	217,128	169,433	256,987
x Calgary	153,347	93,428	205,248
x Edmonton	46,650	26,100	39,490
Lethbridge	11,176	47,555	7,034
Medicine Hat	5,955	2,350	3,265
British Columbia	1,730,905	2,086,138	1,385,410
Kamloops	15,335	6,505	14,050
Nanaimo	5,675	350	3,420
x New Westminster	25,200	198,860	44,755
Prince Rupert	14,860	2,940	26,736
x Vancouver	1,622,335	1,797,550	1,081,544
North Vancouver	7,715	11,765	16,835
x Victoria	39,785	63,218	198,070
Total - 61 Cities	5,929,587	7,510,745	8,919,078
x Total - 35 Cities	5,560,994	6,350,287	7,640,024

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