Minister of Trade and Commerce

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE NOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH OTTAWA - CANADA MAR 18 1933

Issued March 17,1933.

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BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1933, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR JANUARY, 1933, AND FEBRUARY, 1932.

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 \$256,972 or 22.1 p.c. than in the preceding month, and was also less by \$1,938,365 or 68.1 p.c. than in February of last year; the total stood at \$906,906 during February, 1933, as compared with \$1,163,878 in January, 1933, and \$2,845,271 in February, 1932.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had granted over 80 permits for dwellings valued at about \$291,000 and more than 590 permits for other buildings, estimated to cost in excess of \$575,000. In addition, an engineering project, valued at \$10,000, was reported at Port Arthur. In January, authority was given for the erection of some 90 dwellings and 600 other buildings, estimated at approximately \$240,000 and \$640,000 respectively.

New Brunswick, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the permits issued as compared with January, 1933; the largest gain, of \$32,701, took place in Ontario. Of the declines in the remaining provinces, those of \$249,091 or 96.8 p.c. in Saskatchewan, and \$113,790 or 34.7 p.c. in Quebec were most pronounced.

As compared with February, 1932 all provinces except New Brunswick and British Columbia recorded declines, that of \$911,097 or 72.3 p.c. in Ontario being most marked.

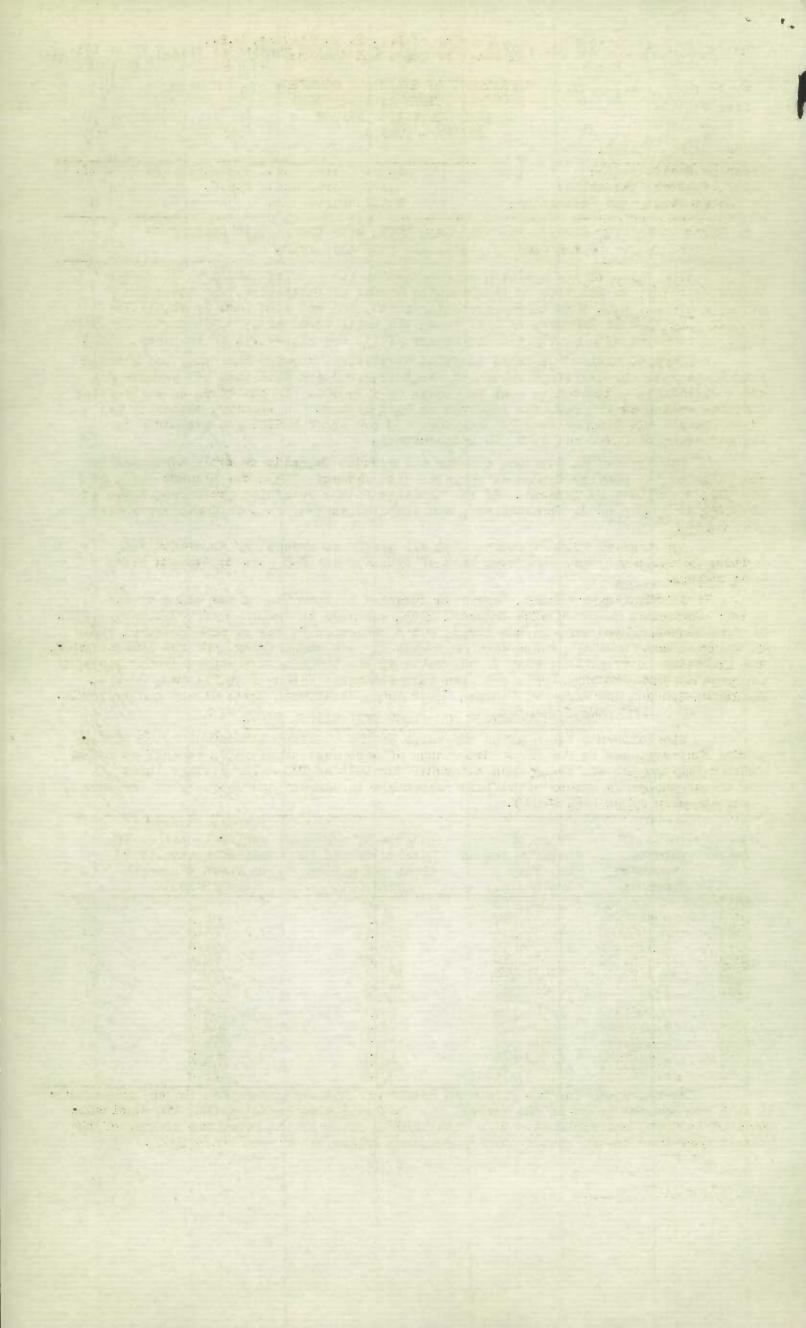
Of the larger cities, Vancouver recorded an increase in the value of the permits issued as compared with January, 1933, and also as compared with February, 1932. Toronto showed an increase in the first, but a reduction in the second instance, while in Montreal and Winnipeg, there were decreases in both comparisons. Of the other cities, the following recorded increases in the value of the building authorized during February as compared with January, 1933, and also with February, 1932:- Fort William, Guelph, Kamloops, London, New Glasgow, Oshawa, Saint John, Stratford, Three Rivers and Victoria.

## CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TWO MONTHS, 1933.

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 1926 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		*	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first two months (1926=100)	
1933	\$ 906,906		17.6	75:2	
1932 1931 1930 1929 1928 1926	2,845,271/ 6,395,659 8,919,078 10,465,330 10,318,338 7,638,176 7,139,549 5,902,118	6,056,283 14,797,115 16,136,475 18,882,210 18,034, <b>925</b> 13,314, <b>713</b> 11,859,083 11,349,388	51.1 124,8 136.1 159.2 152.1 112.3 100,0	79.4 83.8 96.8 99.6 96.4 97.1 102.4 103.2	
1925 1924 1923 1921 1921	4,093,800 5,679,671 4,738,105 3,683,359 6,156,287	8,554,379 9,819,169 8,064,642 6,278,923 10,173,311	95.7 72.8 82.8 68.0 52.9 85.8	112.3 110.1 108.3 140.5 137.5	

The aggregate for the first two months of 1933 was lower than in the same months of 1932 and earlier years of the record, but it should also be noted that the wholesale costs of building materials were also considerably lower in the first two months of the present year than in the months January-February of any other year since 1920.



1,074,887

2,934,267

838,328

x Total - 35 Cities

