Published by Authority of Hon. W. D. Euler, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH OTTAWA - CANADA Issued March 16, 1937. R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.) Dominion Statistician: M. E. K. Roughsedge. In Charge Employment Statistics: BUILDING PERMITS REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS
FOR JANUARY, 1937, AND FEBRUARY, 1936. The value of the building represented by the permits issued by 58 cities stood at \$2,120,111 in February, 1937; this was an increase of \$424,609 or 25 p.c. over the total of \$1,695,502 for the preceding month, and of \$198,935 or 10.4 p.c. in the more significant comparison with February of last year, when the authorized building in these cities was valued at \$1,921,176. Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had granted over 200 permits for dwellings valued at nearly \$800,000, and not quite 900 permits for other buildings, estimated to cost in excess of \$1,200,000. January, authority was given for the erection of some 110 dwellings and 500 other buildings, estimated at approximately \$605,000 and \$850,000, respectively. Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia reported increases in the value of the permits issued as compared with January, 1937; the greatest gain, of \$180,908 or 49.3 p.c., took place in Quebec. New Brunswick and Saskatchewan showed small declines in this comparison. As compared with February, 1936, all provinces except British Columbia recorded increases, that of \$608,210 or 138.6 p.c. in Ontario being most noteworthy. There was a decrease of \$954,295 or 80 p.c. in British Columbia in this comparison. Of the four largest cities, Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg reported increases in the value of the building authorized as compared with either January, 1937, or February, 1936, while Vancouver showed a gain in the former, but a loss in the latter comparison. Of the other centres, Charlottetown, Halifax, Moncton, Saint John, Quebec, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Westmount, Fort William, Guelph, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Peterborough, Stratford, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, Sarnia, Welland, Riverside, Brandon, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Calgary, Kamloops, Nanaimo and North Vancouver reported improvement over the preceding month, and also as compared with the same month of last year. CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST TWO MONTHS, 1937. The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 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	Value of permits issued in first two months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first two months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first two months, (1926=100)
1937	2,120,111	\$ 3,815,613	32.2	90.1
1936	1,921,176	3,223,934	27.2	83.9
1935	3,601,637	4,484,515	37.8	81.8
1934	894,102	1,601,914	13.5	82.2
1933	925, 894	2,111,856	17.8	75.2
1932	2,845,271	6,056,283	51.1	79.4
1931	6,395,659	14,797,115	124.8	83.8
1930	8,919,078	16, 136, 475	136.1	96.8
1929	10,465,330	18,882,210	159.2	99.6
1928	10,318,338	18,034,925	152.1	96.4
1927	7,638,176	13,314,713	112.3	97.1
1926	7,139,549	11,859,083	100.0	102.4
1925	5,902,118	11,349,388	95•7	103.2
1924	4,093,800	8,554,379	72.1	112.3
1923	5, 679, 671	9,819,169	82.8	110.1
1922	4,738,105	8,064,642	68.0	108.3
1921	3,683,359	6,278,923	52.9	140.5
1920	6, 156, 287	10,173,311	85.8	137.5

The aggregate for the first two months of 1937 was higher than in 1936, being also greater than in January-February of 1934 or 1933, while it was lower than in 1935. The total for these months in each of the last few years had been lower than in other years for which statistics for the 58 cities are available. The index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in recent months have shown a moderately upward movement, but continue lower than in the years prior to 1930.

The table on page 3 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities in January and February, 1937, and February, 1936. The 35 cities for which statistics are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".

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Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s February January February

1027 1937 1936 11,0001/ 10,675 P.E.I .- Charlottetown 11,000¹
67,370
63,470
Nil
3,900
32,975
25,000
Nil
7,975
367,145
305,250
14,425
Nil
7,100 Nova Scotia 124,830 33,010 x Halifax 124,830 33,010 Nil Nil New Glasgow Nil Nil x Sydney 30,035 New Brunswick 3,885 Fredericton Nil Nil 5,400 24.635 125 Moncton 3,760 x Saint John 203,290 548,053 Quebec x Montreal - x Maisonneuve 420,508 159,355 41,360 x Quebec 8,460 Nil 7,100 2,000 2,545 Shawinigan Falls 18,600 x Sherbrooke x Three Rivers 4,900 10,375 825 30,350 34,690 x Westmount 29,995 27,750 1,047,066 879,780 438,856 Ontario 2,240 11,284 4,100 32,000 350 3,500 Belleville 30,250 5,850 500 Brantford 1,275 Nil Chatham 350 x Fort William 570 4,475 68,972 2,295 2,800 Galt. 6,700 14,970 x Guelph x Hamilton 36,679 3,490 44,971 Nil 10,350 x Kingston x Kitchener x London 10,630 119,550 6,200 Nil 6,975 74,800 13,145 8,600 Nil Niagara Falls 300 32,550 1,750 13,725 1,135 4,950 Oshawa 15,100 550 2,131 1,250 2,425 15,100 18,600 x Ottawa 4,500 Owen Sound 4,675 x Peterborough 1,911 x Port Arthur 22,620 2,125 x Stratford Nil 38,703 2,550 x St. Catharines x St. Thomas Nil Nil 4,275 4,765 6,515 15,650 Sarnia 9,200 1,240 Sault Ste. Marie 208,278 251,890 615,681 x Toronto 47,045 270,675 18,500 York & East York Townships 2,886 7,384 850 Welland 50,010 29,860 68,020 Windsor Nil 1,657 300 6,975 Nil Riverside Nil Woodstock 26,300 40,350 26,300 1,000 Nil 25,300 31,800 Nil 19,700 Manitoba Nil 2,000 x Brandon St. Boniface 4,000 150 x Winnipeg 34,350 25,785 19,550 6,275 Saskatchewan 5,075 20,000 x Moose Jaw 3,285 2,500 50,333 42,618 31,300 200 x Regina 1,000 500 47,255 x Saskatoon 12,131 Alberta 35,705 8,486 x Calgary 2,425 6,845 8,250 x Edmonton 3,300 220 770 Lethbridge 1,000 100 Nil Medicine Hat 231,877 1, 193, 354 British Columbia 239,059 600 1,000 20 Kamloops 2,025 950 Nil Nanaimo 4,800 17,850 13,100 x New Westminster 300 1,640 1,810 Prince Rupert 159,595 202,545 x Vancouver Nil 2,730 North Vancouver 64,852 65,494 16,019 Victoria 1,695,502 1/ 2,120,111 1,921,176 Total - 58 Cities 1,842,931 1,383,829 2,000,972

Total - x35 Cities

^{1/} Includes Charlottetown report, received too late for inclusion in January tabulation.

