



A FOREWORD ABOUT VOLUME NUMBER TWO—ENGINEERING FEATURES TO BE ENLARGED UPON—MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT TO BE ADDED.

“CONSTRUCTION” has entered upon its second year. The first number of our second volume, we believe, shows unparalleled progress in the development of a technical journal. This progress is demonstrative of three things: First, that there was a field for such a journal in Canada; secondly, that it is possible to successfully produce high class journals in Canada; and thirdly, that the trade has fully appreciated our efforts.

During the coming year, we shall develop the engineering features of our paper. A municipal department will be established, in which illustrated articles, dealing with municipal engineering, will be dealt with by the best experts in the country. A series of articles dealing with attractive, economically planned and constructed, moderate priced houses, has been arranged for, and will be illustrated with floor plans, elevations and details, together with complete data of proposed specifications.

A number of other very exceptional features have been arranged for and the second volume of “CONSTRUCTION” will, we believe, be found to be of wider interest and greater value to our readers than the first one has been.

BUILDING STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER—AVERAGE GAIN OVER SAME MONTH OF 1907—REPORTS FROM DIFFERENT POINTS ENCOURAGING.

BUILDING OPERATIONS for the month of October, as indicated by statistics compiled from the larger cities throughout the Dominion, continue to show very gratifying increases over the same period of 1907.

Of the ten cities, for which comparative figures were supplied “CONSTRUCTION,” only three show decreases, viz.: Calgary, Montreal, and Regina.

In the case of Calgary, this comparison is hardly a fair criterion of the conditions in that city, in so far as October of 1907 was an abnormally large month, owing to permits having been taken out for some very big work. During October of 1908, forty-four permits were issued for buildings to cost \$88,400; during the same month of 1907, forty-nine permits were issued for buildings, the aggregate cost of which was \$491,000. For the first ten months of last year, the aggregate cost of buildings for which permits were issued was \$1,574,820, so that it may be seen that, while there were only five more permits issued for October of 1907, as compared with 1908, the aggregate cost of the buildings represented about one-third of the value of buildings erected during the first ten months of 1907.

In Montreal, with a decrease of 61.32 per cent., very much the same conditions prevailed, for there were exactly the same number of permits (172) issued during October of 1908 as in 1907. The reason for the decrease is purely due to the fact that permits for two or three very large structures were taken out during the month of October, 1907, which month was an abnormally heavy one, as is demonstrated by the fact that the aggregate cost of buildings during this month was just about one-seventh of the total cost of buildings erected for the first ten months of 1907.

In the case of Regina, it should be noted that twenty-five permits were issued for the month of October of 1908, as against twenty for the corresponding month of 1907, although there is a decrease in the aggregate value of buildings for which permits were issued of 43.64 per cent.

In the face of these decreases, which can readily be accounted for by the fact that permits were not issued for any large buildings during October of 1908, there are a number of extraordinary increases in several of the cities. Winnipeg leads with an increase of 219.43 per cent.; Fort William has an increase of 163.55 per cent.; St. John, N.B., 176.50 per cent.; Toronto an increase of 31.02 per cent.; Edmonton, Vancouver, Victoria and Halifax also show substantial increases, while building in St. Thomas is 50 per cent ahead of what it was for the corresponding period of 1907.

Reports from the various cities show that future prospects for the remainder of the year are exceedingly bright. Winnipeg reports “fair”; Regina, “the outlook for the future is fairly good”; St. John, “fair”; Fort William, “quite bright”; Edmonton, “active, providing we have an open season”; Calgary, “no change for better this season. Everything looks bright for next spring”; Vancouver, B.C., “bright, even better than last year at this time”; Montreal, “fairly good”; and Toronto, “exceedingly bright.”

Statistics from Brandon, while not giving figures for

	Total Cost of Buildings for October, 1907	Total Cost of Buildings for October, 1908	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
Calgary	\$ 491,100	\$ 88,400		81.99
Edmonton ...	77,125	98,735	28.	
Fort William	33,465	88,200	163.55	
Halifax	28,490	36,155	26.90	
London		59,700		
Montreal ...	1,091,344	422,080		61.32
Regina	103,390	58,270		43.64
St. John	26,600	73,550	176.50	
St. Thomas...		13,200		
Toronto	776,555	1,019,492	31.02	
Winnipeg ...	134,300	429,000	219.43	
Vancouver ...	325,570	414,810	27.34	
Victoria	83,875	99,750	17.73	