



## 1909—Building Operations—1910

THE END OF 1909 brought to a close Canada's biggest building year; the beginning of 1910 ushers in what promises to be a period of still greater activity and development. Nothing more fully reflects the marvelous growth of the country, nor foretells with a more assuring degree the wonderful expansion which will take place in the next twelve months, than the remarkably sound manner in which the season closed. Operations in all sections were vigorously prosecuted up to the final day, and the existing force of activity carried into the new year with an increasing momentum which leaves no doubt as to the prospects for 1910. The losses which occurred in December, with two exceptions, affected only such places as had experienced uninterrupted progress throughout the year, and came more as a relaxation following the heavy pressure of the preceding months, and a temporary let up preparatory to resuming operations with renewed energy, than as any unfavorable indication.

Official returns as submitted to CONSTRUCTION from thirty cities located in every province and section of the Dominion records a grand total for permits issued, amounting to \$68,606,821 for the past twelve months, as against \$42,577,439 for the entire year of 1908, thus registering an average gain for the year of approximately 60 per cent., or a proportionate increase in the volume of work undertaken nearly two-thirds again as great as

that carried out in the preceding twelve months. This average can be accepted as being representative of the general strides made throughout the country, as many cities whose exact figures are still unknown and hence not tabulated prospered to an equal or greater degree in proportion to their population, than some of the places which are included in the list.

Halifax and Edmonton were the only two cities which failed to surpass their figures for the previous year, the loss in either place being 24 per cent. and 16 per cent. in order named. Aside from these places, the year was one of complete ascendancy on every hand, and a triumphal march from coast to coast. The biggest increase noted is in the case of Saskatoon, which recorded an overwhelming gain of 767 per cent.; Fernie takes second honors with an advance of 449 per cent., and Lethbridge lands in the third position by overreaching the previous year's figures to the extent of 246 per cent. These figures serve as a reflex of the West as a whole, and while the proportionate increase in all cases is not so marked, the results in general are, to say the least, gratifying to the extreme.

In Manitoba, Winnipeg looms up with an increase of 67 per cent., Brandon a gain of 19 and Portage la Prairie with one of 62 per cent., while in Saskatchewan Regina and Moose Jaw's respective advances of 56 and 157 per cent., together with Saskatoon's figures previously mentioned, indicate that the onward movement was widespread throughout that province. Winnipeg's amount of

	Permits for December, 1909.	Permits for December, 1908.	Increase, per cent.	Decrease, per cent.	Permits for 1909.	Permits for 1908.	Increase, per cent.	Decrease, per cent.
Berlin, Ont.					\$278,550	\$121,350	129.54	
Brandon, Man.					350,120	291,864	19.95	
Brantford, Ont.	\$121,350	\$9,330	1200.64		438,885	289,855	51.41	
Calgary, Alta.	151,550	71,750	111.21		2,420,452	837,100	189.14	
Edmonton, Alta.	9,780	45,255		78.38	2,128,166	2,549,874		16.53
Fernie, B.C.		8,200	2921.95		1,374,700	250,000	449.98	
Fort William, Ont.	247,800				2,970,365	1,560,835	90.30	
Halifax, N.S.	14,345	33,550		57.24	630,380	838,725		24.84
Hamilton, Ont.	69,300	53,400	29.77		1,623,100	1,394,357	16.40	
Kingston, Ont.					452,695	170,600	165.35	
Lethbridge, Alta.	33,885				1,268,215	365,495	246.98	
London, Ont.	32,155	22,320	44.06		850,134	464,180	83.14	
Medicine Hat, Alta.					249,000	153,172	62.56	
Montreal, Que.	166,885	501,000		66.68	7,783,621	5,062,226	53.75	
Moose Jaw, Sask.					1,107,500	430,925	157.00	
Niagara Falls, Ont.					80,000	60,000	33.33	
Ottawa, Ont.	104,125	30,500	241.39		4,527,590	1,794,075	152.36	
Peterboro', Ont.	2,095	1,990	5.27		343,489	238,963	45.74	
Port Arthur, Ont.					584,810			
Portage la Prairie, M.					195,000	120,000	62.50	
Regina, Sask.	9,025	1,465	516.04		476,479	67,654	56.18	
St. John, N.B.	4,800	7,500		36.00				
St. Thomas, Ont.					260,000	236,000	10.16	
Saskatoon, Sask.					1,002,905	115,625	767.37	
Sydney, N.S.	7,290	1,020	614.70		160,470	67,015	139.45	
Toronto, Ont.	1,428,250	778,185	83.53		18,200,000	11,795,436	54.29	
Vancouver, B.C.	567,709	314,408	80.56		7,258,565	5,950,893	21.97	
Victoria, B.C.	71,700	113,025		36.56	1,673,420	1,130,740	47.99	
Windsor, Ont.	2,500				423,885	297,780	42.34	
Winnipeg, Man.	33,425	89,000		62.44	9,226,325	5,513,700	67.33	
Totals	\$3,077,969	\$2,081,898	46.09		\$68,606,821	\$42,577,439	59.76	