

erations in CSP Foods Ltd. This subsidiary, with a large and recently-expanded crushing facility at Altona, Manitoba, puts a strong emphasis on international outlets for Canadian oil and meal.

Canadian Co-operative Imple-ments Limited, an independent farmer-owned association with its head office in Winnipeg, was set up in 1940 to manufacture and distribute farm machinery. It serves 80,000 members throughout the Prairie Provinces and northwestern Ontario. This co-operative ran into financial difficulty in 1977 owing to a drought-induced sales slowdown and a consequent inventory build-up. However, by means of a special loan from the Federal Government and the Prairie Provinces and a general reorganization, and with the continued support of its members, it is expected to succeed as a farmers' organization.

Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Limited operates on a national basis. It has for many years handled almost 70 per cent of the wool passing through Government-registered stations.

Co-operative wholesales

Nearly all the co-operatives that purchase farm supplies and consumer goods for their members are affiliated with one or more of the eight co-operative wholesales in Canada. The wholesales provide the affiliated co-

operatives with a wide range of goods, and fill most but not all of their requirements. Some of the wholesales are also central marketing agencies for farm products. Sales of the co-operative wholesales were \$1,924 million in 1976, consisting of supply sales (\$1,296 million) – of which food products, feed and petroleum were the leading items – and farm-product marketings (\$628 million), led by dairy products, livestock and meat, and poultry.

There are eight co-operative wholesales. The largest, Federated Co-operatives Limited, is part of what is known as the Co-operative Retailing System of Western Canada. This federation includes more than 400 purchasing co-operatives serving approximately 550,000 owner-members, from northwestern Ontario to Vancouver Island. Food, drugs, dry goods and other consumer items are supplied, along with building materials, hardware, petroleum, fertilizers, agricultural chemicals, animal feeds and various other farm supplies. Federated is also involved in manufacturing, operating a lumber mill, a plywood plant, an oil-refinery, several oil-wells and, since 1975, a plant manufacturing homes, garages, roof-trusses and floor-systems. In addition, through a 1971 merger with Interprovincial Co-operatives, Federated owns a chemical formulating plant and is responsible for the "Co-op" label that is used only on