

of \$126 million, including investments and loans to members of \$94 million. Members' deposits with the centrals amounted to \$93 million. Total loans granted to their members since inception amounted to almost \$300 million.

The Canadian Co-operative Credit Society was organized in 1953 to operate on the national level as a central credit organization for the co-operative movement in general. Its members include both provincial co-operative credit societies, or central credit unions, and co-operative wholesales.

Supervision and Direction

The co-operative wholesales have adopted the policy of providing certain supervisory services to local associations. Some of the wholesales maintain qualified auditors in the field doing continuous audits and making monthly reports to boards of directors. These centrals also provide income-tax services by which the income-tax returns of the locals are scrutinized before filing. Some central co-operatives have agreements whereby the business affairs of some locals are managed under the direction of the wholesale.

The great majority of Canadian co-operatives are incorporated under provincial authority. Although there is no general federal co-operative legislation, a few co-operatives, which operate in more than one province or in the territories, have been set up under federal legislation.

The extent of supervision and guidance offered co-operatives varies considerably from province to province. In some provinces government services are limited to those activities necessary to ensure that all co-operatives are properly incorporated and that the correct legal procedures are followed in amalgamation and dissolutions. In other provinces the registrar of co-operative associations has a small staff to assist co-operatives in organization and to offer valuable advisory services. In at least one province a regular system has been developed of inspecting co-operatives and reviewing their operations with officers and directors.

There is generally much more supervision of credit unions than other co-operatives. In most provinces each credit union is inspected by a government representative about once a year. In Ontario, Credit Union League field-men carry out a considerable portion of this inspection work. In Quebec, central credit-union federations are responsible for all inspection work and receive grants from the provincial government to perform this function. An inspection concerns itself with compliance with the act and bylaws as well as detection of unsound management practices or other conditions which may impair the financial soundness of the credit union.

Education

There are good indications that in Canada co-operative leaders are combining a philosophical with a business-like approach, which in turn is fortified by a sound educational background. Such an approach is indicated in a unity of purpose and thought that will be of considerable benefit to the future of co-operation in Canada. There are many examples of this unity in the variety of interests shown by the co-operative leaders in the various phases and organizations of the movement.