

La Coopérative Fédérée, with a turnover exceeding \$125 million annually, is one of the mainstays of agriculture in Quebec. It operates a number of abattoirs, and through contract arrangements with poultry and hog producers has established an integrated programme of production. It is a major supplier of agricultural feeds, fertilizers, petroleum products and some types of machinery.

In addition to distributing farm supplies, petroleum and equipment, United Co-operatives of Ontario manufactures feeds and fertilizers. It also markets livestock and grain. Formerly, UCO marketed dairy and poultry products, but most of this type of business was transferred to a new co-operative, the United Dairy and Poultry Co-operative Limited, organized in 1958. Nevertheless, UCO operates a poultry-processing plant and contracts with producers for its supply of broilers and turkeys.

Federated Co-operatives Limited provides consumer goods, petroleum products, fertilizers and other farm supplies to local co-operatives throughout Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and part of northwestern Ontario. This co-operative was originally formed by amalgamation of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Wholesale Society and Consumers Co-operative Refineries Ltd. It has spread from Saskatchewan to other provinces by amalgamation with the co-operative wholesales serving those areas.

The provincial and regional wholesales in 1940 formed Interprovincial Co-operatives Limited. This central agency co-ordinates the purchases of certain food products, household appliances and farm supplies by consolidating the buying. The co-operative operates a chemical plant in Manitoba, a food plant in British Columbia and a herbicide plant in Saskatchewan. It has control of the "Co-op" label, which is used only on high-standard co-operative products. Sales of "Co-op" products are increasing year by year.

Western Co-operative Fertilizers, organized on a partnership basis by Federated Co-operatives and the Alberta and Saskatchewan wheat pools to supply the fertilizer needs of co-operative members in the Western provinces, was incorporated in February 1964. The plant was built on a 320-acre site near Calgary, Alberta, with an annual production capacity of 225,000 tons and space for future expansion. Its total output was to go to the three partner-members for distribution to local co-operatives. The new plant was officially opened in October 1965 and went into full-scale production a few months later.

Several Canadian co-operatives are members of co-operatives in the United States. The business activities of these organizations include a milking-machine factory, fertilizer plants and other plants for farm supplies in the United States.

Financial Structure

Although the proportion of agricultural products sold through co-operatives has changed little for some years, co-operative buying of farm supplies and consumer goods has continued to expand. This growth has accompanied a rapid increase in the total assets of the co-operative movement. In 1965, marketing and