

has increased at a more rapid rate. Marketing business in 1966 was almost triple that in 1946, but purchasing volume increased more than sixfold in the same period.

The value of grains and seeds marketed by co-operatives in Canada is greater than that of any other commodity. Grains and seeds, and livestock and livestock products, are marketed chiefly in the Prairie Provinces. Dairy products are handled in all provinces except Newfoundland, with Ontario and Quebec together accounting for 52 per cent of the total in 1966.

Farm supplies accounted for the greater part of Canadian co-operative purchases of \$609 million in 1966. The co-operative purchasing of feed is particularly important in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia. Petroleum products are the main commodities purchased co-operatively in the Prairie Provinces.

Co-operative purchasing of some consumer items, especially food, is also large. Even these items are sold mainly to rural people, though in Western Canada co-operative supermarkets serve large numbers of urban people. A number of these city co-operatives were organized by farmers and gradually gained urban support.

Some co-operatives, especially in the Eastern provinces, market a variety of agricultural products and also purchase farm supplies. These, and the purchasing co-operatives, are generally local organizations serving farmers near a trading centre.

A large part of the co-operative marketing in Canada is carried out by province-wide organizations. Each of these assembles, stores and sells a few closely-related commodities; some of them, including most dairy-product and poultry-marketing co-operatives, process as well. Most of the grain and livestock marketed through co-operatives is processed by other firms, though some co-operatives do their own. For example, the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool operates a flour mill, and much of the livestock marketed in Quebec is processed in the packing plants of La Coopérative Fédérée. There are co-operative abattoirs in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Manitoba. Likewise honey, oilseeds, maple syrup, fruits and vegetables are processed in some co-operative plants.

A few marketing and purchasing co-operatives operate on an interprovincial basis. The United Grain Growers Limited has elevators throughout Western Canada and terminals on the Great Lakes and in Vancouver. Canadian Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited represents the three provincial wheat-pools. Through it, the three member wheat-pools consider programs and policies common to each of them and to the many thousands of grain producers in the Prairie Provinces.

Canadian Co-operative Implements Limited is an independent, farmer-owned association with its head office in Winnipeg. It was set up in 1940 to manufacture and distribute farm machinery. Its membership extends over the Prairie Provinces and northwestern Ontario. Sales of machinery by the company in 1966 were \$20 million.