

A number of the larger co-operatives either publish or sponsor the publication of periodicals. Six of the larger publications, one in French, are bi-monthly; others appear monthly in both languages. A digest of co-operative news and information of general interest is issued quarterly. One weekly newspaper of general interest and one farm magazine are also sponsored by large co-operatives.

Co-operative Development in the North

The Co-operative Development Program, which was started in the Canadian North in 1959, has met with the interest of the local people. On April 1, 1966, there were 22 co-operatives in operation in the Northwest Territories and northern Quebec. Another eight groups were in the formative stage.

Total sales of these co-operatives are now in excess of \$1 million, with some of the individual co-operatives at the \$100,000 level. Though Arctic co-operatives were heavily dependent on outside capital for their initial development, members' equity in total assets now exceeds outstanding debt by some \$300,000.

The social impact these co-operatives have made, in helping the people of the North to recognize more fully the importance of their role in their own affairs, has been at least as significant as the economic benefits achieved.

Apart from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the governments of Quebec and the Northwest Territories are now providing assistance to a number of co-operative developments in northern Quebec and the Territories. The Co-operative Union of Canada and the Conseil de la Coopération du Québec are also participating in co-operative development in the North.