

have total assets of more than \$190 billion. Specialized investment firms handle longer-term capital requirements.

International operations of Canada's chartered banks are worldwide in scope. They provide services and facilities for many kinds of investment, financial and commercial activities. Canadian banks have approximately 300 branches and agencies abroad and operate through an almost equal number of representative offices and branches of subsidiary and affiliated banks.

Co-operative unions known as "co-ops" or *caisses populaires* are also important sources of finance. They control \$20 billion in assets and have almost eight million members (equalling 75 per cent of the labour force). Other types of co-operatives market agricultural produce and fish (70 per cent of Canada's grain crops and 60 per cent of dairy products), purchase and sell farm merchandise and operate insurance companies.