





Co-operation in Denmark

municipalities the power to make loans, and of the Credit Society for industrial estates founded in 1898 with the object of giving loans throughout Denmark to owners of industrial estates within a limit of 50 per cent of the appraised value. The society has two bond issues at four and five per cent, respectively, which in 1912 totalled rather over \$2,000,000. It is bound by law to have reserve funds and bank guarantees amounting in all to not less than 10 per cent, of its total liabilities.

Finally, since 1895 a number of mortgage associations have been founded for the purpose of granting loans on second mortgage up to three-fourths of the value of the property with an amortization period of 25 to 30 years. There are now nine of these societies with loans totalling about \$20,000,000. The total mortgage loans outstanding in 1913 seem to have been about \$400,000,000.

Savings Banks Furnish Short Credits

It will be thus be seen that in the matter

It will be thus be seen that in the matter of long term mortgage credit the Danish population of all classes is exceptionally spil cared for. We come now to the less emportant organization of short term credit. It is in this matter that Denmark does not seem to have followed the precedent set by many other European countries.

In answering the questions of the American commission, Mr. Cohn, the statistician of the department of agriculture, said that there were not in Denmark any associations similar to the Raiffeisen and Schulze banks of Germany Such associations received in 1898 a government loan of \$250,000 and made loans from this fund, which were well appreciated, for a few years, but no further contribution was forthcoming and the farmers were not asked for deposits to the scheme died out, and in 1908 the loans were recalled, within two years, by an act of parliament. The defect of these societies seems to have been their complete subservience to the government. The only money available was the state loan, which was granted at three per cent and reloaned at not more than four and a half per cent. Deposits on outside loans were not allowed, so that the only method of increasing the capital was by the formation of a reserve fund out of profits which would obviously have been a very slow process. The liability was collective and unlike a month after the old one was repaid. Loans could not exceed \$12,50 per head of cattle owned by the horrower, and where the society had no money in hand except the state's original loan it must be limited by rule and the rules mist also provide against the use of outside capital. The loans were granted for nine months only and no new loan was allowed until a month after the old one was repaid. Loans could not exceed \$12,50 per head of cattle owned by the horrower, and where the society had no money in hand except the state's original loan it must be limited by rule and the rules mist deposits, which have leen so much amplemental to be successed the opinion that no further faci

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