

Section 11.—The Co-operative Movement in Canada.

A general article on "The Co-operative Movement in Canada" appeared at pp. 704-720 of the 1925 edition of the Year Book under the three sub-headings of "Consumers' Co-operation", "Co-operative Credit", and "Producers' Co-operation".¹ Because of the pressure upon space, this article is not reprinted here, but a digest of the latest available material on each of these three sub-divisions of co-operation follows.

Subsection 1.—Consumers' Co-operation.

The co-operative store was first introduced into Canada by miners who had had experience of co-operation in Great Britain. The first co-operative store was opened at Stellarton, N.S., in 1861, and continued to do business until 1916. Many similar ventures were afterwards commenced, but a considerable number failed through their neglect to build up adequate reserve funds. In 1909 the Co-operative Union of Canada was formed, with six affiliated societies and 1,595 members; since October, 1909, it has published a monthly, *The Canadian Co-operator*, from which the following statistics (Table 25) showing the growth of consumers' co-operation in the societies affiliated with the Co-operative Union have been taken.²

25.—Statistics of Co-operative Societies Affiliated with the Co-operative Union of Canada, 1909-31.

NOTE.—No data for the year 1916.

Year.	Societies.	Members.	Share and Loan Capital.	Reserve Funds.	Stock in Trade.	Other Assets.	Sales.	Net Profits.	Purchase Dividends Paid.
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1909	6	1,595	38,460	11,000	53,820	40,882	347,064	-	22,828
1910	9	2,605	97,965	19,994	123,946	85,572	569,311	36,596	28,235
1911	12	3,788	143,781	25,070	168,895	102,968	789,292	44,335	47,338
1912	17	5,000	178,126	31,806	191,122	172,658	1,194,065	88,782	67,256
1913	17	5,822	166,051	42,498	205,800	183,220	1,424,985	78,399	63,442
1914	14	5,810	166,307	36,219	181,867	129,022	1,133,081	73,490	63,881
1915	8	3,239	143,319	21,118	94,672	109,911	657,006	53,279	47,995
1917	13	4,673	248,253	27,941	265,899	145,732	1,264,247	91,070	82,287
1918	12	4,746	301,368	38,257	252,921	169,545	1,488,541	123,363	118,969
1919	15	6,306	360,834	47,463	370,676	208,222	2,132,726	156,870	138,216
1920	20	7,427	394,471	40,419	368,090	306,625	1,465,253	168,904	157,424
1921	14	5,919	374,966	39,001	280,968	243,397	1,190,765	154,713	144,512
1922	12	6,552	450,996	94,781	251,855	286,223	2,166,196	167,321	138,762
1923	7	4,646	381,656	97,591	232,294	286,847	2,249,380	172,972	140,991
1924	14	7,047	516,909	94,856	271,713	445,071	2,675,852	212,493	183,986
1925	16	7,306	512,908	151,701	351,732	484,042	2,792,872	158,140	118,945
1926	20	7,804	616,431	208,449	426,937	660,930	3,358,162	230,535	165,082
1927	24	8,914	673,827	228,504	554,101	778,508	4,481,574	282,777	227,733
1928	33	74,836	3,905,913	2,523,646	1,108,323	13,305,918	8,147,967	1,057,581	253,976
1929	41	10,648 ¹	769,755	484,864	663,476	1,006,628	5,090,560	238,302	238,302
1930	38	10,462	893,561	362,127	617,638	1,124,572	4,828,642	243,884	195,178
1931	37	8,404	595,617	460,798	461,022	1,069,167	3,667,240	193,348	151,435

¹ The decrease in membership is accounted for by the withdrawal of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, Ltd., and the United Grain Growers, Ltd., the non-inclusion of the latter society being also mainly responsible for the decreases in the figures shown in the remaining columns.

The progress shown by the returns from the societies affiliated with the Co-operative Union does not represent the whole growth of the consumers' co-operative movement in Canada. Although the societies affiliated with the Co-operative Union are among the oldest and best established, there is a larger number of con-

² The article referred to above was prepared for the Year Book by Miss Margaret Mackintosh, M.A., of the Department of Labour, Ottawa.

³ For details regarding the Co-operative Union of Canada and its activities, see the 1925 Year Book, pp. 708-709.