

27.—Progress of Co-operative People's Banks in Quebec, 1915, 1920, 1925 and 1930-34.

Year.	Banks Reporting.	Members.	Depositors.	Borrowers.	Loans Granted.	Value of Loans Granted.	Profits Realized.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	\$	\$
1915.....	91	23,614	13,696	6,728	8,983	1,483,160	89,893
1920.....	113	31,752	26,238	9,213	15,390	4,341,544	311,323
1925.....	122	33,279	33,527	9,384	13,682	3,909,790	449,531
1930.....	179	45,767	44,940	14,278	18,857	3,724,537	645,096
1931.....	174	43,641	43,207	13,240	16,203	2,998,046	594,235
1932.....	168	40,933	40,201	12,363	13,283	2,157,886	531,765
1933.....	162	36,470	37,683	10,784	11,407	1,682,551	452,220
1934.....	190	38,811	39,723	11,230	11,295	2,141,762	441,876

Subsection 3.—Agricultural Co-operation in Canada in 1934.*

Co-operative organization forms an integral part of the economic fabric of Canadian agriculture. The activities of the larger organizations such as the wheat pools, live-stock and fruit co-operatives have reached a high stage of development, and have received world-wide recognition. In addition to these are hundreds of comparatively small organizations which are working quietly and effectively to serve local areas.

Available statistics show 697 co-operative associations actively engaged in business in 1934. The 697 associations have 2,604 branches which, combined, make a total of 3,301 places of business engaged in the marketing of farm products and the purchase of supplies for farmers. The shareholders and members financially interested number 341,020 and patrons reported total 378,730. Combined assets total \$105,183,565 with plant and equipment valued at \$38,850,488. The total actual investment of member shareholders in capital stock amounts to \$8,933,425 and reserves and surplus total \$40,943,469. Sales of farm products for the year under review amounted to \$117,783,560. The sales value of supplies handled totalled \$7,991,755 and other revenue \$289,576, which, combined, means a total business of \$126,064,891.

Available records indicate that the most important early activity of farmers in the field of co-operation in Canada was directed toward the marketing of farm products. In comparing the volume of business, marketing associations transact twenty times the business handled by purchasing agencies. Membership in the co-operative marketing associations is given as 312,519 persons compared with 27,328 members in purchasing organizations.

Within the marketing group the grain and seed co-operatives which include the wheat pools of Western Canada have the largest membership and investment, and exceed all other commodity groups in volume of business, which is estimated

*Statistics contained in this review are based on records received by the Economics Branch, Department of Agriculture, in 1935, covering the business year of 1934.