

The Saskatchewan Wheat Pool opened a new flour mill at Saskatoon. Built at a cost of \$3,500,000 this mill will have a capacity of 1,000 bbl. per day.

In the field of production certain co-operative wholesales have for the past few years owned and operated coal mines in Alberta. Recently, three western co-operative wholesales joined in the search for oil in western Canada and in August, 1948, the first co-operative oil well in Canada was brought in. Since that time seven more successful drillings have been made.

The Canadian Co-operative Implements, Limited, set up on a basis of membership through district associations and incorporated under federal charter, has now dissolved the district associations and has been incorporated under a special Act of the Province of Saskatchewan. This company is also registered in the other provinces where business is carried on. Its membership is now about 50,000 in the three Prairie Provinces. It distributes tractors, harvester combines, swathers, tiller combines, tractor mowers, disks, harrows, sleighs, wagon boxes, farm tools and hand implements. Machinery is sold through the local co-operative associations and direct to members when there is no local co-operative. Assembly is done at branches and service is provided by mobile field-service units equipped with all necessary tools and repair parts.

Another major reorganization among Canadian co-operatives took place in December, 1948, when the United Farmers' Co-operative Company, Limited, became United Co-operatives of Ontario. This organization has been the leading farm marketing and supply co-operative in Ontario since 1914. Organized first on a direct individual membership basis the new co-operative is now owned by its local associations.

Interprovincial Co-operatives, Limited, is a federation of eight Canadian regional wholesales, and was organized to consolidate the buying for regional member wholesales of all merchandise handled or arranged for. It may acquire and operate productive and manufacturing facilities and act as distributor for co-operative processing or manufacturing plants. In addition, it controls the "Co-op" label in Canada and safeguards the standards and specifications of goods sold under this label. For the year ended Oct. 31, 1948, Interprovincial Co-operatives, Limited, reported sales of nearly \$4,500,000.

Marketing.—The value of farm products marketed by co-operatives during the crop year ended July 31, 1948, amounted to \$616,347,477, an increase of \$37,709,263 over the total reported for the same period in 1947.

There has been very little change in the percentage of the main farm products in commercial trade handled by the co-operatives. In 1946-47 this change was estimated at 31 p.c. and for 1947-48 at 32 p.c. For the commodities concerned the percentages are as follows, with the previous year indicated in parentheses: dairy products, 22.6 (21.7); live stock, 18.5 (18.2); poultry and eggs, 18.6 (16.6); wool, 68.1 (72.9); grains, 56.2 (51.5); fruits and vegetables, 27.4 (32.1); maple products, 25.1 (11.7); tobacco, 99.0 (87.3); and honey, 6.0 (11.4).

Increases in sales of farm products were reported from all provinces except Nova Scotia, Ontario and Alberta. In Nova Scotia sales declined by over \$1,000,000, attributable to a smaller apple crop and to reduced prices for this commodity. The decrease in the Ontario volume of sales is the result of less complete returns compared with those of the previous year. More accurate reporting from Alberta resulted in lower figures for that Province as a whole since in the previous year sales values of some commodities were over-estimated. New Brunswick reported sales almost double the 1947 figure. This is accounted for by an increase in the