

**39.—Products Handled by Marketing and Purchasing Co-operatives,
Crop Year Ended July 31, 1954**

Product	Associations ¹	Value of Sales
	No.	\$
Marketing	1,033	733,012,042
Dairy products.....	514	133,477,785
Fruit and vegetables.....	124	37,073,061
Grain and seed.....	103	369,821,272
Livestock.....	303	104,467,181
Eggs and poultry.....	216	22,720,125
Lumber and wood.....	31	1,543,179
Honey.....	7	1,376,630
Wool.....	18	1,963,108
Fur.....	9	626,637
Tobacco.....	6	56,238,105
Maple products.....	3	2,699,514
Miscellaneous.....	49	1,005,445
Merchandising	1,723	234,583,125
Food products.....	802	63,858,547
Clothing and home furnishings.....	539	9,779,690
Petroleum products and auto accessories.....	694	32,126,610
Feed, fertilizer and spray material.....	828	77,062,758
Machinery and equipment.....	391	12,088,107
Coal, wood and building material.....	646	17,985,531
Miscellaneous.....	1,061	21,681,882
Totals	2,086	967,595,167

¹ Duplication exists in this column as some associations market produce as well as handle supplies. Some associations market more than one product and some handle many of the supplies listed.

Service co-operatives (other than life, fire and casualty insurance) numbered 418 in 1954 and reported a membership of 157,897 and services rendered to the amount of \$11,064,702. Such co-operatives provide housing, medical insurance, transportation, recreation facilities, telephone, printing, custom grinding, seed cleaning, and trucking facilities and there are some co-operative restaurants and boarding houses. In Saskatchewan over 200 community service co-operatives reported functions such as recreation, curling, skating and maintaining community halls but statistics covering these activities are not included with those of other service co-operatives because no business is transacted.

Co-operatives marketing fish and fish products operate in every province except Alberta and Manitoba. In 1954, 86 fishermen's co-operatives reported a membership of 11,679, sales of fish at \$14,915,246 and sales of supplies at \$2,771,827. Co-operatives handled about 9 p.c. of the total commercial fish marketings in Canada in 1954. The largest volume of business was handled by co-operatives in British Columbia, followed by Nova Scotia and Quebec.

Eleven co-operative wholesales operated in Canada in 1954, most of them engaged in supplying merchandise to their local co-operative members. In the eastern provinces, from Ontario to the Maritimes, they also act as central marketing agencies for farm products such as livestock, dairy products and wool but do very little processing or manufacturing, except of dairy products. In the west, co-operative wholesales operate coal mines, oil refineries, grease and oil blending plants and lumber mills but do not act as central marketing agencies for farm products. In the crop year ended July 31, 1954 they sold farm products valued at \$51,907,365 and supplies and merchandise amounting to \$96,850,083.

Farmers' mutual fire insurance companies today play an important role in the insurance field in Canada. In 1953 there were 402 of these in operation, having a net amount of insurance at risk of \$3,264,000,000. Co-operative life insurance is offered by at least three organizations and others specialize in automobile insurance, mutual benefit, fire and casualty insurance, hail insurance, fidelity and guarantee bonding, and marine insurance. In addition medical insurance is offered by 42 co-operatives, data for which are included in the service co-operative category.