

37.—Native Wine Produced and Placed in Storage for Maturing, 1951-57

Year	Ontario		Other Provinces		Total	
	gal.	\$	gal.	\$	gal.	\$
1951	4,182,767	2,729,147	494,288	407,849	4,677,055	3,136,996
1952	4,383,358	2,764,750	552,694	440,864	4,936,052	3,205,614
1953	3,562,498	2,237,316	572,692	430,574	4,135,190	2,667,890
1954	4,414,981	2,688,060	640,183	510,464	5,055,164	3,198,524
1955	5,059,418	3,059,868	624,670	480,491	5,684,088	3,540,359
1956	4,945,429	2,880,176	528,447	415,763	5,473,876	3,295,939
1957	4,746,998	3,151,865	656,510	437,243	5,403,508	3,589,108

Section 4.—Co-operative Organizations*

Marketing and purchasing co-operatives play an important role in the marketing of agricultural products and in the purchasing of supplies for farm people in Canada. During 1956-57, the membership of such co-operatives increased by 108,000 to a total of over 1,300,000. It is probable that the great majority of farm families in most provinces are members of one or more marketing and purchasing co-operatives, though membership is not prevalent among rural non-farm and urban families.

The number of co-operative associations and places of business declined during 1956-57 mainly as a result of amalgamations and changes in organization; total business, which amounted to \$1,126,000,000 for the year, represented a small increase over 1955-56. In both years, co-operatives accounted for 30.5 p.c. of the total value of farm products marketed in Canada. Sales of farm products by the marketing and purchasing group showed little change in 1957 over 1956, amounting to \$825,000,000 in the later year. Grains and seeds valued at \$377,000,000 made up 46 p.c. of the total value of farm products marketed and sales of livestock and dairy products together reached an almost equal amount. Eggs and poultry constituted the third largest item, with sales amounting to \$39,000,000.

Among the provinces, Saskatchewan and Alberta recorded the greatest value of produce marketed, amounting to \$224,000,000 and \$143,000,000 respectively. Grains make up a large proportion of the co-operative marketing in these two provinces. Ontario, with almost half the co-operative livestock sales, was in third place and Quebec, which markets a much larger volume of dairy products and eggs and poultry through co-operatives than any other province, was fourth.

Co-operative sales of merchandise and supplies to members amounted to \$284,000,000 in 1957, an increase of \$25,000,000 over the previous year; feed and fertilizer represented 35 p.c. of the total. In this type of business, Quebec co-operatives led the provinces with sales of \$68,000,000, followed closely by Saskatchewan and Ontario.

Members' equity in their marketing and purchasing co-operatives increased by \$15,000,000 during 1957 and an increase of \$3,000,000 was recorded in liabilities to members.

The local co-operatives are served by ten wholesale associations which are owned and controlled by their respective member co-operatives. These wholesale associations had assets amounting to \$58,000,000 in 1957, varying from \$25,000,000 for the largest to \$81,000 for the smallest. Total sales of supplies and farm products by these wholesales amounted to \$219,000,000 in 1957, a figure \$7,000,000 higher than in the previous year.

There are, in addition, numerous co-operative associations operating in various service fields, 770 of which reported their activities in 1957. These reporting associations had a total membership of 255,188 and assets amounting to \$72,325,533. Their services included provision of housing, rural electrification, medical insurance, transportation, recreation facilities, custom grinding, seed cleaning, operation of farm machinery, leasing of grazing land, restaurant operation, and other services.

* Prepared under the direction of the Deputy Minister, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.