

rose by 18.7% from \$178.5 million in 1973 to \$211.9 million in 1974. Rental income increased 7.9% from \$106.9 million to \$115.3 million. Of the \$1,316.0 million, \$420.5 million was accounted for by repair and consumable parts. The largest single item in terms of dollar sales was crawler-type tractors: 2,956 units entered the market for a value totalling \$162.0 million. Sales of new equipment by distributors totalled \$969.7 million, while sales by manufacturers amounted to \$120.5 million.

Diesel and natural gas engine sales. In 1975, 19,328 diesel engine units were sold in Canada, a decrease of 21.2% from the 24,515 sold in 1974 (Table 18.24). In addition, 18,891 engine units were exported or re-exported as compared to 13,985 in 1974. In 1975, 1,115 natural gas engines were sold in Canada, including 19 units which were exported.

18.1.5 Cooperatives

In 1974 the gross business volume of Canadian cooperatives boomed and reached \$4,930 million, \$1,366 million or 38% over the previous year. Grain marketing volume led the way with an unprecedented jump of \$846 million, or 76%, powered by runaway world wheat prices. Other farm product marketings were also up but at a less spectacular rate. Supply sales climbed at a very high rate of 31%. Service revenue and other income recorded a combined gain of 28% for the period. Dollar totals for the four broad categories of cooperative business volume were: farm product marketings, \$3,229 million; supply sales, \$1,558 million; service revenue \$103 million; and other income, \$40 million.

Cooperatives covered here exclude recreational (such as community halls and rinks), financial (credit unions) and those run by native peoples. Those included are classified by their primary function into four main groups: marketing and purchasing (the largest), service, fishermen's and wholesales. The service group is frequently subdivided into service and production. Production cooperatives provide services directly related to agricultural production such as artificial breeding, or are directly involved in production such as cooperative farming. The first three groups are known as "local" cooperatives since they deal directly with individual members; the wholesale cooperatives perform wholesaling functions for the locals.

Assets of the locals appreciated at an almost unheard of rate of 52%. The tremendous upsurge in the value of grain inventory accounted for more than half the \$786 million gain. The number of reporting associations rose slightly during the year with the incorporation of some new cooperatives in Quebec outweighing the downward trend in most of the other provinces. Membership totals rose almost 100,000 or about 5%. The largest increases occurred in British Columbia, in the area of health insurance, followed by Quebec which experienced an increase generally and Alberta, in the area of gas utilities and livestock marketing.

For 1974, business volume of marketing and purchasing cooperatives climbed at a slightly higher rate, 40%, than overall cooperative volume and at a substantially greater rate than the previous year's 28%. All provinces shared in the huge gain which brought total revenues to \$4,770 million (Table 18.25). Marketing of farm products by this group of cooperatives crossed the \$3 billion mark for the first time at \$3,143 million, a jump of 44% in the year. Grains and seeds, as mentioned above, was the outstanding commodity group in this banner year, providing \$845 million of the \$967 million increase. Dairy revenues rose across the country with ever-rising production costs pushing up prices. Fruit and vegetable cooperatives prospered, most notably in British Columbia, which produced a bumper crop at a time of low world production and consequent higher prices. Livestock volume declined about 9% on lower marketings and lower prices in the West for both hogs and feeder cattle. Poultry and egg volume was slightly ahead. An increased cooperative share of the market in Quebec was offset by the sale of a large cooperative poultry processing operation in British Columbia to private interests. Marketing results of other commodities were mixed and in total