



Agricultural Co-operative

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE 11 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 9PA

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No. 1 1970

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INTERNATIONAL

IFAP 17th GENERAL CONFERENCE

The 17th General Conference of IFAP was held in Tokyo in late October and early November 1969. The Conference declared that there are four key issues facing farmers today.

- (1) How is a reasonable balance between demand and supply of food to be achieved?
- (2) How can agriculture make necessary changes in its structure, smoothly and fairly, to the conditions required by modern production?
- (3) How can farmers obtain better incomes and standards of living in line with the rising standards of living?
- (4) How to distribute better and more usefully the food farmers produce, and how to achieve better and more rational use of production sources?

Agricultural Co-operative Movements in Developing Countries

The Standing Committee on Agricultural Co-operation also held its session during the Conference. It received the IFAP Study Session on Structural Problems of Agricultural Co-operatives, held in Bruges, Belgium, in April 1969 (and reported on in Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin No. 5 1969). It also received statements from FAO, ICA and AARRO observers covering recent activities and broad future objectives of their respective organisations with regard to the promotion of agricultural co-operatives in developing countries. The Committee then considered the report it had before it on the Second Consultation of African Co-operative Leaders held in Nairobi, Kenya, in June 1969 under the joint auspices of FAO, ILO, ECA, IFAP and ICA. It also heard a preliminary account of the FAO/IFAP second Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Farmers' Organisations in Asia being held at the same time in Malaysia.

Discussion revealed that though in most developing countries agricultural development was based upon the principles and objectives of co-operation, serious problems arose in the implementation of such policies. Some of these problems, directly related to environmental, economic, social and human conditions such as prevailed in the developing regions of the world, could only be solved on a long-term basis through the application of appropriate technical, economic, educational and investment policies supported by external aid programmes.

However, more disquieting are problems of an economic and sociological character which are more directly related to the place and role of co-operatives within the overall concept of agricultural development. It is apparent that in a majority of developing countries there is not always the unity nor the continuity of purpose within Governments which were essential conditions of success in relation to co-operative development. Sometimes this was due to the pressing needs of immediate economic and financial difficulties, sometimes because of insufficient familiarity with the requirements of sound co-operative development, or even to lack of faith in the chances of the co-operative movements to become viable. Often, too, the lack of adequate legislative provisions actually defeated any attempts at sound co-operative development. These and other findings were largely the result of activities carried out jointly by FAO, ILO, ICA, IFAP and other international organisations, in particular of the two Consultations of African Co-operative Leaders held in 1967 and 1969.

Appreciation was expressed of the fact that the FAO/ILO/ICA/IFAP/IFPAAW Joint Programme would enable the participating organisations to carry out concerted action in support of co-operative movements in developing countries and that in particular the studies which the Second Consultation of African Leaders had recommended would soon be undertaken. It welcomed the statement made by the ICA observer that the ICA was anxious to have the closest co-operation with IFAP. It noted that ICA had earmarked funds for a study on the possibility of establishing an international Guarantee Fund for Agricultural Credit through Co-operatives, and it felt confident that regular consultations between the Secretariats of ICA and IFAP would eliminate any possibility of duplication between the Agricultural Committee of ICA and the Standing Committee on Agricultural Co-operation of IFAP.

The Standing Committee requested that the "Joint Programme" should be used to eliminate any possibility of diverging views between the participating organisations regarding the underlying principles of co-operative development and that technical assistance experts should be made available on demand to help with the training of farmers.

ICA Activities

In a report on ICA activities in the field of inter-co-operative trade, primarily in South-East Asia, Mr. Weeraman, head of the ICA Regional Office in New Delhi, noted that with the exception of Japan, New Zealand and Australia, international trade by co-operatives constitutes only a marginal proportion of total trade. Inter-co-operative trade is even less significant. The report noted several reasons for this situation, including the lack of experience and management skill. Restrictive government procedures only add to the difficulties of breaking through often well-established trade channels. Often foreign trade is handled by marketing boards or similar arrangements, thus preventing co-operatives from entering this field of activity.

Following the ICA Conference in Lausanne (1960), where it was emphasised that the development of foreign trade by co-operatives should be an essential part of the long-term Technical Assistance Programme, a concerted effort has been made by the ICA Regional Office to provide data on trade potential to

co-operative organisations. A major effort in this direction was a regional survey by Mr. W. Eisenberg, "Trading of co-operatives" South-East Asia, (published by I.C.A. in 1964), which revealed considerable scope for co-operative trade expansion in the region. ICA also published a Co-operative Trade Directory for South-East Asia. Several conferences on the subject have been held and others are planned.

In this connection, the Committee expressed the hope that co-operatives in developed countries who trade with countries in South-East Asia should look for opportunities to combine such trade with technical assistance to co-operative organisations in the region.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA

In 1969 the Economic Commission for Latin America (of ECOSOC), in conjunction with the FAO, prepared a report on "Agricultural Development in Latin America", as part of the preparation for the Second United Nations Development Decade. It was presented at the 13th Session of the ECLA in Lima, Peru, in April. Some comments on the present and potential role of co-operatives are summarised here.

In many countries, according to the above-mentioned Report, co-operative associations have demonstrated the benefits derived from programmes of action devised and implemented in common, without loss of that minimum of individual independence, which is one of the essential characteristics of the peasantry. Accordingly, this might well be one of the most important organisational patterns for Latin American agriculture in the future. A beginning might be made with simple bases of association (credit facilities, purchase of inputs, technical training, sale of produce, etc.), to be followed by more complex undertakings, such as joint programming of production, use of community equipment, etc. This could be followed up by the formation of federations or other types of second-grade organisations through which more complex problems - such as marketing, establishment of processing industries, etc. - could be tackled.

In some instances, poultry-rearing, pig-breeding, market gardening, among others, the formation of individual family units might be justifiable. In others, the collective farming of State-owned land would perhaps be expedient. In specific areas it is even conceivable that transfers might be effected on the basis of appropriate leasing regulations, supplemented by tax and credit provisions, whereby under-privileged groups could be encouraged to make use of abandoned or inefficiently farmed land.

In short, there are many possible organisational patterns, which may exist side by side in the same country or internal region, as circumstances dictate. What is important is to stress the principle of flexibility that should govern the formulation and implementation of agrarian reform programmes. It is clear from the foregoing remarks that co-operative patterns will be likely to predominate; but an essential prerequisite will be the gradual adaptation and motivation of the peasantry with a view to overcoming their natural leaning towards extreme individualism, which has its origins in their long years of physical and cultural isolation under the traditional systems of rural society.

CEYLON

PROPOSED CO-OPERATIVE CANNED FISH FACTORY IN CEYLON

On the request of the International Co-operative Alliance and particularly of the Fisheries Sub-Committee of the Agricultural Committee, the "Confédération des Organismes de Crédit Maritime Mutuel" set up an information mission to study the conditions under which a fish canning industry could be created in Ceylon. The Mission's task was to study all the technical, economic and financial problems created by the need to erect a fish canning factory, and it also had to select a site for the factory. The Mission was in Ceylon from April 26th to May 9th, 1969, and was composed of Mr. F. Gloaguen and Mr. J. Henaff, Chairman and Manager respectively of the "Armement Coopératif Artisanal Finistérien", and Mr. H. de Canson, Director of the "Pêches Maritimes" at the Caisse Centrale de Crédit Coopératif. Mr. Campleman of the FAO also accompanied the French Mission as an observer, and facilitated contacts with professional and administrative organisations in Ceylon, and provided much help to the Mission.

The Mission, in its report, stated that there were two main arguments which speak for the setting up of a co-operative canned fish factory (for sardines) in Ceylon:

- (1) Sufficient resources to feed the factory; and
- (2) Annual imports of fish which amount to a quantity ten times as big as the output of the proposed factory.

The total estimated cost of the factory would be about U.S. \$260,000. This cost includes civil engineering and technical assistance for the cannery. The cost for the plant in foreign exchange, about \$120,000, must be obtained from abroad, most likely on commercial terms.

Technical assistance for the cannery amounts to \$43,705. It is suggested that this assistance should be requested either by the United Nations Agencies or by national government organisations involved in bilateral aid, such as S.I.D.A., U.S. AID, etc., in order not to increase the foreign exchange request for a commercial loan.

According to the recommendations of the Mission, the setting up of the factory with technical assistance (as explained above) should be the first phase of a programme which should eventually lead to the foundation of a large-scale canned fish industry in Ceylon (sardines, tuna, shrimp).

It is hoped that after a year of operation, a multi-purpose second-hand boat could be bought to catch sardines even in bad weather. This would increase the output of the factory, and pay for itself, and would be the first step from primitive methods of fishing to a more technical advanced stage, with weather conditions duly surmounted and thereby the first foundations for a successful sardine programme are created.

Long-Term Projects

Apart from the Mission's report, readers will also be interested in knowing that as the sea around Ceylon is rich in tuna, present and future marketing

prospects are excellent. Several suggestions have been made from various sources, including the possible loan of a long liner by the Ceylon Fisheries Corporation, and equipped for tuna fishing; the creation of a training programme for tuna fishing; and the use of frozen tuna. The tuna project could thus mean a serious step towards fisheries becoming an export industry in Ceylon. The last phase, including the Lagoon shrimp programme, integrated with the tuna and sardine programme, could grow ultimately into a large-scale fish industry in Ceylon, one which might include not only fishing, but also breeding.

JAPAN

PRESENT PROBLEMS OF AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES

We have from time to time reported in the Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin on events in Japan, as one of the leading countries in agricultural co-operation. The following information on current problems and developments in the Japanese agricultural co-operatives has been obtained from the May-June 1969 edition of Ceres, the FAO Review. The author, Yokinory Miyahara, formerly with the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, is Senior Researcher with the Institute of Asian Economic Affairs in Tokyo.

Recent Changes in Business Practices of Agricultural Co-operatives

The co-operatives' past heavy emphasis on rice is now being re-examined, and consideration is being given to strengthening the activities of specialised co-operatives. As a result, the share of vegetables, fruit, milk, etc. in the total value of products handled by agricultural co-operatives has markedly increased, especially in tangerines and milk. However, 50% of the total value of vegetables and 30% of fruits are still marketed by individual producers, and it can be said that agricultural co-operatives have been unable to adapt themselves adequately to the changing pattern of agricultural production.

There is also increasing pressure for realising the advantages of "mass transaction". Agricultural co-operatives have been called upon to assist farmers in their efforts to modernise farming and enlarge their scale of farm operations, e.g. in standardisation and packaging of farm products, large-scale purchases of feeds and fertilisers from large plants with newer means of storage and transportation. To help individual farmers intending to enlarge their cultivated acreage, farm land trusts were introduced to facilitate the acquisition of new plots of lands.

Agricultural co-operatives have also been encouraged to promote the setting up of agricultural producers' corporations, to enlarge the scale of their farm operations. Agricultural co-operatives or their federation have often created estates where farmers could jointly raise livestock, fruits or vegetables, or undertake work needing large machines. The increase of "part-time" farmers has also increased the need for co-operatives to change the nature of their business. Such farmers want to obtain consumers' goods as cheaply as possible, and at the same price as urban people, rather than having their farm products sold at higher prices.

In response to this, agricultural co-operatives are directing more efforts to the purchasing of consumers' goods and setting up retail stores or rendering various services to consumers. Also, as farmers' income from part-time jobs or from sale of farmlands (for reconversion to home or factory sites) increased, co-operatives have sought to absorb these funds in the form of deposited savings and to operate them profitably, even if this did not always suit the traditional notion of credit business of an agricultural co-operative.

Current Problems in Japan's Agriculture affecting Co-operatives

Such problems are the following: (1) Amending the Agricultural Land Law to facilitate an enlargement of cultivated acreage of individual farm households; (2) the question of realising the advantage of a collective management of a part of farm operations as a matter of agricultural policy; and (3) the need for reorientation of the farm price policy and modernisation of their market system.

Efforts have been made to promote the establishment of an overall financial institution to accommodate funds required for setting up producers' estates to raise livestock and vegetables and for accelerating the modernisation of farming. Improvement of farmlands through more adequate irrigation and drainage, as well as through re-adjustment of cultivated fields, has been progressing in line with the requirement for an expanded scale of farming as well as for a selective expansion of agricultural production.

Types of Agricultural Co-operatives in Japan

As of March 1967 there were 20,651 agricultural co-operatives in Japan, of which 7,209 were "general co-operatives", operating a variety of businesses concerning all aspects of the household economy of member farmers (e.g., extension of credits, selling and purchasing of agricultural products as well as of goods and materials needed by farmers, etc.). The others were "specialised co-operatives", involving stockbreeding, sericulture, horticulture, etc. In all, there were, as of 1966, 5.5 million farm households in Japan.

Organisation of Agricultural Co-operatives

There are three levels of such co-operatives: general agricultural co-operatives at the village-town-city level; prefectural federations (economic federations, credit federations, mutual benefit federations, central unions of agricultural co-operatives, etc.); national federation. Management of the organisation at each level is carried out by directors elected by their members and in accordance with their decisions. Thus the agricultural co-operatives on the strength of their organised force have been active in revising and stabilising prices of farm products, in purchasing goods and materials needed for farming and farmers' livelihood at favourable prices, in rendering financial services to member-farmers, etc.

The average number of regular member households per general agricultural co-operative, which had stood at 471 in 1961, increased to 721 in 1966. In this connection, it should be remembered that the government's policy for enlarging the scope of activities of the agricultural co-operatives through enactment in 1961 of a "Law for the Promotion of Annexation of Agricultural Co-operatives" has played a part in inducing such progress.

KENYA

CO-OPERATIVE DAIRY PRODUCTION SHOWS CONTINUED GROWTH

The Kenya Co-operative Creameries' (KCC) report for 1968-69 reflected another excellent year, and possibly the most encouraging figure was the record combined intake of milk and butterfat expressed as gallons of milk, the figure being just over 47 million gallons - an increase of over 5% over 1967-68. The yearly intake has been increasing steadily, and the milk intake in itself topped the 29 million gallon mark. Despite the increase of milk, supplies of butterfat also increased.

The Kenya Co-operative Creameries are increasing the capacities of the factories at Eldort and Nakuru, and it is probable that in 1970-71 there will be no limitation on the amount of milk supplied by farmers. This will result in the supplies of butterfat (in the form of cream) dropping to a very low level. However, the KCC will still be manufacturing large quantities of butter, as they will be processing the cream derived from the separation of milk used in the manufacture of spray skim milk.

Liquid milk sales showed a further increase of 2.5%. The Uganda dairy industry is making great efforts to become more self-sufficient in liquid milk, and there was a marked drop in sales. Sales of milk in Kenya were significantly higher, probably as a result of a sales promotion drive. Sales of manufactured milk products were also very satisfactory, and sales of milk powder - both skim and whole - increased by 23% during the year, and were 100% higher than sales in 1966-67.

Good sales of liquid and manufactured milk, together with the record production, brought the turnover of the Company, for the first time in its history, to well over £7 million and the payout was a new record level of just under £5 million.

The determination to put the co-operative in the position of being able to accept and process all milk that suppliers wish to send, is reflected in this year's capital expenditure, which totalled £657,000 - spent mainly on the expansion of milk-handling capacity, the construction of the company's new factory at Kiganjo, and the erection of the company's new head office.

PANAMA

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FOSTERS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WITH \$6.4 MILLION LOAN

In November 1968 the Inter-American Development Bank announced the approval of two loans totalling \$6.4 million to help improve farm and livestock production and expand grain marketing facilities in Panama. The loans were made to the Instituto de Fomento Económico (IFE), the governmental agency in charge of carrying out Panama's agricultural development plans.

Proceeds of the loans will be used to help finance the first stage of a credit programme for small- and medium-scale farmers and ranchers throughout the country, and to expand IFE's storage and marketing facilities for such basic grains as rice, corn and beans.

Total cost of the first-stage project is estimated at \$12.7 million, of which the Bank loans will provide 50.3%, IFE 28%, and the beneficiaries the remaining 21.7%.

Under the programme, credits will be extended to about 2,200 small-scale and 800 medium-scale producers over a four-year period to finance the purchase of farm and ranch machinery, pure-bred beef and dairy cattle, hogs and poultry; the preparation of lands, and fixed improvements on farms producing rice, corn, beans, vegetables, tomatoes, and oil-yielding seeds. The amounts of credit will range from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for individual borrowers and up to \$100,000 for agricultural co-operatives.

Some of the money will be used by IFE to enlarge existing marketing facilities or build new ones, in order to increase storage capacity for grains. Some will be used to provide technical assistance to help IFE carry out production cost studies for basic grains; determine the location and design of new storage facilities; and expand or remodel existing plants.

Agricultural production accounts for 25% of Panama's gross domestic product. But because largely of the lack of modern machinery and production techniques and the shortage of adequate storage facilities, some 30% of Panama's most important crop (rice) has been lost. As a result, the Government of Panama has given high priority to agricultural development, allocating 17% of its total public investment to this sector during the 1969-1972 period.

U.S.A.

FORD FOUNDATION LENDS \$1½ MILLION TO CATTLE CO-OPERATIVE

The Ford Foundation is providing a \$1.5 million loan for a New Mexico - Colorado co-operative and a \$100,000 grant for a federally subsidised project in Mississippi, both of which focus on the growth and sale of cattle. It hopes to improve economic conditions for struggling ranchers and impoverished Negro farmers.

In New Mexico and Colorado, the South-Southwestern Products Co-operative will use the \$1.5 million loan to build and operate a cattle-feeding facility and eventually a packing plant "which will eliminate the middleman who gets most of the profits from beef", according to B. P. Atterbury, a Foundation staff member. Mr. Atterbury told a New York Times reporter that the idea of the co-operative had evolved from the concern of English-speaking ranchers over tensions in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado between landless citizens and themselves over the economic decline of the area and the "big bite of the middleman."

The \$100,000 Foundation grant in Mississippi will provide annual stipends of \$1,000 to 80 farmer trainees from two counties who are participating in a beef-raising demonstration project subsidised mainly by the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity. The project emphasised the conversion of cropland to pasturage.

ZAMBIA

SWITCH IN EMPHASIS IN ZAMBIAN CO-OPS

A major change in Zambian Government policy towards co-operatives was announced recently by President Kaunda of Zambia, when he opened the national co-operative conference in Lusaka, on "The place of co-operatives in rural development".

The President said that there would be a switch in emphasis from agricultural co-operatives to service and general purposes co-operatives. In future, financial contributions would have to come from co-operative members, and only when the co-operative was well-organised would the government provide loans or guarantees.

Agricultural co-operatives, according to President Kaunda, had proved difficult to operate successfully. Such co-operatives required more sophisticated relations between members than any other type of co-operative. The special emphasis that had been placed on the development of agricultural co-operative societies should be replaced by a more flexible method of approach in the direction of service co-operatives.

Earlier in his address President Kaunda had emphasised the need to organise general purpose co-operatives in carefully selected village communities. These would form a pattern for wider development in other rural areas, where village farmers required marketing services.

He also stressed the value of credit unions and praised the voluntary organisations which had started to get them under way in Zambia. The President expressed the gratitude of Zambian co-operators to the International Co-operative Alliance for their financial and technical assistance in organising the conference.

RESUME FRANCAIS

Nouvelles internationales - 17ème Conférence Générale de la F.I.P.A.

Résumé est donné des principaux sujets examinés à la 17ème Conférence Générale de la F.I.P.A., tenue à Tokyo à la fin de 1969. Le Comité permanent de cette organisation au titre de la coopération agricole a siégé en même temps avec, à son ordre du jour, la question des mouvements coopératifs agricoles dans les pays en voie de développement. Satisfaction a été exprimée à l'égard des activités du programme en commun FAO-OIT-ACI-FIPA. Ont été également évoquées les activités de l'A.C.I. dans le domaine du commerce intercoopératif.

Nouvelles internationales - Le développement de l'agriculture en Amérique latine

Extrait est donné du rapport concerté établi par la FAO et la Commission économique pour l'Amérique latine (dépendant de l'ECOSOC) et concernant le rôle actuel et en perspective des coopératives dans le développement agricole en Amérique latine. Le rapport déclare que les sociétés coopératives compteront très probablement parmi les plus importantes structures d'organisation de l'agriculture de l'Amérique latine de demain.

Ceylan - Project de construction d'une conserverie coopérative de poisson à Ceylan

Compte-rendu détaillé est donné de la mission détachée à Ceylan par la Confédération des Organismes de Crédit Maritime Mutuel, à la demande de l'Alliance Coopérative Internationale et de son Comité des pêches, pour étudier les possibilités de création d'une industrie de conserverie de poisson. L'article s'étend sur certains des aspects financiers qu'entraînerait cette installation et souligne l'importance d'une telle création (pour les sardines).

Japon - Les problèmes actuels des coopératives agricoles

Synthèse est donnée d'un article paru dans Ceres, la revue de la FAO, sur la situation et les problèmes actuels des coopératives agricoles japonaises. Ce texte renferme des détails sur les changements survenus récemment dans les pratiques commerciales des coopératives agricoles, sur les présents problèmes de l'agriculture japonaise affectant les coopératives, sur les divers types de coopératives agricoles au Japon et sur l'organisation des coopératives agricoles.

Kenya - Croissance régulière de la production des coopératives laitières

Le rapport annuel de la Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) pour 1968-69 révèle que l'année a été excellente pour la production laitière. Certains détails sont donnés sur les progrès de différents types de denrées ainsi que sur les projets d'expansion.

Panama - Encouragement au développement de l'agriculture à l'aide d'un prêt de 6,4 millions de dollars de la Banque inter-américaine du développement

La Banque inter-américaine du développement a approuvé en novembre l'octroi de deux prêts d'un total de 6,4 millions de dollars destinés à faire progresser la production de l'agriculture et du bétail et à étendre les services de commercialisation des céréales au Panama. Ces prêts sont accordés à la fois aux coopératives

agricoles et aux particuliers. La rémunération servira à financer le premier stade de mise en action d'un programme de crédit pour les exploitations agricoles et les ranches de petite et moyenne dimensions ainsi qu'à développer les installations et services d'entreposage de l'Instituto de Fomento Economico pour les céréales de base telles que le riz, le blé et les haricots.

Etats-Unis - La Fondation Ford prête 1,5 millions de dollars à des coopératives de bétail

La Fondation Ford met un prêt de 1,5 millions de dollars à la disposition d'une coopérative de New Mexico Colorado et une subvention de 100 000 dollars en faveur de la mise en oeuvre d'un projet au Mississippi, concernant tous deux principalement l'élevage et la vente du bétail. Le but de ces projets est d'améliorer la condition économique des ranchers et des agriculteurs noirs de catégories très modestes.

Zambie - Changement d'orientation dans la politique d'aide aux coopératives

Le Président Kaunda de Zambie a annoncé récemment une réforme capitale décidée par son gouvernement en ce qui concerne les coopératives. Inaugurant la Conférence nationale des coopératives, dont le thème magistral de débat était intitulé "La place des coopératives dans le développement rural", le Chef de l'Etat déclara que l'attention prioritaire s'adresserait désormais aux coopératives de services et d'activités multiples et non plus aux coopératives agricoles. A l'avenir, les apports financiers devraient provenir des sociétaires de coopératives et l'Etat n'accorderait de crédits ou garanties qu'aux coopératives efficacement organisées.



Agricultural Co-operative

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE 11 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 9PA

Nos. 2 & 3 1970

INTERNATIONAL

FAO DELEGATES SUPPORT CO-OPERATIVES

Follow Up by Next FAO Council Expected

In the Agricultural Bulletin No. 12/1969, we reported the climate of the XV FAO Conference and the activities of the I.C.A. observers at this meeting. This time the actions taken by the government delegates on several occasions, in the Plenary, Commissions and Technical Committees, will be given in our Bulletin.

In the Plenary, the heads of the delegations of the following governments spoke in favour of co-operation and/or mobilisation of human resources: Afghanistan, Austria, Bahrain, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Ceylon, Chile, Cuba, Ethiopia, Finland, Gambia, Guyana, Iran, Iraq, Lesotho, Malaysia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, the United Kingdom and Zambia.

In the two Commissions which worked out the definite deliberations of the Conference, the floor was taken by the following delegates in favour of co-operatives and mobilisation of human resources: Afghanistan, Algeria, Brazil, Ceylon, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Hungary, the ILO, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Malaysia, Mali, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago.

During the discussion on increased resources for FAO's activity in the field of co-operatives and Rural Institutions and the corresponding department, the following delegates supported this: Afghanistan, Ceylon, Denmark, Finland, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Poland and Sweden.

Interventions ended with several recommendations of which we would like to stress the following:

Increased Emphasis on Co-operatives

The Conference called for increased emphasis on co-operatives, including new forms of co-operation, and other forms of farmers' and farm workers' organisations to enable FAO to provide assistance to governments including playing its role in implementing the United Nations resolution on co-operatives in the Second Development Decade.



Joint FAO/ILO/ICA/IFAP/IFPAAW Programme

Considerable stress was given to the importance of different kinds of co-operatives and other organisations for farmers and rural people. A number of delegates urged greater effort by FAO in the fields of Agrarian reform, co-operatives, Farmers' organisations, marketing and credit organisations and similar groups, pointing out that such institutional forms played a key role in both economic growth and social progress. The new joint FAO/ILO/ICA/IFAP/IFPAAW activities for agricultural co-operation in developing countries were strongly endorsed; the Conference urged greater FAO initiatives and leadership in this project and noted that new forms of co-operatives, farmers, and other rural organisations were being promoted. While FAO had no special budget for the FAO/ILO/ICA/IFAP/IFPAAW co-operative programme, it had placed a part of its regular resources for staff, travel and other facilities at the disposal of this programme as well as the establishment of a clearly identified unit. FAO was interested in co-operative relations with farm labour groups, but it was appreciated that their principal relations would be with ILO. The Government of Poland offered to be host for FAO annual training seminars in this field on new forms of co-operation in agriculture, if possible in co-operation with the Government of Denmark; and requested FAO to seek further support for such seminars from the UNDP. Reference was also made to the usefulness of the recent FAO/IFAP Regional Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Farmers' Organisations in Asia and the Far East Region. In order to mobilise human resources FAO should develop relations with all kinds of professional and non-professional societies, associations and federations, organising congresses, symposia and exhibitions at national and international level.

Rural Institutions Division and the Mobilisation of human resources

The Conference stressed the central role of the Rural Institutions Division in the mobilisation of human resources for rural development in view of the great importance of the various fields of work covered by that division. Many delegates expressed concern over the modest budget allocation which represented a reduction from the level of the current biennium. They realised, however, that this resulted from the Director-General's policy of re-deployment of headquarters resources to the field, as well as of re-deployment of resources within the field.

The Conference also felt that the structure proposed for the division was not adequate to give proper emphasis to several areas of work. Some delegates considered the division should be elevated to departmental level. The Conference invited the Director-General to take another look at its organisation in the light of the discussions at the Fifteenth Session of the Conference, and taking account of the need to strengthen work on (a) co-operatives and other farmers' organisations, (b) agricultural banking and credit, (c) marketing, and (d) land reform; the Conference suggested that separate units may be considered for each of these fields; and further requested the Director-General to report to the Council on this matter.

World Food Programme - Help Given to Co-operative Projects

We are glad to note that among the projects to which the World Food Programme has contributed over the past few months, co-operative projects have continued to receive help. We note especially the following:

Gongo (Brazzaville)

A project in the northern region of the Congo (Sangha) aims at introducing production, storage and commercialisation of cocoa through the training of local growers in new agricultural methods and techniques, such as weed control, etc. At the Government's request, the French "Office for the Development of Agricultural Production" (B.D.P.A.) has undertaken since 1964 an intensive plantation of 400 hectares of cocoa in order to initiate a plantation scheme with land allotted to individual families in certain districts. The same Office is undertaking another similar intensive plantation, to be financed by the French Aid and Co-operation Fund (FAC). It is the intention of the Ministry of Agriculture to turn over these plantations to local growers by 1970 under a co-operative scheme, and it is planned to settle 150 growers and their families, each to be allotted a minimum of two hectares.

Honduras

The National Agrarian Institute is developing agricultural settlements in parts of Honduras. One of them, Bajo Aguan, vacated 20 years ago by a foreign banana company, has very fertile soil and a plentiful water supply. The Government plans to settle about 6,000 families there in several phases. Food assistance is being given on credit to 3,000 families whom the Government plans to help settle in Bajo Aguan. In addition to growing traditional crops, such as maize, beans and rice, these families will begin growing cocoa, citrus fruits and rubber trees with improved techniques. The produce will be sold through co-operatives, which will start functioning in the second or third year and provide the income for payment of the settlers' land mortgage and the food credit.

Nepal

The Government is systematically organising the resettlement of farmers and their families who migrate from over-populated areas to the plains where land is available for agricultural production. The WFP project is part of a general programme and involves the resettlement of farmers. Each settler family is allotted a holding of 2.6 hectares of natural forest land, which is cleared and developed by the settlers for agricultural production, partly under irrigation. The settlers also build their own homesteads and co-operate in the development of the infrastructure and of communal facilities. Up to now 800 families have been settled in eight villages, and each village has its own co-operative and local council, as well as a school and village centre, built largely by the settlers themselves.

Somalia

The Republic of Somalia is largely arid and its economy depends chiefly on livestock and agriculture based on seasonal rains. Approximately 8 million hectares are potentially cultivable, but less than one million are actually cultivated. Although abundant land resources are available for agricultural production, considerable quantities of food grains continue to be imported annually. The Government proposes to bring part of the arable land under cultivation through agricultural co-operatives. Land will be allocated by the

Government to these co-operatives, which will undertake to clear the bush, enclose the land to protect it against incursion by stray cattle, construct storage and housing facilities and also, in some cases, undertake construction of small diversion weirs and water channels. The scheme would cover 20 co-operatives over an area of 3,000 hectares.

Yemen Arab Republic

Because of a critical food shortage following the civil struggle in the country, the Government requested WFP emergency food assistance, which was granted. 5,000 families, out of the total number affected, live on subsistence agriculture, and need further assistance. A special project has been organised in the Beni Husheish district. The Agricultural Co-operative Society of Beni Hisheish, with eight branches, will organise, in co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture, the distribution of WFP food. The Co-operative and the Ministry of Agriculture will share on an equal basis the expenses for unloading, storing, transportation and distribution of WFP commodities.

The Co-operative is actively engaged in the promotion of increased production of cereal crops and vegetables in the district, and has the necessary administrative and clerical staff to undertake the handling and distribution of WFP commodities within the district.

The non-food costs of the project include the provision of a project manager and supervision of works in each village. A distribution officer and clerk in each village and administrative staff are already Government employed staff who will work part-time for the project at no extra cost to the Government of the Co-operative Society.

FINANCE STUDY - QUESTIONNAIRE

Many readers of the Bulletin, through their membership of the Agricultural Committee of the I.C.A., or otherwise, may already be aware that the I.C.A. has been commissioned by the Joint FAO/ILO/ICA/IFAP/IFPAAW Programme to carry out a two-year Study, with the rather unfortunately cumbersome title of "Study on Guarantee Funds to Promote International Financing of Co-operative Enterprise", sub-titled "Ways and Means of, and Outline for, International Financing of Co-operative Business Activities".

The Study is an extremely important one, aimed at pinpointing all the various forms of aid and technical assistance available from international sources (co-operative, United Nations and affiliated organisations, international non-governmental institutions, the World Bank and its affiliates, private sources, governmental sources, multi-lateral and bilateral, etc.), to try to make it possible for co-operative enterprises in need of such financial aid or technical assistance, when such are lacking in their own countries, to be aware of their sources, and to establish the pre-conditions to obtaining it.

Questionnaire

Much help and co-operation has already been promised for this Study, and work on it is well underway. However, a vital initial step is to obtain the necessary information on the needs of co-operative enterprises which might be susceptible of being met by such international sources, and also the systems

already in existence for obtaining such aid. A Questionnaire has been carefully worked out, designed to obtain this information, following consultations with the sponsoring Organisations, and advice given by Chairmen and Secretaries of the Auxiliary Committees of the I.C.A., who met in Basle in November 1969. In fact, the Questionnaire has now been sent out through the Auxiliary Committees to I.C.A. member organisations affiliated through these committees. Others have gone out through the other sponsoring Organisations of this Study, as well as to other organisations, institutions and people who have kindly offered their services. All members of the Agricultural Committee of the I.C.A. have also received a copy.

It is important, not just for I.C.A. but for co-operative organisations and enterprises everywhere, to have as complete a picture of the needs and sources referred to above. If you have not already received this Questionnaire, and would be willing to help us, and ultimately yourselves and fellow co-operators, please write as soon as possible to the Secretary of the Agricultural Committee, c/o I.C.A., 11 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9PA, United Kingdom, and we will send you a copy or as many copies as you need, in English, French, German or Spanish. If someone in your country is already coordinating the distribution of the Questionnaire, we will still send the Questionnaire to you, and ask you to coordinate your return with them.

Your help and co-operation with the Questionnaire is urgently needed, and we sincerely hope that you will be willing to support the I.C.A. successfully in completing this Study.

AUSTRALIA

DAIRY CO-OPERATIVES URGED TO BROADEN HORIZONS

According to Mr. S. Stanfield, Chairman of the South Gippsland Milk Industries Ltd., speaking at the company's annual meeting, Australian dairy farmers' co-operatives should diversify, if necessary, into profitably non-dairy enterprises. He pointed out that dairy farmers are traditionalists, who tend to think in terms of milk, butter, cream, milk powder, cassein and cheese. However, in today's competitive world, when a thousand food lines are competing for the consumer's money, constant and continuing search must be made for new products.

He pointed out that they were no longer in straight farming, but were in the food business, and that they must begin to think of putting the expensive manufacturing equipment owned by dairy co-operatives, and the skills their staffs have acquired, to use in profit-earning work, which does not necessarily involve dairy products, but which earns money for dairy farmers.

Mr. Stanfield asked if there was any reason why, if there is money in it for the dairy farmers, their co-operatives should not process fruit juice, grow timber, raise pigs, or any other of a score of other things. He said that not only will such non-dairy investments add to farmers' returns in average years, but in the periodic "bad" year they will cushion the blow of lower returns.

Need for Co-operation

In talking about the needs for larger and more economic units, Mr. Stanfield pointed out that dairy farmers had two choices. They could stand together, co-operating for the greatest profits for all, or they could "play the field", and seek to succeed as individuals. The history of dairying in Australia, he continued, shows there is no future for the man who tries to go it alone. It is necessary to pull together for the common good. Every dairy farmer has a right to decide where he sells his milk, but he should remember that with every gallon he sells is a small stake in his own future.

Nobody handles, processes and markets milk and milkproducts for nothing. Every company handling dairy farmers' milk in Australia today does it with a single object - to make the greatest possible profit from the operation. A regional dairy co-operative, he pointed out, is firmly entrenched in its district. It is there to stay, come good years or bad. It is owned, managed and directed solely by local people with the interest of the district and its dairy farmers at heart. He called a policy of support of a well-run co-operative as a form of insurance in one's own future.

BRAZIL

BRAZIL TO FORM 77 RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OPS IN 9 STATES

Some 425,000 Brazilians are expected to benefit over the next four years from the creation or expansion of about 90 rural electric co-operatives in nine states of the largest South American country.

The \$ 63.2 million programme of rural electrification will be supported by a \$ 30.8 million loan from the Inter-American Development Bank and will provide power for modern appliances and machinery for home and agricultural use in rural areas.

The programme will bring electricity to 27,000 rural homes through expansion of 16 existing co-operatives and the formation of about 77 new ones. Some 12,500 miles of primary distribution lines will be built.

TRAINING FOR CO-OPERATIVE LEADERSHIP

A co-operative training programme is well underway in Brazil. For 1969, the Brazilian Government approved 51 short training courses for some 1,200 managers, directors, and other co-operative leaders. The Government is not only paying the teachers, but also is paying travel expenses and per diem for the students.

Considerable aid has been granted by the Farmer Co-operative Service (FCS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which has worked closely with co-operative officials of the National Institute for Agrarian Development. Help has been given in training a cadre that could in turn train others to help setting up new co-operatives, and improve existing ones.

There is also a programme to place veterinarians and agronomists in co-operatives under contract arrangements with the Brazilian Government paying part of their salaries. When fully implemented, this project will reach 300 co-operatives.

Among other achievements, a permanent centre for co-operative studies and training has been established in Campinas. State co-operative councils have been set up in Parana, Santa Catarina, and Rio Grande do Sul. Seminars are also being used to train co-operative managers and directors.

COLOMBIA

INCORA'S SUPPORT OF THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Over the past 8 years INCORA, the Colombian Institute for Agrarian Reform, has secured the acquisition of lands covering almost 2,500,000 hectares, taking into account purchases, expropriations, cessions of land to the Institute and suppressions of domains, particularly from the latter category, affecting 172 properties with a total of 2 million hectares.

At the same time it has adjudicated 75,000 parcels of land, comprising about 2,500,000 hectares, in seeking to obtain a more just distribution of land in Colombia. One of the most important programmes of INCORA is its Supervised Credit, a modern technique which includes money and technical assistance for farmers who have no other source of credit.

One of the greatest problems of the Colombian farmer is the marketing and distribution of his products, since in the majority of cases the middleman retains the largest share of the money received. INCORA, conscious of this problem, has encouraged the co-operative movement among farmers. Today there are 16 co-operatives aided by INCORA, including 16 which are affiliated to CECORA, Central Office of Co-operatives of Agrarian Reform. The number of members is about 15,000, and the capital subscribed by these units is over 11,770,000 pesos*. An encouraging sign of the success of these co-operatives is that by the end of 1968 their sales turnover was 60 million pesos.

GHANA

FISHING UNION MAKES A BID FOR HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY

The Greater-Accra Co-operative Fishing Union has taken a bold step towards higher productivity, with the aim of conferring more benefits upon the members.

An agreement signed by the Union and Angefex Limited of Cambridge, has made provisions, among other things, for the supply of fishing vessels by Angefex Ltd. to the Union. The Union will settle the cost of the vessels by exporting their catches. Angefex will also build fishing vessels in Ghana.

*£1 = approximately 42 Colombian pesos.

An influential Co-operator in Ghana, commenting on the news, expressed the hope that the agreement, apart from satisfying an existing felt need, will help solve part of the country's unemployment problem.

INDIA

PROGRESS WITH INDIAN FARMERS FERTILISER CO-OPERATIVE LTD. (IFFCO)

In previous numbers of the Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin (No. 9/67 and 7-8/68) details were given on the origins of this \$ 110 million fertiliser complex in India.

In a press release in March of this year, Donald H. Thomas, President of Co-operative Fertilisers International (CFI), reported that foreign exchange loans for the manufacturing facilities, which will be owned and operated by Indian co-operatives, have been agreed to by the U.S. and British governments. The U.S. Government, through the Agency for International Development, will lend \$ 15 million, and the British Government, through the Ministry of Overseas Development, will lend £ 7 million (\$16.8 million), with the balance of the \$ 110 million to be provided in rupees as equity by Indian Co-operatives and the Government of India, and as loans by agencies of the Indian Government.

It is anticipated that contracts will be signed later this year, with construction expected to begin by the end of 1970.

Co-operative Fertiliser International was organised in 1967 by U.S. co-operatives to assist the Indian co-operatives in this major project. U.S. co-operatives have donated \$ 1 million to support this unusual example of international co-operation, and have done so without requesting equity in the project and without expectation of any profit, according to K.F. Lundberg, President of Central Farmers Fertiliser Company and Chairman of the Board of CFI.

The planned fertiliser complex will be located in northwestern India in the State of Gujarat, and will include a large anhydrous ammonia and urea plant and a sizeable granulation plant. The nitrogen facilities will be located inland at Kalol and the granulation unit at the Indian Ocean port of Kandla.

IFFCO, an all-Indian Co-operative, was formed to operate the complex and market its annual production of 800,000 tons of high-analysis fertilisers. IFFCO's members will comprise as many as 40,000 co-operative societies serving farmers in a 10-state area which includes the major agricultural regions of India.

It has been estimated that the new complex will save Indian farmers millions of dollars in cost of fertilisers purchased, will save India substantial sums of money in foreign exchange compared to importing equivalent amounts of fertilisers, and will provide a valuable addition to India's expanding agriculture.

CO-OPERATIVES IN INDIA INTERESTED IN EXPORT OF HANDICRAFTS
AND COTTAGE INDUSTRY PRODUCTS

The Kerala State Handicrafts Apex Co-operative Society Ltd., M. G. Road, Ernakulam (Cochin-16), India, is interested in seeking export outlets for its handicrafts and cottage industry products. The range includes carvings (rose wood, ivory, buffalo horn and sandal wood), grass mats, screwpine purses and bags, coir products, hand-made cotton bed sheets, sarees, pillow cases and table cloths.

Co-operative organisations interested in importing the above-mentioned goods may please write directly to the Kerala State Handicrafts Society with a copy to the I.C.A. Regional Centre (43, Friends' Colony, P.O. Box 3021, New Delhi

INDIAN CO-OPERATIVE BANANA POWDER PLANT GOES INTO PRODUCTION

The dehydrated banana powder plant at Jalgaon of the Jalgaon District Co-operative Marketing Society Ltd. (Maharashtra State), valued at Rs. 1.8 million (U.S. \$ 378,000), started production on a commercial basis from January 1st. The plant is claimed to be the first of its kind in Asia; there are only a few similar plants in the world.

The plant is at present producing half a ton of banana powder daily, but the capacity can be gradually increased to one ton per day. The raw material for the plant, high-quality bananas, are produced in over 50,000 acres in the Jalgaon District. The District is meeting at present 30% of the country's requirement of bananas.

Banana powder has a high nutritive value and contains such energy-giving and health-sustaining ingredients as proteins, minerals, phosphorus, calcium, starch and sugar, and, as such, is in great demand by pharmaceutical companies manufacturing baby food. It can also be used for preparing ice-cream, chocolates, biscuits, cakes, milk shakes, banana puri and other types of confectionery. The powder can be preserved for about a year.

Banana powder is said to have great export potential. The Jalgaon District Co-operative Marketing Society has already begun negotiations with the U.S. and West Germany for exporting banana powder.

IRAQ

CO-OPERATIVES AND MARKETING SURVEY

In October 1969 the UNSF Institute of Co-operation and Agricultural Extension in Baghdad published a detailed report entitled "Co-operatives and Marketing in the Greater Mussayib Project," which was based on a socio-economic survey conducted in 1969, and which includes recommendations for the future development of co-operatives and marketing.

The Project, located 90 kilometres south of Baghdad, was initiated in the mid-1950's with the intention of providing peasants with farm units of 66.6 donums*, serviced by irrigation and drainage facilities. It was hoped to develop modern farming among its more than 3,000 farmers.

*One donum = 2500 sq. metres or 0.625 of one acre

The Report includes a number of recommendations, including stress on the need for a new initiative in marketing by the GMP Authority; the importance of improved marketing being linked with improved production techniques, as well as establishing a satisfactory relationship between production and market requirements; the need for grading standards; proposals for a marketing Section of the GMP Authority; the need for a new Credit Programme; the need for the project to take the initiative in marketing through the medium of co-operatives; the need for a Co-operative Marketing Union, and for Co-operative Retail Stores and Marketing Societies; and, finally, the necessity for long-term planning, competent management, and specialised marketing research.

EIRE

MORE FUNDS FOR CO-OPERATIVE FISHING DEVELOPMENT?

Following a meeting between the Federation of Irish Fishing Co-operatives and the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society Ltd. (I.A.O.S.) on the one hand, and the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr. Neil Blaney, on the other, it was agreed that I.A.O.S.'s requirements in terms of fishery business advisory officers would be investigated in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. The meeting dealt with several basic policy matters on which fishermen's co-operatives have strong views.

The Minister stated that there was no significance in the absence of any reference to co-operatives in the fisheries section of the Third Programme for Economic Expansion.

The co-operative delegation stressed that fishermen, unlike farmers, are not serviced by a comprehensive technical advisory service, which could advise individual fishermen on their problems and keep them abreast of the latest techniques. Col. McDevitt, Chairman of the Federation, stressed that the I.A.O.S. needed extra funds to be earmarked specifically for fishermen's co-operative development. Fishermen, he said, could not accept that co-operatives were no different from other types of business. They performed functions which a private company would not do, and they were capable of flourishing in a competitive environment provided they were given reasonable assistance to develop.

The fishermen made the point that they were aiming for maximum possible co-operative control of the fishing industry. Mr. Blaney said he saw no reason why co-operatives representing primary producers could not be ultimately responsible for the overall fishing industry, nor could he envisage any Government objecting to this, provided such a state of affairs was brought about by the fishermen's own legitimate efforts. He felt that direct support on specific points agreed between the co-operatives and the Department and himself would be of more use than general and vague moral encouragement.

ITALY

IV CONGRESS OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES

On February 5th - 7th the IV Congress of the National Association of Agricultural Co-operatives took place in Rome. On the invitation of the Association, the Agricultural Secretary of the I.C.A. attended this important Congress, and in the next issue of the Bulletin a Report on the Congress will be given.

THAILAND

GOVERNMENT HELP TO CO-OPERATIVES

In October 1969, Mr. Pote Sarasin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development of Thailand, in response to a reporter's question, said that he supported the 1970 Budget Consideration Committee's proposal to double the agricultural credit appropriation of the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Co-operatives from $\text{฿ } 90$ million to $\text{฿ } 180$ million*. Assistance to the Thai farmers is considered an important policy of the government, because the farmers, constituting the biggest and most important factor in the country's productivity, are deeply in need of capital credit to modernise agricultural techniques.

Mr. Sarasin also said that the Ministry of National Development has set up funds for co-operative improvement. Loans from the funds were granted to farmer members at the low interest rate of 4% per annum. However, this year the Minister has instructed the authorities to consider the reducing of the interest rate to 2% per annum, to be completed in the very near future.

UGANDA

CATTLE CO-OPERATIVES FORGE AHEAD

Co-operative enterprises in the livestock industry of Uganda are expanding so fast that the Co-operative Department's livestock section expects the number of co-operative ranches to double by 1972.

Uganda's cattle population of slightly over $4\frac{1}{2}$ million - more than one cow to every 2 people - offers a vast and as yet little tapped potential for co-operative development. There are at present 19 co-operative ranches, operating on an economic basis. Six of these are not yet registered under the Co-operative Societies Act of 1963. Some of Uganda's group farms are also engaged in mixed livestock enterprises, the most progressive of these being in Bunyoro and Lango Districts.

*50 Baht = £ 1 Sterling.

The co-operative ranches have a total acreage of about 110,000, and between them they have 10,000 head of cattle. Mr. R. Rwahwire (Assistant Co-operative Officer for Livestock), predicts that by 1972 there should be 40 ranches, with 80,000 to 100,000 cattle on them. However, the biggest problem is one of scarcity. Animals have to be brought from Kenya at a high cost, and even the indigenous animals are very difficult to procure.

The clearing of the tsetse fly in the last 15 to 20 years has opened up much fine grazing land which could take another million head of cattle. Demand from consumers both within and outside Uganda - already stretches supplies of beef to the limit, but with increased cattle population and improved methods of animal husbandry, it is thought that the extra demand from Uganda's growing population can be met.

Rising incomes in the urban areas have created an increasing short fall in the high grades of beef, which is currently being met by the import of over 10,000 cattle each year from Kenya. The demand for this type of beef has risen by 10% per year. There are already some 15 societies buying cattle mainly for slaughter, but it is the ranches, according to Mr. Rwahwire, which offer a brighter future, as they aim not only at marketing but also at improving quality.

The biggest venture so far is the Bunyoro Growers Co-operative Union's Nyakyana ranch. This covers 38,400 acres and has 4,000 head of cattle. It was established to meet a definite economic need for a dependable source of good cattle breed at reasonable cost and on terms especially adapted to the particular requirements of the members. Since then, it has grown rapidly, and the World Bank has agreed to lend funds so that the union can buy a further 4,000 head of cattle by 1973. Bunyoro's impressive project shows clearly how the co-operative is helping solve Uganda's meat supply problems.

U.S.A.

AMERICAN INDIANS TAKE THE LEAD IN NEW AND ESTABLISHED CO-OPERATIVES

The American Indian is reemphasising the co-operative, mutual help tradition that was so strong a part of his tribal heritage. Now the Indian's efforts are in farming, ranching and dairy cattle production, as well as in electric power and telephone service. The Indians' situation might be said to supply the classic example of the need for co-operatives: large areas of land needed for grazing or tilling, with few people and little capital to do it.

A series of cattle co-operatives in North Dakota provide sires, haying equipment, pasture and headquarters for its members. These were formed because, acting alone as small operators, the Indian cattlemen found it too hard to get the financial and other assistance they needed to make a go of their business. Too often they had to work at outside jobs, neglecting their herds.

In New Mexico the Mescalero Apache Cattle Growers Association, with 387 members, is managed by a Board of Directors for the purpose of cattle growth and profit sharing by its members. The Co-operative maintains a breeding herd of 4,300 cows with a total cattle population of about 6,400 head. Demonstrating the effectiveness of government assistance and Indian total participation, the co-operative is showing an increased net worth annually, depending on weather and feed conditions.

On the Navajo reservation, the largest in the Nations, most co-operatives have been organised within the last three years. There is increasing interest in forming local organisations for promoting agricultural enterprises and for establishing business to increase employment opportunities of Navajos. Such co-operatives include the orderly marketing of agricultural products, power sheep shearing equipment, scales and corrals.

U.S.S.R.

NEW MODEL RULES ADOPTED FOR COLLECTIVE FARMS (KOKHOZES)

In November 1969 an important event took place in the Soviet Union, when more than 4,500 delegates from the 36,000 collective farms of the country attended the Third Congress of Collective Farmers in Moscow. The main purpose of this Congress, the first to be held since 1935, was to approve a new Model Charter for the collective farms, the draft of which had been published in the spring and discussed for six months. The old rules, adopted by the 1935 Congress, were concerned with such questions as how to set up a collective farm and were out of date.

The Congress was addressed by Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, and the report on the new draft model rules was delivered by Dmitry Polyansky, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and First Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Polyansky made it clear, that one of the main purposes of the charter was to give a firm legal basis for the co-operatives to own installations (processing and marketing plants, cattle breeding stations, building and building materials plants, etc.) jointly with other collectives, or with the State. Like Brezhnev, he emphasised the increasing employment of capital in agriculture, and his view was, that though individual farms could not always own all that was needed, groups of farms could.

Polyansky also underlined the right of collectives, confirmed in the new Charter, to run auxiliary industrial undertakings. He pointed out that "many rural dwellers even now engage in social production only for some months of the year, which of course is abnormal. Recently the collective farms have gained the possibility to create, and are creating, various industrial enterprises and workshops and this must be given the necessary support. Thus they will be able to use their labour resources and local raw materials, to produce goods needed by the population, raise the role of social production in the working activity of the collective farmers, and raise the incomes." It appears that the authorities, made very much aware of

the limitations placed on production by the labour shortage in the towns, are now looking much more seriously at the countryside's potentialities for light industry.

Specific reaffirmation was also made by Mr. Polyansky of the place of the collective farmers' private plots, saying that unjustified restrictions on them had been removed after the October 1964 Plenum of the Central Committee.

The new rules are directed at accelerating the pace of development of collective agriculture, and call for the better utilisation of the land which has been made over to collective farms for their free use in perpetuity. The new rules also record the right of collective farmers to guaranteed remuneration for their labour and to social insurance and pensions.

Every collective farm is recommended to draft its own rules on the basis of the model rules and to approve them at a general meeting of collective farmers.

The Congress decided to introduce a single system of social insurance for collective farmers in 1970, with standards similar to those used in the social insurance of state farm workers. The Congress also adopted a resolution on the forming of Councils of Collective Farms. They are being set up, among other things, with the aim of summing up experience gained in the organisation of production and the drafting of recommendations on the fullest utilisation of the reserves of production.

RÉSUMÉ FRANÇAIS

Nouvelles internationales - Soutien des délégués de la F.A.O. aux coopératives

Compte-rendu ultérieur est donné des travaux de la 15^{ème} Conférence de la F.A.O. (voir Bulletin 12.69) et des interventions positives des délégués gouvernementaux aux réunions plénières et dans les commissions et comités techniques. Plusieurs recommandations ont été émises en faveur de l'importance accrue à accorder aux coopératives, des activités du programme concerté FAO-OIT-ACI-FIPA-FITPASC et du Service des institutions rurales, et de la mobilisation des ressources humaines.

Nouvelles internationales - Programme alimentaire mondial : aide en faveur des projets coopératifs

Les coopératives continuent à bénéficier d'une aide à la mise en oeuvre de leurs projets, en vertu de leur rôle de canalisatrices des contributions au programme alimentaire mondial. Description succincte est donnée de quelques projets de ce genre au Congo Brazzaville, au Honduras, au Népal, en Somalie et dans la République Arabe du Yémen.

Etude financière - Questionnaire

L'A.C.I. a été mandatée par les organisateurs du programme mixte FAO-OIT-ACI-FIPA-FITPASC pour effectuer une étude répartie sur deux ans, intitulée "Etude sur la Création d'un Fonds de Garantie pour favoriser le Financement international des entreprises coopératives", et sous-titrée "Voies et moyens et schéma directeur d'action relatifs au financement international des activités commerciales coopératives". Il s'agit d'une étude très importante dont le but est de parvenir à aider les entreprises coopératives à travers le monde à déterminer les sources extérieures disponibles d'assistance technique et d'aide. Un questionnaire a été établi afin de recueillir les données et la documentation nécessaires sur les besoins des entreprises coopératives en matière d'aide internationale et sur les sources dispensatrices à cet égard et, dans le cadre de ce travail, il serait utile que les lecteurs de ce Bulletin qui appartiennent à des organisations coopératives veuillent bien, s'ils n'ont pas encore eu connaissance de ce document s'adresser au siège de l'A.C.I. à Londres pour en recevoir un exemplaire. Le questionnaire est établi en français, anglais, allemand et espagnol.

Australie - Les coopératives d'élevage de bétail laitier sont incitées à élargir leurs horizons

Le président de la South Gippsland Milk Industries, Ltd. a vivement recommandé aux coopératives australiennes d'élevage de bétail laitier de se diversifier, si le besoin se pose, en entreprises rentables couvrant des activités autres que l'industrie laitière. Il a également préconisé la fusion des exploitations individuelles d'élevage de bétail laitier en unités plus grandes et plus rentables.

Brésil - Projet de création de 77 coopératives d'électrification rurales dans 9 États

Un vaste programme d'électrification rurale brésilien est annoncé, qui bénéficiera d'un prêt de 30 800 000 dollars de la Banque Interaméricaine de Développement et est destiné à fournir l'énergie nécessaire aux machines et

installations modernes pour l'agriculture et les foyers domestiques dans les régions rurales.

Brésil - Formation des Responsables de Coopératives

Le gouvernement brésilien a approuvé en 1966 la mise en action de 51 programmes de formation professionnelle de cycle court pour 1200 gestionnaires administrateurs et autres responsables de coopératives. Entre autres réalisations, un centre permanent d'études et de formation coopératives a été institué.

Colombie - Aide de l'INCORA au Mouvement Coopératif

L'Institut colombien de la réforme agraire, INCORA, a pris une utile initiative en décidant d'aider les agriculteurs colombiens à écouler et distribuer leurs produits. Dans le cadre de cette action, les agriculteurs sont encouragés à former des coopératives. La décision de l'Institut colombien a contribué favorablement à faire baisser l'influence des intermédiaires qui se taillaient encore récemment la plus grosse part des bénéfices de ces activités.

Ghana - Initiative d'une Union coopérative de pêches dans le but d'accroître sa productivité

La Greater Accra Co-operative Union a signé un contrat, préfinancé, avec la Société Anfex Ltd. de Cambridge, dont les stipulations prévoient notamment la fourniture de bateaux de pêche à l'Union. Cette mesure, ajoutée à d'autres, devrait, espère-t-on, contribuer à résoudre le problème du chômage dans ce pays.

Inde - Progrès de la Société coopérative d'engrais pour les agriculteurs indiens

De nouvelles informations sont données sur les progrès accomplis en vue de l'édification sur le sol indien d'un important complexe industriel d'engrais d'un coût de 110 millions de dollars. On a annoncé que les gouvernements respectifs des Etats-Unis et de Grande-Bretagne se sont engagés à accorder des prêts en devises étrangères en faveur des installations de fabrication, qui seront sous la propriété et la direction de coopératives indiennes. On s'attend à ce que les adjudications soient bientôt confirmées, et la construction devrait commencer vers la fin de 1970.

Inde - Coopérative indienne intéressée par l'exportation des articles artisanaux et de fabrication à domicile

L'organisation centrale des coopératives artisanales de l'Etat de Kerala recherche des débouchés d'exportation pour ses articles d'artisanat et de fabrication à domicile.

Inde - Production coopérative de banane en poudre

Une importante fabrique coopérative de banane en poudre deshydratée a commencé sa production le 1er janvier. La poudre de banane a une haute valeur nutritive et l'on s'attend à de grandes possibilités d'exportation en perspective.

Irak - Les coopératives dans le cadre d'une étude sur la commercialisation des produits

L'Institut de coopération et de vulgarisation agricoles UNSF de Bagdad a

publié un rapport intitulé "Les coopératives et la commercialisation des produits dans le projet du Grand Mussayib", reposant sur une enquête socio-économique effectuée en 1969 et renfermant des recommandations en vue du développement des coopératives et des activités d'écoulement des produits.

Irlande - Perspective d'une augmentation du budget en faveur du développement des coopératives de pêches

Il a été décidé que les besoins de l'organisation agricole irlandaise (I.A.O.S.) en matière d'expertise commerciale pour les pêcheries seraient étudiés en conjonction avec le Département de l'Agriculture et des pêcheries. Cette décision fait suite à une réunion entre la Fédération des Coopératives de pêches irlandaises et l'I.A.O.S. d'une part et le Ministre de l'Agriculture et des pêches, M. N. Blaney, d'autre part.

Italie - 4ème Congrès de l'Association nationale des coopératives agricoles

Le Secrétaire à l'Agriculture de l'A.C.I., qui a participé à titre d'invité à cet important congrès organisé en février, en rendra compte dans le prochain Bulletin.

Thaïlande - Aide gouvernementale aux coopératives

Le Vice-Premier ministre et ministre du Développement national de Thaïlande a déclaré son soutien à la proposition du Comité d'examen du budget de 1970 tendant à doubler les affectations de la Banque pour l'agriculture et les coopératives agricoles au titre du crédit agricole.

Ouganda - Expansion des coopératives de bétail

Les entreprises coopératives du bétail de l'Ouganda connaissent une expansion telle que les services officiels des coopératives compétents pour ce secteur s'attendent à voir doubler le nombre des élevages coopératifs vers 1972. Le plus grand progrès constaté jusqu'à présent est celui réalisé par l'élevage de Nyakyana de l'Union coopérative d'élevage de Bunyoro qui couvre 15 360 ha et possède 4000 têtes de bétail.

Etats-Unis - Les Indiens américains prennent la tête des coopératives de nouvelle création

Des exemples sont fournis sur la manière dont les Indiens d'Amérique réaffirment leur foi dans la tradition de l'aide mutuelle coopérative fermement enracinée dans leur héritage culturel. Leurs activités couvrent l'agriculture, l'élevage et la production du bétail laitier ainsi que les services de téléphone et d'énergie électrique.

U.R.S.S. - Nouveaux statuts types adoptés pour les fermes collectives (Kolkhozes)

Le 3ème Congrès des fermes collectives, premier du genre depuis 1935, a été convoqué en novembre 1969 à Moscou, afin d'approuver le nouveau prototype de Charte des fermes collectives laquelle, aux termes de ses principales dispositions, accorde aux coopératives une base juridique statutaire les habilitant à détenir en propriété certaines installations, telles que les usines de transformation et les services de commercialisation, conjointement avec d'autres institutions collectives ou avec l'Etat.

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Agricultural Co-operative

BULLETIN

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INTERNATIONAL

PLANS FOR THE SECOND WORLD FOOD CONGRESS

As many readers of the Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin will already know, the Second World Food Congress will be taking place in The Hague from the 16th to 30th June, coinciding with the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the F.A.O. and the opening of the Second United Nations Development Decade. Although a fuller report of the Congress will appear in a later issue of the Bulletin, following the Congress, attention is drawn at this time to the areas on which the Congress will concentrate.

Its programme is based on the fact that the F.A.O.'s Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development calls for: securing the staple food supplies required by a world population growing at 2.5 to 3% a year; improving the quality of the diet; earning and saving the foreign exchange that is crucial to over-all development; providing employment in agriculture and in related industries; and increasing productivity through intensification of land and water use.

Work of the Congress will be organised in two stages. In Stage One, the Congress will study the main findings of the Indicative World Plan, relating them to the F.A.O.'s five areas of concentration, and suggest priorities for action. In Stage Two, the Congress will consider how the necessary support for the proposed action-priorities can be rapidly and effectively organised. Both stages will be organised in four commissions.

Commission I will be involved mainly with the problem of ensuring basic food supplies, which requires greatly increased inputs, such as fertilisers and insecticides, improved water control, and schemes for training farmers in improved production methods. Commission II will be concerned with the fact that higher living standards and improved diets will be determined largely by changes in the demand pattern once basic food supplies can be provided.

Commission III will be discussing the problem of over-population in rural areas, which is a major problem in developing countries, one that is further complicated by the lack of infrastructure in rural society. While Commissions I and II will be discussing certain specific aspects of institutional changes, this Commission will discuss the over-all strategy for providing the necessary package of institutions and services for farmers, and indicate factors which should influence the choice of national priorities

The main subject of Commission IV will be trade patterns and policies which could be adopted by both developed and developing countries, and by international organisations, while Commissions V and VI will be discussing the public and private sectors respectively, and the support to be expected from them.

Finally, Commission VII will deal with the problem of direct participation by large numbers of people in development, in order to obtain the maximum benefits possible from human energy and good will, while Commission VIII will be concerned with the mobilisation of public opinion.

C.O.G.E.C.A. and E.E.C. DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION

Le Comité Général de la Coopération Agricole of the E.E.C., represented by Mr. C. R. Tybout, had a discussion with Mr. Mansholt, the Vice-President of the E.E.C. on the 24th February, 1970, in Brussels. The discussion concerned the Memorandum on the reform of European agriculture, measures of application aiming at the creation of producers' groups and the establishment of inter-professional European bodies, and the action taken by co-operatives in the adaptation of supply to demand.

C.O.G.E.C.A. stressed the extremely important role of marketing and processing of agricultural products, in seeking the improvement of farmers' income. C.O.G.E.C.A. was of the opinion that this aspect has been overlooked in the Memorandum on the reform of agriculture. Co-operatives, which have a key position, can make an important contribution to the solution of the problems currently encountered by the E.E.C. in the field of agriculture.

Various suggestions have been made to Mr. Mansholt concerning the possibilities offered by agricultural co-operation in achieving the rationalisation of production and in stopping fluctuation in the market. In the meat sector the hope was expressed that newer, more flexible and cheaper methods of meat production could be applied in collaboration with co-operatives than the ones at present recommended by the Commission.

Concerning problems encountered by the creation of producers' groups and of inter-professional European bodies, C.O.G.E.C.A. recalled that it was, in principle, in favour of producers' groups, providing that no organisation should be established which could hinder the functioning of the economic structures which have proved their efficiency.

A special note was given to Mr. Mansholt concerning certain problems relating to the establishment of a joint policy in the fishing sector.

It was agreed that questions raised during this discussion should be examined thoroughly at the next meeting.

FARM GUIDANCE THROUGH AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVE - SEMINAR IN KOREA

A regional Seminar on "Farm Guidance Activities of Agricultural Co-operatives" was organised by the I.C.A.'s Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia in Seoul, Republic of Korea, between the 29th September and the 17th October, 1969. The Seminar was held in collaboration with the National Agricultural Co-operative Federation, a member-organisation of the I.C.A. in Korea. Before the Seminar started its sessions, the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives in Japan played host to participants of the Seminar during study visits in Tokyo and in the Ibaragi Province.

The Seminar had the following main objectives:

1. To determine the role of agricultural co-operatives in farming guidance activities;
2. To discuss how to plan and implement farm guidance activities through agricultural co-operatives; and
3. To examine the existing arrangements of training and research in the field of farm guidance.

Countries participating in the Seminar, which was attended by 28 delegates and observers, included Ceylon, India, Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Nepal, the Philippines and Thailand. The I.L.O. and F.A.O. were represented by Mr. Edgar Tilly and Dr. A. F. Braid, respectively.

The Seminar felt that an important pre-requisite for successful farm guidance is the existence of a common policy on farm management improvement. The effort should be not to dictate to the farmers, but to generate their interest and willingness to work for effective farm management, and the need for taking initiative.

Also discussed were the organisational structure and funds required for farm guidance through co-operatives, introduction of education and publicity programmes by way of mass education, group education, individual education and local leadership methods. The system of commodity groups within the co-operatives, as is prevalent in Japan, was emphasised. The Seminar also suggested an outline for an experimental project on Farm Guidance through agricultural co-operatives in South-East Asia.

Finally, it was recommended that international assistance in the field of co-operative development, particularly in the field of farm guidance, should be co-ordinated and channelised through the I.C.A.

NEPAL CONFERENCE ON THE ROLE OF CO-OPERATIVES IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Regional Office and Education Centre of the I.C.A. for South-East Asia, in collaboration with the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AARRO), sponsored an Experts' Conference on the "Role of Co-operatives in Agricultural Development" in Katmandu, Nepal, in November 1969. Twelve experts from Ceylon, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Nepal, Thailand, Kenya and Tanzania participated in the Conference, as well as an I.L.O. observer. The main subjects discussed at the Conference included land reform as a basis for agricultural development and the role of co-operatives in land reform schemes; co-operatives and agricultural production planning; the tasks of co-operatives in the formulation and implementation of such plans; management problems of agricultural co-operatives; and the type of co-operative society suitable for increasing production programmes. International technical assistance for the development of agricultural co-operatives was also discussed with specific reference to the needs of Nepal.

"CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING OF FOOD GRAINS" - SEMINAR IN MANILA

The Philippines was the host for a regional seminar held in December 1969 on "Co-operative Marketing of Food Grains". It was sponsored by the I.C.A. Regional Office in collaboration with the Central Co-operative Exchange Inc. of the Philippines, and with the active support of the Agricultural Credit Administration, the Agricultural Credit and Co-operative Institute and the Grains Marketing Co-operative of the Philippines. The seminar was attended by participants from Australia, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, and observers from the F.A.O. and A.A.R.R.O. also attended this seminar.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

RAIFFEISEN CO-OPERATIVES INCREASE THEIR SLICE IN THE TOTAL MARKET

The A.C.B. is warmly welcoming the affiliation of the German Raiffeisen Union to the I.C.A., coming one year after the 150th anniversary of the birth of the founder and first organiser of the agricultural credit co-operatives, Friedrich Wilhelm Raiffeise. In this article the latest developments of the Raiffeisen credit and agricultural co-operatives have been evaluated. It is remarkable for such a mature movement to be able to continue to develop at such a pace and with such vigour in an extremely competitive environment.

According to the principles of the free market economy, agricultural co-operatives have been competing in the past few years with other sectors of the economy by adjusting themselves to the progress of production and economic efficiency. The process of their development in the past few years becomes clear if one considers the change in the number of co-operatives and of members.

The number of co-operatives decreased rapidly from 23,761 to 17,507 between 1949 and 1968, whereas the number of members (including double membership) increased by 55.8%, from 3.2 million to approximately 5 million.

Credit Sector

The favourable business development in the credit sector is reflected clearly in the increase of the total assets, which increased by 42,096.5 million DM between 1951 to 1968 to 44,077.3 million DM. Because of efforts made for amalgamation, the number of independent Raiffeisen credit co-operatives decreased from 11,200 in 1950, to 7,936 in 1968. During the same period the average total assets of agricultural credit co-operatives increased from approximately 0.2 million DM to 4.5 million DM.

The proportion of the total assets of Raiffeisen Zentralbanken and Raiffeisen credit co-operatives to those of all banks was 7.2% in 1968 compared to 6% in 1951. The constantly growing number of members as well as the development of the network of head and branch offices, in response to competition, justifies the conclusion that this share can be enlarged in the years to come.

The increase in the volume of total assets is mainly the result of total deposits which have increased considerably over the past few years, in spite of the reduced earnings. The Raiffeisen credit organisation was able to increase its share from 7% in 1951 to 10.2% by the end of 1968, and at present occupies 7th place among all bank groups. It comes in 2nd place with savings deposits (share - 12.9%) and 4th place with demand and forward deposits (6.1%).

The credit co-operatives and Zentralbanken were also able to extend their market share in the credit business, in spite of frequently recurring fluctuations and uncertain economic situations. The Raiffeisen Credit Organisation could thus increase its credit volume from 1,121 million DM in 1951, to 21,999 million DM, an increase of almost 20 fold. With a share of 6% of total credits the Raiffeisen Credit Organisation, by the end of 1968, ranked 6th among all bank groups.

In spite of increased competition and many structural improvements in the whole economy, agricultural credit during all these years remained the fundamental function of the banking business of credit co-operatives. Compared to 1951, when the Raiffeisen share was still at 23.9%, the market share of total agricultural credit volume has increased to 26.6%. Short-, medium- and long-term credits, by which the Raiffeisen Credit Organisation and the Co-operative mortgage banks have contributed to the modernisation of Agriculture in the Federal Republic of Germany, amounted by the end of 1967 to approximately 6.6 milliard DM.

They promoted to a noticeable extent the mechanisation of farms by making available medium and long-term credits for farmers, and thus created a necessary condition for the additional release of labour which is so much needed in other sectors of the economy. The Raiffeisen Credit Co-operatives and Zentralbanken participated with 60% or 2,224 million DM of all short-term agricultural credits, mainly granted as seasonal credit and for financing of harvests.

The Raiffeisen Zentralbanken and Credit Co-operatives, at present have owned capital at a level of 5.2% of the total, considerably higher than the national average, which is 3.8%. At present, surpassed only by HP credit institutes, they rank 2nd place of all bank groups in this respect.

Agricultural Co-operatives

The business development of agricultural co-operatives has in most agricultural products been equally successful as the development of the Raiffeisen Credit Organisations.

In terms of sales returns of agriculture, the volume of agricultural production in the country increased by 3½ times, from 1949/50 to 1967/68. Based on estimates, agricultural co-operatives were able to increase their share in agricultural returns during the same period, from 33.8% to a total today of approximately 36.5%.

When one also takes into account the supply and purchase operations carried out through agricultural co-operatives, the co-operative share in the total turnover of agricultural business amounts at present to 45%, an increase of approximately 13% compared with 1960/61.

The development of agricultural co-operatives took a quite uneven course, depending upon the commodity or region involved. The turnover of egg co-operatives was much less dynamic, while the turnover of dairy co-operatives (not counting milk collecting centres and co-operative federations, which do not have their own procurement area) increased in 1949 from 3.1 milliard DM to 12 milliard DM, and the turnover of livestock processing co-operatives increased by the end of 1968 from 0.5 milliard DM to 3.5 milliard DM.

Both dairy and winegrowers' co-operatives were able to extend their market share satisfactorily. 30% of the total wine harvest was handled by them in 1968. The co-operative share in total sales of cereal has increased from 26.9% in 1952 to 35.6% today. The appropriate share of the trade amounts to 35.6% and the proportion of co-operative processing plants is 15.7%. This increase is still more remarkable if one takes into account the high investment required for the setting up of the necessary handling, drying and storage facilities.

The turnover of fruit and vegetable processing co-operatives has been determined since 1951 by considerably fluctuating harvest results. The co-operative share in agricultural returns is at present, measured in quantity, 27.6% for vegetables, 17.8% for fruit, and according to value, 40.5% for vegetables and 21.2% for fruit.

The trend in feeding stuffs and fertilizer supplies as well as of sales of machinery is not steady but is increasing. Whereas the Raiffeisen co-operatives were able to increase their feeding stuffs supplies to agriculture by 7 times, the value of feeding stuffs purchased by agriculture as a whole has only increased by 4 times since 1951/53. The Raiffeisen co-operatives' share in the value of total feeding stuffs purchased by agriculture was by the end of 1967/68 almost double that of the financial year 1952/53. The development of fertilizer supplies by Raiffeisen co-operatives to farmers shows a similar growth. Its share increased by 27% from 1952/53 to the end of 1968.

Except for minor fluctuations, the turnover of Raiffeisen co-operatives' machinery sales to agriculture is increasing. The Raiffeisen co-operatives were able to increase their sales by 615.1 million DM to 808.6 million DM, and have thus increased their share in the total purchase of machinery to the agricultural sector by more than two times.

The favourable development in the credit and commodity sector, which has been marked during the past few years by a strong expansive trend, should encourage the Raiffeisen co-operatives to stabilise and possibly even to strengthen their present economic position. To achieve this, it is essential to grasp completely the constant structural shifts on the single markets, and then to take appropriate measures to assure a smooth adjustment to the new market and competitive conditions.

JAMAICA

DAIRY LOAN SCHEME

In 1969 it was announced that £400,000 was transferred to the Agricultural Credit Board of Jamaica under the U.S. AID Dairy Loan Scheme, to be utilised in making loans to dairy farmers for the development of the Dairy Industry. The object of the loan is to increase the local production of milk and milk products, and so reduce the amount required to be imported. The programme of development involves both the development of new and of existing dairy farms.

Concerning the new dairy farmers, the programme involves all farmers settled, or to be settled, at particular centres set up with loan funds provided jointly by the Government of Jamaica and the U.S. Government through its Agency for International Development. Loans are given to established farms averaging about 24 acres each, equipped with house, dairy animals, farm buildings, pastures, dairy equipment, etc. These loans, which extend over a period of 25 years, cover the cost of the land, house, dairy buildings, pastures, electricity, dairy animals, equipment, water supply, etc.

The Agricultural Credit Board's responsibility in this programme is, at present, confined to the collection of loan repayments scheduled monthly over a period of 25 years. The first payments have been made through the Rhymesfield Dairy Development Co-operative Limited, of which the participating farmers were members. This Co-operative handles the marketing of their milk, as well as the supply of feeds and fertilizers, etc. The funds being used to finance this programme are separate from the £400,000 mentioned above.

The £400,000 referred to applies mostly to the programme involving existing dairy farmers. Loans are available from this money to existing dairy farmers at 6% simple interest per annum, for any or all purposes consistent with the improvement or expansion of their farms. The emphasis is not on the size of the farm in terms of acreage or number of dairy animals, but rather on the viability of the project. Thus, the business must be able to pay its way, including loan repayments, and give the farmer a reasonable profit.

PERU

AGRARIAN REFORM EXECUTED THROUGH CO-OPERATIVES

In Peru the "New Agrarian Reform" was decreed in June 1969, and it stipulates that large private holdings will be divided, very small farms (minifundios) regrouped, and farming co-operatives formed. Till that time about 1,200 landowners held 60% of the total cultivated area in Peru.

The Government announced it would assume liabilities of expropriated farms and manage them through special committees formed by government officers. Water resources have also been declared to be public property.

Later in the year the Peruvian military government transformed one of the largest sugar plantations in the country into the first farming co-operative. The Minister of Agriculture announced that the Tuman plantation, which produces approximately 10% of Peruvian sugar, has been organised into such a co-operative. The family which owned the plantation opposed this measure, but unsuccessfully.

Meanwhile, other sugar plantations which were the first to be affected by the agrarian reform decreed in June, are organising for the formation of co-operatives.

The Government has named a committee which recently has begun to administer the plantations. The committee, made up of representatives of the central bank, workers, farmers and authorities, is in charge of the administration of the sugar plantations and of the formation and preparation of the co-operatives. A spokesman of the Ministry of Agriculture declared that they believe that by December all the sugar plantations will have begun to function as co-operatives.

UNION OF COFFEE GROWERS

A group of 20 coffee growers' co-operatives with over 8,000 associates as potential membership has formed the Union of Agrarian Co-operatives of Chanchamayo, a region of Peru comprising two-thirds of all co-operatives producing and marketing around 450,000 cwts. of coffee.

The new union was organised thanks to the initiative of several agrarian co-operatives in the area, and it will be allotted 60% of the nation's coffee export quota. It will provide not only marketing facilities, but also technical advisory services for the administrative phase as well as for the agricultural operations.

In Peru there are 32 co-operatives comprising 15,000 coffee growers, most of them small and medium scale farmers. The total coffee production represents an operation of over \$15 million.

PERU (Contd.)

FIRST SEMINAR ON AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION

The first National Seminar on Agricultural Co-operation was held late last year in Huampani, Peru, under the auspices of the Cooperativa de Seguros Inca, including 130 delegates and guests. Discussions were held on agrarian reform, co-operative enterprise, communal farms, rural planning, co-operation and agricultural education.

Among the recommendations was one to ask the Government to endorse the installation of multi-purpose agricultural co-operatives; another to request the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries for technical aid for agricultural co-operatives; and a suggestion to the government that it should encourage development of the National Co-operative Bank with branches throughout the country. Government agencies were also asked to give priority to technical courses in rural education in accordance with the needs of the various geographic areas.

RESUME FRANÇAIS

NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES - PLANS DU SECOND CONGRÈS MONDIAL DE L'ALIMENTATION

Le Second Congrès Mondial de l'Alimentation a lieu à La Haye en juin. La présente publication contient un aperçu sur les thèmes principaux des travaux de ce Congrès qui reposeront sur les conclusions du Plan Indicatif Mondial pour le développement agricole sous les auspices de la FAO.

NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES - LE COGECA ET LA CEE DISCUTENT DES PROBLÈMES DE LA COOPÉRATION AGRICOLE

Un bref résumé est donné sur les entretiens de février entre le COGECA et la CEE, et portant sur le mémorandum sur la réforme de l'agriculture européenne, les mesures visant à créer des groupements de producteurs et à instituer des organismes interprofessionnels au niveau européen, et les dispositions actives prises par les coopératives pour adapter la production à la demande.

NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES - SEMINAIRES ORGANISÉS EN ASIE DU SUD-EST SOUS LE CO-PARRAINAGE DE L'A.C.I.

Plusieurs séminaires et conférences importants se sont tenus au cours des derniers mois en Asie du sud-est sur des questions relatives à l'agriculture. Citons notamment le séminaire régional organisé en Corée sur "Les activités d'orientation agricole des coopératives agricoles", la conférence d'experts convoquée au Népal sur "Le rôle des coopératives dans le développement de l'agriculture", et un séminaire régional tenu aux Philippines sur "La commercialisation des céréales alimentaires par les coopératives". Compte-rendu succinct est donné de ces différentes réunions.

REPUBLIQUE FEDERALE D'ALLEMAGNE - LES COOPÉRATIVES RAIFFEISEN AUGMENTENT LEUR PART SUR L'ENSEMBLE DU MARCHÉ

L'Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin salue l'affiliation à l'A.C.I. de l'organisation allemande Raiffeisen. L'article consacré à cette Organisation évoque les principaux domaines dans lesquels les coopératives Raiffeisen agricoles et de crédit ont particulièrement progressé au cours des dernières années. L'article met également en relief la cadence remarquable à laquelle elles continuent leur expansion en dépit de la farouche concurrence qu'elles doivent affronter dans leurs secteurs d'activités.

JAMAÏQUE - PRÊTS AUX INDUSTRIES LAITIÈRES

L'article rend compte du transfert de 400 000 Livres Sterling à l'Office du Crédit agricole de la Jamaïque dans le cadre du Programme de Prêts aux Industries laitières au titre de l'AID U.S.A., programme destiné à aider les éleveurs de bétail laitier à développer leur industrie. Les premiers versements ont été effectués par le canal d'une organisation coopérative, "la Rhymesfield Dairy Development Co-operative Limited."

PEROU - MISE EN OEUVRE DE LA REFORME AGRAIRE PAR L'ACTION DES COOPERATIVES

On a annoncé en 1969 au Pérou la prochaine division des exploitations privées de grande dimension et le regroupement des petites exploitations, cette mesure globale devant avoir pour résultat de former des coopératives agricoles. Une des plus grandes plantations sucrières du pays a été la première affectée par cette réforme en se transformant en coopérative agricole. Une nouvelle union de coopératives de planteurs de café s'est également créée; en plus de ses activités intéressant la commercialisation, elle fournira également des prestations consultatives techniques portant sur les transactions agricoles et administratives. Dans un autre article consacré au même pays, on relève que, pour la première fois au Pérou, s'est tenu à la fin de 1969 un séminaire national de la coopération agricole.

STUDIES AND REPORTS (Fifth in the Series)

'World-wide Training of Co-operative Experts'

The I.C.A. and the International Federation of Agricultural Producers have brought out in No. 5 of the I.C.A. Studies and Reports series an off-print of articles on the world-wide training of co-operative experts which appeared in the 'Review of International Co-operation' in 1969. The articles appeared at the request of the Second International Conference on Technical Assistance to Developing Countries in the Co-operative Field and the I.F.A.P. and the I.C.A. considered it important to their mutual activities to publish this off-print in order to make the important contents known to a wider circle of readers.

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Agricultural Co-operative

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE 11 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 9PA



No. 5 1970

X

I.C.A. OPEN CONFERENCE ON

"THE ROLE OF AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT"

ROME, SEPTEMBER 1971

Agricultural Executive in Sofia discussed preparation of this Conference

The Agricultural Executive met in Sofia on the 10th and 11th May and discussed the preparation of the above-mentioned Conference.

The other main item on the Agenda was a report on the Agricultural Co-operative Movement and its Organisation in Bulgaria, a short summary of which is reported under Bulgaria on page 6.

AIMS OF THE CONFERENCE

The aim of the proposed Conference is to discuss problems facing agricultural co-operatives when fulfilling their objectives in various countries; the place of agricultural co-operatives in the national economy and their relation to other co-operatives; collaboration between co-operatives and governments; the role of co-operatives in economic and social development.

This Conference is held at the threshold of the Second Development Decade and may be taken as a follow up of the E.C.O.S.O.C. Resolution on Co-operatives 1413 (XLVI).

The task of the Second Development Decade is to improve the economic and social conditions in the world especially in developing countries, and there particularly in food production.

Moreover, farming in developed countries is, as a rule, the least developed industry, very much dependent on government policies. As a result of this, and in spite of many things which may divide countries of various social fabrics and at different levels of development, there are crucial

problems of common interest to agricultural co-operatives all over the world; higher economic efficiency; mobilisation of human resources and better management; and proper relations with governments. These would represent a set of essential tasks which would give a boost to all co-operative activities and ought to be in the focus of the work of all agricultural co-operatives. Of course, there are many other important problems which may be discussed at this Conference. There are other types of co-operative tasks and services which help farmers to improve their position and contribute to the development of community and economic growth; it is intended to group those under the headings of the problems mentioned above. The short duration of the Conference is also a reason which speaks for its work to be focused on essential problems.

Reports and Working Groups

The three main themes of the Conference will be: efficiency of co-operatives; mobilisation of human resources; collaboration with governments and other national and international institutions. Three reports according to those main themes will be established. If possible, the reports should represent the synthesis of work and documentation obtained from countries of different levels of development and economic systems. Where this cannot be achieved it is proposed to have also co-reports of ten minutes each.

Three working groups, according to those main themes, will be established. Their object will be to work out proposals for the Conference, aiming that the summary of the work of the Conference should concentrate on the key problems.

PROPOSED AGENDA

- I. Introduction: Role of Agricultural Co-operatives in Economic and Social Development.
- II. Economic Efficiency of Agricultural Co-operatives.
- III. Mobilisation of Human Resources through Co-operatives.
- IV. Co-operatives and Environment: Collaboration with Governments and other National and International Institutions.

ORGANISATION OF THE CONFERENCE

Attendance and Fee

The Conference will be organised by the I.C.A. as an open Conference. The I.C.A. Agricultural Executive proposed in Sofia than the I.F.A.P., F.A.O. and the I.L.O. should be approached to be co-sponsors of this Conference. In Sofia it was decided that the way in which these organisations should contribute to this Conference should be discussed in Malmo at the meeting of the Agricultural Committee to be held on the 27th July.

Participants to this Conference should be first of all representatives of organisations consisting of agricultural producers in general agreement with the co-operative principles defined at the Vienna Congress of the I.C.A. Participants' aims should be to improve the technical and economic conditions of the production of their members as well as their members' social status, whatever their legal constitution. The word 'agriculture' includes forestry and fisheries.

Co-operation in this Conference with other international, non-governmental, co-operative and similar organisations, such as the C.E.A., C.I.C.A., International Raiffeisen Union and A.A.R.R.O. will be requested, and for that reason, as in the case of the I.C.A. and the I.F.A.P., members of those organisations should automatically enjoy hospitality. Further, all agricultural co-operative institutes and representatives of universities or faculties teaching the subject of agricultural co-operatives should have the right to send participants to this Conference.

The Conference will be held in the F.A.O. building and it is understood that the F.A.O. is prepared to give the necessary working accommodation and certain support in interpretation facilities. It is envisaged to have simultaneous interpretation in at least three languages, English, French and German.

AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

A meeting of representatives of the I.C.A., F.A.O., I.L.O., I.F.A.P. and I.F.P.A.A.W. was held in Rome at the headquarters of the F.A.O. on the 13th and 14th April, 1970. Dr. S. K. Saxena, Director, represented the I.C.A. and Dr. F. Cortesi participated in the meetings on behalf of the I.C.A. Agricultural Committee in place of Dr. L. Malfettani.

The main point discussed was the co-ordination of activities of the participating organisations in the field of agricultural co-operation. At the end of the meeting an agreement was signed by the U.N. Agencies and the three International non-governmental organisations to establish a committee to be known as the "Joint Committee for the Promotion of Agricultural Co-operatives" (C.O.P.A.C.).

The tasks of the Committee will be to co-ordinate between international organisations actively interested in the promotion of agricultural co-operatives and rural associations with a co-operative character; to identify and prepare appropriate projects and programmes to make better use of available resources; and to co-ordinate the experiences of inter-governmental organisations in technical assistance.

FOURTH MEETING OF THE I.C.A. AGRICULTURAL SUB-COMMITTEE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

The Agricultural Sub-Committee for South-East Asia, which met in Seoul on the 4th and 5th May, 1970, upon the invitation of the National Agricultural Co-operative Federation of Korea, decided to set up a Fisheries' Group of the Agricultural Sub-Committee, whose role would be to give attention to the problems of fishermen's co-operatives in the Region.

It was proposed by the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives in Japan (CUAC) that a survey should be conducted of agricultural marketing projects in the South-East Asian countries served by the Regional Office and Education Centre, with a view to accelerating the development of co-operative agricultural marketing. The CUAC has placed \$12,500 at the disposal of the I.C.A. to be used for this survey, the local costs of which are to be borne by the member organisations concerned.

A Working Group for Trade Promotion dealing with trade in agricultural commodities was set up, consisting of the members of the Agricultural Sub-Committee.

I.C.A. COMMODITY CONFERENCE ON FRUIT AND VEGETABLES AND FEEDINGSTUFFS

The Commodity Conference on Fruit and Vegetables and Feedingstuffs was held in Tokyo from the 12th to 16th May, organised jointly by the I.C.A. Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia, the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives of Japan, and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Co-operation in Asia.

Twenty-nine participants at the Conference came from Ceylon, India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Pakistan, the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., as well as observers from the Malaysian Co-operative Insurance Society, the National Co-operative Union of India, the F.A.O., I.L.O. and E.C.A.F.E. The I.C.A. was represented by Mr. M. V. Madane, Joint Director (Technical Assistance and Trade); Mr. Shiro Futagami, Deputy Director of the Education Centre; Mr. Jai Prakash, Assistant, Trade and Technical Assistance; and Mr. A. H. Ganesan, Personal Secretary to the Regional Director.

Subjects for discussion included feedingstuff raw materials; foreign trade in fruit and vegetables; and the role of the I.C.A. in promoting imports and exports of these commodities.

I.C.A. REGIONAL SEMINAR ON MARKETING OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES THROUGH CO-OPERATIVES

Tokyo was the venue for the Regional Seminar of Fruit and Vegetables through Co-operatives, which was jointly organised by the I.C.A. Regional Office and Education Centre for South-East Asia, the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives of Japan (CUAC) and the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Co-operation in Asia from the 17th to 27th May. Thirty-one participants from Ceylon, India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand attended the Seminar, as well as observers from the F.A.O., I.L.O. and A.P.O. The I.C.A. was represented by the same persons who attended the Commodity Conference.

The delegate and observers were welcomed by Mr. Fujimoto, Chief of the International Department of the C.U.A.C., who stressed the need for continued collaboration between the I.C.A. and C.U.A.C. in organising joint activities of a technical character. Mr. M. V. Madane, Joint Director (Technical Assistance and Trade) welcomed the delegates and observers on behalf of the I.C.A.

The principal issues discussed included the present position of marketing fruit and vegetables through co-operatives in various countries; planned production for effective marketing; financing of the trade of fruit and vegetables; export prospects and relations between producers' and consumers' co-operatives; market research, intelligence and organisational problems; and personnel development and training.

BULGARIA

THE POSITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION CO-OPERATIVES IN BULGARIA

This short report is a combination of a summary and extracts from the report of Mr. S. Syulemesov, President of the Central Co-operative Union of Bulgaria, given to the 22nd Meeting of the Agricultural Executive in Sofia in May of this year.

Mr. Syulemesov explained that there had been efforts in Bulgaria to establish agricultural production co-operatives as far back as 1905. Conditions did not allow results. In the period 1925-32, some co-operatives worked for a few years. Success was achieved only after 1936-37. Out of 66 production co-operatives, only 46 were viable. 17 were closed by the Government in power at that time. In fact only 29 survived the liberation of the country. These were the nucleus of agricultural co-operation established after the war. It was difficult to develop this type of co-operative because of the country's very small farm units. There were 12.2 million plots of land, with an average of .35 hectares (about one acre) each. The political support after the war given by the Communist Party and other political forces joined in the united front, was of help in developing this type of co-operative. From the economic angle, the size of these co-operative societies was a very important factor contributing to their success.

The main characteristics of Bulgarian agricultural production co-operatives are the following: collective farming in Bulgaria had not completely abolished private property, but was in some way based on private property of land. In fact, co-operatives paid a rent to individual farmers who pooled their land into collective farming co-operatives. This was originally 45% of the total income of farmers and later it was decreased to 30% for crops and 40% for orchards and wine production. Thus, the members participated in co-operatives, both with their land and labour. This rent was maintained until 1959 and then the general meetings of co-operative societies renounced the rent. This cancellation came about because agricultural production co-operatives allowed sufficient ploughing back of their profits (into irrigation, mechanisation and other investments and services needed for agriculture). Yields of wheat increased from 12 quintal to 31 quintal per hectare at the national level. Other measures were introduced such as free education, pensions, and health insurance. A central fund was established in the Central Co-operative Union for crop damages. 85% of total investments stemmed from own resources and 15% from banks with a 2% interest. In principle, collectivisation was voluntary. A farmer could leave the society and he could be given back an adequate plot of land. However, there were individual cases of forced collectivisation. Moreover, the Government assisted co-operatives very heavily. Another kind of encouragement for collective farming was that individual farmers paid higher taxes than members of production co-operatives. Also loans were given without or with a very low interest rate, and various services and extension were provided. All these factors contributed to a rise in the farmers' income of 3.5 times that of 1956. Their experience was that, notwithstanding political power, the benefits of collective co-operatives did exist. Nationalisation was not carried out,

but agrarian reform with a limit of 20 hectares. Their experience was that progress could not be introduced in agriculture with small holdings. The average size of co-operative farms was over 4,000 hectares. This gave an opportunity for introducing mechanisation and other modern services for agriculture. There was a new form of concentration and specialisation in animal husbandry: a few co-operative farms established an inter-co-operative enterprise in livestock production, e.g. poultry "combinat" with 5 million broilers, or 100,000 pigs, or feeding-lots of 5 to 10,000 beef cattle. The Government is also encouraging agro-industrial complexes whereby a few agricultural co-operatives would unite their land and establish necessary plant or packing stations for introducing modern agricultural and industrial methods of production. They would elect a joint board of management but would preserve their legal independence. The purpose of this is to establish big production units and reduce the cost of production. This is a very recent decision. At present, 70% of the land is being farmed by co-operatives, 10% is in private hands and the rest is in State farms and governmental experimental stations..

ITALY

IV CONGRESS OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES

As was briefly mentioned in the Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin No. 2 & 3 1970, the Fourth Congress of the Associazione Nazionale delle Cooperative Agricole (ANCA), was held in Rome from the 5th to 7th February, 1970. The Congress discussed some topical problems of Italian agriculture and the role of co-operatives in improving their position. The Congress elected the new Board of Directors and Valdo Magnani was voted President and Luciano Bernardini was voted Vice-President.

A Resolution was approved which urged more co-ordination in agricultural co-operation and asked for possible integration at all levels. It confirmed the task of the agricultural co-operative movement to bring to the country and before Parliament - and at every level - the struggle to achieve legislation for access of land. There was a need for new legislation which would satisfy this aspiration, a need for the land belonging to public bodies intended for agriculture to pass into the hands of farmers' and workers' co-operatives. A need was also stressed for the creation of a mechanism controlling the price of land, a modification of the rent contract procedure.

The Resolution draw attention to co-operative farming. It urged more co-operation between the urban and farming population in the struggle against speculation and monopolies. To achieve this purpose, a reform of co-operative organisations, especially the Federconsorzi, was proposed. It advocated that the developing bodies should be integrated with regional assemblies which should be run on the basis of self-government. ANCA should not only be re-inforced, but its functions must be altered so that it should be regarded as an instrument for forecasting, fighting against speculation and the formation of surpluses

The conclusion of the Congress was that the Co-operative Movement had achieved successes, but it was necessary to continue to improve the Union's structure; furthermore, it should concentrate in the Centres on the development of production associations. For this reason, the Resolution stressed that all Co-operative Movements in Italy should contribute to the establishment of Centres for associations and provincial and regional co-operatives.

LAOS

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK TO AID AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Multi-Purpose Agricultural Co-operative to be Formed

The Asian Development Bank has approved a concessional loan of U.S. \$973,000 and a technical assistance grant of \$275,000 to the Government of Laos for the implementation of the Tha Ngon Agricultural Development Project. The Bank's assistance will enable the Laotian Government to develop for year-round irrigated farming 1,000 hectares of unused land in the northern part of Vientiane Plain.

The loan, the first to be given to Laos from the Bank's resources will finance part of the foreign exchange cost of the construction of irrigation, flood protection and drainage systems, construction of roads and other infrastructure facilities, and will involve the settlement of about 400 farm families. It is the first integrated project in Laos, and as such represents a pioneering effort.

One feature of the project is the establishment of a multi-purpose agricultural co-operative (involving compulsory membership for all farmers in the area) to assist in marketing, the provision of credit facilities and the collection of water charges for the project. This will be the first attempt by the Laotian Government to set up such a farmers' association and to collect water charges.

Construction and implementation of the project will afford considerable opportunity to train local personnel in adopting improved farming practices, double cropping and the application of modern and scientific farm inputs and thus enable the Laotians to undertake subsequent projects with less dependence on foreign assistance.

Résumé français

Nouvelles internationales - Conférence libre de l'A.C.I. sur "Le Rôle des coopératives agricoles dans le Développement économique et social".

La conférence précitée, qui doit s'ouvrir à Rome en septembre 1971, a fait l'objet d'un débat approfondi à la réunion de l'Exécutif agricole tenue les 10 et 11 mai 1970 à Sofia. Description est donnée des aspects détaillés de la prochaine conférence dont les objectifs couvriront des problèmes cruciaux d'intérêt commun aux coopératives agricoles du monde entier, parmi lesquels l'accroissement de la rentabilité économique, la mobilisation des ressources humaines, le perfectionnement de la gestion, et les relations satisfaisantes avec les milieux gouvernementaux.

Cette description embrasse également l'organisation de la conférence, le détail de son ordre du jour, etc... L'on espère que d'autres organismes internationaux seront prêts à co-parrainer cette conférence conjointement à l'A.C.I.

Nouvelles internationales - Coopération agricole dans les pays en développement

Rapport succinct est donné de la réunion des représentants respectifs de l'A.C.I., la FAO, l'OIT, la FIPA et la FITPASC tenue à Rome en avril. Le point primordial des débats a porté sur la coordination des activités des organisations participantes dans le domaine de la coopération agricole. Les organisations intéressées sont convenues d'instituer un comité intitulé "Comité conjoint pour la promotion des coopératives agricoles" (COPAC).

Nouvelles internationales - Activités agricoles de l'A.C.I. en Asie du sud-est

Le Sous-comité agricole pour l'Asie du sud-est réuni à Séoul au début de mai a décidé la création d'un groupe des activités de pêcheries dans le cadre du sous-comité agricole et qui se penchera sur les problèmes des coopératives de pêcheurs régionales. Proposition a également été émise d'entreprendre une enquête sur les projets de commercialisation des produits agricoles dans la région considérée, en vue d'accélérer l'essor des coopératives d'écoulement des produits agricoles.

Un peu plus tard le même mois, s'est tenue à Tokyo une conférence des produits portant sur les fruits et légumes et les produits d'alimentation animale, organisée conjointement par le Bureau régional et Centre d'éducation de l'A.C.I. en Asie du sud-est, l'Union centrale des coopératives agricoles du Japon et l'Institut pour le Développement de la coopération agricole en Asie. A la suite de cette conférence a eu lieu à Tokyo également un séminaire régional sur l'écoulement des fruits et légumes par la voie coopérative, sous les auspices des mêmes organisations. Les principales questions examinées tant à la Conférence qu'au séminaire sont mentionnées dans les articles.

Bulgarie - Place des coopératives de production agricole en Bulgarie

Résumé et extraits sont donnés du rapport de M.S. Syulemesov, président de l'Union coopérative centrale de Bulgarie, à la 22ème réunion de l'Exécutif agricole tenue en mai à Sofia. M.S. Syulemesov a évoqué les origines, l'évolution et les caractéristiques principales des coopératives de production agricole de Bulgarie.

Italie - IVème Congrès de l'Association Nationale des coopératives agricoles.

Rapport succinct est donné du Congrès précité convoqué à Rome en février et auquel le Secrétaire à l'agriculture était convié en qualité d'invité. La résolution principale du Congrès est évoquée dans ses grandes lignes, notamment les passages incitant à l'accroissement de la coordination en matière de coopération et intégration agricoles, et attirant l'attention sur les problèmes de l'agriculture coopérative à l'heure actuelle.

Laos - La Banque Asiatique de Développement apporte son concours au projet de développement agricole.

La Banque Asiatique de développement vient d'accorder son premier prêt au Laos en faveur de la mise en oeuvre d'un projet de développement agricole dans la plaine du nord de Vientiane, projet qui prévoit notamment la fondation d'une coopérative agricole multi-fonctionnelle (avec adhésion obligatoire de tous les agriculteurs dans la région couverte) chargée de favoriser l'écoulement des produits et d'organiser la mise en place de facilités de crédit et l'encaissement des taxes d'eau.



Agricultural Co-operative

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE 11 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 9PA

No. 6 1970



CANADA

REVIEW OF 1969 - AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES

Canadian grain exports during 1968-69 declined for the third year in succession. The problems faced by agricultural co-operatives were summed up in a report of an official of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool: "Crop year 1968-69 must rank as one of the most difficult ever experienced in the history of agriculture in Saskatchewan. Because the Pool is an extension of each of its members' activities, the economic factors affecting the members during the year had a similar effect on their organisation. The Grain and Farm Service Division were severely affected by the slowdown in grain movement. The damp grain emergency, and a partial breakdown in the whole orderly marketing and transportation processes prevented efficient utilisation of facilities. High interest rates, large inventories and generally increased operating costs added to the problem of low volume operations. Some activities, notably livestock, flour and vegetable oil had a relatively successful year, but these favourable influences could not significantly mitigate the adverse conditions of the general farm economy".

Despite this situation, the Wheat Pool annual meeting, held near the year's end, was positive and constructive, a testimony to the many years of careful concern for the member development aspect of the organisations' programming.

The United Farmers of Alberta Co-operative reported its third largest sales in its history, and second highest earnings. Manitoba Co-op Honey Producers reported an excellent honey crop of above average quality, but adequate prices for honey still remains a problem. Amalgamation with Saskatchewan Honey Co-operatives is being seriously considered by both organisations. Co-op Vegetable Oils Ltd. reported very much increased sales, but average prices received by the producers dropped. A major expansion costing \$600,000 is to be undertaken by the organisation.

Canadian Co-operative Implements Ltd. report a serious decline in machinery sales, reflecting the short cash position of farmers and the depressed state of the industry as a whole.

FISHERMEN'S CO-OPERATIVES

1969 witnessed an upswing in the fortunes of fishermen and eased somewhat the strain experienced by their marketing and service co-operatives in recent years. Improvement in market returns for most fish products was the main factor, as well as improved catch reported in some areas. Continued absence of a herring fishery and a generally poor season for British Columbian salmon affected plant utilisation and also returns to the members of the Prince Rupert Fishermen's Co-operative Association.

Vertical integration is a concern of fishermen particularly in British Columbia. It is reported that approximately 65% of the B.C. fishing industry is controlled by one private food chain. A complete overhaul of the methods of handling fish, from the fishermen to market, is anticipated if co-operatives are to maintain their competitive position.

Fogo Island Fishermen's Co-operative reported another successful year. The first year's operation of the Fresh Water Fish Marketing Board resulted in a good return to inland fishermen. Co-operative Fisheries Ltd., which has handled, processed and marketed about half of the fish production in Saskatchewan, is expanding its operations into Manitoba.

United Maritime Fishermen Ltd. is moving towards an integrated structure to replace the present federated structure. Closer working relationship between fishermen's co-operatives in Canada was discussed at a meeting in Montreal. As one manager put it, "it is becoming increasingly evident that all of the fishermen's co-operatives in Canada need to pool their efforts wherever possible, in order to strengthen their position in the Canadian economy.

PRINCE RUPERT FISHERMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING

At the Prince Rupert Fishermen's Co-operative Association's 30th annual meeting in December 1969, reports indicated sales of over \$10 million, an increase of 11% over the previous year, and resulting in \$5½ million being distributed to members. Reports on 1969 production also indicated that the co-operative had been adversely affected by the generally poor salmon fishing results encountered by the British Columbian industry during the past season. Generally, higher prices were obtained for most fish compared with the previous year, and during the past five years, it was reported, the Association has developed a fairly extensive trade in frozen fish for overseas with the European and United Kingdom markets.

This meeting, along with other District meetings, were unanimous in opposing the recent announcement by the Minister of Fisheries of his intention to institute a levy on the gross value of catch by salmon fishing vessels, starting in 1970, for the purpose of buying back boats engaged in the salmon fishery. The Association again went on record as favouring a system of higher standards for boats and gear to be required by the Department of Fisheries, as a more natural way of decreasing the number of vessels involved in the salmon fishery. Such a system should have the following principles in mind:

- a. The quality of the product to be delivered by the fishermen;
- b. The making of fishing economically sound when boat and gear are used to the maximum to produce high-quality fish;
- c. Safety in operation;
- d. The discouragement of the part-time and marginal fisherman from engaging in the enterprise.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO FARM PRODUCTION CO-OPERATIVES

In February Premier Ross Thatcher gave Saskatchewan government support to the promotion of farm production co-operatives in Saskatchewan, following presentation of a brief by the Co-operative Development Association.

The brief suggested that production co-operatives, particularly machinery co-operatives, provide a method whereby farmers can develop more viable farm units, solve labour problems, cut production costs, and generally minimise the considerable readjustment problems facing Saskatchewan agriculture. However, the brief discouraged formation of associations which would own the land.

The government was urged to lend full support to co-operative field staff by allowing agricultural representatives and farm management specialists to work on the extension programme. The Deputy Minister of Agriculture said, he would ask his extension staff to support such a programme, as he was very much impressed with the low cost of producing a bushel of grain, as indicated in the brief.

The Secretary of the Co-operative Development Association, Mr. J.F. Midmore, said, "The next step for co-operatives is to develop a promotion programme, and then set up the machinery to promote production co-operatives." He also mentioned that should there be a good demand from Saskatchewan farmers to form production co-operatives, the government was prepared to consider working out some joint government-co-operative financing of the programme.

CEYLON

FISHERMEN'S CO-OPERATIVES

During the past several years Fishermen's Co-operatives in Ceylon have made significant progress. Existing societies have been re-organised, dormant ones re-vitalised and new organisations formed on Co-operative principles by holding training classes for the prospective members prior to registration. A noticeable feature has been the rapid progress made by the Fishermen's Co-operatives in the Southern part of Ceylon.

The progress made by the Fishermen's Co-operatives could chiefly be attributed to the education programme that was pursued vigorously among members of Societies. The knowledge imparted through the medium of training classes include the teaching of Co-operative principles, modern methods of fishing, joint marketing of members produce and insurance. A training class for a single Society was concluded in a day while residential 3 day training classes were conducted at the training centres in Negombo and Galle. A start has already been made to hold residential training classes lasting for a week or fortnight for groups of Societies to train members in the use of modern fishing gear, rigging, mending of nets, repair and maintenance of engines and practical training out at sea.

Training classes are conducted by the Co-operative Department in collaboration with the Fisheries Department, Ceylon Fisheries Corporation and the Insurance Corporation of Ceylon.

During the past two years the Co-operative Department had stationed officers in most of the coastal districts to foster the development of Fishermen's Co-operatives. To pursue this programme of development vigorously an Assistant Commissioner with two Inspectors has been appointed at national level.

The fisheries Corporation has made similar arrangements detailing a field officer exclusively for the development of Fishermen's Co-operatives in almost all coastal districts. The Ceylon Fisheries Corporation has appointed an officer of staff grade to work for the development of Fisheries Co-operatives all around the island. At present the 3 institutions, namely, the Co-operative Department, Fisheries Department and the Ceylon Fisheries Corporation, work in collaboration at the district and national level.

Almost all registered Co-operatives earlier used the traditional outdated craft for fishing. Subsequently, with the assistance of the Department of Fisheries, it has been possible to issue 3½ ton mechanised boats to a large number of Societies on a hire purchase basis. Prior to 1968 the practice has been to issue these boats on hire purchase terms to private fishermen only. From 1968 the Department started issuing one boat for every four members in a Co-operative, provided the Society functions satisfactorily.

The value of each boat with its necessary fishing gear is approximately Rs.26,000/-. It has recently been decided by the Government to write off half this sum on the Society paying half the value of the boat.

Incomes of individual members have increased tremendously after mechanisation. The re-payment to the Department of Fisheries has been very satisfactory and this is really praise-worthy when compared to the re-payment by the non-member fishermen. Within one year a Society in the South has been able to own two boats by repaying half the value of the boats, while another Society in the same region has obtained boats for the full complement of its members.

The catches of a large number of Societies are sold to the Ceylon Fisheries Corporation which fixes prices for different varieties of fish for each fishing season, by negotiations with the Society and in consultation with the Co-operative Department and the Fisheries Department. Quite apart from saving the Co-operatives from the clutches of the middleman who has dominated the field of marketing for many years, there have been several other benefits accruing to the Societies as a result of the link up with the Ceylon Fisheries Corporation.

Up to 1969 there has been no scheme of any sort by way of insurance for fishermen in Ceylon. The Insurance Corporation of Ceylon, being primarily a business organisation, was rather hesitant to introduce a scheme of insurance for fishermen in Ceylon who had earned a rather bad reputation for non-payment of loans obtained from the Government. However, due to constant persuasion of the Co-operative Department, a scheme of insurance to cover personal accident and craft has now been introduced. This scheme of insurance is available only to members of Co-operatives.

FISHERMEN CLAMOUR FOR MORE MECHANISED BOATS

The fishermen of Thalayady have appealed for more mechanised boats, outboard motors, fishing gear, fishing roads and houses. They voiced their grievances at a conference summoned jointly by the Fisheries Department and the Co-operative Department. The M.P. for Point Pedro, Mr. K. Thuraiyaratnam, and other officials were present at the Conference.

There are five registered fishery societies in the Thalayady area, and nearly 1,500 fishermen. Three more societies are being formed. The annual catch is about 21,000 cwts: mechanisation, which was introduced about 1½ years ago, has led to an increase in the catch.

The Thalayady catch is bought up by private traders and the bulk of it is sent to Colombo, Kurunegala, Kandy and Anuradhapura. Main varieties caught are paraw, katta, seer, shark, kooral, sudayas and salayas, and prawns are also available in abundance. In places where there are no access roads, the private trader is able to dictate terms and buys the catch cheap. The only way to end exploitation of the fishermen is by opening up more fishing roads.

A striking feature of the fishery co-operatives in the Thalayady area is that the younger generation is getting well-involved in the Movement. The overwhelming majority of those present at the Conference were youngsters.

All conference speakers stressed the importance of strengthening the societies and of building up savings: if this were done, it was pointed out, the fishermen would be able to develop their industry and better their lot.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

RAPID PROGRESS OF DOMINICAN AGRICULTURAL AND TOBACCO CO-OPERATIVES

The Dominican Federation of Agricultural and Tobacco Co-operatives, an organisation created in 1966, has made rapid progress. It now contains 24 member co-operatives and 20 more are in the process of being founded. In its first year the Federation exported 3,000 quintals (hundred weight) of tobacco, and in the following two years this increased to 11,000 and 30,000. It also is creating a system of agricultural credit, and a new revolving seed fund.

HUNGARY

FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVES IN BUDAPEST

It may be surprising to many to know that the capital of Hungary has 14 farmers' co-operatives. The Budapest farmers' co-operatives are different from those on the Great Hungarian Plain, of course, but as a result of their special circumstances, they have been able to develop and consolidate branches of production not found elsewhere in the country.

In 1967 the co-operatives of the capital sold 2,300 tons of meat, much more per hectare than the average on other farms, and their production of milk per hectare is 50% over the national average. The main branches of these co-operatives apart from meat and milk production, are gardening and horticultural organisations. These farms provide $\frac{3}{4}$ of the mushroom production in the country, and sell 27 million eggs per year.

Besides this explicitly agricultural work, the co-operatives also have processing plants, shops and special branches of production. They have established joint trade enterprises, an exporting and importing company, car-repair, building, and button and slipper manufacturing units. Half their income comes from agricultural units, and the other half from supplementary activities, and the profits of the latter contribute to the development and modernisation of the former.

FLOURISHING OF GARDENING CO-OPERATIVES

With the gradual reduction in working hours, and the resulting growth of leisure time, many people have expressed a desire for gardening. In recent months the government has been promoting this activity. Approximately a 30,000 hectare area not to be utilised in larger scale production, is being allotted among workers, and this will be of interest to 300,000 families. One result of this campaign is the possibility of widening the garden and orchard belt around the country's biggest towns.

These gardens have been intertwined with the ideas of co-operation, and workers' gardening co-operatives have been established. The forming of such co-operatives is also linked with the need to settle the area, to realise mechanised soil cultivation, to establish roads, wells and drainage systems, and to deal with other kinds of servicing (the loan of machines and implements, the preparation of spray material, etc.), as orchards and vineyard cultivation must have a well-planned plant protection. There is a strong demand for joint defence of property, to build fences, etc., and it is evident that workers need increasingly more organised agricultural consultation with the participation of experts.

Since many people are involved in the cultivating of small gardens, it is easier for the sale and distribution of the sites to be handled by co-operatives, representing the thousands of individuals concerned. Through co-operative publicity, it will be possible for those who wish to cultivate gardens to get the small garden sites at reduced prices.

In Hungary at present there are 152 gardening co-operatives active on an area of 3,000 hectares. Due to their activity, a flourishing small garden culture has been raised around numerous towns. Gardening co-operatives underline all the favourable experiences gained by consumers' and housing co-operatives.

IRAN

AMALGAMATION OF RURAL CO-OPERATIVES PROGRESSES

Following the implementation of the programme for the amalgamation of rural co-operative societies in Iran, a total of 100 co-operatives were amalgamated with other co-operatives in the current year, according to information received from the Central Organisation for Rural Co-operatives of Iran.

Training Programmes

The Central Organisation for Rural Co-operatives of Iran have arranged a number of training programmes for the benefit of rural co-operatives in the country and the Organisation's staff involved in their development. These training programmes included the organisation of seminars for the directors and members of rural co-operatives in the country.

In addition a 4-week management training course was held at the Faculty of Business Administration Management Development which was attended by 38 directors of the CORC branches. 25 high-ranking officials of the CORC participated in another 4-week training course at which they were acquainted with the principles of management and methods of administration.

MEXICO

BRITISH LOAN TO ASSIST MEXICAN CO-OPERATIVE FISHERMEN

A loan from the British Government, banks and individuals, totalling about 145 million pesos (approximately 30 pesos = £1 Sterling), has been offered for the renovation of the entire Mexican fleet of prawn-ships. The Secretary of Housing and Public Loans has authorised the Mexican National Bank for Co-operative Development (BANFOCO) to finalise the operation.

The Director of BANFOCO has made clear his interests in improving the conditions of the co-operative fishermen who own 60% of the prawn boats, and thus will be the main recipients of the assistance offered. One hundred boats will be built in Mexican shipyards with English machinery and technical assistance.

Profits of the co-operatives will also be increased through the intended industrial processing of types of fish scales which are trapped in their nets.

The plans for modernisation also provide for refrigerator plants in various ports, as well as factories for processing fish meal, and transportation from ports to consumer markets. This will enable companies to offer seafood at the lowest cost. Some new and better ports will be opened for the fishermen, while some Gulf and Pacific ports will be improved.

The boats constructed for the capture of prawn and other fish were designed by technicians of the Marine Secretariat and BANFOCO in collaboration with the Secretary of Industry and Commerce and the National Consultative Commission for Fishing.

Résumé français

Canada - Sommaire sur la situation de 1969 des coopératives agricoles et de pêcheurs.

Résumé est donné des grandes lignes de l'évolution des coopératives agricoles et de pêcheurs durant 1969. Y sont mentionnés certains des problèmes principaux rencontrés dans ces domaines. Les exportations céréalières ont subi un déclin. Par contre, la situation des pêcheurs a progressé et leurs coopératives d'écoulement et de services ont enregistré une amélioration.

Canada - Assemblée annuelle de l'Association des Coopératives de pêcheurs Prince Rupert.

Le rapport de la 30ème assemblée générale de cette Association fait état de ventes dépassant 10 millions de dollars, soit une augmentation de 11 % sur l'année précédente. L'Association favorise l'adoption d'un système d'efficacité accrue des bateaux et du matériel par le Département des pêcheries.

Canada - Aide gouvernementale aux coopératives de production agricole.

La Premier ministre Ross Thatcher du Saskatchewan a déclaré qu'une aide officielle serait accordée en faveur de la promotion des coopératives de production agricole dans la Province, à la suite de la présentation d'un mémoire établi par l'Association du Développement des coopératives. Ce document suggère notamment la mise en place par les coopératives en question, en particulier les coopératives de machines, d'une méthode qui permette aux agriculteurs de disposer d'unités de production plus efficaces, de trouver solution aux problèmes de main-d'oeuvre, de faire baisser les coûts de production, et en général de réduire l'ampleur des problèmes de réadaptation considérables que doit affronter l'agriculture du Saskatchewan.

Ceylan - Coopératives de pêcheurs.

Cet article analyse la situation des coopératives de pêcheurs de Ceylan caractérisée par les progrès importants qu'elle accomplit depuis plusieurs années. L'évolution a porté principalement, outre la création de nouvelles organisations reposant sur les principes coopératifs, sur la réorganisation des sociétés plus anciennes y compris la revitalisation de celles tombées en léthargie. Les progrès sont particulièrement notables dans la partie sud du pays. Cet essor est attribué surtout au programme éducatif destiné aux membres des sociétés. Un système d'assurance a été récemment adopté pour les membres des coopératives de pêche.

Ceylan - Les pêcheurs réclament la mécanisation accrue des bateaux.

Les pêcheurs de Thalayady ont lancé un appel en faveur de l'accroissement des bateaux mécanisés, de la modernisation du matériel, et du développement des équipements collectifs et de l'infrastructure.

Ces revendications ont été exprimées à la conférence convoquée conjointement par le Département des pêches et le Département des coopératives. Un des aspects les plus intéressants à relever dans le secteur des coopératives de pêche de cette zone est la participation sensible de la jeune génération dans le Mouvement.

République Dominicaine - Rapides progrès des coopératives dominicaines agricoles et de tabac.

Ce bref article fait état des progrès accomplis par la Fédération des coopératives précitées, créée en 1966. Elle compte aujourd'hui 24 coopératives adhérentes et ses exportations s'accroissent rapidement.

Hongrie - Coopératives agricoles à Budapest.

Cet article évoque les 14 coopératives agricoles que l'on trouve dans la capitale hongroise. Elles diffèrent de celles des régions rurales mais jouent cependant un rôle important dans l'économie nationale. Leurs activités embrassent la production laitière et de boucherie, la culture maraîchère et l'horticulture, les installations de transformation, et les magasins et activités connexes ainsi que des entreprises collectives de vente et une société d'import-export.

Hongrie - Progrès remarquables des coopératives horticoles.

Un article distinct du texte précédent décrit le procédé par lequel une zone de 30 000 hectares non utilisée en surface de production de grande dimension est allouée aux travailleurs en vue de former des coopératives horticoles de petite envergure qui affecteront 300 000 ménages. L'on espère que cette initiative aura pour effet d'élargir la ceinture de culture maraîchère et fruitière autour des plus grandes villes de Hongrie.

Iran - Etapes franchies dans le fusionnement des coopératives rurales.

Dans le cadre de la mise en oeuvre du programme de fusionnement des sociétés coopératives rurales en Iran, 100 fusions de cette nature ont été accomplies cette année. L'organisation centrale des coopératives rurales iraniennes a par ailleurs établi plusieurs programmes de formation en faveur des coopératives rurales.

Mexique - Prêt britannique en faveur des coopératives mexicaines de pêche.

Un prêt totalisant environ 145 millions de pesos et provenant de l'Etat, des établissements bancaires ainsi que de particuliers britanniques a été accordé en faveur de la rénovation de la flotille mexicaine de pêche des crevettes. D'autres plans de modernisation sont aussi annoncés.

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INTERNATIONAL

SECOND WORLD FOOD CONGRESS

The Second World Food Congress took place in The Hague from the 16th - 30th June. The ICA was represented by its Director, Dr. S.K. Saxena, and by the Agricultural Secretary, Mr. B. Zlataric. In many Commissions problems of agricultural co-operatives were discussed, especially in Commission III (People in Rural Development) and VII (Direct Participation Programme).

In Commission I, concerned with assuring basic food supplies, the sub-committee discussed the impact of the green revolution, and acknowledged the importance of co-operatives in spreading knowledge among millions of farmers on new techniques and knowhow of agricultural development.

The ICA representatives met many cooperative leaders and experts at this Conference engaged in the activities of the various commissions. This Bulletin will bring more detailed material about the Congress to its readers after receiving the first recommendations and reports in edited form.

The Congress was attended by many important people in the field of technical assistance and food production, such as Sir Robert Jackson, Mr. S.L. Mansholt, Vice-President of the European Economic Community Commission, Dr. R. Prebisch, former Secretary-General of UNCTAD, and Mr. Paul Hoffman, UNDP Administrator, and others, who advised the Congress in two separate panel discussions.

Queen Juliana of the Netherlands opened the Congress, and introductory speeches were given by U Thant, Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Lester Pearson, and Dr. A.H. Boerma, the Director-General of the F.A.O.

At the plenary meeting of the Conference, the ICA Director, Dr. Saxena made an **intervention**, the most essential features of which are presented below:

1. Much sharper focus should be given to the development of human resources and vastly increased sums should be invested in education and training.

- II. In programmes of international assistance, voluntary organisation at both ends should be given a vastly enlarged role in deciding matters of policy and implementation. We already have the Joint Programme in which the FAO, the ILO, the ICA, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers and the International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers are participating;
- III. Co-operatives and other popular institutions should be consulted at every stage in the national planning, not as a formality, which has been the case so far, but as representing the aspirations of people at the grass roots level.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

STAYING IN BUSINESS WITH 1,000 COWS

According to John Cherrington, in an article in the Financial Times dated 17th February, 1970, the new 1,000 cow "cote" at Heidhausen, near Essen, may be one way in which small German farmers are able to stay in business. Started on the initiative of 59 members of the Essen Milk Co-operative which supplies milk to the city of Essen, it now has 1,000 cows in lots of 200. They are kept in covered yards and fed automatically with a mixture of silage - grain and concentrates.

The cows are milked by a rotating 40-stand machine that takes nine minutes to complete a sequence of movements during which they are washed, their milk tested for mastitis, and then milked. At the finish of the sequence the cows step off and walk back to their bedding area where they are fed.

The milk is piped directly to the dairy where, after cooling, it is bottled in plastic one-way bottles. There is no pasteurisation as all the milk is supposed to be as clean as it possibly can be. There is a growing demand in Germany for milk of this kind.

Tower Silos

There are 12 tower silos and five covered yards beside the "rotolactor" and the dairy equipment itself. There is a mill and mixing plant and a conveyer system both for unloading and loading the silos and for moving the feed to the cattle troughs.

The farmers' interest is in the cows. They do not own them but each farmer may invest DM 1,500 (about £160) per cow. This grants him the right to sell grain for silage and bulk feed to the dairy at a special price based on the protein content of the material. In other words the farmers have transferred their dairy herd into a central place, and have gained the economies in scale for management, while, at the same time, have relieved themselves of the tedium of milking or persuading a herdsman to milk them.

The co-operative is interested enough in the scheme to propose doubling the herd to 2,000 cows, and, if not enough farmers are forthcoming to invest £160 per cow, to find this money itself and buy in all feed needed.

INDIA

PUNJAB'S GIGANTIC CO-OPERATIVE CANNERY TAKES SHAPE

Last year the visiting Prime Minister of Bulgaria laid the foundation stone of the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Plant in Jullundur. The Jullundur Cooperative Canneries Ltd. is the first cooperative venture of its kind which has been initiated by the Punjab State Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation.

The prolific vegetable producing region of the Punjab, comprising the Amritsar-Jullundur-Ludhiana axis, is well known for the production of high quality vegetables in abundance, which have been exported to many centres in the country. However, a considerable portion of the exports have been lost due to faulty transit facilities, and the necessity for setting up a modern fruit and vegetable processing unit in this area has long been felt.

Because of the highly perishable nature of these commodities, the producer has little or no control over their marketing and sometimes faces severe fluctuation in prices and losses. For this reason acreage and production have been almost static for some years. It is clear that the development of the food preservation industry is vital in this area, where, according to Sohan Singh, Managing Director of the Jullundur Coop Canneries Ltd., there is chronic undernourishment, malnutrition and low foreign exchange reserves.

What is needed is the production of quality products in convenient ready-to-use forms and containers comparable to world standards. The food preservation industry is well established in the U.S.A., Australia and some European countries. It is, however, of recent inception in India and there are only a few organised factories in the country.

Lack of Equipment

Until this time, the basic difficulty in the development of this industry has been the non-availability of suitable equipment and traditional food fads and habits (now on their way out). The present project has been launched with modern equipment from Bulgaria, which has established market and name in the international trade.

The project will have three major processing lines, enabling dehydration of assorted vegetables, canning of peas, processing of tomatoes and manufacture of various jams, food confections, canned fruits, convenience foods and ready-to-drink juices and beverages.

A unique roofing system has been evolved to provide uniform light throughout the day and ensure adequate protection against the dust hazard. It envelopes a covered area of about 65,000 square feet and accommodates the raw material storage, the actual processing area and the finished product storage, etc. In addition, other ancillary service structures such as electrical and mechanical workshops, furnace, oil storage and overhead water storage tank have been suitably disposed in the factory complex. All these blocks have also been interconnected with each other for convenient working and efficient control.

The success of this unit in the field of cooperative marketing processing combined with processing facilities created for groundnuts in the State, will not only be for the forerunner for many more units of this type, but will also give a big boost to the Cooperative Movement in the country.

PROPOSAL FOR INTEGRATED SCHEME TO HELP SMALL FARMERS

The Indian Government proposed to introduce an integrated scheme to help small farmers by establishing small farmers' development agencies, according to Mr. A.P. Shinde, Minister of State for Food and Agriculture. The details of the scheme are to be finalised in consultation with local institutions by the agencies. The scheme has yet to be approved by the expenditure finance committee.

According to the scheme, development agencies would be set up in selected districts throughout the country during the Fourth Five-Year Plan, and they would be registered societies. An agency will identify the problems of small but potentially viable farmers in its area and ensure the availability of services, inputs and credit. It will draw up model plans for investment and production activities to be undertaken by small farmers, and will co-ordinate the activities of the existing institutions, co-operatives, and also private local bodies engaged in the supply of these services and inputs.

Loans and Subsidies

The agency will provide grants to central co-operative banks, the agricultural credit societies and the co-operative land development banks to cover their loaning risks for financing such farmers and to help them build up special funds for these purposes. It helps the co-operative institutions thus to strengthen their managerial and supervisory staff.

Other functions of the agency will include the provision of custom service by supplying tractors, agricultural machinery, rigs, boring equipment on hire at reasonable rates to the small farmers, as well as the rendering of assistance for the development of animal husbandry and poultry to add to the income of the small farmers.

About 50,000 small farmers are likely to be covered during the period of the Fourth Five-Year Plan in each district.

POLAND

MANAGERIAL WORK IN FARMING CO-OPERATIVES

Attention is drawn to an article appearing in the Co-operative Scientific Quarterly in 1969 of an article by J. Klimaszewski and Z. Wotjaszek, entitled "Managerial Work in Farming Co-operatives". The authors begin by analysing the role of managerial work and the principles of managing a farm in a farming co-operative

They draw the conclusion that the principle and structure of management in a co-operative society - a self-governing economic unit - differs essentially from that of other agricultural enterprises, such as State Farms. A farming co-operative in principle does not employ hired labour. The management, according to the Rules, is executed by the general meeting of co-operative members and the board elected at the Members meeting, so co-operative members have equal rights both in the control of the economy and in the direct execution of various husbanding functions.

Because of the lack of qualified people in a co-operative, it is often necessary for non-members to be appointed to the post of so-called agronomist-manager of production. Part two of the article deals with the role and situation of the agronomist who is manager of a farm, and often is in a difficult position because of difficulties with co-operative boards and chairmen. The specific nature of managerial work in farming co-operatives requires that those employed as agronomists should possess not only the general features of good managers, but also the ability to find a common language with the co-operative members and the gift of skilfully adapting methods of work to the local requirements and needs of the respective milieu. Analysis has proven that the best results have been achieved in farms where members had granted agronomists wide prerogatives in the management of the agricultural production of their collective farm.

In summing up, the authors stress that the forms of self-government should not be imposed, but shaped by the co-operative members themselves. The observance of the principles of self-government in running the farm is an important stimulus for increasing production in farming co-operatives.

SWITZERLAND

JOINT UNDERTAKING OF CONSUMERS AND AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES IN SWITZERLAND - RAFLAG

In 1969, the Swiss public was informed of a new establishment, of interest to consumer and to agricultural circles. This undertaking, known as the Rationale Fleischproduktions - AG (Rational Meat Production Ltd.), "Raflag", is backed by agricultural co-operative federations and the Co-op Unternehmensgruppe of the consumers' co-operative movement. One half of the capital has been provided by Landor-Holding AG, Sursee (which controls a number of Swiss agricultural co-operative federations), and the other half by Verband Schweiz. Konsumvereine (VSK), by Bell AG, (an affiliate of VSK, which owns the biggest slaughter house and meat factory in Switzerland) and by Allgemeiner Consum-Verein (A.C.V. - the biggest Swiss consumer co-operative, which also owns a slaughter house).

By producing fattened pigs and livestock, Raflag intends to improve quality, to decrease prices and to assure the agricultural breeder an appropriate net profit. According to the press communication issued at the time, meat prices for consumers should be "more advantageous than the existing daily market prices". The Co-op Unternehmensgruppe, which not only controls the whole organisation of consumer co-operative distribution, but also several hundred special meat stores of the Bell AG throughout the country, guarantees the marketing of the meat products.

Raflag has signed contracts with a great number of farmers for the fattening of pigs. To begin with, Raflag has decided to purchase 50,000 pigs. The farmers remain independent but have accepted certain obligations in order to assure rational breeding and fattening according to latest scientific specifications. They are to take over the pigs of Raflag's breeding plants, and will be supplied with fodder from fodder mills linked with Raflag. Feeding conditions and conditions for hygienic stabling are to be observed strictly, so that uniform standard goods of high quality will be assured. The prices for the fattened animals are fixed by a joint commission consisting of agricultural and consumer representatives. Raflag has signed contracts mainly with small and medium agricultural farms (about 200 animals are to be raised on each of them) so that no overproduction will occur through the establishment of "industrial" fattening enterprises.

Industrial fattening enterprises seem to be increasing, and it has been reported that the "industrial production of pigs has started on a large scale". Therefore, it is likely that the mixed co-operative undertaking, which has started with such great hopes, will have to face a difficult competitive situation.

TAIWAN

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK LENDS \$10 MILLION FOR DEEP-SEA FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT

The Asian Development Bank has approved a loan equivalent to \$10 million to the Republic of China to help finance the construction and outfitting of forty 250 ton class tuna longliner deep sea fishing vessels. The total cost of the project, including interest during construction and working capital, is estimated at \$16.7 million.

The project will make a significant contribution to the Government's "Five Year Programme for the Acceleration of Taiwan Fisheries Development"; enable Taiwan to increase its foreign trade and overseas earnings; provide additional local employment and an outlet for students graduating from the maritime colleges and fishing vocational schools; and facilitate better utilisation of existing ship building and related shore facilities.

The proceeds of the loan will be re-lent to approved fishing companies through the Co-operative Bank of Taiwan (CBT) which will function as the administrative agency of the Government. CBT is a long established and well experienced banking institution which is owned 60% by the Taiwan Provincial Government and 40% by various co-operative organisations.

Detailed technical design of the vessels will be prepared by the Taiwan Fisheries Bureau which will also be responsible for providing technical advice to the operating companies and for supervising their operations and ensuring that the vessels are properly maintained.

95% of the annual catch will be exported and the total gross foreign exchange earnings of the forty project vessels may amount to approximately \$5.5 million annually.

THAILAND

GOVERNMENT HELPS ESTABLISH MULTI-PURPOSE CO-OPERATIVES

The Ministry of National Development has helped to establish three large scale multi-purpose co-operatives with 3,000 farmer members. These co-operatives are concerned with agricultural loans at low interest rates, rice marketing, procurement of household goods and agricultural equipment, and agricultural extension.

In setting up each of the co-operatives, a survey was first made on agricultural problems and co-operative needs in the area. When possible, the registration was made by the people concerned. The board of management, composed of members elected by the general meeting, carries out the managerial functions. The working capital includes share capital and a government loan.

In 1969, two of the co-operatives made a total profit of approximately \$1. million*. During the same period, \$10. million* was extended to the members.

The mill of the Chainat Co-operative Federation Ltd., with 32 agricultural co-operative society members, was opened in January, 1970, for processing operations. The mill, with a capacity for processing milled rice up to 150,000 kilograms per day, was obtained on a hire purchase basis from Krungthai Bank's Chainat branch. The new undertaking will allow the members to earn additional income by marketing milled rice and rice bran for animal feeding. The Federation itself was set up after the merging of 10 agricultural, 3 marketing and 19 land improvement societies with a membership of more than 7,000 families.

* 50 baht = £1 sterling

UGANDA

WORLD BANK LOAN FOR TOBACCO CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

Negotiations for obtaining a long term loan of about 56 million shillings (17.17 shillings = £1 sterling) from the World Bank for the expansion of the Tobacco Industry in West Nile, Middle North and Kigezi Districts are well underway. An appraisal team was recently in Uganda, and the President of the World Bank visited the areas when he was expected in Uganda in January.

It is expected that the Project would more than double the present annual production of flue cured tobacco over a ten-year development period, adding about 25 million shillings to Uganda's annual foreign exchange. The Project operation would involve, in addition to existing growers, about 4,000 new tobacco growers organised into 53 tobacco co-operative societies. The loan would mainly be used on the construction of 4,700 new tobacco barns, the establishment and expansion of wood fuel, plantations, baling centres, and storage facilities, the provision of working capital to farmers and co-operative societies, and funds for technical service and project administration.

It is estimated that the project would cost about 56.2 million shillings, of which 26.1 million would be met from local resources. External financing would thus be requested for 53% of the total project cost. The internal rate of return to the economy is estimated to be 24% over a 20 year life of the project.

An emphasis on tobacco will mean much to Uganda's economy, as for a long time the country has relied on the export of cotton and coffee, both of which now face considerable fluctuation in the world market. To lessen Uganda's independence on these two major crops, a diversification of agricultural production has been one of the principal objectives of the current second five year development plan, which finishes at the close of the 1970/71 financial year. Flue cured tobacco production has been considered one of the most suitable crops to fit in the changeover.

At present most credit for agricultural production is channelled from the Government through the Uganda Commercial Bank to the Primary Co-operative Societies, who then re-lend to their farmer members.

The Co-operative Credit Scheme has been operating since 1961. A total of 26,320,000 shillings was lent to farmers under the scheme, including tobacco growers up to September 1968, and the recovery rate from farmers was 90%. Repayments to the bank have been 95%. It is hoped that when the Uganda Co-operative Bank is well established it will also handle all duties now being undertaken by the Uganda Commercial Bank and others.

Production loans in the Middle North and Kigezi areas are at present made through the co-operative credit scheme, the society borrowing at 7% per annum and re-lending at 12% per annum to the farmers.

RESUME FRANCAIS

Nouvelles internationales - Second Congrès mondial de l'alimentation

En attendant les conclusions et recommandations définitives du second Congrès mondial de l'alimentation tenu à la Haye du 16 au 30 juin, et auquel l'ACI était représentée par le Directeur et par le Secrétaire à l'Agriculture, nous reproduisons une brève synthèse des principales délibérations ayant porté sur les problèmes des coopératives, ainsi qu'un résumé de l'intervention du Dr Saxena à ce Congrès.

République fédérale d'Allemagne - 1.000 vaches laitières, ou solution d'avenir possible pour le petit exploitant.

Le "cotel", nouvel élevage laitier de 1.000 bêtes créé à Heidhausen près d'Essen, apportera peut-être la solution d'avenir aux petits exploitants allemands décidés à ne pas quitter leur activité. Dans cette installation très moderne, les vaches sont traitées et alimentées par un procédé hautement mécanisé et des canalisations perfectionnées permettent de diriger le lait directement vers la laiterie coopérative où il est conditionné en bouteilles en plastique.

Inde - Gigantesque conserverie coopérative en construction dans l'Etat du Punjab

La société coopérative des conserveries Jullundur fait construire actuellement une installation moderne de transformation des fruits et légumes qui représente la première entreprise coopérative de cette envergure dont ait pris l'initiative la Fédération des Coopératives d'écoulement et de fournitures de l'Etat du Punjab. L'on espère que la création de cette usine contribuera en grande partie à résoudre les nombreux problèmes causés principalement par la nature extrêmement périssable des produits de cette région qui souffre par ailleurs d'un état chronique de sous-alimentation et de malnutrition et d'une grande pauvreté en réserves de devises étrangères.

Inde - Proposition de système intégré pour aider les petits exploitants

Le ministère d'Etat pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture a annoncé un plan aux termes duquel le gouvernement se propose d'adopter un système intégré d'aide aux petits exploitants au moyen de la création d'organismes de développement à leur intention. Ces organismes, qui seraient mis en place dans certains districts sélectionnés, se chargeront de déterminer les problèmes affectant ceux des petits agriculteurs locaux que l'on considère aptes à utiliser de façon rentable l'aide qui leur serait consentie; ces organismes seront également chargés de mettre à la disposition des intéressés diverses prestations telles que les activités de service, les fournitures, et des facilités de crédit.

- Pologne - Gestion des coopératives agricoles

Résumé est donné d'un article paru dans la revue trimestrielle scientifique des coopératives polonaises qui analyse les problèmes de gestion des coopératives agricoles en soulignant que la forme de gestion autonome ne doit pas être imposée mais réalisée par les sociétaires des coopératives eux-mêmes.

Suisse - Entreprise concertée des coopératives agricoles et de consommation

On annonce la création d'un nouvel établissement intéressant le secteur de la consommation et celui de l'agriculture. Cette organisation, la RAFLAG (Société de production rationnelle de la viande) se propose, par des procédés d'engraissement des porcs et du bétail, de perfectionner la qualité de faire baisser les prix et d'assurer à l'éleveur agricole un bénéfice net raisonnable.

Formose.- La Banque du Développement asiatique accorde un prêt de 10 millions de dollars pour l'essor de la pêche hauturière

La Banque du Développement asiatique accorde un prêt à Formose pour l'aider à financer la construction et l'armement de 40 thoniers de 250 tonnes. Le produit du prêt servira à le renouveler par l'intermédiaire de la Banque Coopérative de Formose en faveur des sociétés de pêche autorisées.

Thaïlande - Le gouvernement aide à l'établissement de coopératives multi-fonctionnelles

Le ministère du Développement National accorde son aide à la création de trois coopératives multi-fonctionnelles de grande dimension, groupant 3.000 adhérents agricoles. Ces coopératives consentent des crédits à l'agriculture à faible taux d'intérêt et assurent la commercialisation du riz, la distribution des fournitures agricoles et ménagères, et l'organisation des services de vulgarisation.

Ouganda - Prêt de la Banque Mondiale aux sociétés coopératives de tabac

Un prêt de la Banque Mondiale est actuellement négocié pour l'expansion de l'industrie du tabac en Ouganda. La mise en action de ce projet permettrait selon les prévisions de plus que doubler sur une période de développement décennale la production annuelle actuelle du tabac traité à la fumée et alimenterait considérablement les réserves de devises étrangères de l'Ouganda.



Agricultural Co-operative

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE 11 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 9PA



Applications from interested persons are invited for the post of Agricultural Secretary of the International Co-operative Alliance and should be received by the Secretary for Administration of the I.C.A. by not later than the 30th September, 1970.

Mr. B. Zlataric has resigned as Agricultural Secretary from the I.C.A. with effect from the 3rd December, 1970, to take up an appointment with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome.

INTERNATIONAL

JOINT ICA-IFAP STUDY SESSION ON AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

The first Joint Study Session of ICA's Agricultural Committee and IFAP's Standing Committee on Agricultural Co-operation was attended by 45 participants from 15 countries, and by FAO, ILO and OECD observers, in Malmö, Sweden, on 25th and 26th July, 1970. Dr. L. Malfettani and Mr. O.R. Sandberg, Chairmen respectively of the ICA and IFAP Committees, were co-Chairmen of the Session. The Session was held prior to the FAO/UNESCO/ILO World Conference on Agricultural Education and Training, which took place after this session in Copenhagen, and will be reported on in a later Bulletin.

There were four major items of discussion at the Malmö session :

1. Co-operative education in developed countries, for which Mr. C.R. Tybout, Director, Nationale Cooperatieve Rood, the Netherlands, read a paper intitled "Problems of Co-operative Education in Developed Countries";
2. Co-operative education in developing countries, for which the Principal of the Co-operative College and Director of the Co-operative Education Centre in Moshi, Tanzania, Mr. G.E. Kagaruki, presented a paper on "Co-operative Education in Agricultural Co-operatives in Developing Countries";
3. Types of assistance which agricultural co-operatives in developed countries can give to the training programmes of agricultural co-operatives in developing countries, introduced by Mr. Clemens Pedersen, Denmark; and

4. Participation of ICA and IFAP in the World Conference on Agricultural Education and Training, introduced by Dr. H. Hoffman of the F.A.O.

Agreement was reached among the participants to present the following main conclusions to the Copenhagen Conference :

Commission I - Higher Education in Agriculture

To achieve good results, managers of co-operative organisations should be taken from university graduates with an agricultural background, having studied agricultural economics, farm guidance, agro-business. University courses should therefore emphasize that there is a co-operative sector in the agricultural economy and give students adequate knowledge of its major characteristics.

Co-operatives should be represented in the planning body for national education.

Commission II - Intermediate Agricultural Education and Training

Extension workers must, as an integral part of their training, be made aware of the fact that co-operative societies are composed of, and administered by, farmers. They are not therefore in competition with any governmental services. As a matter of fact, extension officers will find that the staff and personnel of co-operative societies are the best instruments for the dissemination of knowledge and the implementation of policies.

Commission III - Vocational Training for Farming and Related Rural Occupations

As an example of agricultural extension work and co-operative involvement in that work, the attention of the Conference should be drawn to the background material prepared by the ICA, with special reference to the papers from Japan and Korea.

Under vocational training falls everything that is related directly or indirectly to agricultural production. As co-operatives offer most of these services, co-operation should also be a subject of vocational training as well as their services.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE DISCUSSES 1971 ICA OPEN CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ROME

The Agricultural Committee, which met in Malmö on July 27th, following the ICA/IFAP Joint Session on Agricultural Co-operative Education, discussed in detail the I.C.A. Open Conference on the "Role of Agricultural Co-operatives in Economic and Social Development". This important world conference will be held at the FAO headquarters in Rome from 20th - 24th September 1971.

The aim of the Conference, which is being held at the threshold of the Second Development Decade, is to discuss problems facing agricultural co-operatives when fulfilling their objectives in various countries and the Agenda will be divided into four main themes :

- I. Introduction : The Role of Agricultural Co-operatives in Economic and Social Development. This theme should comprise the experience of many countries of all types of social and political structure.
- II. Economic Efficiency of Agricultural Co-operatives. In this field, questions concerning management and structural problems, and how to organise most efficiently the various services through co-operatives, will be discussed.
- III. Mobilisation of Human Resources through Co-operatives. This will include discussion of the importance of the human element in carrying out the tasks of the Second Development Decade, as well as the need for enlightened membership and more competent management.
- IV. Co-operatives and Environment: Collaboration with Governments and other National and International Institutions. This subject recognizes the fact that increasingly agriculture and co-operatives are becoming linked with government policies, and that there is a need of a two-way traffic in relations between governments and co-operatives.

JOINT COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED FOR
PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES (CoPAC)

Rome, April 21 -- Two United Nations agencies and three non-governmental international organizations have signed an agreement to promote agricultural cooperatives in developing countries. A joint committee has been established, the secretariat of which is currently located with FAO in Rome.

This committee will be known as CoPAC, and is an extension of what was formerly known as the Joint FAO/ILO/ICA/IFAP/IFPAAW Programme.

Under the agreement the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Labour Organization will pool information and resources with the International Cooperative Alliance, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers and the International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers.

The aim of CoPAC is to provide a liaison between the many organisations actively concerned with the promotion of agricultural cooperatives and similar rural associations. It will help identify and prepare suitable schemes and projects for development aid in this field.

"The Committee will combine the experience of inter-governmental technical assistance with the expertise and flexibility of the assistance available from non-governmental organizations", said an FAO spokesman.

A meeting of the committee was held in Rome on 13/14 April 1970, where programme activities for the initial phase were discussed.

ITALY

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION : ALMOST 8,000 AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES

In Italy, agricultural cooperation has no special Co-operative Laws, but is subject to the legal rules established for all co-operative and mutual associations.

The following are the four principal co-operative organisations to which primary co-operatives belong :

1) The Italian Federation of Agrarian Consortia
(La Federazione italiana dei Consorzi agrari)

Formed in 1892 in the structure of a co-operative limited society with unlimited variable capital, it was placed under State control in 1939. A law of 7th May 1948 gave back to the Federation its private legal form of limited liability society. Now, it controls the other co-operative organisations by its economic size and its capacity for organisation. Its social aim is to contribute to the development and improvement of agricultural production, and it also takes social and cultural initiatives in the farmers' interest.

On a national scale, it groups 92 provincial agrarian consortia, i.e. one for each province. The consortia benefit from the exclusiveness of collective supply for their means of production and have been entrusted by the State with the collection of certain agricultural products, especially cereals.

The consortia also benefit from a wide network of local agencies dealing with multiple activities : credit distribution, sale of agricultural production means, industrial processing by societies belonging to the group or fruit and vegetable exports through its branch " FEDEXPORT ".

2) The Italian Co-operative Confederation
(La Confederazione cooperativa italiana)

An association of co-operatives created in 1945, it groups more than 11,000 co-operatives in 95 territorial units and, according to the nature of their activities, in ten national federations.

Four thousands agricultural co-operatives belong to the Confederation. They are divided between agricultural enterprises and services (1,084), dairies and cheese-dairies (2,093), vegetable, fruit and citrus fruit co-operatives (400), members' wine cellars (423).

The main aim of the Confederation is to promote the development of secondary level cooperation and to facilitate the formation of breeding and credit co-operatives.

3) The National Federation of Agricultural Cooperation
(La Federazione nazionale della cooperazione agricola)

Created within the framework of the agrarian reform and grouping 800 co-operatives, it is stimulated and assisted by the State. In the beginning, the organisation was only open to the beneficiaries of the agrarian reform, who had to adhere to a co-operative, but now has open membership for all farmers. At the present time, there are 112,000 full members of whom only 70 % benefit from the agrarian reform.

The Development Offices which have replaced the offices of agrarian reform, have, now, abolished the obligation of joining.

The Federation is mainly involved in administrative and social assistance, in giving information on agricultural markets, production guidance, advertising (organisation of fairs), and vocational guidance.

4) The National League of co-operatives and mutual insurance societies
(Lega nazionale della cooperative et mutue)

Founded in Milan in 1886, abolished in 1925, re-established in 1945, the Lega is an organism of leadership, co-ordination, representation, supervision, and assistance of the national co-operative movement ; it exercises on its members supervisory and inspection powers, with which it has been entrusted by the law.

Co-operative and mutual societies and their consortia, mutual assistance societies, public mutual circles and various associations may adhere to the national league.

It groups 7,736 co-operatives of all kinds, representing 1,721,000 members.

JAPAN

UNICOOPJAPAN PROMOTES INTER-COOPERATIVE TRADE WITH THE USSR, INDIA AND AUSTRALIA

The Co-operative Trading Union of Japan (UNICOOPJAPAN) has continued to be very active in the promotion of trade between co-operatives of various countries. The following examples were made public this year :

Japan and the USSR

A delegation of Japanese agricultural co-operatives composed of representatives of the Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives, the National Purchasing Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives (ZENKOREN), the Central Co-operative Bank for Agriculture and Forestry, and UNICOOPJAPAN, the foreign trade organisation of the agricultural co-operatives, visited the USSR in March.

During its stay in Moscow, the delegation had discussions with leading officials of CENTROSOYUS. It was stated that trade relations between CENTROSOYUS and the Japanese agricultural co-operatives were developing better from year to year. The two parties decided to explore additional possibilities for developing trade to their mutual advantage.

During the negotiations the Japanese delegation expressed its desire to make efforts for the extension of imports of new Soviet goods to Japan on the basis of barter trade. In exchange, CENTROSOYUS will be buying articles of general consumption and agricultural products from Japan.

Co-operative Trade between India and Japan

In May a meeting of the representatives of the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation (NAFED) of India, and ZENKOREN and UNICOOPJAPAN was held at Tokyo, to explore possibilities of promoting inter-cooperative trade in some raw materials for feedingstuffs on a long-term basis from India to Japan.

Development of Trading Relationships by UNICOOPJAPAN with Australian Co-operatives

Mr. S. Kuwazawa, Chief of Development and Research Section, UNICOOPJAPAN, visited Australia in July-August, holding discussions with co-operative organisations and leading companies associated with, or recommended by co-operatives, which have an interest in the export or import of certain commodities, and in the possibilities of developing trade relations. During his visits to the various States of Australia, he collected data on the structure and business activities of prospective business partners, as well as basic information and data concerning various commodities which his organisation is interested in importing and concerning port facilities.

UNICOOPJAPAN is interested in the import from Australia of raw materials for animal feeding stuff (cereals, feed-grains, cereal by-products, pasture hay, etc.) ; peans and beans (both for feeding stuff and foodstuff); foodstuffs (meat, powdered milk, bees'honey, fresh/dried/preserved vegetables, dried fruits); marine products (crayfish, shrimps, lobsters, shell-fish, etc.); etc.

UNICOOP is interested in exporting to Australia general farm supplies, such as chemical fertilizers, agricultural chemicals, farm machines and tools, and also farm house necessities, such as wire and wire netting, fish nets, textiles and textile products, electrical appliances, etc.

KENYA

CO-OPERATIVES HELP THE STARVING TO HELP THEMSELVES

Since the beginning of the 1960 s, the Turkana tribesmen of Kenya have changed from a penniless and starving people into a prosperous tribe no longer depending on famine relief, thanks to the aid of the Lake Rudolf Fisheries Co-operative, the Kenyan Government and the UK Committee of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign.

In 1960-61, the tribe's cattle and goats were lost in a severe drought and the tribe left without any livelihood and facing the threat of starvation.

In 1961, a scheme was launched under the supervision of the Government's fisheries department. Its aim was to settle the Turkana families living on famine relief, along the barren shores of Lake Rudolf in Kalakol.

Today, there are only 3,000 tribesmen living on famine relief in the district compared with 10,000 nine years ago. More than 7,000 not only have enough to eat but also ply a lucrative trade in selling what they cannot eat.

The fishermen belong to the Lake Rudolf Fisheries Co-operative which supervises a fishing fleet of 26 longboats and collects and stores the loads of dried fish for export.

According to co-operative records more than £30,000 is going back to the fishermen of the area from payouts from fish purchase during the past year; the co-operative handles a monthly average throughput of 48 tons of dried fish.

UNITED KINGDOM

MORE AID FOR FARM CO-OPERATIVES

An extension of its financial aid to farm co-operatives was announced by the Central Council for Agricultural and Horticultural Co-operation. The new arrangements are aimed particularly at helping established trading co-operatives to promote business efficiency.

The Council has lifted some of the special conditions in its grants scheme so that all types of marketing co-operatives will be able to apply for grants for items like business efficiency studies; training courses; employment of management trainees; to bring in managerial or other key staff; and merger studies.

The Council has also drawn attention to the human problem in getting farmers to work together.

U.S.A.

FISHERMEN'S CO-OPERATIVES HELP THE "LITTLE MAN" SURVIVE IN BUSINESS

Mr. W.W. Sands, co-op member and Manager of Keys Lobster, Inc., a small co-operative of Lobster fishermen in Key Largo, Florida, spoke on behalf of many fishermen, farmers and small businessmen when he stated that "The Co-op helps the little fisherman - the man who just could not survive in the fishing business if he didn't join in co-operative effort". There is an increasing realisation that this is an age of big business, and unless these people stop competing and start co-operating, they, too, could be swallowed up by a corporation.

This was the idea behind the forming of Keys Lobster, Inc., in 1965, when 13 men, each the owner of a modest fishing boat, pooled their ideas and resources, deciding that together they could survive, and even profit somewhat, if they joined forces. They invested equally, and also began co-operatively to purchase supplies and market their catch.

In addition to the co-operative members, many other people benefit from the co-operative. Key Largo operates a small retail outlet for shrimp, fish, and lobsters for the people in the community. Other small fishermen are able through the generosity of the co-op members to buy petrol for their fishing boats, purchase bait, and market their fish through the co-operative for the same price as the co-op members receive.

By July 1969 there were approximately 77 fishermen's co-operatives in the United States, with nearly 12,000 members operating more than 7,700 boats. Few fishermen's co-operatives are identical. Some provide marketing and purchasing services, others are in marketing only and others purchasing only. Others may be bargaining groups who represent members in negotiations with processors and distributors and still others may provide maintenance, unloading, mooring and insurance services. As might be expected, the largest number of members in fishermen's co-operatives are on the West Coast, with Alaska's nearly 4,000 members leading the way, followed by Washington and California.

U.S.S.R.

FACILITIES FOR FISHERMEN

Today fishermen operate in fishing grounds hundreds and thousands of miles away from their shore bases in the U.S.S.R., and this considerably complicates the work of the maritime co-operators.

Reliable shore services have been organised for the non-stop supply of fishermen at sea with all essentials. Co-operators have paid particular attention to providing adequate storage facilities, depots and refrigerators at such major fishing centres as Vladivostok, Nakhodka and Preobrazheniye Bay, in the Far East. Favourable conditions have been

created here for the prompt concentration, packing and sorting of goods sent to fishermen, crab-fishers and whalers.

As a result of this approach maritime co-operatives receive more and better goods. In 1968 23 % more vegetables, potatoes and fruit were shipped to fishermen than in 1967. Sales of fresh meat and poultry, tinned meat and vegetables, sugar, clothing, leather and rubber footwear and haberdashery have also substantially increased.

The fishing grounds' trading network has also expanded. Flotillas and ocean-going ships have several dozen shops. Moreover, mobile shops and hundreds of stalls have been organised which are run by members of the ships' crews on a voluntary basis.

Expeditionary fishing has given rise to other forms of catering. For instance, co-operators have organised a mail order business whereby over 24,000 parcels of foodstuffs have been sent to ships at sea. Another form of trade is the fulfilment of orders from members of fishing expeditions. Co-operators have attended to thousands of these orders requesting presents to be sent to friends and relatives on shore. Bazaars and fairs organised on the fishing rounds have won wide popularity.

For fishermen at sea for months on end homecoming is a big occasion. Co-operators take this into account and organise quay-side trading and service bureaux.

Résumé français

Nouvelles internationales - Séance d'étude mixte ACI-FIPA sur l'enseignement coopératif agricole -

La première séance mixte d'étude du Comité agricole de l'A.C.I. et du Comité Permanent de la FIPA pour la coopération agricole s'est tenue en juillet à Malmö en Suède. Résumé est donné des principaux points des délibérations à cette séance d'étude ainsi que de ses principales conclusions. Ces conclusions ont été présentées à la Conférence mondiale de l'enseignement et la formation agricoles sous l'égide conjuguée de la FAO, de l'UNESCO et du BIT, tenue à Copenhague peu de temps après cette séance d'étude.

Le Comité agricole délibère sur la conférence libre de l'A.C.I. prévue en 1971 à Rome -

Le Comité agricole qui s'est réuni à Malmö à la suite de la séance d'étude sus-mentionnée, a discuté de manière approfondie de la conférence libre de l'A.C.I. sur "Le Rôle des coopératives agricoles dans le développement économique et social", qui doit se tenir du 20 au 24 septembre 1971 au siège de la FAO à Rome. Mention est faite des quatre grands thèmes de cette conférence.

Création d'un Comité mixte pour la promotion des coopératives agricoles (COPAC)

Un accord a été signé entre deux institutions des Nations unies (FAO et BIT) et trois organisations internationales non gouvernementales pour la promotion des coopératives agricoles dans les pays en voie de développement. Ce comité intitulé COPAC est le prolongement du grand programme dénommé auparavant Programme mixte FAO-BIT-ACI-FIPA-FITPASC.

Italie - La coopération agricole : près de 8000 coopératives agricoles

Description est donnée des quatre principales organisations coopératives auxquelles appartiennent les 8000 coopératives primaires agricoles : la Fédération italienne des Consortiums agraires, la Confédération coopérative italienne, la Fédération nationale de la coopération agricole et la Ligue nationale des coopératives et mutuelles.

Japon - UNICOOP Japon réalise la promotion du commerce intercoopératif avec l'URSS, l'Inde et l'Australie -

L'Union du commerce coopératif du Japon (UNICOOP) continue de jouer un rôle très actif dans la promotion du commerce intercoopératif entre divers pays. Plusieurs exemples de cette action sont donnés en ce qui concerne les relations entre le Japon et l'URSS, l'Inde et l'Australie.

Kénya - Les coopératives aident les indigents à pratiquer l'auto-assistance -

L'article évoque la façon dont les membres de la tribu de Turkana au Kénya sont passés de leur état ancien de sous-alimentation chronique à celui de prospérité, grâce à l'aide de la coopérative de pêcheurs du lac Rudolph, du gouvernement kényen et du Comité britannique de la campagne mondiale contre la faim.

Royaume-Uni - Extension de l'aide aux coopératives agricoles -

Le Conseil central pour l'agriculture et la coopération agricole a annoncé ses nouvelles dispositions étendant son aide financière aux coopératives agricoles. Le Conseil a supprimé certaines des conditions particulières attachées à son système de subventions.

Etats-Unis - Les coopératives de pêcheurs aident les petites entreprises à survivre -

L'expérience d'une coopérative de pêches de Floride est prise en tant qu'exemple illustrant la manière dont les coopératives aident les pêcheurs, les agriculteurs et les petits commerçants à survivre. On prend conscience de la réalité qu'à l'ère de l'accroissement continu de la dimension des entreprises les hommes doivent cesser de se faire concurrence et se tourner vers la coopération s'ils veulent continuer à survivre.

U.R.S.S. - Services en faveur des pêcheurs -

Une brève description est donnée du fonctionnement des coopératives maritimes en URSS et des problèmes soulevés par le fait que les pêcheurs doivent souvent opérer à des milliers de kilomètres de leurs propres rivages. Une grande importance a été accordée à la mise en place de services côtiers adéquats, en particulier aux installations d'entreposage satisfaisantes et à l'établissement d'un circuit de commerce efficace.



Agricultural Co-operative

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE 11 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 9PA

No. 9-10, 1970

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AS MUCH AS WE MIGHT TRY, NONE OF US CAN IGNORE THE FACT OF THE EXISTING INFLATION.

Printers have to be paid more, paper costs more and packaging and distribution costs soar.

As every other periodical paper, we are having to say to our readers: "We are sorry, but we must put the prices up". We shall pass on only the paper and printing costs and the distribution charges we face with the raising of the United Kingdom Postal Rates.

From January 1971 on, the new I.C.A. subscription rates will be as follows:

REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION: £1.50p (£1.10.0) post free

Co-operative News Service: £1.00p (post free)

Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin: £1.00p (post free)

Consumer Affairs Bulletin: £1.00p (post free)
no change in prices

INTERNATIONAL

I.C.A. OPEN CONFERENCE

On the "Role of Agricultural Co-operatives in Economic and Social Development"

We have already reported on the I.C.A. Open Conference in the Bulletin No. 8. New decisions taken at a meeting of the Agricultural Committee about this Conference are reported here.

The Agricultural Committee of the I.C.A. met in London on September 29th to have a final discussion on the programme for the I.C.A. Open Conference on the Role of Agricultural Co-operatives in Economic and Social Development. Unanimous decisions were taken concerning the programme and the organisation of this Conference, which will be organised in co-sponsorship with IFAP and in collaboration with COPAC.

To beat the clock in preparation for this Conference firm commitments on various reports by participating organisations are required. The Committee approved that on this question firm commitments should be obtained from members. The results of the discussion and conclusions concerning commitments on various reports for the Conference are summarised below.

I Introduction - The Role of Agricultural Co-operatives in Economic and Social Development

It was decided that the I.C.A. Secretariat, with the President of the Committee, should select a suitable person to deliver this report on the theme. Groups of countries who wish to have separate reports should nominate a person to liaise with the main reporter and they would supply the reporter with the necessary material so that he could shape the main report. These groups should also study the main report, so that they could cover in their report those aspects of the problems which are not treated in the main report. Groups of countries may be considered countries with various economic and social systems (e.g. Socialist Countries) or countries from a region (e.g. the South-East Asian region, etc.). Other criteria may also be applied.

There is a proposal from the I.L.O. to contribute, if necessary, to the second part of the Introductory Report under "Structural Problems".

II Economic Efficiency of Agricultural Co-operatives

The main report consists of the contribution of FAO with an analysis by Professor E. Dülfer "Imperatives for Operational Efficiency of Agricultural Co-operatives in Developing Countries".

Within the scope of the same theme, there is another FAO contribution from the report of two authors: Doctors Kuhn and Stoffregen, under the title "Case Study on How to Measure the Operational Efficiency of Agricultural Co-operatives in Kenya". There are promises for further special contributions within the scope of this theme from Sweden, Denmark (especially management and structural problems); and from the Raiffeisen Organisation of the Federal Republic of Germany. Hungary is prepared to give a report on "Co-operative Forms of Agricultural Production" and "Co-operative Marketing and Processing".

III Mobilisation of Human Resources through Co-operatives

A contribution by the FAO through the report by Dr. A.F. Laidlaw under the title "Mobilisation of Human Resources for Rural Development through Agricultural Co-operatives" will be made. The I.L.O. is also prepared to give a major contribution to this report.

IV Co-operatives and Environment: Collaboration with Governments and Other National and International Institutions

There is no candidate yet for the main report. Hungary is prepared to cover some aspects of this problem, and a contribution is also offered by Poland but not specified. The I.L.O. is interested in contributing to aspects concerning this report, such as "the need for two-way traffic in relations between governments and co-operatives", and "relations with international organisations".

In view of the fact that a Conference of this magnitude would need careful planning and decision-making, and the programme had not been finished before its London meeting, the Agricultural Committee decided to postpone this Conference for Spring 1972.

Support is requested from members of the Agricultural Committee and other agricultural co-operative organisations for contributions in the form of reports for the Conference. Those who want to participate with lectures should write to the Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin with a request for a tentative programme of the Conference.

MEETING OF THE I.C.A. FISHERIES SUB-COMMITTEE

The I.C.A. Fisheries Sub-Committee held its 5th Meeting in London on September 28th. The meeting was attended by representatives from various countries in Europe and Canada, and the FAO sent an observer. One of the main items of discussion was the Manual on the Management of Fishermen's Marketing and Supply Co-operatives, which will be published at the end of this year or the beginning of 1971, as a joint project of FAO and the Fisheries Sub-Committee.

It was reported that the course on the "Management of Fishermen's Marketing and Supply Co-operatives" proposed to be held in India, will take place if assistance is forthcoming from some governments. It may then be possible that Fishermen's co-operatives from Ceylon will participate in it,

From a report of the Director of the Regional Office for South-East Asia, it may be understood that in Ceylon there is a need for advice on the planning of fisheries production, building of small boats and training of personnel. It was proposed that a French expert should go to Ceylon for one month to survey the situation and that the Chairman should report about this to the Co-operative Development Committee of the I.C.A. The Sub-Committee listened to the report of the Secretary concerning the future progress of setting up IBASEC.

A groups of fishermen's co-operatives comprising Malaysia, Japan and Ceylon was established and will be assisted by the Regional Office in New Delhi. The FAO project was submitted to the Russian authorities in the Spring concerning a tour aimed at acquainting participants with administrative, organisational and operational aspects of the work in fishermen's co-operatives in the Soviet Union.

The FAO representative informed the meeting about the tentative 72/73 budget concerning co-operatives: 1. Ad hoc consultations of various problems of fishermen's co-operatives; 2. A co-operative course for management of fishermen's co-operatives; 3. A guide on the formation and operation of fishermen's co-operatives and other forms of fishermen's organisations; 4. Two handbooks on accounting (book-keeping and accounting for larger co-operatives); 5. Secondary level fishermen's co-operatives and their role in the development of fisheries; 6. A report on the credit needs for small scale fishermen in Asian countries.

The Chairman stressed that the Sub-Committee was prepared to do whatever it could to help the FAO in its endeavours. At the end of the meeting, a film was shown to the Sub-Committee by the representative of Perkins Engines Ltd. The film was introduced by a short report concerning the experiences of the firm's representative in developing countries. He had been involved for some years with forecasting the types and numbers of marine engines which the less-developed countries would require in due course.

2nd WORLD FOOD CONGRESS AND THE ROLE OF CO-OPERATIVES

A preliminary report on the 2nd World Food Congress, which took place in The Hague in June, appeared in Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin No. 7. Further to this report, we publish the main findings of the Congress in as far as the various Commissions referred to the role and activities of co-operatives.

Commission I, which discussed the subject of Ensuring Basic Food Supplies, included among its recommendations that "...the local leadership of farmers through their general farm organisations and co-operatives, should be encouraged and recognised as a means of developing self-reliance of farmers."

Commission III, concerned with People in Rural Development, reported as follows:

"The Commission stressed the basic importance of rural people's organisations to rural development. If development is essentially the changing of people, it should be a process of the people and by the people, as well as for the people. One of the major needs in most developing countries is to reduce the reliance of the people on government. Governments must help to initiate and support action, but such support must lead to transfer of maximum responsibilities to the people themselves.

"Such self-help organisations take many forms - co-operatives, credit societies, farmers' associations, women's groups, youth organisations and many others. It was suggested that FAO should strongly encourage and assist Member Governments in promoting the establishment of people's organisations. Stress must be given also to the importance of good leadership and management of such groups, and therefore, the need for effective training programmes for such leaders.

"A number of functions are served by people's organisations. First, they contribute to social justice by giving rural people the means to protect their own interests and an effective voice in determining their own destinies. Vested interests, it was pointed out, do not give up their power willingly. Thus, greater economic and political power can be gained for the peasant only through group action. Similarly, paternalistic government bureaucracies will not normally give representation to people's groups until they can demonstrate that they have the ability to assume such responsibility.

"Other values of people's organisations include the provision of useful services, helping people to help themselves; the encouragement of group saving and capital formation; and the social benefits which normally accompany organised group activity."

Government Organisations and Services for Rural Development

"In this connection, several speakers expressed the belief that international and governmental institutions consistently failed to recognise and understand that different approaches to rural development were necessary in the communities in one and the same area. It was said that this was why many extension, co-operative, marketing, credit and other programmes which worked well in one community, failed in another. It was also for this reason that mistakes made in one country were repeated in another."

RECOMMENDATIONS

"In implementing agrarian reform, governments must ensure security of tenure; provide adequate support for the development of the essential institutional framework including co-operatives for credit, supply, marketing and advisory services; ensure that it is employment-orientated. The implementation of the total programme should be in accordance with an established timetable.

"Governments should accept the organisation of farmers and farm workers into farmers' associations and labour unions and protect the organisers and members against economic pressure and physical violence from landlords and employers. Such labour and farmers' organisations should be given the opportunity to participate in the making of all economic, political and social decisions affecting rural development."

Commission V, concerned with Public Sector Support, came forward with a number of recommendations.

In the field of Agricultural Development Policy, Planning, Employment, Incomes and their Distribution, it was stated that "...It would help if farmers were to form groups such as co-operatives and trade unions, in order to be able to ensure the support of the whole agricultural population for the development process."

As concerns Research, Education and Training, Extension and Documentation it was further recommended that "Governments should encourage farmers' organisations and co-operatives to establish pilot farms to be managed by the farmers' themselves, to put into practice the results of agricultural research."

Commission VI discussed Private Sector Support, stressing that "It is important that there should be a continuing dialogue between the private sector and national and international authorities. This dialogue is all the more desirable as a series of elements must be tackled simultaneously to ensure growth: infrastructure, better transport facilities, irrigation, training for the farmers, improved marketing, businesslike co-operatives, high-yielding seed varieties, tractors, fertilizers and pesticides, storage facilities, sprayers, adequate financial system, etc."

In the area of Business and Industry, it was felt that "in the opinion of various speakers, FAO should recommend that the private sector in developing countries should organise its own co-operatives and foundations in order to help finance small farmers' operations in production, processing and distribution schemes."

It was also expressed that "The establishment of co-operatives and credit unions played a most important part in agricultural development. This activity was, of course, of concern to a much wider constituency than the foundations alone. However, the Commission's attention was drawn to the relevance of this item in so far as it constituted a further opportunity for funding by foundations."

A recommendation was made that "FAO should step up its activities with agricultural co-operatives as part of its contribution to the Second Development Decade." It was further expressed that "Foundations should be encouraged to provide funds for staffing programmes aiming at the establishment and expansion of co-operatives, credit unions and other farmers' organisations in the developing countries."

Commission VII was concerned with Direct Participation Programmes.

In the field of Motivations and Techniques of mobilisation, and logistic support, the Commission "laid special emphasis on the organisational aspects of motivation with special reference to co-operatives. It was particularly stressed that co-operatives, to be successful, should be established and managed by the farmers themselves. The role of governments should be limited to promoting and facilitating the growth of all democratic people's associations. The concept of co-operatives, indeed, should encompass all forms of association of the people (farmers' associations, farmers' clubs, etc.), for a wider range of purposes than those currently accepted as the objectives of co-operatives...

"The Commission recognised that no campaign for mobilisation of the rural population could succeed without giving people the right of free association. Where this right was circumscribed, the Commission considered that only world opinion could exert the necessary pressure to induce governments to provide the fullest scope for such mobilisation."

In discussing Information as an Element in Development Programmes, it was stressed that "special attention should be paid to organising collective discussion groups and other means by which people's interest and participation can be promoted. Any information programme should include an entertainment element and should be organised along traditional patterns."

AUSTRALIA

SCIENTIST SUGGESTS CO-OPERATIVE BREEDING

A leading Australian animal geneticist sees large-scale co-operative breeding eventually replacing the traditional structure of a multitude of breeders each operating small herds or flocks.

Professor J.S.F. Barker, of the University of Sydney, puts forward this view in a paper prepared for the Eighth Biennial Conference of the Australian Society of Animal Production, held in Brisbane in August.

Professor Barker examines ways of meeting the challenge of environment by genetic means.

He points to the attention that has been given to breeding of beef and dairy cattle for high productivity under hot conditions and refers to the selection of strains on the basis of hair shedding.

The duration of the breeding season in sheep is a genetic factor which he considers can be varied to permit mating twice each year for prime lamb production.

Professor Barker summarises progress in selection for disease resistance, such as to leucosis in poultry or mastitis in cattle.

The challenge posed by market requirements is illustrated in various ways. A high production poultry strain laying exclusively brown-shelled eggs has been developed in England to meet the preferences of many British housewives.

Broiler breeders in Australia have had to produce strains with white feathers and white skin.

In dairy production, a change in emphasis from milk fat content to solids-not-fat is changing the breed composition of herds.

Though a wide genetic variability exists in our livestock populations, Professor Barker points out that it is sometimes more economical to use some means other than genetic to achieve a desired end, such as disease control.

Genetic variability, he considers, will yield its best results through crossbreeding, followed by some form of selection, as has been done with European and Brahman cattle.

Professor Barker presents evidence that selection can be made most effective by dealing with large populations of animals. This leads him to the conclusion that co-operative breeding organisations, or even national breeding schemes, will be set up eventually to gain the advantages of working with large populations.

SURVEY OF FARMERS' ATTITUDES TO CO-OPS

Cork farmers in general favour co-operatives.

This is the conclusion reached in a recent attitude survey carried out by James Higgins in early 1969 as the basis for a thesis.

Based on a random sample of 500 landowners picked by the Central Statistics Office, sufficient completed questionnaires were available for inferences to be made with a 95 per cent degree of confidence.

The survey tested a number of assumptions about the factors that influence farmers' attitudes towards co-operatives. It also identified several areas worth careful attention by co-operatives.

The main findings were:-

1. The more farmers know about co-operatives, the more favourably disposed they are. Those who understand how co-operatives work see more clearly how they help satisfy their income wants.
2. Shareholders are more favourably disposed than non-shareholders.
3. No appreciable difference in attitude exists between those who bought shares and those who acquired them by transfer.
4. Farmers who are members of rural organisations have somewhat more favourable attitudes than those who are not members.
5. The more progressive farmers are, the more they tend to be favourably disposed towards co-operatives.
6. Seven out of every 10 farmers interviewed said farmers got a fair deal at the co-operative, 25 per cent said the opposite (4 per cent did not deal with co-operatives).

Significantly, 68 farmers dealing with the Dairy Disposal Co. were asked the same question in relation to treatment of farmers by the D.D. Co. Sixty-four per cent were dissatisfied with the deal they were getting, 35 per cent were satisfied.

7. Farmers who have experience with co-operatives which are considered as successful business organisations will be more favourably disposed towards co-operatives in general than those with experience of co-operatives not considered successful business organisations.
8. The size of farm made no appreciable difference to farmers' attitudes to co-operatives, nor did the farmer's place in the family cycle.
9. Attitudes were more favourable when farmers got information about co-operatives.

10. The most important sources of information on co-operatives, so far as farmers are concerned, are:-

Other Farmers - (23%)
General Experience - (15%)
Co-operative Managers and Branch Managers - (11.5%)
Co-operative Meetings - (11%)

11. Nearly half (47 per cent) considered the Manager to be the most important factor in making a good co-op, 28 per cent the interest of farmers, and only 14.5 per cent the Committee.

Attitude to Creamery Rationalisation

12. The survey revealed considerable confusion, not to say ignorance, among farmers on the question of creamery amalgamation. Approximately 44 per cent were in favour of amalgamation, 23 per cent were opposed to it and a surprisingly large 33 per cent had no opinion one way or the other.

Even more unexpected was the number of those who, while they were definitely either for or against amalgamation, could give no reason for their attitude. Nearly 7 out of 10 (68 per cent) of those in favour gave no reason, 26 per cent gave "better prices and cheaper services", and 5 per cent "bulk collection of milk".

Over two-fifths of those against amalgamation (41.5 per cent) gave no reason. Seventeen per cent gave "problem and cost of milk haulage" as their reason, 22.5 per cent gave "loss of convenience of local branch" and 19 per cent gave "fear of co-operatives getting too big and having a monopoly of trade".

The main conclusion from this section of the report would seem to be that while there is a great deal of goodwill towards the idea of amalgamation - as indicated by the high percentage who favoured the idea - farmers lack knowledge of the way in which amalgamation will affect them. Obvious points such as milk haulage methods, benefits in money terms, and branch re-deployment, need clarification.

Need for Information

It is clear from the survey that farmers' attitudes towards co-operatives are by and large determined by the role they see co-operatives playing in satisfying their income wants. This seems to be tied up with the amount of information they receive about co-operatives.

Since personal communication is considered to be one of the most effective means of bringing about attitude change, it follows that a great deal more study needs to be devoted to increasing the impact of co-operative meetings. The survey results give further weight to the recommendations contained in the I.A.O.S. (Irish Agricultural Organisation Society Ltd.) dairy rationalisation proposals that larger co-operatives should employ member relations officers.

In general the survey shows that farmers are basically well disposed towards co-operatives; most importantly, the more information co-operatives feed their members, the more favourable their attitudes will become.

Effective action on this point is indispensable if co-operatives are to keep growing, for, as the survey report observes, farmers must be made to feel that co-operatives are their business if their full support is to be obtained for the future development of these institutions.

ITALY

ASSOCIAZIONE GENERALE DELLE COOPERATIVE ITALIANE

In Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin No. 8 we published an article about four of the principal co-operative organisations in Italy which include primary agricultural co-operatives. This article was, in fact, a translation of an article appearing in Financement Agricole et Rural, June 1970. In this edition we are pleased to publish an item about another similar organisation, the Associazione Generale delle Cooperative Italiane, which is also a member of the I.C.A. We thank the President of the A.G.C.I. for sending us this report.

The A.G.C.I., founded in 1952, is one of the legally recognised organisations of representation, assistance and protection of its affiliated co-operative societies, and is, therefore, entrusted by ministerial decree to carry out the biennial compulsory revision to which the adhering co-operatives are subjected.

Of the 2,000 co-operatives adhering to A.G.C.I., about 400 are agricultural co-operatives, to whose economic and social development A.G.C.I. gives particular attention, assisting them in getting qualified management and in helping them to obtain the highest valorisation of their products.

A.G.C.I.'s agricultural co-operatives belong to all sectors of agriculture and, therefore, are divided into agricultural enterprises, co-operative wine cellars, co-operative oil mills, co-operative dairies and cheese dairies, vegetable fruit, flowers and citrus fruit co-operatives, zootechnical co-operatives, co-operatives for services and supply of agricultural equipment.

The A.G.C.I. has been a member of the I.C.A. since 1962.

PERU

SUGAR BOOSTS LAND REFORM

The following article on land reform in Peru, and the role of co-operatives in this reform, appeared in The Times of August 28th, 1970, and was written by Colin Harding, Economic Correspondent of the Peruvian Times.

Of the many steps President Velasco's military government has taken in its efforts to bring about a bloodless revolution in Peru, the agrarian reform is the most fundamental. Re-distribution of land was begun, rather half-heartedly, under previous governments but the military gave a new impulse to the process by going straight for the huge sugar estates on the north coast, which nobody had previously dared to touch.

Recently, on the first anniversary of the proclamation of the reform, the titles to the first three of these estates, now known as agro-industrial complexes, were handed over to workers' co-operatives. The remaining five will be handed over in October.

The fact that the sugar estates were the first to be expropriated was considered to be the biggest blow yet against the national oligarchy of politically powerful families, which owned most of the estates. However, the same people still have important interests elsewhere in Peru, and several factories attached to the estates, making paper and rum, have not been touched, though the paper factories are now going to be taken over under a new revolutionary Industries Law.

Since the first application of the law in the north, it has been extended slowly to other areas of Peru by the declaration of agrarian reform zones. Large areas of the country are still not subject to the reform, including the vast jungle area, though the whole country is due to become an agrarian reform zone by 1972.

Ministry is Worried

The amount of land actually delivered to new owners is small, compared to the amount expropriated (out of 1,454,992 hectares expropriated, 680,000 have been handed over) and the Ministry of Finance is worried that those who do receive land will not pay for it, as they are supposed to do, in annual instalments.

The sort of rural society the reform is meant to bring about has not yet been clearly defined.

The sugar estates have been maintained as single productive units, run by co-operatives, mainly for economic reasons - sugar is an important export and dislocation in production could not be risked by dividing the land into small pieces. Export earnings from sugar in 1969 were \$39.3m. compared with \$62.7m. in 1968, production having been badly affected by drought.

Government agencies are also busy instilling the co-operative ideology elsewhere, especially in the Sierra, where several vast sheep ranches have been handed over to peasant co-operatives to run. New lands handed over to the rural communities generally have to be farmed on a communal basis.

The tradition of mutual help which is well-established in these communities is considered to make them especially adaptable to co-operative organisation.

The Government has frequently stated that the reform will also build up small and medium size private farms, turning every tenant into a proprietor, and abolishing personal service in return for a plot of land.

A basic ideal, then, is the owner-operated family farm, created by eliminating the large estates, especially in the Sierra, and selling the land on easy terms to the 85 per cent of campesinos, who at present struggle along on less than an acre of land.

The Government sees this restructuring of land ownership as the "central nucleus of an agricultural development strategy", removing the obstacles to economic expansion presented by archaic forms of land tenure.

With state-administered credit, extension and marketing services, it is hoped that the reform will create a dynamic, commercial agriculture, as the basis for industrial development, providing more and cheaper raw materials on the one hand, and a larger consumer market for the finished products on the other.

In this scheme of things, co-operatives and profit-sharing (another important aspect of the reform) become elements in the construction of a modern state capitalism, rather than the first step in the non-capitalist (but non-communist) development which members of the Government have referred to, and many of its supporters have been hoping for.

Government representatives generally describe Peru's agrarian reform process as profoundly nationalistic and humanistic, bringing social justice to the rural population in a characteristically Peruvian way.

The agrarian reform, says the Government, was made necessary most of all by an uncontrolled drift of population to the cities, low living standards, and rural economic stagnation. The military believe that through their reform, Peru can be made into a modern nation, without strife, by planning, technical competence, and without demagoguery or "politics".

NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES -

Conférence libre de l'A.C.I.

Le Comité agricole de l'A.C.I. s'est réuni à Londres en septembre. Ses délibérations ont porté sur un seul thème, à savoir : la conférence libre sur le rôle de la coopération agricole dans le développement économique et social, qui aura lieu à Rome au printemps 1972.

Réunion du Sous-comité des pêches

Compte-rendu est donné de la réunion du Sous-comité des pêches qui a eu lieu aussi en septembre. Les délibérations ont porté sur les points suivants : proposition d'organiser un stage d'étude en Inde sur la gestion des entreprises coopératives d'écoulement et de fournitures pour les pêcheurs, compte-rendu de la situation actuelle concernant les possibilités de construction d'une usine de poisson à Ceylan, et synthèse des activités prévues de la FAO intéressant les coopératives de pêcheurs.

2ème Congrès Mondial de l'Alimentation et rôle des coopératives

Un compte-rendu assez étendu est donné sur ce Congrès qui a eu lieu à La Haye en juin. Y sont mises en relief les conclusions et recommandations des diverses commissions du Congrès qui se rapportaient aux rôles et activités des coopératives.

AUSTRALIE - Un savant préconise le système coopératif pour organiser la reproduction

Un spécialiste australien de génétique animale renommé expose ses convictions que les centres coopératifs de grande dimension de reproduction animale finiront par remplacer la structure traditionnelle caractérisée par une multitude de petites entreprises d'élevage.

EIRE - Enquête sur l'attitude des agriculteurs vis-à-vis des coopératives

Nous publions les résultats d'une intéressante enquête effectuée sur l'opinion et l'attitude des agriculteurs en Eire à l'égard des coopératives. Ses conclusions mettent en lumière plusieurs domaines sur lesquels les coopératives pourraient se pencher attentivement.

ITALIE - Associazione Generale delle Cooperative Italiane

Le Président de l'A.G.C.I. donne une brève synthèse des principales activités de cette importante association coopérative italienne et de la place qu'y tiennent les coopératives agricoles.

PEROU - Réforme agraire

Cet article évoque la réforme agraire réalisée au Pérou et le rôle qu'y jouent les coopératives, à la suite de la venue au pouvoir du nouveau gouvernement.

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- to integrate his work with the Centre's educational programme;
- to undertake such other duties within his field of competence as the Chief of Project may request of him.

For further information, address enquiries to:

Dr. N.J. Newiger,
Agricultural Co-operatives Specialist,
Co-operatives, Credit and Rural Sociology Branch
Rural Institutions and Services Division,
The FAO,
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Agricultural Co-operative

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE 11 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 9PA



No. 11, 1970.

As readers of the Agricultural Bulletin will already know, Mr. Branko Zlataric, who has been Secretary of the ICA Agricultural Committee for over six years, has just left the ICA to take up an important post in the Fisheries Division of the FAO. Dr. Livio Malfettani, Chairman of the Agricultural Committee, has sent us the following appreciation of Mr. Zlataric's work.

Edit.

"Au revoir" to Mr. B. Zlataric, Agricultural Secretary of the I.C.A.

Branko Zlataric is leaving his appointment as Secretary of the Agricultural Committee of the ICA, after having dedicated many years of his strenuous activity as co-operator to the development of the sector of agricultural co-operation, a sector which has become one of the most important ones in the field of international co-operation.

In fact, agricultural co-operation is an activity which is expanding rapidly throughout the world, not only from the economic, but also from a social point of view, particularly in developing countries. In advanced countries too, difficult problems concerning the reframing of a new economic structure are arising, in which modern technology and social transformation, including the migration of rural masses, are creating entirely new prospects, to which agricultural co-operation cannot delay in giving an answer.

In this field, Mr. Zlataric has demonstrated his great experience and broad understanding, not only for technical problems, but also for a whole range of complex themes, starting with the promotion of the co-operative movement to an economic vision of the many needs for stressing the value (so essential for the co-operative sector) of those human resources which are the distinctive element of co-operative activity in comparison with other enterprises.

He leaves the ICA family to work in a special sector of FAO in which he has had previous effective experience: the sector of fisheries.

To this new task there is no doubt that he will bestow those gifts of competence and of humanity which he has revealed to us in the course of his very exacting work in ICA's sector of agriculture and fisheries, whose progress has been his own achievement and to which we have been objective and direct witnesses

INTERNATIONAL

EUROPEAN SYMPOSIUM HELD IN ITALY

'The Contribution of the Co-operative Movement to the Integration of Rural Families into Modern Society.'

Milan, Italy, was host to the above-named European Symposium, which was held in September, and attended by participants from 15 countries. The Italian Government, the FAO, and representatives from governmental and non-governmental organisations and universities attended the Symposium.

The Symposium was opened by the Director of the ICA, Dr. S.K. Saxena, who drew attention to the repercussions on rural life and particularly to the structure and interrelationship of the family of the increasing technological changes and processes of rationalisation being applied to agriculture. With farming becoming a competitive industry in many European countries, co-operatives had to define, and re-define their role, and the Symposium's purpose was to provide guidance in this period of rapid social change.

Mr. Henry Nouyrit (France), President of the Working Party dealing with "Economie Générale" set up by the Committee for Agricultural Co-operation of the EEC countries, outlined the latest trends in agriculture, and emphasised the need for adjustment by co-operative organisations. He urged agricultural co-operatives to consider concentration of undertakings in the same way as industry and commerce have done in recent years. This would not mean the elimination of the family farm, which can often be more economically run if production is planned within schemes of mutual help.

Senator Rossi Doria, Professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Naples, introduced ways and means by which co-operation might contribute to the integration process. In supporting Mr. Nouyrit's ideas, he warned the co-operative movement not to go on the defensive and to bow to the conditions imposed by the existing economic development. Co-operatives had to accept a challenge in the same spirit as did the movement's pioneers.

Mrs. Mara Rupena (Yugoslavia), Chairman of the ICA Women's Working Party on Agriculture, dealt with the special contribution women and youth can make to rural development. The exodus of men from the land into urban employment has caused women to take over the work on the land. This situation is likely to be reversed as mechanisation and rationalisation take over. To encourage youth to remain on the land, women have to be trained to influence this process. In this evolution, co-operatives have a real part to play and must use the organising talents of educated women living in rural areas.

Following a lengthy discussion based on the papers, the Symposium made recommendations on internal and external adjustments which would ensure the strengthening of agricultural and rural co-operatives by the utilisation of human resources and efficient farming techniques.

The Chairmen for the three sessions were Dr. L. Malfettani, President, Confederazione Cooperative Italiane; Mr. S. Miana, President, Lega Nazionale delle Cooperative e Mutue; and Professor G. Cintolo, Vice-President, Associazione Generale delle Cooperative Italiane. Mrs. Luisa Crisanti (Italy), Vice-Chairman of the Women's Cooperative Advisory Council acted as Secretary to the Symposium assisted by Mrs. Muriel J. Russell, the ICA Secretary for Women and Youth Activities.

WORLD CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The first World Conference on Agricultural Education and Training, jointly sponsored by the FAO, ILO and UNESCO, was held in Copenhagen from 28th July to 8th August. 350 participants from 95 countries attended, and the ICA was represented by Mr. J.M. Rana, Deputy Regional Director of the ICA Office for South-East Asia.

Two of the main themes of the Conference were Planning Development of Agricultural Education and Training, and A New Strategy for Investment of External Aid to Agricultural Education and Training in Developing Countries. In addition, there were three commissions on Higher Agricultural Education, Intermediate Agricultural Education and Training, and Vocational Training for Farming and Related Occupations.

The Conference reaffirmed the paramount importance of the Rural Sector and of Rural People in the whole development process taking place in the third world, drawing attention to the poor image of agriculture and rural occupations in many countries, and the need to mobilize human resources for rural development. Agricultural education and training must be regarded and planned as integral components of the whole process of development, and far more attention must be devoted to training of the whole rural community, including peasants, farmers, rural women youth and skilled workers, for expanding rural industries. In practice, this would mean broadening the basis of agricultural education and rural training, and much better coordination of all the various educational, training and other essential elements of rural and national development.

CEA RESOLUTION ON NEED FOR REFORM OF STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES

The 22nd General Assembly of the European Confederation of Agriculture (CEA) took place in Florence, Italy, early in October, and following deliberations on the subject in one of its Commissions, passed a resolution entitled "Does the present structure of agricultural co-operatives require reform in the face of the tendency towards concentration?". The text of this resolution appears below:

"The CEA, very concerned about the tendency towards concentration which is developing within the whole economy, draws the attention of agricultural organisations to this problem, which is so important because of its economic and social consequences.

"The CEA believes that the economic organisation of farmers, within the framework of agricultural co-operatives, ought to develop as rapidly as possible, in order to give producers a greater influence on agricultural markets, and arising from this, greater facilities for outlets for their produce and better bases for their income.

"The CEA is conscious of the need to adapt the structure of agricultural co-operatives as much as possible to the domestic and foreign economic evolution of each of the member countries of the CEA. Co-operatives ought to fix as a goal that their members, in so far as they are independent entrepreneurs, should submit to common rules for certain operations in production, processing and marketing sectors.

"This adaption, in order to attain generally a more important size of agricultural co-operatives and in order better to combine their efforts at union, ought to lead to a greater efficacy of agriculture in the economic life, as well as to a real promotion of farmers. Co-operatives cannot escape a tendency towards concentration. This concentration must be carried out and conducted in such a manner, that the personal participation - with voting rights and consultative rights - of the members might be effective. Thus it is desirable that co-operatives should join the professional agricultural organisations in the search for the necessary solutions.

"The original goal must be preserved: the mission of co-operation to aid in the economic promotion of agricultural producers.

"The CEA wishes to stress the pressing need to maintain links in the framework of the agricultural co-operative movement between economic and social needs.

"The Director General, desirous that the CEA should lend the maximum cooperation at its disposal to the desirable adaptation of the structures of agricultural co-operatives, requests the representatives of member countries to bring to the knowledge of the General Secretariat initiative already taken or in progress in this field."

CEYLON

CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN CEYLON'S ECONOMY

The new government of Ceylon of Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranike, announced through the speech from the throne at the opening of the first session of the new Parliament, that under its rule "the Co-operative Movement will play a major role in the economy of the country, especially in rural development". It was further said that the co-operatives will be re-organised into larger and economically more viable units. The speech promised to foster cottage industries and crafts and industrial workshops by co-operatives and to allocate land for the establishment of co-operative farms.

Also stated was that "a transferable service for co-operative employees with salary scales appropriate to their responsibilities and guaranteeing them security of employment will be established".

DAHOMEY

FISHING COOPERATIVES MOBILE SHOP

In answer to the request of the ICA for information concerning co-operative projects which have been assisted by grants from OXFAM (the Oxford Famine Relief Organisation), the Director of OXFAM has kindly supplied us with information on some of the many such projects involved. The Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin will from time to time give information on these projects.

Dahomey, a former French colony in West Africa, is a densely populated country where many people make a living from the products of the oil palm. Fishing is important in the many lagoons and rivers that mark the countryside, and along the coast. Over 150,000 people (6% of the total population) are employed in fishing, of whom some 30,000 are entirely dependent on this occupation. It is estimated that there are more than 20,000 small boats and canoes.

A Fishing Materials Co-operative was set up at the beginning of 1965 on the initiative of the Government Fisheries Services, assisted by an FAO expert. Under the auspices of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign, the Union of Norwegian Co-operatives and the Swiss Co-operative Movement agreed to support the project, and the Norwegians provided \$70,000 worth of fishing materials and equipment as initial capital for the new co-operative.

OXFAM was approached with a request for funds for a vehicle for a mobile fishing tackle shop. The problem was that the co-operative has a mass of equipment for sale to the fishermen, but little of it gets sold, because even if the fishermen can manage to make their way into town to buy it, they have no means of transporting it back home. If the material were to be transported to them on a regular basis, i.e. at fixed times on fixed days, this would be of obvious aid to them. OXFAM agreed to provide £3,367 for a vehicle suitably fitted as a mobile shop. In addition to selling, it will provide a means of propaganda to encourage the use of better equipment.

INDONESIA

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK ASSISTANCE FOR MODERNIZING AGRICULTURAL BANK

Earlier this year the Asian Development Bank approved a request from the Indonesian government for technical assistance in modernizing Bank Rakjat Indonesia (BRI), the country's major agricultural bank.

A three-member mission will study BRI operations and draw up a programme for improving its facilities. The programme is a sequel to the recommendations made by an earlier ADB mission that conducted a rural credit survey, and is aimed at increasing food production.

As rice forms the staple diet of the Indonesian people and is the country's main food crop, the size of the rice harvest and its price are of crucial importance in stabilizing the Indonesian economy. Accordingly, the Indonesian government's Five Year Development Plan launched in 1969 gives top priority to rice production.

Modernization of the BRI is expected to aid increase in rice production by helping to make farm loans available at the right time to the right amount. The introduction of mechanical equipment will speed up reporting and accounting procedures. It will also help improve the administration of loans and promote better use of bank funds through more efficient resource allocation.

The vastness and complexity of administering the farm credit programme and other activities have hampered BRI operations. The BRI gives loans to farmers directly through 206 branches, 13 sub-branch offices, 81 village units and 401 mobile units. It also provides loans through other agencies, including over 5,500 village and paddy banks as well as through co-operatives and P.N. Pertani, the government's fertilizer distributing agency. In addition to its main function of providing small farms, the BRI also extends medium-term credit and engages in ordinary commercial banking operations.

IRAN

IRAN'S AGRICULTURE: PLANNERS TAKE A HARD LOOK

In the Financial Times of the 20th October, 1970, Elizabeth Thurgood, the paper's Teheran Correspondent examines the state of Iran's agriculture, and mentions the role of co-operatives in facilitating land reform.

Agriculture has long been a stumbling block to Iran's development plans and recent progress has been much slower than hoped for. Part of the difficulty is that agriculture has been forced into taking a back seat to industrial development, particularly to a number of prestige projects. Fears are expressed that another bad agriculture year in Iran will have disastrous effects on her foreign exchange reserves.

Rising prices are another serious threat. Though agriculture supports over 60% of the country's total work force, last year Iran, once able to feed herself, imported nearly \$32 million of foodstuffs.

The country's first thorough survey of her resources on a regional basis and a heavy injection of public investment are already on the cards. Agriculture is almost certain to be given top investment priority, maybe even pushing industrial development into second place.

Role of Co-operatives

In the field of land reform, the formation of rural co-operatives has to a great extent solved the initial problems that cropped up when farmers were given the land they tilled - but were not given the capital and means with which to make things grow. Even now, with membership in co-operatives at the 1.4 million mark, the lack of capital is still very much evident; a locally assembled tractor costs \$3,500, the average rural co-operative has less than \$7,000 in the kitty.

But the situation may not necessarily become worse before getting better. Good weather this year is expected to result in a higher yield. And the annual growth rate before the start of the Fifth Plan in 1973 is likely to rise as money draining industrial projects are completed and more funds become available.

MALTA

STUDY TOUR ON BEHALF OF MALTESE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Fr. J.B. Gauci of the Social Action Movement of Malta, recently undertook a study tour in North America and Europe. The tour was made possible through the help of the Coady International Institute, the International Co-operative Alliance, and the Canadian International Development Agency.

The purpose of this study was to give Fr. Gauci an opportunity to contact organisations working in the field of co-operatives, credit unions, community development and leadership training; to study possible avenues of collaboration and help between these organisations and the Centre for Social Leadership (C.S.L.) which is to be set up in Malta in the near future. The countries and cities visited included New York, Montreal, Ireland, London, Holland and Rome.

In his visit to the ICA, it was stressed that the ICA, which is launching its Co-operative Development Decade, is very much interested in Centres for the training of the future leaders of the Co-operative movement. The FAO also gave encouragement to efforts to promote agricultural and fishing co-operatives in Malta.

Since Fr. Gauci's return to Malta, there has been held the first national agricultural conference, seeking to bring a measure of co-ordination (with a possible federation) of the various agricultural co-operatives already in existence, as a necessary preliminary step before much else can be undertaken on a national scale.

AS MUCH AS WE MIGHT TRY, NONE OF US CAN IGNORE THE FACT OF THE EXISTING INFLATION.

Printers have to be paid more, paper costs more and packaging and distribution costs soar.

As every other periodical paper, we are having to say to our readers: "We are sorry, but we must put the prices up".

We shall pass on only the paper and printing costs and the distribution charges we face with the raising of the United Kingdom Postal Rates.

From January 1971 on, the new ICA subscription rates will be as follows:

REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION:	£1. 50p	(£1. 10. 0) post free
Co-operative News Service:	£1.00p	(post free)
Agricultural Co-operative Bulletin:	£1.00p	(post free)
Consumer Affairs Bulletin:	£1.00p	(post free) no change in price.

English issue of the new edition of the F.W. Raiffeisen Book
"Die Darlehenskassenvereine" (The Credit Unions)

The English translation of the new edition of the Raiffeisen Book "Die Darlehenskassenvereine" (The Credit Unions), which was republished in German by Drüseday/Kleinhans as an anniversary issue during the Raiffeisen year in 1968, has just been printed.

In the new edition of the book the fundamental co-operative principles remained the same, but the rules and methods were adapted to present-day requirements.

Credit must be given to the editors that the original fifth edition, edited by Raiffeisen himself, has been made more comprehensible to readers of our time by a thorough revision, abbreviation and commentary revealing anew the essence of the old work.

The supporters and pioneers of Raiffeisen's ideas who were outside the German group are mentioned in a Roll of Honour in the Appendix. At the end of the book are illustrations of co-operative institutions in Germany and abroad.

The price of the English edition is £1.00p.

Orders to be sent to:

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545 Neuwied / Rhein

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RESUME FRANCAIS

"Au revoir M. Zlataric"

Le Dr. Livio Malfettani, Président du Comité agricole de l'A.C.I. a écrit lui-même l'article rendant hommage à l'oeuvre accomplie par M. Branko Zlataric dans ses fonctions de Secrétaire à l'Agriculture de l'A.C.I.

NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES -

Colloque européen tenu à Milan

Ce colloque, tenu en septembre et ouvert par le Dr. Saxena, avait pour thème de réflexion "le rôle du mouvement coopératif dans l'intégration des familles rurales à la société moderne". On y entendit notamment les exposés de M. Henry Nouyrit, France, du Sénateur Rossi Doria, Italie et de Mme Mara Rupena, Yougoslavie.

Conférence mondiale sur l'Enseignement et la Formation agricoles

Les travaux de cette conférence, tenue en juillet à Copenhague, comprenaient plusieurs questions d'un grand intérêt, entre autres "la formation de la population rurale" et divers sujets concernant la formation agricole dans les pays en voie de développement.

Résolution de la CEA sur le besoin de réforme structurale des coopératives agricoles

Cette résolution a été adoptée à la conférence d'octobre à Florence. Elle résulte des conclusions d'une Commission désignée par la Confédération européenne de l'Agriculture.

CEYLAN - Mouvement Coopératif dans l'économie de Ceylan

Nous reproduisons le compte-rendu d'un discours de Mme Sirimavo Bandarnaike, Premier Ministre de Ceylan, faisant état du rôle capital que joueront les coopératives dans l'économie nationale.

DAHOMÉY - Coopératives de pêcheurs - Point de vente itinérant pour le Dahomey

Cet article relate le succès d'une initiative concernant la mise en service d'un magasin coopératif itinérant destiné à vendre du matériel aux pêcheurs locaux, et réalisée grâce à l'aide financière d'OXFAM.

INDONESIE - Aide de la Banque asiatique du développement en faveur de la modernisation de la Banque agricole nationale

Cet article évoque la demande d'aide présentée par le gouvernement indonésien en faveur de l'extension de l'institution précitée. Cette initiative, dont le succès est très grand, apportera des avantages considérables à la population.

IRAN - Situation agricole en Iran

Elizabeth Thurgood, du Financial Times, a dépeint la situation de l'agriculture en Iran. Elle a notamment évoqué le rôle des coopératives en faveur des agriculteurs iraniens.

MALTE - Voyage d'étude

Un voyage circulaire d'étude a récemment été effectué en Amérique du nord et en Europe pour le compte du mouvement coopératif maltais. Ces visites ont permis d'établir des relations intercoopératives dans divers domaines d'activités avec les pays visités.



Agricultural Co-operative

BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE 11 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET



No. 12, 1970

INTERNATIONAL

Agricultural Marketing and Co-operative World Trade

Mr. Peter van den Akker of EUROGRAIN (Rotterdam) has recently written an article about co-operative world trading, with special emphasis on agricultural marketing. The author has kindly granted permission for the publication of this article in the Agricultural Bulletin.

We are going through a revolutionary period. Besides, we are getting more and more influenced by events happening thousands of miles away from us. How do we adapt ourselves to this fast changing, ever smaller world, or rather how do we get ahead of our time? How will tomorrow's world be operating?

These are questions we are all concerned with, the regional cooperatives and the national cooperatives. We are approaching a new era in agricultural marketing. It is of utmost importance, that we all understand this and that we adapt our structure accordingly. It is particularly in this new era that Eurograin can fulfil a very useful function in international cooperative trading. Larger volumes will be traded in fewer hours through fewer hands. Geographical distances between sellers and buyers will be of even less importance. Margin will be smaller. Even bigger sellers will be meeting even bigger buyers and eventually producers and consumers may be uniting. The days are over when a producer just tries to market his product at the highest price and a consumer tries to squeeze the last penny out of the producer. They are now both agreeing to trade at an average price level. The producer is interested in a regular outlet, the consumer wants a regular supply of a good quality product. They are both interested in finding the most efficient way in marketing and transportation, so they really have no longer clashing interests.

We are noticing an increasing trend of integration, particularly in our branch. International trading organisations continue investing money in all branches and are becoming severe competitors at all levels. Profits made in the grain trade are invested by them in crushing plants of soybean meal, profits in soybean meal are used to invest in feedstuffs plants etc., and this process goes on.

Grain is bought from cooperatives in the U.S., in Canada, in Argentina etc. and marketed to cooperatives in Europe. From their position as international traders these companies have expanded their influence to many fields: buying from, and selling to the farmers locally, producing raw materials, building elevators in important ports, producing feedstuffs, growing cattle and poultry. The international trading organisations have to a large extent taken over the function of cooperatives in the world and are still increasing their influence.

What has given these companies the possibility to become such a threat to cooperatives? The main reason seems to be that cooperatives have always been concentrating on either consumption or production, and have paid very little attention to trading. They have always been too much concentrated on their own organisation and have not looked sufficiently to the outside, nor to the future. This unfortunately is still very often the case today. They try to do the best possible job for their farmers, but they forget that they not only have to do it today, but also in years to come.

The world is getting too small for us to continue operating on our own. The interests of our colleagues cooperatives are exactly the same as our own, even though one may be a consumer and the other a producer.

It is extremely satisfying to notice the first signs of a new era in the cooperative world. In 1958 some 20 of the regional cooperatives in the U.S. organised Producers Export Company in New York. Another organisation created for inter-cooperative trading was Unicoopjapan, founded by Zenkoren in 1961. They have established connections with 31 countries and are regularly buying large quantities of corn and sorghum from the U.S. and from Argentina.

Eurograin as a third organisation has also proved to perform a useful function in Europe. Farmers Export Company was founded in 1968, when it disposed of their own export elevator at the Gulf. F.E.C. has now acquired an important share in U.S. exports of corn and soybean. The latest cooperative trading organisation was founded this year in Canada: XCAN Winnipeg, with as members the 4 big Canadian cooperatives, which are together originating 65% of the grain in Western Canada.

It is most essential that these cooperative organisations grow closely together, trade together, exchange information and experience. One particular international trading house boasts being able to sell directly to any consumer any commodity grown anywhere in the world. If any organisation should be in a position to do this it would have to be the combined cooperatives.

In order to reach this stage the individual cooperatives must be willing to give up a little of their isolated positions and look to the interests of the world cooperative movement. If we look at our own (short term) interests only we shall never grow any closer together. "We are just as strong as our members make us".

Cooperatives have been called "Sleeping Giants". Whilst they were asleep international trading organisations took their chance to develop markets and build up monopolies in certain areas. They have of course had the advantage of centralised decision power, whereas cooperatives usually have to consult their members for major decisions. We have to catch up as far as trading internationally is concerned. This does not need to be a disadvantage. We can develop fast if we want to. The necessary organisations have been founded and more will have to follow. We can learn from the mistakes that our competitors made in the past, and we have to be thinking about the future. In this respect I wish to suggest that a study is made about the development of production and consumption of grain and feedstuffs in the world. Several Japanese companies have already established "task forces" in order to make a thorough research of demand for raw materials over a long period. Some of the objects of such a study are:

What must we produce in future,

Which shall be our markets,

What must we do today to secure / develop these markets,

How big will the total demand be,

What will be the most efficient means of transportation and marketing,

Which shall be the main producing areas,

Which products can be or will be substituted,

Where must we develop our own industries / production plants / elevators.

The result of this study will obviously not be decisive but can serve as a guide. At present we are living from one day to another and very often we are taken by surprise.

Our force is that the costs of any initiative can be divided over many million farmers all over the world, all of them can benefit from it. They expect you to do this for them, they expect you to look to the future, Cooperatives Unite must be the slogan in the 70's.

HUNGARY

Fishing Co-operative at Baja

In 1962 the small fishing groups at Baja merged into one big co-operative, New Life-Uj Elet Fishing Co-operative. Since the merger, equipment has been improved and brought up-to-date, strength has been concentrated, and means have been found to better control the quality and quantity of the fish stock.

The co-operative also undertook to carry on scientific work. Artificial ponds are utilised for breeding fish, and special care has been taken for cleaning the water, normally one of the most difficult tasks. Assistance was given through the importing of the Amur fish, first from China and later from the Soviet Union, as these are excellent plant eaters, eating up underwater reed-grass, and other plants which would make the river bed muddy. Last year 1,500 kilograms of fish were handed over to water conservancy authorities for canal cleaning purposes, and as the Amur's white meat is excellent, the fish is a marketable product.

Selecting fish is an important side of the co-operative's work. Since in the Baja waters carp is the fish which best utilises the natural food available, efforts are directed to breeding the quick-growing carp. This work is usually disturbed by lots of bream, which eat before the carp. As a result, the co-operative settles fish of prey into the back-water.

Fish consumption in the country is rather low, annually less than 1.5 kilograms per capita. Thus, the co-operative is seeking better marketing opportunities, and exports are kept at a steady level.

IRAQ

Role of Co-operatives in Agrarian Reform

As part of its first five-year development plan (1965-1969) the Government of Iraq adopted a programme for expanding and improving its irrigation system in order to promote agricultural production. After the agrarian reform programme was originally introduced, the credit facilities extended under the previous feudal system were no longer available, and farmers were obliged to maintain the irrigation network from their own resources, which were inadequate. The programme envisaged the establishment of adequate infrastructural services and facilities, including the establishment of co-operatives for the agrarian reform settlers and the provision of production resources, i.e. cash loans, improved seeds, fertilisers, farm machinery, etc.

World Food Programme (WFP) assistance was requested by the Government as an incentive towards the improvement and maintenance of part of the existing traditional irrigation systems in a number of districts. The Government at the same time indicated its intention of encouraging the formation of co-operative societies among these small-holders to organise and regulate the use of irrigation water, including the exercise of control over the ownership and distribution of water supplies. The co-operatives would also provide credit to the small-holders and would help them improve the production and marketing of their crops. If this pilot scheme proved to be useful, it would be expanded at a later date on a national scale.

The success of this project has been impressive. The number of co-operative societies was six in 1967 and increased to 10 by 1968, with 1,522 farmer participants. By March 1970 the number of societies had increased to 38, with 4,428 members. Some of the co-operatives have been given the right to distribute irrigation water on an experimental basis. If this proves successful, the co-operatives will take charge of distribution of irrigation water to the fields, while the Ministry of Irrigation will continue the distribution of water from major intakes.

Co-operative societies have taken charge of distributing credit to farmer members. The total credit distribution so far is 47,537 Iraqi dinars, or \$133,000 (1 Iraqi dinar = U.S. \$2.80). Credits vary from I.D. 20 for the use of machinery to a maximum of I.D.200 for combined cropping and livestock operations. Improved seeds are provided to farmers at a reduced price. Fertilizers are distributed on a small scale, free of charge. Marketing is still done on a small scale. One co-operative has started operations as a collection centre for cereals and cotton to be marketed. Thus, the co-operatives have undertaken new functions which will significantly strengthen their role in the rural community.

WFP food proved to be an effective incentive in encouraging the agrarian reform settlers to participate on a voluntary basis in the maintenance and improvement of the irrigation system in their localities. The WFP contribution also helped to improve the diet of the farmers and their dependants.

Of long-range interest to countries considering the role of co-operatives in their development plans is the fact that one of the most important results achieved by the project management was the proof, obtained from the project activities, that popular voluntary work could be organised on a large scale. This procedure has been adopted by the Government on a national scale as a part of its development plan, and is in fact doing so for excavating new drainage channels, building embankments and desilting irrigation canals. The use of co-operatives for such development is a key factor in achieving the good-will and active support of the workers.

PAKISTAN

Agricultural Co-operation in West Pakistan

The following is an extract from an article entitled "Adventures in Co-operation", by Aslam Iqbal, Registrar, Co-operative Societies, West Pakistan, appearing in the January, 1970 issue of West Pakistan Co-operative Review.

According to the last census, about 78% of the population in West Pakistan depends on agriculture for its livelihood. Out of the total population of 42,880,378, the rural population numbers 33,225,806. Agriculture is thus the mainstay of the economy. The Co-operative Movement in West Pakistan has helped the average farmer considerably in this respect. For instance, Rs.707.62 lakh have been given as agricultural credit by the primary credit societies to the peasants during the year. Under the food self-sufficiency programme of the West Pakistan Government 75 crores is to be spent on agriculture during the 3rd Plan, so that besides being self-sufficient it is also available for export to foreign countries. Agricultural credit given to the farmers is utilised for procuring improved seed, agricultural implements, fertilisers and insecticides.

In the field of fertilisers much work has been done by the Rural Supply Co-operative Corporation. It is an apex organisation representing 1,853 societies. The Rural Supply Co-operative Corporation has 150 depots all over the province and handles both the indigenous and imported fertilisers.

In order to help increase food production in West Pakistan, the Co-operative Department has recently launched a project known as "Reconstruction of Rural Credit and Agricultural Marketing". It is intended that 35 Farm Service Centres will be set up throughout the province. Each farm service will have a big "godown" for storing seed, fertilisers, insecticides and also agricultural produce. Attached to the "godowns" will be a workshop where government-appointed trained staff will look after the repair of agricultural machinery and implements. The project will be staffed by trained officers. Under the schemes the government has approved a grant for the construction of Farm Service Centres. The primary tier of this scheme would consist of a Farm Service Society, having at least 100 members with a minimum working capital of Rs.10,000. Each Farm Service Society will be given a grant of Rs.10,000 by the government for the construction of a "godown" in the village. These "godowns" in turn will act as store houses for seeds. During the current financial year 5 such Farm Service Centres have come into being and are now functioning successfully. The Farm Service Centres will cater for a complete package of service, including credit, in addition to the following:-

1. Providing all types of machinery for service and maintenance. .
2. Supply of farm articles such as seeds, fertilisers, diesel oil, etc.
3. Facility for purchase of heavy agricultural machinery, etc.
4. Sinking of tubewells.
5. Marketing of agricultural produce along with adequate facilities of funds for marketing produce.
6. Establishment of agricultural processing units to facilitate marketing of agricultural produce.

Facilities for marketing of the agricultural produce are at present not available in the rural area with the result that the growers get less for themselves and the consumer pays a higher amount for what he consumes. An introduction of the scheme will enable the member societies to arrange for marketing of their agricultural produce, resulting in a total elimination of the middle man.

UNITED KINGDOM

New Co-operative Link-Up

A significant move to link up agricultural co-operatives in the United Kingdom, with an eye very much on Europe, was announced in November, 1970. There are at present, four national associations for England, Wales, Scotland and Ulster, loosely linked in a federation with rather narrow terms of reference which has acted from time to time with wider terms of reference registered as the Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives (U.K.) Ltd. Apart from the four founder members there is provision in its articles for associate members, and various organisations are being considered in this connection.

It was decided at the first board meeting to seek an independent chairman. Mr. Charles Jarvis, well known for his work with the British Farm Produce Council, the British Agricultural Export Council and the National Farmers' Union, was nominated and has agreed to serve.

He will be taking an active part in the affairs of the federation. Apart from unifying the influence of the movement at home, the body will obviously have an even bigger part to play if the United Kingdom joins E.E.C.

The co-operative movement in Europe plays a much larger part in agricultural politics than here. Beside the organisation of farmers' unions (C.O.P.A.) there is in Brussels another joint body from the central co-operative organisations of the Six (C.O.G.E.C.A.).

British entry would certainly qualify the federation for membership of the second, carrying with it the right to send representatives to the various technical committees dealing with individual commodities and advising the E.E.C. commission. If it seems that the British application for membership of E.E.C. is going forward, the federation will be making its contacts with C.O.G.E.C.A. well in advance.

But it will be some months before a full policy is formulated on a good many of the issues it is likely to encounter.

YUGOSLAVIA

Co-operative Farmers

In Yugoslavia according to a report appearing in the Yugoslav monthly magazine Review, about one million private farmers annually sign agreements providing for co-operation in production and trade with farm co-operatives, factory-farms, the food-processing industry and trading enterprises.

The family farms and their owners are usually referred to as kooperanti ("co-operators"), and very rarely by the term "peasant holding", which in Yugoslav agriculture connotes patriarchal, subsistence farming primarily to satisfy the needs of the household, and is generally applied to the other 1.6 million privately-owned farms that are not involved in any form of co-operation with the socially-owned sector. But, according to the report, the distinction

is not so clear cut, since some farmers engage at least partially in market production using their own machinery. At the same time, owning one's own machinery gives wider scope for co-operation with socially-owned enterprises on the technical and marketing levels, where the private farmer, restricted to 10 hectares of arable land (about 25 acres) is naturally at a disadvantage.

The above gives a general indication of the inter-relationships in Yugoslav agriculture and the framework within which farm policy operates. "Production Co-operation", i.e. the system whereby the socially-owned farms co-operate with and lend various forms of assistance to the individual farmer on a commercial basis, is a vital factor in the promotion of Yugoslav agriculture.

The free economic relations that prevail on the Yugoslav market extend also to agriculture, and thus to production co-operation. All produce of the private farmer (except tobacco, which is a state monopoly) can be freely sold on the so-called "peasant markets" throughout the country. Farm co-operatives,, for their part, set various conditions in their statutes with regard to membership and business co-operation (e.g., the obligation to contract the sale of produce to a certain value through the co-operative, besides membership dues), thereby laying stress on the advantages of long-term production and business co-operation with use of the co-operative's means and facilities. Finally, farmers can get together and form other co-operatives, which can do business in any part of the country, their newly-created assets being collectively owned and indivisible.

Thus, many different forms and types of production co-operation are contracted between socially-owned enterprises and private farmers. They depend entirely on the interests and wishes of the partners, and are determined by the prevailing production and market conditions: the soil and climatic conditions of a region, the level of technical equipment of a farm, whether all, some or none of the members of the household actually work the land or are employed elsewhere, the demand for particular produce, the proximity of consumer centres, etc.

It should be noted that yields on land tilled under co-operative arrangements are much higher than the average yields in the private sector, and approach those on the large socially-owned farms. This is due to mechanised cultivation of the land, the sowing of high-quality wheat seed and hybrid maize and the use of 860,000 tons of artificial fertilizer through contracts on co-operation.

Résumé français

NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES - Commercialisation des produits agricoles et commerce coopératif mondial -

Nous reproduisons le texte d'un article de M. Peter van den Akker, d'EUROGRAIN (Rotterdam) concernant le commerce coopératif mondial et qui accorde une place spéciale à la commercialisation des denrées agricoles.

HONGRIE - Coopérative de pêcheurs à Baja -

Nous évoquons dans leurs grands traits les évolutions favorables qui se sont produites dans les années 1960 à la suite de la concentration de plusieurs petits groupes de pêcheurs de Baja en une coopérative unifiée et de plus grande dimension. Grâce à cette fusion les coopérateurs ont réussi non seulement à moderniser leur équipement mais aussi à entreprendre des recherches scientifiques destinées à déterminer des méthodes perfectionnées d'épuration des eaux et pour la sélection et la reproduction des poissons.

Irak - Rôle des coopératives dans la réforme agraire -

Cet article relate le succès du premier plan de développement quinquennal de l'Irak. Dans le cadre de ce plan un programme a été adopté en vue de l'extension et l'amélioration du système national d'irrigation afin de favoriser l'expansion de la production agricole. Le gouvernement a également exprimé son intention d'encourager la formation de sociétés coopératives parmi les petits exploitants pour assurer l'organisation et la régulation de l'utilisation des eaux d'irrigation, ce projet devant comporter l'exercice du contrôle de l'Etat sur la propriété et la distribution des approvisionnements en eau.

Pakistan - Coopération agricole au Pakistan occidental -

Nous publions des extraits d'une publication coopérative du Pakistan occidental traitant du rôle des coopératives agricoles dans cette région. Les coopératives agricoles y tiennent une place importante, notamment en consentant des crédits aux agriculteurs et en obtenant les engrais nécessaires à leurs récoltes. Le gouvernement encourage aussi l'écoulement des denrées agricoles par la voie coopérative.

Royaume-Uni - Nouveau regroupement coopératif -

De nouvelles dispositions sont annoncées pour rassembler les coopératives agricoles de l'Angleterre, du Pays de Galles, de l'Ecosse et de l'Irlande du Nord. La nouvelle "Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives Ltd." permettra d'unifier l'influence du mouvement en-deçà du Royaume-Uni mais son rôle sera encore plus important si la Grande-Bretagne adhère à la C.E.E. dès lors que le mouvement coopératif des pays de l'Europe continentale participe beaucoup plus largement à la politique agricole que son homologue britannique.

Yougoslavie - Fermes coopératives -

Résumé est donné d'un article traitant du rôle des diverses catégories d'exploitations et exploitants en Yougoslavie, notamment des coopératives, des exploitations privées et des exploitations sous propriété publique, et où sont évoquées les relations réciproques de ces trois secteurs dans l'agriculture yougoslave.