Vision is a splendid thing, especially when it works for the common good. J. Sherlock, Personnel Manager of our Amherstburg plant sends along a story that cannot but help make you cheer. It is a story of belief and determination and success that should inspire us all. Here it is.

CALDIST EMPLOYEES' (Amherstburg) CREDIT UNION LTD. 25 years for the common good.

In 1952, twenty-five employees started a corporation in the name of Caldist Employees' (Amherstburg) Credit Union Limited.

The basic philosophy, of course, was that the corporation would be wholly owned and operated by members on a non-profit basis helping fellow employees at Calvert Distillery to help themselves.

Jim McBride, the first president, recalls that "under the terms of incorporation, there had to be at least twenty members with \$5.00 each and that in itself, in those days, was quite a task. We were told at one of their original organizational meetings sponsored by an established Credit Union that they would more than likely donate Record Keeping books as a gift. When this did not materialize, we had to use \$40.00 to buy the necessary books. Forty Dollars from \$125.00 (25 Charter Members) did not leave much to start off with. However, with help from one of our own Charter Members, our assets were augmented on a temporary basis for a deposit and we started lending it out at 1% per month. This eventually put us on our feet."

Through the years, the membership and total assets of the Credit Union has grown under the guidance of such men as Jim McBride, in office for eight years, Don Laing Treasurer-Manager for fifteen years and other dedicated people who volunteered their time. Many employees and their families have benefited from the payroll deduction system started in 1956 to either increase their shares for savings or for paying off loans for homes, cars, medical expenses, vacations, etc.

Caldist celebrated its 25th anniversary at its annual General Meeting on February 25, 1977 with a possible \$700,000 in assets and a total of 400 members. W. (Howard) Goulin, the current president in Amherstburg, stresses that at the 25th anniversary celebration all honour was extended to the Charter Members.

Secretary Isabelle Bastien adds "that as we observe our 25th anniversary we realize how indebted we all are to the twenty-five men who created the Caldist Employees Credit Union and other people through the years who joined together for the common good."



From Left to Right are: Messrs. Frank Smith, W. (Bill) Laing, Frank Dufour, Leo Deslippe, Jim McBride and Jim Coyle, all of whom are Charter Members of the Credit Union and are still at work with us. Other Charter Members still alive are: Retirees John Jones, W. (Bill) Wilson, Antonio (Tony) Pietrangelo, and John L. Sprague who is now working elsewhere. The others are deceased.

