

any such attempt could be successfully made. •Certainly if the farmers go into such enterprises they should do it with their eyes open.

SIXTEENTH. The reasons for the taking over of industries during the war by the government are apparent, but their analogy to the processes of normal business conditions is not so clear. While no one can foresee the tremendous changes which this terrific war will entail upon the life of the world, and while it is evident that things will never go back to their former position, still only an extreme theorist would be in favor of continuing the methods which have been rendered necessary by the exigencies of the war. Private trading can hardly be compared to public utilities, nor do I believe that the farmers of Western Canada are in danger of becoming socialists.

SEVENTEENTH. There is no doubt that the farmers' organizations are here

to stay, and what is more, he would be a foolish man who does not welcome them within their legitimate spheres, but it is admitted that the establishment of extensive and unnecessary stores by the farmers cannot be called that, and it is a serious question whether such stores will or they will prove a benefit to the farming community. It is obvious that the decision of this matter must rest in their hands, but they would be well advised to take into consideration all of the factors affecting this important problem and not to undertake this experiment unless there is an absolute necessity for it.

FINALLY, I want to make it clear that what has been said above is meant in no carping or contentious spirit but in an honest endeavor to ascertain what Mr. Rlee Jones has well said we should all aim at: the best interests of the country as a whole.

Winnipeg, January 31, 1918.

H. H. PIGOTT.