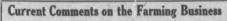
FARM AND DAIRY

November 8, 1917.



Seed Cora for 1918

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Regulating Milk Prices

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A Questionable Move

'HE milk committees have it in their power to reorganize and con-solidate the milk business of any city where such reorganization gives promise of increased efficiency in distribution. It is estimated that such economies in distribution, amounting to one cent a quart, would represent a total saving to Canadian city consumers of \$1,567,120 annually. At first glance such a saving looks like good busishowing and a strain the second strain serving books may good gun-ness all round. But it is a proposition that grows less attractive as it is studied more carefully, and in the long run it may well be questioned if it would result oven in financial gain to the consumer.

if it would result oven in financial gain to the consumer. Competition is the great regulator of prices. The plan of the milk committee would do away with competition to a considerable degree and substitute a governmentmade monopoly, privately operated. And monopolies are always dangerous. With the milk business so completely centralised the great incentive to efficiency in operation, hope of profits in proportion to effort, would be largely removed, and the cent a quart that the commission hopes to asave the people might be awailowed up in the one item of decreased effort. In selling his milk the farmer would have to take the price of one monopolistic company; and monopo-lies have never been friendly to the farmer, so far as we have been able to discover. to discover.

The state into the second triangly to be induct, so far as we have been able of discover. Of course, possible injustices to the farmer would be minimised by the commission's oversight of prices agreements. But have we not here the weakest point of the whole scheme? The carrying out of the commission's oversight of prices agreements and the second scheme government machinery, operating from coast to coast. We know that the annual cost of such a system of milk control would scon be greater than the expected saving of a million and a half dollars. The precedent is a dangerous one. Already the city dialles are pointing to the number of bakers' rigs that traverse each city street. It is only one step more to accuse grocerymen of like inefficiency, and so on through all lines of rotali and wholesale builness. And the granting of the "reforms" (f) which would maturally flow from a seemingly minple system c' milk control would be the equivalent of state socialism! Did the committee look before they leaged?

Reading Farm and Dairy is simply getting the ideas of men who have made a great success in farming or dairy farming.



Trade incre VOL. XX

O be can find him ness. T to work with produce a lo nicer work t is short of I must be fed meat that c cheaply as p transportation therefore, up pigs

One of the the pork bus The bacon h to get after. Baco

I know a long, skinnyfeed to produ ed with the have not had self, read up various expe that they ha production, i much as the Many thin

pound it me Butchers of or no differen supply is gre porting of th fitable than time until th in favor of t of high-price Cooperatio

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