

Finance Corporation to "aid in financing agriculture" through regional associations.

One way of reorganizing this superfluous organization would have been merely to reshuffle and rename the various agencies which comprise it. Mr. ROOSEVELT goes far beyond this. He establishes a new central office, to be known as the "Farm Credit Administration" and to have entire control of all of the Government's agricultural loans. To this office is transferred authority hitherto reposing in four places. In the process of reorganization the Federal Farm Loan Board is entirely abolished, except for one member, who becomes an agent of the new régime. The Federal Farm Board is also scrapped. Its unsuccessful ventures in the treacherous field of "stabilization" are officially terminated, except for "the orderly winding up" of its affairs—that is, the sale of what remains of the cotton and wheat it so hopefully purchased at prices well above those now prevailing.

The President believes that the new and greatly simplified organization will both "produce a more uniform program for agricultural credit" and "result in substantial economies." He estimates the immediate saving at \$2,000,000 and hopes for more. His Executive order making the changes will take effect in sixty-one days unless Congress, averse to seeing old landmarks of confusion disappear, interposes an objection. But it will require a two-thirds vote to block the President's order, and this is scarcely conceivable.

## REORGANIZATION BEGINS.

President ROOSEVELT first exercised yesterday the broad powers Congress gave him to reorganize the Federal Government. He chose an appropriate point at which to start in his effort to eliminate "duplicating agencies" and "overlapping authority."

Hitherto, no less than four mutually independent offices in Washington have had authority to make loans to farmers or to oversee such lending. The Federal Farm Loan Board, established in 1916, has supervised the operations of the Federal land banks and the joint-stock land banks. The Federal Farm Board, a wholly separate agency, was created in 1929 and was authorized both to make loans to farm cooperatives and to attempt to "stabilize" prices of farm products by operations in the grain and cotton markets. It has done both, on a generous scale. The Department of Agriculture has received authority from time to time to make loans and has set up both a Seed Loan Office and a Crop Production Loan Office. Finally, in July of last year, Congress authorized the overworked and overburdened Reconstruction