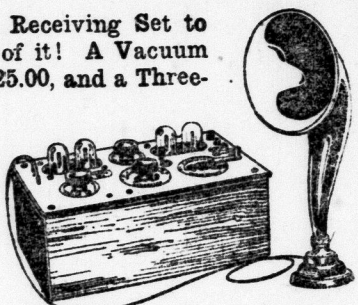


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COUNTY SHELVES LICENSE QUESTION

Middlesex Council Refuses To Support Move To Control Poultry Sales.

PROFITS FROM HOGS

House of Refuge Reports Industry Good—Prov. Engineer Speaks.

After a lengthy discussion yesterday afternoon, Middlesex county councillors shelved the question of licensing poultry buyers in the county till the January session.

Some of the councillors took the attitude that a license system would not help the farmers against chicken stealing, while others took the attitude that it would help a whole lot. On motion of Allan McDougall the matter was laid over till next month, when the new council will take office.

Councillors John Cousins and J. Leitch declared they were in favor of licensing poultry dealers. It was not a question of monetary gain to the county, as the fee would be but \$1 per year, but it was entirely a case of protecting farmers from chicken raiders.

William Boler wanted more information on the matter, declaring the time was approaching when a man would be taxed for putting on his hat.

Objects to Licensing.
Councillor Rogers objected to any by-law licensing chicken buyers, stating that any crook could get a license. He would support it if it were any good, but he had his doubts.

Mr. Billings was opposed. He stated such a by-law would involve a lot of work and mean another county job for some one.

J. N. Sullivan said if the by-law protected the farmers he was in favor, otherwise he was opposed.

Reeve Dave Calvert of Dorchester pointed out that thieves might steal chickens in Middlesex and dispose of them in Brantford or Hamilton.

Mr. Boler felt strongly on the subject. He declared chicken thieves didn't get sentences that were heavy enough. He noticed where one man convicted of the offence got six months. In his opinion he should have got 10 years. He was in favor of petitioning the government for heavier sentences for this particular crime.

Austin Winter couldn't see why farmers should be in favor of the by-law. There were enough laws now for the farmers, including potato grading, milk, cream, eggs and dairy produce. It was driving the business into the hands of the large dealers, he declared.

"If the High Constable is in favor of the by-law, we should back him up," said Mr. Cousins.

"Such a by-law would have its merits, but would hamper the small dealer," said Tom Elliott.

London is Threatened.
"Elgin and Kent have passed such laws and the thieves will emigrate to London," came back Mr. Cousins.

"There is nothing wrong with the passing of such a by-law," said R. T. Reynolds. "It is no hardship to keep a record of the purchase of chickens. The protection of the people is the main thing."

"There is no intention of licensing the farmer. It is only the dealer," explained B. Pike. "If it is going to help the farmers, why pass it?"

County Clerk Stuart stated that he had discussed the matter with High Constable Wharton many times and the constable was in favor of a by-law whereby men going through the county buying chickens would have to report their purchases once a month to him.

"A bona fide dealer would be quite willing to take out a license," stated Deputy Reeve McKellar, Strathroy.

Reeve Stinson was sure such a law would do more harm than good.

Councillor McDougall then suggested that the matter be laid over till January and this motion was finally adopted.

Councillor Alf. Comfort occupied the chair while the council was in committee of the whole on the matter. In the meantime the county clerk will get information as to how the law is working out in Kent and Elgin.

Make \$2,000 Profit.
The report of Inspector Campbell of the house of refuge for the year ending

Nov. 15 was adopted. It showed that 78 inmates had been cared for during the year at an average cost of 63 cents per day. A profit of over \$2,000 on hogs had been made during the year, the inspector said.

R. C. Muir, chief engineer of the department of public highways, addressed the council. He stated it was unfair for the county to give rebates on village-town roads and not to have to rebate half the money paid in. He advocated doing away with the rebate, which would necessitate the passing of a by-law.

On motion of Councillors Elliott and Brown action on dividing the agricultural office, Middlesex was left over to the January session of the council.



Adolphe Menjou and Greta Nissen in the Monta Bell production, The King On Main Street, showing at the Capitol theatre the first of next week. Free tickets to see The King On Main Street may be obtained from the store of F. T. Harris, 175 Dundas street, in connection with the Bankrupt Stock Sale, where people are buying most acceptable Christmas presents at very attractive prices. Read the big advertisement from the Harris' store elsewhere in this paper.—Adv.

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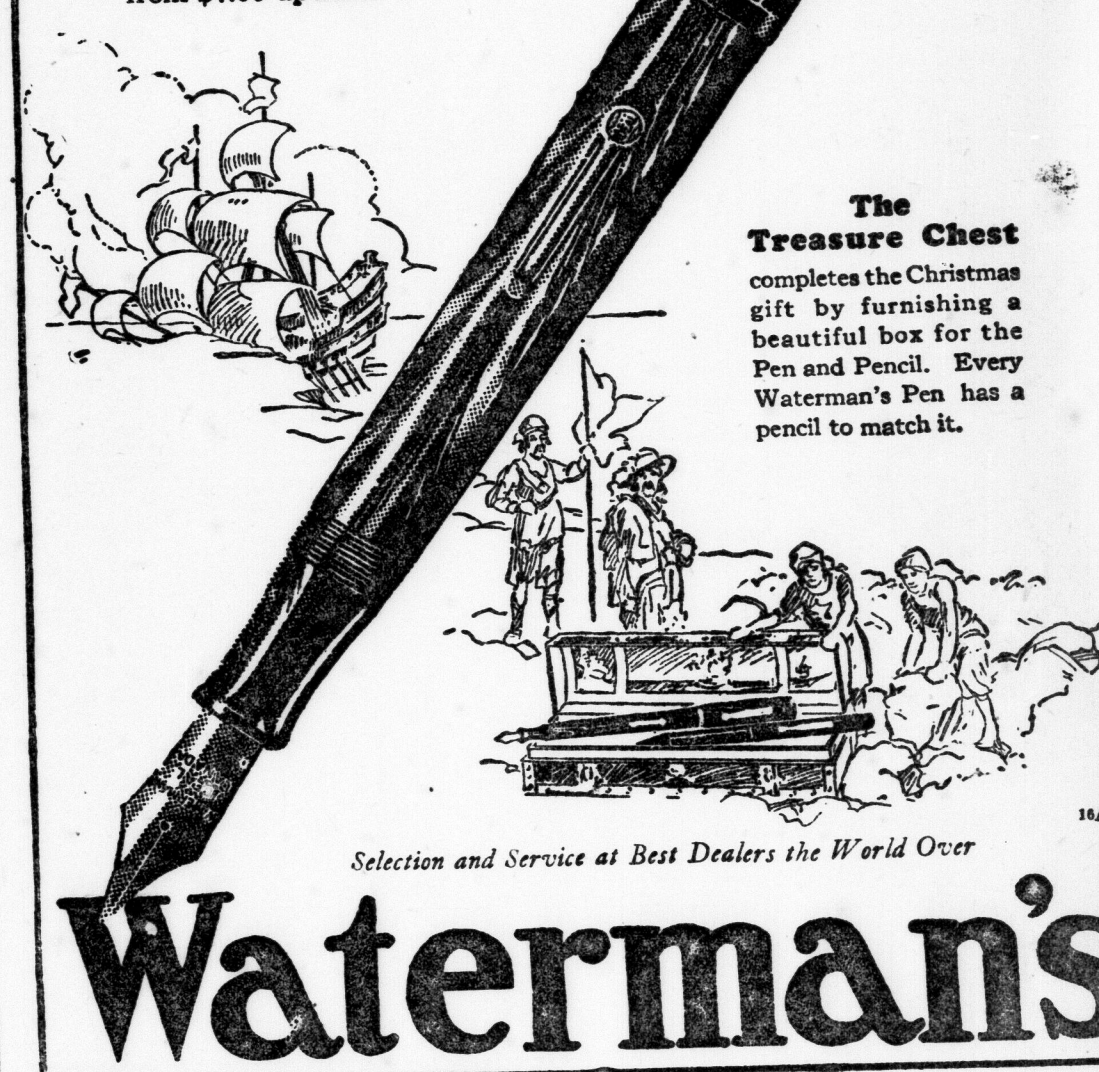
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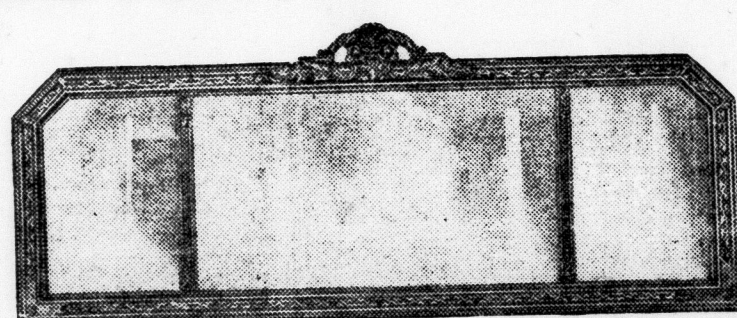
the full copy of the judgment has been received. It has been learned, however from a most reliable source than an appeal would be taken before the privy council in a last effort to obtain what it claimed is the right of the provinces to their own crown lands, and the privileges they can or cannot grant to companies or private individuals who desire to make use of them for any specific purpose.

REAL ESTATE SALES.
Exeter, Dec. 10.—William Kerwick

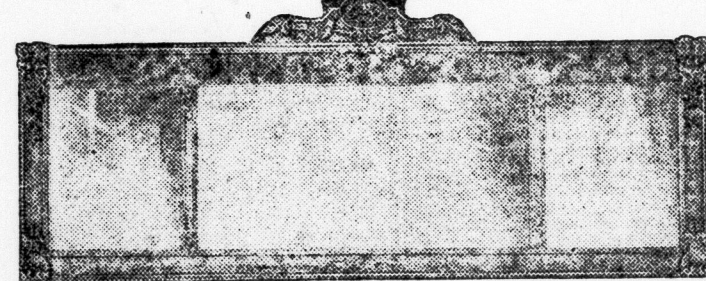
has purchased the house of the late Mrs. William A. Bissett. It will be occupied by his daughter, Mrs. W. Stone.
Chester Lee has purchased the livery barn at the rear of his hotel from the estate of Mrs. William G. Bissett.

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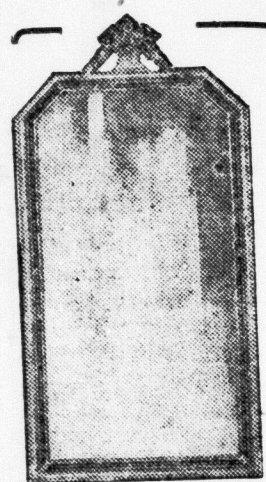


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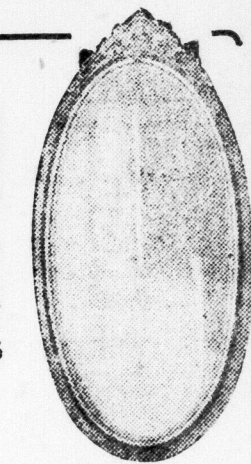
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