

Friday - March - 15th.

ROOST-ROBBING LAW NOW BEFORE HOUSE

Fowl Transporters Must
Carry License and
Record Book

NO BY-LAWS REQUIRED

The Legislative curb on chicken-stealing, which was recommended by the Agriculture Committee of the House a week ago, made its appearance in the Ontario Legislature yesterday afternoon, and will be rushed through with all possible speed.

Hon. John S. Martin, Minister of Agriculture, introduced the legislation in question. In effect, it will compel every person transporting fowl on any highway in Ontario, with the exception of the farmer-producer class and common carrier corporations, to carry a license and a record book in which must be listed—subject to inspection at any time by constable or peace officer—a complete record of the poultry in his possession, where bought, price paid, where consigned, addresses, etc.

Municipal Council or Board of Police Commissioners is empowered by the act to grant such permits without first passing a by-law for the purpose, and to charge \$1 each for them. These bodies are also furnished authority to revoke the licenses or refuse them, as the case may be.

Clerks of municipalities shall keep records of all permits, and these, too, will be open to police inspection. Contravention of the act will mean a penalty not exceeding \$50 for the first offense, and not less than \$50 or more than \$100 or six months' imprisonment at the most for the second or any subsequent offense.

While there has been an agitation for some time for legislation of this kind, and the Department of Agriculture has long considered the introduction of a bill, it was a Middlesex County deputation, headed by Warden McLeish and High Constable Wharton, which practically brought the issue to a head. Appearing before the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature last week, this deputation argued that unless some remedy was supplied at once the poultry business, not only in their county, but all over Ontario would "go to smash."

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NEW PENSIONS BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED BY FERGUSON TODAY

Premier, Back in Legislature After Week's Absence, Will Explain Aims and Objects of Long-Awaited Measure

ROUSING WELCOME GIVEN ON RETURN

Premier Ferguson's Old-Age Pensions Bill, will it is understood, make its bow to the Ontario Legislature this afternoon.

Introduction of this long looked for measure has been delayed by the Prime Minister's indisposition, but it is now ready to have its wrappings removed, and Mr. Ferguson who was in his customary seat in the House yesterday for the first time in a week, will superintend the unwrapping today. While it is not customary to speak to a measure on its first reading, the Premier, however, will take steps to let the general

public know what it is all about, and to set aside many of the groundless fears that have arisen since first the legislation was forecast in the Speech from the Throne.

Mr. Ferguson was given a rousing welcome on his return to the House yesterday. A beautiful bouquet of cut flowers adorned his desk and his entrance around 5 o'clock was the signal for a boisterous banging of desk-tops by both Government and Opposition members alike. Liberal Leader Sinclair struck a nice note when he told the House that while the group of which he was the leader had not been asked, as far as he knew, to "go in" on the bouquet, he could safely say that all the sentiment behind the floral token was endorsed by himself and his followers.

Progressive Leader Lethbridge also expressed his pleasure at seeing the Premier "back on the job" again. No matter, he said, how Mr. Ferguson and he differed politically, the friendship that had grown up between them was deeper than any political differences.