

Feb. 15th.

# Courts Reorganization Planned by Ferguson; May Have Fewer Judges

**Amendments to Present  
Act Will Be Brought  
Before Legislature, He  
Says — One Appellate  
Court of Six Judges Is  
Suggested**

**HIGHER SALARIES  
ALSO FORECAST**

**Law Society Has Con-  
sidered Problem, Pre-  
mier Tells Assembly —  
Judges May Get Author-  
ity to Decide Operation  
of Work**

Reorganization of the court system of Ontario and rearrangement of the work done by the Judges was forecast in the Legislature by Premier Ferguson yesterday afternoon.

Provision for this revision will be made in a bill to be brought before the House, proposed legislation which was referred to in the Speech from the Throne as an amendment to the Judicature Act, and which is now being drafted.

"There has been discussion for a long time of a new organization of the courts," Premier Ferguson told the House. "This matter has been before the Law Society, and there have been resolutions passed and representations made to the Government. We have got down to the point of discussing the details as to how the reorganization can be done."

**Says Salaries Too Low.**

Mr. Ferguson stated that there was a general feeling that the salaries of Supreme Court Judges should be increased, as there was difficulty in getting men of standing at the Bar, enjoying a large salary, to accept a position on the Bench. It was also suggested that this matter of finances might be apportioned through the raising of a fund. And another suggestion, he continued, is "that we might reduce the number of Judges."

Another proposal, he went on, was that, instead of two appellate divisions, there be one appeal court with six or seven Judges, and that these Judges be given authority to decide the operation of their work. There are now ten appellate Judges.

"And," Mr. Ferguson continued, "for some reason which I can't understand, the Dominion Government allocates a Judge for bankruptcy."

**Reorganization Needed, Is Claim.**

"There has been a strong feeling with the Bar, the Bench and the public," he declared in conclusion, "that a bit of reorganization would expedite things, and to give the Bar outside Toronto a better opportunity to have matters dealt with."

Premier Ferguson's remarks were occasioned by a query from Hon. Harry C. Nixon, Progressive Leader. The House was considering second reading of an amendment to the Judicature Act, introduced a few days ago. Mr. Nixon asked if that amendment was the one mentioned in the Speech from the Throne. Premier Ferguson then referred to the amendment which is still to be brought in as the one in the Speech.

**CONFERENCE ENDS;  
RULES OF EXCHANGE  
TO BE MORE STRICT**

**Rigid and Exacting Regula-  
tions to Be Put in  
Act**

**UNIFORMITY IS ATTAINED**

**Provinces Agree as to What  
Amendments They  
Will Adopt**

The Queen's Park conference on the "brokers' business" ended last night, and the representatives of the six Provinces in attendance are now on their way back to their respective Government centres, in complete agreement as to the steps to be taken to ensure better trading methods on the stock exchanges of the country, and with uniform legislation for virtually the whole of Canada assured.

Attorney-General William H. Price, who presided over the five-day deliberations, had no statement to make public at the close of the conference. Each delegate is reporting directly to his own Government, and steps will be taken immediately to incorporate in each Provincial Security Frauds Act those conference recommendations which it at present does not include.

One of the most contentious points discussed at the parley was whether certain regulations were to be incorporated in the Security Acts or drafted into the constitutions of the exchanges. In the latter cases, observance of the regulations would be demanded from the exchange on the part of each of the members. Only the more rigid and exacting regulations were made part of the Security Act, the more elastic matters being referred to the exchanges.

Recommendations to be referred to the Federal Government will include amendments to the Criminal Code on matters conflicting with the Provincial Security Acts, and to the Dominion Companies Act. Under the latter act there is an overlapping of authority when a company, operating a Dominion charter, sells its stock within a Province under Provincial regulations. This overlapping of authority will be cleared up in the recommendations.