

March 5

'Fergy' to Friends and Foes, Drew Says of Former Premier

Rt. Hon. G. Howard Ferguson was a "great human being" who was as likely to be called "Fergy" by an opposing politician as by a taxi driver in London, Premier Drew told the Ontario Legislature yesterday in a tribute to the one-time Conservative Premier who died last month.

"Taxi drivers knew him as well as politicians did, and the same nickname was likely to apply," said the Premier at the opening of the second session of the 22nd Legislature.

Mr. Ferguson's life span covered all but the first few years of Canada's term as a nation and there were few men who more clearly expressed "what it means to be a Canadian citizen." As Canadian High Commissioner in London, Mr. Ferguson had left an imprint that would have a "marked effect" on relations between Canada and Britain for many years.

Farquhar Oliver, Leader of the Opposition whose supporters number 10 Liberals and two Liberal-Labor members, paid tribute to Mr. Ferguson as a "rugged party man" who always maintained "an element of fairness and justice" in his political dealings.

W. J. Grummett, C.C.F. House Leader, praised Mr. Ferguson as a political leader who had served his country well.

Only four members of the present assembly were elected when Mr. Ferguson swept into office in 1926. They are Mr. Oliver, Harry Nixon, former Liberal Leader, and two members on the Government side, T. A. Murphy and A. Hollis Acres.

Dunbar Bill Blocks Slickers

Steps to prevent high-pressure sales organizations from acquiring shareholders' lists of companies recorded under the Companies Act for possible exploitation are incorporated in a bill presented to the Legislature yesterday by Provincial Secretary George Dunbar.

The bill, entitled "An Act to Amend the Companies' Act," provides for use of such lists for legitimate purposes of the company. In explanation, Mr. Dunbar said: "We are seeking to keep such documents from becoming sucker lists for high-pressure sales outfits and racketeers, and to restrain them to uses which are entirely legitimate and honest."