

Articles 21 and 22 of this act apply *mutatis mutandis* to the Superior Court.

The terms and sittings of the Superior Court and of the judges of that court shall be presided over by the chief justice or by one of the other judges of the court selected by the chief justice, and, in the division in which the chief justice does not reside, by the judge performing the duties of chief justice therein. R. S. O., c. 44, s. 94.

So that Mr. Speaker, the organization of the Superior Court is this: You have sixteen judges of the Superior Court, ten of whom reside in Montreal, five in Quebec and one in the district of St. Francis. But all the cases which hitherto were heard in the various *chefs lieux*, all the cases which were argued in the *chefs lieux*, and which were decided there, will be heard, argued and decided there as they are at present. The terms of the Superior Court will be fixed, not by a rule of practice on which the judges will agree amongst themselves, as was the case under the old law; but they shall be fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council according to public requirements. So that the judges will no longer sit for a few days when they please, but they will be compelled by a proclamation of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council which will state that on such and such a day they will be obliged to go and hear the cases at the *chef lieu* of each district. There is a paragraph in section 38 which may appear singular. It is the one which says that the court cannot commence before nine in the morning nor end after six in the afternoon. This paragraph was inserted at the request of several country advocates, who said to me: "If you compel a judge who resides in Quebec to come and hear cases at a country *chef lieu*, he will hurry through his cases as fast as possible so as to have done with them and get back to Quebec as soon as possible. He will sit until midnight if necessary to be able to get home by the next train, and by that means we will not be able to get that justice which we have a right to expect." The paragraph in question says that the court cannot commence to sit before nine in the forenoon nor end after six in the afternoon. In this manner the advocates are sure to have time to argue their cases, the witnesses will have all the time required to give their evidence, and the cases will be heard as justice requires them to be heard.

#### *The Court of Review.*

Now, as to the judgments of the Superior Court, the Court of Review continues as it now exists. The Court of Review is a court of review for Superior Court judgments. I was about to forget to say what I should have said at the very beginning, and that is that the Superior Court, as it exists according to the bill in question, is a Superior Court having jurisdiction in all cases in which the amount exceeds \$400. Thus, in all cases for an amount over \$400, the Superior Court, as it now exists, will have jurisdiction, and as regards the judgments of that court, the judges of the Superior Court so constituted, the Court of Review will continue to exist as at present. As everyone knows, according to the rules