

April 12

"Pull" Is Charged In Sentencing Boys

Croll Claims That in Past Influence Swayed De- cisions — "Penal Snob- bery" School

The charge that in the past the sons of "influential parents" who ran foul of the law were sent to the Bowmanville Training School, whereas "the boys from the sticks" charged with similar offenses, "were lodged at the Reformatory at Mimico," was made in the Ontario Legislature last night by the Hon. David A. Croll, Minister of Public Welfare.

A promise to lay bare the real facts was voiced by the Minister shortly before midnight when he sent to his office for reports substantiating his claim.

To Lay Bare Facts.

The Minister of Welfare declared that some of the boys in Bowmanville had been convicted several times of arson, whereas some inmates of Mimico were there because "they threw a marble at a window."

Mr. Nixon praised the action of the Government in closing the Mimico institution. He declared that he had paroled some of the Mimico boys against all the recommendations of officials, and no one paroled "went bad."

Half of the boys at Mimico were sent to Bowmanville and half sent home, Mr. Croll explained.

The Bowmanville institution, Mr. Croll declared later in the debate, was an institution "dedicated to penal snobbery."

Cites Differences.

The Minister cited four cases sent to Mimico where the most serious charge was incorrigibility and a number of cases sent to Bowmanville which involved charges of theft, arson and indecent assault.

"There was ample reason for closing Mimico," declared the Minister.

"I might say that we are considering the erection of another institution."

"Another Mimico," suggested the Leader of the Opposition.

"Nothing of the sort," declared Mr. Croll. "We would be ashamed to build another Mimico."

Doctor's Diagnosis Makes Henry Laugh

Usually silent, five-foot Dr. Arthur DesRosiers, French-Canadian member for Russell, went giant-hunting in yesterday's Legislature and brought down former Premier Henry.

He could not stir Mr. Henry's ire or sway him from charges that cancellation was a heinous thing—but at the last of his sallies the Opposition Leader doubled up in his seat in a paroxysm of laughter.

"This bill is plain blank, blank, repudiation of contract," the former Premier thundered.

"Why," and the little Frenchman's brow was troubled, "do we have to listen to all this trouble that the Tories created?"

The member for Russell, Mr. Henry noted between chuckles, had not seen the light, and it might be necessary to start the Hydro discussion all over again.

"I know my business," was the answer in inimitable accent. "I'm a doctor. I have diagnosed your case."

"The length of our debate has been essential," said the former Premier, "to present to the Legislature the facts on which they would pass."

Dr. DesRosiers wanted to know why seventeen Conservative members had repeatedly read F. A. Gaby's radio speech to the House.