

April 1.

## HOSPITAL SAID TO BE CROWDED

### Greater Accommodation Needed, Claims Price

Serious overcrowding in the Ontario Hospital on Queen Street was charged in the Legislature yesterday by Toronto Tory members.

"This hospital is so overcrowded at the present time that in the public wards the beds are actually touching," said W. A. Baird of High Park.

"The overcrowding is terrible," agreed Colonel W. H. Price of Parkdale. "Greater accommodation is long overdue."

Hon. Dr. J. A. Faulkner, Minister of Health, informed the House that his department was considering accommodating some 200 patients in the building formerly used as the Alexandra School for Girls, and he added that the new Fort William hospital would take care of eighty more, while the present "boarding-out" policy would further alleviate the situation.

The closing of the Mimico Industrial School and the moving of its inmates to the Bowmanville School was another issue of the afternoon's discussion of estimates.

G. C. Elgie and William Duckworth, Toronto Tories, led the attack on the change, claiming that the two institutions housed different types of boys, who should never have been placed under the same roof.

"The Mimico boys were much worse than the kind that the Bowmanville school was built for," declared Mr. Duckworth. "It was a great mistake to move these more hardened boys in with the Bowmanville lads. It'll make the Bowmanville boys worse instead of better."

Hon. H. C. Nixon, Provincial Secretary, argued that the change had been advisable and advantageous.

He said he had never been able to blame boys for running away from the Mimico school. It was located miserably, he explained, and had dingy and depressing surroundings. The boys were now benefiting from the better environment at Bowmanville.

Hon. David Croll, Minister of Welfare, added the observation that the Mimico school had been an unsanitary fire-trap.

A brief debate followed upon a similar issue involving the closing of the Alexandra School for Girls and the moving of its pupils to the Girls' Training School at Galt.

## TIES PURCHASED FROM SETTLERS

### Railway Chairman Says Tenders Not Needed

Colonel Malcolm Lang, Chairman of the Timiskaming & Northern Railway, yesterday told the Ontario Legislature Public Accounts Committee during its investigation of tie-purchasing by the railway, as many ties as possible were purchased from the settlers.

He said 265 contracts were let to settlers in 1935-36 in lots of approximately 200. The amount, 53,500, was approximately the same as for the preceding year under the former Government, he said.

The settlers did not tender but were paid on a fixed basis set for contractors as well. They did not peel ties and did not load them. It gave the settlers an advantage of 5 cents over contractors, he estimated.

During the same year, contracts were given to twenty-one operators, bringing the tie purchase up to 123,000 ties.

The purchasing quality did not require tenders, Mr. Lang said. The present Commission continued the policy of the former Administration in fixing a price believed fair to both Government and sellers. It permitted small operators to do business because, he believed, they could not compete with the larger operators on a tender basis. Settlers and small and large operators were all customers of the railway.

Two clashes between Attorney-General Roebuck and Leopold Macaulay over the Attorney-General's method of examination took place at the dull session.

"It's a farce," Mr. Macaulay said, at one point in commenting on the manner in which the Attorney-General examined witnesses. "You've made every statement and he (the witness), says yes."

Mr. Roebuck's retort it was cross-examination and permissible, brought from Mr. Macaulay the exclamation: "Oh poppycock."

"That's not parliamentary language," Mr. Roebuck returned.

Later Mr. Macaulay described the Attorney-General as "The judge of soreness," when Mr. Roebuck accused Opposition members of becoming "sore" when a point was made.

## GOVERNMENT HOUSE ITEM IN ESTIMATES

Government House, the official residence of Ontario's Lieutenant-Governor, was a topic of momentary discussion in the Legislature yesterday.

"What are you going to do, let it run down?" Hon. George S. Henry demanded, when an estimate of the Department of Public Works dealing with Chorley Park came up for discussion. He pointed out that there was no provision for maintenance of Government House.

Hon. T. B. McQuesten, Minister of Public Works, drew his attention to an item for repairs to the property.

The Minister also hinted that the Province might increase grants to county and township roads when Department of Highways figures were debated. In reply to T. P. Lancaster (Cons., Peterboro'), he admitted that some municipalities had requested more money for this purpose, and added that the request would receive consideration.

## Accuracy Asked by Price In Reports

**M**ORE accuracy in the Legislature Press Gallery was sought yesterday by former Attorney-General W. H. Price during discussion of estimates for the department which he once administered.

Wilfrid Helghington, Toronto Tory, had spoken in favor of more court stenographers when Colonel Price, who recently became the object of a formal vote of censure over an alleged remark which he denied having made, expressed himself:

"I'll go further than my friend," he said. "I would suggest that we see that we have at least one shorthand reporter in the Press Gallery, so that our future utterances will be correctly reported."

## Provincial Secretary Dislikes Chauffeurs— Buys Own Gasoline

**H**ON. HARRY NIXON doesn't like chauffeurs.

Just what he has against the liveried man behind the wheel he didn't say, but he did tell the Legislature yesterday that he never wanted to be in another Government that furnished its Ministers with chauffeurs.

"They're more trouble than they're worth," he said. "I hope I never have anything more to do with them. I like to drive my own car, and I'm very happy under the present arrangement. I don't think this Administration intends ever to

go back to the system of asking the public Treasury to pay for cars and chauffeurs for Ministers."

"Who pays for your gasoline?" called out William Duckworth, Toronto Conservative.

Mr. Nixon looked annoyed, and his reply showed it. "I'll have the member for Dovercourt know that I've paid, out of my own pocket, for every drop of gasoline and oil and every bit of work ever done on that car, and if he likes I'll show him the vouchers to prove it," he shot back.