

APRIL 16

HOUSE CHEERS 'YES' VOTE PLEA

Recalls Croll Speech Asking for More Men

Colonel T. L. Kennedy, (Cons., Peel), was greeted with a storm of desk thumping applause in the Ontario Legislature last night when he rose to present a resolution asking the House to urge the people of Ontario to vote "yes" in the plebiscite. The resolution was adopted.

"Any one who heard that modest speech of Captain Croll in the House yesterday could not take any chance in the winning of the war," he said. Colonel Kennedy warned that every nation which stood in the Axis pathway, lacking preparation and strong and determined leadership, had fallen.

(Captain David Croll, Liberal member on leave from Windsor-Walkerville, was welcomed, freshly returned from overseas, in the Legislature on Tuesday. In an address to the members, he said that reinforcements were needed "badly" by the Canadian Army, and in declaring the voice of the army urged upon Canada an "avalanche of 'Yes' votes.")

"I am honored and proud to second the resolution of my gallant and honorable friend," said Ian Strachan, K.C., Liberal Whip and member for Toronto-St. George. "Those who heard the remarks of Captain Croll must realize how important is the question. Today our men overseas are looking for reinforcements. For that reason, then, I think we should support this resolution, and I hope that we put it through unanimously."

In conclusion Conservative Leader Drew said it was "extremely necessary that the necessity of a large and decisive 'yes' vote be impressed upon the people of Ontario. No matter what explanation of the result might be made in Canada, the result outside of Canada will be determined as whether or not we are prepared to support any measure necessary to win the war. Our honor, our lives are at stake."

The first demand for Legislature expression upon the plebiscite was made by W. L. Miller, Algoma-Manitoulin, in a budget debate address. Mr. Miller declared it was the duty of the members to urge the electors in their ridings to vote yes.

The Lieutenant-Governor gave Royal Assent to fifty-six bills, of which thirty-seven were Government measures. Three other Government measures, including the bill which validated the tax transfer agreement with Ottawa, were given Royal Assent on March 26.

Mr. Macaulay. "I am informed that the owner of that joint is the owner of a string of hotels in this city."

He suggested that, under the Government's powers, in this event, the authorities had power to exert pressure upon the owner—refuse him hotel licenses until he closed out on gambling.

"I have another suggestion to make," he continued. "The Attorney-General should take the power which he possesses to compel those municipalities in which the gambling houses operate, to set up the commission system of police control. I would make it compulsory in those municipalities, where you know law enforcement has broken down. That action would have such an antiseptic effect that they would fade away, too."

Enforcement Seen Vital.

Colonel Drew said that all the laws in the world would not solve the problem unless the enforcement of those laws was carried out with vigor and determination.

"Let me tell the members of the House the kind of reptiles with whom we are dealing," he said. "We have public enemy No. 1, Mr. Manny Feder and as his chief assistant, Benny Littman, alias Robert Rayner. This Littman is the strong-arm man. He was a well-known gunman in the United States before coming here and was identified with some of the most vicious armed robberies in the United States. On Nov. 27, 1925, in Buffalo he was sentenced to twenty years for armed robbery of a payroll. Feder and Lieberman in 1938 were found in possession of a sawed-off shotgun, and in 1940 the same pair had a Tommy gun. This man Littman used guns regularly and at the time of his arrest he had a gun stolen from a policeman in Niagara Falls. On March 12, 1937, he was released from penitentiary and deported to Canada. He did not have trouble finding employment, for Feder found him a useful man."

"These are the reptiles we have to get rid of, not told in polite words that they had better stop," declared Colonel Drew.

There were single gambling joints in the suburbs which took in as much as \$35,000 in a single night, continued the speaker. He described it as "robbery on a large scale." With business of that size involved, there was sufficient money to reach the cupidity of all but the strongest character, he said. Loaded dice, weighted wheels and marked cards were employed to make sure that the frequenters did not leave with any money in their pockets, said Colonel Drew.