

CANADIANS TELL OF PRISONERS' CAMP

Well Treated With Food Enough
to Exist on, Plus
Extras

TIME HANGS VERY HEAVY

"French Poor Fighters and
Turcos Cowards" is Al-
leged Statement

By Canadian Press.

There are many palpable inaccuracies in the following "interview" with Canadians at a prison camp in Germany. The despatch came by mail to the Associated Press, New York, and was sent on from there over the Canadian Press wire. Readers would do well not to believe that there are only 37 of the Fifth Royal Highlanders alive. The great percentage of the casualties at St. Julien were men slightly wounded; and besides that there were not nearly 1,100 Montreal Kilties in the Thirteenth Battalion. No name is furnished for the Canadian who said the French were poor fighters and the Turcos cowards; only recently Sir John French said emphatically that the French colored troops were among the most courageous men in this war. Ottawa militia authorities say it is evidently merely a German "press" matter, the kind the Germans themselves are supplied.

Goettingen, Germany, July 1.—Late in February the Fifth Royals, one of the crack Canadian regiments, eleven hundred strong, left Montreal, en route for England and the great European war. Less than four months later, after weeks in the trenches at Ypres, only thirty-seven of those eleven hundred men were known to remain alive, and they are prisoners in the great military camp here.

Overpowered by the gases wafted toward their positions, deserted by colored troops supposed to come to their support, all but decimated by the deadly German fire, the little band of four non-commissioned officers and 33 privates was easy prey. Before they regained consciousness they were in captivity.

The 37 at Goettingen hope that some of their brave regiment may have escaped and may still be fighting, but they do not believe it. They were on the outskirts of the gas columns that swept over the trenches, and they escaped with their lives because they did not have to breathe the noxious fumes in their full strength.

Many of them have not as yet been able to communicate with their families in far-off Canada, and are not sure whether mothers, wives and sisters know that they have escaped death.