

PLAN TO RELEASE INTERNED ALIENS.

Civilians Prisoners in Germany and England May Be Exchanged On Parole.

The thousands of civilians interned in Germany and England may be released and the difficult problem of concentration camps solved altogether if a plan now under consideration is adopted. The idea is to exchange all civilians on parole not to serve during the war.

For some time the German and British authorities, through the intermediation of the United States Ambassador at Berlin, James W. Gerard, have been working on a proposal to exchange all interned civilians above the military age, forty-five. It was recognized that this was only a half-way measure, which would leave unsolved the larger problem of the thousands of civilians below that age whom neither Government wishes to retain and support at great expense, although neither is willing to release them as possible recruits for the other's army. While negotiations in regard to exchange of the older men were hanging fire and new difficulties and delays were arising constantly it was suddenly discovered the German authorities were willing to take into consideration a proposal for a general exchange under parole.

There still remains a long and difficult road to be travelled, and Great Britain's attitude thus far has not been made known, but it is felt that the simplicity and completeness of the solution may appeal to the British as it has to the Germans.