

# FORT PRISONERS CAUGHT IN ACT

Of Digging a Tunnel Under Moat That  
Would Release Them All.

## THE DISCOVERY WAS MADE

BY CAPT. T. W. KIRKCONNELL ON  
SUNDAY.

The Germans Had Almost Completed  
a Tunnel 150 Feet Long—The Dis-  
covery Was Just Made in Time.

Capt. T. W. Kirkconnell, of the Fort Henry Internment Operations staff, discovered on Sunday morning that the Germans who were quartered in sleeping room No. 13B on the lower floor of the fort were well on the way to have a tunnel dug that would release every prisoner at the fort.

The prisoners evidently had the same idea as those in Lethbridge, where a tunnel 150 yards long was almost completed before discovered. Those at the fort were planning to dig a tunnel that would lead under the moat which surrounds the walls, and come to the surface near a golf green about 100 yards away.

Up to two months ago the prisoners had two cafes in operation, where articles of food, etc., were sold in exchange for tickets of credit. These were closed. The "Hindenburg Cafe," as one was called, is in the east corner of the fort. The next room is called "13B" and this is used as a sleeping room by a number of the prisoners. An unused doorway between the two rooms was broken down and some of the prisoners, going into the cafe room, started the tunnelling operations towards the outside walls. They succeeded in making quite an extensive hole in the ground, but on Sunday Capt. Kirkconnell, on making an inspection, found what they were up to, and reported it. Major H. E. Date, commandant, immediately ordered that the prisoners be transferred to another sleeping room. Some slight trouble was experienced with the guards when the men were being forced to leave, but no one was injured.