

BADLY TREATED IN HUN PRISON

Major Streight of Toronto Had a Hard Time in Captivity

(Canadian Associated Cable.)
London, March 31.—Major J. E. L. Streight of Toronto, after nearly three years' captivity in a German internment camp, afterwards going to Switzerland, has reached London. The Canadian Associated Press met him to-day, in company with Gen. Turner.

"I am taking Major Streight around the Canadian camps in England," said General Turner, "so he may tell our new troops what sort of enemy they have before them." Major Streight had also a word to say regarding Gen. Turner.

"My battalion was attached to his brigade in the second battle of Ypres," he declared. "He would not let us retire. 'You must hold on at all costs,' he said. We did hold on. We were sacrifice troops, in fact, and there were only 52 left of about 500. We were taken by Saxons, who treated us properly, but soon were handed over to the prison authorities, and then we knew something of Prussianism. I had several wounds, none serious, and no bones were broken, but I was hobbling on a stick. This was wrenched from me. Among those with me were Lieuts. Gerald Green and Gordon Allan, Major Kirkpatrick, Major Anderson and Captain L. B. Johnson."

In Solitary Confinement.

Major Streight said he spent 23 months at Bischofswerde, Saxony. Once he got away, but was recaptured close to the Dutch border.

"I was sent to Crefeld after the struggle, in which my nose was broken, and was given twelve days solitary confinement. I then asked to be returned to the ordinary camp but was told reprisals were being taken, because the British had not answered a note regarding the welfare of German prisoners in England. I was told I would be given solitary confinement till the note was answered. I was kept in solitary confinement several months, Lt. Green and several English officers also sharing this punishment. Each had a little cell with a grating high up, and it was so dark that we were unable to read in the day time without a light. One hour's solitary recreation was allowed us each evening in an enclosed yard, but we got some conversation up amongst each other by yelling from cell to cell."

Guards Too Friendly.

"Guards also gave us other chances occasionally until their suspicions were aroused that we would plot to escape, and then I was sent to Stropen Green, and later to

Schawrmitadt, both strafe camps. We got neither letters nor grub. I saw British officers pricked with German bayonets. I got pricked myself. I was ordered next to Heidelberg. That was in October, 1917, for exchange of prisoners."

Major Streight has many pleasant memories of life in Switzerland. He has with him now a cup for Swiss hockey championships, in which two Canadian teams entered were the final winners. The team was captained by Capt. L. S. Morrison. Leaving Switzerland, Major Streight was in an air raid at Boulogne. He also saw the boche freak gun now shelling Paris. He finally made two other interesting revelations regarding his experiences in Germany. Canadian prisoners simply won't work, he said. They are sent out to plant potatoes, for instance, and all they do is merely carefully pick eyes out.

A remarkable thing, too, is how, when a call comes at prison camps for some more men for the front line from among the Germans guarding the prisoners, these guards, if ordered to the Western front, will beg a note from the prisoners to say that they have treated persons well. Many a boche soldier has told me when I have given him such a note that he means to get taken prisoner at the first chance. He will then show this note and hopes to be treated well by the British. We mostly gave them freely, merely saying: "Please give this man the same treatment as he has given us."