

# PRISONERS CLEAR VALCARTIER CAMP

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## Party of Enemy Aliens Will Be Sent There Today

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## WIVES FOR SPIRIT LAKE

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## Encourage Aliens to Become Pioneer Settlers—Presenta- tion by Mounted Home Guard to Lt.-Col. Morris

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By way of Homeric justice, a number of the German and Austrian prisoners of war are to be put to work clearing up Valcartier camp, so as to get it in shape for the work of training Canadian soldiers this spring to go over and help the Allies drive the invaders out of France and Belgium. This work will start today, when a party of 50 prisoners from the detention quarters on St. Antoine street will be sent by Major Date to Valcartier. There is ample room for the men there, and they will be put to work at once getting things in shape for the summer campaign. Later on, it is expected, further detachments of prisoners will be sent to the famous camp, which will be used for the training of volunteers from Quebec Province during the summer.

Another party of 75 Austrians will be sent this morning to Spirit Lake prison camp, where already nearly a thousand men are detained. In addition to the men, a number of women will be sent to the camp with their husbands. This has been decided upon because sending the men away means great hardship for the women, who are already poorly enough off, with their men out of work and no prospect of getting employment. In addition to this, it is figured that sending the women with their husbands will help along the plan to start a regular colony in the district, and that the men, settled there with their wives during the war, and well treated as they are, will be much more likely to take up land and become Canadian citizens and pioneers in the northern district.

It was stated at the detention prison that not only were the officers having no trouble with the enemy prisoners, but men were voluntarily reporting for detention. In most of these cases the Austrians and Germans had been out of work since the war started and had spent all their savings, so that the chance of becoming prisoners of war, with certain board and lodging and a little pay, looked good to them. The possibility of having their wives along made the prospect even more inviting, and it is likely that Spirit Lake will at no distant day become the centre of a thriving Austro-Canadian colony, with a large expanse of land cleared by the prisoners.