

REACH TREATY ON EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS

Provisions of Pact Between
Great Britain and Germany
* Published

IT AFFECTS CANADIANS

All Officers and Non-coms. Are
Eligible for Internment in the
Neutral Countries.

(Through Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)

London, July 27.—In the House of Commons to-day Mr. J. F. Hope announced the terms of the Anglo-German agreement regarding prisoners of war, which has been ratified by both Governments. The agreement is as follows:

1—All existing agreements for direct repatriation shall be resumed.

2—The qualifications, on medical grounds, both for repatriation and internment in a neutral country of combatant prisoners shall be more lenient and shall be based for the time being on the arrangements already in force between France and Germany.

3—The more severely wounded and seriously ill in Switzerland shall be sent back to their own countries in order to make room for others who may now be qualified.

4—In addition to the last-named and such others as Switzerland may be able to accommodate, there shall be selected for internment in Holland 7,500 sick or wounded combatant prisoners of all ranks. That means the total for both countries and not for each country.

Dutch to Provide.

5—All officers and non-commissioned officers, whether in health or not, who have been in captivity for eighteen months or more, shall be eligible for internment in a neutral country, and shall be so interned as far as accommodation can be provided. Precedence shall be according to length of captivity. The Dutch Government will provide places for 6,500 of this class.

6—The Dutch Government will further provide for 2,000 civilian prisoners, invalids being given the precedence.

7—If the number of combatant prisoners eligible for internment, whether on grounds of health or time, exceeds the accommodation, repatriation shall be made between British and German prisoners of each class in proportion to the eligible men of the two nationalities. As in the case of civilians it would give Germany seven or eight to one British, it has been agreed that internment should proceed on the basis of proportion.

8—Punishment for attempts to escape in both countries is to be reduced to fourteen days' special confinement for a simple offense, or two months for an aggravated offense. All combatant prisoners now undergoing punishment for such offences shall be restored to ordinary captivity at the latest by the first of August.

9—All reprisals against individuals shall be immediately cancelled, and any future reprisals shall only occur after four weeks' notice, while the execution of all sentences for offences committed by combatants and civilians between the date of capture and the first of August shall stand over until the conclusion of peace.

Mr. Hope added that the Government was considering the offer of Denmark to intern a certain number of prisoners at Copenhagen.