

MUST BE STOPPED

The dash for freedom made by a large number of the interned aliens, on Saturday night is a serious matter and as such should receive the serious consideration of the military authorities. From time to time there have been attempts on the part of two or three aliens to get away, but the delivery as planned for Saturday night, was on a scale that points to the necessity of stricter watch and daily search of the buildings to frustrate further attempts. These will certainly be made unless some radical protective measures are adopted.

That only one of the escaping men was, seriously if not fatally wounded, indicates the presence of level headed men among the guards and a desire to retake the prisoners, not to punish them. The punishment being left in the hands of the proper authorities.

These attempts at escape on the part of these aliens must be stopped with a firm hand. The prisoners doubtless are aware that another regiment is taking over the guard duties and taking advantage of the lack of experience of the newer guards they will make many attempts unless punishment of a severe nature is given those taking part in such attempts.

There is some reason for the uneasiness that has developed in some sections of the city. These aliens desire principally to get away from their present quarters and this being so, were any large number of them to successfully break away, they might raid premises to obtain what they required in order to facilitate their escape. These requirements would be food, clothing and weapons.

It is the duty of the authorities to punish these men so severely that others contemplating a dash for liberty will be deterred from doing so.

The taking over of guard duties by inexperienced men and beardless boys is almost sure to be the signal for a renewal of the attempts to escape unless there is a sufficient deterrent imposed.

The trouble originates in the presence of a few criminals among those interned. These men continually agitate and will continue to do so.

It is significant that all the men concerned in the affair on Saturday night are Austrians.