

TROUBLE OF GERMAN NAME

False Reports That Lt. Bechtel Had Been Interned

Just what it means to bear a German name is shown by the case of Lieut. Bechtel, of the 38th Battalion, from Kingston, which left Montreal sometime ago by the Missanabie, and is now in camp in England. A few days ago reports were published in Montreal that when the battalion reached here Lieut. Bechtel had been arrested, the inference being as a German spy, and interned.

It was stated yesterday by Col. Wilson that the reverse was the case. Lieut. Bechtel had trouble with his battalion, owing to his German name, but he secured papers showing that his family had lived in England for 200 years. On coming to Montreal he had been sent by his commanding officer to make some purchases, with the information that the Missanabie left at ten. Instead of that the vessel sailed at nine, and he was left behind.

Lieut. Bechtel at once reported to Col. Wilson, was given a lecture for missing his ship, then explained how it had occurred, and was given transportation to Quebec, where he rejoined his battalion. He is now in camp in England with his company, and will probably soon be at the front.

The incident is typical, as showing how far a German name just now can go in causing trouble to a loyal soldier of the Empire.