

AN INTERESTING SEQUEL.

The officers in charge of the concentration camp at Spirit Lake, Que., are having no trouble with the interned men, largely Austrians, and the latter seem to be thoroughly satisfied with the treatment they are receiving. Some have expressed the hope that they shall be allowed to settle in the district after the war is over. If the land is fit for agriculture it would be a good thing if their desire were gratified. If not, there are plenty of other places in which such a colony could be established. These Austrians in the concentration camp by their observance of the very necessary regulations are proving that they are possessed of good commonsense. In this

respect they are conducting themselves like their fellow-countrymen in the settlements in Alberta and Saskatchewan, whose number is several hundred thousand and who have given little if any extra work to the Northwest Mounted Police. The latter force was strengthened by 200 odd men following the outbreak of war, just because of the presence of colonists from enemy countries. To date there has been no disorder of any account either in the West or the East and it is unlikely that any will develop.

The emigrants from Austria-Hungary in Canada came in response to advertisements praising the Dominion. When they arrived there was plenty of work for them at good wages. Railway construction and like enterprises gave many of them labor; while others settled on the land. These men are willing and eager to do manual labor, which they like and which they are well fitted for. In general they are of rugged physique and winter has no terrors for them when they are employed. The war has put them temporarily in a somewhat unenviable position, but the establishment of camps by the Government has relieved the situation and the inmates are receiving most considerate treatment. It is a fact, indeed, that many of the interned men have written letters to friends outside telling them of the advantages of the camps. At Spirit Lake the colony will soon number a thousand men, quite a large community for a thinly-populated district. If, as is indicated, a certain proportion of this band becomes enamored of the province and decides to settle and make farms, it should be a good thing for all concerned. The men are suited for pioneer work and the women are also strong and industrious. The land needs that kind of people.