

RELEASING ALIENS IN CANADIAN CAMPS

Large numbers of Canada's interned aliens are now being released. Already a great many of them have been allowed to return to ordinary life and more of them are being released all the time.

Between 1,300 and 2,000 Germans and Austrians have been allowed to leave Spirit Lake, Que., and Kapuskasing, Ont., the large camp along the N. T. R. line. There are now less than a hundred aliens in each of these camps.

The reason for the release of the men is the great improvement in employment conditions in Canada. In the early days of the war when work was scarce, large numbers of these aliens roamed the streets with nothing to do and thus promised to constitute a menace. It was this class chiefly which was sent to the internment camps, the more dangerous aliens being confined at Fort Henry, Amherst, Halifax and Vernon. Now that work is plentiful and labor scarce those at the camps are being let go and are being eagerly received by industries which have been experiencing a labor shortage.

Complaints as to the treatment of aliens in Kapuskasing, Spirit Lake and other such camps have been received by the Canadian Government. The Government was able to assure the United States consul through whom the representations were made, that they were unfounded. Since the outbreak at Kapuskasing some time ago those interned there have not done work of any kind. There was a disturbance at Spirit Lake about the same time, news of which did not become disseminated, but it was summarily quelled before it reached any proportion. A result of the work done by the aliens at both camps in clearing the ground of the villages in Embryo, have grown up there and it is probable that those still at Spirit Lake and Kapuskasing will remain after their release and make their homes there.