

DANE ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED AS A GERMAN SPY. RELEASED

Given His Freedom at Amherst Wednesday.

ENLISTED WITH
1ST CONTINGENT

Says he Will Return to Montreal And Endeavor to Enlist With Another Battalion.

AMHERST, N. S., June 3—Therkild Therkisen, who enlisted with the First Contingent at Montreal, became a sergeant, and was subsequently sent back to Halifax from England, as a suspected spy, was released from the Internment Camp here yesterday, as the result of representations made by the Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs. Therkisen who enlisted under the name of Ford, was a Dane, and had served several years in the Danish Life Guards. He says he will return to Montreal and declares that it is his intention to report to his General and get a chance to serve against the Germans with some of the Canadian forces.

According to Therkisen's story, he was given charge of a squad of Belgians and other soldiers of foreign extraction, when he reached England with the 12th Battalion. Among the members of the squad was one Mueller, who had enlisted in Ontario. Mueller came under suspicion as a spy and was arrested. When he was under examination, so Therkisen says, Mueller declared that his sergeant was himself a German. This brought the arrest of Therkisen, or Ford. Talking to your correspondent, Therkisen asserted that he was given no trial at all but was shipped back to Canada, a day after he was arrested. Had he been given a chance to explain matters, he said, he might now have been fighting against the Germans whom he professes to hate.

Arrived at Halifax, Therkisen was sent on to the Internment Camp here and put under guard along with some 400 Germans who had been taken from the German auxiliary cruiser Kaiser Wilhelm II. and from different merchant ships. As soon as possible he got in touch with the Danish consul at Halifax. That official took up the case with the Danish Consul General for Canada who communicated with the Government of Denmark. Matters were straightened out at last and the order for Therkisen's release came on Tuesday, an order which he was very careful to carry around in his pocket as he walked the streets of the town yesterday lest he should have further unpleasant experiences as a suspected spy.

Therkisen would say very little about life at the Internment Camp beyond declaring that the Germans themselves admitted that they were very well treated. They occupy themselves, he said, in making carvings of various kinds, models of ships, etc., and do quite a business in trading their products among themselves. Masquerade balls are quite frequently organized to break the monotony of the camp life. They have the use of a piano and many of them are amused. Most of them, he said, are still convinced that Germany will win though they have been made uneasy by the entrance of Italy into the war. A number of them cling to the opinion that Russia will be unable to continue the war for very long. They offer in support of this view the strange contention that the Russian generals will be compelled to fill up the gaps made in the ranks by deaths and wounds with men from remote parts of the Czar's Empire who will be unable to understand the language of commands.