

MORE PRISONERS FOR SPIRIT LAKE

Batch of 60 Austrians With as Many Troops Leave This Morning

MORE DANGEROUS TYPE

Include Penitentiary Gradu- ates and Men Caught Trying to Aid King's Enemies— Guards Will Be Increased

Another big batch of Austrian prisoners of war will leave for Spirit Lake camp this morning, just in time to be able to spend their Christmas and New Year's at Canada's farthest north internment camp. It is not expected, however, that they will be given any particular holidays to celebrate the event. Some of them will be heartily welcomed, as there are several women and children in the party who have been allowed to go and join their husbands in captivity under Lt.-Col. Rodden.

The party is leaving from the Bonaventure station by the 9.30 train, and will include about sixty Austrian prisoners of war, as well as the women and children. They will be accommodated in a couple of special cars for the long and roundabout journey to the remote spot chosen for the detention camp.

In addition to the prisoners, who will leave in charge of Major W. E. Date, provost marshal, the latter will take with him a party of 60 N.C.O.'s and men from the Composite Battalion, who will relieve part of the troops that have been on guard for some time past at Spirit Lake, in addition to guarding the prisoners on the way up.

Major Date stated last night that this group of prisoners represented the collections of his department during the past couple of months, and that they were of a very different type from the men gathered in during the earlier stages of the roundup.

"Most of the prisoners we are sending up now," said the provost marshal, "are men who should be interned as a protection to the community. Amongst them are about a dozen who have served penitentiary terms, while others have been caught trying to give unlawful information, aid enemy aliens to get out of the country, and in other ways give aid and comfort to the King's enemies."

It is partly for this reason that the number of guards at Spirit Lake is being increased, as, although opportunities for escape, especially in winter, are practically nil, the new batch of northern settlers are by no means so peaceable a lot as their predecessors. The women and children are being permitted to go there, following up the Government's policy of encouraging the better class of these prisoners to take up cleared land and settle around Spirit Lake after the conclusion of hostilities.