

# LUTHERAN PASTOR IN KAPUSKASING

BUT MYSTERY SURROUNDS THE  
INTERNMENT OF REV. OTTO  
STOCKMAN.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Stratford, Dec. 23.—There was no service in Trinity Lutheran Church at Sebastopol yesterday. The pastor, Rev. Otto Stockman, is a prisoner in the military detention camp at Kapuskasing, situated on the National Transcontinental Railway, about 70 miles west of Cochrane.

A cloud of mystery was cast around the disappearance of Mr. Stockman. His arrest was known in Stratford on Thursday last, when one of the trustees of the church telephoned to Stratford in an effort to learn of Chief Lannin, if possible, something of the fate of their pastor. It took a visit to Tavistock, and a good deal of questioning, before it was learned that Mr. Stockman had been removed to the detention camp at Kapuskasing. Why was he taken to Kapuskasing? No one could be found who would undertake to say. Things have been said about Mr. Stockman as to his alleged attitude towards the war. People in Tavistock will go so far as to say: "I suppose they had some good reason for taking him. You have to be very careful what you say just now, but, as far as I know, he was always careful of what he said."

It is presumed that Mr. Stockman was taken to Kapuskasing as an alien citizen, as a result of a report made by a Dominion Policeman of an interview two weeks ago. Mr. Stockman is a citizen of Germany. He was born in Germany, and came to this country about nine years ago. His wife is also German-born, and not naturalized. He was for two years in Linwood, and five years after that in Wellesley. He has been pastor of Trinity Church at Sebastopol for about two years. He conducts all the services in the German tongue. The Globe representative was told that "Sebastopol is all German." There were more English in the village, meaning Tavistock.

Mrs. Stockman was emphatic that Mr. Stockman was "all the time for the Government." She says that he told his people "that you are all German, and have German blood in you, and you know that German people do always what the Government says, and we are glad that peace has come. He prayed that the German people take peace." A petition asking for his release is being circulated in Tavistock and vicinity, and is being largely signed by English-speaking citizens.