

"My Three Years in a German Prison"

By Hon. Henri S. Boland, M.D., M.P.

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CHAPTER XXVII Towards Liberty.

One cannot but look forward with feelings of deep emotion to the moment when he will leave a prison where he has been detained for three years and where he has made sincere and devoted friends. A large number of those who had been my companions in captivity had already left the jail, but there remained some ten prisoners of British nationality—particularly three or four—who were very dear to me.

On the Friday, some hours previous to the time of my departure, I obtained from the sergeant-major permission to receive in my cell, between 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening, all the British prisoners. The reader will remember that the cells were usually locked for the night at 7 o'clock. These men then assembled in my cell and there for this last hour we talked over the events of the war and the probable length of their detention. Notwithstanding the joy I felt at the prospect of getting out of this hell, I regretted leaving behind me those with whom I had shared the loneliness of captivity, shared the hardships received at the hands of our jailers, and deprived of liberty and the beneficence of their mother country.

The train was to start at 9 o'clock, and my escort and I were to leave the jail at 8 o'clock. It was at this hour that I said farewell to these worthy fellows. I was a free man. They were to remain prisoners. We were all under the influence of a powerful emotion.

The train was due to depart from Silesia station. I was accompanied thereto by three military men: an orderly, a non-commissioned officer, and an officer. The officer was to accompany me as far as the frontier, and when we reached the station he said he proposed to ask the authorities to allow us to occupy a compartment exclusively to ourselves, as we would have to spend the whole of one night on the train. With this end in view, he interviewed the station-master, and when the train arrived at the station this official consideredately placed a compartment at our disposal.

The officer had to give what was accepted as a valid reason of state in order to obtain this privilege. It was the transportation of a prisoner of British nationality through German territory. This was sufficient. The conversations "this British prisoner" might have overheard had he been allowed to mingle with others on the train might have been indiscreet and of a nature calculated to harm the German interests should they be repeated in England!

Whether that was the correct view of the matter or not, or whether other reasons prompted my companion to make the demand, certain it is that a whole compartment was placed at our disposal, and in order that it should not be "besieged" by other passengers a notice was affixed to the glass pane of the door opening into

the corridor of the train to the effect that in the compartment there was a British prisoner. To this information was added the one word: "Gefahrlich," which in German means "DANGEROUS!"

When I afterwards read this notice, which had been posted against myself, I could not repress a smile.

All trains which leave the Silesia station en route for Holland must cross the city of Berlin and pass in front of the famous Stadtvogel prison. I was aware of this fact, and when we got to this point—the train was then travelling at full speed—I stood at the window to get a last look at those dark grey walls which during three long years had separated me from the outer world. To my great surprise, I saw that the sergeant-major had allowed my former companions in captivity to open one of the windows on the fifth story of the jail, and there they stood waving their handkerchiefs as a sign of farewell. "Poor, unhappy fellows!" I said to myself.

The next morning at 8 o'clock we arrived at Essen, the town where the famous Krupp works are situated. Here we had to change trains. The incoming train was late, and the officer and I had to pace up and down the platform of the station of that great city for fifteen or twenty minutes before the train, which was to convey us near the frontier arrived. Then we took our seats and reached our destination at about noon. "But my troubles were not yet over. I had to wait a little longer to obtain absolute freedom.

Through a mistake by the orderly my baggage had been checked through to a more northerly station. Inquiries were made by telegraph, and we received a reply from the officer in command of the military post addressed advising patience and the baggage would be returned the following day. Thus we were compelled to remain for the night in this German frontier village of Goch, where it was a serious problem to obtain mid-day and evening meals as we were without food cards. However, when one, after prolonged confinement, is breathing the air of comparative liberty, and knows that the morrow will give him absolute freedom, he can, without much difficulty, overcome the pangs of a hungry stomach!

At noon the next day the trunks which had returned to me safely, and I was ready and anxious to continue the journey over the remaining two or three miles which separated us from the frontier, where final inspection was to take place and adieux said.

I was on that day—Sunday, May 11, 1918—the only passenger bound for Holland. The train consisted of a locomotive and one coach. We halted at a small temporary station and my personal belongings were duly deposited in line. The arrival of "a prisoner of British nationality" had been anticipated, and German in-

spectors of both sexes surrounded me and my baggage. The duty of the women was to examine female passengers, and as they had nothing to do in the present instance they remained as spectators, passive, but interested!

The inspection was very minute, and I must add, was not intelligently executed. The non-commissioned officer charged especially to inspect my baggage proved himself to be an extremely stupid fellow. In one of my trunks he observed a small leather note-book bearing the gold-lettered inscription: "Tagebuch," which means a diary. He put it on one side with the apparent purpose of confiscating it. I protested, and I asked why he wished to retain what was really a new note-book, as there was no writing in it? He replied that the little book "contained printing," that his instructions were to confiscate everything written or printed.

What stupidity! I thought to myself. I again pointed out that the note-book contained not one word of writing and that the only "printed matter" was the small engraved label on the cover. But this did not convince the stupid fellow. He failed to grasp the fact that the passing of this innocent, unspotted little note-book could not possibly menace the German Empire with dire calamity! Lieutenant Block, who accompanied me and knew me well, was manifestly annoyed. I ventured to remark: "I exceedingly regret such procedure as this in the examination of my personal property, because under such a process you must necessarily confiscate all my shirts, all my collars and all my cuffs."

The man looked bewildered. "I don't understand you," he said. "Why must I confiscate those articles?"

"Because, like the note-book, they

each and every one have something printed thereon," I said. "And what a more serious, instead of the printing being German, which you understand the names printed on the shirts, collars and cuffs are those of English or American firms, which you may not understand."

The inspector was embarrassed, even vexed. The color rushed to his face and he handed the note-book to Lieut. Block with a gesture as who would say: "Here, take it, and the responsibility that attaches to it. If you like to run the risk of leaving this Britisher in possession of the note-book, do so, I wash my hands of the possible danger!"

Lieut. Block returned the book to me without a moment's hesitation. A large number of photographs addressed to me either from Canada or from Belgium were confiscated, although they had previously passed the censorship in Berlin. A certain number of photographs, however, escaped the eagle-eye of the inspector. They included those which the reader will find illustrating this story. As to the other printed or written documents which I brought out of Germany, they were subjected in Berlin to a severe censorship. They were those documents which had been placed in sealed envelopes and checked by the chief censor. These were passed at the frontier without further examination.

The moment had now arrived for me to go my way. The frontier was but a few yards distant. My baggage was put back into my compartment, the officer accompanied me to the door of the coach, we exchanged a few words, shook hands, and separated.

I will use a sentence here to testify on behalf of this officer, First-Lieut. Block, that in the course of my sufferings he did all that lay in his power to obtain from the authorities the privileges I repeatedly applied for. Our efforts, as I have shown, were unavailing, but this was not Lieut. Block's fault.

Mr. Wallace Ellison, who published his "Recollections" in Blackwood's Magazine, has given similar testimony regarding Officer Block. His two years' contact with the prisoners of British nationality gave him an opinion of us far different to the misguided views he held previously.

The train started and an hour and seven minutes later we were at the frontier station, in Holland. From the window of my compartment I could see inside the station the little customs inspectors of Queen Wilhelmina!

I was free! What a grand feeling is that of liberty after three years' captivity! Every tree, every leaf, house, seems to smile on you!

At five o'clock the same afternoon I was in Rotterdam.

(To be continued.)

Stomach So Bad THOUGHT HE WOULD DIE. CAN EAT ANYTHING NOW.

But for indigestion and dyspepsia, many a life might be a pleasant one. The misery which stomach troubles cause the sufferer knows only too well, and any one who has suffered knows what joy it would give to be able to eat three good meals a day and not be punished for it after.

Nearly everything that enters a weak stomach acts as an irritant, and even the little that is eaten causes such torture and is digested so imperfectly that it does little good.

Before you can eat heartily, and not pick and choose your food, you must put your stomach right so that it will manufacture its own digestive ferments.

For forty years now Burdock Blood Bitters has been making weak stomachs strong, and permanently curing severe cases of indigestion and dyspepsia that other remedies were powerless to reach.

H. L. Fairweather, Cumberland Bay, N.B., writes: "I was troubled with my stomach for two years, and sometimes was so bad I thought I would die. I tried everything I ever heard tell of, and had medicines from three doctors, but continued to grow worse. One day I read of some wonderful cures made with Burdock Blood Bitters. After taking two bottles, I could eat any kind of food without any bad effects, and by the time I had taken four I was in perfect health."

Burdock Blood Bitters is manufactured only by the T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

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DR. FREDERICK BAUMANN.

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(To be continued.)

WOULD GO FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE

Mrs. Harrington Feels Like Going Out and Telling Everybody About Tanlac.

"I would just like to go from house to house and tell the people about Tanlac," said Mrs. Mollie Harrington of 131 Third Street, Peoria, in a recent statement which she requested published for the benefit of others.

"My health gave way years ago," Mrs. Harrington continued, "and I had long since despaired of ever getting any better. I was very weak and pale—hardly had the color of blood in my face—suffered terribly from stomach trouble and was extremely nervous. I was really in a broken-down condition and being past fifty-eight years of age, which I thought was against me, I had no hope of getting well and nothing to look forward to but the end, which I often felt was drawing near.

"Then I got to reading about the wonderful results others were getting from Tanlac, and yet I could not make up my mind at first to try it, as I had little idea it could help a person of my age, especially one in such a low state of health. But somehow I was influenced to buy a bottle and that was about the luckiest day of my life, for when I finished taking it there was a wonderful improvement in my condition.

"Then I had something to look forward to—hope of complete recovery—so I bought a few more bottles of Tanlac and now I don't have to tell my friends I am well again, for they see that from my looks and often speak of it. I am more thankful to Tanlac than I can express for now I am enjoying life and good health, which I never expected to enjoy any more, and I want this testimony published in all the papers in Illinois that everybody may know what Tanlac will do. I feel that I ought to tell all suffering people about this wonderful medicine.

Tanlac is sold in Kingston by A. P. Chown, in Plevna by Gilbert Oster, in Battersea by C. S. Clark, in Fernleigh by Ervin Martin, in Ardook by M. J. Scullion, in Sharbot Lake by W. Y. Cannon.

—Advt.

Farmers Doing Well.
Brockville, Jan. 31.—At the annual meeting of Leeds Farmers' Co-operative, Limited, held in the Leamington Town Hall on Tuesday, it was shown by the manager's report that a gross business of \$312,324.25 was done during the year just passed. All the original shares of the stock have been sold, a new branch was opened during the year at Lyn and there is a likelihood that two additional branches will be organized as soon as stock is made available. To this end the directors were authorized to make arrangements for doubling the capitalization of the company and for issuing 400 additional shares.

Will in a Wall.
Elaborate directions found in the case of John Henry Ypey, 81, a retired coal merchant, of Sunderland, England, when the police discovered his dead body. He lived alone and had been dead a fortnight.

Following the directions the police found the old man's will hidden behind the wallpaper of the room, and also a packet containing insurance policies and four bags of money, addressed one each to his four daughters. An envelope and boxes also contained money. The directions and will were dated 1914.

Jack Dempsey will meet Willard for any purse Tex Rickard cares to offer. Dempsey is willing to meet Carpenter, the winner to meet Willard the day following.

Benny Leonard, lightweight champion, won his first bout on the Pacific coast, defeating Joseph Benjamin at San Francisco.

The Italians are reported to have evacuated and Serbian troops to have occupied the port of Fiume.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

Winnipeg Electrical Company's Earnings Falling for Year.

Gross earnings of the Winnipeg Electric Company continue to make a poor showing by comparison with 1917. In November last, net, after operation, amounted to \$23,120, as compared with \$26,887 the corresponding month of 1917, which is a decrease of no less than \$3,767 or 13 per cent. As compared with November, 1916, a decrease of \$78,512 is shown.

Gross for November, 1918, amounted to \$283,721. After fixed charges were taken into consideration, a deficit of \$33,813 was shown.

New Issue All Sold.
Henry L. Doherty & Co., New York, managers of the syndicate which underwrote the new issue of Cities Service Company Series C, 7 per cent, convertible gold debentures, announce that the entire \$17,500,000 has been sold.

Studebaker's Year.
The official estimate of \$4,000,000 net for the Studebaker Corporation for 1918 after all taxes and charges is a trifle under expectations of 60 to 90 days previously. The feeling then was that Studebaker would close the year with a balance for its \$30,000,000 common of approximately \$12 a share, whereas \$4,000,000 net means earnings of \$10.77 a share.

Commercial Notes.
Newsprint production in the United States and Canada during 1918 showed an increase in comparison with figures of the previous year. Oxford Securities Corporation, during 1918 is estimated at 27,373,714 net tons by officials of the State Department.

C. H. Burgess & Co., Toronto, have bought \$21,400 5 per cent debentures of the town of Collingwood, guaranteed by the county of Simcoe.

Arnold M. Ivey was elected a director of the Trusts and Guarantee Company, Limited, Toronto, on Friday last, in succession to his late father, Mr. Ivey, who was president of the company. Mr. Ivey is president of the John D. Ivey Company, Limited, and the Toronto Housing Company, Limited.

The Bethlehem Steel Corporation declared an extra dividend of 1 1/4 per cent, on both classes of common stock, A and B, in addition to a quarterly dividend of 1 1/4 per cent.

The American Brass Company declared an extra dividend of 1 1/2 per cent, compared with the previous extra dividend of 3 1/2 per cent.

The report of the International Petroleum Company for the year ending December 31st, 1917, shows earnings of \$1,009,017 or 14.91 per cent on the outstanding stock. In the previous fiscal period the company earned \$906,614 or 13 1/4 per cent.

The Canadian National Railway sold \$7,500,000 six per cent, ten year serial equipment trust certificates. Bidders were called for the issue in New York and the successful tenderer was W. A. Reid & Co. of that city. The price secured was on a basis to yield 6 1/4 per cent.

Relieves CATARRH of the BLADDER and all Discharges in 24 HOURS
SANTAL MIDY CAPSULES
Each capsule bears the name MIDY
Beware of cheap imitations.
Sold by all druggists.

Why Hold Anglo-French United Kingdom Or Canada 2-Year Notes Until Maturity?

These are payable in New York. By allowing you the high premium now ruling for American funds we could not get you about 1 1/2 per cent for Anglo's, per for U.K.'s and 1 1/2 per cent for Canada notes. Just now there are some high yield, longer term Canadian securities in which you could re-invest your money to advantage. Neither good Canadian securities nor par American funds are going to continue at to-day's advantageous rates. We draw your attention to yesterday's increased price for Victory Loan 1935 to 162.

BONGARD RYERSON & CO.
239 Bagot St. Phone 1728

What Cash You Need When Travelling

and more particularly, when large sums are required—is best carried in the form of a Letter of Credit, issued by The Merchants Bank.

This old established form of international banking, is preferred by many experienced travellers because of its absolute security.

Letters of Credit are cashed only by banks or banking corporations, and after the identity of the holder is established to the satisfaction of the bank officials. This insures safety, and guards against loss and theft.

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Head Office: Montreal, OF CANADA. Established 1864.
Kingston Branch, H. A. TOFIELD, Manager.
Verona Branch, J. W. McCLYMONT, Manager.
Safety Deposit Boxes to Rent at Kingston Branch.

Canadian Government and Municipal Bonds

Combine all the essentials of sound investment and may be purchased at the present time to yield from

5.20% to 6.25%

We shall be glad to furnish a list of investment suggestions upon request.

Wood, Gundy & Company
Canadian Pacific Railway Building
Montreal Toronto Saskatoon

WAR PUZZLES



SOVIET GOVERNMENT OF RUSSIA
Decreed separation of church and state, one year ago today, February 2, 1918.
Find a peasant.
SATURDAY'S ANSWER
Upside down in sailor's jacket.

Sunshine and Happiness in place of Gloom and Irritability
is the experience of many on changing from coffee or tea to Instant Postum
Not at all incredible! For Postum is free from the distress-causing elements in tea & coffee. At the same time it is a delicious nourishing drink
"There's a Reason" for
INSTANT POSTUM