

FOREWORD

At the time of my return to Canada I had absolutely no intention of writing a book on my experiences as a Prisoner of War, and laughed when the idea was first suggested to me. My friends showed such keen interest, however, in what happened to me during the time I was mourned as dead and afterwards, when my first letter home restored me to life, that, to prevent repeatedly living over again many experiences which I would much rather forget, I have written this book.

Many Canadian families are sitting at home wondering under what circumstances one or more of their loved ones are living while Prisoners of War, and a few American families are already doing the same thing. Unfortunately it is very likely that this unhappy list will be added to as the war progresses. I trust that my attempt at the portrayal of the life of a Prisoner of War may in some way relieve the minds of the perplexed friends and relatives in that it tells them many things, which I was surprised to learn, are not already known. Of course, it must be understood that no two prisoners have exactly the same experiences — would that they could all have my good fortune!