

About a year ago the governor of the prison informed him the government had passed an order for his release. Some time later the governor informed him that it had been canceled. Dr. Beland pressed him for an explanation, asking him what authority was higher than the government. Reluctantly, the governor admitted that "it was the military authority." Dr. Beland says that his joy on getting out of prison to see women and children and horses on the streets, was like coming back from the dead.

He makes a strong appeal to the friends of the prisoners to send them packages of food. Those who do not receive any food from home are being poorly fed. When rationing came into force in Germany Dr. Beland was no longer able to buy any food in Berlin, and wrote to the Canadian High Commissioner to arrange to have some sent to him. It was three months before his letter was delivered and any help came to him. In the meantime he had a very uncomfortable time of it. As an English prisoner said that the German allowance "was not enough to live on, and just too much to die on." Many of the prisoners took their own lives to end their misery.

During the last two months of his imprisonment, he was allowed to go twice a week to the parks, accompanied by an armed guard; but he was not permitted to speak to anyone. He does not know whether the Germans intended to be really cruel, or whether it is their unsympathetic nature, but the treatment he received was really very cruel. During the weeks that his wife was sick he was not permitted to see her, nor to attend her funeral. On his arrival in England the King received him at Buckingham Palace, and conversed with him for over half an hour.

English names have been removed from streets, restaurants and hotels. His diary was taken from him when he was released, as the military authorities said it must be destroyed. Dr. Beland was exchanged for the brother of Prince Von Buelow. He states that there is only one duty before everyone, that of winning the war. Humanity must be safe against the repetition of the tragedy it is now passing through. Dr. Beland intends going back to serve the Canadian at the Front, and speaks of the Canadian soldiers as real heroes. He said he did not wish to talk politics, but to talk war; and hoped he might be able to do something to make Canadians still more enthusiastic.

He tells of an instance when he cheered all by himself as he read in a German paper how brave the Canadians had been, and that the Germans admitted they were dangerous foes, and that there was no stopping them. When he reached Bramshott he told this to the Canadians, and they cheered as he had done in the Berlin prison. He was not allowed to see any other papers than those printed in Germany, and in the German language. His view is that the whole German nation, men and women, are