

**CAPTURED: SIXTEEN
MONTHS AS A
PRISONER OF WAR**

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Captured: Sixteen Months as a Prisoner of War by J. Harvey Douglas

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J. HARVEY DOUGLAS

**CAPTURED: SIXTEEN
MONTHS AS A
PRISONER OF WAR**



LIEUT. DOUGLAS TRAMPING IN SWITZERLAND AND WEARING "SHORTS" USED IN HOT WEATHER AT THE FRONT.

CAPTURED

SIXTEEN MONTHS AS
A PRISONER OF WAR

By LIEUT. J. HARVEY DOUGLAS

*Illustrated with Photographs
by the Author*



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Francis R. Stoddard, Jr.

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J. HARTY DOUGLAS

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TO
MY FATHER, MOTHER AND SISTER
WHO, ALTHOUGH BURDENED WITH ANOTHER
SORROW, DID EVERYTHING IN THEIR
POWER TO MAKE MY LIFE AS A
PRISONER OF WAR AS BRIGHT
AND CHEERFUL AS WAS
POSSIBLE UNDER THE
CIRCUMSTANCES,
THIS BOOK IS
DEDICATED.

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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!

But, many of them are living, or will live, under circumstances similar to those under which I passed sixteen long months.

It is the Prussian spirit of militarism which is responsible for most of the brutality, and, until it is stamped out, there will never be peace in any part of the globe. If I succeed in these pages in arousing the minds of many people to the realisation of the fact that, owing to this spirit of militarism, our Prisoners of War have suffered hardships to the like of which no human being should ever be subjected, and that, even to-day, their treatment is often far from humane, I will feel that my efforts have not been in vain.

I never wrote a book before in my life and in fact this one was not written, but, for the most part, dictated. I have not attempted to make it a work of art in the literary world — such a thing would be impossible for me; but I have attempted to give a plain, straightforward statement of absolute facts: I have not even used fictitious names.

I trust that nothing I have said will in any way make the life of my friends, who are still in Germany, even more hard, but rather, that any influence this book may have will speed the day when a more free and generous exchange of Prisoners of War can be arranged between belligerent nations.

J. H. D.

Toronto, Dec. 4, 1917.