

IN TOWN
TO-DAY

Five Years in Gestapo Hands

MR. ANDREW STRANG, a member of the moral re-
armament team now touring
South Africa, had plenty of time
between 1940 and 1945 to study
human nature.



Mr. Strang

"I was in
Copenhagen in
1940 preaching
the gospel of
the ideology of
democracy," he
said, "and on
that fateful
day of April 9,
when the Ger-
mans marched
in, I was ar-
rested by the Ges-
tapo on the
grounds that I
was an active
opponent of the
Nazi regime

—which I was.

"Even the British Minister could
not save me, and off I was packed
into Germany, the Nazis taking
great care to arrest me officially
at Flensburg, on the other side
of the Danish border.

"In five years I was in nine
concentration camps and hospitals.

"Every month for the first six
months I was questioned by the
Gestapo, who tried to extract in-
formation from me about certain
people in the Scandinavian coun-
tries, but I was never ill-treated.

"However, a diet of 800 calories
a day undermined my health and
I developed a mastoid. By luck

a professor, who I found out after-
wards was pro-British, performed
the operation and made an excel-
lent job of it.

"In the different camps I worked
to raise the morale of the inmates.
Within nine months in one camp
I had courses going in 43 different
subjects, and about 90 men wrote
their matric and a number their
B.A.

"In entertainment we started
with a mouth-organ and finished
with a decent orchestra and full-
scale plays.

"One of the greatest morale-
raisers was escaping. Even the
mass punishments that followed
could not undo the good that was
caused by a couple getting away
over the wire."

Mr. Strang is a textile man-
ufacturer from Glasgow.