

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.