

PRISONERS FOR PETAWAWA

Since the war opened Petawawa military camp has been deserted, the Government apparently having no use for it in connection with the military preparations. Now, however, it is to be made to serve a useful purpose. Major de la Ronde came to Pembroke on Tuesday evening and yesterday morning informed The Observer that he was on his way to Petawawa to prepare the camp to receive a large number of prisoners of war. Men are to be started to work at once making the mess buildings which will be used into comfortable living quarters, it being the intention to sheet them inside with heavy paper and put in large box stoves, while the prisoners will cut the wood which will supply heat during the winter. It is the purpose of the Government to transfer to Petawawa about 500 prisoners, but they will all be Austrians and Turks, the authorities apparently deeming it unwise to bring any Germans here. The most of the prisoners will be taken from Montreal, where the authorities have now too many on their hands, and a couple of hundred will probably reach here next week. It is not intended to put up any wire entanglements, but the bounds of the prisoners' grounds will be indicated by flags and about 100 soldiers will be at the camp all winter to act as guards. The prisoners will be kept at work all during the winter and will, we understand, receive a nominal wage of about 25c. per day.

This will mean something for Pembroke, as most of the provisions for the camp will be purchased here.