

ON KINGSTON'S STREETS BUILD- ING ROADS AND DRAINS.

As White Labor Cannot be Secured
—Chairman of the Board of
Works Seeks Help From Fort
Henry.

How will the residents on University avenue and other streets on which work is being done by the city like to have a gang of German prisoners-of-war doing the labor work in front of their property? This is what may happen in the near future as the first steps towards its accomplishment have been taken.

Ald. W. Peters, chairman of the Board of Works, has the matter in hand and will try to secure this type of foreign labor to meet the conditions of lack of labor. Owing to the war practically no men can be secured for manual labor. The enlistments in this part of the country have been responsible to a great extent and with coming prosperous times the money for new work can be conveniently secured and the building trade is having a revival. The Locomotive Works is turning out munitions and locomotives and in doing so employing hundreds of the available laborers of the city. Campbell and Wright had to conduct a strenuous advertising campaign to secure a few men for work at Barriefield Camp and other places. John McKay offered thirty-five cents an hour but even at this high rate of pay for labor work none could be secured.

The Utilities Commission has been "up against it" even more than have private firms. The work on University avenue, among other enterprises, has been dragging along with one, two or three men. Loafers have been approached on the street to do the work but it was always a case of cold in the head or a sore hand.

To meet the conditions caused by the lack of laborers, Ald. Peters applied to Major P. G. C. Campbell, commandant of Fort Henry, for the release of some of the prisoners-of-war to take the places of the men who have enlisted for overseas service. The Commandant is unable to give the necessary permission and the request has been made to Gen. Otter, in charge of internment operations for Canada. There can be no opposition from the labor people as they have already been asked for men, and the plan will probably go through.