

# CROSSING PROJECT CONTRACT IS MADE

## Lowered Street Under Tracks is Authorized for St. Albans

An under-ground crossing improvement is under way at St. Albans to relieve danger from Chesapeake and Ohio trains at Third street that will cost about \$100,000, Mayor Claude L. Smith has announced. The expense is to be shared equally by the municipality and the railway, in accordance with an agreement entered into between the railroad company and the St. Albans city council. The contract was let to the West Virginia Construction company represented by N. K. Snead, of Huntington, and steam shovels were put to work on the excavation last week.

Plans approved for the job provide for a fine structure supporting the railroad tracks, a paved lowered street, and approaches leading a quarter of a block away both north and south. This beneath-grade crossing is in the street leading directly to the right of way of the projected St. Albans-Nitro bridge, and will in reality be the bridge approach on the south side of the Kanawha river.

Nothing is known at St. Albans as to just when a start may be expected on construction of this proposed bridge to span the Kanawha and connect St. Albans with the upper end of Nitro, but it is generally accepted there that the bridge will be erected. The St. Albans and Nitro bridge company sometime ago required land for the approaches on both sides of the river and obtained a federal permit for placing piers in the stream, subject to approval of United States engineers and officials of the war department regulating the height of the channel span, but construction has been delayed several months. Just recently the authorities at Washington authorized transfer of the franchise to the new West Virginia bridge commission, and some of the St. Albans and Nitro people take this move to mean that the bridge commission may take over the project and have the bridge built by the state road department.