

WANT THE POLL TAX REMITTED ON MEN BROUGHT IN HERE

But Steelton Council Not Sure —Board of Works to Decide

Steelton town fathers were not disposed to accede to the request last night made by Mr. J. E. Irving on behalf of the McKee Construction Company, that the town should not collect the poll tax from the men who are continually being brought in from the United States to work at the Steel Plant for them. Mr. Irving pointed out that the problem of securing laboring men is a very difficult one, and at best they do not stop very long at a time, and when they are put up against a poll tax of \$5 it makes it more difficult to get men. The general opinion of the council was that these men are receiving the benefits of the town and they should have no objection to paying the Poll tax.

"If a Canadian crosses the river to Michigan with a grip in his hand he is immediately put up against an \$8 head tax, and he has to pay it. I've paid it myself and if I had to go over there again I suppose I would have to pay another \$8," remarked Councillor George Reid.

The only grounds on which Councillor Lyons would grant them any relief, would be for the term between the present time and the end of the year. After that he would have them pay the poll tax. The matter was finally left in the hands of the Board of Works to dispose of and arrange matters with the Chief of Police.

Robert Brooks wanted to know what objection the council had to allowing his son to build a retaining wall two feet out from his house to divert the current of the creek that flows behind it in order to protect his foundation. The house is situated on John street and the creek runs diagonally across it between the Brooks and Lyons properties. The council claimed that already, according to the Lang and Ross survey, the Brooks house is six inches over the boundary line in the bed of the creek, and to allow a retaining wall to be built two feet out from the house would have the effect of throwing the current over the south bank which would mean that in the flood tide it would wash the other shore away and would be liable to cause trouble for the council.

When asked his opinion on the matter by the mayor, Councillor Lyons said that if the council gave Mr. Brooks permission to build the retaining wall, he would do all in his power to stop it. It was considered that if Mr. Brooks built the retaining wall each way from the corner of his house he would have sufficient protection. The mayor said the Board of Works would look into the matter today and render their decision.

Finish at Northland Street.

Messrs. Stoness and West, who are the contractors laying the sidewalks in Steelton this year, asked for instruction as to how long they should continue with the work of laying the sidewalks in Steelton this year, asked for instructions as to how long they should continue with the work of laying the sidewalks, in view of the present winter weather. The council decided that the work on Northland street should be completed and then the contractors should stop for the season, with the understanding that they enter into an undertaking with

the town that they will go ahead with the work as soon as the spring opens up again and weather conditions permit of the work being done. On that understanding the penalty attached to the contract will be suspended.

Insurance Cheaper in Korah.

"I think the Fire Underwriters' Association have come to the point where they want to be strangled," remarked Councilor Lyons when the mayor had concluded reading a letter from that organization regarding further improvements which they required to have executed and notified the council of an increase in rates until the changes were put into effect. "We never hear anything from them about reducing rates, no matter what additional fire protection you put on. You can go out in Korah and get cheaper insurance than you can in town, and they have no fire protection at all."

A request from the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives for a donation from the town resulted in the council making a grant of \$10.