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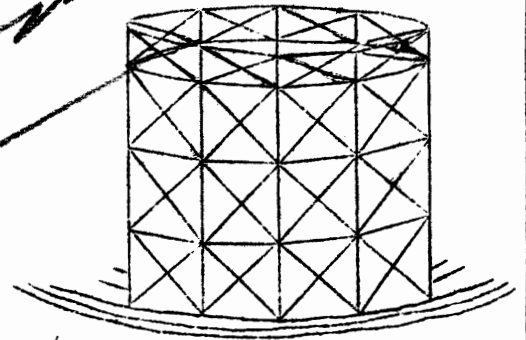
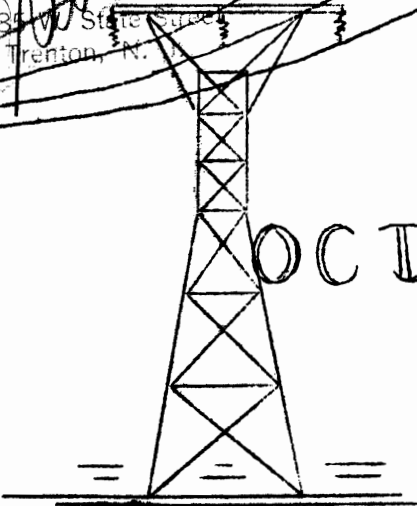
MONTHLY REPORT

NEW JERSEY

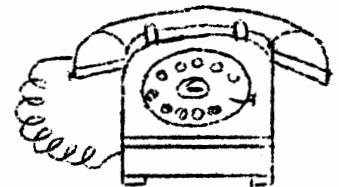
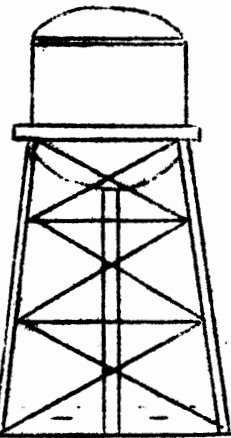
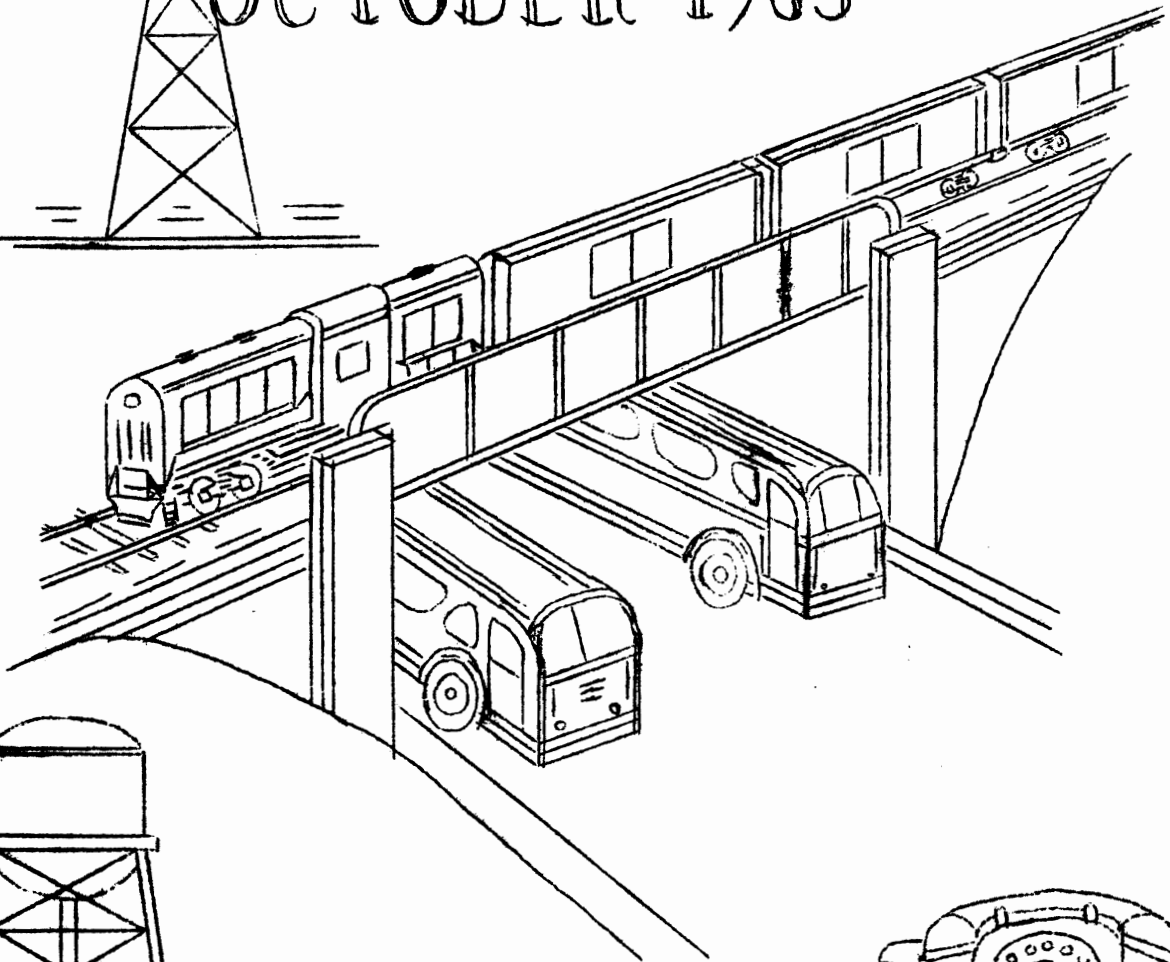
OCT 4 - 1963

185 W. State Street
Trenton, N.J.

File Room



OCTOBER 1963



NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

EXPLOSION IN NEWARK

Preliminary investigation of the September 28, 1963, explosion at the Coats & Clark plant, McCarter Highway, Newark revealed that a gas leak existed at the tie-in connection to the main at McCarter Highway. Reports from the Board's staff and from Public Service Electric and Gas Company, in whose service area this happened, are being studied to determine what measures, if any, will prevent a recurrence.

Reports - Monthly

October 9, 1963

Mr. James Schuyler

Subject: Monthly Reports

We have discussed the desirability of improving the monthly reports from the Bureau of Location and Design on several occasions. As a beginning, I suggest the following which can be applicable to any one of these reports.

Under the heading of Federal Aid where it indicates programming, the construction program item approved by the Commissioner and the Governor should be indicated as well as the route and section. Also, the estimated amount of Federal and State funds to be set up. The material listed under the heading office engineer should also be shown by construction program year and item. This will make it compatible with the reports issued by Mr. Houghton as to the status of plans and by Mr. Jensen as to the projects which are being processed for PS & E submission to the Bureau of Public Roads.

If the information shown under the heading miscellaneous applies to jobs which are not on any approved construction program, this should be indicated.

In its present format, this report is almost impossible to comprehend.

Russell H. Mullen

REPORT TO GOVERNOR RICHARD J. HUGHES
FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1963

ACTIVITIES

Decisions Issued	54
Petitions Filed	92
Formal Hearings	43
Informal Proceedings	2840

REVENUES

1962

1963

Filing Fees and Other Sources for the Month of October	\$13,696.83	\$11,673.20
Filing Fees and Other Sources for the Months of July-October	\$61,404.45	\$97,148.57

REVISED FUEL RATE TO SAVE CUSTOMERS \$1,028,798

A total of 136,290 customers of Atlantic City Electric Company stand to save annually over \$1 million dollars from a revised tariff, accepted by Board Order of October 24, 1963, in which there is, generally, a standardization of the fuel adjustment clauses in most of the rate schedules, effecting customer savings. The action was due to (1) technological progress, (2) higher operating efficiency, and (3) improved competitive position as compared with other forms of energy. A fuel clause will replace the coal clause, as the Company burns a variety of different fuels. Also, substitutions of the C.I.P. tariff for the C.P. tariff will reduce large commercial and small industrial customer rates in line with competitors, hence, serve as an inducement to location of industry in the Company's area.

RATE REQUESTS REDUCED BY BOARD

NEW JERSEY WATER COMPANY

New Jersey Water Company sought a rate increase of \$326,520 for 29,927 customers in its Camden Division (19% increase), composing the 11th and 12th wards of Camden and a part of Pennsauken Township in Camden County, and its Haddon Division (20% increase) in parts of Camden and Burlington Counties, excepting 31.5% increase in 4 municipalities in the latter division. Utilizing 17 wells the Company has 313.43 miles of mains and in addition to serving consumers it has 1,451 fire hydrants. After deducting items from the rate base proposed by the Company, the Board after 13 hearing days in Trenton and Camden found a rate of return of 6.1% reasonable, thus allowing additional annual revenues of \$90,825 by order of October 22, 1963, effective November 15, 1963.

LAURENCE HARBOR WATER COMPANY

Serving 1400 customers in a part of Madison Township known as Laurence Harbor, Laurence Harbor Water Company asked the Board to raise water rates annually by \$47,743 that is, for each customer \$2.96 monthly or 9.7¢ daily. The Board decided on October 24 that a 6% rate of return, or \$42,150 annually, was reasonable and conditioned the rate increase on the performance of a construction program estimated at about \$35,000. If the construction is not completed, money allotted in the rate increase for it will be refunded to customers.

RAILROAD MATTERS

GRADE CROSSINGS

Pursuant to Board Orders: Rahway Avenue over the tracks of the Lehigh Valley Railroad will be widened after a petition of the Town of Westfield, Union County; a grade crossing on the Pennsylvania railroad in the Township of Pemberton near the Pemberton Elementary School, Burlington County, was barricaded; and the Vassar Avenue grade crossing in the Borough of Stratford, Camden County, will be widened on the Pennsylvania-Reading Seashore Lines railroad.

PROTECTIVE DEVICES

The Pennsylvania-Reading Seashore Lines railroad notified the Board in October that new signals were placed at Fairview Avenue, Hammonton, Atlantic County, following a September Board Order. Plans for automatic protection at 4 other crossings in the same town were submitted as a substitute for manual protection and a watchman.

PRR-NYC MERGER

In the I.C.C. case concerning the merger of the Pennsylvania and the New York Central railroads, a hearing was held in Washington, D.C. on October 1. No end to the case is in sight, but Board has been represented at several hearings. At the hearings in Newark earlier this year, the merger was opposed by New Jersey interests, including a statement by Governor Hughes.

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

In its October 31st Order, the Board directed the Erie-Lackawanna Railroad Company to reconstruct the Maple Street vehicular underpass in the Borough of New Providence, Union County. Inspection and sketching of railroad bridges continues, formulating a program to adapt bridges for the carriage of modern highway loads.

JERSEY CITY BUS ACCIDENTS INVESTIGATED

Coincidentally, two bus accidents occurred in October at the same location in Jersey City, Duncan Avenue and U. S. Highway #1, which from the evidence gathered by Board's staff investigation showed that traffic control devices were a possible contributing cause. At a conference between a member of the Board's motor carrier division and a representative of the State Highway Department, the Highway Department has advised that it will change the traffic control system, to conform to similar installations throughout the State and to eliminate any possible confusion at that intersection.

REVISION OF UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS

By separate Orders, the Board revised the Uniform System of Accounts for electric, gas, sewerage, and water utilities, providing for the preservation and destruction of records in substantial agreement with Federal regulations and those adopted by the National Association of Railroad and Utilities Commissioners (NARUC).

ACTION IN OTHER FORUMS

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION

After complaint by Brick Township against Hollywood Manor Water Company alleging excessive iron content in the water distributed, the Board ordered that the company improve its plant to remedy the deficiency. The Company having failed to take the needed steps the State and the Board filed a complaint in Chancery Division, Superior Court, Essex County, to compel specific performance of its order.

FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

The Board, on October 24, 1963, on behalf of New Jersey rate payers, intervened as a party in a FPC case in which Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation seeks permission to transmit natural gas over its pipe line facilities for Texaco, Inc. to Texaco's plant in South Jersey. Also, involved in the matter are 2 New Jersey utilities, Public Service Electric and Gas Company and South Jersey Gas Company, contending their rate structure will be adversely influenced.