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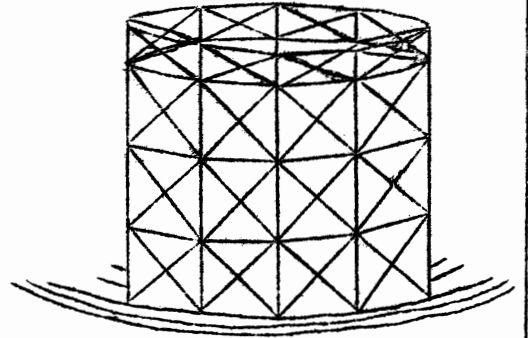
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# MONTHLY REPORT

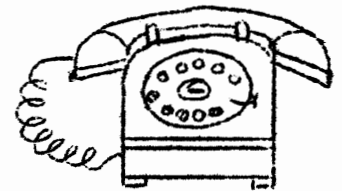
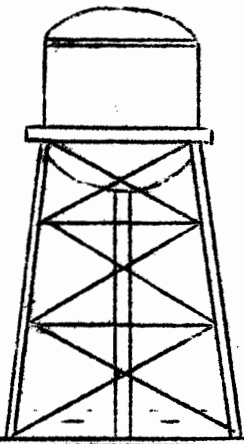
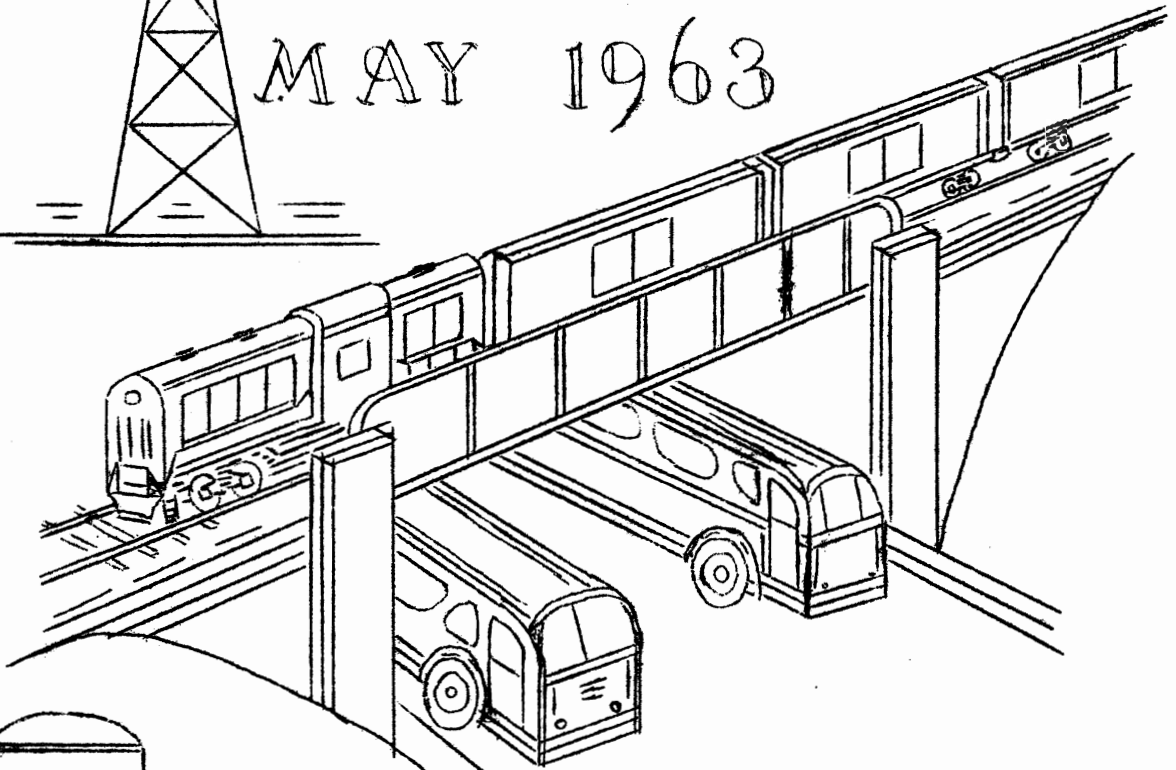
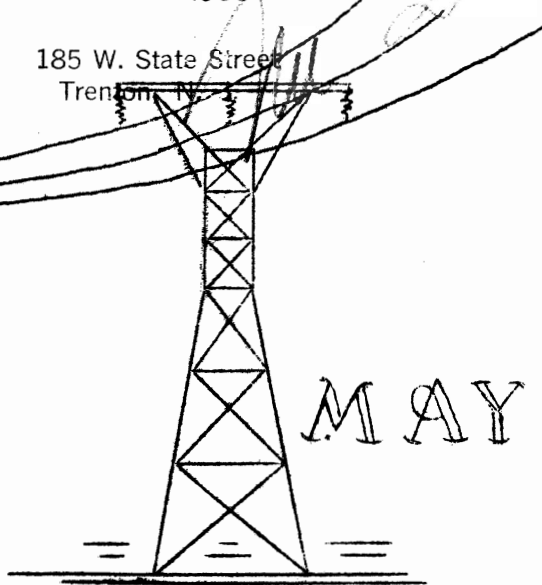
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MAY 1963



NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

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

GENERAL ACTIVITY

Decisions Issued	74
Petitions Filed	95
Formal Hearings	57
Informal Proceedings	2624

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Filing Fees and Other Services for May	\$ 23,077.01	\$ 32,529.53
Filing Fees and Other Services for July-May	274,423.54	262,346.06

BOARD'S MOTIONS GRANTED BY APPELLATE COURT

The Safeway Trails, Inc. and Greyhound Corp. are appealing from a Board's Administrative Order which requires an autobus to be equipped with an emergency door, a driver's partition and a passenger gate.

A Motion was filed by the Board on May 3, 1963 to consolidate appeals by Safeway Trails, Inc. and the Greyhound Corporation from Board decision of February 28, 1963, and to dismiss petition for declaratory judgement. Following oral arguments on May 13 and 20, 1963, the Appellate Division by letter decision of May 22, 1963 ordered consolidation of appeals and dismissed petition for declaratory judgment. Formal order to be entered.

GAS EXPLOSION HEARINGS CONTINUE

Cross-examination of witnesses in the Public Service Electric and Gas Company and Elizabethtown Consolidated Gas Company hearings relative to accidents which may have been caused by gas explosions is continuing. With respect to the Clark explosion which occurred in Elizabethtown's territory, two experts have testified with widely divergent opinions as to the cause of that accident. One expert testified that the explosion caused the broken main. The other expert testified to the fact that the broken main was due to forces applied at the street level prior to the explosion. The hearings will be continued during the month of June.

## BOARD INVESTIGATING ODOR COMPLAINTS IN BORDENTOWN

On May 23, 1963, the Board issued an Order instituting an investigation of compliance with service requirements by the Bordentown Sewer Company and set June 7, 1963, as the date for public hearing. At the hearing, inquiry will be made into the maintenance and sufficiency of the sewer plant, the operation of which has resulted in complaints from customers with respect to offensive odors. In addition to the Board's action relative to this Company, a subpoena was issued to a member of the Board's staff to appear at a hearing before the Municipal Court of Bordentown on complaint of several of the Company's customers relative to offensive odors. The Board's representative attended the hearing on May 31, 1963,

## POSTPONE THREATENED DISCONTINUANCE OF WATER SERVICE IN EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP

On May 28, 1963, the Board adjourned the hearings in the matter of the proposed discontinuance of water service by the Longport Manor, Inc. The adjournment was set in order to allow the completion of the present negotiations to sell the system to responsible parties. However, if the negotiations are not settled prior to October 11, 1963, further hearing will be held. The circumstances surrounding this matter were more fully reported in last month's report.

## BOARD APPROVES USE OF LAND FOR STANDPIPE

Freehold Water and Utility Company, formerly known as General Water Company, received the Board's approval to erect a 250,000-gallon standpipe in the Freehold Shopping Mall. While there was no question as to the need of this storage facility it was necessary for the company to seek relief under N.J.S.A. 40:55-1.19, for the location of the standpipe at the Mall.

## REDUCED RATES BY ELIZABETHTOWN CONSOLIDATED GAS COMPANY

On April 26, 1963, Elizabethtown Consolidated Gas Company submitted to the Board a revision of its tariff which proposed to reduce charges by \$44,670 during the summer to customers using gas for air conditioning. The Board in its Order dated May 15, 1963, permitted the Company's proposal to become effective June 1, 1963.

## BUS FARE INCREASES ALLOWED

The Board on May 8, 1963, issued a Negotiation Order effective May 19, 1963 on the petition of Homestead Transit Co., Inc., for an increase in basic adult fares of 5¢ for a ride of two or more zones and a related increase of 5¢ a ride for reduced book ticket fares on its route between Paterson and Jersey City. No change was proposed in the existing student fare. The



increase was estimated to produce additional annual revenues of approximately \$24,000.

On May 23, 1963, the Board issued its Negotiation Order effective June 9, 1963 on the petition of Marathon Bus Line, Inc., for an increase in the basic adult fare of 5¢ a ride and a related increase of \$1.00 per month in monthly school ticket fares on its Keyport Bus Route operating between Perth Amboy and Keansburg. The proposed fares were estimated to produce additional annual revenue of approximately \$34,000.

#### PARTIAL SERVICE INCREASE GRANTED

The Board, on May 8, 1963, issued a Negotiation Order on the petition of Hollybrook Sanitary Improvement Company, for increased sewer rates, estimated to produce additional annual revenue of \$7,832. The Board, after hearings, concluded in its Negotiation Order that the Company had been operating at a loss since its inception and that to continue the present rates would result in a continuation of the operating loss and thus not be in the public interest. The Board decided to negotiate an increase in rates pursuant to R.S.48:2-21.1 which would produce some additional revenue, so that some experience may be gained of more precise operating results. The increased rates authorized are estimated to produce additional annual revenue of \$3,026 to become effective July 1, 1963.

#### PETITION TO REDUCE SERVICE BY N.Y.S.&W. RAILROAD

The Susquehanna Railroad Company filed two petitions with the Board, the first for reduction of passenger service from three trains in each direction to one train in each direction, and the second for complete discontinuance of passenger service between Butler and North Bergen. Hearing was held on May 14th and is continued to June 5th, 6th and 7th.

#### GRADE CROSSING ELIMINATION PROGRAM PASSAIC

All Erie Main Line trains began operation over the new connection between the Main Line and the Boonton Branch on April 1st. The City of Passaic was given permission to remove a portion of the former Main Line track through the center of the City and to establish space for parking.

#### LUTZ ROAD, HAMILTON TOWNSHIP

The Contractor's work in connection with this project was completed on May 24th, 1963, except for a small amount of ditching by railroad forces.

### GARWOOD

This project was opened to traffic on Sunday, May 26th. The Railroad Company is completing work on the tracks and signals and the project should be concluded in the near future.

### BOARD PERMITS COMPANY TO DISCONTINUE INFORMATION SERVICE

The Board, after study of the New York & Long Branch Railroad Company's petition for reconsideration, has permitted the Railroad Company to discontinue the services of the Information Clerk at the Red Bank station on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, effective June 8th, 1963. Action is pending on a request by the attorney for the Brotherhood of Railroad Telegraphers for a stay pending introduction of additional evidence.

### RECONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES TO START

In accordance with the Board's Order of November 29th, 1962, the Central Railroad Company has begun its preparatory work for the reconstruction of the Atlantic Avenue bridge over the Freehold Branch of the railroad in Matawan. The contract, in the amount of \$96,597.50, has been awarded to Mohawk Constructors, Inc., and it is expected that the contractor will start work during the first week in June.

### BOARD INSPECTS RAILROAD BRIDGES, PEDESTRIAN SUBWAYS AND STATIONS

The Board has prepared a program of inspection of railroad bridges which may be insufficient for modern highway loads. The Board is also proceeding with the inspection of stations and pedestrian subways for cleanliness and general appearance.

### APPLY TO DISCONTINUE OR CURTAIL SERVICE

The Erie-Lackawanna Railroad Company has furnished the Board with a copy of application to the Interstate Commerce Commission for discontinuance or curtailment of passenger train service provided by interstate trains. The Interstate Commerce Commission has set the proposal for hearing at several times and places including one in New York City on June 3rd. It is expected that the Board will not be represented at the hearing since the intrastate patronage is negligible. Interstate trains applying for discontinuance or curtailment of passenger train service are:

Train No.

Between

40	Elmira, N.Y. and Hoboken, N.J.
41	Denville; N.J. and Scranton, Pa.
43	Scranton, Pa. and Elmira, N.Y.
25	Port Jervis; N.Y. and Binghamton, N.Y.
26	Binghamton, N.Y. and Hoboken, N.J.

## COMPANY PETITIONS TO DISCONTINUE TRAIN CONNECTION BUSES

The Pennsylvania-Reading Seashore Lines petitioned the Board on May 10th for permission to discontinue all of its train connection buses serving Ocean City, Sea Isle City, Townsend's Inlet, Avalon, Stone Harbor and Cape May Court House. The matter has been placed on the Board's calendar for hearing on July 25th. The time of hearing has been determined in order to permit the summer residents in this area to know of this discontinuance.

## PETITION TO DISCONTINUE SERVICE

The N.Y.S.&W. Railroad Company has petitioned the Board for discontinuance of agency service at the Hawthorne station. The matter is on the Board's calendar for hearing on June 17th.

## BOARD AUTHORIZES OFFER FOR SALE OF BONDS

The Board in its Order dated May 23, 1963, authorized the Public Service Electric and Gas Company to offer for sale, through competitive bidding, \$40,000,000 of its First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, % Series due 1993. The Company will receive bids on June 18, 1963, to determine the purchase price, the interest rate, and the redemption premiums of the proposed bonds. All of these matters will be the subject of a public hearing, to be held at 1:00 P.M. that same day.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSIONERS

On May 8th, President William F. Hyland and Commissioner J. Lane Powers attended the New Jersey Legislative Correspondents' Club Annual Dinner at the Essex House in Newark.

On May 13th, Commissioner Raymond J. Otis inspected the crossing at grade of Rivervale Avenue and the tracks of the New York Central Railroad at Norwood Bergen County.

On May 28th, President Hyland attended a Cabinet Meeting in the Governor's office in Trenton.