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**Water Supply, Gas and  
Electricity, Department of**

**1913, Dec.**



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THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 1, 1913.



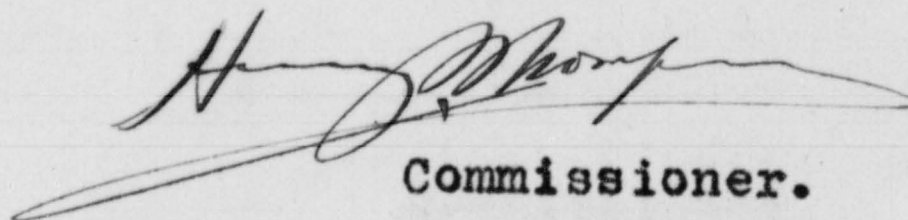
Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
M a y o r,  
The City of New York.

S i r :-

Patrick Rooney, driver, attached to the maintenance and distribution division of the Engineering Bureau, Borough of Brooklyn, while driving one of the Department wagons on September 9, 1913, was thrown from his seat by the sudden bolting of the horse. He fell to the ground, fracturing his right ankle, and was removed in an ambulance to the Coney Island Hospital. The accident occurred between 11:30 and 12 o'clock noon, at 86th Street and 25th Avenue. By reason of these injuries he was unable to resume his work for a period of sixty days.

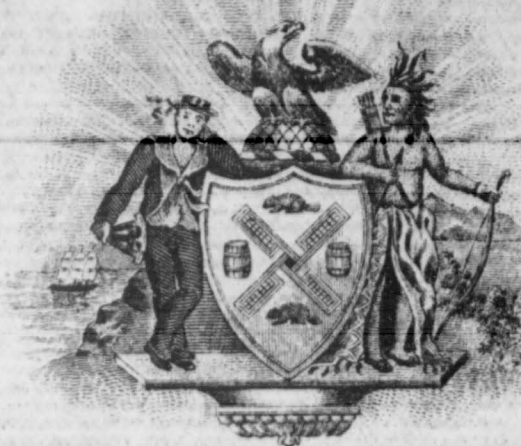
Under authority of Chapter 353 of the Laws of 1912 I have certified to a payroll in his favor for a period of thirty days. In my opinion he is justly entitled to his full wages for the entire period he was absent, and I would ask that you kindly consent to his receiving his wages for the remaining thirty days, from October 15 to November 18, both inclusive.

Respectfully,



Commissioner.





*Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity,*

*Commissioner's Office,*

*1321 Park Row,*

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.

J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

*City of New York*

December 2, 1913

Joseph Haag, Esq.,  
Secretary,  
Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Dear Sir:

I have received copy of the report made by the Bureau of Municipal Investigation and Statistics of the Department of Finance, in regard to my request to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, under date of September 30th ult., for approval of form of contract, plans and specifications and estimate of cost, in the sum of \$17,600 for the following items:

Section 1: Furnishing, delivering and erecting locomotive crane, at Millburn Pumping Station.

Section 2: Furnishing, delivering and erecting Long Island Railroad standard gauge turnout track, etc., Millburn Pumping Station.

Section 3: Furnishing, delivering and constructing concrete storage area, etc., at Millburn Pumping Station, Baldwin, L.I.

The Bureau of Municipal Investigation and Statistics recommends that the approval of the contract be withheld, and the appropriation of \$17,600., which was authorized by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment on June 26th, 1913, be rescinded, for the following reasons:

1st: That for the past twenty years the Millburn Station has not had any coal handling plant; that the amount of coal burned per day at this station is 24½ tons; that there is little ash from the semi-bituminous coal, and the removal of the ash involves no serious labor, and that the installation of the coal and ash handling equipment would not permit of a reduction in the number of coal passers or stokers, and probably an additional engineman would be required to operate the locomotive crane.

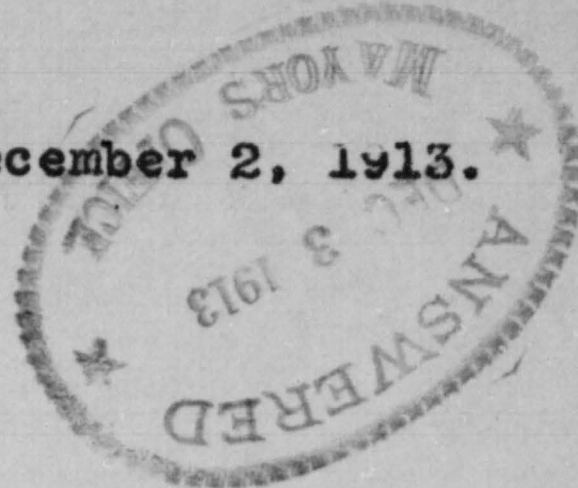


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THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 2, 1913.



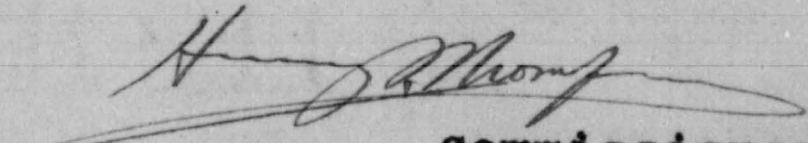
Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
Mayor,  
City of New York.

Sir:

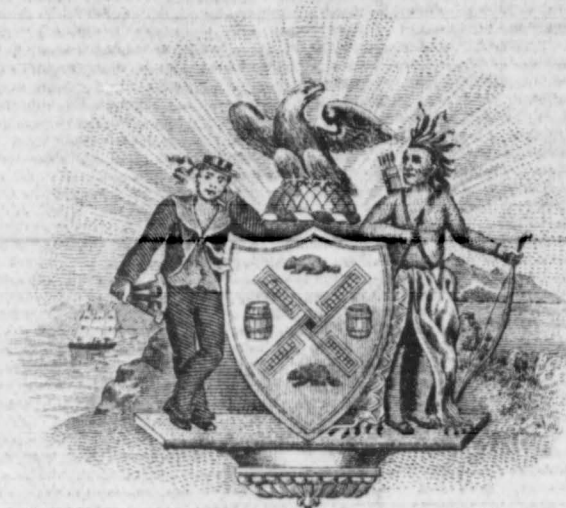
In relation to the letter of Mr. C. F. Gardner, of 220 Smith Street, Brooklyn, a former employe of this Department, who applies for reinstatement to the position of Laborer:

Last June Mr. Gardner tendered his resignation, on account of his age, 76 years, and because he was suffering from rheumatism and other ailments. He held the position of Laborer, and it is very doubtful whether he is physically able to perform the duties of such position, assuming that he has recovered from his recent attacks of illness. On January 1, by reason of insufficient appropriations, I shall be compelled to dispense with the services of a very large number of Laborers now assigned to the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Nassau. No doubt many of these men to be laid off are strong and active and able to continue their duties if conditions permitted. I could not consistently recommend Mr. Gardner's reemployment, knowing that within a few weeks I shall be compelled to dispense with his services.

Respectfully,

  
Commissioner.





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# Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

Commissioner's Office,

13-21 Park Row,

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.

J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

City of New York

December 2, 1913.

Board of Estimate and Apportionment,  
Joseph Haag, Esq., Secretary,  
277 Broadway,  
Manhattan.

Dear Sir:

The construction of the subway in Broadway between Bleecker and 16th Streets has advanced sufficiently to permit the Dock Contractor Company, in charge of the operations, to undertake for this Department the alteration and improvement of the water mains and appurtenances, which will serve to better the system. The work can now be accomplished at less cost than at some future time, when considerable excavating and replacement of pavement would be required.

The contractor will agree to furnish the necessary labor and material for the work desired by the Department at an expense not exceeding \$4000, as follows:

71	36" joints	@ \$19.00	\$1,349.00
8	20" joints	9.00	72.00
243	12" joints	5.00	1,215.00
150	6" joints	2.00	300.00
18	Hydrants	35.00	630.00
50	Valve boxes set	1.00	50.00
148	Ton miles	.50	74.00
423	Sq. yds. of paving	2.50	1,057.50
890	Cu. yds. excav.	.50	445.00
			<u>\$5,192.50</u>

I would respectfully ask that this money be provided by an issue of bonds and made available as soon as possible, in order that the Department may take advantage of the present opportunity.

Yours truly,

(signed) Henry S. Thompson  
Commissioner.

Transmitted to his Honor the Mayor,  
for his information



2nd: " Furthermore, the station must be shut down permanently in two years, or as soon as the Catskill water is available, when all this equipment will be of no further use."

If the facts were as stated in the report, the conclusion that the installation is inadvisable, would be obvious. Existing conditions, however, at the station are very different from those assumed in the report, and logically show, therefore, that the installation of the coal and ash handling plant would be advantageous.

The coal is, at present, unloaded by shovelling it into carts and then dumping it in a coal pile on the ground, whence the coal, as required, is shovelled into barrows and wheeled into the boiler room. The cost of the first part of this work, i. e., the unloading of the coal from the cars and depositing it in the pile, is estimated at about forty cents per ton. The work is performed by the contractor furnishing the coal. In 1912, 8,300 tons of coal were thus handled and the cost of this work, on the above basis would be . . . . . \$ 3,320.

To handle the coal from the pile into the boiler room and remove the ashes, requires six coal passers and two laborers, the yearly cost of which is . . . . . 7,300.

Total cost . . . . . 10,620.

Under the proposed plan it is assumed that one Engineman for one-fourth of his time, and four Laborers, will be required to unload the coal from the cars, to load and deliver it to the boiler-room, and to remove the ashes. The yearly cost for this Engineman and the Laborers would be . . . . . \$4,060.\*

The cost of the coal for operating the crane and repairs to the same are estimated at 1,500.

Total yearly cost . . . . . 5,560.

Therefore, annual saving . . . . . 5,060.

or say Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.)

\* An allowance of four laborers covers what is considered to be an excess of approximately one laborer above the actual requirements, but is included to make the estimate conservative.



The allowance made in the above figures for the Engineman, is \$410.60, which corresponds to one-fourth of his time. This Engineman is now regularly assigned to Millburn Station, so that no additional Engineman would have to be appointed, as suggested in the report under consideration.

If the contract is promptly approved, the plant can be installed by the middle of 1914, leaving at least a year and a half for operation before the Catskill water is <sup>made</sup> available. During this time the saving would be, say, \$7,500., or a little less than half the cost of the installation.

For one year after the Catskill water is delivered, the Millburn Station will be kept ready for operation, and the amount of coal required will be about two tons per day. The saving on handling this coal will be about \$250. per year, which would pay for about one-third of the Sinking Fund charges of that portion of the plant which has not been liquidated up to the time the Catskill water is introduced.

Furthermore, under normal conditions, in 1917 the Brooklyn system will be again regularly put into service and the amount of water pumped would, by the end of the year, be nearly the full capacity of the Millburn Station, when the saving would be more than sufficient to carry the cost of the equipment. From that time on, the saving would increase as the output of the station increased, so that in about two years more the plant would be entirely paid for and continue to be operated, leaving a net annual surplus of several thousand dollars.

The above figures show that if the proposed coal storage and coal and ash handling plant be installed at the present time, one-half of its cost would be saved within 18 months; that for the following year it would pay about one-third of the Sinking Fund charges due, and that within three years thereafter it would have entirely paid for itself and continue to leave a yearly surplus of several thousand dollars.

From the foregoing statements it seems unreasonable to leave this station, which represents an investment of several hundred thousand dollars and which, architecturally, is by far the best pumping station in Greater New York, without any facilities for handling coal and ashes, when such facilities can be provided with an actual ultimate saving to the City, and the unsightly



and wasteful coal heaps, which for so many years have marred the appearance of the station, will be thereby eliminated.

In accordance with the directions given at the meeting of the Board of Estimate held on November 26th, 1913, this matter will be taken up further with the Comptroller.

Yours very truly,

Deputy & Acting Commissioner.



December 5, 1913.

To the

Honorable Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to authority vested in me as Mayor of The City of New York under the provisions of the Greater New York Charter, as amended by Chapter 479 of the Laws of 1912, I hereby recommend to your Honorable Board the retirement from active service of William H. Conley, a Stationary Engineer in the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

I further recommend that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment grant to William H. Conley a pension of \$717.93 per annum, this amount being one-half of his average wages during the past three years, as provided in Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, such payments to continue during the life of said William H. Conley.

Mr. Conley has been in the service of The City since November 20, 1890. By reason of physical disability he now applies for the pension provided in the Charter for the retirement of employees in The City service after a period of twenty years. He has submitted a request that this recommendation be made to your Honorable Board and that his retirement be made effective January 1, 1914. His request is as follows:

"Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Oct. 21, 1913.

Hon. Henry S. Thompson,  
Commissioner, Department of Water Supply, Gas & Elec.  
Sir:

I respectfully request to be retired from service in the Department of Water Supply, Gas & Electricity, on half pay, in accordance with the laws of 1912, in relation to the retirement of veterans of the Civil War.

I was appointed in this Department in November, 1890, as Engineer, making 23 years of service.

I enlisted at New York City in the 79th Regiment, of Highlanders, N.Y.V., as a private, Company K, on May 13, 1861, and was honorably discharged for disability on August 19, 1861.

Very respectfully,  
William H. Conley,  
3061 Fulton Street,  
Borough of Brooklyn."



The above request is accompanied by the certificate of his physician, a copy of which is given herewith:

"Oct. 21st, 1913.

This is to certify that William H. Conley of 3061 Fulton St., Brooklyn, N. Y., has been under my care for the past six years for arterio sclerosis, an incurable condition, and that in 1907 he suffered an attack of apoplexy, and in his present condition he is not fully able to do the work required of him.

Very truly,

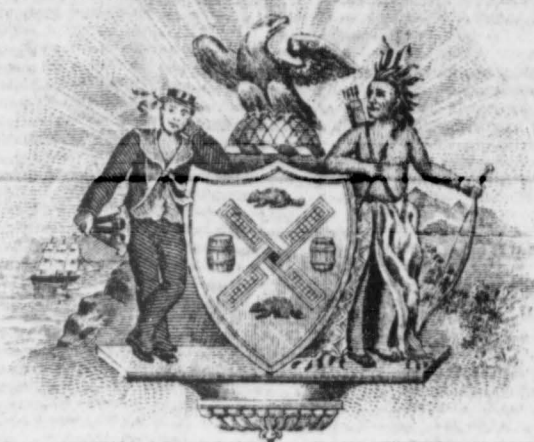
William J. Flannery, M.D."

I am convinced that Mr. Conley has justly earned the mark of appreciation of long and faithful service to The City of New York which was contemplated by those who inaugurated the provision for retirement in the City Charter.

Respectfully,

M a y o r.





*Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity,  
Commissioner's Office,*

*13-21 Park Row,*

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.

J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

*City of New York* December 6, 1913

Joseph Haag, Esq.,

Secretary, Board of Estimate & Apportionment.

Dear Sir:-

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter of Nov. 13th, transmitting certified copy of resolution of the Board, dated November 13, 1913, recommending the modification, in accordance with the suggestions in a report from the Comptroller, copy of which was attached to your letter, of the plan of this Department for the development of the Southfield Boulevard, Borough of Richmond, which had been submitted to the Board for approval.

On receipt of your letter I directed the Engineering Bureau to make a thorough study of both plans, their relative advantages, cost and expense of maintenance and operation. From the exhaustive reports made in accordance with these directions by my Chief Engineer and the Engineer in charge of the Mechanical Division, copies of which are appended hereto, the following facts appear:

1. Under the Department's plan the auxiliary stations along the Boulevard will be electrically operated. Under the plan suggested by the Comptroller, hereafter to be designated as the "modified plan", these stations will be operated by steam. Opposition must certainly be expected to this change by abutting owners and the Borough authorities in Richmond, especially as in the testimony given before the Commission appointed to condemn the lands to be purchased by the City for the installation of these stations, we declared that we would not establish steam operated pumping stations, smoke producing and requiring the handling of coal and ashes, and this testimony forms part of the official record of the proceedings of that commission.

2. The amount of water to be obtained from the whole system, under the modified plan, would be



about 11 million gallons per day, and this yield, under the Department's plan, would be about 12 million gallons per day, or one million gallons more. To make up this difference, it would be necessary, therefore, to keep one more of the old stations in operation than under our plans, and even then the reduction in pumping, and consequent improvement of the exceedingly unsatisfactory water furnished at the New Brighton Station, would be less than under our plan.

3. In the modified plan no provision is made for reserve pumping at the Grant City Station, which is the main station; only inadequate provision is made at the northernmost secondary, or auxiliary, station, and no provision at all at the remaining two stations. Under the Department's plan, adequate provision for pumping reserve is made, both at the new Grant City, or main, station, and at the auxiliary stations.

4. The cost of installation of the modified plan is estimated at \$74,000, and the cost of the Department's plant is estimated at about \$100,000, thus showing a difference in first cost, in favor of the modified plan, accepting the figures in the Comptroller's report, of \$26,000.

5. The annual cost of maintenance and operation of the whole system under the modified plan, would be about \$170,000, while the annual cost of maintenance and operation of the whole system, under the Department's plan, would be, in round figures, about \$115,000. There would thus be an annual difference in cost of maintenance and operation, in favor of the Department's plan, of \$55,000.

6. In one single year of operation, therefore the difference in the initial cost, in favor of the modified plan (\$26,000), would be offset and a balance of \$29,000 left in favor of the Department's plan. If the plant were operated for eighteen months, this surplus would amount to \$84,000, and would rapidly increase thereafter with the period of service.

7. At the end of the first period of continuous service we would have, under the modified plan, what in the Comptroller's report is properly described as simply "a serviceable plant for two or three years use", while under the Department's plan we would, on the contrary, have a good substantial plant, available for much longer and better service.



8. The installation of the substantial and effective plant recommended by this Department, would enable us to defer for, say, ten years, the laying of a second submarine pipe when the amount of gatekill water through the first submarine pipe would be no longer sufficient to provide for the needs of consumption in the Borough of Richmond, and the resulting economy by the use of our plant in this manner would probably amount to about \$300,000.

The above comparison of the features and relative merits of the two plans, which can be verified by the accompanying reports and calculations, can leave no possible doubt as to which one should be selected for the best interests of the City.

As, furthermore, the Borough of Richmond must have more water not simply "within two years" as stated in the Comptroller's report, but now or as soon as possible, owing to the critical condition of the supply, there should be no time lost in carrying on this work.

I therefore request the re-consideration, by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, of this matter, and speedy approval of the Department's plan and method of payment proposed; the cancellation of the request made by me on June 30, 1913 for an appropriation of \$80,000 for the completion of the Southfield Boulevard development, and the substitution therefor of the smaller appropriation of \$17,500, which, in addition to the previous appropriation already granted by the Board of \$82,000, will be sufficient to complete this work, owing to reductions in cost due to the modifications made by us for that purpose in the plans to be carried out.

I also request the return of the plans and specifications for this work now before the Board, so that the changes above alluded to may be made and the work carried on without further delay.

Yours very truly,

(signed) J.W.F. BENNETT

Deputy and Acting Commissioner.

Enclosures.



DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY, GAS & ELECTRICITY  
Bureau of Water Supply

IMdev  
ACS

Southfield Boulevard  
Development-  
Boro. of Richmond-

December 4, 1913

Hon. Henry S. Thompson,  
Commissioner.

Dear Sir:-

I return herewith letter addressed to you on Nov. 13th, by the Secretary of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, transmitting certified copy of resolution of the Board, dated Nov. 13th 1913, recommending that the form of contract, etc., and estimate of cost, totalling \$73,000. for equipment for main pumping station at Grant City, Borough of Richmond, be not approved, for the reasons given in the report, and further recommending that you prepare another plan modifying the present scheme as suggested in the Comptroller's report, copy of which was also transmitted for your information.

On receipt of this letter and report, I referred the same to Mechanical Engineer T. J. Cannon, who originally prepared the preliminary plans for the work under discussion, and requested him to make comparative estimates of cost of installation, maintenance and operation of the plan recommended by this Department and of that proposed in the Comptroller's report, and also estimate of maintenance and operation of the plant as it exists to-day. I append hereto copy of Mr. Cannon's report, fully giving the information above referred to.

Description of Plans-

The plan proposed by this Department may be briefly described as follows:

The four auxiliary driven well stations in the Southfield Boulevard, are to be operated by electrically driven plants located on lands adjoining the Boulevard on the west side, and purchased by the City for that purpose.

The water thus drawn from the wells will be de-



Southfield Blvd. Development-

Hon. H. S. T. ....2

livered through a collecting main into a receiving basin at the new Grant City Station, whence it will be pumped by the new Grant City pumping plant directly into the distribution system. The pumping at Grant City would be done by steam, and at that station the electric current required to operate the auxiliary stations would also be generated.

The pumping plant at the new Grant City Station will consist of three pumping units, two of which will be taken from the Sixth Street Station, Brooklyn, (Titus plant), and the third unit from the Baldwin Station (Brooklyn system). Three boilers will be provided and taken, one from the Titus plant at Sixth Street, above mentioned, one from the Titus plant at Jameco, and the third from the Baldwin Station (Brooklyn system). These three boilers have been substituted in place of the new boilers, which it was originally intended to purchase, because at the time the plans were prepared, in view of the existing conditions and the work then in contemplation elsewhere, these boilers were not available.

As soon as the new stations are completed and put into operation, assuming normal conditions, the stations at Tottenville and New Springville will be discontinued and the pumping at the West New Brighton Station will be reduced by, say, 1,500,000 gallons per day.

The daily supply to be obtained under these conditions, is estimated at 12 million gallons.

The plan recommended in the Comptroller's report, which for facility of reference will hereafter be designated as the "modified plan", may be described as follows:

Only three of the auxiliary driven well stations on the Southfield Boulevard would be put into service, No. 3 being omitted, and the three stations would be



Southfield Blvd. Development-

Hon. H. E. T. .... 3

operated by a team. For that purpose the present temporary station, i.e., No. 4, which is erected on the Boulevard, would be made permanent and steam plants would be erected at Stations Nos. 1 and 2, on the lands purchased by the City, the boilers, pumps and appurtenances to be picked up from the abandoned stations in Brooklyn. Additional structures would be required at Stations Nos. 1 and 2.

These two stations would deliver the water from the wells, through a collecting main into a receiving basin at the new Grant City pumping station, whence it would be pumped by the new Grant City pumping plant directly into the distribution system. At Station No. 4, the water from the wells would also be pumped directly into the distribution system.

The New Grant City Station would be practically the same as under the Department's plan, except that no reserve pumping capacity is provided, only two pumps being figures on instead of three as estimated in the Department's plans.

On the completion and installation of this plan, the stations at Tottenville and New Springville would be shut down and it is assumed that the reduction in the pumping at West New Brighton would be the same as under our plan.

The total yield of the whole system under the modified plan may be estimated on the same basis assumed to compute the yield from the Department's plan, at 11 m.g.d., or about one million (1,000,000) gallons per day less than under the Department's plan.

It will be noticed that the main difference between the two plans is that the auxiliary stations, under the Department's plan, are electrically operated, while under the modified plan they would be operated by steam. A second difference which should be also noted, is the decreased yield of the modified plan, i.e., one million gallons per day, as compared with that of the Department's plan. In order to make



## Southfield Blvd. Development

Mem. H. S. E. ... -4-

this yield, equal to that obtained from the Department's plan, the New Springville Station would, therefore have to be kept in service, and even then the reduction in pumping at New Brighton would be less than under the Department's plan.

Before entering into the comparison of the respective merit of the two plans under discussion, it should be stated that when the Commission to condemn the lands purchased by the City for the auxiliary stations was appointed, the City's representatives testified that no steam operated stations would be erected on those lands and that the only installations to be made were those shown in the plans exhibited, which provided for electrically operated stations. The testimony thus given is part of the record of the condemnation proceedings. Should we now undertake to disregard the statements made by us at the hearings, we will in all probability encounter considerable opposition on the part of property owners and, very likely, from the Borough authorities, the results and legal effects of which it is difficult to forecast but which, very probably, would tend to delay, if not to defeat, the whole project.

We will assume, however, for present purposes, the practicability of the modified plan, and proceed to compare it with the Department's plan.

### Estimates of Cost (See attached report):

The cost of the modified plan is estimated  
at..... \$74,000.

That of the Department's plan, as above  
outlined, is about..... 100,000

The difference in first cost, in favor of the  
Comptroller's plan, accepting his estimate  
which we have no means of verifying, would be,  
therefore..... \$26,000



Southfield Blvd. Development -

Hon. H. S. T. . . . . 5

It should be noted that the cost of the Department's plan has been reduced from the original figures (\$155,800) by the substitution of boilers, previously explained, and also by the utilization of a portion of the distribution main for collecting purposes and the substitution of vitrified pipe for cast iron pipe for the easterly leg of the collecting main. These two last changes had been made in order to lower, as much as possible, the cost of construction, although, as a strictly engineering proposition they would not be advisable.

Maintenance and Operation (See Appendix "D" to attached report):

The annual cost of maintenance and operation of the whole system, under the modified plan, would be, (including the cost of operating the New Springville station), in round figures, about \$170,000

The annual cost of maintenance and operation of the whole system, under the Department's plan, would be, in round figures, about 115,000

There would thus be an annual difference in cost of maintenance and operation, in favor of the Department's plan, of \$ 55,000

In one single year of operation, therefore, this annual saving would not only offset the difference in first cost in favor of the modified plan (\$26,000), but leave a balance of \$29,000, which, if the plant were operated for eighteen months would amount to \$34,000, rapidly increasing thereafter with the period of service.

This result might easily have been anticipated, bearing in mind the electrically operated stations under the Department's plan can be properly supervised and run by very few men, while the four steam operated stations in the modified plan, and the New Springville station, must be manned with an adequate force for running the engines and boilers and handling the coal and ashes, etc.

Furthermore, at the end of the first period, of continuous service, the City would have, under the Department's plan, not what is properly classified in the Comptroller's report as simple "a serviceable plant for



## Southfield Blvd. Developments -

Mon. H. S. T. . . . . 6

two or three years use," but a good substantial plant, available for much longer and better service, if required. This advantage in the character of the two pumping plants is of much more importance than appears to have been given to it. We should bear in mind that, even after the Catskill water has been delivered to Staten Island, this development in the Southfield Boulevard will have a two-fold useful purpose, i. e., 1st, as a reserve in case of accident to the submarine pipe to Staten Island, which is one of the longest large submarine pipes in the world and the one involving the greatest difficulties in laying or repairing, owing to traffic conditions, currents and depths of water; 2nd, as a temporary supply when the capacity of the first submarine pipe no longer suffices for the consumption in Staten Island and a second main is required. In that case, the laying of the second main may be postponed until the local supply, plus the capacity of the first main, is insufficient, and a corresponding saving in the interest on the cost of a second main will thus be saved.

The value of this reserve from the Southfield Boulevard development, may be understood by stating that it will be equivalent to nearly fifty (50) per cent of the total capacity of the first submarine pipe, so that, under normal conditions, it should suffice for the increase in consumption during a period of, say, ten years after the supply delivered through the first submarine pipe is no longer sufficient to provide for the consumption, and that the annual interest charges of a second submarine pipe, based on an estimated cost of \$1,100,000 would be, say, \$66,000., including therein interest, sinking fund charges and repairs, which, when required, will necessarily be costly, so that for a period of ten years, these charges will amount to \$660,000. As the charges of maintenance and operation of the Southfield Boulevard development are only \$55,000 a year, when all its stations are in service delivering their full capacity, and this would not be required until near the end of the ten year period and at its beginning a single unit would be started, supplemented by others as



Southfield Blvd. Development-

Hon. H. S. T. ....7

required, the large economy to be secured by this method of operation is evident and probably would amount to about \$300,000.

It is stated in the Comptroller's report that "there can be no doubt that the Borough must have more water within two years". This is a correct statement, but falls far short from properly describing existing conditions. They are such that we have been compelled to assign the necessary force for house inspection and testing of mains, so as to check waste and reduce consumption as much as possible, in order to avoid a threatened shortage in the supply, and have further recommended the installation of a temporary plant at Station No. 1. The Borough of Richmond needs more water, not "within two years", but now or as soon as possible. This additional supply should be provided without loss of time, not only to meet the requirements of consumers, but to cut down the expenses of operation of the present system. The annual cost of maintenance and operation of all the existing pumping stations in the Borough of Richmond, exclusive of interest and sinking fund charges, is, in round figures \$153,000, and on completion of the plans recommended by the Department the total cost of operation would be reduced to \$115,000, (\$55,000 of which would, as already stated, be chargeable to the operation of the Southfield Boulevard development), or \$38,000 less, which is equivalent to a saving of over \$3,000 per month.

The total cost of the Department's plan, as already stated, is estimated at \$100,000, i.e.,

1. Main plant .....	\$52,000.	
2. Auxiliary plants, including electrical transmission.....	<u>30,000.</u>	\$82,000
3. Collecting main .....		<u>17,500.</u>
Total .....		\$99,500.

or, say, \$100,000.



Southfield Blvd. Development-

Hon. H. S. T. .... 8

The expense of the first two items can be covered by the appropriation of \$82,000 already granted by the Board of Estimate for this work, on August 31, 1911, and an appropriation of \$17,500 should be made to cover the expenses of Item 3, cancelling at the same time the request made by you on June 30, 1913, for an appropriation of \$80,000 for the completion of the Southfield Boulevard development.

The urgent need of providing an additional supply to the Borough of Richmond, and the preponderant and palpable advantages of the Department's plan over that suggested in the Comptroller's report being evident, I would recommend that these facts be laid before the Board of Estimate with a request for reconsideration of the matter and speedy approval of the Department's plan, and method of paying for the same above recommended, and for the return to us of the plans, form of contract and specifications previously submitted, so that we may make thereon the changes already outlined and the work then carried into effect without further delay.

Yours respectfully,

  
Chief Engineer

Enclosure-

Copy of Report from Mr. Cannon

Copy for information of  
Deputy Commissioner Bowe.



TJG-MT

SOUTHFIELD BOULEVARD DEVELOPMENT  
(GRANT CITY)

December 2, 1913

Mr. I. M. deVarona,  
Chief Engineer.

Dear Sir:

I return herewith letter addressed to Commissioner Henry S. Thompson on the 13th instant by Joseph Haag, Secretary of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment relative to the non-approval of form of contract, estimates, etc., for furnishing, delivering and installing pumping plant in Grant City at an estimated cost of Seventy-three thousand (\$73,000.) Dollars. Attached thereto is a copy of the resolution of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for denying the request of the Commissioner for the approval of the contract; also copy of report made to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment by the Comptroller, William A. Prendergast. As the report of the Comptroller to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment proposes an alternative scheme and in order to make a comparison I have prepared four estimates attached hereto as follows:

Appendix A - Cost of operating present pumping stations in the Borough of Richmond based on statistics for the first and second quarter of 1913.

Appendix B - Estimated cost of operating steam pumping plants as outlined in report of the Comptroller to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment dated November 1, 1913, based upon cost of operating present Boulevard (#4) Stations and other stations in the Borough of Richmond during the first six months of 1913.



Appendix C - Estimated cost of operation of combined steam and electric plant, as proposed by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, modified so as to permit the use of water tube boilers and other equipment now in stations out of service.

Appendix D - Showing the comparative total annual cost of operation of pumping plants in the Borough of Richmond, for an approximate yield of twelve (12) million gallons daily, viz.:  
1st: Present pumping plants  
2nd: (Scheme #1) Steam pumping plants proposed in report of Comptroller to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, supplemented by pumpage from part of present equipment.  
3rd: (Scheme #3) Steam Electric Development as proposed by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, supplemented by pumpage from part of the present equipment.

and wish to report as follows:

In the report to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment there is outlined a proposition alternative to that proposed by the Department, in which the general scheme is to maintain the present temporary pumping plant known as Boulevard Auxiliary Pumping Station #4; to abandon the development at the location known as Boulevard #3 and to substitute for the electrical equipment proposed for Boulevard Auxiliary Stations #1 and #2 a steam-driven equipment of the engine-driven centrifugal type delivering water to the main Grant City Station in the same manner as proposed by the Department. At the main pumping station at Grant City, the same equipment practically as outlined in the Department will be maintained except that the electric generating plant will be eliminated. The following suggestions and recommendations are quoted from the above and discussed, to wit:

"Par. 1. - The removal of two pumps from the Sixth Street Station with all accessories and connections to the New Grant City Station, and the re-erection there of the pumps exactly as arranged in their present location, and thereby avoid the



purchase of new equipment, special castings, etc."

The 6th Street pumps are designed for a lower lift than that required to pump water in the distribution mains at Grant City and they will have to be re-built and fitted with new plungers of smaller diameter, thereby reducing their capacity and making them available for working against the increased head. In the plants now being dismantled such fittings, special castings and valves as are proper for use in the new installation will be placed at the disposal of the contractor and he may use same in the construction in lieu of new material.

"Par. 2. - The removal and installation in the new Grant City Station of a battery of water-tube boilers from some discontinued pumping station, of sufficient capacity to supply steam to the two pumps above mentioned, with boiler feed pumps and accessories.

At the time of the preparation of the contract and specifications hereinbefore mentioned, for the mechanical equipment for this development, consideration was not given to the usage of any of the boilers in the present pumping plants, inasmuch as such as were available then had been allotted to other anticipated improvements. The recent shutting down of pumping plants in the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens, however, has made it possible to re-allot the available boilers and provide the following equipment for the improvement at Grant City, i.e.

- One (1) B. & W. boiler from 6th Street Station, Brooklyn
- One (1) Sterling boiler from Jameco Station, Jameco, L. I.
- One (1) Heine boiler from Baldwin Station, Baldwin, L. I.

The installation as outlined will result in a reduction in the initial cost of the boiler plant, which is about all that can be said in its favor, as in the writer's opinion every month's delay in the completion of the installation and of the shortening of the useful life of this proposed plant, makes a material inroad on this saving on first cost.



S

"Par. 3. - The removal and installation in the two new buildings upon the Southfield Boulevard southerly of Grant City, of the two pumps and engines now in the disused station at Rosedale, L. I., the erection of a cheap and temporary boiler house alongside of each station, and the installation in each of one suitable boiler from discontinued stations, with feed pumps and accessories complete."

The scheme proposed above is not advisable from an economical standpoint as the charges for wages for the small amount of work done is prohibitive as may be seen by examining Appendix B, and where the salary charge amounts to \$17,500 per annum or over two-thirds the total cost of operating these two stations. Further objection to placing steam plants at these two points is that the City may be subject to damages inasmuch as building steam plants there now is contrary to the facts testified to by the Department at the hearing before the Commission for Taking the Land necessary for this improvement to the effect that no such steam plants would be installed at each of these points.

"Para. 4. - The connection for direct suction of the wells now in service at Grant City with the pumps to be installed in the new Station, and the discontinuance of the ~~Sixfold~~ Station," ~~and the~~

The scheme proposed by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity entirely included the abolition of the old Grant City Pumping Station, and the connecting up of the present wells in the new pumping station.

"Para. 5. - The maintenance and operation of the temporary station on the Boulevard until the Catskill supply is available."



The operation and maintenance of this plant is inadvisable as will be seen by examining Appendix B, which shows that while its present yield is but 2 m.g.d. the total annual cost of operation is over \$26,000. Furthermore, this plant in its present condition constitutes a nuisance and is the subject of many complaints from property owners and city officials in the Borough of Richmond.

"Par. 6. The installation of a collecting main of 10" and 16" pipe from the most southerly station and wells upon the Southfield Boulevard to the new Station at Grant City.

This collecting main is in line with the general scheme outlined by the Department to collect and deliver all the water from the four auxiliary pumping stations to the main Grant City Pumping Station there to be pumped direct into the distribution system; it being a duplication of the southern branch of the collecting main. In connection with this collecting main it may be possible to reduce the cost of same materially by using until the arrival of the Catskill supply part of the section of the distribution main in the Southfield Boulevard between Stations #1 and 4, providing there are no consumers on this line. The present estimated cost of collecting main under the above arrangement, i.e., \$52,800, would be reduced by approximately \$35,300, making a net cost as in memorandum given to Mr. Brush for this part of the development \$17,500.

"Par. 7. The erection at Grant City of a steel smoke stack, instead of a brick stack.

The installation of the old boiler equipment necessitates the application of forced draft in order to burn a small anthracite coal. This will permit of a reduction of the diameter and height of stack required



in the main pumping station thereby materially reducing the cost of same. In the matter of stack to be used, as this plant will be held in reserve for the Catskill supply it seems for obvious reasons only one of the self-supporting type either of steel or radical brick should be installed. The low cost of maintenance for the latter recommends itself.

By referring to the statement made in the report to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to the effect that the development proposed therein can be executed at a cost not exceeding \$74,000, it would appear that this estimate is a minimum one on account of the uncertainties arising in the handling of old and used material and furthermore apparently no consideration has been given to the probable increase in the cost that may result from damages against the City due to its action that might under the circumstances constitute a nuisance.

In referring to the statement in the report to the effect that the estimated cost of operating the new Grant City Station and the two auxiliary stations is \$60,000, and that this will result in a saving of more than \$10,000, in the annual operating cost, I wish to state that based upon statistics of the first and second quarters of 1913, for pumping stations in the Borough of Richmond, the estimated cost of operating these three stations as proposed in this report would be over \$67,500, and to this would have to be added the present annual cost of operating Boulevard #4, i.e., \$26,100, making a total cost for operation of plant yielding 6.5 m.g.d. of over \$93,600.



I.M.deV-

The cost of this yield of 5.5 m.g.d. from the above mentioned stations will be about \$76,500, making a total annual cost for the 12 m.g. yield amount to approximately \$170,000, per annum. The total cost for operating all the pumping stations, (for producing approximately 12 m.g.d.), under the scheme proposed by the Department, which will include the operation of

West New Brighton Pumping Station (2.0 m.g.d.)  
 Clove Road Pumping Station (1.1)  
 Bull's Head Pumping Station (1.4)

as shown in Appendix D, will cost approximately \$115,000 per annum, making a difference in favor of the scheme proposed by the Department, of about \$55,000 per annum.

As to the cost of plant, exclusive of work now completed or under construction as originally proposed by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity:

Contract #1

Main Grant City Station.		
Section I.	\$4,000	
" II.	24,000	
" III.	28,000	
" IV.	17,000	\$73,000

Contract #2.

Auxiliary Pumping Station-Mech. Equipment.		
Section I.	\$15,000	\$15,000

Contract #3.

Transmission Line.		
Section I.	15,000	15,000

Contract #4

Collecting Main.		
Section I.	52,800	52,800
		<u>\$155,800</u>

Reduction in cost of plant  
 using apparatus now available  
 at various pumping stations,  
 is as follows:



12-2-13

I.M.deV

	Brt.Fwd.	\$155,800
Contract #1, Main Grant City,	\$21,000	
" #2 Collecting Mains,&c.	35,300	56,300
<hr/>		
Net funds required to complete whole development as revised.....		\$99,500

As to the cost of operation, I wish to refer you to Appendix D, which shows that the annual costs of producing the daily yield are as follows:

	<u>Yield M.G.D.</u>	<u>Cost of Improvement.</u>	<u>Annual cost of Operation.</u>
Present Equipment,	11.7	0	\$153,800
Scheme No.1.	11.9	\$74,000	170,000
" " 2	12.0	99,500	115,000

It is evident from the above that the economy in annual operation under scheme No.2, as proposed by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, over that under Scheme No.1, as proposed by the Comptroller, is about \$55,000, per annum; while the first cost under Scheme #1, proposed by the latter, will be about \$26,000, less than the scheme proposed by the Department; and it is apparent that the operation of the former scheme, as proposed by the Department, for a period of less than one year, will prove the more economical one.

Yours respectfully,

Enos.  
 Appendices A, B, C, and D.  
 Letter to Commr.fr.Bd.of Est. 11/1/13  
 Report of Resolution. 11-1/13.

Mechanical Engineer.



APPENDIX A

REPORT OF SOUTHFIELD BOULEVARD DEVELOPMENT

(Cost of operating present pumping stations in the Borough of Richmond, based on statistics for 1st and 2nd quarters, 1913)

<u>Pumping Station</u>	<u>Yield per Day</u>	<u>Fuel</u>	<u>Supplies</u>	<u>Main- to- nance</u>	<u>Salaries and Wages</u>	<u>Total</u>
Grant City	2.0	\$11,500	\$320	\$2500	\$8750	\$23570
Blvd. #4	2.1	14,000	350	3000	8750	26100
West New Brighton	3.7	13,300	400	2500	25700	31900
Grove Road	1.7	8,400	250	2300	8750	19400
Bull's Head	1.2	8,100	250	2000	8750	19100
New Springville	0.8	8,812	160	1560	8872	19400
Tottenville	0.5	4,620	150	910	8820	14500
	12.0	\$68,732	\$1880	\$14470	\$69392	\$153470



APPENDIX B

REPORT ON SOUTHFIELD BOULEVARD DEVELOPMENT

Estimated cost of operation of steam pumping plants as outlined in the report of the Comptroller to the Board of Estimate, dated November 1, 1913, based upon the cost of operation of present Boulevard No. 4 Station and other stations in the Borough of Richmond during the first six months of 1913:

	<u>Grant City</u>	<u>Blvd. No. 4</u>	<u>Blvd. No. 3</u>	<u>Blvd. No. 2</u>	<u>Blvd. No. 1</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yield	1.5	2.0	0.0	1.5	1.5	6.5
Fuel	\$19,200	\$14,700	-	\$3,200	\$4,100	41200
Supplies and Lubricants	400	300	-	200	200	1100
Maintenance and Repairs	3,500	3,000	-	400	400	7300
Salaries & Wages	18,400	8,500	-	8,500	8500	43900
	\$41,500	\$26,500	-	\$12,300	\$13200	\$93500



APPENDIX C

REPORT ON SOUTFIELD BOULEVARD DEVELOPMENT

Estimated cost of operation of combined steam-electric plant, as proposed by Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, modified so as to permit of the use of water tube boilers equipped with forced draft, now in the Department.

	<u>Grant City</u>	<u>Elvd. #4</u>	<u>Elvd. #3</u>	<u>Elvd. #2</u>	<u>Elvd. #1</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yield	1.5	2.0	1.0	1.5	1.5	7.5
Fuel	27,500	-	-	-	-	27,500
Supplies and Lubricants	600	100	100	100	100	1,000
Maintenance and Repairs	4,000	150	150	150	150	4,600
Salaries & Wages	16,400	1625	1625	1625	1625	24,900
	<hr/> \$50,500	1875	1875	1875	1875	\$58,000

\*This gives actual yield at Grant City Pumping Station. All the yield from four auxiliary stations will be delivered to the Grant City Pumping Station and pumped into distribution system at that station.



APPENDIX D

REPORT ON SOUTHFIELD BOULEVARD DEVELOPMENT, (Based on statistics for 1st and 2nd Quarters, '13)

	<u>Present Plant</u>		<u>SCHEME #1</u> Present plants with additional steam pumping plants proposed in report to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment		<u>SCHEME #2</u> Present plants in conjunction with steam-electric development, as proposed by Department of Water Supply, G&E	
	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Grant City	2.0	\$23070	1.5	\$43,500	1.5	\$50,000.
Boulevard #4	2.1	26100	2.0	26,000	1.5	2,000.
" #3	0	---	0.0	---	1.5	2,000
" #2	0	---	1.5	11,500	1.5	2,000
" #1	0	---	1.5	12,500	1.5	2,000
			6.5	\$93,500	7.5	\$58,000
W. New Brighton	3.8	\$31900	2.0	17,500	2.0	17,500
Clove Road	#1.1	19,000	1.1(1.7)	19,500	1.1(1.7)	19,500
Bull's Head	1.4	19100	1.4	20,000	1.4	20,000
New Springville	.9	19400	0.8	19,500	0.0	---
Tottenville	.5	14500	0.0	---	0.0	---
	11.7	\$153470	11.9	\$170,000	12.0	\$115,000

#At Clove Road the total pumpage is 1.7 m.g.d., of which about 0.6 m.g.d. is taken from Clove Reservoir and the balance(1.1) is the actual yield.



December 6, 1913.

To the

Honorable Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to authority vested in me as Mayor of The City of New York under the provisions of the Greater New York Charter, as amended by Chapter 479 of the Laws of 1912, I hereby recommend to your Honorable Board the retirement from active service of Richard Stewart, a Stationary Engineer in the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

I further recommend that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment grant to Richard Stewart a pension of \$812.81 per annum, this amount being one-half of his average wages during the past three years, as provided in Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, such payments to continue during the life of said Richard Stewart.

Mr. Stewart has been in the service of The City since April 1, 1881. He resigned on June 10, 1886 and was reappointed on October 12, 1894, since which time his employment has been continuous. By reason of physical disability he now applies for the pension provided in the Charter for the retirement of employes in The City service after a period of twenty years. He has submitted a request that this recommendation be made to your Honorable Board and that his retirement be made effective January 1, 1914. His request is as follows:

"Brooklyn, May 6, 1913.

Hon. Henry S. Thompson,

Com. of Dept. of Water Supply, Gas & Elecy.

Sir:

I respectfully request to be retired from all service in the Department on half pay, in accordance with Section 165 of the Charter, amended by Chapter 879 of the Laws of 1912, in relation to the retirement of veterans of the Civil War.

I was appointed in this Department in June 1878 as an Engineer at the Ridgewood Pumping Station and served until 1865. Was then laid off. Came back in the Department as an Engineer in the month of September 1894 and have been employed ever since in this Department as an Engineer. Total service in the Department 25 years and eight months.

Enlisted in 1861, Company I, 10th New York Volunteers. Discharged in 1863 for wounds received in battle. Total service in United States Army two years.

Richard Stewart,

235 Norwood Ave., Brooklyn."



The above request is accompanied by the certificate of his physician, a copy of which is given herewith:

"May 6, 1913.

This certifies that Richard Stewart, age 71+ is ill, under my care, suffering from chronic muscular and joint rheumatism.

V. Barber, M.D."

I am convinced that Mr. Stewart has justly earned the mark of appreciation of long and faithful service to The City of New York which was contemplated by those who inaugurated the provision for retirement in the City Charter.

Respectfully,

M a y o r.



B

THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 10, 1913.

Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
M a y o r,  
The City of New York.

S i r :-

I have investigated the complaint of Margaret Steiger, who states that proper protection against fire is not afforded to her premises, by reason of the absence of water in the street in which she resides.

Pueblo Avenue, Holliswood, L. I., is not a legally opened street. The Jamaica Water Supply Company operate in this district and, probably on the consent of the property owners, they at present maintain a 2" main in this street for the distribution of water for domestic purposes only. If The City's water system extended to this street the Department would not install a main because the street has not been legally opened, and while the Department has authority to direct the private water companies to afford fire protection, in this instance it could not direct the company to install a larger water main and connect hydrants for the reason already given.

Respectfully,



Commissioner.



B

THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 10, 1913.



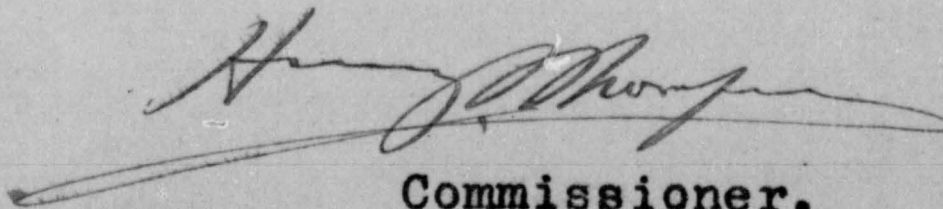
Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
Mayor,  
The City of New York.

S i r :-

In connection with the appeal of Mr. G. D. Matthews in behalf of William T. Crouch, for promotion to foreman, would advise you that Mr. Crouch is now assigned as an Assistant Foreman and by reason of a recent promotion examination became eligible for advancement.

In the existing salary schedule there is a vacancy for a foreman. This place, however, has been eliminated from the salary schedule for next year. Should Mr. Crouch now be advanced to the vacancy which will exist up to the first of the year the fact that he is a Civil War Veteran would, I believe, insure for him indefinite employment, but by reason of the elimination of one foreman next year I would be compelled to lay off one of the present foreman; in other words, owing to the fact that Mr. Crouch is a veteran, I could not dispense with his services and continue to employ a non-veteran. The men now employed in the Borough of Brooklyn under the title of foreman have had such assignment for years and I would not consider it fair to now advance Mr. Crouch, knowing that by such promotion one of the other foremen would have to be dropped.

Respectfully,

  
Commissioner.



December 11, 1913.

To the

Honorable Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to authority vested in me as Mayor of The City of New York under the provisions of the Greater New York Charter, as amended by Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, I hereby recommend to your Honorable Board the retirement from active service of James A. Smith, an Engineman in the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

I further recommend that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment grant to James A. Smith a pension of \$862.80 per annum, this amount being half of his average compensation during the past three years, as provided in Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, such payments to continue during the life of said James A. Smith.

Mr. Smith has been continuously employed in the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity since September 13, 1883. By reason of physical disability he applies for the pension provided in the Charter for the retirement of employees in The City service after a period of thirty years. He has submitted a request that this recommendation be made to your Honorable Board and that his retirement be made effective January 1, 1914. His request is as follows:

"Jameco, New York,  
Sept. 15, 1913.

"Hon. Henry Thompson,  
Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas & Electricity.  
Dear Sir:

I respectfully request to be retired from service in this department on half pay in according to the Law of 1912. I was appointed to the department in Sept. 3d, 1883, as an Engineer in charge. My age is seventy nine years. I have served continuously as such for thirty years.

Yours very respectfully,  
James A. Smith."

The above request is accompanied by the certificate of his physician, a copy of which is given herewith;

"This is to certify that I have been acquainted with Mr. James A. Smith the past 25 years, that he is 79 years



of age and is suffering from albummuria and senility.  
Dr. P. M. Wood.

Sept. 16, 1913.  
Jameco, N. Y."

I am convinced that Mr. Smith has justly earned the mark of appreciation of long and faithful service to The City of New York which was contemplated by those who inaugurated the provision for retirement in the City Charter.

Respectfully,

M a y o r.



THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW,

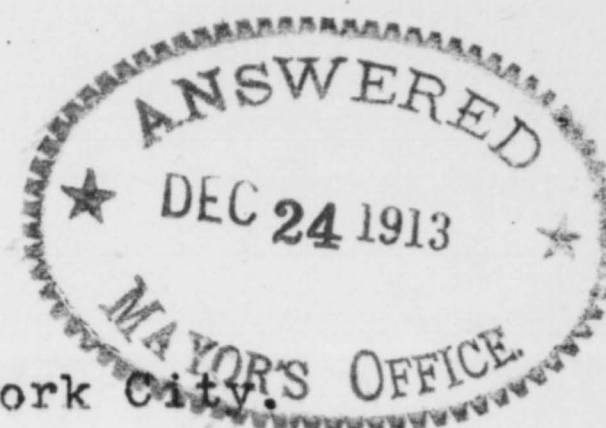
HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

LFM-E

NEW YORK,

December 11, 1913

*ma*



Mr. Frederick Benzinger,

376 East 138th Street, New York City.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your request for reinstatement to the position of Oiler, from which position you were removed, I wish to state that there is at present no vacancy to that position in the Department and your application therefore cannot be considered.

Yours very truly,

*J. W. F. Bennett*

Deputy Commissioner.



J

THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 12, 1913.

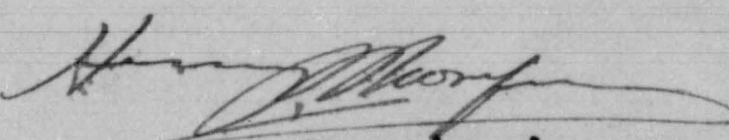
Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
M a y o r,  
City of New York.

S i r:

Referring to the letter of Mr. Louis Goldenberg, of Cedar Manor, Jamaica, who petitions for the installation of street lamps on Fisher Avenue, from New York Avenue to Burr Avenue:

By reason of the exhaustion of funds against which the expense of street lighting is chargeable, Mr. Goldenberg's application must be deferred until next spring. Even if funds were available, the Department's policy is not to require the lighting company to install lamps during the winter months, the Borough officials being strongly opposed to making street excavations.

Respectfully,

  
Commissioner.



J

THE CITY OF NEW YORK.  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

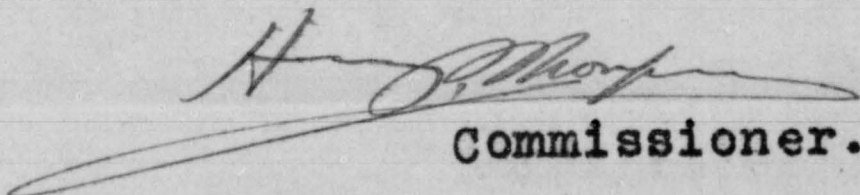
NEW YORK, December 12, 1913.

Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
M a y o r,  
City of New York.

S i r:  
Relative to the letter addressed to you by  
Mr. George H. Davis, of 3054 Kingsbridge  
Terrace, regarding lack of street lighting  
in his vicinity:

I have issued orders for the installation of  
lamps on Albany Crescent, which work will be  
done very shortly. The Department also in-  
tends to install an additional electric arc  
lamp on Bailey Avenue, between Albany Cres-  
cent and 231st Street.

Respectfully,

  
Commissioner.



December 12, 1913.

To the

Honorable Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to authority vested in me as Mayor of The City of New York under the provisions of the Greater New York Charter, as amended by Chapter 479 of the Laws of 1912, I hereby recommend to your Honorable Board the retirement from active service of Hiram M. Able, a Laborer in the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

I further recommend that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment grant to Hiram M. Able a pension of \$278.26 per annum, this amount being one-half of his average wages during the past three years, as provided in Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, such payments to continue during the life of said Hiram M. Able.

Mr. Able entered the service of The City as Watchman on June 16, 1882 and continued as such until December 7 of the same year. He was reemployed as Laborer on December 12, 1892. With the exception of eight months absence, caused by illness, his service has been continuous since January 1, 1897. By reason of physical disability he now applies for the pension provided in the Charter for the retirement of employees in The City service after a period of twenty years. He has submitted request that this recommendation be made to your Honorable Board and that his retirement be made effective January 1, 1914. His request is as follows:

"Carmel, N.Y.  
Nov. 11, 1913.

To Mr. Henry S. Thompson,  
Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas & Electricity,  
N. Y. City.

My dear Sir:

I am employed by the City of New York, in the Department of Water Supply, at Carmel, Putnam County, N. Y. Since 1870 I have worked for the City at different times, and for the past 18 years have been in continuous service.

In 1870 I was employed at Kirk Lake. Afterwards at Lake Gilead, and later at Lake Glenida.

On November 8th, 1911, while on duty, I was stricken with apoplexy, and for eight (8) months was not able to



work. Then on a doctor's certificate I was reinstated in the service.

I am 70 years of age, in my 71st year. I am a veteran of the Civil War, having enlisted in the 9th N. Y. Volunteers (Hawkins Zouaves) on the 2nd day of September 1861 for 2 years, and was discharged from reason of expiration of time of service September 2nd, 1863.

I now wish to be retired on half pay by the Department. Trusting you may grant my request, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Hiram M. Able."

The above request is accompanied by the certificate of his physician, a copy of which is given herewith:

"Nov. 17, 1913.

Hiram M. Able was under my care from November 1911 to August 1912. At this time he had apoplexy and was totally incapacitated for work. As a result of this attack and his advanced age, seventy last August, and general physical debility, in my opinion he is permanently incapacitated from performing any active and continuous labor.

Francis J. McKown, M.D."

I am convinced that Mr. Able has justly earned the mark of appreciation of long and faithful service to The City of New York which was contemplated by those who inaugurated the provision for retirement in the City Charter.

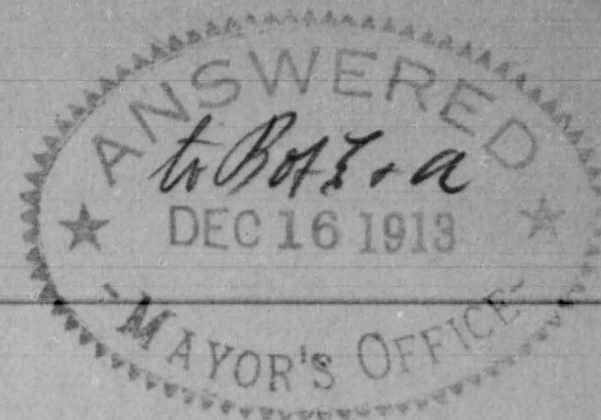
Respectfully,

M a y o r.



J

THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.



HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 15, 1913.

Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
Mayor,  
City of New York.

S i r:

An application for retirement on pension has been filed by Mr. James Farrell, employed as Keeper in this Department and assigned to the Borough of Brooklyn.

Mr. Farrell claims that he entered The City service on May 1, 1886 as a Laborer. The earliest record of his employment which I have been able to find among the minute books of the former Department of City Works of the old City of Brooklyn, shows that he was appointed as a Laborer on July 11, 1889 at \$2.50 per day. On December 31, 1893 he received an appointment as Keeper at Gowanus Pipe Yard and his salary was fixed at \$1200. per annum. Four years later his salary was reduced to \$1,000. per annum and on November 29, 1898 it was restored to \$1200. per annum. On June 1, 1900 he received an advance of \$300. His services have been continuous since the date of his entrance, according to the records which I have been able to locate.

Mr. Farrell is a veteran of the Civil War and has been employed for many years in excess of the time required for veterans. While the amendment of the Act relating to pensioning of City employees does not require that a veteran shall produce any evidence of his physical or mental condition, Mr. Farrell has furnished a doctor's certificate which sets forth that he is suffering from certain chronic ailments that make it impossible for him to actively continue his work.

On the basis of his salary during the past three years, Mr. Farrell is entitled to a pension of \$750. per annum.

I am enclosing herewith for your signature a letter to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, which I would ask that you kindly present for favorable action.

Respectfully,

Commissioner.

Enclosure.



December 15, 1913.

To the

Honorable Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to authority vested in me as Mayor of The City of New York under the provisions of the Greater New York Charter, as amended by Chapter 479 of the Laws of 1912, I hereby recommend to your Honorable Board the retirement from active service of James Farrell, a Keeper in the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

I further recommend that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment grant to James Farrell a pension of \$750.00 per annum, this amount being one-half of his average salary during the past three years, as provided in Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, such payments to continue during the life of said James Farrell.

Mr. Farrell has been in the service of The City since July 11, 1889. By reason of physical disability he now applies for the pension provided in the Charter for the retirement of employees in The City service after a period of twenty years. He has submitted a request that this recommendation be made to your Honorable Board and that his retirement be made effective January 1, 1914. His request is as follows:

"November 24th, 1913.

Hon. Henry S. Thompson,  
Commissioner,

Dear Sir:

I respectfully request to be retired on half pay to take effect on Dec. 31st, 1913, in accordance with Section 165 of the Charter, as amended by Chapter 479 of the Laws of 1912, in relation to the retirement of veterans of the Civil War. I enlisted in the Navy on May 23rd, 1864 and was honorably discharged Sep. 1, 1865.

I was appointed in the City Service on May 1st, 1886, as Laborer. On June 20th, 1893, appointed as Keeper of the Gowanus Pipe Yard at \$1200. per annum. On May - 1900 my salary was increased to \$1500. per annum. I have been employed continuously since the date of my original appointment.

Enclosed please find certificate of Dr. Dusseldorf.

Very respectfully,

James Farrell,

Keeper, Pipe Yard."



The foregoing request is accompanied by the certificate of his physician, a copy of which is given herewith:

"Nov. 22, 13.

To Whom it May Concern:

This is to certify that James Farrell, Keeper of Gowanus Pipe Yard, has been under my professional care for some time - suffering from Chronic Nephritis and Cordiac Disease, which renders him physically unable to continue the duties required of him. In my opinion he should be retired.

Respectfully,

Louis M. Dusseldorf, M.D.

392 Union St., Brooklyn, N.Y."

I am convinced that Mr. Farrell has justly earned the mark of appreciation of long and faithful service to The City of New York which was contemplated by those who inaugurated the provision for retirement in the City Charter.

Respectfully,

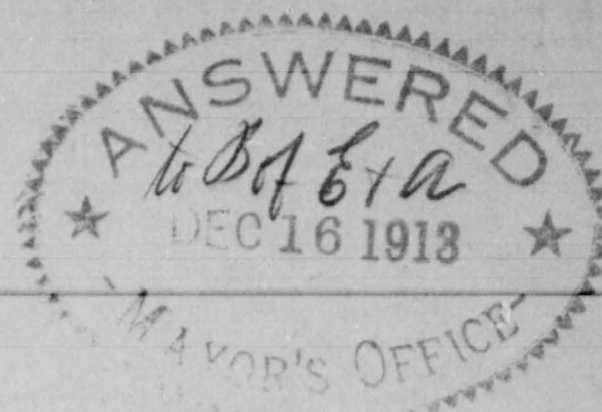
M a y o r.

*Handwritten:*  
Banks  
Escrow  
James



B

THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.



HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 15, 1913.

Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
Mayor,  
City of New York.

Sir :-

I have received an application for retirement from John P. Schermerhorn. He has made affidavit that his first employment with The City was with the Department of Parks on January 1, 1870, where he remained until January 15, 1872. He states that on the latter date he entered the service of the Department of Public Works and continued until 1875. I have communicated with the Commissioners of these Departments for a verification of these statements and have been advised that no records can be found which show Mr. Schermerhorn's employment with these Departments for the above periods. The Department of Public Works, however, certify that there is a record showing the discharge of a John P. Schermerhorn, a Rodman then receiving a salary of \$1,500., on December 31, 1874. Since the earliest record of his appointment to The City's service which this Department has been able to verify, Mr. Schermerhorn has been connected with several Departments. The following is his record of service:-

Rodman, Department of Public Works at \$1500. per annum, from April 17, 1875 to October 1, 1876;

Inspector, Aqueduct Commission at \$150. per month, from December 4, 1886 to May 24, 1893;

Asst. Engr., Department of Parks, Manhattan, at \$1800. per annum, from May 25, 1893 to June 24, 1898;

Asst. Engr., Department of Parks, The Bronx, at \$1800. per annum, from June 25, 1898 to September 1, 1902;

Examining Engineer, Commissioners of Accounts at \$1800. per annum, from October 24, 1902 to February 28, 1903;

Asst. Engr., Aqueduct Commission at \$1800. per annum, from April 8, 1903 to March 30, 1908;

Transitman, Dept. Water Supply, Gas & Electricity at \$1800. per annum, from October 20, 1908 to date.

Including the periods which the Department cannot obtain verification of his employment, while somewhat irregular,



## DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY, GAS &amp; ELECTRICITY.

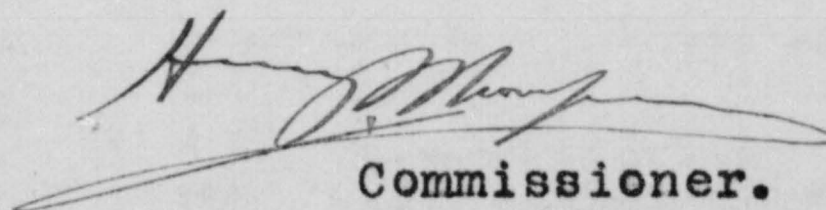
-2-

extends over a period of thirty years. Mr. Schermerhorn has certified that his physical condition will not permit him to continue the work of a Transitman. The Board of Estimate and Apportionment made no provision in the 1914 Budget for his employment, and I refer to this fact in order that this application may be acted upon before January 1st, as there is grave doubt as to whether the Board could retire an employe after his name had been placed upon the preferred eligible list. I would urge, therefore, that in this case you request early consideration.

Based upon his total compensation during the past three years, the amount of pension to which he is entitled is \$900. per annum.

Will you kindly sign the enclosed draft of letter to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment?

Respectfully,



Commissioner.

ENCLOSURE:-



December 15, 1913.

To the

Honorable Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Gentlemen:-

Pursuant to authority vested in me as Mayor of The City of New York under the provisions of The Greater New York Charter, as amended by Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, I hereby recommend to your Honorable Board the retirement from active service of John P. Schermerhorn, a Transitman in the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

I further recommend that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment grant to John P. Schermerhorn a pension of \$900. per annum, this amount being half of his average compensation during the past three years, as provided in Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, such payments to continue during the life of said John P. Schermerhorn.

Mr. Schermerhorn's employment with The City has been as follows:-

Rodman, Dept. Public Works at \$1500. per annum, from April 17 1875 to October 1, 1876;

Inspector, Aqueduct Commission at \$150. per month, from December 4, 1886 to May 24, 1893;

Asst. Engr., Dept. Parks, Manhattan at \$1800. per annum, from May 25, 1893 to June 24, 1898;

Asst. Engr., Dept. Parks, The Bronx at \$1800. per annum from June 25, 1898 to September 1, 1902;

Examining Engineer, Commissioners of Accounts at \$1800. per annum, from October 24, 1902 to February 28, 1903;

Asst. Engr., Aqueduct Commission at \$1800. per annum, from April 8, 1903 to March 30, 1908;

Transitman, Dept. Water Supply, Gas & Electricity at \$1800. per annum, from October 20, 1908 to date.

By reason of physical disability he applies for the pension provided in the Charter for the retirement of employes in The City service after a period of thirty years. He has submitted a request that this recommendation be made to your Honorable Board and that his retirement be made effective January 1, 1914. His request is as follows:



"Kingsbridge, N. Y., Nov.17, 1913.

"Hon. Henry S. Thompson,  
"Commissioner.

"Dear Sir:-

"I herein make application for a pension of one half of my salary or more, commencing January 1st, 1914.

"Having served The City of New York for nearly 35 years I feel that I am justly entitled to the same.

"Yours very respectfully,  
(Signed) JOHN P. SCHERMERHORN,  
#529 West 111th Street,  
"City."

The above request is accompanied by the certificate of his physician, a copy of which is given herewith:

"Nov. 16th, '13.

"This is to certify that John P. Schermerhorn of 529 West 111th St. and at present employed in the Dept. of Water Supply, Gas & Electricity has been under my professional care since Sept. 1910 at which time he suffered from an attack of aphasia without motor paralysis.

"In August 1913 he suffered from an attack of enteritis and upon examining him found that he has an arterio-sclerosis and albumen in the urine also that his sense of hearing is very bad.

"From my examination and from my previous knowledge of John P. Schermerhorn do not think that he is in any physical condition to perform any work that demands much concentration or is he able to do laborious work.

"Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) H. D. HENSON."

I am convinced that Mr. Schermerhorn has justly earned the mark of appreciation of long and faithful service to The City of New York which was contemplated by those who inaugurated the provision for retirement in The City Charter.

Respectfully,

M a y o r .



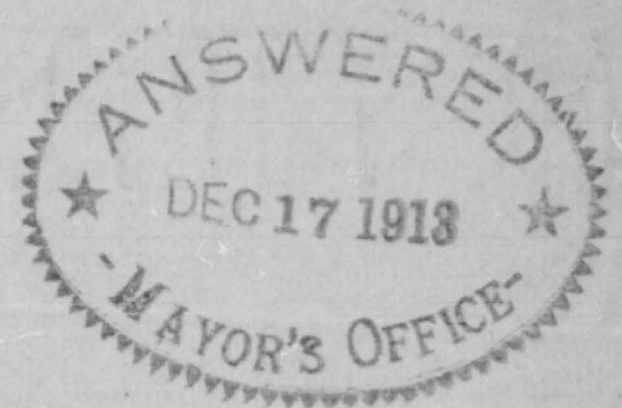
J

THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 15, 1913.

Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
M a y o r,  
City of New York.

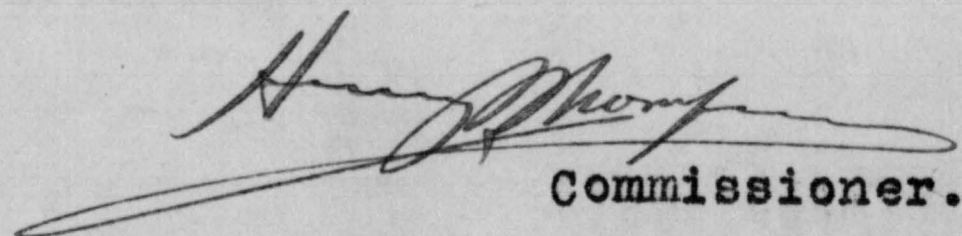


S i r:

Mr. Theodore Johnson, a Stationary Engineer in the employ of this Department at the Mt. Prospect Pumping Station, was injured on October 23, 1913 in the following manner: He was walking from the engine to a closet containing packing, for the purpose of obtaining some to be used on the engine, when he slipped and fell, breaking his leg just below the ankle. He was removed to the Swedish Hospital for treatment and was absent from work until December 5, 1913, a period of 42 3/4 days.

As empowered by Chapter 353 of the Laws of 1912, I have certified a payroll in his favor for 30 days. On account of having received these injuries in the performance of his duties, I believe that he is entitled to full pay for the entire period during which he was absent. I would, therefore, request that you consent to the payment of his wages for the additional 12 3/4 days of his absence.

Respectfully,

  
Commissioner.



B

THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 15, 1913.

Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
M a y o r,  
City of New York.

S i r :-

Mr. Michael Cooney, employed as a Laborer in this Department, has filed an application for retirement. He is seventy-three years old and is a veteran of the Civil War. His first appointment was as Axeman on June 25, 1885, and his wages were fixed at \$2.50 per day. He was removed on March 3, 1886. On October 5, 1891 he was appointed as a Laborer at \$2.00 per day and was advanced to Axeman on December 17, 1894, with an increase of 50¢ per day. His title was again changed to Laborer on January 1, 1912, and his rate of pay remained unchanged. The chief of his division has reported him as being a very satisfactory employe and one entitled to favorable consideration.

During the past three years Mr. Cooney's compensation, based upon his actual time of service, was \$2,595.31. He is a seven-day employe. Since January 1, 1911 he has been paid at the rate of six and three-quarter days weekly, one-quarter of a day being deducted by reason of his attending church every Sunday. On the basis of his actual compensation his yearly pension would be equivalent to \$432.53

I would respectfully recommend that you approve of his application for retirement, and have prepared for your signature a draft of letter to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Respectfully,

  
Commissioner.

ENCLOSURE:-



December 15, 1913.

To the

Honorable Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Gentlemen:-

Pursuant to authority vested in me as Mayor of The City of New York under the provisions of the Greater New York Charter, as amended by Chapter 479 of the Laws of 1912, I hereby recommend to your Honorable Board the retirement from active service of Michael Cooney, a Laborer in the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

I further recommend that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment grant to Michael Cooney a pension of \$432.53 per annum, this amount being one-half of his average wages during the last three years, as provided in Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, such payments to continue during the life of said Michael Cooney.

Mr. Cooney's first appointment was on June 25, 1885. He was removed on March 3, 1886. On October 5, 1891, he was again appointed as a Laborer at \$2.00 per day and was advanced to Axeman on December 17, 1894, with an increase of 50¢ per day. His title was again changed to Laborer on January 1, 1912, and his rate of pay remained unchanged. By reason of physical disability he now applies for the pension provided in the Charter for the retirement of employes in The City service after a period of twenty years. He has submitted a request that this recommendation be made to your Honorable Board and that his retirement be made effective January 1, 1914. His request is as follows:

"White Plains, N.Y.,  
"November 17th, 1913.

"Hon. H. S. Thompson,  
"Commissioner of Water Supply,  
"Gas & Electricity,  
"City of New York.

"My dear Sir:-

I herewith respectfully make application to you for leave to retire from the service of the City of New York on a pension of half pay. I am an honorably discharged veteran of the Civil War and entered the service of the City of New York as Axeman on June 25, 1885, at a salary of \$2.50 per day.



"With the hope that you will grant this request to take effect at as early a date as possible, I remain,

"Very truly yours,

(Signed) MICHAEL COONEY,  
"No. 67 Bronx Street,  
"White Plains, N. Y."

The above request is accompanied by the certificate of his physician, a copy of which is given herewith:

"Mount Kisco, N. Y.,  
"November 17th, 1913.

"To Whom It May Concern:-

"This is to certify that I am a Practicing Physician of the Village of Mount Kisco, N. Y. and for a number of years have had under my observation Michael Cooney, Axeman in the service of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity of the City of New York. He informs me that he is about to make application for retirement on a pension. On account of the advanced age of Mr. Cooney, I heartily recommend his application for retirement and a pension.

(Signed) E. WILTON BROWN, M. D.,  
"Mt. Kisco, N. Y."

I am convinced that Mr. Cooney has justly earned the mark of appreciation of long and faithful service to The City of New York which was contemplated by those who inaugurated the provision for retirement in the City Charter.

Respectfully,

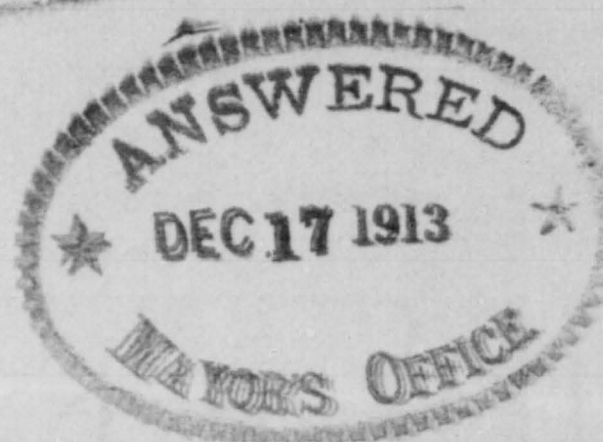
M a y o r.



16/45-B  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 16, 1913.



Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
Mayor,  
City of New York.

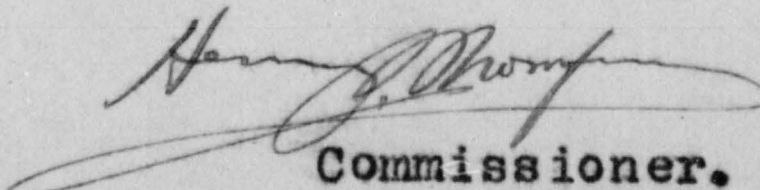
Sir:-

I am enclosing for your consideration and approval, the application for retirement of Montross Churchill, a Rodman in the employ of this Department. He has been in continuous service with this Department since September 17, 1889, at which time he was appointed to the position of Axeman at \$2.50 per day. On November 19, 1894 his salary as rodman was fixed at \$1,000. per annum and on June 1, 1913, he received an advance of \$50.00. He is a veteran of the Civil War and is now seventy-two years of age.

Mr. Churchill is reported as being a faithful employee and, as he feels that his physical condition will not permit him longer to continue as an active employee, I would respectfully recommend that he be retired on a pension. At the rate of his compensation for the past three years, ending November 30th, his yearly pension would be equivalent to \$512.50.

Will you kindly forward to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment the enclosed draft of letter which I have prepared for your signature?

Respectfully,

  
Commissioner.

ENCLOSURE:-



December 16, 1913.

To the

Honorable Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Gentlemen:-

Pursuant to authority vested in me as Mayor of The City of New York under the provisions of the Greater New York Charter, as amended by Chapter 479 of the Laws of 1912, I hereby recommend to your Honorable Board the retirement from active service of Montross Churchill, a Rodman in the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

I further recommend that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment grant to Montross Churchill a pension of \$512.50 per annum, this amount being one-half of his average wages during the past three years, as provided in Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1911, such payments to continue during the life of said Montross Churchill.

Mr. Churchill has been in the service of The City since September 17, 1889. By reason of physical disability he now applies for the pension provided in the Charter for the retirement of employees in The City service after a period of twenty years. He has submitted a request that this recommendation be made to your Honorable Board and that his retirement be made effective January 1, 1914. His request is as follows:

"December 1, 1913.

"Hon. Henry S. Thompson,  
"Commissioner.

"Dear Sir:-

"I hereby make application for retirement upon half pay, and in connection with this application attach a certificate from my family physician showing the advisability of my retirement from active duties. I trust that I may be continued in service in my present position and location pending the time that this application is under consideration. I submit my record of service as follows:

"Age- 72 years.

"Veteran of Civil War, Lieutenant and Captain in the 18th Regiment of New York State National Guard, 1860 to 1865. In active service at Fort Marshall, Baltimore, Md.

"I first entered the service of the City of New York in October, 1889, as axeman in the Department of Public Works, and have been in continuous service to date with that Department and with the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity,



and have held the position of Rodman for some 17 years.

"Respectfully yours,

(Signed) MONTROSS CHURCHILL,

"Rodman."

The above request is accompanied by the certificate of his physician, a copy of which is given herewith:

"Nov. 27th, 1913.

"Mr. Henry S. Thompson,  
"Commissioner,  
"Department of Water Supply, Gas & Electricity.

"Dear Sir:-

"This is to certify that I am now and have been for the past twenty-five years the family physician of Montross Churchill, Rodman in the Department of Water Supply, Gas & Electricity of N. Y. City, and after a careful examination I find he is afflicted with near sightedness and hard of hearing; furthermore because of his advanced age of seventy two years and the danger of exposure pertaining to the duties of his position. I recommend that he be retired on a pension.

"Yours truly,

(Signed) EDMUND SCHOLLDERFER, M. D."

I am convinced that Mr. Churchill has justly earned the mark of appreciation of long and faithful service to The City of New York which was contemplated by those who inaugurated the provision for retirement in the City Charter.

Respectfully,

M a y o r.



J

THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 16, 1913.

Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
M a y o r,  
City of New York.

S i r:

I am returning the letter of Mr. William L. Crouch, who writes you in connection with his promotion to the position of Foreman.

You will perhaps recall that a few days ago, in answer to an appeal made to you by Mr. G. D. Matthews in behalf of Mr. Crouch, I stated that there is a vacancy for Foreman in the Borough of Brooklyn until the close of the year. The Board of Estimate and Apportionment did not provide money for the continuance of this position. I also explained that should Mr. Crouch be appointed now, the fact that he is a Civil War veteran would make it necessary that I dispense with one of the other Foremen for whom money has already been appropriated and who has held the position for some years. I felt that I could not consistently consent to any such arrangement.

Respectfully,



Commissioner.

Enclosure.



Referred to Mr. Crowell for  
examination.

The contracts were  
re-drafted and  
have been again  
submitted to the  
Bd. of Gov. & App.  
WTR



J

THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

*File*


HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 30, 1913.

Hon. Ardolph L. Kline,  
M a y o r,  
City of New York.

S i r:  
I am transmitting herewith, in triplicate, proposed contract between the Woodhaven Water Supply Company and The City for the rental of fire hydrants. On the 18th instant the Board of Estimate and Apportionment assented to this contract by resolution, and I would now respectfully ask that you kindly give your written consent to same, pursuant to Section 461 of the Charter.

Respectfully,

  
Commissioner.

Enclosures.



THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY, GAS AND ELECTRICITY.  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,  
13-21 PARK ROW.

CFL/C

HENRY S. THOMPSON,  
COMMISSIONER.  
J. W. F. BENNETT,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.  
J. L. PULTZ,  
SECRETARY.

NEW YORK, December 31, 1913.

Hon. Ardolph Kline, Mayor,  
City Hall, New York.

S i r:

There appears in the morning edition of the New York World of December 31, 1913, an article giving an account of an interview with Mr. Henry Bruere, Director of the Bureau of Municipal Research, in regard to a test being made of the expense of operating an electrical plant of its own in the Hall of Records Building. This test is being made by the Bureau of Municipal Research, the New York Edison Company and the City, as represented by two Departments, the Borough President of Manhattan and the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

In this article, a statement is made that Mr. Bruere said in effect -

"It was necessary to permit the Edison Company to join in the experiment because it had the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity by the throat, and this Department refused to permit the necessary conduits to be laid until the Edison Concern's offer to become a party to the arrangement had been accepted."

This statement I desire to deny categorically. If Mr. Bruere made such a statement, which I can hardly credit, he has been most grievously mis-informed.

The first part of his statement that "The Edison Company has this Department by the throat" can be best disproved by stating that in the last ten years, and specifically during the last four



years, when I have been at the head of this Department, the Department has been forcing the Edison Company to give steadily decreasing rates to the City from year to year.

As to the second part of his statement that - "This Department refused to permit the necessary conduits to be laid until the Edison Concern's offer to become a party to the arrangement had been accepted", this may be best disproved by a short statement of the history of this case.

The Chief Engineer of the Bureau of Gas and Electricity and the Consulting Electrical Engineer of this Department, from various tests and information they have attained in years previous to my administration, and in my administration, have advised me that they have grave doubt in their minds that the ordinary City plant could be operated at a cost per unit, when proper charges were established of their costs, cheaper than these units could be purchased from the Public Service Corporations. One grave element in the cost of City operated plants is the lack of expert supervision given to them.

An Engineer or Engineers connected with the Borough President's Office in the year 1910 desired to supply the County Court House and City Hall with electric current, steam, and so on, from the Hall of Records building. The Department made no objection in connection with the supply of steam, and it might be well to remark here that in years previous to this time, the Borough President's Office itself had been purchasing steam from the New York Steam Company for these buildings; up to the time when the Corporation Counsel's Office ordered that it be referred to this Department on account of the Charter regulations. The electric supply, as furnished by this Department to the City Hall and County Court House, was supplied by the New York Edison Company in connection with the supply of similar current to the



Brooklyn Bridge and one or two other minor electrical installations. The rate obtained, on account of the great consumption of current, was 3¢ per kilowatt hour, but this rate depended on the consumption, and if this was reduced below a certain amount, the rate, under our contracts, automatically increased.

The Borough President wrote us in regard to this matter, and I replied under date of March 25, 1911. It is unnecessary here, to quote the letter in any length, although the same is in the files of this Department for examination by anyone. I stated in this letter -

"I am as anxious as you are to have the City get its electricity as cheap as possible, but first I would like to have a service test made under working conditions. If it is then shown that it is cheaper for the City to manufacture electricity than to purchase same from the Companies, I will be more than glad to co-operate with you to that end, as I suggested in my previous letter. x x x. I would also like to state something that has not apparently been taken into account x x x that if these buildings should be taken away from the contract which includes the lighting of the Brooklyn Bridge and several other smaller buildings, it raises the charge for the lighting of the smaller buildings and the whole of the Brooklyn Bridge. I would ask that you kindly give these matters your consideration to the end that we may have a complete investigation which will show just what is the cheapest for the City in this case."

Under the Charter, the supply of gas and electric current to the various public buildings in this City is a function of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity and is in my charge. I deemed it my duty before changing an arrangement which was certainly reasonable for the City to see that careful tests should be made to show that a positive gain would accrue in case the Hall of Records plant was to be used as the Borough President suggested. This, I believe, was the first suggestion of a test to be made on this plant. I never had any discussion with the New York Edison Company by which it was remotely suggested that they were to come in under a test and to supply funds



for such test and that I would not permit such test to be made unless they were allowed to do this. Who originally made this proposition to Mr. Bruere, or where it came from, I do not know, but later on, a test was arranged by the Bureau of Municipal Research under an offer made to them by the New York Edison Company that it would defray the expenses of such a test to the extent of \$10,000.00 in order that facts might be scientifically established, and that such a test was to be made by a corps of accredited Engineers representing the Borough President's Office, the Bureau of Municipal Research, the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity and the New York Edison Company, in regard to which the following letter was received by me from Mr. Henry Bruere, and is now in my files, signed by him:

"Bureau of Municipal Research,  
#261 Broadway,  
New York, February 28, 1912.  
"Commissioner Henry S. Thompson,  
Department of Water Supply, Gas & Electricity,  
#21 Park Row, New York City.

My dear Commissioner Thompson:

President McAneny has agreed to the Hall of Records for a test of the cost of generating electricity in an isolated plant. We have arranged with the New York Edison Company for a co-operative supervision of this test, and Mr. McAneny will be represented by his Consulting Engineer.

I should like very much to have Mr. Pultz participate in conferences relating to this test. The first one will occur Friday morning at 9:30 o'clock at this office. I hope you will ask Mr. Pultz to be present and that you will arrange to keep in touch with the progress of the test.

Sincerely yours,  
(Signed) Henry Bruere,  
Director."

I, thereupon, appointed Dr. Sever, Consulting Electrical Engineer of this Department, as the Engineer representing the Department in this test. Dr. Sever has since performed his duties in this connection



and has served on the Board of Engineers conducting the tests.

As I was, perhaps, the first one to suggest making a test on this plant, in reply to the Borough President's suggestion of action without a test, and as my suggestion conveyed no idea of any connections with the Edison Company, nor any contribution by the Edison Company, but was a test to be made by the City Engineers themselves, I would say that the entrance into the problem of the Edison Company and its money were never suggested or known to this Department until it was advised of the fact. In consequence, the whole article falls to the ground, based on entirely incorrect information or belief.

There are minor matters in this article, and ones that have appeared previously, that I might write of, but that is undesirable, on account of length. The records of this Department are open to anyone who cares to go into the matter further for accurate information on the subject.

Very truly yours,

  
Commissioner.