

File No. 6562.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ELECTRICAL COMMISSION OF BALTIMORE CITY,
OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER.

Baltimore, July 17, 1907.

Hon. W. Cabell Bruce,
City Solicitor.

Dear Sir:-

4793

Certain corporations of the City are under penalty of fines for failure to comply with notices served upon them by this Commission to remove poles and overhead wires, notably the Western Union Telegraph Company, which is fined on 13 poles standing in south Rutaw street from Pratt to Lee Streets.

It appears that one of their reasons for not having removed these poles is that although the Telegraph Company had removed its own wires before the penalty was incurred, yet their poles were occupied by certain wires of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. Among these wires is a 500 volt power service supplying motors in the establishment of Swift and Company, at Rutaw and Camden streets, for the purpose of operating their cold storage plant. I have consulted His Honor, the Mayor in connection with this matter, as indicated by the enclosed letter from the manager of Swift and Company, received by me this morning, and have been directed to request your opinion as to whether or not the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company has the legal right to use the streets or the City conduits for the purpose of supplying this current. ~~If the Railroad Company has such right it will~~ be a simple matter to maintain the supply to Swift and Company under ground. If it has not the legal right, there being no Company supplying the voltage similar to that used by Swift's motors, it will be necessary for Swift and Company to change their motor equipment.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company has a lease from the Electrical Commission under which heretofore they have maintained underground in the City conduits, telegraph and telephone wires and electric light and power wires, all of these wires, however, supplying service solely for the use of the Railroad Company and not for sale.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) Charles E. Phelps, Jr.
Chief Engineer.