

File No. 10559.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS,
SUB-DEPARTMENT OF CITY ENGINEER.

Baltimore, October 8th, 1909.

Mr. Edgar Allan Poe,
City Solicitor,
City.

Dear Sir:-

8279

As I understand the Ordinance permitting the United Railways and Electric Company to lay their tracks on Ostend street, between Leadenhall and Race streets, they have the right to lay improved paving between the rails and two feet outside thereof, with their own forces, and they claim that right. Heretofore, when we have done similar work by contract, the contractor for the Street did the entire work, both between the rails and outside.

What is your opinion about this proposition? Must I allow Hood to do this work with his own forces, or must I insist upon doing it myself, and billing him with the cost? The difference between the two plans is that if my men do the work between the rails, it will be well done, and if Hood's men do the work between the rails, it will be very badly done.

Of course, I understand that I have full authority to supervise the work, but all the supervision in the world will not get a good job of paving where the actual work of laying the paving is done by unskilled hands which have probably never done any such work before.

I shall thank you to consider this case and let me hear from you as soon as practicable as it is one requiring prompt action on my part. The Ordinance to which I refer is No. 284, approved May 20th, 1907.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) B. T. Fendall,
City Engineer.