

File No. 11125. Continued.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

Baltimore, April 14, 1910.

Mr. Albert G. Ritchie,
Assistant City Solicitor.

Dear Sir:

8815

Referring to our conversation over the telephone a short time since, I assume that you are investigating the question raised by me, regarding certain repair work on improved streets, which is to be done by the United Railways and Electric Company.

As usual, Hood is going right along, in utter disregard of the permit issued by me, and will so continue to do until he is forced to do otherwise through special action of the Mayor or an Order of the Court.

I am anxious to submit the whole case to the Mayor, but do not care to do so until I have an opinion from the Legal Department. If you can give me this opinion in the near future I shall be greatly obliged to you.

Mr. Hood and Mr. House are forever claiming exemption from the requirements of the City's Ordinances, because they are required to spend a good deal of money in the matter of work done by the Sewerage Commission. After all the allowances that have been made to these people in this connection, the amount they spend, as I view the case, is quite insignificant compared with the amount they should spend if the spirit of the law under which we have worked heretofore was carried out.

In the meantime, as I have frequently stated, my control over the streets, as set forth in the Charter, is gradually being usurped by Hood. I have no objection in the world to Hood doing exactly as he pleases, so long as I am relieved of the responsibility. Official opinions from the Legal Department or direct orders from the Mayor in writing, as I understand it, relieves me of such responsibility. For