

of said bridge, roads and ways thereto, toll houses, lodges and other buildings or structures necessary for the proper operation of said bridge, and the rights so acquired by agreement shall be conveyed by deed duly acknowledged and recorded. In case of failure to agree, or of disability of the owners to contract, or of their absence from the State, the corporation may obtain the lands, water rights or other property necessary as above described by condemnation, but said company shall have no power to condemn land or other property not reasonably necessary for the location, construction and operation of the said bridge and appropriate and needed toll houses and appurtenant structures, and the necessary approaches and ways to said bridge. The State of Maryland hereby consents to the use and occupation of the lands lying under the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, necessary for the construction and operation of said bridge and the approaches and appurtenances thereto.

1931, ch. 539, sec. 47.

64. Said Company shall grant to the State Roads Commission or to its authorized representatives, at all reasonable times, free access to the work to be carried on in the construction of said bridge, and to all maps, profiles, contracts, reports of engineers, accounts, books, records and all other papers and documents relating thereto.

1931, ch. 539, sec. 48.

65. Said Company is hereby authorized to fix and to revise from time to time tolls for transit over said bridge and to charge and collect the same, and to fix by contract with any person, partnership, association or corporation desiring the use of said bridge, approaches, appurtenances and works, or any part thereof, for placing thereon water, gas or oil pipe line, telephone, telegraph, electric light or power line or for any other purpose, except for tracks for railroad or railway use, the terms, conditions and rates of charges for such use, provided, however, that any such contract for the use of said bridge for such purpose or purposes shall in every case provide for adequate compensation to said company, its successors and assigns. The rates of tolls and charges so fixed shall be the legal rates, unless and until changed by order of the Public Service Commission, as may be authorized by law.

1931, ch. 539, sec. 49.

66. No person, partnership, association or corporation, private or public, shall be authorized to, and it shall be unlawful for any person, partnership, association or corporation, private or public, to construct or operate any bridge over the waters of the Chesapeake Bay at a distance less than ten miles from the bridge to be erected in pursuance of this subtitle, except such other bridge be erected after the acquisition by the State of the bridge to be erected, pursuant hereto, and with the consent of the General Assembly.

1931, ch. 539, sec. 50.

67. A franchise tax is hereby levied annually upon the gross receipts of said Company, its successors and assigns, derived from the tolls and all other revenues from the said bridge, such tax being as follows, to wit: two and one-half per cent. of so much of such gross receipts as shall be not in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in any one year, and