[illegible] section shall not apply to the sale of any corporation [illegible] or any other corporation [illegible] any stock against or as a lien upon any property [illegible]

§ 69. Section ninety-nine of such chapter, as added by chapter five hundred and twenty-five of the laws of nineteen hundred and twenty, is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 69. Approval of transfer of franchise. No steam corporation shall transfer or lease its franchise, works or system or any part thereof, or any franchise, works or system to any other person or corporation or any other person or corporation or any person or corporation shall have an opportunity to be heard in respect to the matters complained of at a time and place to be specified in such notice. An investigation may be instituted by the commission of its own motion as to any matter of which complaint may be made, as provided in section seventy-one of this chapter, or to enable it to ascertain the facts requisite to the exercise of any power conferred upon it. After a hearing and after such an investigation as shall have been made by the commission or its officers, agents, examiners or inspectors, the commission may by order, fix just and reasonable prices, rates and charges for gas or electricity to be charged by such corporation or person, for the service to be furnished notwithstanding that a higher or lower price has been theretofore prescribed by general or special statute, contract, franchise condition, consent or other agreement, and may order such improvement in the manufacture, distribution or supply of gas, in the manufacture, transmission, or supply of electricity, or in the methods employed by such person or corporation, as will in its judgment be adequate, just and reasonable. Any such change in price shall be upon such terms, conditions or safeguards as the commission may prescribe. If it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the commission that the public interest requires a change in the price of gas or electricity charged by any such person or corporation, or that such change is necessary for the purpose of providing adequate and efficient service, or for the preservation of the property, the commission may, upon such terms, conditions or safeguards as it deems proper, may authorize an immediate, reasonable, temporary increase or decrease in such price pending a final determination of the price to be thereafter charged by such person or corporation. The terms, conditions or safeguards prescribed may include provisions for the purpose for which the additional revenue derived from any such temporary increase may be expended and for the impounding thereof until the same shall be applied to the purposes so specified, and for the payment of interest thereon or under subdivision five of section eighty-shall be recognized as effective for any purpose.

§ 70. Section seventy-one of such chapter is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 71. Complaints as to quality and price of gas and electricity; investigation by commission; forms of complaints. Upon the complaint in writing of the mayor of a city, the trustees of a village or the town board of a town in which a person or corporation is authorized to manufacture, sell or supply gas or electricity for heat, light or power, or upon the complaint in writing of not less than twenty-five customers or purchasers of such gas or electricity, or upon complaint of a gas corporation or electrical corporation supplying said gas or electricity for use in illuminating power, purity or pressure or the rates, charges or classifications of service of gas, the efficiency of the electric incandescent lamp supply, the voltage of the current supplied for light, heat or power, or the rates charged or classification of service of electricity sold and delivered in such municipality, the commission shall investigate as to the cause for such complaint. When such complaint is made, the commission may, by its agents, examiners and inspectors, inspect the works, system, plant, devices, appliances and methods used by such person or corporation in manufacturing, transmitting and supplying such gas or electricity. The form and contents of complaints made as provided in this section shall be prescribed by the commission. Such complaints shall be signed by the officers, or by the customers, purchasers or subscribers making them, who must add to their signatures their places of residence, by street and number, if any.

§ 71. Section seventy-two of such chapter, as amended by chapter five hundred and forty-two of the laws of nineteen hundred and twenty, is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 72. Notice and hearing; order fixing price of gas or electricity, or requiring improvement. Before proceeding under a complaint presented as provided in section seventy-one, the commission shall cause notice of such complaint, and the purpose thereof, to be served upon the person or corporation affected thereby. Such person or corporation shall have an opportunity to be heard in respect to the matters complained of at a time and place to be specified in such notice. An investigation may be instituted by the commission of its own motion as to any matter of which complaint may be made, as provided in section seventy-one of this chapter, or to enable it to ascertain the facts requisite to the exercise of any power conferred upon it. After a hearing and after such an investigation as shall have been made by the commission or its officers, agents, examiners or inspectors, the commission may by order, fix just and reasonable prices, rates and charges for gas or electricity to be charged by such corporation or person, for the service to be furnished notwithstanding that a higher or lower price has been theretofore prescribed by general or special statute, contract, franchise condition, consent or other agreement, and may order such improvement in the manufacture, distribution or supply of gas, in the manufacture, transmission, or supply of electricity, or in the methods employed by such person or corporation, as will in its judgment be adequate, just and reasonable. Any such change in price shall be upon such terms, conditions or safeguards as the commission may prescribe. If it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the commission that the public interest requires a change in the price of gas or electricity charged by any such person or corporation, or that such change is necessary for the purpose of providing adequate and efficient service, or for the preservation of the property, the commission, upon such terms, conditions or safeguards as it deems proper, may authorize an immediate, reasonable, temporary increase or decrease in such price pending a final determination of the price to be thereafter charged by such person or corporation. The terms, conditions or safeguards prescribed may include provisions for the purpose for which the additional revenue derived from any such temporary increase may be expended and for the impounding thereof until the same shall be applied to the purposes so specified, and for the payment of interest thereon or under subdivision five of section eighty-shall be recognized as effective for any purpose.

§ 72. Section seventy-two of such chapter is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 73. Complaints as to adequate service; investigation by commission. Upon the complaint in writing of the mayor of a city, the trustees of a village or the town board of a town in which a person or corporation is authorized to manufacture, sell or supply gas or electricity for heat, light or power, or upon the complaint in writing of not less than twenty-five customers or purchasers of such gas or electricity, or upon complaint of a gas corporation or electrical corporation supplying said gas or electricity for use in illuminating power, purity or pressure or the rates, charges or classifications of service of gas, the efficiency of the electric incandescent lamp supply, the voltage of the current supplied for light, heat or power, or the rates charged or classification of service of electricity sold and delivered in such municipality, the commission shall investigate as to the cause for such complaint. When such complaint is made, the commission may, by its agents, examiners and inspectors, inspect the works, system, plant, devices, appliances and methods used by such person or corporation in manufacturing, transmitting and supplying such gas or electricity. The form and contents of complaints made as provided in this section shall be prescribed by the commission. Such complaints shall be signed by the officers, or by the customers, purchasers or subscribers making them, who must add to their signatures their places of residence, by street and number, if any.

§ 73. Section seventy-three of such chapter, as added by chapter five hundred and twenty-five of the laws of nineteen hundred and twenty, is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 74. Summary proceedings. Whenever the commission shall be of opinion that a gas corporation, electrical corporation or municipality is doing or about to do or about to fail or omit to do anything required of it by law or by order of the commission, or is doing anything or about to do anything or permitting anything or about to permit anything to be done, contrary to or in violation of law or of any order of the commission, it shall direct counsel to the commission to commence an action or proceeding in the supreme court of the state of New York in the name of the commission for the purpose of having such violations or threatened violations stopped and prevented either by mandamus or injunction. Counsel to the commission shall thereupon institute such action or proceeding by a petition to the supreme court alleging the violation complained of and praying for appropriate relief by way of mandamus or injunction. It shall thereupon be the duty of the court to specify the time not exceeding twenty days after the service of a copy of the petition within which the gas corporation, electrical corporation or municipality complained of must answer the petition, in case of default in answer or after answer, the court shall immediately inquire into the facts and circumstances in such manner as the court shall direct without other or further pleadings or formal pleadings, and without respect to any technical requirement. Such other persons or corporations, as it shall seem to the court necessary or proper to join as parties and to make its order, judgment or writs effective, may be joined as parties upon application of counsel to the commission. The final judgment in any such action or proceeding shall either dismiss the action or proceeding or direct that a writ of mandamus or an injunction or both issue as prayed for in the petition or in such modified or other form as the court may determine will afford appropriate relief.

§ 74. Section seventy-six of such chapter is hereby repealed.

§ 75. Section seventy-nine of such chapter, as added by chapter five hundred and twenty-five of the laws of nineteen hundred and thirteen, is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 79. Adequate service; just and reasonable charges; unjust discrimination and unreasonable preference. 1. Every steam corporation shall furnish and provide such service, instrumentalities and facilities as shall be safe and adequate and in all respects just and reasonable. All charges made or demanded by any such corporation for such service rendered or to be rendered shall be just and reasonable and not more than allowed by order of the commission. Every unjust and unreasonable charge made or demanded for such service, or in connection therewith or in excess of that allowed by law or by the commission is prohibited.

2. No such corporation shall make or grant any unreasonable preference or advantage to any person, corporation or locality, or to any particular description of service in any respect whatsoever, or subject any particular person, corporation or locality or any particular description of service to any undue or unreasonable prejudice or disadvantage in any respect whatsoever.

3. Nothing in this chapter shall be taken to prohibit any such corporation from establishing a sliding scale for a fixed period for the automatic adjustment of charges for steam heat or any service rendered or to be rendered and the dividends to be paid to stockholders of such corporation, provided that the sliding scale shall first have been filed with and approved by the commission; but nothing in this subdivision shall operate to prevent the commission after the expiration of such fixed period from fixing proper, just and reasonable rates and charges to be made for services as authorized in this article.

§ 75. The part preceding subdivision one of section eighty of such chapter, such section having been added by chapter five hundred and five of the laws of nineteen hundred and thirteen, is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 80. General powers of commission in respect to steam heating. The commission shall:

§ 84. Subdivision four of section eighty of such chapter, such section having been added by chapter five hundred and five of the laws of nineteen hundred and thirteen, is hereby amended to read as follows:

4. Examine all persons and corporations subject to supervision and keep informed as to the methods, practices, regulations and property employed by them in the transaction of their business. The commission shall have power to require attendance and to examine and investigate the plants and methods employed in manufacturing, delivering and supplying steam and shall have access through its members or persons employed and authorized by it to make such examinations and investigations of the plants and the manufacturing plants owned, leased or operated for the manufacture, transmission, distribution, furnishing or sale of steam for heat or power by any such person or corporation. Any employee or agent of the commission who divulges any fact or information which may come to his knowledge during the course of such inspection or examination, except in so far as he may be directed by the commission, or by a court or judge or authorized by law shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Whenever the commission shall be of the opinion, after hearing had upon its own motion or upon complaint, that the rates, charges or the acts or regulations of any such person or corporation, are unjust, unreasonable, unjustly discriminatory or unduly preferential or in any wise in violation of any provision of law, the commission shall determine and prescribe in the manner provided by and subject to the provisions of section eighty-five of this chapter and just and reasonable rates and charges thereafter to be enforced, and the service to be furnished, and the just and reasonable regulations to be done and observed; and whenever the commission shall be of opinion, after a hearing had upon its own motion or upon complaint, that the property, equipment or appliances of any such person or corporation are unsafe, inadequate or inadequately conditioned, it shall determine and prescribe the safe, efficient and adequate property, equipment or appliances thereafter to be used, maintained and operated for the security and accommodation of the public and in compliance with the provisions of law and of their franchises and charters.

§ 85. Subdivision nine of section eighty of such chapter, such section having been added by chapter five hundred and five of the laws of nineteen hundred and thirteen, is hereby amended to read as follows:

9. Have power to require every steam corporation, person or municipality to file with the commission and to print and keep open to public inspection schedules showing all rates, charges, fees, rentals established or enforced or to be charged or exacted, all forms of contract or agreement, all rules and regulations relating to rates, charges, service, facilities to be used, and all general privileges and franchises granted or to be granted by any corporation, person or municipality interested in or affecting such rates, charges, service, facilities or franchises, and the maximum and minimum rates, charges and tolls to be charged for steam for the service to be furnished within the territory and for a period of not less than three months in the order, not exceeding three years plus one in case of a sliding scale, and thereafter until the commission shall upon its own motion or upon the complaint of any corporation, person or municipality interested, fix a higher or lower maximum price of steam to be thereafter charged, and the rates, charges, tolls and prices so established shall be the maximum rates, charges, tolls and prices to be charged for the service to be furnished within the territory and for a period of not less than three months in the order, not exceeding three years plus one in case of a sliding scale, and thereafter until the commission shall,