



CHAPTER vi.

An Act to empower the Reading Gas Company to acquire land for the construction of additional gasworks for the storage of gas and to store gas thereon to raise additional capital and for other purposes.

A.D. 1927.

[29th June 1927.]

WHEREAS the Reading Gas Company (hereinafter called "the Company") were incorporated by the Reading Gas Act 1862 and further powers were conferred upon them by the Reading Gas Act 1870 the Reading Gas Act 1880 the Reading Gas Act 1902 the Reading Gas Company (Capital Issues) Consent 1920 the Reading Gas (Charges) Order 1921 the Reading Gas Company (Capital Issues) Consent 1921 and the Reading Gas Order 1924 :

And whereas the total stock and share capital of the Company is three hundred and sixty-eight thousand and ninety-eight pounds consisting of two hundred and eighty-six thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight pounds ordinary stock with a maximum dividend of five pounds per centum fifteen thousand one hundred pounds redeemable preference stock with a maximum dividend of six pounds ten shillings per centum and five thousand pounds preference shares with a maximum dividend of five pounds per centum of which total amount the sum of three hundred and thirty-seven thousand four hundred and thirty-five pounds nineteen shillings and threepence (including premiums and discounts) has been issued and fully paid up and there

[Price 8d. Net.]

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A.D. 1927. — remains to be issued of such capital the sum of thirty thousand six hundred and sixty-two pounds and nine-pence five per centum ordinary stock :

And whereas the Company are authorised to borrow on mortgage of their undertaking or raise by the issue of debenture stock the sum of one hundred and fifty-five thousand one hundred and thirty-one pounds the whole of which has been raised by the issue of debenture stock and redeemable debenture stock :

And whereas the demand for gas within the Company's limits of supply has increased and is still increasing and in order to enable the Company to fulfil their obligations to the public it is expedient that the Company should be authorised to construct additional gasworks for the storage of gas and to raise additional capital :

And whereas it is expedient that the other provisions in this Act contained be enacted :

And whereas a plan showing the land authorised by this Act to be purchased compulsorily together with a book of reference containing the names of the owners and lessees or reputed owners and lessees and of the occupiers of the said land were duly deposited with the clerk of the peace for the county of Berks and are hereinafter respectively referred to as the deposited plan and book of reference :

And whereas the purposes of this Act cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament :

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows :—

PRELIMINARY.

Short and collective titles.

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Reading Gas Act 1927.

(2) The Reading Gas Act 1862 the Reading Gas Act 1870 the Reading Gas Act 1880 the Reading Gas Act 1902 the Reading Gas Company (Capital Issues) Consent 1920 the Reading Gas (Charges) Order 1921 the Reading Gas Company (Capital Issues) Consent 1921

the Reading Gas Order 1924 and this Act may be cited together as the Reading Gas Acts and Orders 1862 to 1927. A.D. 1927.

2. The following Acts and parts of Acts are (subject to the provisions of and so far as applicable to the purposes of this Act) incorporated with and form part of this Act (namely) :— Incorporation of general Acts.

The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 (except the provisions thereof with respect to the conversion of borrowed money into capital) and Parts I II and III of the Companies Clauses Act 1863 as amended by subsequent Acts :

The Gasworks Clauses Act 1847 Provided that section 13 thereof shall be read as if the words "or any premises" were inserted after the words "private building" and as if the words "Provided that every such contract entered into by the Company shall be alike in terms and amount under like circumstances to all consumers" were added at the end of that section :

The Gasworks Clauses Act 1871 :

The Lands Clauses Acts Provided that notwithstanding anything contained in the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 any question of disputed compensation under this Act or the said Lands Clauses Acts (other than a question required to be determined by two justices) shall be determined by a single arbitrator to be agreed upon between the Company and the person claiming the compensation or in default of such agreement appointed by the Board of Trade on the application of either party.

3. In this Act the several words and expressions to which meanings are assigned by the Acts wholly or partially incorporated herewith have the same respective meanings unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction And in this Act the expression— Interpretation.

"The Act of 1862" means the Reading Gas Act 1862;

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“ The Act of 1870 ” means the Reading Gas Act 1870;

“ The Act of 1880 ” means the Reading Gas Act 1880;

“ The Act of 1902 ” means the Reading Gas Act 1902;

“ The Order of 1924 ” means the Reading Gas Order 1924;

“ The limits of supply ” means the limits within which the Company are authorised to supply gas;

“ The undertaking ” means the undertaking of the Company;

“ The directors ” means the directors of the Company.

LAND AND CONSTRUCTION OF GASWORKS.

Power to acquire land.

4. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Company may enter upon take and use compulsorily or by agreement the lands shown on the deposited plan and described in the deposited book of reference and set forth in the schedule to this Act.

Period for compulsory purchase of land.

5. The powers of the Company for the compulsory purchase of land for the purposes of this Act shall not be exercised after the first day of October nineteen hundred and thirty.

Storage of gas.

6. The Company may subject to the provisions of this Act from time to time erect lay down provide and from time to time maintain alter improve enlarge extend and renew or discontinue upon the land described in the schedule to this Act when acquired by the Company gasholders receivers drains sewers mains pipes meters machinery and other works apparatus and conveniences and may do all such acts as they may think proper for the storage of gas and of coke and other residual products obtained in the manufacture of gas and matters producible therefrom and the Company may store gas upon the said land when acquired by them and may supply the same therefrom but shall not manufacture gas or manufacture or convert residual products or matters producible therefrom on such land.

FINANCIAL.

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7. The Company may from time to time raise additional capital not exceeding in the whole one hundred and seventy thousand pounds by the creation and issue of new ordinary stock or new preference stock or wholly or partially by one or both of those modes respectively. Provided that it shall not be lawful for the Company to create and issue under the powers of this Act any greater nominal amount of capital than shall be sufficient to produce including any premium which may be obtained on the sale thereof the sum of one hundred and seventy thousand pounds.

Power to raise additional capital.

8. All ordinary or preference stock forming part of the additional capital shall be part of the general capital of the Company and except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act the holders of stock in such additional capital shall be entitled to the like rights of voting and other rights qualifications and privileges in proportion to the amount of the stock held by them and be subject to the like provisions and liabilities as the holders of stock of the same class in the existing capital of the Company.

Additional capital to be part of general capital.

9. Notwithstanding anything contained in section 11 (Limit of dividends on ordinary stock) of the Act of 1902 the limitation of dividends to five per centum per annum in respect of ordinary capital shall not apply to any capital issued after the passing of this Act under the Reading Gas Acts and Orders 1862 to 1927 but the Company shall not in any year pay out of their profits any larger dividend on any such capital so issued than at the rate of six pounds per centum per annum as respects so much of such capital as is issued as ordinary stock unless a larger dividend be at any time necessary to make up the deficiency of any dividend which shall during the last preceding two years have fallen short of the said yearly rate.

As to dividends on capital hereafter issued.

10.—(1) All stock created under the powers of this Act shall be issued in accordance with the provisions of this section.

New stock to be sold by auction or tender.

(2) All stock so to be issued shall be offered for sale by public auction or tender in such manner at such times

A.D. 1927. — and subject to such conditions of sale as the Company shall from time to time determine Provided as follows:—

- (a) Notice of the intended sale shall be given in writing to the town clerk of Reading and to the clerk of every district council whose district or any part of whose district is within the limits of supply and to the Secretary of the London Stock Exchange at least twenty-eight days before the day of auction or the last day for the reception of tenders as the case may be and shall also be duly advertised once in each of two consecutive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating within the limits of supply;
- (b) A reserve price shall be fixed and notice thereof shall be sent by the Company in a sealed letter to be received by the Board of Trade not less than twenty-four hours before but not to be opened till after the day of auction or last day for the receipt of tenders as the case may be;
- (c) No lot offered for sale shall comprise stock of greater nominal value than one hundred pounds;
- (d) In the case of a sale by tender no preference shall be given to one of two or more persons tendering the same sum In the case of a sale by auction a bid shall not be recognised unless it is in advance of the last preceding bid;
- (e) It shall be one of the conditions of sale that the total sum payable by the purchaser shall be paid to the Company within three months after the date of the auction or of the acceptance of the tender as the case may be.

(3) Any stock which has been so offered for sale and is not sold may be offered at the reserve price to the holders of ordinary stock and preference shares or stock of the Company in accordance with the provisions of sections 18 19 and 20 of the Companies Clauses Act 1863 and to the employees of the Company and to the consumers of gas supplied by the Company in such proportions as the Company may think fit or to one or more of these classes of persons only Provided in the case of an offer to holders of ordinary stock or preference

shares or stock that if the aggregate amount of stock applied for shall exceed the aggregate amount so offered as aforesaid the same shall be allotted to and distributed amongst the applicants as nearly as may be in proportion to the amounts applied for by them respectively. A.D. 1927.

(4) Any stock which has been offered for sale in accordance with subsection (2) or with subsections (2) and (3) of this section and is not sold shall be again offered for sale by public auction or by tender in accordance with the provisions of this section and any such stock then remaining unsold may be otherwise disposed of at such price and in such manner as the directors may determine for the purpose of realising the best price obtainable.

(5) As soon as possible after the conclusion of the sale or sales the Company shall send a report thereof to the Board of Trade stating the total amount of the stock sold the total amount obtained as premium (if any) and the highest and lowest prices obtained for the stock.

11.—(1) The Company may subject to the provisions of this Act but without the certificate of a justice of the peace at any time after the passing of this Act borrow on mortgage of the undertaking in respect of their capital issued at the passing of this Act (in addition to the sum of one hundred and fifty-five thousand one hundred and thirty-one pounds already borrowed under the powers conferred by the recited Acts and Orders) any sum or sums not exceeding in the whole thirteen thousand five hundred and eighty-six pounds nineteen shillings and sevenpence being with the said sum of one hundred and fifty-five thousand one hundred and thirty-one pounds one-half of the paid-up capital (including premiums) issued at the passing of this Act. Power to borrow.

(2) The Company may subject to the provisions of this Act borrow on mortgage of the undertaking any sum or sums not exceeding in the whole one-half of the amount of authorised capital remaining to be issued at the passing of this Act and one-half of the amount of the additional capital by this Act authorised but no part thereof shall be borrowed until the whole of the stock at the time issued together with the premiums (if any) realised on the sale thereof shall have been fully paid up and the Company have proved to a justice before he

A.D. 1927. — gives his certificate under the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 that the total sum payable in respect of such capital together with the premiums (if any) realised on the sale thereof has been fully paid up.

Debenture stock.

12. The Company may create and issue debenture stock subject to the provisions of Part III of the Companies Clauses Act 1863 and of section 22 (Debenture stock) of the Act of 1880 Notice of the effect of that enactment shall be endorsed on all mortgages and certificates of debenture stock granted or issued after the passing of this Act.

Priority of mortgages over other debts.

13. All moneys raised or to be raised by the Company on mortgage or debenture stock under the provisions of the Reading Gas Acts and Orders 1862 to 1927 shall have priority against the Company and the property from time to time of the Company over all other claims on account of any debts incurred or engagements entered into by them after the passing of this Act Provided always that this priority shall not affect any claim against the Company or their property in respect of any rentcharge granted or to be granted by them in pursuance of the Lands Clauses Acts or in respect of any rent or sum reserved by or payable under any lease granted or made to the Company which is entitled to rank in priority to or *pari passu* with the interest on their mortgages or debenture stock.

Existing mortgages to have priority.

14. All mortgages granted by the Company in pursuance of the powers of any Act or Order relating to the Company before the date of this Act and subsisting at that date shall during the continuance of such mortgages and subject to the provisions of the Acts or Orders under which such mortgages were respectively granted have priority over any mortgages granted by virtue of this Act but nothing in this section contained shall affect any priority of the interest of any debenture stock at any time created and issued by the Company.

Appointment of receiver.

15. Section 21 (For appointment of receiver) of the Act of 1902 is hereby repealed but without prejudice to any appointment heretofore made or to the continuance of any proceedings which may have been commenced under any such provision prior to the passing of this Act and in lieu thereof the mortgagees of the undertaking may enforce payment of arrears of interest or principal

or principal and interest due on their mortgages by the appointment of a receiver In order to authorise the appointment of a receiver in respect of arrears of principal the amount owing to the mortgagees by whom the application for a receiver is made shall not be less than ten thousand pounds in the whole. A.D. 1927.

16.—(1) All moneys raised under the Reading Gas Acts and Orders 1862 to 1927 after the passing of this Act including any premiums shall be applied only to purposes to which capital is properly applicable and any sum of money which may arise from the issue of any stock under the provisions of this Act by way of premium shall not be considered as part of the capital of the Company entitled to dividend. Power to apply funds.

(2) The Company may apply to any of the purposes of this Act to which capital is properly applicable any moneys which they have raised or are authorised to raise by the issue of stock or by borrowing under the Reading Gas Acts and Orders 1862 to 1927.

17.—(1) The Company may create and issue any preference stock or debenture stock which they are authorised to create and issue (both of which are in this section referred to as "stock") so as to be redeemable on such terms and conditions as may be specified in a resolution of the Company passed at a special meeting convened for the purpose. Redeemable preference stock and debenture stock.

(2) If it is so provided in the resolution the Company may—

- (a) Call in and pay off the stock or any part thereof at any time before the fixed date for redemption;
- (b) Redeem the stock or any part thereof either by paying off the stock or by issuing to the holder of any stock subject to his consent other stock in substitution therefor.

(3) The Company may for the purpose of providing money for paying off the stock or for the purpose of providing substituted stock create and issue new stock (redeemable or irredeemable) or re-issue stock originally created and issued as aforesaid:

Provided that—

- (a) The creation and issue for those purposes of any particular class of stock does not make the total nominal amount of such stock

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exceed the amount of that class of stock which the Company are for the time being authorised to create except during the necessary interval between the creation and issue of the new stock and the redemption of the old stock; and

(b) The provisions of the section of this Act the marginal note whereof is "New stock to be sold by auction or tender" shall not apply to any stock proposed to be issued or re-issued only in substitution for any stock to be redeemed.

(4) The Company shall not redeem out of revenue any stock created as aforesaid.

(5) The provisions of subsections (2) (3) and (4) of this section shall apply to the forty thousand pounds seven per centum redeemable debenture stock the thirty-four thousand nine hundred pounds seven per centum redeemable debenture stock the fifteen thousand pounds five per centum redeemable debenture stock and the fifteen thousand one hundred pounds six pounds ten shillings per centum redeemable preference stock created and issued by the Company under the Act of 1902 and the Reading Gas Company (Capital Issues) Consent 1920 and the Reading Gas Company (Capital Issues) Consent 1921 as if the resolution creating the same had provided for the powers mentioned in the said subsection (2).

Amount of reserve fund.

18. The prescribed sum for the purposes of section 31 of the Gasworks Clauses Act 1847 shall be one-tenth of the nominal amount of the capital of the Company and section 17 of the Act of 1902 shall be deemed to be amended accordingly.

Receipt in case of persons not sui juris.

19. If any money is payable to a shareholder or mortgagee or debenture stockholder being a minor idiot or lunatic the receipt of the guardian or committee of his estate shall be a sufficient discharge to the Company.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Notice of candidature of or of opposition to re-election of director.

20.—(1) Except in the case of a director retiring by rotation and offering himself or being proposed for re-election or except in the case of a director being elected by the board of directors to fill a casual vacancy no person shall be capable of being elected a director of the Company unless notice in writing that such person

intends to offer himself or will be proposed for the office of director shall have been given to the secretary of the Company or left at the office of the Company fourteen days at least before the day of election and the secretary of the Company shall during such fourteen days and on the day of election fix a copy of every such notice so delivered in some conspicuous place in such office. A.D. 1927.

(2) In the case of a retiring director or directors notice of opposition to his or their re-election shall be given in like manner.

(3) No person shall be eligible to be elected a director at any general meeting of the Company unless he shall have been the holder of the qualifying amount of stock for at least three months prior to his election.

21. In addition to the powers which the directors may exercise under the Companies Clauses Acts 1845 to 1889 they may determine the remuneration of the secretary of the Company. Remuneration of secretary.

22.—(1) The directors may grant such gratuities pensions and superannuation allowances or make such other payments as they may think fit to any employee of the Company or (where in any particular case no adequate provision is in their opinion otherwise made) to the widow or family or any dependant of such employee. Power to grant pensions &c.

(2) The directors may enter into and carry into effect agreements with any insurance company or other association or company for securing to any such employee widow family or dependant such gratuities pensions allowances or payments as are by this section authorised to be granted or made.

(3) The directors may subscribe or make donations to any fund raised in case of national emergency or to infirmaries hospitals and convalescent homes and other institutions and objects and to the benevolent and sick funds of the employees of the Company.

(4) In this section the word "employee" includes any officer or servant of the Company.

(5) The directors may apply the revenues of the Company for the purposes of this section.

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Offices
show-rooms
and other
buildings
recreation
grounds &c.

Charges for
special
readings of
meters.

23. The Company may purchase or take on lease offices show-rooms and other buildings for the purposes of the undertaking and land for the purpose of recreation of their employees and may erect fit up maintain and let any such buildings upon any lands for the time being belonging or leased to the Company.

24. The Company may levy and recover such charges as they think fit for taking at the request of and for the convenience of consumers at times other than those of the Company's periodical readings the reading of any meter fixed in a house which is either in whole or in part let furnished :

Provided that for each reading taken within the borough of Reading as constituted at the passing of this Act such charges shall not exceed the sum of one shilling.

As to con-
struction
and placing
of pipes &c.

25. In order to enable the Company to ensure a satisfactory supply of gas to their consumers the following provisions shall have effect :—

(1) The Company may if they think fit make a specification or specifications with regard to the minimum size and the material of the pipes with the fittings thereof which are to be laid by the owner or occupier of any premises on those premises either in the first instance or on the occasion of any renewal and different specifications may be made for different classes of premises or for particular premises having regard to the probable maximum consumption of gas thereon at any one time but a specification shall have no force or effect until it has been approved by the Board of Trade who before giving such approval shall refer the matter to an independent gas engineer and may if they think fit direct such engineer to hold a public inquiry into any proposed specification and to have regard to any representations made to the Board by any persons who appear to the Board to be affected by the specification and who attend such inquiry :

(2) (a) The Company shall publish once in the London Gazette and once in each of two newspapers circulating within the limits of supply a notice of any application made by

them to the Board of Trade for approval of any specification together with a copy of the proposed specification and an intimation in a form to be approved by the Board that any person affected by such proposed specification may make representations in writing to the Board within a period to be specified in the notice;

(b) As soon as practicable after the Board of Trade have approved any specification the Company shall comply with any directions given to them by the Board as to the publication or service of copies of the specification as approved or of notice of the giving of such approval;

(c) A copy of every specification approved by the Board of Trade under this section shall be kept for public inspection at the office of the Company and copies of every such specification shall be purchasable by any person at the said office at the price of sixpence for each copy :

- (3) When any such pipe or fittings as aforesaid is or are about to be laid or placed notice thereof shall be given to the Company accompanied by a description of the size and materials of the proposed pipe or fittings and of the purposes for which the gas to be supplied through the same is intended to be used :
- (4) The Company shall within seven days after receiving such notice (after making such inspection if any of the said pipe or fittings and of the premises in which the same is or are proposed to be laid or placed as they may deem necessary) intimate in writing to the person giving the notice their approval or disapproval of the pipe or fittings as complying or not complying with the appropriate specification :
- (5) No such pipe or fittings as aforesaid shall be laid or placed unless or until the same shall have been approved as aforesaid and when any such pipe or fittings has or have been laid or placed notice thereof shall be given to the

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Company and the pipe or fittings shall not be covered over until after the expiration of forty-eight hours from the service of such notice on the Company or until the pipe or fittings as laid or placed has or have been inspected and approved by the Company whichever shall first happen :

- (6) Any officer of the Company duly appointed may between nine o'clock in the morning and five o'clock in the afternoon attend for the purpose of any such inspection as aforesaid and if the officer is not permitted to make the inspection or if the pipes or fittings are not according to the appropriate specification of the Company they may refuse to supply gas to the premises until the provisions of this section have been complied with :
- (7) Every meter to be used in a new building or a building not previously supplied with gas or in connection with a new or substituted pipe laid between the main and the meter shall be placed as near as reasonably practicable to the Company's main but within the outside wall of the building and when any such meter has been placed the person placing the same shall give to the Company the like notice and the Company shall have the like rights of inspection as are respectively referred to in subsections (5) and (6) of this section and if the meter is not placed as required by this section the Company may refuse to supply gas to the premises until the provisions of this section have been complied with :

Provided that in the case of any building in connection with which there is provided outside the building accommodation reasonably approved by the Company for the meter or a separate meter house such meter may be placed in such accommodation or meter house instead of within the outside wall of the building :

- (8) The provisions of this section relating to pipes and the fittings thereof shall not apply to any pipes or fittings belonging to a railway

company and laid or placed or intended to be laid or placed in any premises (not being a dwelling-house or premises appurtenant to a dwelling-house) of that Company— A.D. 1927.

(a) elsewhere than between the main of the Company and the meter; or

(b) between such main and the meter unless and except so far as such pipes or fittings are covered over or intended to be covered over :

(9) For the purposes of this section the expression "fittings" includes only the joints angles and connections used in placing or laying pipes.

26. If at the date of the demand for any such new or increased supply of gas as is hereinafter referred to the capacity of the distribution works of the Company is in the opinion of an arbitrator appointed as hereinafter provided insufficient to meet (with a reasonable margin) the requirements (as existing immediately before that date) of the consumers in the portion of the limits of supply for which such works have been provided (so far as such requirements could reasonably have been foreseen) and the requirements of street lighting the Company notwithstanding anything contained in any other enactment shall not be obliged to give for any purpose other than lighting (including street lighting) or domestic use— Relief from obligation to supply.

(a) a new supply of gas for the premises of any person demanding such supply at any time after the passing of this Act; or

(b) an increased supply of gas (other than an increased supply necessitated by any reduction of the declared calorific value of the gas)

where the giving of such new or increased supply would render necessary the laying of a new main or the making (as an alternative to the laying of a new main) of any enlargement or alteration of or addition to the distribution works of the Company :

Provided that the foregoing provisions of this section shall not apply in any case in which the person demanding the new or increased supply (in this section

A.D. 1927. referred to as "the applicant") shall enter into a written contract with the Company—

- (i) to receive and pay for a supply of gas of such minimum quantity and for such minimum period as the Company may reasonably require; or
- (ii) to make such payment or payments to the Company (in addition to any payments to be made from time to time for gas supplied to the applicant) as the Company may reasonably require

(according as the Company may in their discretion determine) in consideration of or by way of contribution towards the expenses to be incurred by the Company in laying such new main or making such enlargement alteration or addition as aforesaid and shall give such security for the payment of all moneys which may become due under the contract as the Company may reasonably demand :

Provided also that if any question shall arise under the provisions of this section between the Company and the applicant as to the sufficiency of the distribution works of the Company or as to whether such new or increased supply would necessitate the laying of a new main or the making of any such enlargement alteration or addition as aforesaid or as to the reasonableness of the minimum quantity or period or of the payments (in addition to payments for gas supplied) required by the Company or as to the nature or amount of the security demanded by the Company such question shall be referred to and determined by an arbitrator to be appointed (failing agreement between the Company and the applicant) by the Board of Trade on the application of either party after notice in writing to the other of them and the decision of such arbitrator shall be final and binding :

Provided also that in determining any such question as aforesaid the arbitrator shall have regard to the following among other considerations (that is to say) :—

- (a) The total annual quantity of gas required by the applicant the maximum quantity required per hour and the hours of the day during which the Company may be called upon to supply gas to the applicant;

- (b) The capital expenditure which the Company would have to incur in the laying of a new main or the making of any enlargement or alteration of or addition to their distribution works as aforesaid in connection with the giving of such new or increased supply; and
- (c) How far such capital expenditure may become unproductive to the Company in the event of the cesser of the new or increased supply.
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Subject as aforesaid the provisions of the Arbitration Act 1889 shall apply to any arbitration under this section.

27. In any case in which in consequence of any default on the part of the occupier of any premises the Company shall have cut off the supply of gas to such premises (whether under the existing powers of the Company or under the powers conferred by this Act) and the occupier so in default shall desire to resume such supply he shall pay to the Company the reasonable expenses of re-connecting the supply and the Company shall not be under any obligation to supply gas to such occupier until he shall have paid such expenses.

Occupiers to pay expenses of reconnecting discontinued supply.

28. Where any person has for the purposes of a stand-by only a supply of gas laid on by the Company to any premises for which he has at the same time a separate supply of electricity or gas the Company shall be entitled to charge and receive from him in respect of the supply of gas so laid on such a sum as shall be fixed by the Company not exceeding twenty shillings for any one quarter of a year notwithstanding that the ordinary charge for the gas actually consumed in such quarter would amount to a lower sum.

Charge for gas to premises having a supply of electricity or gas.

29. The following sections of the undermentioned Acts are hereby repealed (that is to say):—

Repeal.

The Act of 1862—

Section 81 (Company to supply gas in certain event on request of owners or occupiers);

Section 82 (Security for payment of rate);

Section 83 (Justice may determine nature of security);

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- Section 84 (Penalty on Company for failure of supply);
- Section 87 (Illuminating power of gas);
- Section 88 (Experimental meter);
- Section 89 (Requisition to test gas);
- Section 90 (Justices may make order);
- Section 91 (Company to remove cause of complaint);
- Section 92 (Costs of testing gas to abide the event);
- Section 95 (For settlement of disputes between local board and Company);
- Section 96 (Meters);
- Section 97 (Meter rents);
- Section 98 (Company to furnish meters);
- Section 99 (No charge for same in certain event);
- Section 100 (Charge for meter);
- Section 102 (Penalty for using meter not duly stamped);
- Section 103 (Cutting off gas);
- Section 104 (Company not to charge incoming tenant for arrears of gas);
- Section 105 (Removal of meters and fittings);
- Section 106 (Gas rates and meter rents may be levied by distress);
- Section 107 (Costs of distress);
- Section 108 (Recovery of sums not exceeding fifty pounds);
- Section 109 (Penalties not to be cumulative);
- Section 110 (Liability to gas rents &c. not to disqualify justices &c.):

The Act of 1870—

- Section 32 (Provisions of Thames Navigation Act 1866 extended to this Act):

The Act of 1880—

- Section 36 (Protection of the Conservators of the River Thames):

Provided that the repeal of the two last-mentioned sections shall not exonerate the Company from liability for any act in contravention of or any offence against the provisions of the Thames Conservancy Acts 1894 to 1924.

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30. The Company shall indemnify the Corporation of Reading against all claims or demands which may be made against them under or in pursuance of the provisions relating to pollution contained in the Thames Conservancy Acts 1894 to 1924 in respect of any pollution of the River Thames or the River Kennet or any tributary thereof respectively caused or permitted by the Company in connection with any works executed by them after the passing of this Act.

Company to indemnify Corporation of Reading against claims under Thames Conservancy Acts.

31. Nothing in this Act contained shall exempt the Company or their gasworks from the provisions of any present or future general Act relating to gas companies or gasworks established before the passing thereof or from any present or future general Act relating to the public health.

Company not exempt from provisions of general Acts.

32. All the costs charges and expenses of and incident to the preparing for obtaining and passing of this Act or otherwise in relation thereto shall be paid by the Company and may in whole or in part be defrayed out of revenue.

Costs of Act.

A.D. 1927. The SCHEDULE referred to in the foregoing Act.

LAND FOR THE STORAGE OF GAS AND RESIDUAL
PRODUCTS.

A piece or parcel of land containing by admeasurement 3 acres 2 roods 30 poles or thereabouts belonging or reputed to belong to the Great Western Railway Company and in the occupation of George Bruin Wheeler and Wyman and Sons Limited and situate in the parish of Earley in the rural district of Wokingham in the county of Berks and bounded on the north by land belonging or reputed to belong to the Great Western Railway Company on the east and south by land belonging or reputed to belong to Messrs. Sutton and Sons and on the west by the River Kennet.

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