



CHAPTER 1.

An Act to empower the South Eastern Railway Com- A.D. 1917.
pany to alter and strengthen part of the Charing
Cross Railway Bridge and for other purposes.

[2nd August 1917.]

WHEREAS the bridge authorised by the Charing Cross
Railway Act 1859 carrying the Charing Cross Railway
of the South Eastern Railway Company (hereinafter referred
to as "the Company") over the River Thames has become
inadequate to meet the requirements of the traffic using the
same and it is expedient that the Company should be autho-
rised to make an alteration and strengthening of the said
bridge and that the South Eastern and Chatham Railway
Companies Managing Committee (hereinafter referred to as
"the Managing Committee") should be authorised to maintain
the said bridge as so altered and strengthened as by this Act
provided:

And whereas plans and sections showing the lines and
levels of the work authorised by this Act and also a book of
reference containing the names of the owners and lessees
or reputed owners and lessees and of the occupiers of the
lands required or which may be taken for the purposes or
under the powers of this Act were duly deposited with the
clerk of the peace for the county of London and are in this
Act referred to as the deposited plans and sections 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

[Ch. 1.] *South Eastern and London* [7 & 8 GEO. 5.]
Chatham and Dover Railways Act, 1917.

A.D. 1917. 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:—

Short title. 1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the South Eastern and London Chatham and Dover Railways Act 1917.

Interpre-
tation. 2. 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—

The expression “the Company” means the South Eastern Railway Company;

The expression “the Managing Committee” means the South Eastern and Chatham Railway Companies’ Managing Committee;

The expression “the river” means the River Thames; and

The expression “the bridge” means the bridge carrying the Charing Cross Railway of the Company authorised by the Charing Cross Railway Act 1859 over the river.

Incorpora-
tion of Acts. 3. The following Acts and parts of Acts (so far as the same are applicable for the purposes and are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act) are hereby incorporated with this Act (namely):—

(1) The Lands Clauses Acts:

(2) The Railways Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 and in the application of the provisions of that Act for the purposes of this Act the works by this Act authorised shall be deemed to be a railway.

Alteration
and
strengthen-
ing of
bridge.

4. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Company may in the lines and according to the levels shown on the deposited plans and sections make an alteration and strengthening of so much of the bridge as is comprised in the six spans thereof over the river commencing in the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in the county of London on the north-western side of the brick abutment of the bridge adjoining the Victoria Embankment and terminating in the parish of Lambeth in the said county at a point thirty feet or thereabouts south-east of the south-eastern face of the abutment at the south-eastern end of the bridge

and the Company may purchase and acquire and the owners or other persons interested therein shall sell such right or easement (if any) in under or over the river and the bed banks and foreshore thereof as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act and the Managing Committee may maintain the bridge as so altered and strengthened. A.D. 1917.

5. Notwithstanding anything contained in section 48 (Bridge and works in the River Thames to be executed under the direction of the Conservators of the River Thames) of the Charing Cross Railway Act 1859 the Company shall construct the spans of the bridge over the river in the form of a continuous curve for the soffit of each span. Provided that nothing in this section contained shall be deemed to prejudice alter or affect the provisions of the section of this Act whereof the marginal note is "For protection of Port of London Authority." Elevation of spans.

6. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Company may alter and interfere with the bed and foreshore of the river and may place and keep on or in the banks bed soil or foreshore of the river all such temporary and permanent piles fenders booms dolphins pontoons caissons stagings coffer-dams piers abutments drains and other works and conveniences as they may deem proper or find necessary or expedient and may with the consent of the Port of London Authority restrict navigation temporarily and define limit and prescribe the waterway through any span or spans of the bridge but for such period or periods only in each case as shall be requisite for the execution of the work by this Act authorised. Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to any part of the foreshore or river bed on the south-west side of the bridge beyond a distance of one hundred feet from any of the existing supports of the bridge. Subsidiary works affecting river.

7. In addition to any other powers contained in this Act the Company may with the consent of the London County Council and subject to the provisions of this Act construct temporary stagings supports or other temporary works and conveniences in over and on the Victoria Embankment and temporarily interfere therewith and with any footways subways sewers drains fences and gas water electric telephonic telegraphic hydraulic and other mains pipes and apparatus which may be affected thereby. Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to any part of the Victoria Embankment on the south-west Subsidiary works affecting Victoria Embankment.

A.D. 1917. side of the bridge beyond a distance of twenty feet from the existing main girders of the bridge:

Provided also that the Company shall not interfere with any telegraphic line (as defined by the Telegraph Act 1878) belonging to or used by the Postmaster-General except under and subject to the provisions of that Act.

Period for completion of work.

8. If the work by this Act authorised be not completed within seven years from the passing of this Act then on the expiration of that period the powers of the Company under this Act for the execution thereof shall cease except so far as the same shall have been completed.

Abandonment of portion of widening authorised by Act of 1900.

9. The Company shall abandon the construction of so much of the Widening No. 1 authorised by the South Eastern and London Chatham and Dover Railway Companies Act 1900 as situate in on or over the river and so much of the said Act as relates to the said portion of that widening is hereby repealed.

Limitation on extension of Charing Cross Station &c.

10. The Company shall not execute any works other than the works by this Act authorised for the purpose of enlarging or improving the Charing Cross Station of the Company.

As to commencement of works.

11.—(1) The Company shall not commence the construction of any permanent works by this Act authorised above Trinity high-water mark until the expiration of three years from the passing of this Act unless the Board of Trade shall require the Company to proceed with such works or any part thereof at an earlier date.

(2) The Board of Trade may on the application of the Company at any time after the expiration of the three years referred to in the last preceding subsection and before the expiration of the period of seven years referred to in the section of this Act of which the marginal note is "Period for completion of work" and on being satisfied that the Company will be prevented by reason of the provisions of this section from completing the works by this Act authorised or as the case may be some part or parts thereof within the said period of seven years make an order extending such period and the period of seven years referred to in the section of this Act of which the marginal note is "For protection of Port of London Authority" and on any such order being made this Act shall thereupon have effect as if the said periods as so extended were substituted for such periods respectively.

(3) Before dealing with any such application the Board of Trade may require the Company to publish or give any notices which the Board direct and may give any person appearing to the Board to be interested in the question of the extension of such periods an opportunity of representing his views to the Board in such manner as the Board think fit Any order made by the Board on such application shall be published in the London Gazette. A.D. 1917.

12. In the event of any public improvement being authorised within fifteen years from the date of the passing of this Act by an Act for the purposes of which it may be necessary to purchase or acquire Charing Cross Station and the bridge or either of them and an effective notice to treat for the purchase of the said station and the bridge or either of them being served upon the Company and the Managing Committee under the Lands Clauses Acts within one year from the date of the passing of such last-mentioned Act the Company and the Managing Committee or either of them shall not be entitled to bring into account or to make any claim or receive compensation in respect of any money expended by them on strengthening the bridge or of any advantages conferred by or any benefits resulting from the passing of this Act. Provision
in case of
future public
improvement.

13. Subject to the provision by the London County Council free of expense to the Company of a suitable site for the same the Company shall construct a stairway for the use of the public at all times of not less than seven feet in width on the river side of the Victoria Embankment to afford an access from the embankment to the public footbridge adjoining the bridge at Charing Cross in such position and of such design as may be reasonably approved by the said council and the Company shall at all times properly maintain repair cleanse and light the said stairway: Access to
Charing
Cross foot-
bridge.

Provided that the Company shall not make any claim for compensation against the said council in respect of any interference with the property rights or interests of the Company which may arise by reason of the construction of the said stairway.

14. The following provisions shall unless otherwise agreed have effect for the protection of the London County Council (in this section called "the council") (that is to say):— For protec-
tion of
London
County
Council.

(1)—(a) The Company (which expression where used in this section includes the Managing Committee) shall not

A.D. 1917.

execute or construct any works (which expression in this section includes any temporary works) in pursuance of powers contained in this Act which pass over under or by the side of or so as to interfere with the sewers of the council until they have given to the council twenty-eight days' notice in writing of their intention to commence the same by leaving such notice at the principal office of the council with plans and sections thereof as hereinafter defined and until the council have signified their approval of the same unless the council do not signify their approval disapproval or other directions within twenty-eight days after service of the said notice plans and sections and the Company shall comply with and conform to all reasonable orders directions and regulations of the council in the execution of the said works and shall provide by new altered or substituted works in such manner as the council reasonably require for the proper protection of and for preventing injury or impediment to the said sewers by reason of the intended works or any part thereof and shall save harmless the council against all expenses to be occasioned thereby and all such works shall be done by or under the direction superintendence and control of the council at the costs charges and expenses in all respects of the Company and all reasonable costs charges and expenses which the council may be put to by reason of such works of the Company whether in the execution of works the preparation or examination of plans or designs superintendence or otherwise shall be paid to the council by the Company on demand and when any such new altered or substituted sewers or sewer works or any works of defence connected therewith are completed by or at the costs charges or expenses of the Company under the provisions of this Act the same shall thereafter form part of the council's main drainage system ;

- (b) As regards any works in respect of which the Company are under the provisions of this subsection required to submit plans and sections to the council the council may require the Company in constructing

such works to make any reasonable deviation from the line or levels shown upon such plans or sections for the purpose of avoiding injury or risk of injury to the sewers of the council and the Company shall in constructing such works deviate accordingly; A.D. 1917.

- (c) The plans and sections to be submitted to the council for the purposes of this subsection shall be detailed plans drawings sections and specifications describing the exact position and manner in which and the levels at which the works are proposed to be constructed and shall accurately describe the position of all sewers of the council near or adjacent to such works (for which purpose the council shall allow the Company access to plans in their possession and to any sewers in order to enable the Company to obtain trustworthy information) and shall comprise detailed drawings of any alterations which the Company propose to make in any such sewer;
- (d) The council may require such modification to be made in the said plans drawings sections and specifications as may be reasonably necessary to secure the sewers and drainage system of London under the jurisdiction and control of the council against interference or risk of damage and to provide and secure a proper and convenient means of access to the said sewers;
- (e) The Company shall make good all injury or damage caused by or resulting from the construction or user of any of their works to any sewers or works vested in the council and the council shall from time to time have power to recover the amount thereof from the Company in any court of competent jurisdiction:
- (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or shown on the deposited plans the Company shall not except with the consent of the council take use or interfere with any lands or other property belonging to the council:
- (3) Before commencing to construct any works under the powers of this Act which are likely to affect any property of the council other than sewers and works

A.D. 1917.
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in connexion therewith (which property is hereinafter referred to as "the property of the council") the Company shall deliver to the council plans sections and specifications of the works as proposed to be executed by the Company and if at the expiration of twenty-eight days from such delivery the plans sections and specifications are not approved by the council there shall be deemed to be a difference and such difference shall unless otherwise agreed be settled in the manner hereinafter provided and such works shall be executed to the reasonable satisfaction of the council and at the costs charges and expenses in all respects of the Company and when commenced shall be proceeded with with all reasonable despatch:

The Company shall at all times maintain such of the said works as are likely to affect any part of the property of the council in substantial repair and good order and condition to the reasonable satisfaction in all respects of the council. The council shall at all reasonable times have free access to the said works and every facility shall be afforded them for the inspection thereof and every reasonable notice which they may give touching any defect or want of repair shall immediately or as soon as possible be complied with by the Company:

If during and by the execution or user of the said works any part of the property of the council is injured or damaged such injury or damage shall be forthwith made good by the Company at their own expense or in the event of their failing so to do the council may make good the same and recover the costs thereof against the Company:

The Company shall not in making maintaining and using the said works in any manner obstruct hinder or interfere with (a) the free uninterrupted and safe user of the tramways of the council or any traffic thereon or (b) the free uninterrupted and safe user of the pier or the floating fire-station of the council at Charing Cross or the accesses to them either from the land or river and in case of any such obstruction hindrance or interference the Company shall pay to

the council such damages as the council sustain by reason thereof: A.D. 1917.

All reasonable fees costs charges and expenses in respect of any of the matters in this subsection contained shall be borne and on demand paid by the Company and during the construction renewal or repair of the said works adjacent to the property of the council the Company shall bear and on demand shall pay to the council the expense of the reasonable employment by them of a sufficient number of inspectors or watchmen to be appointed by them for watching the property of the council or any part thereof and the works and conveniences connected therewith and for preventing as far as possible all interference obstruction danger and accident arising from any of the operations of the Company or from acts or defaults of the contractors of the Company or of any person in their employ or otherwise :

Notwithstanding anything in this Act contained the Company shall be responsible for and make good to the council all costs losses damages and expenses which may be occasioned to the council or to the property of the council or to any person using the same or otherwise by reason of the construction user maintenance or failure of the said works of the Company or of any act or omission of the Company or of any person in their employ or of their contractors or others and the Company shall effectually indemnify and hold harmless the council from all claims and demands upon or against them by reason of such construction user maintenance failure or omission :

Any difference arising between the council and the Company with respect to the provisions of this subsection shall be settled by arbitration by an engineer to be appointed by the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers on the application of the Company and the council or either of them and the Arbitration Act 1889 shall apply to any such arbitration :

- (4) The approval by the council of any plans sections or specifications or the superintendence by the council

A.D. 1917.

of any work under the provisions of this section shall not exonerate the Company from any liability or affect any claim for damages under this section or otherwise:

- (5) The Company shall not affix or exhibit or permit to be affixed or exhibited upon any part of the works by this Act authorised within view of any public street in the county of London any placards or advertisements except such as have been approved by the council and if any such placard or advertisement is affixed or exhibited without such approval the council and their authorised officers may remove the same at the expense of the Company:
- (6) The Company may subject to the approval of the council temporarily obstruct or interfere with any part of the Charing Cross footbridge or the accesses thereto:
- (7) Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to exempt the Company from any of the provisions of the Metropolis Management (Thames River Prevention of Floods) Act 1879 or any Act amending the same.

For protec-
tion of Port
of London
Authority.

15. For the protection of the Port of London Authority (in this section referred to as "the port authority") the following provisions shall unless otherwise agreed have effect (that is to say):—

- (1) The Company shall not commence any works by this Act authorised whether permanent or temporary in the river or on over or under the bed shores or banks thereof until outline plans elevations and sections of such works shall have been approved in writing by the port authority under the hand of their secretary and detail working plans elevations and sections of such works shall have been approved by the chief engineer of the port authority and deposited at their office:
- (2) All works by this Act authorised both temporary and permanent shall be carried out in accordance with the outline and detail working plans elevations and sections approved under subsection (1) of this section and to the reasonable satisfaction of the chief engineer of the port authority and the traffic

of the river shall not be interfered with any more than may be absolutely necessary in the carrying out of the said works: A.D. 1917.

- (3) Throughout the period of the construction of the temporary and permanent works by this Act authorised the openings in the temporary works shall be of such clear widths between the piling and such clear headways above Trinity high-water mark as shall have been approved as aforesaid by the port authority and all temporary works erected or placed in the river or on or under the bed shores or banks thereof under the authority of this Act shall be enclosed in floating booms:
- (4) No pile driver barge or other craft shall at any time except with the consent of the port authority be allowed to lie in any part of the said openings:
- (5) During the progress of the said works and until such time as all temporary works have been removed a steam tug shall be provided by and at the expense of the Company which shall at all times during that period be in attendance at or near the site of the said works in readiness to render assistance to vessels and barges navigating the river there and such assistance shall be at all times rendered:
- (6) The owners and masters of vessels shall not be liable to make good any damage which may be caused to the temporary works except such as may arise from the wilful act or default of such owners or masters or their servants or agents:
- (7) The works by this Act authorised when commenced shall be proceeded with and completed as early as practicable and the Company shall upon completion of the permanent works and in any event within a period of four years from the commencement of any of the works in or over the river either temporary or permanent by this Act authorised or within a period of seven years from the passing of this Act whichever period shall expire the sooner remove any temporary works and materials for temporary works which may have been placed in the river or on or

A.D. 1917.
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over the bed shores or banks thereof by the Company and on their failing to do so the port authority may remove the same charging the Company with the expense of so doing and the Company shall forthwith repay to the port authority all expenses so incurred:

- (8) The Company shall during the execution of any works by this Act authorised whether temporary or permanent hang out and exhibit thereat or near thereto and after the completion of such works hang out and exhibit on the altered bridge every night from sunset to sunrise lights to be kept burning by and at the expense of the Company and proper and sufficient for the navigation and safe guidance of vessels and the lights shall from time to time be altered by the Company in such manner and be of such kind and number and be so placed and used as the port authority shall approve or direct and in case the Company fail so to exhibit and keep burning such lights they shall for every such offence forfeit to the port authority ten pounds:
- (9) Nothing in this Act contained shall authorise or empower the Company without the previous consent of the port authority under the hand of their secretary to embank encroach upon or interfere with any part of the river or the bed or shores thereof except according to plans elevations and sections approved by the port authority and except as shown upon the deposited plans nothing in this Act shall be deemed to authorise the Company to construct any permanent works so as to reduce the existing width of waterway of the river:
- (10) The Company shall not (except so far as shall be necessary in the execution of the works by this Act authorised) take any gravel soil or other material from the bed or shore of the river without the consent of the port authority:
- (11) All objects of geological or antiquarian interest or of value discovered in the execution of works authorised by this Act in the river shall be carefully preserved and removed and shall be delivered to the port

authority in such manner as the port authority may from time to time direct: A.D. 1917.

The port authority shall during the execution of any such works have power to enter and inspect such works for the purposes of this subsection:

- (12) The foundations of all new piers or similar works to be constructed in the river under the powers of this Act and all or any works in connexion with such piers shall be constructed and maintained at such a level as to allow the bed of the river adjacent to the said piers to be dredged to a depth of thirty-five feet below the level of Trinity high water and notwithstanding anything contained in the Port of London Act 1908 the port authority shall not be liable for any damage occasioned by or resulting from such dredging operations:
- (13) Notwithstanding anything in this Act or in the Acts incorporated herewith the compensation or consideration payable to the port authority in respect of the lands taken or easements acquired under the powers of this Act or in respect of permanent or temporary works placed in the river or on over or under the banks bed or shores thereof shall be assessed in accordance with the provisions of section 116 of the Thames Conservancy Act 1894 or any statutory provision in lieu thereof for the time being in force:
- (14) The consideration payable to the port authority in respect of any mains pipes cables wires or other works or apparatus which the Company or the Managing Committee may at any time carry or permit to be carried over the river by means of the said bridge or any part thereof shall be assessed in accordance with the provisions of section 116 of the Thames Conservancy Act 1894 or any statutory provision in lieu thereof for the time being in force and the Company shall give notice in writing to the port authority of any such permission as aforesaid:

Provided that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any mains pipes cables wires or other works or apparatus—

(a) Now in existence on the said bridge;

A.D. 1917.

(b) Placed as renewals of those existing and of no greater size or potentiality;

(c) Placed or used solely for the working of the railway of the Company and the Managing Committee :

(15) The Company shall bear and on demand pay the cost of any alterations to any moorings which in the opinion of the port authority may be rendered necessary or desirable by reason of the construction of any of the works by this Act authorised :

(16) If any difference shall arise between the Company and the port authority under this section such difference shall be referred to an arbitrator to be agreed upon or in case of difference appointed on the application of either party by the Board of Trade and subject thereto the Arbitration Act 1889 shall apply to such reference.

For protec-
tion of gas
companies.

16. For the protection of the Gas Light and Coke Company the South Metropolitan Gas Company and the Wandsworth Wimbledon and Epsom District Gas Company (each of which companies is in this section referred to as "the gas company") the following provisions shall unless otherwise agreed and notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or shown on the deposited plans and sections apply and have effect (that is to say):—

(1) No part of any new pier or similar work to be constructed in the river shall project at the top thereof more than twelve feet beyond an imaginary line drawn through the centre of the existing columns supporting the said bridge nor shall the outward batter of the face of any such pier or similar work exceed one in thirty-five :

(2) The springing of the arches or cantilevers at the face of any pier or similar work shall be at a level not lower than ten feet nine inches above Trinity high-water mark :

(3) The Company shall repay to the gas company all expenses incurred by the gas company during the progress of the said works and until such time as all temporary works have been removed in providing a steam tug of adequate horse power for the purpose of assisting

their steam vessels proceeding up or down the river between Limehouse and the works of the gas company Provided that the payment to be made to the Wandsworth Wimbledon and Epsom District Gas Company shall not exceed the sum of seven hundred and fifty pounds per annum: A.D. 1917.

The provisions of this subsection shall be in addition to and not in derogation of the provisions of subsection (5) of the section of this Act of which the marginal note is "For protection of Port of London Authority":

- (4) The gas company and the master of any vessel or barge belonging to or worked by them shall not be liable to make good any damage which may be caused to any works either temporary or permanent constructed under the powers of this Act except such as may arise from the wilful act or default of the gas company or the masters of their vessels and barges or their servants or agents:
- (5) If any difference shall arise between the gas company and the Company under this section such difference shall be referred to an arbitrator to be agreed upon or in case of difference appointed on the application of either party by the Board of Trade and the Arbitration Act 1889 or any statutory modification thereof shall apply to such reference.

17. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prejudice or affect any of the rights and powers of the Postmaster-General under the Telegraph Acts 1863 to 1916 or any agreement confirmed thereby or made thereunder. For protection of Postmaster-General.

18. Seven days before entering upon breaking up or interfering with any public streets or roads under the provisions of this Act within the metropolitan police district the Company shall serve notice in writing on the Commissioner of Police of the metropolis and make such arrangements as he may reasonably require with regard to the position of the roadworks and hoarding and the continuous carrying on of the work in order to minimise the interference with the street traffic. For protection of Commissioner of Police of Metropolis.

A.D. 1917.

For protec-
tion of Met-
ropolitan
Water Board
and gas
electric and
hydraulic
power com-
panies.

19. For the protection of the Metropolitan Water Board and the gas electric and hydraulic power companies whose mains pipes or apparatus may be interfered with during the execution of the works by this Act authorised (each of whom are in this section referred to as "the protected company") the following provisions shall have effect (that is to say):—

(1) In addition to the provisions of the Railways Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 with reference to the alteration of water and gas pipes the Company shall not commence any alterations of any gas water electric or hydraulic power mains pipes or apparatus until after fourteen days' previous notice thereof in writing shall have been given to the protected company. Provided that if the protected company shall elect themselves to execute any such alterations which the Company may by this Act be empowered to do and of such their election shall give seven days' notice in writing to the Company by leaving the same at their head office the protected company may themselves execute such alterations and the reasonable expense of and incident to the executing the same shall be repaid by the Company to the protected company on demand:

(2) If the Company take any of the protected company's mains pipes or other apparatus or render any of the same useless the Company shall pay to the protected company the value thereof to the latter company and the same shall thereupon become the property of the Company.

For protec-
tion of Met-
ropolitan
District
Railway
Company.

20. For the protection and benefit of the Metropolitan District Railway Company (in this section referred to as "the District Company") the following provisions shall notwithstanding anything in this Act contained or shown upon the deposited plans unless otherwise agreed between the Company and the District Company have effect (that is to say):—

(1) The Company shall not without the previous consent in writing of the District Company under their common seal execute any temporary or permanent works within sixty feet of the railway lands works or other property of the District Company:

(2) The Company shall not interfere with or impede the easy and convenient approach or departure of vehicles and foot passengers to or from the Charing Cross Embankment Station of the District Company. A.D. 1917.

21. For the protection and benefit of the London Electric Railway Company (in this section referred to as "the London Electric Company") the following provisions shall notwithstanding anything in this Act contained or shown on the deposited plans unless otherwise agreed between the Company and the London Electric Company have effect (that is to say):—
For protection of London Electric Railway Company.

(1) The Company shall not without the previous consent in writing of the London Electric Company under their common seal execute any temporary or permanent works within forty feet of the railways lands works or other property of the London Electric Company:

(2) The Company shall not interfere with or impede the easy and convenient approach or departure of vehicles and foot passengers to or from the Charing Cross Embankment Stations of the London Electric Company.

22. The Company may apply for the purposes of this Act to which capital is properly applicable any moneys which they now have in their hands or which they have power to raise by shares or mortgage under any existing Act or Acts and which may not be required for the purposes for which the same were authorised to be raised:
Power to Company to apply funds to purposes of Act.

Provided that the powers conferred by this section shall not be exercised by the Company during the continuance of the present war and twelve months thereafter unless the consent of the Treasury has been previously obtained.

23. Nothing in this Act contained shall exempt the Company or their railways from the provisions of any general Act relating to railways or the better or more impartial audit of the accounts of railway companies passed before or after the commencement of this Act or from any future revision or alteration under the authority of Parliament of the maximum rates of fares and charges or of the rates for small parcels authorised to be taken by the Company.
Provision as to general Railway Acts.

A.D. 1917. **24.** All costs charges and expenses of and incident to the
Costs of Act. preparing for obtaining and passing of this Act or otherwise in
relation thereto shall be paid by the Company or the Managing
Committee.

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