

Mr. SKEELS. Height, incidentally, the space between the concrete portion and the pipe rail, was determined by visibility purposes, to enable the drivers of automotive equipment to see out between.

Mr. CONSTANDY. That is always fascinating. I would hope the driver of the vehicle I am riding is watching the road. I do not know why the fascination to permit him to look elsewhere going over bridges.

Mr. SKEELS. It seems to me people like to look out and see what they are going over.

Mr. WILSON. While we are talking about subjects such as this, I would like to get a little traffic engineering in here. Besides, a rail should be functional, but there is a psychological effect of having too much openness in a rail.

We tried some experimentation having no wheel guard at all and putting two rails at various heights there and in our mountainous country traffic will shy away from that rail to the point where it is noticeable to traffic. It will go toward the centerline of the highway. I think from a traffic engineering standpoint, this might be undesirable, because it will mean that traffic will be passing or meeting at a closer distance.

Mr. CONSTANDY. You prefer that the driver of the vehicle not be able to see from the bridge?

Mr. WILSON. He should have a secure feeling and apparently this openness does not give him this secure feeling.

Mr. CONSTANDY. I think we have all experienced that, incidentally. I don't think it is uncommon.

The other point, Mr. Skeels, you mentioned about the need to have your bridge railing higher for trucks; there are some 15 million trucks on America's highways and of course they are not all high center-gravity vehicles, but a good percentage of them are. I wonder if these rails we are looking at are high enough to afford the same degree of protection to the truck traffic.

Mr. SKEELS. That is the statement I made, I do not think this is high enough even though it meets specifications.

Mr. CONSTANDY. Thank you. Mr. Prisk?

Mr. PRISK. Yes. This is simply a closer shot of the same location.

