

Mr. GOODMAN. It is quite common to see on some of our bridges, under them, during the rainstorm, trucks of all kinds in addition to motorcycles waiting for the rain to get over.

Mr. W. MAY. Then that becomes a fixed object.

Mr. GOODMAN. Right.

Mr. W. MAY. Mr. Ives, may we have your comment?

Mr. IVES. I would like to just discuss briefly this matter of roadside obstacles. I think like every other highway department we are working very zealously in order to correct all the deficiencies that we have been made aware of and have been aware of for a long time in the matter of roadside obstacles.

We have been talking primarily about our Interstate System. And it has been brought out here several times that the secondary systems, on our secondary roads, are where the greatest danger is in striking objects. I think many of the States in common with ours have developed a crash program to find out where these obstacles are, what they are, and what we can do about that.

For example, to cite Connecticut, which is necessary in this case, we have charged each district engineer immediately with surveying all of these obstacles within the right-of-way that we have been discussing as to clearances, no matter what they may be, with immediate attention to high-speed highways, and we know that this will take considerable length of time.

So the reports are coming in piecemeal, and we are deciding whether to handle them by contract and remove corrective action or to do it with our own forces.

I think this is most important to the effort to get right after this situation. And I am sure many other States are doing it.

Mr. W. MAY. Thank you.

Mr. Eugene Johnson, you mentioned the Yellow Book in the first page of your statement. You mentioned that it was not valid as an AASHO standard. Why not?

Mr. E. M. JOHNSON. Well, I do not know of any particular reason that it was not; but this tour and inspection was made, as you know, last year. And this committee wrote that report. We were extremely anxious to get it out as soon as possible, and the truth is that the executive committee actually approved it without a draft in front of us, as I remember. But it was approved by the executive committee to be issued as a committee report. We issue a great many publications in that manner.

I think that for all practical purposes, and particularly in view of the fact that the Bureau has used it as a standard, that for all practical purposes, it is having the full effect of a standard adopted by two-thirds vote of the association members.

Mr. W. MAY. You do not consider the effect would be any different if it was adopted as an AASHO standard?

Mr. E. M. JOHNSON. In view of the fact that the Bureau had utilized it as a standard, I do not believe it would make any difference now in this particular case.

Mr. CLEVELAND. May I inquire?

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Cleveland.

Mr. CLEVELAND. When you adopt one of these things as standards, is there not a tendency for it to become fixed? Am I not correct in saying,