

Jersey State News

BAD GAS AND UGLY POLES STIR CAMDEN CITIZENS

While They Must Submit to the Former, They Will Move
Against the Latter in City Councils To-night.
Another Small-Sized Riot

Go where you will in Camden you hear nothing but complaints about bad gas, almost equally as bad electric lights and violent protests against the operations of the new telephone company that seems to think it has a right to rear its unsightly poles anywhere it seems fit, clearly in defiance of the law that declares the consent of property holders must first be had. And Camden people declare there is a peculiar relation existing between these gas, electric, trolley and telephone concerns that will not require much investigation to find certain prominent citizens identified in one way or the other with all of them.

Words of comment were heard on all sides in Camden yesterday on the report published in *The Inquirer* giving the situation regarding complaints against the bad quality of gas and the exorbitant prices charged.

The indignation of gas consumers can hardly be more pronounced than that of the property owners against the Eastern Telephone and Telegraph Company for its

bad, but what are you going to do about it? The electric lights are also poor and the crowd runs both. They come around to my house and try to plant a pole. I suppose they do that as a standoff for the privilege of permitting them to charge me an exorbitant price for gas. But you will observe that pole is not yet up, and there will be something doing if any attempt is made to plant it."

INSPECTOR TRIPPED UP.

Martin J. O'Brien, the well-known undertaker at 613 Market street, is among the army of people who have made a vigorous protest against paying big prices for a bad quality of gas and gone away with the if-you-don't-like-it-quit satisfaction. "Have I any complaint?" said Mr. O'Brien. "Well, rather. But what's the use? I have been down to the office, but could get no satisfaction. As an illustration of how they charge you for a flimsy gas let me tell you this: For the three summer months—say July, August and September—I had a gas range and had lights burning in both the office and dwelling part of my house, for which I received a bill for \$15.50. It was high, and I protested, but that was the end of it. My sisters, who live at 561 Carman street, rarely paid more than \$6 a quarter, but when they received their bill for the