

MEMORANDUM

April 29, 1946

To: Mr. Edward R. Hicks

From: Jack D. Emry, Public Reference Section

Subject: Reasons as to why the Commission should be moved
back to Washington.



In compliance with your recent request there are given below various reasons why I believe the Commission should be moved back to Washington:

1. In view of voluminous information the Commission has available concerning the largest organizations in this country, the Commission should be located in Washington in order that such information would be made more readily available to other government agencies, including the members of Congress. Since moving to Philadelphia the Commission has not been able to furnish this information to the federal government as a whole at the extent as it did when it was located in Washington.

2. Of all government agencies administering law pertaining to financial control over industries, the Commission appears to be the only one that is not located in Washington. Inasmuch as there is a great necessity for close cooperation between agencies of this nature, it is quite obvious that this fact alone does not make for good efficiency in the federal government.

3. For good efficiency in the administration of services of the Commission there is a necessity for close cooperation between the Commission and other federal agencies, such as GPO, GAO, CSC, ETC. This is not possible as long as the Commission remains in Philadelphia.

4. There are a great number of Commission employees who are having serious housing problems here in Philadelphia. True, the housing situation in Washington is not ideal either, but these same employees hesitate to make any permanent arrangements in Philadelphia, such as buying property but would make such arrangements in Washington or its environs even at inflation prices if they knew the Commission was moving back to Washington in the near future.

5. The change to daylight saving time here in Philadelphia has complicated matters for many commuters inasmuch as Washington is remaining on standard time. As you know, the number of commuters now number quite a few and is steadily increasing due to the fact that these people do have places to live in Washington and cannot find a suitable residence herein Philadelphia.

6. Last but not least is the morale. It is quite obvious that a number of employees of the Commission are not doing their best work under the circumstances, which is a detriment to the Commission, due to the fact that it is located in Philadelphia instead of in Washington. These employees are those who find it necessary to commute each week, and their living conditions are not in any way comparable to those that are available to them in Washington. Furthermore, extra expense is to such an extent that in the case of many of us commuters, cannot continue for too long a period. It is honestly believed that these employees desire to remain with the Commission inasmuch as they definitely are interested in their work and have been with the organization almost since its inception, but unless the Commission moves back to Washington in the near future a great many of them will by necessity be forced to secure employment with other government agencies in Washington.