

A. B. COHEN DIES; CIVIL ENGINEER

Planner of Thruway Bridges Also Worked on Removal of Rail Grade Crossings

A. Burton Cohen of 39 South Munn Avenue, East Orange, N. J., a consulting engineer, died yesterday in Doctors Hospital after a brief illness. His age was 73. Mr. Cohen was a specialist in the design of concrete bridges and in the elimination of railroad grade crossings.

Worked on State Thruway

Mr. Cohen, in private practice since 1920, prepared the contract plans for seventeen bridges on the New York Thruway and for eleven spans on the Connecticut Turnpike.

Fifty years ago, he was engaged on a series of reconstruction projects for the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad. In 1910, he was placed in charge of a program calling for the removal of practically all the road's grade crossings. This lasted ten years.

The work included 200 crossings in residential areas of New Jersey, especially in Montclair, Orange, South Orange and Madison.

Mr. Cohen also handled a cut-off project west of Scranton, Pa., a forty-mile, \$12,000,000 undertaking that included the Tunkhannock Creek Viaduct, one of the largest reinforced-concrete railroad structures in the world.

Mr. Cohen's plans for eliminating 100 crossings in Nassau County were accepted by the New York Public Service Commission. Similar projects were ordered by Niagara Falls, N. Y., the Central Railroad of New Jersey and the New York State Department of Public Works.

Mr. Cohen was born in Chicago on March 9, 1882. He was graduated from Purdue University in 1905 and obtained his degree in civil engineering from that institution five years later. The degree of doctor in engineering was conferred on Mr. Cohen by Purdue in 1949.

The American Concrete Institute awarded him a gold medal in 1927 for his achievement in solving bridge problems "with economy as well as architectural merit."

Mr. Cohen was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Society for Testing Materials and the American Concrete Institute. He was a contributor to technical publications for nearly forty years.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Beulah Meltzer; a daughter, Mrs. Richard Wagner of Summit, N. J.; a brother, Harry, of East Chicago, Ind., and two sisters, Mrs. Otto Decker of East Chicago and Mrs. Henry Schwartz of Cleveland.