

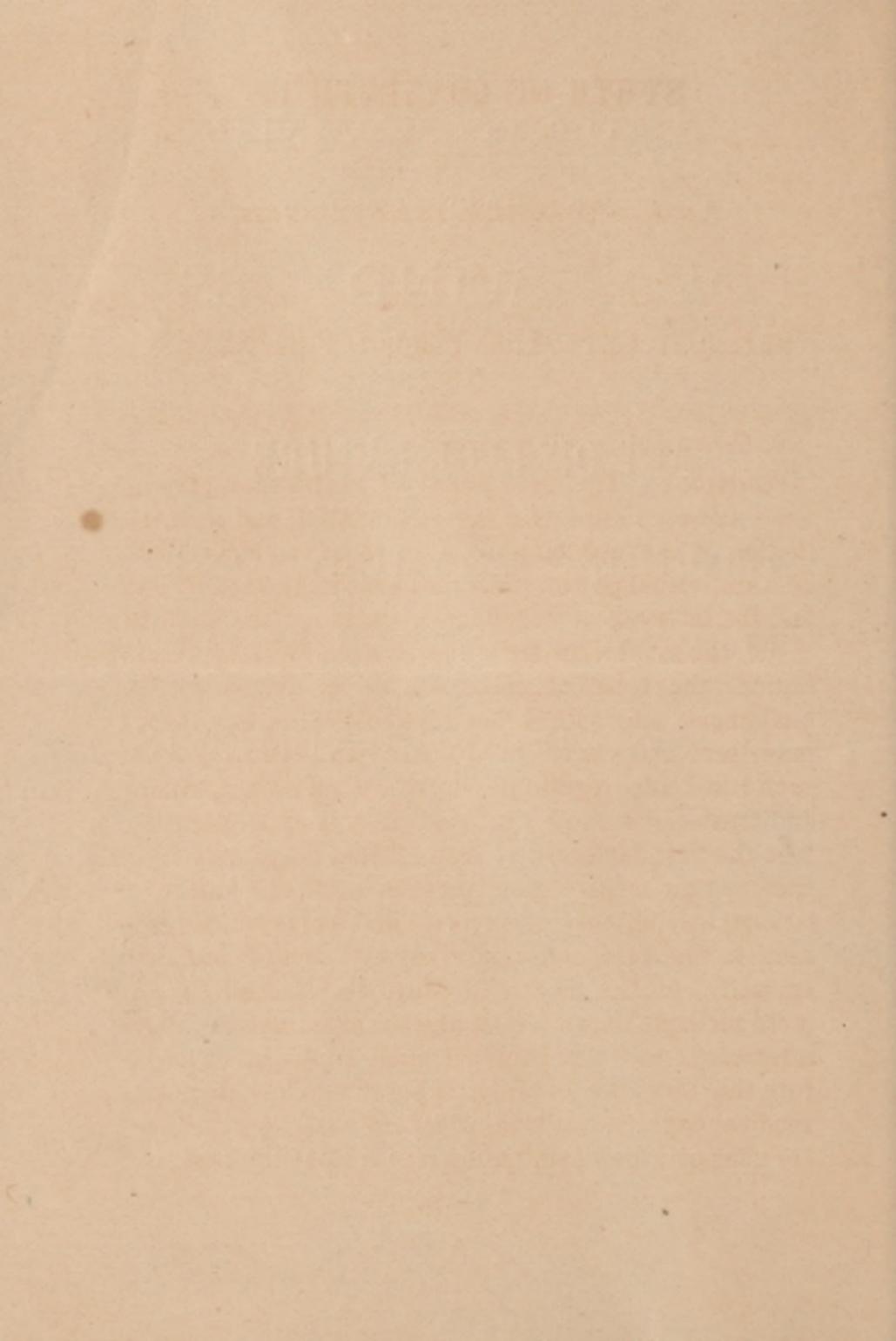
VISUAL POWER
AND
COLOR BLINDNESS.

—•••—
ACT OF LEGISLATURE
REQUIRING EXAMINATIONS.

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS
OF THE
State Board of Health.



HARTFORD:
PRESS OF THE CASE, LOCKWOOD & BRAINARD CO.
1880.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

AN ACT DIRECTING THE EXAMINATION

OF

RAILROAD EMPLOYEES FOR COLOR BLINDNESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened :

SECTION 1. The state board of health shall prepare rules and regulations for the examination and re-examination of railroad employees in regard to color-blindness and visual power, prescribing the method in which, and the intervals at which, such examinations shall be made, the maximum fee to be charged for each examination, the form of certificate to be issued by the examiners, and such other regulations as said board may deem necessary. Said board shall send a copy of such rules and regulations to every railroad company and trustee operating a railroad in this state, on or before the first day of July, 1880. Said board may from time to time make such changes in said rules and regulations as they may deem best, and communicate the same to said companies and trustees. Said board shall annually, in the month of May, recommend two or more medical experts to make the examinations above referred to, and the governor shall annually, on or before the first day of July, appoint not less than two medical experts, any one of whom shall be authorized to conduct the examination for color-blindness and

visual powers, and issue certificates in accordance with the rules of the board of health.

SEC. 2. On or before the first day of October, 1880, every railroad company and trustee operating any railroad in this State shall cause every person in their employ as locomotive engineer or fireman, train conductor or brakeman, station agent, switchman, flagman, gate-tender, or signalman, to be examined at the expense of the railroad company by one of the examiners to be appointed by the governor in regard to color-blindness and visual power, and shall cause a like examination to be made of all persons employed after said date in either of the capacities named above, and shall cause re-examinations to be made in accordance with the rules prescribed by the board of health.

SEC. 3. Any railroad company or trustee operating any railroad in this State employing, after the first day of October next, in any of the capacities specified in the second section of this act, any person who does not possess a certificate of freedom from color-blindness and possession of normal visual power, duly issued in accordance with the provisions of this act, or knowingly employing in any of such capacities any person whose certificate has been revoked by the examiners, shall for each and every offense be punished by a fine of not less than two hundred nor more than one thousand dollars.

Approved, March 25, 1880.

R U L E S
FOR
EXAMINATION OF RAILROAD EMPLOYEES
UNDER PRECEDING ACT.

RULE I.

All Railroad Employees requiring examination under the law of March 25, 1880, shall be divided into two general classes.

Class First shall include Engineers, Firemen, and Brakemen.

Class Second shall include Train Conductors, Station Agents, Switchmen, Flagmen, Gate-tenders, and Signalmen.

RULE II.

Certificates shall be given for each position in accordance with the succeeding rules for examination. Promotion from one class to the other requires re-examination and certificate.

RULE III.

Re-examinations shall be made: 1st, after any disease of the eyes; 2d, after injuries affecting the head or eyes; 3d, after any disease or trouble of the brain, and after long-continued illness, as typhoid fever; 4th, after

mistakes or acts which call in question the visual powers; also, whenever directed by the Board of Health.

RULE IV.

The examiners shall report regularly to the State Board of Health, and their work shall at any time be open to the inspection of any member or members of said Board.

RULE V.

The regulations for conducting the examinations and the standards for each class shall be determined by the Board of Health, and not by the examiners. New rules and regulations shall be adopted from time to time as required, and alterations and amendments made.

RULES FOR CONDUCTING EXAMINATIONS.

RULE 1. For the *qualitative* estimation of color-blindness the following tests are to be employed: Holmgren's Worsteds, the Tables of Stilling, Donder's Color Test Patterns, Pflüger's LETTERS WITH TISSUE PAPERS. Däae tests and Woinow's Revolving Cards may also be used.

For the *quantitative* test for color-blindness, Donder's Reflected Spots, Donder's Method with Transmitted Light, Holmgren's Shadow Tests shall be employed.

RULE 2. The following are the requirements for a certificate in the first class:

1. Healthy eyes and eyelids without habitual congestion or inflammation.
2. Unobstructed visual field.
3. Normal visual acuteness.
4. Freedom from color-blindness.

5. Entire absence of cataract or other progressive disease of the eyes.

The second class shall have:

1. Healthy eyes and eyelids without habitual congestion or inflammation.

2. Unobstructed visual field.

3. Visual acuteness at least equal to $\frac{3}{8}$ without glasses and normal with glasses in one eye, and at least $\frac{1}{2}$ in the other eye with glasses.

4. Freedom from color-blindness in one eye, color-perception at least equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ in the other eye.

RULE 3. In the case of employees who have held their positions five years or more, the standards required in each class shall be determined under special instructions from the Board of Health.

By order State Board of Health,

C. W. CHAMBERLAIN, M.D., Secretary.

Connecticut is a pioneer in this work in this country, being the first State to pass a law requiring examination of all railroad employees engaged in moving trains. The standards adopted are for the most part those agreed upon at the International Medical Congress at Amsterdam, September, 1879.

The following is the form of certificate. These are bound in books, the stubs retained for reference and tabulations. The form of regular returns by the examiners to the Board follow.

No. STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Certificate of Examination for Visual Power and Color Blindness.

This may certify that I have this day tested carefully the
VISUAL POWER of whose signature is attached

to this certificate, and find that it is

I have also tested his COLOR PERCEPTION, and find that it is

He is, in these respects, fitted for the position of

Given in presence of the Examiner.

..... Examining Ophthalmic Surgeon.

STUB

ACCOMPANYING CERTIFICATE AND RETAINED BY THE
EXAMINER.

No. _____

Name, _____

Age, _____ Height, _____

Complexion, _____

Occupation, _____

Vision, _____

Color Perception, _____

Railroad, _____

Examining Surgeon.

POSTAL CARD REPORT

FROM THE EXAMINERS.

_____18

Report for week ending _____18

No. in Class First examined, - - - _____

No. in Class Second examined, - - - _____

Total, - - - - - _____

No. with incomplete color-sense, - - - _____

“ complete color-blindness, - - - _____

“ defective visual power, - - - _____

Connected with which Railroads, _____

