

Amending Rules for Examination of Masters and Mates.

Marine Department,
Wellington, 4th May, 1914.

WHEREAS by Warrant dated the 29th day of July, 1910, and published in the *New Zealand Gazette* No. 74, of the 2nd day of the following month, rules were made governing the examination of candidates for certificates of competency as masters and mates:

And whereas it is desired to amend the said regulations in the manner hereinafter described:

Now, therefore, in pursuance and exercise of the power and authority conferred upon me by section 23 of the Shipping and Seamen Act, 1908, and of all other powers and authorities enabling me in that behalf, I do hereby make the following regulations amending the hereinbefore-recited regulations; and I do hereby order that they shall come into force on the 1st day of June, 1914.

F. M. B. FISHER.

REGULATIONS.

REGULATION 6 is hereby amended by the insertion of the words "in the foreign or home trade" after the word "service" in the first line.

Regulations 11 to 13 inclusive are hereby revoked, and the following regulations made in lieu thereof:—

SIGHT TESTS.

11. Every candidate for a certificate of competency must pass the prescribed sight tests before a certificate can be issued to him. If circumstances render it necessary for him to proceed with the examination in navigation and seamanship before undergoing the sight tests, he should be informed that the examination in navigation and seamanship will be cancelled in the event of his failure to pass either of the sight tests.

(1.) *Form Vision Test.*—Every candidate for a certificate must pass the form vision test. If he presents himself for examination before 1st June, 1914, he will only be required to possess half normal vision—i.e., ability to read all the letters correctly in the fifth line of the test sheet, using both eyes together. A candidate who has obtained a certificate before that date will be allowed to obtain his higher certificates on the same standard of vision.

Any candidate may, and every candidate presenting himself for examination for his first certificate on or after 1st June, 1914, must pass a higher standard, viz., normal vision, using both eyes or either eye separately.

Any candidate who has obtained his first certificate under these conditions may obtain his higher certificates, provided that he has normal vision, using both eyes or either eye separately.

Detailed information with regard to the conduct of the examination and the standards required is contained in Appendix A.

(2.) *Colour Vision Tests.*—On and after the 1st day of June, 1914, every candidate for a certificate of competency of any grade must pass the colour vision test as prescribed in these regulations in lieu of the colour vision test prescribed in Appendix A of the hereinbefore-recited regulations. These tests comprise a wool test and a lantern test, and full particulars with regard to the methods adopted are given in Appendix A.

Every candidate must undergo the colour vision tests on the first occasion on which he presents himself for examination for a certificate of competency; but if he then passes he will not be required by the Marine Department to undergo the colour vision tests on any subsequent occasion. No person who holds a certificate of competency should be allowed to be examined in colour vision.

(3.) A candidate who fails to pass the prescribed form vision test may present himself for re-examination at intervals of three months. A candidate who fails to pass the colour vision test, or who is referred by the local Examiner for further examination, is not allowed to be re-examined locally. In the case of a candidate who is referred for further examination the Marine Department will make arrangements for a special examination, and it is also open to any candidate who is adjudged to have failed in the local colour vision test to appeal to the Department, who may, if it thinks fit, remit the case to a special body of Examiners for decision.

The Marine Department will repay, at a rate which will be notified to the candidate, the travelling-expenses of any candidate who is referred for further examination, as well as the travelling-expenses of any candidate who, having appealed against local failure, is reported by the special Examiners to have passed. No payment whatever will be made towards the expenses of candidates who, upon their own application, are examined by the special Examiners, and

are reported by them to have failed, unless the Marine Department consider that the particular circumstances of the case justify such payment.

The special examinations will be held in Auckland, Wellington, Lyttelton (or Christchurch), and Dunedin.

When a candidate fails to pass the local colour vision test, the Examiner will point out to him the conditions under which he can appeal. Appeals are to be made through the Examiner and forwarded to the Marine Department with the Examiner's remarks.

Only Examiners who have themselves passed the colour vision tests are to undertake the local examinations.

The fee paid for examination for a certificate of competency includes the fee of 2s. 6d. for examination in form and colour vision, and if the candidate fails to pass those tests this fee will, with the exception of 2s. 6d., be returned to him.

No additional fee will be charged to any candidate referred by the local Examiner for special examination or for the special examination allowed to a candidate who appeals against failure locally. If, however, a candidate who has been reported by the special Examiners as having failed is still dissatisfied it will be open for him, if he so desires, to present himself for a second special examination on payment of a fee of five guineas, provided that he brings with him a friend to witness the examination. This second examination will, however, be entirely voluntary, and will form no part of the Department's examination for a certificate of competency. The Marine Department will, however, give consideration to the result of such examination in determining whether a certificate shall be granted.

The sight tests are open to all persons serving, or intending to serve, in the mercantile marine, and all such persons are recommended to take the earliest opportunity of ascertaining by means of these tests whether their vision is such as to qualify them for service in that profession. Any such person, if desirous of undergoing the tests, must make application to the Superintendent of a Mercantile Marine Office on the form Exn. 2B, and must pay a fee of 2s. 6d.

The fee will be payable on each occasion on which a candidate is examined.

Regulation 15 is amended by deleting the words "being British subjects" in first line.

Paragraph 1 of Regulation 29 is hereby amended by the deletion of the word "or" in the fourth line, and the insertion of the words "the St. Patrick's Ambulance Association or other approved body" after the words "the London County Council"; and paragraph 3 is amended by deleting the words "the St. John or St. Andrew's Ambulance Association" and substituting therefor "one of the approved associations."

Clause (l) of Regulation 33 is hereby revoked, and the following substituted in lieu thereof:—

(l.) To find on a chart or plan the course or courses to steer and the distance or distances from one given position to another; to find the ship's position together with the set and drift (if any) on the chart or plan from cross-bearings of two objects; to find the ship's position from two bearings of the same object, the course and distance run between taking the bearings being given, making due allowance for a given tide or current; also, the distance of the ship from the object or any given position at the time of taking the second bearing; and to state what the small numbers and Roman numerals found on a chart indicate, and give a method of finding approximately the time of high water at any given place without the aid of the Admiralty or other tide tables. See Appendix G, page 112.

The following clauses are hereby added to Regulation 33:—

(g) The markings, signs, and abbreviations on Admiralty charts or plans.

(r) The general notices published in the Board of Trade Summary of Notices to Mariners.

Clause (4) of Regulation 42 is hereby amended by the insertion of the words "fifteen knots" for the words "sixteen knots" in the sixth line thereof, and of the word "five" for the word "six" in the eighth line thereof.

Regulation 66 (a) is amended by the addition of the words "also to fix the ship's position by horizontal angles, using a station-pointer for plotting it on the chart or plan, &c."

The following new regulation is inserted as Regulation 119A:—

119A. For all certificates of competency as master or mate in the mercantile marine the qualifying service usually required is service performed in ordinary trading vessels. While the regulations provide for the acceptance in part of certain kinds of non-trading service (e.g., that performed in fishing-boats, yachts, pilot-vessels, &c.), non-trading service not specially provided for in the regulations cannot be accepted