

By-laws under the Government Railways Act, 1908.

IN exercise and pursuance of the power and authority conferred by the Government Railways Act, 1908, and of all other powers and authorities in that behalf, I, Joseph Gordon Coates, Minister of Railways, do hereby amend the by-laws made under the said Act on the 29th day of May, 1909, by making the following alterations therein:—

PART V.—REGULATION OF TRAFFIC OVER COMBINED ROAD AND RAILWAY BRIDGES: RAKAIA BRIDGE.

By omitting By-law No. 56, and substituting therefor the following:—

“56. The following provisions shall apply to the traffic on and over the Rakaia Bridge, which said bridge forms part of the railway between Lyttelton and Bluff, and is used both for ordinary road and railway traffic:—

“(1.) Horses not driven in harness or led by bridle or halter, and cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, mules, and donkeys, must have a man behind them; and cattle, sheep, and horses in mobs must also have a man before them.

“(2.) Motor-cars or motor-cycles shall not enter upon the bridge within ten minutes; all other motor-vehicles, horses, or light horse-drawn vehicles within twenty minutes; drays within thirty minutes; and cattle, sheep, or pigs within one hour, of the time that any train is due on the bridge: Provided that any authorized officer of the Department may, at his discretion, relax any of the restrictions in this clause.

“(3.) (a.) Motor-cars or motor-cycles shall not travel faster than fifteen miles an hour.

“(b.) Motor-vehicles (other than motor-cars and motor-cycles) with a maximum load not exceeding 2 tons on any wheel shall not travel faster than ten miles an hour.

“(c.) Horsemen, or horse-drawn wheeled-vehicles, or motor-vehicles with a load of over 2 tons on any wheel, shall not travel faster than six miles an hour.

“(d.) Provided that with respect to the restrictions imposed under subclauses (a) and (b) hereof the drivers of all such vehicles shall on meeting and while passing other vehicles not travel faster than six miles an hour.

“(4.) Traction-engines, or tractors, or vehicles with loads greater than $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons gross on any wheel with tires less than 5 in. broad, or vehicles with loads greater than $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons gross on any wheel (irrespective of the width of the tires), shall not cross the bridge unless loaded on railway-wagons.

“(5.) No portable engine, combine, elevator, reaper-and-binder, or such travelling or portable machine (all of which are hereinafter included in the term “machine”) shall be taken over the bridge except under the following conditions:—

“(a.) The owner or person in charge thereof shall obtain from the Railway Stationmaster at Rakaia or Dunsandel a permit authorizing the passage of the machine over the bridge, accompanied by the bridge-keeper.

“(b.) Before such permit is issued the person applying for the same shall state correctly the description, weight, number of wheels, breadth of tires, and width of the machine, together with the name and address of the owner thereof, which particulars shall be entered in the permit.

“(c.) The permit is to be given to the bridge-keeper, and the machine shall not enter upon the bridge if the description in the permit does not agree with the machine, nor unless accompanied by the bridge-keeper.

“(d.) Every precaution shall be taken against fire or other damage to the bridge or railway, as required by the bridge-keeper; and speed shall be at a uniform rate not exceeding two miles an hour.

“(e.) The owner of any machine shall be liable to the Department for any damage done to the bridge or railway during its transit.

“(f.) Machines shall be taken over the bridge only during daylight.

“(6.) The driver of any vehicle having a greater width than 7 ft. 6 in. or carrying a load of greater width than 7 ft. 6 in. shall stop before entering on the bridge, and shall not attempt to cross the bridge until the bridge-keeper has given permission to do so. Such permission will only be given at such times as not to interfere with the crossing of traffic from the opposite direction: Provided that no load which exceeds 11 ft. in width shall be taken over the bridge except under the conditions specified in clause 5 for the passage of machines.