

GENERAL HARBOUR REGULATIONS.

The number of accidents notified under Regulation 103 of the General Harbour Regulations was 270, of which 2 were fatal accidents. The corresponding figure last year was 243, of which 4 were fatal.

One of the fatal accidents was due to a fall down an open manhole in the deck of a ship, and the other fatality was caused by a hatch beam which, becoming dislodged, struck the victim on the head.

The following is a classification of the accidents :—

Handling goods	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
Persons falling or slipping	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Persons struck by falling or swinging loads	..	..	..	..	..	..	79
Persons stepping on or striking against fixed objects	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Failures of gear	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Not classified	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
							270

EXAMINATIONS OF LAND ENGINEERS, ENGINE-DRIVERS, AND ELECTRIC-TRAM DRIVERS.

These examinations were held during the year at the various offices of the Inspectors of Machinery throughout the Dominion at the regular intervals provided for in the regulations. In addition, a few special examinations were granted, but the holding of special examinations is not encouraged, as it is considered that the regular examinations are of sufficient frequency, and, except in very exceptional circumstances, candidates are expected to arrange that they may attend the scheduled examinations.

The full list of places where the examinations were held is shown in an appended return, as also is the number of candidates examined at each place. The classes of certificates for which examinations were held were :—

- Electric Winding-engine Driver.
- Steam Winding-engine Driver.
- First-class Engine-driver.
- Second-class Engine-driver.
- Locomotive-engine Driver.
- Traction-engine Driver.
- Locomotive and Traction Engine Driver.
- Electric-tram Driver.
- Electric-tram Driver (One-man Car).

The total number of candidates examined was 521. Of this number, 401 were successful and 120 failed in their examinations. Four hundred and seventy-two certificates were issued, which includes 401 to successful candidates, the remainder being replacements and issues under the provisions of sections 53, 59, and 62 of the Inspection of Machinery Act, 1928.

EXAMINATION OF MARINE ENGINEERS.

During the year 182 candidates were examined for Marine Engineers' Certificates of Competency at the various centres throughout the Dominion. Of these, 61 candidates were examined for First- and Second-class Certificates of Imperial validity, and 65 candidates for Third-class and for Coastal Motor Certificates of New Zealand validity.

Candidates sitting for Imperial certificates were 30 for First-class Steam-motor, and Endorsements, of which 14 were successful and 16 unsuccessful. Of the 31 candidates for Second-class Steam and Motor, 18 were successful and 10 unsuccessful. There were two part-passes and 1 part-failure in the A Section of the new examination.

Candidates for certificates of New Zealand validity: 48 candidates were examined for Third-class, 36 being successful and 12 unsuccessful. Of the 17 candidates for Second-class Coastal Motor Examination, 12 were successful and 5 unsuccessful.

Attempts for First-class Certificates of Imperial validity: The above particulars are comprised of 18 candidates for Steam Certificates, of whom 9 were successful; 6 candidates for Motor, of whom 1 was successful; 5 candidates for Motor Endorsements, of whom 3 were successful; and 1 candidate for Steam Endorsement, who was successful.

Attempts for Second-class Certificates of Imperial validity: The foregoing return comprised 13 candidates for Steam Certificates, of whom 8 were successful; 13 candidates for Motor Certificates, of whom 9 were successful. Of 14 successful candidates for First-class Examination, 7 passed at the first attempt, 3 at the second attempt, 2 at the third attempt, and 1 at fourth and 1 at the fifth attempt; of the 17 successful candidates for Second-class Examination, 11 passed at the first attempt, 3 at the second attempt, and 3 at the third attempt.

Of the 36 successful candidates for Third-class Examination, 28 passed at the first attempt and 8 passed at the second attempt. Of the 12 successful candidates for Second-class Coastal Motor Examination, 8 passed at the first attempt and 4 at the second attempt.

The summary for First, Second, and Third-class Examinations showed 65 per cent. passed and 35 per cent. failed, which represents the same percentage passed as last year,