

“To specify candle-power would also require that all controlling factors affecting the resultant legibility should also be defined, and it is considered that the regulations should require simply that the number-plate be clearly legible at a distance of 60 ft.”

Clause (6): Amended to read as follows:—

“Any motor-vehicle may be equipped with not more than *one spotlight* having a movable beam. A spotlight may be used only for purposes or occasions for which the driving-lights are not suitable, and must then be used in a reasonable manner so as not to interfere with the vision of other users of the road.”

It is considered that the present permissive provision for two spotlights is unnecessary.

The Committee is further of the opinion that a definition of a spotlight should be embodied in the regulations, such a definition to convey the meaning of a searchlight—*i.e.*, a light projector so designed as to throw an intense narrow beam.

Clause (7): To read as formerly:—

“A fire-engine may be fitted near its longitudinal centre-line and at a height of not less than 3 ft. 6 in. from ground with a lamp capable of displaying a red light to the front of not less than 6 in. in diameter. The said light shall be displayed only while the vehicle is responding to an alarm of fire.”

Clause (8): Amended to read as follows:—

“Any lights attached to a motor-vehicle other than those described by the preceding clauses of this regulation or authorized by the Minister in terms of Regulation 10, clause (5) hereof, shall be covered with frosted glass, a *diffusing lens*, or other material which has the effect of diffusing the light, *and except when otherwise herein provided the light displayed by any lamp attached to a motor-vehicle shall be substantially white in character.*”

Clause (9): Amended to read as follows:—

“When the lighting from some other artificial source than the headlights is sufficient to render clearly visible a pedestrian or similar substantial object at a distance of *300 ft.* or *when the vehicle is stationary, the driver of any motor-vehicle shall use sidelights in substitution for headlights or shall dim or dip the headlights thereof.*”

The effect of this amendment is to increase the visibility distance of 150 ft. as now required, to a distance of 300 ft., and also makes compulsory provision for either sidelights or some form of dimming or dipping devices.

The amendment also provides for driving lights to be dimmed or dipped or sidelights to be substituted when the vehicle is stationery, whether or not there is artificial lighting. All that is necessary in the case of a stationary vehicle is that its position and outline should be visible to other users of the road, and this may best be accomplished by the use of sidelights or dimmed or dipped headlights.

Clause (10): To read as formerly:—

“The lights or any of the lights prescribed by this regulation need not be displayed while the motor-vehicle is stationary on the roadway, provided that the vehicle is lighted from some artificial source so that its position on the roadway is clearly visible at a distance of 150 ft.”

Clause (11): To read as formerly:—

“In the case of a motor-vehicle of any of the kinds referred to in Regulation 6 hereof, it shall be sufficient compliance with the requirements of this regulation if such vehicle is provided with at least three lights visible for 300 ft. under normal atmospheric conditions, one at each side of the vehicle, placed so as to display a white light to the front and sides thereof, and one at the rear of the vehicle placed so as to display a red light to the rear thereof and not to be visible from the front thereof, and such lights need not be attached to the vehicle.”

REFERENCES TO “LIGHTS” IN THE REGULATIONS.

The Committee would draw attention to the somewhat loose manner in which the present regulations refer to vehicle-lights. The word “light” is used indiscriminately to denote either the lamp itself or the light emitted from the lamp. It is suggested that where the lamp equipment is referred to, the word “lamp” should be substituted.

Furthermore, it is considered that only one of the terms “driving lights” or “headlights” should be used throughout the regulations.

COLOURS OF REGISTRATION-PLATES.

Tests were made for the purpose of determining the best contrasting colour combinations in order to secure the maximum degree of legibility of registration numbers in this respect. After six colour combinations had been selected as giving good legibility, the manufacturers of the registration-plates were consulted as to which of these combinations caused minimum production difficulties.

As a result the Committee recommends that a cycle of four different colour combinations be established, thus covering a period of four years. The colours recommended are as follows:—

- Green figures on a white ground.
- Black figures on a yellow ground.
- Blue figures on a white ground.
- Black figures on a white ground.