

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 21

In Senate, Jan. 28, 1915.

Ordered, That five hundred copies be printed and that the same be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Committee on Reference.

Presented by Mr. Flaherty of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN

AN ACT for the Protection of Life and Property against loss
or damage from steam boilers or steam machinery operated
by incompetent persons in cities of over 35,000 inhabitants.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the municipal officers
2 of city over 35,000 inhabitants, annually, in the month of
3 April or as soon as practical thereafter, to appoint an Exam-
4 iner of Steam Engineers and Firemen; said Examiner to
5 have had not less than five years practical experience op-
6 erating stationary boilers and engines.

Sect. 2. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to
2 to operate a steam plant where the service of an engineer or
3 firemen is required, except boilers and engines used for
4 agricultural purposes and those under the jurisdiction of
5 the United States government.

Any person intending to operate a steam plant must first
7 make application in writing to the city clerk, who will notify
8 him in writing when to appear for examination.

Sect. 3. License shall be granted as follows:

First grade, horse power unlimited.

Second grade, limited to three hundred horse power.

Third grade, limited to one hundred horse power.

Special grade, limited to firemen in charge of boilers.

Engineers handling donkey, hoisting and steam roller en-
7 gines, and to those in charge of direct low pressure heating
8 plants. A special license shall state for what purpose such
9 license is issued, and the location of the plant.

An engineer who has been granted a second grade certifi-
11 cate may operate a plant as specified in the first grade, under
12 the direction of an engineer who has been granted a first
13 grade certificate, and an engineer who has been granted a
14 third grade certificate may operate a plant as specified in the
15 second grade under direction of an engineer who has been
16 granted a second grade certificate.

Sect. 4. An examiner's fee of two dollars for every ap-
2 plicant shall be paid to the city clerk when application is
3 made.

It shall be the duty of the city clerk to forward all applications to the examiner with the fee for the same.

It shall be the duty of the examiner to examine all applicants in writing, and the original examination papers are to be kept on file by the examiner, and he shall issue under his hand a certificate in the following form if the applicant is of temperate habits and has suitable competency:

STATE OF MAINE.

This is to certify that having made application to the city clerk for permission to take charge of and to operate a steam plant, and having produced evidence of his competency to act in said capacity as I have issued to him this certificate as approved by the Act of Legislature this day of

Said certificate when issued shall be filed in the office of the city clerk, and said clerk shall issue and deliver to said applicant a duly attested copy of said certificate; and the copy so issued shall be posted by the holder thereof in a conspicuous place in or near the boiler room of the boilers to be operated.

Sect. 5. The term of the certificate shall be one year from date granted unless revoked as hereinafter provided.

Sect. 6. When an engineer or fireman shall apply for a renewal of his license for the same grade, the presentation of the attested copy of the original certificate shall be considered sufficient evidence of his title of renewal; which

5 certificate shall be retained by the examiner upon the offi-
6 cial files as the evidence upon which the license was renewed,
7 provided it is presented within one month after date of its
8 expiration, and the fee of one dollar paid unless such license
9 has been forfeited, or facts shall have come to the knowl-
10 edge of the examiner, which would render a renewal im-
11 proper. In case of loss or destruction of applicant's copy,
12 the city clerk may, by direction of the examiner, issue to the
13 applicant a duplicate attested copy.

Sect. 7. When the examiner shall find that any person
2 in charge of a steam plant is incompetent for the discharge
3 of such duties, or by reason of negligence, intemperance or
4 any other cause, ought not to remain in charge of such steam
5 plant, it shall be the duty of said examiner to immediately
6 suspend temporarily the authority of such person to act in
7 such capacity until an investigation can be made, and shall
8 cause a person qualified as provided in this act to be placed
9 in charge of said steam plant. And said examiner shall, as
10 as soon thereafter as possible, with the assistance of a trial
11 board consisting of four engineers selected by the board of
12 mayor and aldermen, cause an investigation to be made,
13 and inquire into the habits and qualifications of the person ;
14 and if such person is for any reason, found to be incompe-
15 tent or unsuitable to remain longer in charge of said steam
16 plant, said examiner shall immediately cause certificate
17 granted under the provisions of this act to be revoked and
18 notice of such revocation to be filed with the city clerk ; and

19 thereupon said examiner shall give the person or corpora-
20 tion having control of such plant, notice of these findings.
21 And if such person or corporation having control of such
22 steam plant shall, after receipt of such finding, neglect or
23 refuse to cause said steam plant to be placed in charge of
24 some person qualified under the provisions of this act, such
25 person or corporation shall be subject to the penalties pro-
26 vided in section eight of this act.

Sect. 8. Whoever violates any provisions of this act shall
2 be punished by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars, and not less
3 than twenty-five dollars.

Sect. 9. Any engineer who has operated a boiler and en-
2 gine in any particular plant in Portland, Maine, for five con-
3 secutive years and who shall produce a satisfactory statement
4 from his employer to that effect, shall be entitled to a license
5 to operate the boiler and engine in this particular plant where
6 he is employed, without examination, and upon payment of
7 the fee prescribed for the granting of license by examination.

Sect. 10. It shall be the duty of the examiner to exam-
2 ine or cause to be examined such steam plants as are not in-
3 sured with some reliable insurance company. The cost of
4 such inspection to be paid by the owner of such steam plant,
5 same not to exceed five dollars. The obstructing or refusal
6 to allow said examiner to perform his duty in the inspection
7 of said plant shall be punishable as per article eight of this
8 act.

Sect. 11. All engineers holding a license certificate of the
2 City of Portland, Maine, under the ordinance enacted and
3 approved by the board of mayor and aldermen and council,
4 Dec. 6, 1910, shall be exempt from this act until the expira-
5 tion of above license. Any engineer holding such a license
6 shall be granted a license of the same grade without exam-
7 ination or cost, unless he has been proven incompetent by
8 investigation of the trial board, in which case he may be
9 obliged to undergo another examination before renewing his
10 license.