

carrier has not sufficient cars to meet all requirements for the transportation of property in carload lots, all cars available to it for such purposes shall be distributed among the several applicants therefor, without discrimination between shippers, localities or competitive or non-competitive points, but preference may always be given in the supply of cars for shipment of live stock or perishable property. The commission shall have power to make, and by order shall make, reasonable regulations for the furnishing and distribution of freight cars to shippers, for the switching of the same, for the loading and unloading thereof, for demurrage charges in respect thereto, and for the weighing of cars and freights offered for shipment or transported by any common carrier.

1910, ch. 180, sec. 20 (p. 362).

432. The commission and each commissioner shall have power and authority to administer oaths in all parts of the State to witnesses summoned to testify in any inquiry, investigation, hearing or proceeding; and also to administer oaths in all parts of the State whenever the exercise of such power is incidentally necessary or proper to enable the commission or a commissioner to perform a duty or to exercise a power.

The commission shall have the general supervision of all common carriers, railroads, street railroads, railroad corporations and street railroad corporations, and all other corporations and persons subject to the provisions of this sub-title as hereinbefore defined, and shall have the power to and shall examine the same and keep informed as to their general condition, their capitalization, their franchises and the manner in which their lines, owned, leased, controlled or operated, are managed, conducted and operated, not only with respect to the adequacy, security and accommodation afforded by their service, but also with respect to their compliance with all provisions of law, orders of the commission and charter requirements.

The commission and each commissioner shall have power to examine all books, contracts, records, documents and papers of any person or corporation subject to its supervision, and by subpoena *duces tecum* to compel the production thereof. In lieu of requiring production of originals by the subpoena *duces tecum*, the commission, or any commissioner, may require sworn copies of any such books, records, contracts, documents and papers or parts thereof to be filed with it.

The commission shall conduct a hearing and take testimony as to the advisability of any proposed change of law relating to any common carrier, railroad, street railroad, railroad corporation or street railroad corporation, or other corporation subject to the provisions of this sub-title if requested to do so by the legislature, by the senate, or general assembly, or the governor, and may conduct such a hearing, when requested to do so, by any person or corporation, and shall report its conclusions to the officer, body, person or corporation at whose request the hearing was held. The commission may also recommend the enactment of such