

[244. Motive power which may be used; exception when operating on streets or public roads.]

[Every railroad company of this State, heretofore or hereafter incorporated, may in its discretion and from time to time, make use of any motive power or motive powers, on the whole or any part or parts of its road, for the purpose of operating its road or any part or parts thereof, or for the movement of all or any of its cars or trains; provided, however, that the provisions of this section shall not authorize any railroad company to operate its cars or trains by steam or other power along the streets, of any city or town, or along any public road, without the consent of the proper municipal or county authorities.]

[245. Hours of duty of operators of block system—In general.]

[It shall be unlawful for any person, corporation or association operating a railroad within this State to permit any telegraph or telephone operator who spaces trains, by the use of the telegraph or telephone, under what is known and termed "block system" (defined as follows): Reporting trains to another office or offices, and to the train despatcher registering the same and operating one or more train order signals, and telegraph or telephone levermen who manipulate interlocking machines in railroad yards or on main tracks out on the lines connecting sidetracks or switches or train despatchers in its services; whose duties substantially as hereinbefore set forth pertain to the movement of cars, engines or trains on its railroad by the use of the telegraph or telephone in despatching or reporting trains or receiving or transmitting train orders as interpreted in this section, to be on duty for more than eight hours in any twenty-four consecutive hours. Any person, corporation or association that shall violate this section, shall pay a fine of one hundred dollars for each violation thereof.]

[246. Same—Recovery of fine.]

[The fine mentioned in sec. 245 of this article shall be recovered by an action of debt in the name of the State of Maryland for the use of the State, who shall sue for it against such person, corporation or association violating said section, said suit to be instituted in any court in this State having appropriate jurisdiction.]

[247. Same—Disposition of fine; exception depending on number of trains operating.]

[The said fine when recovered as aforesaid shall be paid without any deduction whatever, one-half thereof to the informer, and the balance thereof to be paid into the public school fund of the State of Maryland; provided, that the provisions of Secs. 245 to 247 shall not apply to any part of a railroad where not more than eight regular passenger trains in twenty-four hours pass each way; provided, moreover, that where twenty freight trains pass each way generally in each twenty-four hours then the provisions of Secs. 245 to 247 shall apply, notwithstanding that there may pass a less number of passenger trains than hereinbefore set forth, namely, eight.]

SEC. 20. *And be it further enacted,* That Sections 256, 257, 261, 263, 264(4), 268, 269, 270, 271 and 273 of Article 23 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition) title "Corporations," sub-