

road travel shall be made as safe as is possible, and by the proper elimination of the color blind, a great source of danger is removed.

*The officials of a road that, through carelessness or other cause, allow a color blind engine driver to run an engine, should, in the event of a fatal accident, be held guilty of manslaughter.* Should injury or death to a passenger resulting from an accident be proved to have arisen from color blindness of an official of the train, heavy damages could be obtained from the company on whose road the accident occurred, because the accident would be recognized as PREVENTABLE. When one has occurred amongst us, as has been proved to have happened elsewhere, the community will awaken to a sense of the danger. I need hardly point out how serious is the risk of financial loss to the stockholders. The destruction of rolling-stock and the liability for damage to freight in course of transportation, and for actions for damages by injured passengers, might easily cause a loss of thousands of dollars.

Now, it will be said by railway officials, that the men of their respective companies are tested for color blindness. I may reply, by anticipation, that I have made it my business to enquire of all engineers, firemen and other railway employees, with whom I have come in contact, for the past three years, as to the tests made, and I have come to the conclusion that they are imperfectly carried out. Not from any under-estimation of their importance, by the officials, but because the tests are not properly and scientifically conducted. Men with good color sense may be, and probably are, refused promotion as being color blind, and men with imperfect color sense are passed as being normal-eyed.

This state of affairs is as unfair for the men as it is unsafe for the public. I feel sure that an examination of five hundred to one thousand employees would show a certain percentage of color blindness. The tests I have shown to-night seem very simple, but in the case of men who are constantly exercised with signals, their power of discrimination of color-tone (not of color itself, that is never changed) becomes remarkably increased, so that considerable experience and knowledge of the science of colors are required to detect them.