

for the purchase of equipments, or for the making of any improvements of any nature whatever, it shall be unlawful for any state board or official to incur indebtedness on behalf of said board, official, or the State of Minnesota, in excess of the appropriation made for any of the foregoing purposes. It is hereby made unlawful for any state board or official to incur any indebtedness on behalf of said board, official, or the State of Minnesota, of any nature whatsoever, until after an appropriation therefor has been made by the legislature.

Violation, misdemeanor, penalty, removed from office.

Any official violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and the governor of the state is hereby authorized and empowered to remove any such official from office.

Exception in cases of calamity.

Provided, that in case of calamity or actions of the elements (such as fire, water, storms, etc.), such board or officials may obtain the consent of the governor, the state auditor and the state treasurer, in writing, stating the special amount of expense that may be incurred, and such expenditure shall be considered a valid claim against the State of Minnesota.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 20th, 1899.

H. F. No. 677.

CHAPTER 311.

Railroad companies; joint action against.

An act to provide for joining two or more railroad companies in actions to recover damages for negligence in the transportation of live stock and for the allowance of attorney's fees in such cases.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Shipper over connecting lines may sue both jointly.

SECTION 1. Whenever any owner or shipper of live stock that is transported over two or more lines of railroad from the place of shipment to the place of destination suffers damages by reason of the negligence of either of the carriers over whose line of road said live stock has been transported, said damage[s] having been caused by an unreasonable delay in the delivery of said live stock, and he is not certain on which line of road said negligence occurred, he may join any two or more of said railroad companies in an action to recover such damages, and upon the trial of such action the court or jury shall determine through the negligence of which of the said railroad companies the damage was caused, and the plaintiffs

shall be entitled to judgment against said company, and the action shall be dismissed against the other defendants.

SEC. 2. In actions brought in justice court under the provisions of this act, the plaintiff, if he recovers judgment for twenty-five dollars or over, shall be entitled to recover five dollars costs, and on appeals to the district court or any municipal court and the judgment is not reduced one-half, the plaintiff shall be entitled to recover ten dollars costs in that court, in addition to the amount allowed in justice court.

Costs of same in justice courts.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 20, 1899.

CHAPTER 312.

H. F. No. 578.

An act to regulate persons and corporations engaged in installing or repairing electrical wires and apparatus in certain cities of the State of Minnesota and to provide for licensing persons and corporations to carry on said business.

Electrical companies; regulation of business in cities.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

SECTION 1. The governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, shall as soon as practical after the passage of this act appoint five (5) persons, two (2) of whom shall be at the time of appointment master electricians, two (2) of whom shall be at time of appointment journeymen electricians and one (1) who shall be at time of appointment a municipal electrical inspector of an incorporated city of this state, residents of this state, and said appointees shall constitute a state board of electricity; one of the persons so appointed shall hold office for one (1) year, one for two (2) years, one for three (3) years, one for four (4) years, and one for five (5) years, unless sooner removed.

Governor to appoint state board of electricity.

Appointments to fill vacancies caused by death, resignation or removal before expiration of term shall be made for the residue of such term by the governor, subject to consent of senate, and all appointments to fill vacancies caused by expiration of term shall be made in the same manner, and so that said board shall continue to be constituted as hereinbefore provided, viz.: of two (2) master

Vacancies in board to be filled by governor.