

then the senior association or society shall be entitled to such membership.

Second—Honorary life members who, by reason of i[e]minent services in agriculture, or in the arts and sciences connected therewith, or of long and faithful service in the society, or of benefits conferred upon it, may, by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote at any of its annual meetings, be elected as such.

Third—The president ex-officio of the following societies and associations: The State Horticultural Society, the State Amber Cane Society, the State Dairy-men's Association, the State Forestry Association, the Southern Minnesota Fair Association, the State Poultry Association, the State Bee Keepers' Association and the president and secretary of the State Farmers' Alliance and the Minnesota Stock Breeders' Association.

Fourth—*Provided*, that all such societies and associations shall maintain an active existence and hold annual fairs, and shall have paid out as much for premiums as they receive from the state and have an annual membership of twenty-five (25) or more members; and,

*Provided, further*, that in the election of officers, and upon all questions pending at any meeting of said state agricultural society, each of the persons above mentioned, except life members, upon the payment of one (1) dollar, may vote in person, or by proxy, *provided* such proxy is from the same county.

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

Approved April 20th, 1899.

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## CHAPTER 305.

H. F. No. 315.

Street railway lines outside of cities and villages.

*An act empowering boards of county commissioners to authorize, for a term of years, the construction and operation of street railway lines upon the highways in their respective counties outside of cities and villages.*

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

County board empowered to grant right to construct.

SECTION 1. That boards of county commissioners of the several counties of this state are hereby authorized and empowered to grant, by resolution, to be entered at length in their minutes, to individuals, companies and corporations, the right to construct, maintain and operate street railway lines by other than steam power, for the

transportation of passengers, wholly or partly upon any of the public roads and highways in their respective counties, outside of cities and villages, except such as may have been parked or boulevarded, or otherwise specially prepared for light driving, for a period not exceeding twenty-five (25) years, upon such terms and conditions as to the use and occupation of the same for such purpose as the said boards of county commissioners shall prescribe in such resolution.

*Provided, however,* that such resolution shall in all cases so provide that no highway shall be occupied by any such railway in such manner as to prevent the reasonable use of such highway by other vehicles; and,

*Provided, further,* that in case of the vacation of any highway upon which any such railway shall have been constructed under the terms of this act, the owner of such railway shall within six (6) months thereafter commence and diligently prosecute proceedings for the condemnation of such portion of such vacated highway as may be necessary for the proper operation of such railway, unless sooner acquired by purchase, and in default of such condemnation or purchase all right and interest of such owner of such railway in and upon the highway so vacated shall at once cease and determine, without any other act or proceeding.

SEC. 2. Every such railway and all the property connected therewith shall at all times be subject to taxation by such method and at such rate as the legislature or other proper authority shall have prescribed or may prescribe in accordance with law, and such method and rate may be changed from time to time, whenever such authority shall so determine.

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

Approved April 20th, 1899.

Highway not to be occupied to exclusion of other traffic.

Vacation of highway; condemnation of right of way, etc.

Such railway property subject to taxation.