

ment booths, amusement halls, pavilions and other structures for the comfort of the people, and to operate and administer the same and to make reasonable charges therefor. The board shall also have power with the consent of the village council to make contracts and leases for the construction and operation of such buildings for terms not exceeding ten (10) years. Every such contract and lease shall provide that the structure shall be operated for the public use and convenience, and that the charges shall be reasonable, and shall reserve to the board of park commissioners power to prescribe reasonable rules and regulations from time to time for the conduct of the privilege.

SEC. 8. In case any such park or parkway shall embrace the shore of any navigable lake, the board shall have power to lease to private clubs the privilege of occupying limited areas in the bed of the lake adjacent to such shore for club house purposes, for periods not exceeding ten (10) years in any case. The space to be occupied by any one private club shall not exceed one acre. No such club house shall be located so as to interfere with navigation. Every such lease shall reserve to the board full power and authority to make from time to time reasonable rules and regulations to secure quiet and good order on the premises. The lessee in such case shall have power to retain the club house for the use of its own members and guests. Every area so leased shall be subject to all the ordinances of the village, and in particular to the ordinance relating to the sale and use of malt and intoxicating liquors.

SEC. 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 13, 1905.

H. F. No. 1.

CHAPTER 168.

An act proposing an amendment to article nine of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota relating to taxation.

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

The following amendment to article nine of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, to take the place of sections one, two, three, four and the amendment

Lease to private clubs.

Constitutional amendment.

added to the end of said article adopted in 1896, relating to taxation, is hereby proposed to the people of the State of Minnesota for their approval or rejection, which amendment when adopted shall be known as section one of said article nine, that is to say:

Section 1. The power of taxation shall never be surrendered, suspended or contracted away. Taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects, and shall be levied and collected for public purposes, but public burying grounds, public school houses, public hospitals, academies, colleges, universities, and all seminaries of learning, all churches, church property, and houses of worship, institutions of purely public charity, and public property used exclusively for any public purpose, shall be exempt from taxation, and there may be exempted from taxation personal property not exceeding in value \$200, for each household, individual or head of a family, as the legislature may determine: *Provided*, that the legislature may authorize municipal corporations to levy and collect assessments for local improvements upon property benefited thereby without regard to a cash valuation, and, *provided further*, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to affect, modify or repeal any existing law providing for the taxation of the gross earnings of railroads.

Power of taxation.

Legislature may authorize.

SEC. 2. Such proposed amendment shall be submitted to the people, for their approval or rejection, at the general election for the year one thousand nine hundred and six, and the qualified electors of the state, in their respective districts may, at such elections, vote for or against such proposed amendment by ballot, and the returns thereof shall be made and certified within the time, such votes canvassed, and the result thereof declared in the manner provided by law with reference to the election of state officers, and if it shall appear thereupon that a majority of all the electors voting at such election shall have voted for and ratified said amendment, as provided in the next section hereof, then the governor shall make proclamation thereof, and such amendment so ratified shall take effect and be in force as a part of the Constitution.

Submission to vote of people.

Majority of all votes.

SEC. 3. The ballots used at said election, on said proposed amendment, shall have printed thereon: "Amendment of article nine of the Constitution, relating to taxation, to take the place of sections one, two, three, four and the amendment added at the end of said article adopted in 1896. Yes—— No——." Each elector voting

Form of ballot.

upon such proposed amendment shall place a cross mark, thus, "X," in a space to be left on the ballot opposite the words "yes" and "no," according as he may wish to vote for or against said amendment, and his vote shall be counted in accordance with the expressed will of such elector, as provided by the election laws of this state.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 13, 1905.

H. F. No. 63.

CHAPTER 169.

An act legalizing and confirming village ordinances, in counties now or hereafter containing two hundred and twenty-five thousand (225,000) inhabitants and over, contracts and grants of franchise for water works, gas, electric light, heat and power plants in certain cases.

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

Legalizing village ordinances in counties of 225,000 inhabitants and over.

SECTION 1. That in all cases where any incorporated village in counties now or hereafter containing two hundred and twenty-five thousand (225,000) inhabitants and over in this state, whether incorporated under general or special laws, has heretofore adopted an ordinance or ordinances purporting to grant the right to any person, persons or corporation, to construct, operate and maintain in such village, water works, gas, electric light or heating plants, or either of them, and in all cases where any such village by such ordinance or ordinances or by an agreement or agreements in writing, has heretofore undertaken or attempted, among other things, to contract with such person, persons or corporation, or their assigns, for the furnishing of water, gas, electric light, heat, or power, or either of them, to such village, or the inhabitants thereof, and any such person, persons or corporation, or their assigns, has expended money in the construction and maintenance of said water works, or gas, electric light or heating plant, or either of them, and is now furnishing such village and its inhabitants with water, gas, electric light, heat or power, or either of them, such grant and contract are hereby in all things ratified, legalized and confirmed.

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

Approved April 13, 1905.