

under the general laws of this state, but where an affidavit of proof of the publication of the articles of incorporation of such corporation was not filed in the office of the secretary of state until after said corporation commenced doing business, but such affidavit of proof has been heretofore filed in the office of the secretary of the state, and where the persons organizing such corporations have acted in good faith and corporate meetings have been held and business transacted, and such defective corporation has acted in all things as though there were no errors or omissions in its organization the same is hereby declared to be in law a valid and legal corporation de jure and shall be so deemed and held in all courts as to all transactions, past and future, the same as though there was no defect in its organization; *provided* this act shall not affect any action at law now pending.

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

Approved April 19, 1905.

H. F. No. 426.

CHAPTER 343.

Regulation
of hotels
and lodging
houses.

An act to amend chapter 301 of the General Laws of Minnesota for 1903, being an act to provide for the construction, equipment and regulation of hotels, inns and public lodging houses.

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

SECTION 1. That chapter 301 of the General Laws of Minnesota for 1903 be amended so as to read as follows:

Section 1. Every building or structure kept, used or maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an inn, hotel or public lodging house, or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, shall have and be provided with, at each end of all halls from every story or floor higher than three stories, a suitable fire escape, reaching to within twelve (12) feet of the ground, and shall have and be provided with a way of egress to such fire escape, which way of egress and fire escape shall at all times be kept free and clear of any obstruction, and in good repair and ready and suitable for immediate use, or in lieu thereof in any and all buildings or structures kept.

Fire
escapes.

used or maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an inn, hotel, public lodging house or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, there shall be supplied and kept at all times, in plain sight, and securely attached therein and thereto, in every bedroom or sleeping apartment on the second floor or above the second floor a manilla rope, with knots not more than 15 inches apart, at least five-eighths of an inch in diameter, and of sufficient strength to sustain a weight and strain of at least five hundred pounds; and every owner of any such building or structure, in this section described, who shall fail to comply with the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined not less than five dollars, nor more than twenty-five dollars, and in default of payment thereof shall be imprisoned for not less than ten days. *Provided* this act shall not apply to hotels or lodging houses which are already provided with ample outside iron fire escapes, or to fire proof buildings.

Sleeping
rooms
provided
with ropes.

Misde-
meanor, fine.

SEC. 2. Any person or persons keeping, maintaining, controlling or managing any building or structure kept, used or maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an inn, hotel, public lodging house or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, shall supply and shall keep at all times, and in plain sight, and securely attached therein and thereto, in every bedroom, or sleeping apartment, on second floor or above second floor, a manilla rope, with knots not more than 15 inches apart, at least five-eighths of an inch in diameter, and of sufficient strength to sustain a weight and strain of at least five hundred pounds, and on failing to supply such ropes such person or persons shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction thereof shall be fined not less than five dollars, nor more than twenty-five dollars, and in default of payment thereof, may be imprisoned not less than ten days.

SEC. 3. All inns, hotels, public lodging houses and places of twelve sleeping rooms or more where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, in the State of Minnesota shall be subject to the provisions of this act, except as already herein provided.

Applies to
all hotels,
etc., of 12 or
more sleep-
ing rooms.

SEC. 4. For the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, the governor shall appoint an inspector at a salary of \$1,200 a year, who shall hold office for two years, and whose duty it shall be to visit and inspect annually, so far as possible, every building or structure kept, used or maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an inn, a hotel, public lodging house or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals. His necessary traveling expenses shall be paid on the filing of proper vouchers; said inspector is hereby granted police power to enter all hotels, inns, boarding or lodging houses in this state, at reasonable hours to inspect the sanitary condition thereof, and the fire escapes and their condition. He shall keep a complete set of books for public use and inspection showing the condition of said hotels, inns, or public lodging or boarding houses and places so inspected, together with the name or names of the owners, proprietors or managers thereof, and showing its sanitary condition, the number and condition of its fire escapes and any other information for the betterment of the public service.

Inspector,
salary, duties
powers, etc.

To keep
public record.

SEC. 5. If the inspector shall find after examination of any inn, hotel, public lodging house or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, that this law has been fully complied with, and the inspection fee has been paid to the inspector, he shall issue a certificate to the person operating the same, and said certificate shall be kept posted up in a conspicuous place in said inspected building. It shall be the duty of the county attorney in the county wherein the building is located to bring and prosecute an action for the collection of the inspector's fees in cases where payment of the same is refused.

Certificate
of inspection
to be posted.
Co. attorney,
duties.

Falsely
certifying,
penalty.

SEC. 6. Any inspector who shall wilfully certify falsely regarding any building inspected by him, and who shall issue a certificate to any person operating any inn, hotel, public lodging house or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, when such person has not complied with the provisions of this act, shall on conviction thereof, be fined not less than fifty dollars, nor to exceed five hundred dollars, and may be imprisoned not to exceed one year in the state prison, or both, at the discretion of the court, and removed from office.

SEC. 7. For the purpose of inspecting them as provided for in this act the inspector shall, during the hours from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m., have free access to all halls in any hotel, inn, public lodging or boarding house or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals. Any person or persons operating the same who shall refuse or hinder the inspector from entering any hall in any building that this law requires him to inspect shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than \$5 nor more than \$25 and in default of payment thereof shall be imprisoned for not less than ten days nor more than thirty days.

Inspector
to have free
access be-
tween 10
a. m. and
4 p. m.

SEC. 8. All fees collected by the inspector shall be retained by him, *provided, however,* any amount collected by him in excess of twelve hundred dollars per annum for his services and not exceeding five dollars a day for traveling expenses while actually engaged in inspecting buildings, shall be turned into the state treasury. The inspector shall be authorized to charge and collect the following fees for official inspections of buildings as herein provided, viz., building of twelve and less than thirty rooms, 50 cents; thirty and less than sixty rooms, \$1; sixty and less than one hundred rooms, \$1.50; one hundred and less than two hundred rooms, \$2, and all buildings two hundred rooms or more, \$3.

Disposition
of inspection
fees.

SEC. 9. The inspector shall be authorized to appoint one or more deputy inspectors. The inspector and deputy inspector shall each give a bond in the sum of \$5,000. The inspector shall be required to report all transactions to the state auditor every three months, and also make a report at the end of each year.

Bond,
deputies,
report to
state auditor.

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

Approved April 19, 1905.