

CHAPTER 288—H. F. No. 678.

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An Act to amend sections 1813, 1814, 1815, 1816, 1817, 1818 and 1824, Revised Laws of 1905, relating to the guarding of machinery, belt shifters, loose pulleys, hoistways and elevators requiring fire escapes, cleanliness, ventilation and water closets in factories, mills, workshops and buildings where persons are employed and prescribing penalties for violations of the provisions of chapter 28, Revised Laws of 1905.

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

Commissioner of labor may prohibit unguarded machinery.

- Section 1. That section 1813, Revised Laws of 1905 be, and the same is hereby amended, so as to read as follows:

Section 1813. Dangerous machinery.—How guarded.—All saws, planers, wood shapers, jointers, sand-papering machines, and ironing mangles; all set screws, drums and machinery, including belts, shafting, cables, and fly wheels; all electrical dynamos and other dangerous electrical apparatus and appliances; and all vats, pans, or other receptacles containing molten metal or boiling liquid, in any factory, mill, or workshop, shall be so located as not to be dangerous to workmen, or, as far as practicable, shall be fenced or otherwise protected. Every dangerous place in or about factories, mills, workshops, and engineering work, near to which any employe is obliged to pass or to be employed, shall be securely fenced, inclosed, or otherwise protected. No grindstone, emery wheel, or machine in any factory, mill, or workshop shall be used when the same is known to be cracked or otherwise defective. If a machine or any part thereof is in a dangerous condition or is not properly guarded, the use thereof may be prohibited by the commissioner of labor or his assistants and a notice to that effect shall be attached thereto. Such notice shall not be removed until the machine is made safe and the required safeguard provided, and in the meantime such unsafe or dangerous machinery shall not be used.

Exhaust fans for carrying off dust.—Sec. 2. That section 1814, Revised Laws of 1905 be, and the same is hereby amended, so as to read as follows:

Section 1814. Belt shifters, loose pulleys, etc.—Every owner of a factory, mill or workshop where machinery is in use shall furnish or cause to be furnished, wherever practicable, belt shifters or other safe mechanical contrivances for the purpose of throwing on or off belts or pulleys; and, whenever practicable, machinery shall be provided with loose pulleys. Exhaust fans of sufficient power shall be provided for carrying off dust from emery wheels, grindstones and other dust creating machinery. Where the machinery is propelled by steam, com-

munication shall be provided between each workroom in which machinery is placed and the room in which the engineer is stationed by means of speaking tubes, electric bells, telephone or appliances that may control the motive power.

Elevators to be protected by metal barriers.—Sec. 3. That section 1815, Revised Laws of 1905 be, and the same is hereby amended, so as to read as follows:

Section 1815. Protection of hoistways, elevators, etc.—Every hoisting apparatus used in the construction of any building, every hoistway, hatchway, elevator well, and wheel hole in any factory, mill, workshop, storehouse wareroom, or store, shall be securely protected on each floor by a metal barrier at least four feet high, which shall be kept closed except when necessarily opened for use. Every elevator car used for either freight or passengers shall be provided with some suitable mechanical device by which it can be securely held in the event of accident to the rope or hoisting machinery.

Exit signs to be posted.—Sec. 4. That section 1816, Revised Laws of 1905 be, and the same is hereby amended, so as to read as follows:

Section 1816. Fire escapes—Doors—Hand rails.—Every building in which laborers are employed shall be provided with sufficient means of escape in case of fire, by more than one way of egress, each of which shall be at all times free from obstruction and ready for immediate use, and every such egress shall be provided with a sign having on it the word "exit" in letters not less than five inches in height and so as plainly to indicate to persons within the building the location of such egresses. Every door leading in or to any such building shall be so constructed as to open outward, when possible, and shall not be so fastened during working hours as to prevent free egress. Substantial hand rails shall be provided on all stairways in every such building; and, where females are employed, the stairs regularly used by them shall be properly screened at the sides and bottom. When in the opinion of the factory inspectors it is necessary, the steps of said stairs shall be substantially covered with rubber, securely fastened thereon, for the better safety of persons employed in such buildings.

Owner of building to provide fire escapes.—Sec. 5. That section 1817, Revised Laws of 1905 be, and the same is hereby amended, so as to read as follows:

Section 1817. External fire escapes.—If any such building where persons are employed be more than two stories high, it shall be the duty of the owner of such building (unless otherwise provided by lease,) to provide at least one fire escape, and

as many more as the labor commissioner may require. Every such fire escape shall be on the outside of the building, connecting on each floor above the first with at least two openings; shall be well fastened and secured, with landings not less than six feet in length and three in width, guarded by an iron railing not less than three feet in height. Such landings shall be connected by iron stairs, not less than two feet wide, and with steps of not less than six inches tread, placed at an angle of not more than forty-five degrees, and protected by a well-secured hand rail on both sides, with an automatic drop ladder, two feet wide, reaching from the lower platform to the ground. Such fire escape shall be sufficient if constructed on any other plan approved by the labor bureau. The openings to each fire escape shall be as far as practicable from the stairways and elevator shafts, and the ladder of each fire escape shall extend to the roof. Stationary stairs or ladders shall also be provided on the inside from the upper story to the roof. Every factory, mill, and workshop more than two stories high shall also be provided with inside and outside standpipes, and with hose connected therewith, as required in the case of hotels of the same height, and with one chemical fire extinguisher on each floor, always ready for use.

Provision for closets and cuspidors.—Sec. 6. That section 1818, Revised Laws of 1905 be, and the same is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Section 1818. Cleanliness, etc.—Every building in which labor is employed shall be kept clean and free from effluvia arising from any sewer, drain, or privy, be properly ventilated; and provided with privies for the separate use of male and female employes, to the number of at least one of such closets for each twenty-five persons employed, properly screened, and at all times kept in a sanitary condition. Whenever the labor performed is such as to require a change of clothing, separate dressing rooms shall be provided for the sexes. Suitable receptacles for sputum shall be provided by the employers, the same to be of such form and construction and of such number as shall be satisfactory to the state board of health, or the commissioner of labor and his assistants.

Removing notice from machinery a misdemeanor.—Sec. 7. That section 1824, Revised Laws of 1905 be, and the same is hereby amended, so as to read as follows:

Section 1824. Violations of Law—Prosecutions.—Every person who violates or fails to comply with any requirement of this chapter, or disregards any order, notice, or direction of any member or employe of the labor bureau made in accordance with its provisions, or who obstructs or interferes with any inspection being made pursuant thereto, or who removes any

notice from a machine stating that such machine is dangerous and unsafe, or who operates any such machine while such notice is attached and such machine is still unguarded and unsafe, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, the minimum penalty whereof shall be a fine of twenty-five dollars, or imprisonment for fifteen days. But whenever notice is required before prosecution, no criminal proceeding shall be commenced until thirty days after such notice, nor then, if within such time the requirements of the notice have been met: *Provided*, that if such requirement be to put a water-closet or privy in sanitary condition, where the only defect is due to carelessness in its management, or to put an elevator in safe condition, only forty-eight hours shall be allowed. In case of application to the court to restrain, the time aforesaid shall not begin to run until the decision thereon.

Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 19, 1911.

CHAPTER 289—H. F. No. 801.

An Act to amend chapter two (2) of chapter forty-three (43) of the General Laws of the State of Minnesota for the year 1909, entitled "An Act empowering cities however organized, having a population of 10,000 or less, to construct municipal waterworks, or light plants, or both, or to acquire by purchase or condemnation waterworks or light plants already in existence and to extend, enlarge, or improve the same, and to issue bonds for any or all of such purposes."

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

Bonds not to exceed fifteen per cent of valuation.—Section

1. That section two (2) of chapter forty-three (43) of the General Laws of the year 1909, be and the same is hereby amended so as to read, as follows:

Section 2. Whenever the city council of any such city, at a regular called meeting thereof, determine by resolution, duly adopted, by a three-fourths majority vote of all the members thereof, entered upon the minutes of the proceedings, that it is necessary either to acquire by purchase or condemnation, water works or light plants already in existence, or construct, extend, enlarge, or improve a municipal water or light plant, or either or all thereof, as the case may be, and that the funds in the treasury of said city available therefor, are not sufficient for such purpose, and that it is necessary to issue the bonds of such city