

a period of not more than 50 years from the date of the last expiration thereof. Proceedings thus to amend the articles of incorporation of any such corporation shall be completed within two years after the passage of this act. This act shall not affect any pending litigation, nor apply to any corporation whose charter has been declared forfeited by any court of competent jurisdiction in this state.

Sec. 2. Validating certain corporate acts. If any such corporation complies with Section 1 of this act, all corporate acts and contracts done, performed, made and entered into after the expiration of said corporate existence shall be and each is hereby declared to be legal and valid as against the objection that the period of duration of such corporation had expired.

Approved March 31, 1945.

CHAPTER 197—H. F. No. 421

An act relating to firemen's civil service commission; amending Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 420.10.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 420.10, is amended to read as follows:

"420.10. Examinations; examiners. All examinations shall be impartial, fair and practical and designed only to test the relative qualifications and fitness of applicants to discharge the duties of the particular employment which they seek to fill. No question in any examination shall relate to the political or religious convictions or affiliations of the applicant. All applicants for positions of trust and responsibility shall be specially examined as to moral character, sobriety and integrity, and all applicants for positions requiring special experience, skill or faithfulness shall be specially examined in respect to those qualities. It shall be the duty of the chief of the fire department and of every employee to act as an examiner or assistant examiner, at the request of the commission, without special compensation therefor. Examinations shall be conducted and examination papers scored by some experienced and competent person who is not a resident of

the city or village where the examinations are being held, when by resolution or motion it is so ordered by the council of such city or village."

Approved March 31, 1945.

CHAPTER 198—H. F. No. 427

An act relating to the survey and investigation of the underground water resources of the Red River Valley, granting authority to commissioner of conservation to cooperate with federal government and state and local governmental agencies of the states of North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota, and appropriating money therefor.

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

Section 1. Survey of underground resources of Red River Valley. The Commissioner of Conservation is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement or agreements with the United States Government, acting through the United States Geological Survey or other authorized agency, the states of North Dakota and South Dakota, and with local governmental agencies of those states and Minnesota, to undertake a survey of the underground water resources of the Red River Valley, the United States Government, acting through the United States Geological Survey or other authorized agency, to agree to assume one-half of the cost thereof.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated for this purpose to the Commissioner of Conservation, out of any moneys in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$2,500.00 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. Any balances remaining unexpended at the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946 shall be available for the continuation of the purposes of this Act.

Sec. 3. Contributions. Provided, that the amount provided in Section 2 shall not be available until there is available by contribution from other local subdivisions or states the sum of \$12,500.00.

Approved March 31, 1945.