

the roadway of the said plank road between the points designated, shall not be vacated, and the same shall be and remain a public highway forever, and for the purpose of connecting that portion of its road in the northwest quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of section twenty-five (25) town seven (7) range twenty-one (21) east, in Milwaukee county, with any part or portion of its road in the northeast quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of said section which may be hereafter changed in its location, are hereby authorized and empowered to locate and construct the same upon any public highways between the termini of its road in said northwest and northeast quarters of said section twenty-five (25).

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

Approved May 3, 1899.

No. 126, A.]

[Published May 8, 1899.

## CHAPTER 341.

AN ACT relating to caucuses, and amending sections 11a to section 11i inclusive, of chapter 5, of the Wisconsin statutes of 1898.

All caucuses  
to be held  
under pro-  
visions of act.

SECTION 1. Caucuses and meetings of political parties, held for the purpose of nominating candidates or choosing delegates to assemble in convention to nominate any person for any public office, to be voted for at any general, judicial or municipal election held in all cities, towns and villages in this state, except in counties having a population of two hundred thousand or more, whether operating under the general or special charter and all meetings for nominating candidates or choosing delegates to conventions to nominate candidates to be voted for at such elec-

tions, commonly called caucuses unless held under the provisions of this act, are hereby declared to be unlawful, and no political party shall have its political ticket placed upon the official ballot, or canvassed at such election, unless the nomination of its candidates are made in accordance with the provisions of this act. The meetings of electors in any town, village or ward, held for the purpose of nominating candidates or electing delegates as aforesaid, are hereby defined as caucuses and declared to be such. In all cases wherein this act shall apply, the caucuses in cities or villages for a political party in the precincts of a county, shall be called for said one county and held on the same day, and in cities said caucuses shall be held during the same hours, but no caucuses shall be held open for less than one hour.

Caucuses defined.

SECTION 2. Every political party desiring to nominate candidates to be voted for at any election as hereinbefore provided, shall file with the city or county clerk, the name of the chairman and secretary of the county or city committee of such political party, who shall be electors of such county or city, and shall have been elected by the county or city convention, called for the purpose of nominating candidates to be voted for in said county or city or at any such election, and the names of such officers of the county or city committee shall be embodied in the nomination papers filed with the county or city clerk, certifying the nomination of candidates, and the term of office of such officers of the county or city committee shall commence immediately after such nomination papers have been filed. The respective county or city committees shall determine the day and place when and where the conventions of the political party it represents shall be held, and also the day upon which the caucuses of such political party shall be held for each town, village and ward, and the number of delegates which shall represent each town, village or ward at such convention apportioned in such manner as pro-

Political parties to file organization with county clerk.

Committees to determine date of caucuses.

vided by the several county or city committees and shall also designate the officers for which candidates shall be nominated at such caucus; and such committee shall also designate all offices for which, according to law, candidates are to be voted for at the next ensuing election.

Authority of committee to fill vacancies in committee.

SECTION 3. The county or city committee shall have authority to fill all vacancies in said committee, caused by resignation or otherwise, and the county or city clerk shall at once be notified by the chairman and secretary of the committee of all such changes. The county or city committee shall be composed of a chairman, secretary and one member for each ward, town or village. The county or city committee may also provide for the election of a treasurer and an assistant secretary, and for the appointment by the chairman, of an executive committee composed of five electors, who, together with the chairman, secretary and treasurer, shall constitute the executive committee.

Notice of caucus to be published.

SECTION 4. Whenever the several county or city committees shall determine on the day and time of holding such caucuses, the chairman of each of such committees, representing his political party, may cause to be published, at least ten days before the day of such caucus, in at least one daily newspaper, if nominations are to be made, to be voted for at municipal elections, provided there be such a daily newspaper published in said city, if not then in a weekly newspaper, and if for general elections, in two newspapers published in the county, a notice stating the time and place where such caucuses and conventions will be held. In towns where no newspapers are published, notices for caucuses shall be posted in three public places at least ten days before the day of holding such caucuses.

Qualification of voter at a caucus.

SECTION 5. No person shall vote or offer to vote more than once for any candidate or delegate or set of delegates in any one caucus, nor in any caucus held in any caucus district in which he shall not at the

time be a resident and duly qualified elector, and no person shall vote or offer to vote in any caucus where candidates and delegates are to be chosen, if he has already voted at the caucus of any other political party for candidates to be voted for, or for delegates to be chosen to a convention to nominate candidates to be voted for at the next ensuing election. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SECTION 6. The caucus officers under the provisions of this act, shall consist of a chairman, a secretary and two tellers. The chairman of the caucus in the several caucus districts affected by this act, shall be the chairman of the town committee; in his absence a chairman may be chosen by the electors present at the opening of the caucus; the secretary and the tellers shall be chosen by the electors present at the opening of the caucus. The chairman and secretary shall act as inspectors at such caucus, and shall on taking their places, make oath that he will faithfully, honestly and correctly conduct the election to be held at such caucus, protect it from all fraud and unfairness, truly, with the assistance of the tellers, canvass all the votes cast thereat, and in every way comply with the carrying out of the provisions of this act.

SECTION 7. It is hereby provided, that at all caucuses held under the provisions of this act, all votes, the result of which might be the election of a delegate to any political convention, or the nomination of a candidate for any political office, shall be by ballot; said ballot shall be printed on plain white paper or may be written by the individual voter, and shall be deposited by said voter in a box or other receptacle provided therefor by the caucus officers, which box or receptacle shall be in full view of the chairman, secretary, tellers and voters at such caucus, and shall not be removed from such position until the ballot shall have been declared closed, when the contents there shall be removed and votes canvassed by the

Caucus  
officers.

Voting to be  
by ballot.

proper officers of the caucus, as provided for under the provisions of sections 6 and 9 of this act.

Poll list to be made.

SECTION 8. The secretary of said caucus, with the aid of an assistant if necessary, shall make a true and correct poll list of the voters who cast a ballot at such caucus, giving name, and in cities, residence street and number, and such list shall be filed with the city, town or village clerk. In cities where the registration is had, the city clerk shall furnish caucus officers with six copies of the printed registry list. These registry lists shall be furnished the several ward committees at least one day before the holding of said caucus; and only voters whose names appear on such registry list shall be allowed to cast their vote at said caucus, except it is shown by affidavit that the elector is a qualified voter and resident of the said caucus district, which affidavit must be corroborated by at least two freeholders, electors in said caucus district. The committee having charge of the caucus shall have authority to maintain order and to enforce obedience to the lawful rules during the caucus.

In cities, clerk to furnish registry lists.

Votes, how canvassed.

SECTION 9. Immediately after the close of the caucus, and after the canvass of the votes, the chairman and secretary of the caucus shall certify to the chairman of the city or county committee, the names of the delegates so chosen at the caucus, giving the vote of the several candidates, and the persons receiving the majority of votes shall be legally elected as such delegates, to represent said caucus district. In case of nomination of candidates for office, the name of the candidate receiving a majority of all the votes shall be declared the nominee of the caucus, and his election shall be certified to the proper officers, to be placed upon the official election ballot.

Bribery of voter.

SECTION 10. Every person who by bribery, or corrupt or unlawful means, prevents or attempts to prevent any voter from attending or voting at any caucus mentioned in this act, or who shall give or offer to give, any valuable thing or bribe to any officer, inspector or delegate, whose

office is created by this act, or who shall give or offer to give any valuable thing or bribe to any elector as a consideration for some act to be done in relation to such caucus or convention, or who shall interfere with or in any manner disturb any caucus or convention held under the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished in the manner hereinafter provided.

SECTION 11. If any person shall be convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of this act, for which no punishment is herein provided, or who shall be convicted of a misdemeanor under the provisions of this act, he shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding two hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail, not less than two nor more than six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court. The district attorney of the county is hereby authorized and empowered to conduct prosecutions for violations of this act, upon complaint of a duly qualified elector of the caucus district in which such violation of this act may have occurred.

Penalty for violations.

SECTION 12. Section 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 11g, 11h, and 11i of chapter 5 of the Wisconsin statutes of 1898, and all acts and parts of acts in conflict with the provisions of this act, so far as do not relate to cities in counties having a population of two hundred thousand or more, are hereby repealed.

Repealing certain section.

SECTION 13. This act shall take effect and be in force, from and after its passage and publication.

Approved May 3, 1899.