

said library building, they are hereby given authority to borrow such sums of money as may be required from time to time as the work progresses, not exceeding in the aggregate two hundred and forty thousand dollars (\$240,000.00), at a rate of interest not exceeding six (6) per centum per annum; and to issue certificates of indebtedness therefor, to be executed by the president and secretary of said commissioners. Moneys so borrowed, with interest thereon, to be repaid from the annual appropriations for the years 1900, 1901, 1902, and 1903, by this act made.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 14, 1897.

No. 32, S.]

[Published April 16, 1897.

CHAPTER 238.

AN ACT relative to establishing free public libraries in cities, villages and towns.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Cities, towns and villages may levy a tax to provide a fund to equip and establish a public library.

SECTION 1. Section 931, of the revised statutes of Wisconsin, as amended by chapter 173, of the laws of 1893, as amended by chapter 330, of the laws of 1895, is hereby amended by substituting the word "one" for "two" in the phrase "containing over two thousand inhabitants;" by omitting from said section the following words, "not exceeding one mill on each dollar of the taxable property of such city, town or

village, or may set aside and appropriate a sum not to exceed ten per cent. of the money received in any one year for license issued for vending or dealing in spirituous, vinous or fermented liquors;" and by omitting the following words, "provided, that no tax shall be levied without the same be first submitted to a vote, and be approved by a majority of the votes cast at such election in such city, town or village on such question," so that said section 931, when amended, shall read as follows: "The common council of every city, not exceeding in population fifty thousand inhabitants, and the village board, or board of trustees of every village, and the town board of every town containing over one thousand inhabitants, shall have power to establish and equip a public library and reading room; and to maintain such library and reading room, or to maintain and support any public library and reading room already established therein, may annually levy and cause to be collected, as other general taxes are collected, a tax upon the taxable property of such city, village or town, to provide a library fund, which fund shall be kept by the treasurer separate and apart from other money of the city, village or town and to be used exclusively to maintain such library and reading room."

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

Approved April 14, 1897.