

# FIRE PROTECTION.

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## CHAPTER 54.

### REGULATING MANNER OF INGRESS AND EGRESS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS, FIRE ESCAPES, ETC.

AN ACT To Lessen the Dangers From Stampedes in Case of Fires in Buildings Used for Public Assemblages.

*Be it Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota:*

§ 1. DOORS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS, HOW TO BE CONSTRUCTED.] All doors of ingress and egress in all buildings used for public assemblages of any character in this Territory, including school houses, churches, theatres, public halls, city halls, court houses, factories, hotels and all other buildings wherein numbers of persons are employed, or are in the habit of meeting together for any purpose, shall be so constructed as to open and swing outward, and doorways shall not be less than four feet in width, with proper landings and stairways of at least equal width.

§ 2. WHO SHALL COMPLY WITH THIS ACT.] It shall be the duty of all persons owning or having charge of such buildings, including trustees, boards of directors and boards of education, to comply with the provisions of this act within six months after the same shall take effect; *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall be construed to require a change in the width of existing stairways and doorways, and that this act shall not apply to churches and school houses not within the limits of any incorporated city or village.

§ 3. PENALTY.] Any person or persons failing to comply with the provisions of this act, or who shall build, maintain, or permit to be used, any such building, contrary to the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

§ 4. FIRE ESCAPES.] All factories, public halls, hotels, and all other buildings in which large numbers of people congregate, which are two or more stories in height, shall be provided by the owners thereof with two or more fire escapes, placed within easy access of the occupants of said building.

§ 5. This act shall take effect and be in force on and after the first day of June, 1887.

Approved, March 11, 1887.