

rates of charges for such use, provided, however, that any such contract for the use of said bridge for such purpose or purposes shall in every case provide for adequate compensation to said company, its successors and assigns. The rates of tolls and charges so fixed shall be the legal rates, unless and until changed by order of the Public Service Commission, as may be authorized by law.

1931. ch. 539, sec. 49.

**49.** No person, partnership, association or corporation, private or public, shall be authorized to, and it shall be unlawful for any person, partnership, association or corporation, private or public, to construct or operate any bridge over the waters of the Chesapeak Bay at a distance less than ten miles from the bridge to be erected in pursuance of this subtitle, except such other bridge be erected after the acquisition by the State of the bridge to be erected, pursuant hereto, and with the consent of the General Assembly.

1931. ch. 539, sec. 50.

**50.** A franchise tax is hereby levied annually upon the gross receipts of said Company, its successors and assigns, derived from the tolls and all other revenues from the said bridge, such tax being as follows, to wit: two and one-half per cent. of so much of such gross receipts as shall be not in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in any one year, and in addition thereto three and one-half per cent. of so much of such gross receipts as shall be in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) and not in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for such year, and in addition thereto five and one-half per cent. of so much of such gross receipts as shall be in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000); and that for the purpose of determining said tax, said Company, its lessees, its successors and assigns, and any purchaser thereof, shall make the appropriate reports, and be subject to the appropriate penalties provided in Sections 172 to 191, inclusive, of Article 81 of the Code of Public General Laws of this State, and of said tax one-half of one per cent. of such gross receipts, as above specified, shall be payable to the Treasurer of the State, and the remainder thereof shall be payable one-half to the Treasurer of Baltimore County and one-half to the Treasurer of Kent County, and it shall be the duty of the State Tax Commission, when it has ascertained and fixed the amount of such tax, to certify to the Comptroller of the Treasury, and to the Treasurer of Baltimore County and to the Treasurer of Kent County, and to the said Chesapeake Bay Bridge Company, the amount of such tax due to the said State of Maryland and to said respective counties, and thereupon said tax shall be collectible by the Treasurer of the State of Maryland and by the respective Treasurers of said respective counties, as other county and State taxes due from corporations are collected.

Provided, however, that the franchise tax herein made payable to the State of Maryland and to Baltimore County and to Kent County shall