

CHAPTER 81.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE STATE AUDITOR TO ABATE PENALTIES FOR THE NON-PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON STATE LANDS IN CERTAIN CASES.

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

Penalties
abated for non
payment of
interest on
state lands.

SECTION 1. That the State Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to abate all penalties for non-payment of interest due or to become due for the years one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven (1877) and one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight (1878), on unpaid purchase money of school, agricultural, college, or internal improvement lands, in such portion of the State, or belonging to such persons as have suffered from ravages of grasshoppers, if such interest due in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven (1877) be paid before the first (1st) day of December, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight (1878), and the interest to become due in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight (1878), be paid before the first (1st) day of December, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine (1879). *Provided*, that such abatement shall only be made upon the petition of the person seeking such relief under the provisions of this act, duly filed in the office of the State Auditor, showing the necessity for such relief, which petition shall be duly verified and approved by the county treasurer and auditor of the county wherein such lands are situated.

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

Approved March 1, 1878.

CHAPTER 82.

AN ACT IN RELATION TO THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF FRUIT CULTURE IN THIS STATE.

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

Experimental
farm for fruit
culture.

SECTION 1. That the Board of Regents of the State University is hereby authorized to purchase and use as a part of the experimental farm of the agricultural department of said University, a tract of land of one hundred and sixteen acres (116), situated near Lake Minnetonka in Hennepin county in this State, at a cost of not to exceed two thousand dollars, the said land to be paid for out of the funds of the said State University, and to be subject to the supervision of said Board of Regents.

SEC. 2. That the said tract of land or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be used for the growth of apple and other fruit trees, and for experimenting therein especially with a view to hybridizing the crabs and hardy seedling

apples with long keeping standard apples to develope [hardy] long keeping varieties of the apple tree suitable to this climate; and said experiment shall be conducted by some person to be designated by the Governor, and who shall receive annually the sum of one thousand dollars as compensation for his services, and to pay for such [necessary] labor as he may employ in conducting the said experiments. He shall report annually to the Board of Regents of the State University, who shall transmit said report to the Governor.

SEC. 3. The sum of one thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to carry out the provisions of section two of this act.

Appropriation.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 8, 1878.

CHAPTER 83.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT AND TO PRESCRIBE THE DUTIES OF A PUBLIC EXAMINER FOR THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

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

SECTION 1. That one competent person, who shall be a skillful accountant, and well versed as an expert in the theory and practice of book-keeping, and who is not an incumbent of any public office under the State or any county, municipality or public institution therein; and who is not a stockholder, officer, trustee, assignee, or employee of any banking, moneyed or savings institution, or corporation created under the laws thereof, shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall be styled Public Examiner, and who shall take and file with the Secretary of State an oath of office, and execute to the State a bond, with at least three sureties to be approved by the Governor, in the penal sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the faithful discharge of his duties. He shall hold the office for the term of three (3) years, and execute the duties thereof as herein prescribed, until his successor shall be appointed and qualified; and in case of a vacancy by death, removal, resignation or otherwise, the Governor shall fill the same by appointment.

Public examiner—by whom appointed—bonds—term of office:

SEC. 2 . The said Public Examiner is authorized and empowered by this act, and it shall be his duty in his discretion to assume and exercise a constant supervision over the books and financial accounts of the several public, educational, charitable, penal and reformatory institutions belonging to the State. He shall prescribe and enforce correct methods

Duties of examiner.