

criminal court, shall deem it advisable he may by order direct the said public defender to appear before the board of pardons, or parole for and on behalf of any applicant for pardon or parole who was committed from such county.

Sec. 4. Compensation to be fixed by judges.—He shall receive compensation for his services as the judges of the district court shall fix, said compensation to be paid by the county in the same manner and at the same time as the salary of other county officials.

Sec. 5. To be appointed for four years.—The term of office of the public defender shall be four (4) years, but he may be re-appointed as often as the majority of the judges of the district court shall concur in such re-appointment.

Sec. 6. Given power to appoint and remove assistants.—He shall have the power to appoint and remove his assistants and number and compensation of which shall be fixed by the judges of the district court, by an order filed with the county auditor. Their compensation shall be paid by the county in the same manner and at the same time as the salaries of other county officials.

Sec. 7. To appear for criminals who have plead guilty on information.—The public defender shall also appear for and on behalf of criminals who shall have pleaded guilty on information as provided in section 9162, General Statutes of 1913, in counties now or hereafter having a population of 300,000 or over.

Sec. 8. Inconsistent acts repealed.—All acts or part of acts inconsistent with the provisions in this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 21, 1917.

CHAPTER 497—H. F. No. 208.

An act to amend Section 4796, General Statutes of Minnesota, 1913, relating to beaver, mink and muskrat.

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

Section 1. Game and fish commissioner to license killing of mink and muskrats under certain conditions.—That section 4796 of the General Statutes of Minnesota, 1913, be and the same is made to read as follows:

4796. No person shall take, catch or kill any beaver at any time, or any mink or muskrat between the fifteenth day of April and the first day of December following, and no person shall molest, injure or destroy any muskrat, mink or beaver house, den or dam at any time, or hunt or pursue such animals with

dog or dogs, except that in the open season herein provided for the taking, catching or killing of muskrats, muskrat houses, may for the purpose of placing traps therein, be opened in such manner only as will not destroy, damage or injure the same as a place of habitation for muskrats. Provided, that when any of the animals mentioned in this section, *excepting beaver*, are doing damage to or destroying any *private property or public highway*, or are likely to damage or destroy any such *private property or public highway*, the person whose *private property* is being or is likely to be damaged or destroyed, *or the town board of the town in which such public highway is situate that is being or is likely to be so damaged or destroyed*, may make complaint and report the facts to the *game and fish commissioner*, who shall either in person or by a deputy game warden, investigate the conditions complained of, and if it appears that the complaint is well founded, and the property of such complainant *or the public highway, as the case may be*, is being or is likely to be damaged or destroyed by any such animals, the *game and fish commissioner* may grant permission properly safeguarded to the complainant *in case of private property or in case of public highways to such person or persons as may be designated by the town board in question*, to kill such animals or destroy the houses, dams, or other structures erected by them.

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

Approved April 20, 1917.

CHAPTER 498.—H. F. No. 485.

An act to provide for the verification of vouchers presented to the state for payment, inquiry into the correctness of accounts and transactions with the state and to authorize the administration of oaths and for other purposes.

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

Section 1. **Accounts to be itemized.**—That before any charge, bill or expense account against the state of Minnesota shall be audited, it shall be itemized and verified as to the correctness thereof.

Sec. 2. **Auditor authorized to issue subpoena to verify bill for expenses.**—The state auditor is hereby authorized to issue subpoena to any person who has or shall hereafter render an account to the state, be the same in the nature of a bill for expenses for articles sold or purchased, or involving any other transaction between the state of Minnesota and any person, corporation or co-partnership; and he shall have the power to place any such individual under oath and to examine the said