

in whole or in part, such violation, and upon conviction thereof, any such directors, officers or agents shall be punished by fine or imprisonment, as in this section provided.

Sec. 6. Provisions severable.—If any provision of this act is declared unconstitutional or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the act and the applicability of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Sec. 7. Application of act.—The provisions of this act shall not apply to the licensing of motion picture films to any school, college, university, church, or any educational, fraternal, or religious organizations in this state.

Approved April 26, 1941.

CHAPTER 461—H. F. No. 871

An act relating to licenses for sale and manufacture of cigarettes; and providing that certain blind persons need not pay fees for such licenses.

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

Section 1. Blind persons not to pay cigarette licenses.—No applicant for any license required of persons for the sale or manufacture of cigarettes shall be required to pay any fee to the state or any political subdivision thereof if he furnishes a doctor's certificate showing that he is blind, as defined by Laws of 1937, Chapter 324.

Approved April 26, 1941.

CHAPTER 462—H. F. No. 1155

An act relating to the office of county highway engineer; amending Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 2569, Subdivision 2.

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

Section 1. Law amended—Appointment of county highway engineer.—Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 2569, Subdivision 2, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Subdivision 2. Such county highway engineer may be selected from a list of eligible, competent highway engineers, which list shall be submitted by the commissioner of highways to the county board in May of the year in which the term of office shall expire, and shall be appointed for a term of two years, provided, that when a new county highway engineer is appointed he may be appointed for one year only, and thereafter his appointment shall be made as hereinbefore set forth. The county highway engineer shall be a citizen of the state of Minnesota, and must have resided therein for not less than three years immediately preceding the date of his appointment. The salary of the county highway engineer shall be fixed by the county board and be payable the same as other county officers are paid. His salary shall not be reduced during his term of office, provided, however, that the salary of the county highway engineer may be reduced in the same proportion as the salary of the county board in such county.

Any engineer employed by the state of Minnesota when properly certified by the commissioner of highways may be employed as county highway engineer and during the period of such employment and for the purposes of such employment he may be granted leave of absence from the state service, notwithstanding any limitation on leaves of absence contained in the civil service act.

The director of civil service shall allocate a state civil service classification to any county highway engineer as may be from time to time requested by the commissioner of highways. Such allocation shall be made on the same basis and subject to the same provisions of law as pertain to engineering and similar positions in the state classified service. The director shall also give consideration to the education, professional attainments and experience of such county highway engineer for purposes of transfer to the state service. All county highway engineers who have had not less than two years service prior to such transfer may be transferred to such state classification so allocated, without examination, but subject to a six months probationary period, in the state classified service. The director of civil service shall establish procedure for such transfer.

The commissioner of highways may certify any county highway engineer that he may deem qualified to the director of civil service as eligible to take any specific promotional

examination held for civil engineer or civil engineering aid as classified by the state civil service commission. The service rating of such engineer shall include past service with the state and as county highway engineer, if he had prior service with the state highway department as a supervisory engineer."

Approved April 26, 1941.

CHAPTER 463—H. F. No. 1163

An act providing for a rural credit deficiency fund, levying taxes for the payment of deficiencies in the rural credit fund and the rural credit interest fund; authorizing the conservator of rural credit, with the approval of the executive council, to issue and sell rural credit deficiency fund certificates of indebtedness in anticipation of the collection of such taxes; authorizing the state board of investment to purchase such certificates of indebtedness; and appropriating moneys for the purposes of this act.

WHEREAS, Laws 1923, Chapter 225, provided for a system of Rural Credit for lending money by the state on mortgages on real estate within the state, and authorized the state to borrow money for such purpose by the issuance of bonds, and to borrow money by the issuance of certificates of indebtedness for the purpose of meeting payments of principal and interest on such borrowings which could not otherwise be met, and the good faith and credit of the state was pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on moneys so borrowed; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant thereto, bonds were issued and sold in the amount of \$61,000,000, and there are now outstanding bonds thus issued in the principal amount of \$44,500,000 and certificates of indebtedness heretofore issued in the principal amount of \$15,540,000; and,

WHEREAS, the state of Minnesota, department of rural credit, has sustained and will continue to sustain substantial losses by reason of reduction in value of real estate and difference in interest received by it on its interest-bearing paper as against interest heretofore paid and hereafter to be paid on the bonds and certificates of indebtedness, together with cost of operation thereof; and,