the village or city council of any village or city in this state which now has or hereafter may have a population of less than 50,000 inhabitants is hereby authorized and empowered, when in its discretion it deems it necessary or desirable so to do, to levy on the taxable property of such village or city an additional amount not to exceed nine-tenths of one mill; such additional tax to be collected and disbursed as herein provided.

Sec. 2. Law amended—special fund—disbursements—payments to relief association.—That Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 3726, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Such amount shall be kept as a special fund, and disbursed only for the following purposes:

- (1) For the relief of sick, injured or disabled members of such fire department, their widows and orphans.
- (2) For the payment of the fees, dues and assessments in the volunteer firemen's benefit association of Minnesota so as to entitle the members of any fire department to membership in and benefits of such state association.
- (3) For the payment of such death or funeral benefits as may be from time to time authorized by such municipality.

But if there shall be a duly incorporated fire department relief association in such municipality, such amount shall be paid to the treasurer of said relief association, and by him deposited in the special fund of said association, and disbursed as other special funds.

Approved April 6, 1943.

CHAPTER 324—S. F. No. 767.

An act to add a route to the trunk highway system to be known as route No. 212.

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

Section 1. Route No. 212 added to trunk highway system.

—There is hereby added to the Trunk Highway System a new route as follows:

Route No. 212. Beginning at a point on Route No. 3 at or near Robbinsdale, thence extending in a northeasterly and easterly direction to a point on Route No. 62 easterly of New Brighton, affording necessary and reasonable means of communication to industrial areas engaged in the manufacture of essential war materials, and bringing into the Trunk Highway System an important route a portion of which has been heretofore improved with federal aid, and all of which has been approved for surveys and plans with federal funds by the Public Roads Administration.

- Sec. 2. Funds available for construction.—That funds are available for the construction, improvement and maintenance of the additional route of said trunk highway system hereinbefore set forth, sufficient therefor, in addition to the construction and maintenance of the several routes specifically described in said Article 16 of the Constitution, and the said additional route is added to the trunk highway system pursuant to the power and authority vested in the Legislature under said Article 16 of the State Constitution.
- Sec. 3. Commissioner of highways to locate route.—The Commissioner of Highways is hereby authorized and empowered to specifically and definitely locate the foregoing described route but in so locating the same he shall not deviate from the starting or terminus as set forth herein. All of the provisions of existing law defining the powers and duties of the Commissioner of Highways with reference to temporary and permanent location of trunk highways and other trunk highway matters are hereby conferred upon said Commissioner with respect to the foregoing route.
- Sec. 4. When construction is to begin.—No action shall be taken under this act, no materials purchased, no contracts let, no right of ways purchased, no condemnation proceedings shall be commenced hereunder and no construction of said new route commenced unless and until the Commissioner of Highways of the State of Minnesota is definitely assured and is reasonably satisfied that priorities will be had and that the materials and labor necessary for the construction of said new route are directly available and that no construction is to be commenced under this act unless commenced prior to the cessation of the present hostilities, it being the intent hereof that this is a war emergency measure designed to construct forthwith a highway that will accelerate the transportation of war employees to and from war plants situate along said new route.

Approved April 6, 1943.

CHAPTER 325—S. F. No. 853.

An act relating to salaries of the county treasurer and judge of probate in certain counties.