

do not apply to township mutual fire insurance companies.

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

Approved April 23, 1897.

CHAPTER 259.

S. F. No. 96.

An act to encourage a better condition of rural schools and to appropriate money therefor.

Aid for common school districts outside of incorporated villages or cities.

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

SECTION 1. Any common school district in this state, not located in any incorporated village or city, which shall comply with the provisions of this act, shall be entitled to receive pecuniary aid as hereinafter specified.

SEC. 2. No school district shall receive pecuniary aid, as provided for in this act, until it has complied with the following conditions, viz.:

Conditions of receiving aid.

First—It shall have maintained during the school year next preceding that for which such aid is granted at least eight (8) months school, taught by a teacher or teachers holding a first grade county certificate, or a professional state certificate, or a diploma from one of the normal schools of this state, endorsed according to law, or a diploma from a normal school of another state which has been approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

Second—Such schools shall have suitable school buildings, out houses, a library and such other apparatus as is necessary for doing efficient work.

SEC. 3. Applications from districts for aid provided for in this act shall be made to the superintendent of schools of the counties in which such schools are located.

Applications for aid.

County superintendents shall forward to the state superintendent of public instruction such applications as are endorsed and recommended by them.

Applications so endorsed shall be acted upon in the order of their reception.

The said superintendent of public instruction shall apportion to each of said schools which shall have fully complied with the provisions of this act and with the rules and regulations provided for in section four (4) of this act, and whose applications shall have been approved by him, the sum of fifty dollars (\$50) in each year. *Provided,*

Apportionment of aid.

First—That the total amount of apportionments under this act shall not exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) in any one year; *provided*,

Second—That not more than twenty (20) per cent. of the total number of districts in any one county shall in any one year be granted aid under this act.

\$20,000 ap-
propriated.

The sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) is hereby appropriated annually, to be paid out of any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of this act, which amount, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, shall be paid upon the warrants of said superintendent of public instruction, drawn upon the state auditor.

SEC. 4. The superintendent of public instruction shall keep a record, which shall show all schools applying for and receiving such aid in each year, together with the cost of supervision of these schools, a statement of which shall be included in his biennial report, and he shall add such recommendation as may seem useful and proper regarding the same.

SEC. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 23, 1897.

S. F. No. 224.

CHAPTER 260.

Treatment of
inebriates by
counties.

An act to provide for the treatment of inebriates by counties and prescribing rules governing the same.

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

Dependent
habitual
drunkard
may apply to
judge of
probate.

SECTION 1. Whenever any legal resident and citizen of the state of Minnesota shall become an habitual drunkard in the sense hereinafter defined, and is a public charge, or is about to become a public charge, or in case the applicant is a married man, and such drunkard, and his family is a public charge, or about to become a public charge, he may apply in person to the judge of probate of the county in said state in which he shall be a resident, or with his consent any friend or near of kin may so apply for him to the judge of probate of the said county, setting forth the fact of said habitual drunkenness, and of the financial condition that he or his said family may be in, and his desire to be cured of said drunkenness. He shall make oath to the truth of his said statements, and shall furnish two credible witnesses, who shall also be residents of the same county and state, to further attest these facts.