

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.

SEC. 2. Upon receiving such application, the probate judge shall forthwith proceed to determine if the facts are in accordance with the sworn statements of the applicant and his witnesses, and for that purpose may subpoena and require to appear before him and testify such other witnesses as he may deem proper, and if said judge of probate shall be satisfied, from such examination, that the facts set out in said application are true, he shall, without unnecessary loss of time, transport and commit the said applicant to any reputable institution in which inebriates may be cured, such institute or institution to be located within said state, and to be selected by a committee of three citizens appointed whenever deemed proper by such judge, by said judge of probate of said county. The board of county commissioners shall have the power and authority, and it shall be their duty to contract and fix at a reasonable sum the terms or price for such treatment, with the proper party, or proper parties, representing such institute, or institution, and to audit and allow the bills therefor upon the report and certificate of said judge of probate; but it shall be unlawful to appropriate or allow more than one hundred (\$100.00) dollars for such treatment in any one case at the expense and cost of the county of which he is a resident. *Provided*, that there shall not be committed to said institute under the provisions of this act more than one inebriate a year for each ten thousand (10,000), or major fraction thereof, of the population of each county.

Hearing before probate judge.

Manner of commitment.

SEC. 3. The probate judge shall record or cause to be recorded the name, sex, age, nationality, residence and length of residence in the county and state, length of time that the applicant has been incapacitated for self-control or self-support, number of persons, if any, dependent upon him for support, date of commitment to the institution, and thereafter shall add the length of time treated, and total amount of expense to the county for commitment and treatment. He shall from these records make an annual statistical report of these, and such other facts as shall be deemed worthy of record, exclusive of names, to the state board of charities and corrections.

Probate judge to make record and report to board of corrections and charities.

SEC. 4. The money appropriated and used for such expenses, costs and treatment as aforesaid, shall be, and is hereby declared to be, a loan from the county to the individual receiving the benefits of the same, which shall be payable at any time within five years without interest. The party accepting the benefits of the said loan shall give his note to said county for the full amount of costs for commitment and treatment, when said treat-

Cost of treatment a loan to patients.

ment shall have been finished, and all expenses shall have been properly reported to the said judge of probate. This note shall be non-negotiable and may be paid by installments, or, at the time of maturity, may be extended at the discretion of the judge of probate. If the applicant shall be a minor, he shall, nevertheless, be and is hereby authorized and empowered to execute a promissory note as herein required, which shall be in all respects as valid and enforceable as if such applicant were of full age.

SEC. 5. The officers of such institute as may be designated for the treatment of such persons, payment for whose cure is provided by this act, shall become sworn officers of the court committing such persons to their care. And one or more of said officers shall be by said court appointed guardian, or guardians, for the person committed, which appointment shall continue during the time of their treatment; and said officer, or officers, shall have authority to adopt and enforce such reasonable rules as may be necessary for the administration of proper treatment to the patient and for the control of the persons entrusted to their care during the time of said treatment; but they shall receive no fee or compensation other than the sum provided for and limited by section II of this act. That any person committed to such institute pursuant to the provisions of this act, who shall violate any reasonable rule adopted by the officers of said institute, or shall fail to go to said institute when committed thereto, or shall leave said institute before the time fixed by the officers of said institute, for the administration of the treatment provided herein, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon complaint of said officers, or any other person, shall be tried for said act, and if found guilty, shall be punished by a fine of not more than twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days.

SEC. 6. This act to apply only to counties of fifty thousand (50,000) inhabitants or over.

SEC. 7. A drunkard, as mentioned in the foregoing sections of this act, shall be deemed to include any person who has acquired the habit of using spirituous, malt, or fermented liquors, cocaine or other narcotics, to such an extent or degree as to deprive him of reasonable self-control.

SEC. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 23, 1897.

Responsibility of officers of institutes.

The term drunkard defined.