

tion as to conditions and methods in other states in reference thereto.

Sec. 16. Employee to be deemed state employee.—Every employee of the bureau except the superintendent shall be deemed an employee of the state within the meaning of the workmen's compensation laws of this state and entitled to the benefit of all the provisions of said laws applicable to state employees.

Sec. 17. Construction.—It is hereby declared that this act is necessary for the public safety, peace and welfare, is remedial in nature, shall be construed liberally, and that in case any part thereof shall be declared unconstitutional it shall not in any way affect any other part hereof.

Approved April 16, 1927.

CHAPTER 225—H. F. No. 1308.

An act to amend Section 5, Chapter 437, General Laws 1921, the same being an act fixing the salaries, compensation, expenses and clerk hire of county officers in certain counties.

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

Section 1. Salary of sheriff in certain counties.—That Section 5, Chapter 437, General Laws 1921, be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 5. Sheriff, \$2520.00 per year and expenses in connection with official services rendered for the county, which salary and expense shall be in lieu of all other fees and expenses paid by the county, except for the board and care of prisoners. *That upon a proper written application by the said Sheriff to the District Court of said County, showing the necessity therefor, the name of the appointee as Deputy Sheriff, and the reasonable salary contemplated, and on approval of said application, by the said Court, there shall be allowed a reasonable sum to be determined by the said District Court for the hire and compensation of a Deputy Sheriff of said County, and whose compensation shall be paid as set forth in this Act.*"

Approved April 14, 1927.

CHAPTER 226—S. F. No. 984.

An act relating to the completion of county drainage ditches in certain cases, and the payment of the cost of such completion from the general revenue fund of the county and from the trunk highway fund.

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

Section 1. Ditches to be completed.—In all cases in which a county ditch has been or shall be established, a contract for the construction thereof awarded, an assessment made against property benefited, but by reason of unforeseen obstacles the contractor has been unable to complete the work of construction, such construction under the contract has been abandoned, and the completion thereof will result in the draining of the right of way of a trunk highway substantially adjacent to or extending through the lands described in the petition and in the substantial benefit and betterment of such trunk highway, the owners whose lands have been assessed for the improvement, or a majority of them, and the state commissioner of highways may present to the county board a petition for the completion of the ditch according to the plans and specifications therefor, or in such modified form as may be suggested in such petition, which shall be accompanied by a general plan of the proposed completion improvement and an estimate of the cost thereof, which may not exceed \$10,000, and a statement of the part of such cost which the state highway department is willing to assume. Upon the presentation of such petition, the board shall appoint a competent engineer to examine and report upon the general plan of the proposed completion improvement; and if in his judgment the same is practicable and can be carried out at an expense not exceeding the amount estimated in the petition, he shall so report to the board with a more detailed plan and specifications of the proposed completion improvement. Upon the filing of such report, the board shall fix a time and place for hearing thereon and shall give notice thereof by publication in a newspaper published at the county seat, if there be one, and if not, in a newspaper published elsewhere in the county, which publication shall be made at least ten days before the time fixed for such hearing. If upon such hearing the board shall find that the completion of the ditch will be of public benefit and promote the public health, and that in justice to the owners of the lands so assessed for benefits in such drainage proceeding the ditch should be completed without further assessment against such owners, and shall further find that the completion of such ditch will result in substantial benefit and betterment of such trunk highway, and that the cost of completion should be borne by the county and such highway department in the proportion stated in the petition and without further assessment upon the lands of the owners assessed benefits in the proceedings for the establishment of such ditch, the board by appropriate order may direct the completion of such ditch, and by such order may further direct

that the cost of such completion, except the portion thereof to be paid by the state highway department, may be paid from the general revenue fund of the county. Upon the making of such order, the county auditor and chairman of the county board shall proceed to award a contract for the construction of such completion improvement in accordance with the provisions of Section 33, Chapter 415, General Laws 1925, which contract shall be signed in behalf of the county by the chairman of the county board and the county auditor, and also shall be signed in behalf of the state highway department by the commissioner of highways, and shall provide for the payment of the contract price by the county and by the state highway department in accordance with the order so made.

Sec. 2. **Warrant to be issued upon completion.**—Upon completion of such drainage ditch in accordance with the contract therefore and the certificate of the engineer that it has been performed and the ditch completed in accordance with the terms thereof, the county board shall so certify to the county auditor and to the state commissioner of highways, and thereupon the auditor shall issue his warrant to the contractor for the payment of the portion thereof chargeable to the county under the terms of the contract, and the state highway department shall pay the remainder thereof under the direction of the commissioner of highways in the same manner that other expenditures of the highway department are made under existing provisions of law.

Approved April 14, 1927.

CHAPTER 227—H. F. No. 1048.

An act to amend Section 2544, Subdivision 4 of Section 2582, Subdivision 4 of Section 2554, and Section 2617, General Statutes 1923, relating to public highways.

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

Section 1. **Right of way and easements may be acquired by purchase or condemnation.**—That General Statutes 1923, Section 2544, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"2544. All roads, except cartways, established by town and county boards, shall be at least four (4) rods wide and when necessary for construction and maintenance, or the safety of public travel, additional right of way and easements for the erection of snow fences may be procured by purchase or condemnation, and the necessity for the taking of such additional right of way and such easements shall be determined by the town board in the