

by the County Board at any regular session for the unexpired terms of said officers. Thereafter, the salary shall be fixed for each office by the County Board at the first meeting in January following the election at which such office was filled, and the salaries so set shall not be changed during the term of office to which any person was elected.

Sec. 2. **Fees credited to general revenue fund.** The fees of any such office of any such county shall be paid into the general revenue fund at the end of each calendar month and shall not constitute a part of the salary or compensation of such officers.

Sec. 3. **Board to fix salary of clerks.** The County Board of each such county shall by resolution at any regular session fix the clerk hire in the office of the County Auditor, the County Treasurer, the Judge of Probate, the Register of Deeds, the Clerk of District Court, the County Attorney, the Superintendent of Schools and the Sheriff. Payments in the form of salaries heretofore made and clerk hire authorized by the County Board of any such county, are hereby validated and legalized.

Sec. 4. **Bond premiums paid by county.** The premium on the bonds required by law to be furnished by the county officers and their deputies in any such county shall be paid by the county.

Sec. 5. **Purchasing agent.** The County Board in any such county may by resolution duly adopted appoint a County Purchasing Agent who shall act during the pleasure of the County Board and who shall have supervision under the direction of the County Board of the purchase and distribution of all merchandise and supplies used by any department of said county up to the amount of \$500.00. The County Board may allow such clerical help to such County Purchasing Agent as it shall deem necessary, and may provide suitable space in the County Court House for the storing and distribution of such supplies, and may prescribe rules and regulations for the management of work of such said Purchasing Agent.

Approved April 13, 1945.

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#### CHAPTER 280—S. F. No. 993

*An act relating to restrictions on the acquisition of title to real estate by corporations; amending Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 500.22.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 500.22, is amended to read as follows:

500.22. **Restrictions on acquisition of title.** Subdivision 1. **By aliens and non-American corporations.** Except as hereinafter provided, no person, unless he be a citizen of the United States or has declared his intention to become a citizen, and no corporation, unless created by or under the laws of the United States or of some state thereof, shall hereafter acquire lands, or any interest therein, exceeding 90,000 square feet, except such as may be acquired by devise or inheritance, and such as may be held as security for indebtedness. The provisions of this section shall not apply to actual settlers upon farms of not more than 160 acres, or to citizens or subjects of a foreign country whose rights to hold land are secured by treaty.

Subd. 2. **Corporations having alien stockholder.** Except as hereinafter provided, no corporation or association, more than 20 per cent of whose stock is owned by persons not citizens of the United States, or by corporations or associations not created under the laws of the United States or some state thereof, shall acquire lands in this state.

Subd. 3. **Corporations engaged in farming.** Except as hereinafter provided, no corporation organized for *and engaged in any farming operations*, shall acquire more than 5,000 acres of land.

Subd. 4. **Exceptions.** The prohibitions of subdivision 1, 2 and 3 shall not apply to lands acquired by process of law in the collection of debts, or by any procedure for the enforcement of a lien or claim thereon, whether created by mortgage or otherwise; provided, that all lands *so acquired* be disposed of within ten years after acquiring title thereto; *nor to any corporation actually engaged in manufacturing in this State; but such corporation may hold such lands as may be reasonably necessary in the carrying on of its business, provided, that all lands so held by such corporation actually engaged in manufacturing in this State, shall be disposed of within ten years after it shall cease to use the same for the purposes of its business.*

Subd. 5. **Effect of violations.** All lands acquired or held in violation of subdivision 1 to 4 shall be forfeited to the state and the attorney general shall enforce such forfeiture; but no such forfeiture shall be adjudged unless the action to enforce the same be brought within three years after such

property has been so acquired or so held by such alien or corporation; and no title to land shall be invalid or liable to forfeiture by reason of the alienage of any former owner or person interested therein.

Approved April 13, 1945.

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CHAPTER 281—S. F. No. 454

*An act relating to salaries of county auditors in certain counties.*

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

Section 1. **Auditors in counties having less than 50,000 inhabitants.** The county auditors in all counties of the state with a population of less than 50,000 inhabitants, according to the last Federal census, shall receive as compensation for services rendered by them for their respective counties, annual salaries, based on the population according to the then last preceding Federal census, the taxable valuation of real and personal property, exclusive of money and credits, as reported in the abstract of tax lists for the preceding year, and the number of full or fractional congressional townships, as follows:

Subdivision (a) In counties with a population of less than 6,500 inhabitants \$2,000 and \$200 for each \$1,000,000 taxable valuation or major fraction thereof and \$5.00 for each full or fractional congressional township, with the aggregate not to exceed \$2,400.

Subd. (b) In counties with a population of 6,500 but less than 12,000 inhabitants \$2,100 and \$150 for each \$1,000,000 taxable valuation or major fraction thereof and \$5.00 for each full or fractional congressional township, with the aggregate not to exceed \$2,750.

Subd. (c) In counties with a population of 12,000 but less than 16,000 inhabitants \$2,300 and \$100 for each \$1,000,000 taxable valuation or major fraction thereof, and \$5.00 for each full or fractional congressional township, with the aggregate not to exceed \$2,850.

Subd. (d) In counties with a population of 16,000 but less than 21,000 inhabitants \$2,500 and \$75 for each \$1,000,-