

any county is directly interested, the county attorney thereof shall represent the county. No county attorney or his assistants or any attorney associated with him in business shall otherwise appear in any drainage proceeding for any person or party interested therein.

All fees, per diem, compensations, and expenses provided for in this chapter and fees for such other legal services and expenses as may be necessary shall, in the case of a county ditch, be audited, allowed, and paid upon the order of the county board, and, in case of a judicial ditch, the judge of the district court having charge thereof shall audit, allow, and order the same paid upon ten days' written notice to each county interested, which notice may be given to the auditor of the county, that all bills on file with the clerk of the court where the proceeding is pending at the date of the notice will be brought on for hearing, and for allowance at the time and placed named therein.

In all cases where a judicial ditch proceeding has for any reason been dismissed by the court, all fees and expenses connected therewith shall be audited, allowed, and ordered paid in like manner."

Approved March 16, 1945.

CHAPTER 113—S. F. No. 693

An act relating to weights of motor vehicles; amending Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 169.83, as amended by Laws 1943, Chapter 226.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 169.83, as amended by Laws 1943, Chapter 226, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"169.83. **Limit of weight upon vehicles.** (a) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with pneumatic tires shall be operated upon the highways of this State:

1. Where the gross weight on any wheel exceeds 9,000 pounds;

2. Where the gross weight on any single axle exceeds 18,000 pounds.

(b) *Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, no vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with pneumatic tires shall be operated upon the highways of this State where the total gross weight on any two or more consecutive axles of any vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeds the product of the coefficient named below multiplied by the sum of 40 plus the distance in feet between the first and last axles of the group of axles under consideration. A coefficient of 650 shall be used where the distance between the first and last axles of the group of axles under consideration is less than 18 feet, and a coefficient of 750 shall be used where such distance is 18 feet or over.*

(c) A single axle as used in this section is defined as including all wheels whose centers may be included within two parallel transverse vertical planes 40 inches apart.

(d) *No vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be operated upon the trunk highways of this State in excess of the weight limits prescribed in subsection (b) of this section without first securing from the Commissioner a certificate setting forth the route or routes and the conditions under which such vehicle or combination of vehicles may be operated, and such vehicle or combination of vehicles thereafter shall be so operated only in accordance with the terms of such certificate. The Commissioner is hereby empowered, and it is hereby made his duty, to issue or to deny or to issue in modified form such certificates upon application, and to prescribe therein the route or routes and the conditions for operations under each such certificate, and in determining such route or routes and such conditions, the Commissioner of Highways shall permit maximum use of the particular highways and bridges and other facilities of the highway system under consideration, consistent with the maximum capacity of such highways, bridges and other facilities as determined by the Commissioner in accordance with highway engineering practice. The Commissioner shall have the power to revoke or to modify the terms of any existing certificate at any time in the event of operations in violation of any such certificate or in the event of changed conditions requiring such action. The original or a correct copy of the certificate under which operations are being conducted shall be carried at all times in the driver's cab of any vehicle or combination of vehicles while the same is being operated thereunder.*

(e) A vehicle or combination of vehicles not equipped with pneumatic tires shall be governed by the provisions of subsections (a), (b) and (c) of this section, except that the gross weight limitations shall be reduced by 40 per cent.

(f) The provisions of this section shall not apply to vehicles operated exclusively in any city or village or contiguous cities or villages in this State."

Approved March 16, 1945.

CHAPTER 114—S. F. No. 730

An act relating to safe deposit companies, the operation or management of safe deposit boxes and the conduct of a safe deposit business, prescribing penalties, and amending Minnesota Statutes 1941, Sections 55.01 to 55.15, inclusive.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 55.01, is amended to read as follows :

55.01. Definitions. Subdivision 1. Unless the language or context clearly indicates that a different meaning is intended, the following words, terms, and phrases shall, for the purposes of the laws of this State, be given the meanings subjoined to them.

Subd. 2. The words "safe deposit box" mean any box, safe, safe deposit box, receptacle, or any part or parts thereof, and any space in a vault, which may be used for the safekeeping and storage of valuable personal property.

Subd. 3. The words "valuable personal property" mean jewelry, plate, money, specie, bullion, stocks, bonds, valuable papers, or other personal property of value.

Subd. 4. "Person" means an individual, partnership, unincorporated association or a corporation. "It" includes "he" and "they."

Subd. 5. "Safe deposit company" means any person who lets out or rents, as lessor, for hire, safe deposit boxes, or space therein.