

FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

CHAPTER 53.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS TO RECEIVE PORTION OF TAX ON PREMIUMS PAID BY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

AN ACT To Appropriate for the Support of Fire Departments of each City, Town or Village in the Territory of Dakota, a Part of the Tax Paid by the Fire Insurance Companies, Upon Premiums, Received in any Such Town, City or Village.

Be it Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota:

§ 1 DUTY OF CITY, TOWN, OR VILLAGE CLERK.] The clerk of every city, town or village in the Territory of Dakota, having an organized fire department, shall on [or] before the thirty-first day of October in each year, make and file with the Auditor of this Territory his certificate, stating the existence of such department, the date of its organization, the number of steam, hand or other engines, hook and ladder trucks and hose carts in actual use. The number of organized companies, the number of members of each company, and the system of water supply in use, in such department, together with such other facts as the Auditor may require.

§ 2. TERRITORIAL AUDITOR TO FURNISH BLANKS—INSURANCE COMPANIES TO MAKE STATEMENT.] The blanks required by law, to be furnished by the Territorial Auditor to insurance companies, shall contain the names of the cities, towns and villages entitled to benefits under this act, and every insurance company doing business in this Territory, shall include in its annual statement the amount of all premiums received by them, upon policies issued on property, within the corporate limits of such city, town or village during the year ending on the preceding 31st day of December.

§ 3. TAX, HOW PAID—DUTY OF TERRITORIAL AUDITOR AND TREASURER IN RELATION THERETO.] The said Auditor, on the first day of July thereafter, shall issue and deliver to the treasurer in each city, town or village, having an organized fire department entitled to the benefits under this act, his warrant upon the Territorial Treasurer for an amount equal to two per cent. of the premiums re-

ceived upon policies issued on property in any such city, town or village, which warrants shall be numbered consecutively, and shall each specify the date of its issuance, and to whom payable, and such warrants shall be paid by the Territorial Treasurer to the treasurer of any such city, town or village upon presentation thereof, and when so received by said treasurer, the same shall be paid over to said company or companies, in equal proportion, having a membership of at least fifteen members for a period of eight (8) months prior to the date of the certificate of the clerk, as provided in section one (1) of this act, and having the management of at least one steam, hand or other fire engine, hook and ladder truck or hose cart, upon the written order of such company or companies, approved by the city council, trustees or other governing body of such city, town or village.

§ 4. QUALIFICATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT.] No city, town or village shall be entitled to any of the benefits arising from this act unless the fire department shall have been in actual existence eight months prior to the filing of the certificate required by section one (1) of this act; and unless such fire department shall have had for such period as a part of its equipment, at least one steam, hand or other fire engine, or hook and ladder truck, or hose cart, with a membership of at least fifteen persons for said period of eight months.

§ 5. CERTIFICATE OF ORGANIZATION TO BE FILED.] If the certificate required by section one (1) of this act is not filed with the Auditor on or before the thirty-first day of October in each year, the city, town or village so failing to file such certificate shall be deemed to have waived and relinquished its right for such year to the appropriation herein provided for.

§ 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved, February 17, 1887.