

No. 751, A.]

[Published June 7, 1905.

CHAPTER 305.

AN ACT regulating automobiles, auto-cars and other similar motor vehicles on the public highways within the state.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Application for registration; certificate; distinguishing number; fee; duplicate certificate. SECTION 1. No automobile or other similar motor vehicle shall be operated, ridden or driven along or upon any of the public highways of the state unless the same shall have been registered in accordance with the provisions of this act. Application for such registration may be made by mail or otherwise to the secretary of state upon blanks prepared under his authority for that purpose. Blank applications shall be on file in the offices of the county clerks throughout the state. The application shall contain a statement of the name, place of residence and address of the applicant, with a brief description of the automobile or other similar motor vehicle, including the name of such vehicle, the number, if any, affixed by the maker, the character of motor power and the amount of such motor power stated in figures of horsepower and with such applications shall be deposited a registration fee of one dollar (\$1.00). The secretary of state or his duly authorized agent shall then register in a book to be kept for that purpose, the automobile or other similar motor vehicle described in said application, giving to such automobile or other similar motor vehicle a distinguishing number, and shall thereupon issue to said applicant a certificate of registration in duplicate which shall contain the name, place of residence and address of the applicant, the registered number assigned, the date of registration and a brief description of the automobile or other similar motor vehicle so registered. One of said certificates of registration shall always be firmly attached in some accessible place in the automobile or other similar motor vehicle described therein. The secretary of state shall also issue and deliver to such owner an official number plate which shall be of uniform size and design, containing in three inch arabic numerals, followed by the letter "W," the distinguishing number so assigned to said motor vehicle, which said number plate shall be

placed in a conspicuous place on the rear of such automobile or other similar motor vehicle, and be so kept and displayed at all times where the same can be readily and distinctly seen. Upon sale of such automobile or other similar motor vehicle said certificate of registration and number plate may be transferred by notification to the secretary of state, giving name and place of residence of the vendee, said notice of sale and transfer to be accompanied by a fee of fifty cents to cover the cost of said transfer. The proper record of all applications and of all certificates issued and transfers thereof made shall be kept by the secretary of state at his office and shall be open to the inspection of all persons during reasonable business hours. Upon satisfactory proof of the loss or destruction of any certificate of registration or number plate, the secretary of state shall issue a duplicate thereof to the owner of such automobile or other similar motor vehicle upon the payment of a sum not exceeding one dollar (\$1.00) to cover the cost of such duplicate.

Registration by manufacturer or dealer. SECTION 2. Every manufacturer of, or dealer in automobiles or other similar motor vehicles, may, instead of registering each automobile or other similar motor vehicle owned or controlled by him make application upon a blank provided by said secretary of state for a general distinguishing number or mark, and said secretary of state shall, if satisfied of the facts stated in said application, grant said application, and issue to the applicant one certificate of registration, containing the name, place of business and address of the applicant, and also the general distinguishing number or mark assigned to him in quadruplicate and made in such form and containing such further provisions as said secretary of state may determine; and all automobiles or other motor vehicles owned or controlled by such manufacturer or dealer except those for his own private use shall, until sold or let for hire, be regarded as registered under such general distinguishing number or mark. The fee for such registration, which shall include four distinguishing numbers or marks shall be five dollars (\$5.00). Additional duplicate general distinguishing numbers or marks may be obtained by any such manufacturer or dealer upon application to the secretary of state and the payment of an additional fee for each additional duplicate of not exceeding one dollar to cover the cost thereof. Upon satisfactory proof of the loss or destruction of any such certificate or distinguishing number or mark the secretary of state shall issue to such dealer or manufacturer a duplicate thereof upon the payment of a sum not exceeding one dollar (\$1.00) to cover the cost thereof.

Speed limit; rules of road to be observed. SECTION 3. No person or persons shall use, operate ride or drive any automobile or other similar motor vehicle along or upon any public highway of this state within the corporate limits of any city or village at a speed exceeding twelve miles per hour, nor on any of the public highways outside the corporate limits of a city or village at a speed exceeding twenty-five miles per hour; provided that in turning corners, in going around curves, at sharp declines, at the intersection of any cross road, and where, for any cause, the view in the direction in which the vehicle is proceeding, shall be obstructed, the speed shall be reduced to such a rate as will tend to avoid danger of accident; the operator, when such vehicle is in motion, shall observe the rules of the road.

Meeting person driving frightened horse; automobile left unattended on highway. SECTION 4. Every person operating an automobile or other similar motor vehicle upon or along any of the public highways of this state shall upon a signal by putting up the hand, or other sign of distress, by a person riding or driving a horse or horses, which shall appear frightened, cause such automobile or other similar motor vehicle to stop all motor power and remain stationary, unless a movement forward shall be deemed necessary to avoid accident or injury, until such horse or horses appear to be under control; and shall if requested, assist such person or persons to pass such automobile or other similar motor vehicle in safety, it being the intent of this act that every reasonable precaution shall be exercised by the operator of any such automobile or other similar motor vehicle to prevent the frightening of such horse or horses and to prevent accident or injury. All motor power shall be stopped on any automobile or other similar motor vehicle while left unattended on the public highway.

Rights of owner or operator on highway. SECTION 5. Every owner and operator of an automobile or other similar motor vehicle shall have equal rights upon all public highways of this state with all other users of such highways, and no person or persons shall unreasonably obstruct or impede the right of travel of such operator or owner while operating, propelling or driving such automobile or other similar motor vehicle. No person or persons shall give a signal or sign of danger or distress or call for assistance upon a person lawfully operating any such automobile or other similar motor vehicle on a public highway without a reasonable cause for so doing.

Lamp to be displayed at night; brakes and signal device.

SECTION 6. From one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise there shall be displayed on the front of every automobile or other similar motor vehicle, while being operated or driven along or upon any public highway of this state, at least one lamp giving a reasonably bright light in the direction in which said automobile or other similar motor vehicle is going; and every such automobile or other similar motor vehicle shall be provided with brakes and a bell, horn or other signal device.

Non-residents. SECTION 7. The provisions of section 1 of this act shall not apply to automobiles or other similar motor vehicles owned by non-residents of this state, provided the owners thereof have complied with any law requiring the registration of such automobile or other similar motor vehicle, or its owner, in force in the state, territory or federal district of their respective residence, and the registration number of such state, territory or federal district shall be displayed on the rear of such automobile or other similar motor vehicle substantially as provided in section one of this act. Non-residents passing through this state from states having no registration as provided in section 1 of this act shall comply with all the provisions of this act.

Penalty. SECTION 8. Any person or persons who shall violate the provisions of section 1, 3, 5 and 6 of this act, except as provided in section 7, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars and not more than twenty-five dollars; any person or persons who shall violate the provisions of section 4 hereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than fifty dollars.

Local registration and regulation prohibited; act not to apply to certain parks and driveways.

SECTION 9. The provisions of this act shall be uniform in operation throughout the state, and no city, village, county, town, park board or other local authorities shall have power to enact, pass, enforce or maintain any ordinance, resolution, rule or regulation, requiring local registration or other requirements inconsistent herewith, or in any manner excluding or prohibiting any automobile or other similar motor vehicle, whose owner has complied with the provisions of this act, from the free and unobstructed use of all public highways, driveways and parkways within the state; but the provisions of this act shall not apply to parks and driveways under the control and management of corporations

organized under and pursuant to the provisions of chapter 55 of the laws of 1899 and the acts amendatory thereof.

Liability of owner. SECTION 10. Nothing in this act shall relieve the owner of any automobile or other similar motor vehicle from liability for damages to any person or persons or property due to the negligent use of his or her automobile or other similar motor vehicle, which may be operated upon any public highway of this state.

Disposition of moneys received from registration fees. SECTION 11. All moneys received from registration fees shall be turned into the state treasury to be applied to pay the expense incurred in carrying out the provisions of this act.

SECTION 12. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1st, 1905.

Approved June 5, 1905.

No. 32, S.]

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CHAPTER 306.

AN ACT authorizing town boards of supervisors to appoint policemen for camp meetings, literary assemblies and other associations, and amendatory of section 819 of the statutes of 1898.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Town board, how constituted; duties. SECTION 1. Section 819 of the statutes of 1898, is hereby amended by adding after the word "office" in the seventeenth line thereof, the following, "or if the town shall contain a camp meeting, literary assembly, or other assembly of persons owning or leasing ground for the purposes of holding meetings for moral, religious or educational purposes," so that when so amended, said section shall read as follows: Section 819. The supervisors of each town shall constitute a board, to be designated the "town board of"