

SECTION 1. There is appropriated from the general fund to C. F. Schwenker of Madison, Wisconsin, the sum of one thousand two hundred ninety eight dollars and eighty seven cents, to reimburse him for expenses incurred in his capacity as commissioner of banking. Acceptance of this appropriation shall operate as a full and complete discharge of all of the claims of said C. F. Schwenker against the state of Wisconsin.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved July 25, 1933.

No. 336, S.]

[Published July 26, 1933.

CHAPTER 440.

AN ACT to amend subsection (3) of section 196.80 and to create section 196.525 of the statutes, relating to the regulation of public utilities and providing a penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (3) of section 196.80 of the statutes is amended to read: (196.80) (3) Application for the approval and consent of the commission shall be made by the interested public utility or the interested public utility owning or operating the street railway or interurban railway line, and shall contain a concise statement of the proposed action, the reasons therefor and such other information as may be required by the commission. Upon the filing of such application the commission shall investigate the same, with or without public hearing, and in case of a public hearing upon such notice as the commission may require, and if it shall find that the proposed action is consistent with the public interest it shall give its consent and approval in writing. In reaching its determination the commission shall take into consideration the reasonable value of the property, plant equipment or securities * * * of the utility or utility owning or operating a street railway or interurban railway to be acquired or merged.

SECTION 2. A new section is added to the statutes to read: 196.525 LOANS TO OFFICERS OR DIRECTORS AND LOANS TO AND INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES OF HOLDING COMPANIES; PENALTY. (1) No public utility shall, except in accordance with such rules and regulations as the commission after public hearing shall from time to time prescribe, lend its funds or credit to any one or more

of its officers or directors or to any corporation (except a public utility subject to the regulatory powers of the commission) which holds, directly or indirectly through any chain of ownership, five per cent or more of the voting stock of such public utility or renders any managerial, supervising, engineering, legal, accounting or financial service to such public utility by (a) becoming surety, guarantor or endorser upon any obligations, contingent or otherwise, of such officer, director or corporation; (b) by loaning funds, securities or other like assets to any such officer, director or corporation; or (c) by the purchase in the open market, or otherwise, of any obligation upon which such officer, director or corporation may be liable solely or jointly with others.

(2) Any contract made in violation of this section shall be void and subject to cancellation and recoupment by action at law. Where a contract is made contrary to the provisions of this section the commission may, after notice and hearing, order the public utility to take steps within thirty days to recover the funds or assets thus illegally loaned or transferred by action at law or to take such other proceedings as may be effective to release the public utility from any contract as surety, guarantor or endorser.

(3) Any director, treasurer or other officer or agent of such public utility who makes or votes to authorize a transaction in violation of this section shall be subject to a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars.

(4) The provisions of this section shall extend to the renewal or extension of such existing contracts.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved July 25, 1933.

No. 360, S.]

[Published July 26, 1933.

CHAPTER 441.

AN ACT to create a commission and committee of the Tercentenary celebration of the white man's discovery of Wisconsin, and making an appropriation.

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

SECTION 1. A commission is created to be known as the "Tercentenary Celebration of the White Man's Discovery of Wisconsin Commission" (hereinafter referred to as the "commis-