

CHAPTER 457.

AN ACT to renumber 18.03 (2), 44.09, 44.11 to 44.14; to renumber and amend 44.02 (9) and 44.10; to amend 16.08 (2) (c), 27.01 (2) (d), 44.02 (5), 44.03 (3), 44.08 (5) (f) and (6), 220.20 and 327.29; and to create 18.03 (2) and (3), 44.02 (10) and 44.05 of the statutes, relating to the state historical society.

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

SECTION 1. 16.08 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

16.08 (2) (c) The director, chief * * * of the American history research center, chief * * * of interpretation and education of the state historical society; and, with the approval of the board of curators and the director of personnel, such number of specialists as may from time to time be required by said society for specific research, writing, collecting or editing projects which for a limited period of time not to exceed 2 years, renewable at the discretion of the board of curators and the director of personnel for an additional 2-year period, require persons with a particular training or experience in a specialized phase or field of history, historical research, writing, collecting or editing, and any person or persons whose entire salary is paid from funds reappropriated to said society by section 20.785 where competitive examination is impractical.

SECTION 2. 18.03 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 18.03 (4).

SECTION 3. 18.03 (2) and (3) of the statutes are created to read:

18.03 (2) The proper officer of any county, city, village, town, school district or other local governmental unit, may under section 44.09 of the statutes offer title and transfer custody to the state historical society of any records deemed by the society to be of permanent historical importance.

(3) The proper officer of any court may, on order of the judge of that court, transfer to the state historical society title to such court records as have been photographed or microphotographed or which have been on file for at least 75 years, and which are deemed by the society to be of permanent historical value.

SECTION 4. 27.01 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

27.01 (2) (d) Enter into agreements with the federal government, the government of neighboring states, state departments, counties, towns, scientific societies, organizations, individuals or others on any subject considered of concern and benefit to the state parks. *Operation of historic buildings, restorations, museums or remains within the boundaries of a state park or parks may be vested by such agreements in the state historical society, which may, in accordance with section 44.02 (5) of the statutes, charge an admission fee to such buildings, restorations, museums or remains in order to defray in whole or in part the costs of operation of such sites.*

SECTION 5. 44.02 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

44.02 (5) To keep its main library and museum rooms open at all reasonable hours on business days for the reception of the citizens of this state who may wish to visit the same, without fee; except that the society may collect a fee for admission to historic sites or buildings acquired, *leased or operated* by the society elsewhere in the state, *including areas within state parks or on other state-owned lands which incorporate historic buildings, restorations, museums or remains and which are operated by the society by agreement with the state conservation or other departments, or for lectures, pageants or similar special events,* or for admission to defray the costs of special exhibits in its headquarters building or buildings of documents, objects or other materials not part of the society's regular collections but brought in on loans from other sources for such special exhibitions.

SECTION 5h. The first sentence of 44.02 (9) of the statutes is renumbered 44.02 (9).

SECTION 5m. The second sentence of 44.02 (9) of the statutes is renumbered 44.09 and amended to read:

44.09 COUNTY, LOCAL AND COURT RECORDS. The proper officer of any county, city, village, town, school district or other local governmental unit may offer, and the state historical society may accept * * * for preservation, title to such non-current records as in the state historical society's judgment are of permanent historical value and which are no longer needed for administrative purposes by such local governmental unit. *The proper officer of any court may offer, and the state historical society may accept for preservation, on order of the judge of the said court, title to such records*

as have been photographed or microphotographed or which have been on file for at least 75 years, and which are deemed by said society to be of permanent historical value.

SECTION 5t. The third, fourth and fifth sentences of 44.02 (9) of the statutes are renumbered 44.10 and amended to read:

44.10 REGIONAL DEPOSITORIES FOR RECORDS. Said society, * * * through its board of curators, shall have the right and power in its corporate capacity and as trustee of the state to enter into agreements with the state teachers colleges or such other public or quasi-public institutions, agencies, or corporations as the said board of curators of the said society shall designate to serve as the regional records depository for a given area. Said agreements shall specify the area to be served by the depository, and the methods of accessioning, cataloguing, care, housing, preservation and servicing of these and such other material as may be placed by the state historical society or in the name of the state historical society in such regional depositories under such agreements, it being the intent of this section to provide an orderly, uniform state-wide system for the retention and preservation of important court, county and local public records on a manageable basis and under proper professional care in the region of origin. Only where such arrangements cannot be accomplished, may the said society * * * transfer such records to the state archives. Said society shall compile and maintain for reference purposes as soon as may be convenient a union list of the records of county, city, village, town, school district, or other local governmental unit, or court, title to which is transferred to it under this subsection.

SECTION 6. 44.02 (10) of the statutes is created to read:

44.02 (10) To conduct a research center in American history for the benefit of the students and faculty of the state university as well as for members of the general public and to facilitate and further understanding by the general public of the significance of the American experiment.

SECTION 7. 44.03 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

44.03 (3) Every such auxiliary or affiliated society shall make a report of its work annually to said state historical society, which, or portions or a synopsis thereof, may be included in the publications of said state society, and upon application of any auxiliary or affiliated society the state society may * * * accept, in behalf of the state, * * * custody of or title to the property, records and collections of such auxiliary or affiliated society.

SECTION 7a. 44.05 of the statutes is created to read:

44.05 AMERICAN HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER. (1) The state historical society, in order to promote the wider understanding of the significance of the American heritage, shall encourage research in American history in general, and in the history of Wisconsin and the west particularly, through its American History Research Center and the other divisions of this agency, and interpret to the public the nature of the said heritage, and the role of state and local history in elucidating and facilitating the understanding of the American democracy, social, political, cultural and economic.

(2) The society, in pursuit of these goals, may be the beneficiary of bequests in any form, may undertake research projects, make grants-in-aid to students of particular topics germane to the purposes of the center, publicize the American story or parts thereof through publications of various types, exhibits, photographic or microphotographic reproductions, radio, pageantry and such other media as may from time to time best lend themselves to its work.

SECTION 8. 44.08 (5) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

44.08 (5) (f) Each state agency shall, * * * when providing photographic copies or enlargements of records, require of the requestor * * * payment of the actual cost thereof. Fees collected shall be paid by the agency into the fund from which its appropriation was made and credited to such appropriation, except as otherwise provided by law.

SECTION 9. 44.08 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

44.08 (6) The state historical society, as trustee for the state, shall be the ultimate depository of the archives of the state, and the committee on public records may transfer to the said society such original records and reproductions as it may deem proper and worthy of permanent preservation. The society may deposit in the regional depositories established under section 44.10, title remaining in the society, the records of state agencies or their district or regional offices which are primarily created in the geographic area serviced by the depository, but the records of all central departments, offices, establishments, and agencies shall remain in the main archives in the capital city under the society's immediate jurisdiction. Nothing in this subsection nor in section 44.01 shall be construed to prevent the society's taking such steps for the safety of articles and mate-

rials entrusted to its care in library, museum or archives, including temporary removal to safer locations, as may be dictated by emergency conditions arising from a state of war, civil rebellion, or other catastrophe.

SECTION 9a. 44.09 of the statutes is renumbered to be 44.08 (7).

SECTION 9b. 44.10 of the statutes is renumbered to be 44.02 (12) and amended to read:

44.02 * * * (12) * * * *To be the custodian of the official series of the painted portraits of the former governors of Wisconsin and * * * to maintain such portraits in proper condition. The society may permit any or all of such portraits to be exhibited in such state buildings for such periods of time as it may deem feasible.*

SECTION 9c. 44.11 of the statutes is renumbered to be 44.06.

SECTION 9d. 44.12 of the statutes is renumbered to be 44.07.

SECTION 9e. 44.13 of the statutes is renumbered to be 44.11.

SECTION 9f. 44.14 of the statutes is renumbered to be 44.10.

SECTION 10. 220.20 of the statutes is amended to read:

220.20 All moneys deposited with the commissioner of banks for the redemption of bank scrip shall be turned over to the state treasury by said commissioner and shall be kept in a separate fund. All bank scrip to be redeemed shall be presented to the commissioner. If the commissioner determines that the scrip so presented is a proper claim against the redemption fund, he shall certify to the director of budget and accounts the name and address of the person entitled to redemption and the amount thereof and shall attach such scrip to said certificate. The director of budget and accounts shall thereupon draw his warrant on the state treasurer for payment of the amount stated in said certificate to the person named therein. After the lapse of 30 days from the date of such payment, the director of budget and accounts shall promptly destroy the scrip so deemed *except for such specimens as he may turn over, under such safeguards as he may deem appropriate, to the state historical society as the trustee of the state for permanent preservation among the state's historical relics.*

SECTION 11. 327.29 of the statutes is amended to read:

327.29 Any photostatic, microphotographic or photographic reproduction of a writing or record made in a manner and on film that complies with the minimum standards approved for permanent photographic records by the national bureau of standards, whether in the form of an entry in a book or otherwise, and made as a memorandum or record of any act, transaction, occurrence or event, shall be admissible in evidence in proof of such act, transaction, occurrence or event, if made in the regular course of any business and if it was the regular course of such business to make such memorandum or record or photostatic, microphotographic or photographic reproduction at the time of such act, transaction, occurrence or event or within a reasonable time thereafter. All other circumstances of the making of such writing or record, or photostatic, microphotographic or photographic reproduction thereof, including lack of personal knowledge by the entrant or maker, may be shown to affect the weight, but not the admissibility thereof. As used in this section the term "business" shall mean and include business, industry, profession, occupation and calling of every kind, including all functions of * * * county and municipal government. The provisions of this section shall supersede any provision of law in conflict therewith.

Approved June 27, 1951.
