

[No. 179, A.]

[Published April 18, 1885.]

CHAPTER 308.

AN ACT to amend section 1926, of the revised statutes, relating to insurance corporations.

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

Relating to the organization of a fire department.

SECTION 1. Section 1926, of the revised statutes, is hereby amended so as to read as follows: Section 1926. There shall be paid, on the first day of February, in each year, to the treasurer of any city or village, or town containing an unincorporated village, having or maintaining a regularly organized fire department, as hereinafter provided for the support and maintenance of such fire department, by every underwriter who shall effect any fire insurance, and by every person who shall act as agent for any fire insurance corporation or underwriter whatever, in such city, village or town, a duty of two per centum upon the amount of all premiums which, during the year or part of a year ending on the next preceding first day of January, shall have been received by such underwriter or agent, or by any other person for him, or shall have been agreed to be paid for any insurance effected, or agreed to be effected, or promised by him, as such agent or otherwise, against loss or injury by fire, in any such city or village, whether such village be incorporated or not. And no person shall, in any such city, village or town, as underwriter, agent or otherwise, effect or agree to effect, or procure to be effected, any insurance upon which the above duty is required to be paid, until he shall have executed and delivered to such treasurer, a bond in the sum of one thousand dollars, with such sureties as such treasurer shall approve, conditioned that he will annually render to such treasurer on the first day of February, in each year, a just and true account, verified by his affidavit, of all premiums which, during the year ending on the first day of January, preceding such report, shall have been received by him, or any other person for him, or agreed to be paid for any insurance, against loss or injury by fire, in any such city or village, which shall have been effected

or agreed to be effected by him, and that he will annually, on the first day of February, pay to the said treasurer, two per centum upon the full amount of such premiums. Every person who shall effect, or agree to effect any fire insurance in any such city or village, without having executed and delivered such bond, or who shall wilfully omit to pay such duty shall, for each offense, forfeit one hundred dollars, which shall be paid into the treasury for the support and maintenance of such fire department. In case the fire department of any such city, village or town be a voluntary department, having a treasurer, all moneys received or collected by virtue of this act, shall be paid to the treasurer of such department, for the support and maintenance thereof exclusively. No city, village or town shall be entitled to such duty unless it shall have, support or maintain a fire department, consisting, in case of a voluntary department, of at least one fire engine company, with not less than ten active members, having at least one good fire engine, and not less than five hundred feet of sound rubber, leather or other hose, kept in an engine house, fit and ready at all times, for actual service, and at least one hook and ladder company, with not less than twelve active members, having a good hook and ladder truck; and such companies shall hold meetings at least once a month. And in case of a paid or partly paid fire department, the buildings, machinery and material hereinbefore enumerated, and the necessary men, teams and equipments, so as to constitute an active and properly equipped department, ready for service at all times.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 4, 1885.