

and validity of all the proceedings prior to the execution of such deed.

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

Approved April 10, 1889.

[No. 296, A.]

[Published April 13, 1889.]

CHAPTER 346.

AN ACT to enable members of the Methodist Episcopal church or of annual conferences to form an insurance corporation and to regulate the same.

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

SECTION 1. Any number of persons, not less than nine, who are residents of this state, and regular members of the Methodist Episcopal church, or of an annual conference of said church, may form a corporation for the purpose of insuring, upon the plan of mutual insurance, church and parsonage property against loss or damage by fire, lightning or other casualties. The first nine persons signing the articles of organization shall be directors of the corporation until the first annual meeting, or until others are elected, and shall possess the usual powers of such corporations for the purposes mentioned. The articles of organization having been filed with the commissioner of insurance and proof that policies in the requisite number and amount have been applied for shall be examined by the attorney general, and, if found in conformity with law, the commissioner shall issue his certificate that said corporation is duly organized and is entitled to do business under the laws of this state.

Members of Methodist Episcopal church may organize mutual insurance corporation.

Articles to be filed with commissioner.

SECTION 2. Such corporation, in addition to the powers granted by chapter 85, of the revised statutes, shall have power:

Powers of.

1st. To make contracts of insurance in this state and elsewhere with any church, board of

To make contracts of insurance on church property.

trustees, or official board of any denomination, against loss or damage by fire, lightning, or other casualties, or any property held by a church, or its official representatives, for such premiums or considerations, and under such regulations or restrictions as such corporation in its by-laws may provide.

May hold real estate.

2d. To purchase, receive, hold, possess and convey all such real estate and personal property as shall be necessary for its accommodation and the convenient transaction of its business.

Prescribe form of admission.

3d. To prescribe the manner and form for the admission of members and the withdrawal of the same.

Rules and regulations for government.

4th. To make all necessary rules and regulations concerning insurance on property, and the appraisalment and payment of losses, and alter and amend the same at pleasure.

Compensation of officers.

5th. To fix the compensation of its officers and their duties, and to require bonds for the faithful performance of their duties.

Invest funds.

6th. To invest, or loan on notes or bonds secured by mortgage, or deposit in a bank with or without interest, any funds not needed for the immediate payment of losses sustained, or to set apart a certain per cent of any assessment, or order a special assessment, which shall be kept as a reserve fund, to be used only in the case of extraordinary losses or damage. No more than one such assessment shall be made in any one year, nor shall the fund exceed five per cent of the amount of risks carried at any time the fund is added to.

Exercise powers to effect object of corporation.

7th. To exercise such other powers as shall be necessary to effect the object of such corporation.

When commissioner of insurance to issue certificate to—
License fee of.

SECTION 3. The commissioner of insurance shall issue a certificate to such corporation as soon as they shall have been properly organized and have twenty-five (25) bona fide applications for insurance, averaging at least one thousand dollars (\$1,000) each, upon a payment of a license fee of ten dollars (\$10) and all the requirements of this act are complied with; and if at any time, after such corporation shall have been organized and begun business, the number of policies in force shall become less than twenty-five in number, of an average of at least one thousand dollars (\$1,000) each, the commissioner of insur-

ance shall be empowered to cancel the license and cause the corporation to wind up its affairs in the manner provided by law in the case of other insurance companies organized in this state. But no resolution for the dissolution of this corporation shall be adopted or take effect unless three-fourths of the members present shall vote for its adoption.

When to cancel same.

SECTION 4. Any church or church society, by its representatives, holding a policy in this corporation of the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500), shall be a member of this corporation for so long as such policy is in force, and are entitled to one vote for each full five hundred dollars (\$500) so held; but in case that for any reason such policy should be forfeited or lapse, such church or society shall not be entitled to any vote so long as such policy remains inactive.

Who members.

SECTION 5. An annual meeting shall be held on the first Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in January of each year at the office of the secretary, for the purpose of electing officers, at which meeting the secretary and treasurer shall make an annual report, setting forth the condition of the corporation as to numbers of policies in force, the number of new policies and the total amount of risks written during the year just past, the amount of losses paid, the number of assessments levied, the condition of the treasury, and what changes there have been in the reserve fund, if there be one.

Annual meeting when held.

Secretary and treasurer to report.

SECTION 6. The president or vice-president and secretary of such corporation shall annually, within the month of January, prepare and deposit in the office of the commissioner of insurance, a statement, verified by their oaths, of the business of the corporation during the year and of its condition on the thirty-first day of December then next preceding, in such form and containing such items or facts in regard to its business or condition as the commissioner may require.

To deposit statement of affairs with commissioner of insurance.

SECTION 7. Every member of this organization who may sustain a loss under their policy shall immediately notify the secretary, who shall proceed at once to determine the loss or damage and if possible make settlement. If the party sustaining the loss shall not acquiesce in the decision the claim shall be submitted to referees mutually

Losses.

agreed upon, whose award shall be final; provided, the corporation shall have the privilege or option of paying such appraisal or making the loss good in repairing or rebuilding the loss or damage.

Option of corporation to rebuild or repair.

Assessment, how levied.

SECTION 8. Whenever the condition of the treasury is such that an assessment is necessary, the secretary shall proceed to levy such assessment, according to the amount for which each several piece of property is insured, taking into consideration the rate of premium under which it may have been classified. The secretary, when any such assessment shall have been completed shall immediately notify every church, by its representative, composing such corporation, by letter sent to his usual post-office address, the amount of their assessment that is now due, the time within which and to whom such assessment is to be paid, but such time of payment shall not exceed forty days from the date of such notice. If the assured neglect payment of any assessment within forty days from the date of said notice then their policy shall be null and void until such assessment is paid, together with any assessment which may be levied during the suspension of the policy on account of the non-payment of a previous assessment.

Members may withdraw.

SECTION 9. Any member of this corporation may withdraw therefrom by giving notice in writing to the secretary thereof and paying up all dues and their ratable share of all losses or damages suffered by the corporation up to the date of withdrawal. All obligation toward the party withdrawing shall cease from the time of withdrawing. The officers shall have power to annul any policy by giving notice in writing to that effect to the holder thereof and paying any sum which may be due from the corporation to such member.

Per cent of premium, how determined.

SECTION 10. The per cent. of premium shall be determined as near equitably as may be, considering the hazard, and having been determined, all assessments shall be made upon this basis, which shall not change so long as the hazard remains the same. All assessments shall be paid in cash, and the first one shall be paid at the time of issuing the policy, together with the cost of the policy. As soon after organization as circum-

stances shall permit, and thereafter, the corporation shall carry in its treasury at least a sum sufficient to pay the largest obligation that can arise under any policy carried, and in case of loss or damage, as soon as the amount has been determined. If paid in cash, it shall be done within twenty days of the time the loss has been determined, and if repaired or rebuilt, work shall be begun within twenty days and prosecuted with reasonable dispatch thereafter until completion.

SECTION 11. After the payment of the fee to the commissioner of insurance for the license under which this corporation shall act, no other fees, dues or taxes shall be required of them. Who may act.

SECTION 12. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 10, 1889.

[No. 391, A.]

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CHAPTER 347.

AN ACT to amend chapter 182, of the revised statutes, relating to the baiting and fighting of birds, dogs and other animals.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 182, of the revised statutes of Wisconsin is hereby amended by inserting immediately after section 4415 thereof, the following additional sections: Section 4445a. Any person who keeps or uses, or is in any manner connected with, or interested in the management of, or who receives money or valuable thing for the admission of any person to a house, apartment, pit or place, kept or used, or intended to be used, for baiting or fighting any bird or animal, and any owner or occupant of a house, apartment, pit or place, who willfully procures or permits the same to be used or occupied for such baiting or fighting, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction thereof be punished by a fine not less

Section 4445a
new section,
revised statutes.

Baiting and
fighting of
birds and other
animals.