

No. 324, S.]

[Published June 8, 1905.

CHAPTER 314.

AN ACT to amend sections 4865, 4866, 4872 and 4877a, of the statutes of 1898, relating to the holding of inquests of the dead.

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

Who to take inquests. SECTION 1. Section 4865 of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended so as to read as follows: Section 4865. *Whenever the district attorney shall have notice of the death of any person within his county and from the circumstances surrounding the same there is good reason to believe that murder or manslaughter has been committed, he shall forthwith order and require the coroner or some justice of the peace therein to take an inquest on the view of the dead body of such person.* For the purpose of taking such inquest coroners may perform all the duties and exercise all the jurisdiction and powers conferred upon justices of the peace by this chapter and shall be entitled to the same fees as such justices for the performance of like duties, except as hereinafter provided.

Jury to be called. SECTION 2. Section 4866 of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended so as to read as follows: Section 4866. *Whenever any justice of the peace or coroner shall be so ordered as provided in the preceding section, he shall issue a precept to the sheriff or any constable * * * forthwith to summon a jury of six good and lawful men of the county to appear before him at the time and place specified in the precept, which precept shall be in substance as follows: The state of Wisconsin, to the sheriff or any constable of the county of: You are hereby required immediately to summon six good and lawful men of the county of, to appear forthwith before me at, in the town of, to inquire upon the view of the body of, there lying dead, how and by what means he came to his death.*

Given under my hand this day of 19. . .

J. P. Justice of the Peace.

Evidence to be written; stenographer. SECTION 3. Section 4872 of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended so as to read as follows: Section 4872. In all cases * * * the testimony of all witnesses examined before the inquest shall be reduced to writing by the justice of the peace, or some other person by his direction, and subscribed by the witnesses. Any officer authorized to take inquest may, *upon the order of the district attorney for his county*, employ a stenographer to take and transcribe the testimony of all witnesses examined at any inquest held by him. Such stenographer shall receive ten cents per folio for all the testimony taken and transcribed by him, his account therefor, after being audited by the proper county board, shall be paid by the county treasurer.

Compensation of officers; witness fees. SECTION 4. Section 4877a of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended so as to read as follows: Section 4877a. The *sole* compensation of justices of the peace and coroner for taking inquest shall be four dollars for each day *and two dollars for each half day* actually and necessarily required for the purpose and ten cents for each mile actually and necessarily traveled in performing such duty. * * * The compensation of jurors for services therein shall be one dollar per day *and seventy-five cents for each half day* and ten cents for each mile actually traveled, and of the constable and witnesses, the same as is allowed for like services in justice's court.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved June 7, 1905.