

No. 130, A.]

[Published July 13, 1911.]

CHAPTER 648.

AN ACT to amend sections 1968 and 1967 a, of the statutes, relating to examination of insurance companies, and the payment of the expenses thereof, and making an appropriation therefor.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1968 of the statutes is amended to read: Section 1968. 1. The commissioner of insurance may address inquiries to any insurance * * * company doing business in this state, or any officer thereof in relation to its doings or condition, or any other matter connected with its transaction; and it shall be the duty of every * * * company or officer so addressed to promptly reply in writing to such inquiries; and

2. Whenever he shall deem it expedient so to do, or when any responsible person shall file with him written charges against any such * * * company alleging that any return or statement filed by it with such commissioner is false, or that its affairs are in an unsound condition, he shall, in person, or by some one to be appointed by him for that purpose, not an officer or agent of, or in any manner interested in, any insurance * * * company doing business in this state, except as a policyholder, examine into its affairs and condition; and it shall be the duty of the * * * company, its officers or agents to cause its books be opened for inspection. * * *

3. Whenever it shall appear to the said commissioner from his own examination or the report of the person appointed by him, that * * * any foreign company examined is unsound, he shall revoke the certificate granted such company and cause a * * * notice thereof to be published in the official state paper and mail a copy thereof to each agent of the company. * * * The agent or agents thereof, after such notice, shall be required to discontinue doing business for such company.

4. The commissioner shall * * * examine insurance * * * companies applying for admission to transact business in this state, and if the affairs or condition of any such * * * company do not fully meet the requirements of law he shall withhold his certificate.

5. *The commissioner may require from any insurance company and any mutual benefit society, before, and from time to time during any examination, a deposit with him of such amount as he shall estimate necessary for the expense of such examina-*

tion. The company or society, through the commissioner, as ordered by him, shall pay into the state treasury the actual cost of such examination in expenses paid or to be paid by the state, and compensation to persons other than officers and employes of the state, and the balance deposited, if any, shall be returned to the company or society making such deposit, at the close of such examination.

6. The commissioner may employ such persons at such compensation fixed by him in advance as may be necessary and reasonable for the making of any examination, investigation or prosecution provided for by law.

7. There shall be paid out of the state treasury, upon vouchers approved by the commissioner and audited by the secretary of state, all actual and reasonable expenses of any officer or employee of the department of insurance, and the compensation and all such expenses of any person employed by the commissioner of insurance under subsection 6.

8. Such actual and reasonable expenses shall include actual disbursements for railroad fare and other public conveyance by the most usual and most direct or most traveled route, sleeper, meals, rooms, postage, telegraph, telephone, public messenger and stenographic service.

SECTION 2. Section 1967a of the statutes is amended to read: Section 1967a. The commissioner of insurance may appoint a deputy who shall be known as deputy commissioner of insurance, and who shall take the constitutional oath of office and file it in the office of the secretary of state, and give such bond to the commissioner as he may prescribe. The said commissioner shall be responsible for the acts and neglect of the deputy, who shall have the same power over all matters connected with the office of the commissioner of insurance as the commissioner has whenever detailed by him to do special acts, or in case of the sickness or absence of the commissioner from the capitol. Said commissioner may also appoint * * * such assistants and clerks as mentioned in subsection 14, of section 170. All such appointments shall be in writing and be filed in the office of the secretary of state.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated a sum sufficient to carry out the purposes of this act, not exceeding the amount paid into the state treasury under this act.

(Am. 1911, c. 664, s. 158.)

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

(Am. 1911, c. 664, s. 158.)

Approved July 12, 1911.