

town of Cedar Rapids, as purported to be constituted, held prior to the passage and publication of this act, are hereby ratified, confirmed and validated.

SECTION 3. All officers, elected at any annual town meeting or at any adjourned or special town meeting of the town of Cedar Rapids, as purported to be constituted, are hereby declared to be legal officers of said town of Cedar Rapids, and all acts of the officers so elected, performed or taken prior to the passage and publication of this act, are hereby ratified, confirmed and validated and given the same force and effect as though said town of Cedar Rapids had been properly created and constituted.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved June 6, 1917.

No. 234, S.]

[Published June 8, 1917.

## CHAPTER 352

AN ACT to create section 959—81r of the statutes, granting to cities, villages or towns the power to grant gratuitous use of its public buildings to encourage and aid conventions within such cities, villages or towns.

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

SECTION 1. There is added to the statutes a new section to read:

Section 959—81r. (1) The word "convention" when used in this section shall mean a state or national assembly of duly authorized, chosen or elected delegates or representatives meeting to accomplish some specific commercial, industrial, labor, civil, social, scientific or educational object or such objects as are mentioned in section 1 of chapter 354, laws of 1909, which shall prove a public benefit to the city, village or town, and promote the welfare and public interests of its citizens, to which convention the citizens of such city, village or town are admitted without charge; but shall not include exhibits or trade shows if a charge is made for space occupied by any exhibitor or when an admission fee is exacted. Such conventions are hereby declared to be public uses and public purposes.

(2) Any city, village or town in this state, whether organized under general or special charter, is hereby authorized and empowered by its common council, or village or town board, to grant the use, however, to the extent that it shall not interfere

with its regular use, of any public hall or assembly room in any public building under its control for the purpose of a convention within the meaning of subsection 1 of section 959—81r, gratuitously, and whenever any city of the first class shall have erected an institution under the provisions of chapter 426 of the laws of 1905 and acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, the common council of any such city is hereby empowered and authorized to provide a fund as other city funds are provided in such amount as shall be determined by the common council as other budget appropriations are determined, to be used by such city to pay such rental as determined by the auditorium board for convention purposes, as mentioned in subsection 1 of section 959—81r, for such institution or any part thereof, which rentals for such purpose, as well as all other rentals, shall, however, be used for the maintenance and operation of such institution as provided in section 9 of chapter 426, laws of 1905, and section 3 of chapter 354 of laws of 1909 and acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto and for the sake of encouraging conventions within the provisions of subsection 1 of section 959—81r in such city, the city shall have the right to state the amount of such free rental of the auditorium that shall be afforded during any one year to conventions and the auditorium board shall have the right to draw for such purposes on the fund herein provided for the maintenance and operation of said institution. The common council shall by resolution determine, however, the particular conventions which shall be so entitled to the auditorium.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved June 6, 1917.

No. 545, S.]

[Published June 8, 1917.

## CHAPTER 353

AN ACT to create section 2399a of the statutes, providing for the appointment of a deputy clerk of the Supreme Court.

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

SECTION 1. There is added to the statutes a new section to read: Section 2399a. The clerk of the supreme court may appoint a deputy clerk, at his own expense, to aid him in the performance of his duties, who shall perform the duties of said clerk in case of his absence or inability to act.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved June 6, 1917.