

No. 242, S.]

[Published May 22, 1903.]

CHAPTER 343.

AN ACT, relating to criminal anarchy, and making it unlawful to advocate, advise or teach the overthrow of organized government by force, violence or assassination, and providing a penalty for a violation thereof.

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

Criminal anarchy defined. SECTION 1. Criminal anarchy is the doctrine that organized government should be overthrown by force or violence, or by assassination of the executive head or of any of the executive officials of government, or by any unlawful means. The advocacy of such doctrine either by word of mouth or writing is a felony.

Advocacy of criminal anarchy. SECTION 2. Any person who: 1. By word of mouth or writing, advocates or teaches the duty, necessity or propriety of overthrowing or overturning organized government, by force or violence, or by assassination of the executive head or of any of the executive officials of government, or by any unlawful means; or

2. Prints, publishes, edits, issues or knowingly circulates, sells, distributes or publicly displays any book, paper, document, or written or printed matter in any form, containing or advocating, advising or teaching the doctrine that organized government should be overthrown by force, violence or any unlawful means; or

3. Openly, wilfully and deliberately justifies by word of mouth or writing the assassination or unlawful killing or assaulting of any executive or other officer of the United States or of any state or of any civilized nation having an organized government because of his official character, or any other crime, with intent to teach, spread or advocate the propriety of the doctrines of criminal anarchy; or

4. Organizes or helps to organize or becomes a member of or voluntarily assembles with any society, group or assembly of persons formed to teach or advocate such doctrine, is guilty of a felony and punishable by imprisonment in the state prison

for not more than ten years nor less than three year, or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or both.

Liability of editors and others. SECTION 3. Every editor or proprietor of a book, newspaper or serial and every manager of a partnership or incorporated association by which a book, newspaper, or serial is issued, is chargeable with the publication of any matter contained in such book, newspaper, or serial. But in every prosecution therefor, the defendant may show in his defense that the matter complained of was published without his knowledge or fault and against his wishes, by another who had no authority from him to make the publication and whose act was disavowed by him so soon as known.

Assemblage of anarchists. SECTION 4. Whenever two or more persons assemble for the purpose of advocating or teaching the doctrines of criminal anarchy, as defined in sections 1 and 2 of this act, such an assembly is unlawful, and every person voluntarily participating therein by his presence, aid or instigation, is guilty of a felony and punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than ten years nor less than three years, or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or by both.

Permitting premises to be used for assemblages of anarchists. SECTION 5. The owner, agent, superintendent, janitor, caretaker, or occupant of any place, building or room, who wilfully and knowingly permits therein any assemblage of persons prohibited by any of the provisions of this act, or who, after notification that the premises are so used, permits such use to be continued, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, nor less than three months, or by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, or both.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved May 21, 1903.