

89.75. There having been heretofore paid into the general fund from the proceeds of the swamp and overflowed land a sum of money in excess of the amount herein appropriated, the state treasurer is directed to transfer to the drainage fund from the general fund the sum of ten thousand dollars each year.

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

Approved August 10, 1927.

No. 70, S.]

[Published August 12, 1927.

CHAPTER 530.

AN ACT to repeal and recreate subsection (12) and to amend subsections (2), (3) and (10) of section 85.04 of the statutes, relating to certificates of title of motor vehicles.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (12) of section 85.04 of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 2. A new subsection is added to section 85.04 of the statutes to be numbered and to read: (85.04) (12) (a) If ownership of the vehicle be transferred, the owner shall assign the certificate of resignation and title in writing. Within ten days thereafter, the transferee shall present such certificate to the secretary of state, who shall issue a new certificate. When ownership shall pass by judicial decree or sale, or by operation of law, the new owner shall be entitled to a certificate of title upon filing appropriate evidence thereof.

(b) If the identification number of a motor vehicle has been removed, obliterated or altered, or if the original casting has been replaced and the number on the original cannot be ascertained, the applicant for certificate of title shall so state and the secretary of state shall assign a number to be stamped upon the engine. Such numbers shall begin with 101, run consecutively, and be followed by the letters WIS. Such numbers shall be stamped upon the engine only under the supervision of a dealer, manufacturer or distributor, registered under section 85.05, a sheriff, deputy sheriff, or police officer, who shall report the same to the secretary of state. Upon the removal or replacement of the en-

gine or the part thereof which bears the identification number, the original number shall be stamped thereon, and the owner shall notify the secretary of state thereof.

(c) Dealers, manufacturers or distributors, registered under section 85.05, need not apply for certificates of title for vehicles in stock or acquired for stock purposes, but upon transfer of the same, shall give the transferee evidence of title, which in case the vehicle has a certificate shall be a reassignment of the same.

(d) Any person owning or possessing a motor vehicle shall notify the secretary of state within ten days after the destruction or junking of the same. Each sheriff and police department in the state shall make immediate report of each motor vehicle reported stolen or recovered, to the secretary of state, who shall keep a file and index of such reports, together with similar reports received by him from other states. The secretary of state shall prepare once a month a list of such reports during the preceding month and forward a copy to each sheriff and police department in this state, to each motor vehicle organization in Wisconsin applying therefor, and to the motor vehicle registration official in each state of the United States. Before issuing a certificate of registration and title the secretary of state shall check the application with his records. Records more than five years old may be destroyed.

(e) To knowingly make a false statement in any application or other document required by this subsection to be filed with the secretary of state, or to forge any such application or other document or any certificate of title or assignment thereof, or to attempt to do any of said acts, is a felony and shall be punished by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or imprisonment not exceeding five years or both. To operate a motor vehicle for which a certificate of title is required without such certificate having been issued or applied for, or to sell, buy, or otherwise transfer such a vehicle without assignment of the certificate of title, or to violate any other provision of this subsection for which no penalty is herein specifically provided, is a misdemeanor and shall be punished by fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or imprisonment not exceeding six months or both.

SECTION 3. Subsections (2), (3) and (10) of section 85.04 of the statutes are amended to read: (85.04) (2) Application for such registration shall be made by the owner to the secretary of state in the form prescribed by him; and the registration fee

shall be paid to him. Blank applications shall be supplied to the several county clerks by the secretary of state. The application shall *include a statement that the motor vehicle is owned by the applicant and shall state the name, place of residence and address of the owner, the name or make of the vehicle, and the city, village or town and county in which it is customarily kept, the style or type, the engine number and the serial number, if any, the net weight equipped ready for service, the load carrying capacity, and the horse power. If the secretary of state has doubts about the facts stated in the application he may require such further evidence of ownership as he may consider necessary.*

(3) The secretary of state shall register the vehicle described in the application, giving it a distinguishing number, and shall thereupon issue to the applicant a certificate of registration *and title*, which shall contain the name, place of residence and address of the * * * owner, the registered number assigned, the date of registration, and a brief description of the vehicle registered, and furnish him registration number plates. Said certificate *shall state that no record is kept by the secretary of state of mortgages, conditional sales contracts, or other liens on motor vehicles and shall always be in the possession of the operator or firmly attached to some accessible part of the vehicle described therein.*

(10) Upon satisfactory proof of the loss or destruction of any certificate * * * or number plate, the secretary of state shall issue a duplicate thereof to the owner of the registered vehicle upon the payment of a sum not exceeding one dollar.

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

Approved August 10, 1927.