

[Act No. 2573., February 04, 1916]

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MUTUAL INSURANCE OF WORK ANIMALS.

By authority of the United States, be it enacted by the Philippine Legislature, that:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created a division in the Bureau of Agriculture to be known as the division for the mutual insurance of work animals. The short title of said division shall be the "insurance division." There is hereby created a society of owners of work animals to insure such animals against death by making mutual contributions to pay death losses. The name of such society shall be "Work Animals Insurance Society."

SEC. 2. The management of the association shall be vested in a board consisting of the Director of Agriculture, as chairman, the Insular Treasurer, and a citizen of the Philippine Islands who is acquainted with and interested in agriculture, as members. Said third member shall be appointed by the Governor-General and confirmed by the Upper House of the Legislature. The members of this board shall serve without pay, except they shall be entitled to their actual and necessary expenses while engaged in the performance of their duties in connection herewith.

SEC. 3. Any resident of the Philippine Islands being the owner of one or more work animals, either carabao or vacas, shall be eligible for membership in said society.

SEC. 4. Any person qualified for membership may join said society by paying to the treasurer of the municipality where such person resides a membership fee of one peso if such person desires to insure less than six work animals, two pesos if he desires to insure more than five and less than eleven, five pesos if he desires to insure more than ten and less than fifty and ten pesos if he desires to insure fifty or more work animals. Said membership fee shall be collected but once and shall be used to pay the expenses of administering the affairs of said society.

SEC. 5. Whenever any person desires to become a member of said society, he shall, in addition to paying the above-mentioned membership fee, file with the municipal treasurer a detailed description on blanks furnished by said society of each animal which he desires to insure and at the same time, pay to said treasurer three per cent of the value of each of said animals according to the appraisement hereinafter provided, as his *pro rata* shares for his insurance, whereupon at the expiration of thirty days from said date, if such animal or animals be alive and in apparent good health, they shall become insured hereunder. Said payment of three per cent of the value of said work animal shall: be payable annually in advance, and whenever a member fails to make such payment he shall by that act cease to be a member of said society: *Provided, however,* That the insurance provided for herein shall not take effect or be in force until at least fifty thousand work animals have been listed for insurance and their premiums paid, whereupon the Director of Agriculture shall issue a formal statement declaring this Act to be operative.

SEC. 6. At the end of each calendar month said Insurance Board shall ascertain the number and value of work animals insured hereunder that died during said month, whereupon the Insular Auditor, within sixty days, upon the certificate of said Board,