tiary shall be borne by the respective counties in which they shall be convicted, and the said expense shall be paid to the said board of trustees by orders to be drawn by them on the treasurers of the said counties, who shall accept and pay the same as provided by law.

Approved—The 4th day of May, A. D. 1927.

JOHN S. FISHER

## No. 400 AN ACT

To amend sections two, three, eleven, twelve, fourteen, seventeen, twenty-one, twenty-three, twenty-five, twenty-eight, twenty-nine, thirty, thirty-two, thirty-four, thirty-six, thirty-eight, forty-two, forty-four, forty-six, forty-seven, and forty-eight of the act, approved the fifteenth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three (Pamphlet Laws, eight hundred and nine), entitled "An act relating to the organization, maintenance, and operation of the Department of Banking, and the scope of its supervision and control over corporations, partnerships, unincorporated associations, and individuals and the assets and liabilities thereof; providing penalties for the enforcement of its provisions; and repealing The Banking Department Act of nineteen hundred and nineteen, with table of contents."

Department of Banking.

Section 2 of act of June 15, 1923 (P. L. 809), amended.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section two of the act, approved the fifteenth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three (Pamphlet Laws, eight hundred and nine), entitled "An act relating to the organization, maintenance, and operation of the Department of Banking, and the scope of its supervision and control over corporations, partnerships, unincorporated associations, and individuals, and the assets and liabilities thereof; providing penalties for the enforcement of its provisions; and repealing The Banking Department Act of nineteen hundred and nineteen, with table of contents," is hereby amended to read as follows:

Definitions.

Section 2. Definitions.—Except as otherwise expressly indicated, the following words, wherever used in this act, shall be taken and construed to have the following mean-

"Department."

"Department" means Banking Department, which shall after the fifteenth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, be known as the Department of Banking.

"Secretary.

"Secretary" means the Secretary of Banking.

"Person."

"Person" means an individual, a partnership, or an unincorporated association.

"Court."

"Court" means the court of common pleas of the county

where the banking house or other place of business of the corporation or person in question is located, and in which the certificate of liquidation is filed, as required by section twenty-two of this act.

"Prothonotary"

"Prothonotary" means the prothonotary of such court.

Section 2. That clause (b) of section three of said act is

hereby amended to read as follows:

(b) Notices.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, all written or printed notices required by this act shall be served either in the manner now or hereafter provided by law for the service of writs of summons, save that service need not be made by the sheriff or by mailing such notice [by registered mail return receipt requested] to any person required to be notified, at his last known place of business or residence, and to any corporation at its principal office, or, if a foreign corporation, at the office of its duly authorized agent.

Section 3. That section eleven of said act is hereby Section 11 amended.

amended to read as follows:

Section 11. Copies of Documents—(a) Admissibility of Copies of docu-Contents.—Copies of all books, accounts, reports, and other papers or documents filed in the office of the department, certified under the hand of the secretary or one of his deputies and the seal of the department, shall be admitted Admissibility. to be read in evidence in all courts of law and elsewhere in this Commonwealth, in all cases where the originals would be admitted in evidence: Provided, That in any proceeding the court having jurisdiction may, on cause shown, require the production of the originals.

(b) Fees.—For every copy of any paper filed in the Fees. department, and for the certification thereof, except when such copy or certification is made for the benefit of a corporation or person subject to the supervision of the department under the provisions of this act, the secretary may charge such fees as he may by general rule or regu-

lation prescribe.

(c) Prima Facie Evidence of Contents.—In any pro- Prima facie eviceedings under the provisions of this act, a copy, duly certified by the secretary or one of his deputies, of a duly instituted examination of the corporation or person involved in such proceedings, or a copy of the report of the examination and investigation of the corporation or person, shall be prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated.

Section 4. That section twelve of said act is hereby Section 12 amended.

amended to read as follows:

Section 12. Disclosure of Information Forbidden; Exceptions.-Neither the secretary nor any deputy, examiner, or employe of the department, shall, directly or indirectly, wilfully exhibit, publish, divulge, or make known, to any person or persons, any record, report, statement, letter, or other matter, fact, or thing, contained in said department, or ascertained from any of the same, or from any examination made under the provisions of this act, excepting in such manner as is expressly authorized by this act, and excepting when the production of such information in a proceeding in any court is duly required by subpoena issued by special order of the court, or other legal process, and excepting also in the case of prosecutions or other court actions instituted by the department; and any

Clause (b) of Sec-tion 3 amended

Disclosure of information.

Penalty

Proviso

Proviso.

Proviso.

Section 14 amended

Examinations in general.

violation of the provisions of this section shall be a misdemeanor, upon conviction whereof the person so offending shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, and shall be dismissed from his employment in said department: Provided, however, That the secretary, on the written request or consent of any corporation, authorized by resolution of its board of directors, or on written request or consent of any person, under the supervision of the department, may discuss, with an advisory committee selected by the secretary or selected by such corporation or person and acceptable to the secretary, such matters relating to the financial conditions of such corporation or person as the secretary may deem pertinent to the rehabilitation thereof: And provided further, That the secretary may, on like request or consent, furnish to the Federal Reserve Board, or to the Federal Reserve Bank of the district in which the banking house or other place of business of any corporation is located, copies of any reports or parts thereof, or any information in his possession relating to such corporation for the use of said board or bank: And provided further, That the Secretary of Banking may, from time to time, with the approval of the Governor, cause to be published a summary of the state and condition of corporations and persons from which reports were received during any period of time, with such information in relation to said corporations and persons as in his judgment may be useful.

Section 5. That section fourteen of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 14. Examinations—

(a) In General.—It shall be the duty of the secretary, at least once in each year, to examine or cause to be examined the books, papers, and affairs of each and every corporation and person subject to the supervision of the department. The secretary may also, at any time, make such special investigations or examinations as, in his opinion, the exigencies of any case may require. Whenever he shall deem it necessary or proper, he shall assign a qualified examiner or examiners to make any such examination or investigation, which examiner or examiners shall have power to make a thorough examination into all the business and affairs of the corporation or person in all departments and of all property, assets, and resources wherever situated, and, in so doing, to examine, under oath or otherwise, any of the officers, agents, employes, or members of the corporation or person, or any corporation or person in possession of any assets, or having knowledge of any assets, of the corporation or person under examination. The examiner or examiners shall make a full and detailed report of the condition of the corporation or person under examination, or such special report as may be directed by the secretary:

Provided, That whenever any bank shall, by becoming a member of a Federal Reserve Bank, be subject to the

examinations required by the Federal Reserve Act, the secretary may, in his discretion, accept such examinations in lieu of the examinations required by this section or by

the laws of this Commonwealth.

(b) Examinations Under Oath.—The secretary and his Examinations under oath, deputies, and any qualified examiner appointed by the secretary, are hereby authorized and empowered to administer oaths or affirmations to any of the officers, agents, employes, members, or persons enumerated in clause (a) of this section, and any wilful false swearing in any inquiry thereunder shall be perjury, and subject, upon conviction thereof, to the same punishment as is or may be provided by law for the punishment of perjury. Upon failure of any of the individuals, aforesaid, to make answer to any such inquiry, the Attorney General, upon the request of the secretary, shall make information thereof to the court, whereupon said court, after hearing, shall make such order as the occasion requires.

Section 6. That section seventeen of said act is hereby

amended to read as follows:

Section 17. Failure to Pay In Capital or Exercise Powers.—When any corporation under the supervision of the department (a) has not paid in the capital as required by law; (b) has not in any manner exercised the powers conferred upon it by its letters patent within two years after the issuance thereof; or (c) has failed to exercise its corporate privileges for two years,—[after having been liquidated such corporation shall be returned by the secretary to the Attorney General, who shall proceed by quo warranto against such corporation, to the end that it may be ousted from its charter rights, and its corporation privileges be declared null and void.

Section 7. That section twenty-one of said act is hereby

amended to read as follows:

Section 21. Power of Secretary to Take Possession.— The secretary may, after hearing had upon notice given, with the approval and consent of the Attorney General, take possession of the business and property of any corporation or person subject to the supervision of the department, whenever it shall appear to him that such corporation or person:

- I. Has violated any law regulating its or his business, and has persisted in such violation in disregard of an order duly made by the secretary;
- II. Is conducting business in an unauthorized or unsafe manner and has persisted in disregard of an order duly made by the secretary;
- III. Is in an unsafe or unsound condition to continue business: Provided, in such case, That the secretary may forthwith, without such hearing and consent of the Attorney General, take possession of the business and property of any such corporation or person receiving moneys on deposit, when and if, in his opinion the protec-

Section 17 amended.

Failure to pay in capital, etc.

Power to take pos-

tion of depositors and the public requires such peremptory

action:

IV. Has an impairment of capital, which has not been restored or made good within the time fixed by order of the secretary;

V. Has suspended payment of obligations;

VI. Has neglected or refused to comply with the terms

of any lawfully issued order of the secretary;

VII. Has refused, upon proper demand, to submit the records and affairs of the business to the secretary, a deputy, or any duly authorized examiner or agent of the department;

VIII. Has refused to be examined upon oath or affir-

mation regarding such affairs;

IX. Is in the hands of a receiver appointed by any court, or in any bankruptcy proceeding, or of an assignee or trustee for creditors appointed by such corporation or person.

Private bank or estate of private banker.

The secretary may, in like manner, take possession of the business and property of any private or unincorporated bank, or the estate of any private banker, otherwise exempt from the supervision of the department, whenever such private or unincorporated bank shall have made an assignment for the benefit of creditors, or [confessed its insolvency] for any of the causes mentioned hereinbefore in this section.

Section 23 amended.

Section 8. That section twenty-three of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Restraint of secretary by injunction.

Section 23. Injunction to Restrain Secretary.—Whenever the secretary takes possession of the property and business of any corporation or person, such corporation or person may, at any time within ten days, apply to the court for an order requiring the secretary to show cause why he should not be enjoined from continuing such The secretary may be served personally possession. wherever found within the State, or by leaving a copy with the deputy in charge of his office, or by serving the special deputy appointed by him in such proceeding. At the hearing, a copy, certified by the secretary or one of his deputies, of any report of a duly instituted examination of such corporation or person shall be prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated; and if, from such report or reports or other evidence, there shall appear to be just cause for the taking and continuing of possession by the secretary, he shall not be enjoined, unless such report or reports or other evidence shall be overcome by proper proof produced by such corporation or person, in which event the court shall direct the secretary to refrain from further proceedings and to surrender such possession.

Section 25 amended.

Notice to parties holding assets.

Section 9. That section twenty-five of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 25. Notice to Parties Holding Assets.—When the secretary shall have taken possession of the property

and business of any such corporation or person, he shall forthwith give notice in writing of such fact to all corporations and persons holding any assets thereof. No one having such notice or actual knowledge that the secretary has so taken possession shall have a lien or charge against any of the assets of such corporation or person for any charge, payment, advance or clearance thereafter made or liability thereafter incurred. The status of all parties shall become fixed on the date the secretary files his certificates of possession in his office in Harrisburg, as provided in section twenty-two of this act.

Section 10. That section twenty-eight of said act is section 28 amended.

hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 28. Surrender of Possession by Secretary.—The Surrender of possecretary may, upon conditions approved by him, surrender possession for the purpose of permitting such corporation or person to resume business to sell or convey its or his property and franchise, or to merge or consolidate its or his business with that of another corporation or person in accordance with the laws of this Commonwealth, or because he is without funds to continue or liquidate the business and property of which he has taken possession; but he shall not authorize any decrease of capital stock by a corporation except upon compliance by the corporation with the provisions of law as to such decrease.

Whenever the secretary shall surrender possession under the provisions of this section, he shall forthwith issue an order, under his official seal, authorizing such corporation or person to resume business, to sell or convey its or his property and franchises, or to merge or consolidate as aforesaid, and shall file said order in his office, and cause a certified copy thereof to be filed in the office of the prothonotary, who shall thereupon cause the entries upon the Entries upon judgjudgment index made pursuant to section twenty-two of ment index to be satisfied.

this act to be [cancelled] satisfied.

Section 11. That section twenty-nine of said act is Section 29 amended.

hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 29. Status of Secretary as Receiver.—Except as Secretary as herein otherwise provided, the secretary shall, when he has taken possession of the business and property of a corporation or person, have all the rights, powers, and duties. of a receiver appointed by any court of equity in this Commonwealth; and he shall be vested, in his official capacity, with all the rights, powers, and duties of such corporation or person and with all the property of such corporation or person, including debts due, liens, or securities therefor, and rights of action or redemption, whether or not the property of such corporation or person, including debts due, liens, or securities therefor, and rights of action or redemption, are held in the name of such corporation or person, or in the name of some other corporation or person, but actually the property of the corporation or person of which, or of whom, the secretary has possession.

He shall be the representative of the creditors of the Representative of creditors.

Order to be made

corporation or person, and entitled, as such, to have vacated and set aside, for the benefit of the creditors, any judgment, execution, attachment, sequestration, payment, pledge, assignment, transfer, conveyance, or incumbrance, which could have been avoided by the creditors or any of them, or by which it is attempted to give any creditor unlawful preference over another.

May surrender burdensome assets.

He may, with leave of court obtained on petition after notice to all creditors of whom he has knowledge, surrender to the corporation or person any assets, including choses in action, whether the subject of pending proceedings or not, which are burdensome and of no advantage to creditors.

Section 30 amended.

Power of court to make and enforce orders. Section 12. That section thirty of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 30. Power of Court to Make and Enforce Orders.—The court having jurisdiction shall have power to make and enforce any and all orders necessary and appropriate to enable the secretary to discharge his duties in connection with the business, property, and affairs of any corporation or person taken into possession by the secretary under the provisions of this act, upon petition of the secretary, acting personally or through his duly authorized deputy, setting forth the facts; and the court shall also have the power, upon petition of the secretary, acting personally or through his duly authorized deputy, to order and direct other corporations or persons in possession of assets or property, belonging to the corporation or person in possession of the secretary, to transfer or convey said property or assets to the secretary, and to execute and deliver any and all necessary instruments in writing to accomplish that purpose.

Section 32, clause (b), amended.

Section 13. That clause (b) of section thirty-two is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sales of property

Section 32. (b) Sales of Real and Personal Property.—The secretary may sell at public sale any or all of the real and personal property of such corporation or person without any order of court. He may, with leave of court, sell either real or personal property at private sale. At least [ten] five days' notice of any petition for leave to sell at private sale shall be given to all stockholders of such corporation or to such person, and to all creditors known to the secretary; and such notice shall also be advertised at least once in a newspaper in the county where the banking house or other place of business is located, and, when the land is situated in a different county, at least once in a newspaper published in the latter county.

Section 32, clause (d), amended.

Sale of listed securities.

Section 14. That clause (d) of section thirty-two is

hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 32. (d) Sale of Listed Securities.—Listed securities may be sold on any of the stock [exchange] exchanges, with leave of court obtained on petition of the secretary, at such time or times, and in such manner, as may be determined by the court. No notice to creditors

of such petition shall be necessary unless required by the

Section 15. That section thirty-four is hereby amended amended. to read as follows:

Section 34. Compromises.—The secretary may, with Power to compromise. leave of court, compound or compromise any debt, [or] claim, or judgment due to the corporation or person, and discontinue any action or other proceeding pending therefor, if done in good faith and after proper inquiry; and [upon payment of the amount due] may require all mortgages, conditional contracts, pledges, and liens of or upon any real or personal property of such corporation or person, to be satisfied, cancelled, or assigned to him, as he may deem best, or he may sell the property subject thereto.

Section 16. That section thirty-six of said act is hereby Section 36 amended to read as follows:

Section 36. Judgments Not to Be Liens—Stay of Liens. Execution.—[A lien shall not attach] No mechanic's lien shall attach, nor shall any other lien attach, to any of the property or assets of the corporation or person by reason of the entry of any judgment against such corporation or person after the secretary has taken possession of its or his property and business and filed a certificate in his office in the capitol at Harrisburg, as required by section twenty-two of this act, and so long as such possession continues.

During such time no execution or attachment shall issue Stay of execution against such corporation or person, nor shall any pending execution or attachment be proceeded with except by special leave of the court.

Section 17. That section thirty-eight of said act is Section 38 hereby amended to read as follows:

amended.

Inventory and appraisement

Section 38. Inventory and Appraisement—Statement of Liabilities.—When the secretary has determined to liquidate the affairs of any such corporation or person, he shall forthwith cause an inventory and appraisement of the assets of such corporation or person, under oath or affirmation, to be made in duplicate, by two disinterested appraisers chosen by him, and shall file such inventories and appraisements, [accompanied by a complete statement, certified by him, of the liabilities of such corporation or person so far as he has been able to ascertain the same] one in his office, and the other in the office of the prothonotary; and, for the purpose of enabling the secretary to do so, he or his duly authorized deputy is hereby empowered to call before him, by subpoena, with or without books and papers, and to examine, the corporation or person, or the officer, director, or employes thereof, taken in possession, under oath, or any person who, he or they have reason to believe, has knowledge of other or further assets of the said corporation or person, or any person who, he or they believe, can give information touching the same. Every witness shall Wit ess fees. be entitled to receive, out of the estate of the corporation or

Examination of

person, the usual witness fee and mileage for this attendance for these purposes.

Section 42 amended.

Section 18. That section forty-two of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Proof of claims.

Section 42. Proof of Claims of Creditors.—No claim other than the claim of a depositor shall be allowed unless the claimant, or some one for him if he cannot do so, shall, within four months from the date of such notice, furnish to the secretary a statement of his claim, together with a copy of any book entries pertaining thereto, or any note or other writing evidencing the same, verified by an affidavit in substantially the following form:

Form of affidavit.

"I, (name of claimant) do solemnly swear (or affirm) that the above is a true statement of my claim against (name of corporation or person); that there are no credits or allowances against the same except as therein set forth; that I have not directly or indirectly made or entered into any bargain, arrangement, or agreement, express or implied, to take or receive, directly or indirectly, any money, property, or consideration whatever, to or for myself, or to or for any other person, firm, or corporation whatever, other than my dividend as a creditor; and that there is no collateral security for said indebtedness, or any part thereof, held by me or anyone else other than as above set forth."

When claimant a partnership or a corporation.

In case the claimant shall be a partnership or corporation, such affidavit shall be made by a member of the partnership, or by the treasurer or assistant treasurer of the corporation claimant, and the form thereof shall be modified accordingly.

Not applicable to claim against trust funds.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to the claim of cestuis que trust or others to or against trust funds or property in the custody, possession, or control of a corporation or person, possession of whose business and property is taken by the secretary under the provisions of this act.

Section 44 amended

Section 19. That section forty-four of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Allowance of claims

Section 44. Allowance of Claims.—If such claim and affidavit, when required, are in proper form, and if the amount claimed by a depositor or other creditor agrees with the amount shown by the books of the corporation or person, or if, upon consultation with the claimant and such corporation or person, the amount is ascertained to the satisfaction of the secretary, the claim shall be allowed if presented within the time limited by the notice as aforesaid, unless objected to in the manner hereinafter provided.

Claims not proved barred.

the time provided in sections forty-one and forty-two of this act, are barred from coming in upon the funds for distribution. Section 20. That section forty-six of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Proofs of claims, not furnished to the secretary within

Section 46 amended.

Section 46. Distribution.—If, at the expiration of said

Distribution.

period of thirty days from the filing of the account, no objections shall have been filed thereto, the same shall be confirmed absolutely. [and the secretary shall prepare and file a schedule of distribution in accordance with the priorities fixed by law. Said schedule shall be subject to the approval of the court, and in accordance therewith, when so approved, a In case objections or exceptions are filed to any claim or claims, the account shall be confirmed absolutely as to those claims against which no objections or exceptions have been filed, and a partial or final dividend, as the case may be, shall be declared and paid by the secretary on all claims as to which no objections or exceptions have been filed. In case there shall be any disputed claim or any claim to which objections shall have been duly filed, the dividend shall be calculated as if all claims were valid and approved, and, after deducting and setting apart such portion of the dividend as [represents] may be declared on claims, in accordance with the priorities fixed by law, which are disputed or objected to, the balance shall be distributed among the other claims. If all or any of the claims disputed or objected to shall thereafter be determined to be valid, they shall then receive their portions of such dividend in accordance with the priorities fixed by law. If all or any of such claims be determined to be invalid, the portions of such dividend set apart [to] for them shall be distributed to the valid claims.

Section 21. That section forty-seven of said act is here-Section 47

by amended to read as follows:

Section 47. Conclusiveness of Confirmation and Distribution.—The confirmation of a partial account and distribution thereunder, as aforesaid, shall be conclusive only as to the fund distributed, and shall not prevent the proof and allowance, out of the fund involved in any subsequent account, of claims not presented in time for allowance out of such previous fund.

The confirmation of a final account and distribution thereunder, after the objections thereto, if any, have been adjudicated as hereinafter provided, shall be conclusive; and shall work and effect a discharge of the secretary and all deputies secretary or their sureties, from all liability in the matter; and the secretary or his successor, except as hereinafter provided in section fifty of this act, is authorized and empowered to de- Destruction of stroy all records belonging to the corporation or person in his records. possession at the expiration of seven years from the date of the absolute confirmation of the final account of the secretary.

Section 22. That section forty-eight of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 48. Hearing and Decision of Matters in Controversy.—If there shall be claims disputed or objected to, or if there shall be objection to the account, the court shall itself, without delay, hear and decide the matters in controversy. The court shall fix a time and place for the Notice of hearing hearing, of which [three weeks' written] notice shall be given [to] by the secretary [and to the corporation or

amended.

Confirmation.

Final account.

Discharge of

amended.

person and to all depositors and other creditors whose claims [have been filed as aforesaid] have been disallowed by the secretary, or excepted or objected to by other depositors, creditors, or stockholders, as well as to those depositors, creditors, or stockholders, who have objected to the account or to claims allowed in the account. Said notice shall also set forth that all parties whose claims are disputed or objected to must appear at said time and place and prove their claims or be debarred from coming in upon the fund for distribution.

Approved—The 5th day of May, A. D. 1927.

JOHN S. FISHER

## No. 401

## AN ACT

To amend section one of an act, approved the twenty-seventh day of April, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-five (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred twenty-eight), entitled "An act authorizing and prothree hundred twenty-eight), entitled "An act authorizing and providing for the acquiring by agreement and operating by boroughs of water systems owned by corporations furnishing water within the acquiring borough and in adjacent townships or nearby boroughs; authorizing the placing of liens upon and the issuing of obligations secured by the property acquired for the payment thereof; and providing that the obligations shall be exempt from taxation for any purpose," authorizing the issuing of lien bonds on existing water systems for the acquisition of additions thereto from corporations and remaining this. municipalities.

Boroughs.

Section 1 of April 27, 1925 (P. L. 328), amended.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section one of an act, approved the twenty-seventh day of April, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-five (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred twenty-eight), entitled "An act authorizing and providing for the acquiring by agreement and operating by boroughs of water systems owned by corporations furnishing water within the acquiring borough and in adjacent townships or nearby boroughs; authorizing the placing of liens upon and the issuing of obligations secured by the property acquired for the payment thereof; and providing that the obligations shall be exempt from taxation for any purpose," is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That where the price and

terms are agreed upon a borough may become the owner

Acquisition and ownership of water system in borough or adjacent township.

Payment.

Lien of obligations.

of and operate any water system or part thereof owned and operated by a corporation or municipality furnishing water within the acquiring borough and in adjacent townships or nearby boroughs; and may pay therefor by obligations secured by liens on the property acquired, or on the entire property of which the property acquired becomes a part, or the entire property in connection with which the property acquired is operated, and which shall be secured solely by such waterworks systems and property and the revenues Obligations exempt thereof, and without any other liability on the part of

such borough, which obligations shall be exempt from

from tax.