

the State shall be one dollar per acre for each of the first two years of said term of twenty years; two dollars per acre for the third year; three dollars per acre for the fourth year; four dollars per acre for the fifth year; and five dollars per acre during the remainder of the term; on and after April 1st, 1913, the Board of Shell Fish Commissioners may lease at a rent at price which in their judgment is a proper one and commensurate with the value of the land so leased any land subject to the provisions of this act which has not been applied for or leased up to that time, provided, however, that no land shall be leased at a less price than twenty-five cents (25c) per acre, and the land so leased under this provision shall be subject to all other provisions of this act. If any part of the rent reserved under such lease shall remain unpaid for more than six months after the same becomes due, such lease or leases may, at the option of the Board of Shell Fish Commissioners, be declared void, and in that event the land shall revert to the State, and may be leased again in accordance with the provisions of this act. The said board may, at the request of any lessee, if it shall appear equitable so to do, upon cause shown in writing, cancel his lease as to the whole or a part of the land leased. The Board of Shell Fish Commissioners is hereby directed to submit a plan to the next session of the General Assembly of Maryland providing for the assessment of rentals for leased bottoms in accordance with the value of these bottoms for the cultivation of oysters.

SEC. 100. For a period of thirty days after the said survey shall have been completed, or after any area shall have been opened to leasing under the preceding sections, citizens of Maryland residing in any part of the State, who, at the time of the completion of said survey, or at the respective times of the opening for oyster culture of the several areas, as the case may be, may be owners of land having a water front upon any part of the said areas so opened to oyster culture, shall have the exclusive right to rent any land opened to oyster culture under the provisions of this act, adjacent to their lands. And for an additional period of thirty days after the expiration of the said period of thirty days, all boatmen, residents of this State, who shall be engaged in the business of dredging, scraping or tonging for oysters at the time of the completion of the said survey, or at the respective times of the opening for oyster culture of the several areas, or if said survey shall be completed, or the said areas shall be opened to oyster culture during the closed season for dredging, scraping or tonging, as the case may be, then the person so engaged at the end of the last dredg-