

measuring and registering the quantity of illuminating gas consumed by or at any burner, orifice or place, or cause or procure any such meter to be injured or altered, or the action thereof to be obstructed or prevented, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Fraud—Advertisements.

1914. ch. 606.

159. Any person who with intent to injure, humiliate or defraud any person or body corporate of this State, by causing any false notice by way of advertisement or otherwise, to be inserted in the columns of any newspaper, periodical or public press shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment in the House of Correction, not exceeding six months or by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by both fine and imprisonment, as aforesaid, in the discretion of the Court.

1914. ch. 410.

160. Any person, firm, corporation or association, who or which in a newspaper, circular, or circular or form letter or other publication published in this State willfully and knowingly makes or disseminates any statement or asseveration of fact concerning the quality, the quantity, the value, the method of production or manufacture or the reason for the price of his or their merchandise or the manner or source of purchase of such merchandise or the possession of awards, prizes, or distinction conferring a gain of such merchandise, or the motive or purpose of a sale, intended to give the appearance of an offer advantageous to the purchaser, which is false and fraudulent, shall be guilty of misdemeanor.

Any person, firm, corporation or association or any employe thereof, who violates any provision of this Section shall be liable to a fine of no less than \$25 nor more than \$100 for each offense.

Fraud by Hirers.

1904, art. 27, sec. 144. 1888, art. 27, sec. 107. 1872, ch. 423.

161. Every hirer of a personal chattel of the value of twenty dollars and upwards, who shall secrete, make away with, sell, or otherwise dispose of the same, with intent to defraud the owner thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be liable to a fine not exceeding double the value of the article disposed of, and imprisonment for a term not exceeding thirty days, or either, at the discretion of the court.