

of the permit issued, shall be returned by said officer to the commander of the State Fishery Force of Maryland, if said officer be a Maryland official, or to the secretary of the Commission of Fisheries of Virginia, if said officer be a Virginia official, to be filed by him in his office. Blank forms for such oath and permit shall be furnished to the respective oyster inspectors, and the respective captains of the oyster police boats, by the Comptroller of Maryland and the Auditor of Public Accounts of Virginia. For administering said oath and issuing said permit, the inspector or officer issuing same shall be entitled to receive from the applicant a fee of twenty-five cents. The owner or master of any boat or vessel found carrying or buying such seed oysters without such permit shall be fined not less than twenty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars. Any owner or master of any boat or vessel violating the provisions of this Section by buying or carrying or knowingly selling such seed oysters to be carried elsewhere, or for any other purpose than to be planted in the waters of Maryland or Virginia, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, and in addition thereto the boat or vessel so used shall, with its cargo and equipment, be forfeited to the State wherein such offender is convicted; provided, no permit shall be granted to any person engaged in taking or catching, buying or carrying seed oysters or having in his possession oysters measuring less than three inches from hinge to mouth, who shall have any scoop, scrape or dredge or any part thereof, on any boat or vessel to be used in taking, buying or carrying seed oysters, and it shall be the duty of the officer who issues said permit to first inspect said boat or vessel and satisfy himself that no such appliance is on said boat or vessel before he issues any permit; and any person who shall have any scoop, scrape, or dredge, or any part thereof, on any boat or vessel engaged in catching, buying or carrying seed oysters or oysters measuring less than three inches from hinge to mouth, and any owner or master of any boat or vessel violating the provisions of this section by having any scrape, scoop or dredge or any part thereof on any boat or vessel engaged in taking, catching, buying or carrying seed oysters shall be fined not less than two hundred and fifty dollars not more than five hundred dollars, and in addition thereto, the boat or vessel so used with its cargo and equipment be forfeited to the State wherein such offender is convicted.¹

1931, ch. 517.

75A. It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch oysters from the Potomac River by means of a dredge or scrape, or any instrument other than ordinary shaft or patent tongs at any season of the year. Any person violating the provisions of this section, upon conviction thereof, shall be confined in the penitentiary for not less than one year nor more than three years, or may be confined in jail not exceeding one year, and fined not less

¹ Sec. 2 of ch. 476 of the acts of 1927 repealed all laws inconsistent therewith to extent of inconsistency, and sec 3 provided: "That upon the taking effect in the State of Virginia of the provisions described in this act, the Governor of Maryland shall issue his proclamation declaring the provisions of this act to be effective."