

tive districts regularly each working day during the oyster season, and they shall have power to inspect all oysters found in the possession of any person or persons, or on board of any vessel, and if upon such inspection any such inspector shall be convinced that any of the provisions of this act have been violated, he shall have power, and it is hereby made his duty to arrest, immediately, such offender and take him before the nearest or most convenient justice of the peace in any county of the State, or a police justice of Baltimore City, who shall as speedily as possible hear and dispose of such case in accordance with the provisions of this article; and said inspectors shall be allowed no extra compensation for conveyance, boat help or other ordinary expenses, except in cases of arrest, where from the nature of the case, he may be required to furnish means of conveyance and other necessary expenses for the safe conduct of the offender so arrested, in which cases, upon presentation of proper vouchers, he shall be allowed only his actual expenditures; and the treasurer of the State on the warrant of the comptroller, which the said comptroller is hereby directed to issue, is hereby directed to pay said inspectors the amount of their monthly salaries on the first day of each month succeeding the month in which the service shall have been performed, from the fund hereinafter provided for. The said inspectors shall take and subscribe an oath (or affirmation) such as is commonly required in positions of similar character; and in the event of failure to properly perform the duties herein prescribed, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

Tax on
oysters

20 H. For the purpose of raising the revenue necessary to the requirements of this act, a tax of ten cents per hundred of bushels of oysters purchased, by each and every packer, shipper and wholesale and retail dealer or dealers, of any kind in oysters, is hereby levied on all such packers, shippers and wholesale and retail dealers, and dealers of any kind in oysters, who shall monthly make a sworn statement of the quantity of oysters purchased, and forward said statement on the first day of the month succeeding the month in which such purchases shall have been made, with the amount of money due on account of said tax to the treasurer of the State; and in default of said statement and payment as herein provided, or in the event of any one making a false oath, for the default, the offender shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and for making such false oath, in addition to the penalties herein imposed, shall be indictable and punishable as is now provided for the crime of perjury.