

Chapter 257.

AN ACT to prevent and punish frauds in the sale of oysters sold in hermetically sealed tin cans, and to provide for the stamping of the word "Oysters" and the weight of the contents in said cans, and for the appointment of examiners to ascertain and prevent the consummation of said frauds.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That every person, firm, joint stock company or corporation packing oysters for sale in this state in hermetically sealed tin cans, commonly known as "Cove Oysters," or by whatsoever name or names the same may be known, shall stamp or cause to be stamped, in legible letters and figures, the words "Oysters" in the cap or end of each can, and also the true weight in ounces of the oysters in each of said cans, after the liquor or water is properly drained off, which draining of liquor or water shall consist in pouring the contents on a number ten (10) sieve, and allowing it to drain for one minute before weighing; and any sale of such packed oysters not so stamped shall be void, and the vendor shall not be entitled to recover the price thereof.

Stamp can.

Sale void.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That every person, firm, joint stock company or corporation who or which shall sell or offer to sell, or have in his or its possession, with intent to sell contrary to the provisions of this act, any oysters hermetically sealed in tin cans, and required by the first section of this act to be stamped as therein stated, not so stamped, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined one hundred dollars for each offence, to be paid to the state treasury and placed to the credit of "The Oyster Packers' Fund," and shall also forfeit the oysters not so stamped, to be destroyed by the examiner hereinafter provided for, unless already destroyed as hereinafter provided.

Guilty of misdemeanor.

Penalty.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That the governor, upon the recommendation of the Canned Goods Exchange of Baltimore city, shall appoint two persons as examiners of hermetically sealed or cove oysters, who shall each give bond to the state of Maryland in the

Appoint examiners.