

2. Lessees or licensees of fisheries shall have no claim to renewal of leases or licenses if in arrears of rent or percentage, during four months after the same is due, and any lessee or licensee convicted of an infraction of this Act, or any Regulation or Regulations under it, shall be liable to forfeit his lease or license ; Fishery lessees in arrears.

4. Special licenses and leases for any term of years, may be granted to any party or parties who may wish to plant or form oyster beds in any of the bays, inlets, harbours, creeks or rivers, or between any of the islands on the coast of Canada ; and the holder of any such lease or license shall have the exclusive right to oysters produced or found on the beds, within the limits of such license, for the term of such lease ; Special licenses for oyster beds.

5. The Minister may authorize to be expended annually any sum appropriated by Parliament, for the formation of oyster beds in various waters and places found adapted for that purpose, and transplanting oysters, and towards re-stocking exhausted fisheries by natural or artificial means, and to improve streams where natural obstructions exist, and may authorize the construction, erection or placing of any artificial barrier or grating in any stream or river, or in any water-course, and in the channels or beds thereof ; Minister may expend Parliamentary grant for making or re-stocking oyster beds.

6. With a view to protect the oyster beds in different parts of the bays and coasts of the Dominion, it shall not be lawful for any person to take oysters, or in any way to injure or disturb such oyster beds, except during times and on terms permitted by Regulation or Regulations under this Act, under a penalty of not more than one hundred dollars nor less than forty dollars together with the forfeiture of the vessel and all the apparatus employed therein ; and in default of payment, the party convicted shall be imprisoned for not less than one month, nor more than two months ; Protection of oyster beds. Penalty for injuring them.

7. Shell-fish fisheries shall be subject to the provisions of this Act, and any Regulation or Regulations to be made under it. Shell-fish fisheries.

FINES AND FORFEITURES.

16. Except for offences to which penalties are already attached, each and every offender against the provisions of this Act, or the Regulations under it, shall for each offence incur a fine of not more than twenty dollars, besides all costs ; and in default of payment of each fine, shall be imprisoned in each case for not less than eight days, and not exceeding one month ; provided, whenever it shall appear to the satisfaction of the convicting magistrate, that the offence has been committed in ignorance of the law, and that because of the poverty of the defendant, the penalty imposed would be oppressive, a discretionary power may be exercised ; and any Fishery Officer or other magistrate may grant a warrant of distress for the amount of fine and costs imposed in any case : Penalty in cases where no other is provided. Provide: discretionary power in certain cases.

2. The contravention on any day of any of the provisions of this Act, or of any Regulation made under it, shall constitute a separate offence, and may be punished accordingly ; Separate offence on each day.