
Seal Fishery (North Pacific) Act, 1893.

this Act, and any commissioned officer on full pay in the naval service of Her Majesty the Queen may seize the ship's certificate of registry.

(4.) Any commissioned officer on full pay in the naval service of Her Majesty the Queen shall have power, during the period and in the seas specified by the Order, to stop and examine any British ship, and to detain her, or any portion of her equipment, or any of her crew, if in his judgment the ship is being or is preparing to be used or employed in contravention of this Act.

(5.) For carrying into effect an arrangement with any foreign state, an Order in Council under this Act may provide that such officers of that state as are specified in the Order may exercise the like powers under this Act as may be exercised by such a commissioned officer as aforesaid in relation to a British ship, and the equipment and crew and certificate thereof, and that such British officers as are specified in the Order may exercise, with the necessary modifications, the powers conferred by this Act in relation to a ship of the said foreign state, and the equipment and crew and papers thereof.

(6.) If during the period and within the seas specified by the Order a British ship is found having on board thereof fishing or shooting implements or seal skins or bodies of seals, it shall lie on the owner or master of such ship to prove that the ship was not used or employed in contravention of this Act.

Provision as to
ship's papers.

2.—(1.) Where an officer has power under this Act to seize a ship's certificate of registry, he may either retain the certificate and give a provisional certificate in lieu thereof, or return the certificate with an indorsement of the grounds on which it was seized, and in either case may direct the ship, by an addition to the provisional certificate or to the indorsement, to proceed forthwith to a specified port, being a port where there is a British court having authority to adjudicate in the matter, and if this direction is not complied with, the owner and master of the ship shall, without prejudice to any other liability, each be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds.

(2.) Where in pursuance of this section a provisional certificate is given to a ship, or the ship's certificate is indorsed, any officer of customs in Her Majesty's dominions or British consular officer may detain the ship until satisfactory security is given for her appearance in any legal proceedings which may be taken against her in pursuance of this Act.

Evidence.

3.—(1.) A statement in writing, purporting to be signed by an officer having power in pursuance of this Act to stop and examine a ship, as to the circumstances under which or grounds on which he stopped and examined the ship, shall be admissible in any proceedings, civil or criminal, as evidence of the facts or matters therein stated.