MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 400

House of Representatives, March 12, 1919.

Taken from table. Report accepted and ordered printed under joint rules. On motion of Mr. Small of Brewer tabled pending first reading and Thursday (Mar. 20) assigned.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Clason of Lisbon.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND NINETEEN

AN ACT to Provide for the Registration of Resident Hunters.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section 1. No resident of this state shall hunt in any 2 manner, at any time, or pursue, take, catch, kill, destroy 3 or have in possession, within the limits of this state, any 4 wild animals or wild birds without having first procured 5 a certificate of registration therefor as hereinafter pro-6 vided, and then only during the respective seasons when

- 7 it shall be lawful, and subject to all other provisions of
- 8 chapter 33 of the revised statutes; provided, that nothing
- 9 in this act shall be construed as affecting in any way the

10 provisions of the statutes relating to trespass, nor shall 11 the possession of such certificate grant or confer any privi-12 lege not enjoyed prior to the passage of this act.

The words "resident of this state" wherever used in this 2 act shall be construed to mean any person not subject to 3 the provisions of sections 65 and 66 of chapter 33 of the 4 revised statutes, as amended by chapter 219 of the public 5 laws of 1917, who has been a bona fide resident of this 6 state and actually domiciled here for a period of three 7 months next prior to his application for registration as 8 provided for in this act.

Sect. 2. Any resident of this state may make written application to the clerk of the city, town or plantation in 3 which such resident resides, and such city, town or plantation clerk, after having satisfied himself that the applicant is a bona fide resident of said city, town or plantation, and upon the payment by such applicant of a fee of 7 twenty-five cents, fifteen cents of which shall be retained 8 by said clerk as recording fee, shall issue to such applicant a certificate in the form prescribed and upon blanks 10 furnished by the commissioner of inland fisheries and game, 11 which certificate shall bear the name, age, occupation, place 12 of residence, and an identifying description of the holder 13 of such certificate, and shall authorize the person so reg-14 istered to hunt and kill such wild birds and wild animals 15 as may be legally hunted in their respective open seasons

16 and in the manner provided by law on any lands on which 17 hunting or killing is not forbidden by law.

Such certificate shall authorize the hunting or killing of 2 game and game birds only under such restrictions and for 3 such purposes as are imposed or authorized by law.

Sect. 3. Each certificate issued under the provisions of 2 this act shall be valid until January first next following 3 the date of issue; such certificate shall not be transfer-4 able, and shall not be valid unless the signature of the 5 person to whom it was issued is written thereon in ink.

Every person holding a certificate of registration by vir2 tue of this act shall, at all times, while hunting, have such
3 certificate on his person, and shall exhibit the same for
4 inspection to any person authorized to enforce the inland
5 fish and game laws. Failure to produce such certificate,
6 or satisfactory evidence of the issuance of same, upon such
7 request shall constitute a violation of this act.

No such certificate shall be granted to any person under 2 sixteen years of age unless the written consent of parents 3 or guardian is attached to the application for such certifi-4 cate.

Sect. 4. It shall be unlawful for any resident of this 2 state to offer for transportation, in accordance with the 3 provisions of sections 41, 42, 44 and 55, of chapter 33 of 4 the revised statutes, as amended, to any person, company 5 or corporation or to any agent, servant or employee there-6 of, or to transport any game or game birds or any other

7 wild animals or wild birds, unless he shall have in his 8 possession at the time a certificate of registration, as here9 in provided, duly issued to him under the provisions of this act.

Sect. 5. It shall be unlawful for any person, company 2 or corporation or for any agent, servant or employee there-3 of to accept for transportation, from a resident of this 4 state, any game or game birds or any other wild animals 5 or wild birds, without first ascertaining the fact that the 6 person offering such game, game birds or other wild an-7 imals or birds is in possession of a certificate duly issued 8 to him covering the period when such shipment is offered 9 for transportation.

Sect. 6. Any resident of this state who is actually domi2 ciled in any unorganized place, may make written appli3 cation to the clerk of the nearest town or organized plan4 tation, and such town or plantation clerk, after having sat5 isfied himself that such applicant is a bona fide resident
6 of the unorganized place set forth in said application and
7 upon the payment of a fee of twenty-five cents, shall is8 sue to such applicant a certificate of registration in the
9 form prescribed in section two of this act, which certifi10 cate shall be subject to the same conditions and restrictions
11 as certificates issued in accordance with section two of this
12 act.

Sect. 7. Every city, town and plantation clerk shall keep 2 a record of all such certificates issued by him, which record

3 shall be open to inspection by any person authorized to 4 enforce the inland fish and game laws, and such clerk shall, 5 on the first Monday in every month, forward to the com-6 missioner of inland fisheries and game the amount re-7 ceived, if any, for such certificates issued during the pre-8 ceding month, less the recording fee of fifteen cents, to-9 gether with the application and stub of each certificate io issued.

Any city, town or plantation clerk who shall neglect or 2 refuse to carry out the provisions of this section or to 3 remit for certificates issued by virtue of this act within 4 a period of thirty days from the first Monday of each 5 month shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-6 five dollars nor more than fifty dollars and costs for each 7 offense.

Sect. 8. All registration fees collected by virtue of this 2 act shall be paid by the commissioner of inland fisheries 3 and game to the state treasurer and credited to the appro-4 priation for the operation of fish hatcheries and feeding 5 stations for fish, for the protection of fish, game and birds, 6 for printing the report of the commissioner of inland fish-7 eries and game and other expenses incident to the admin-8 istration of the department of inland fisheries and game.

Sect. 9. The possession of any firearm in the fields or 2 forests or on the waters or ice of the state by a resident 3 of this state, unless the person having such firearm in 4 possession has in his possession a certificate of registra-

5 tion, as herein provided, duly issued to him and covering 6 the period such firearm is found in his possession, or gives 7 satisfactory evidence of the issuance of such certificate, 8 shall be prima facie evidence of hunting in violation of 9 this act.

Sect. 10. Any person who violates any of the provisions 2 of section one, two, three, four, five or six of this act, or 3 who permits another person to have or use a certificate 4 issued to him, or who shall change or alter the same in 5 any manner, or who has or uses any certificate issued to 6 another person, or who shall guide a resident of this state 7 while hunting, who has not a certificate as provided here-8 in, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five dollars 9 nor more than twenty-five dollars and costs of prosecuto tion for each offense.

Sect. 11. If the holder of a certificate issued by virtue 2 of this act violates any of the game laws said certificate 3 may be revoked by the commissioner of inland fisheries 4 and game at his discretion, and no new certificate shall be 5 issued for a period of six months thereafter to such person.

Sect. 12. Nothing contained in this act shall authorize 2 the hunting, pursuing, taking, catching, killing, destroying, 3 having in possession or transporting any wild animals or 4 wild birds, or parts thereof, contrary to the laws now in 5 force or hereafter enacted.