

thousand, and not exceeding fifty thousand inhabitants, two thousand five hundred *and fifty* dollars per annum; in cities having a population of over fifty thousand, and not exceeding seventy thousand inhabitants, three thousand dollars per annum; in cities having a population of over seventy thousand inhabitants, three thousand five hundred dollars per annum; and the amount of compensation for the mayor in any of the said cities shall not be increased or diminished during the term of office for which he shall be elected. Succeeding councils may change the amount of such compensation, but such change shall not affect the compensation of the mayor then in office.

APPROVED—The 10th day of April, A. D. 1925.

GIFFORD PINCHOT.

No. 150.

AN ACT

To amend sections seven hundred and sixteen and four hundred and two of the act, approved the twenty-fourth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and fifty-nine), entitled "An act concerning game and other wild birds and wild animals; and amending, revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating thereto."

Protection of wild game.

Section 716, act of May 24, 1923 (P. L. 359), amended.

Dog pursuing elk or deer a public nuisance.

May be killed by any person or by any officer.

Owner of such dog liable to penalty.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section seven hundred and sixteen of the act, approved the twenty-fourth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and fifty-nine), entitled "An act concerning game and other wild birds and wild animals; and amending, revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating thereto," be amended to read as follows:

Section 716. Dogs Pursuing Elk or Deer.—Liability of Owners.—Any dog pursuing or following upon the track of an elk or deer is hereby declared to be a public nuisance. Such dog may be killed by any person when pursuing or following upon the track of an elk or a deer for a distance believed by such person to be one-half mile or more; or by any officer whose duty it is to protect the game of the State, upon affidavit being made by any person acquainted with the facts that said dog is in the habit of, or has been seen or heard, running upon the track of or pursuing any elk or deer for a distance of one-half mile or more within a period of [two years] *three months* before the date of such affidavit. The owner or person harboring or in control of a dog, either killed in conformity with the law or proven to have pursued an elk or deer for the distance of one-half mile or more, shall be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars for each elk and twenty-

five dollars for each deer pursued, and one hundred dollars for each elk and fifty dollars for each deer killed, or caused to be killed, by such dog running at large, without the aid or direction of its master. Where the owner or person harboring or in control of a dog shall neglect or refuse to take such action as may be necessary to prevent such dog from running elk or deer, after notice, in writing, from an officer whose duty it is to protect the game, to the effect that the dog in question is in the habit of pursuing elk or deer, he shall be liable to double the amount as fixed before for the first offense.

Owner liable to double amount of penalty for neglect to prevent dog from running elk or deer.

The provisions of this section shall not be construed to apply to any dog accompanied by the owner or in control of and accompanied by a competent handler, being used under permit from the Board, which may be issued at the discretion of the Secretary without charge, for the purpose of hunting foxes or wild cats with intent to kill such animals as a protection to game, between December sixteenth and March fifteenth next following, providing each dog so used wears a collar having attached thereto a current year license tag and a metallic plate with the name and address of the owner inscribed thereon in plain English. If a dog so used is either known to be regularly in the habit of chasing elk or deer, or is caught in the act of killing either an elk or a deer, or the owner or handler has been notified in writing by the Secretary of the Board that such dog has been known to chase elk or deer, or that such permit has been cancelled, said dog may be killed in the same manner as if no permit had been issued.

Exemptions.

Permit to hunt with dog given by the board.

Each dog to wear collar, license tag attached.

Dog in the habit of chasing elk or deer, or caught in the act, may be killed.

Section 2. That section four hundred and two of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 402. Board Empowered to Grant Licenses.—Under the conditions and limitations hereinafter prescribed, the board may grant licenses at their discretion, [good for the term of one year from their date] *which licenses shall expire on May thirty-first of each year.* Such licenses shall not be transferable. Such licenses may be issued (a) to any person within this Commonwealth of known scientific attainment in ornithology or mammalogy; (b) to any agent of any public museum in this Commonwealth; (c) to a teacher of ornithology in any school within this Commonwealth; (d) to any person within the Commonwealth desiring to breed or raise game in captivity and to sell the same; (e) to any person desiring to possess, breed, or sell ferrets; (f) to any person qualified to practice taxidermy; and (g) to fur dealers or persons purchasing or receiving raw furs for commercial purposes.

No person, so long as he is legally acting under the authority of a license issued by the board, shall be liable to any of the penalties provided for in this act.

APPROVED—The 10th day of April, A. D. 1925.

GIFFORD PINCHOT.

No. 151.

AN ACT

Validating certain consolidations, mergers, purchases, sales, or acquisitions of capital stock, bonds, securities, or evidence of indebtedness, corporate property rights, and credits of telephone companies, and the proceedings of such companies effecting or purporting or intended to effect such mergers or consolidations, purchases, sales, or acquisitions.

Telephone companies.

Validating consolidations prior to January 1, 1914.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That in any case where any telephone corporation, organized under the laws of this Commonwealth and now or hereafter authorized by law to engage only in the business of furnishing telephone service has, prior to January first, one thousand nine hundred fourteen, bought the capital stock or shares of the capital stock or any bonds, securities, or evidences of indebtedness of any other telephone corporation; or where proceedings have been had effecting or purporting or intended to effect the consolidation of two or more telephone corporations (a) by merger and consolidation agreement by and between any such companies filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, approved by the Governor, and upon which letters patent have been issued by the Governor; or (b) by proceedings in accordance with the method prescribed by the act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approved June fourteen, one thousand nine hundred one (Pamphlet Laws, five hundred sixty-six), for the purchase of the capital stock of such corporation and the acquisition of the franchises, corporate property rights, and credits of the vendor corporation or otherwise howsoever, such proceedings, consolidating, or purporting, or intended to so consolidate and merge the said corporations, or such purchases of the capital stock and such acquisition of the franchises, corporate property rights, and credits of the vendor corporation, or such purchases of the shares of the capital stock or bonds, securities, or other evidences of indebtedness of such other like corporation, shall be and hereby are ratified, approved, and confirmed with like effect and to all intents and purposes as fully as if said consolidation, acquisition, or purchase had been effected since the approval of, and in accordance with, the method